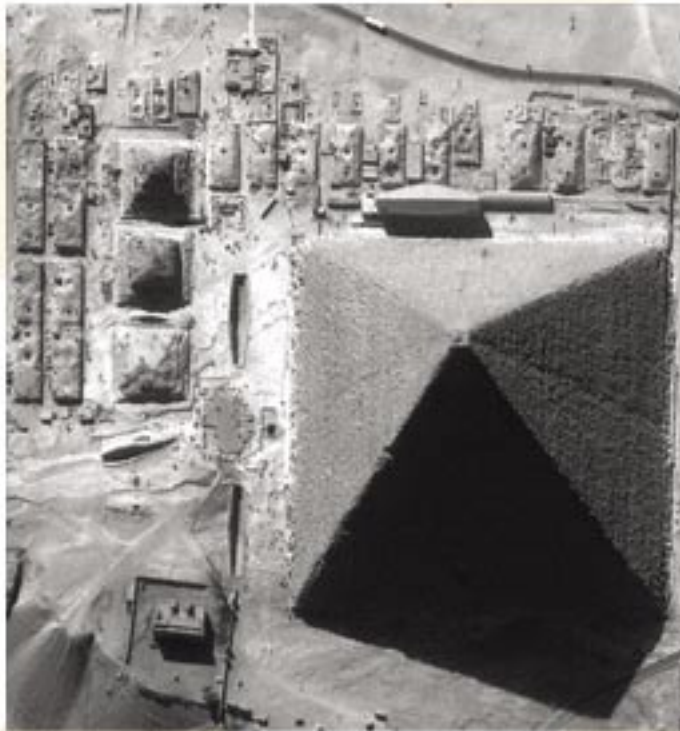


proposal document 2

WHC

TRAINING
WORKSHOPS



DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD
HERITAGE INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT CAPACITY
IN THE ARAB STATES

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TRAINING WORKSHOPS

The training workshops to be organized in February and March 2004 are aimed at identifying and developing human resources in the Arab region in recording and documenting world heritage sites.

This first initiative integrates a long-term vision for capacity building in the region and provides a solution to the issues exposed in the document entitled 'Regional Program for the Arab States' presented to the World Heritage Committee in Paris on May 2003', which states:

- *Lack of World Heritage management and information exchange capacities:* they do not have an integrated information management or the technology for information exchanges.
- *Lack of adequate documentation at the sites:* the nomination dossiers prior to 1997 rarely contain up-to-date topographical maps, geographic coordinates, photos, recent bibliographies, etc., provided by the conservation services and the Sites. With rare exceptions, the sites have not produced comprehensive maps or measurements defining the boundaries and buffer zones. This lack of information is very detrimental to the conservation of heritage properties, because it prevents the establishment of a coherent system of legal protection, monitoring and maintenance.

The proposed workshops will bring together young professionals nominated by regional state governments for training in basic and advanced recording, documentation and information systems for World

Figure 1: Red and Bend pyramids, Egypt 2003, Author.



Figure 2: view of Egypt from a satellite.



Heritage sites.

The training program will be led by qualified instructors from both international and regional institutions. This interdisciplinary group of experts has extensive experience in mapping and conserving world heritage sites.

The first training course will be tentatively organized from February 17 to March 4, 2004 in Cairo, Egypt and environs. It is aimed at identifying and developing human resources in the Arab Region in documenting Cultural World Heritage sites..

Furthermore, this first training in Egypt will be organized in cooperation with Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Centre for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (CULTNAT). CULTNAT brings a young and qualified staff and excellent facilities to this event.

In Tunisia, it will be tentatively organized in March 2003, in cooperation with the Tunisian 'Agence Nationale de Protection de l'Environnement' (ANPE). This training workshop will be devoted to documentation of Natural World Heritage sites ANPE brings a qualified staff and with assist in providing a facility for the workshop.

TRAINING MODULES:

The modules will be developed as packages to be used for recording, documenting, monitoring, and managing information related to a world heritage site, the contents consist on:

1. Introduction to the use of recording, documentation and information systems in conservation and protection of World Heritage sites.
2. Preparation of a digital site reference map, a measured map(s) containing geographic information, features and other relevant thematic assessments of the site. These maps could be developed through GIS and other technologies.
3. Preparation of systematic monitoring tools to assist site managers in planning and evaluating conservation activities at WH properties using Information Systems and other related techniques.
4. Preparation of digital measured datasets of specific locations

Figure 3: Ichkeul, Tunisia. Author.

within the site. These maps could be developed through non - and imaged-based recording tools, such as REDM Total Station, digitizing conventional hand measurement maps, 3D laser mapping devices, rectified photography, photogrammetry and other techniques.

5. Introduction to the use of advanced digital information system that might be applied for Periodic Reporting of the Arab States Region in 2007 (HEREIN system), targeted to mainly for the national experts.

These five modules will be integrated in each of the proposed training workshops. In the future, these modules could be taught individually, depending on the needs of each site and national institution.

Furthermore, the two workshops will be organized February and March 2004, the teaching contents will make use of a selected number of case studies, on sites selected in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the concerned national authorities.

These training sessions will be able to identify the level of support required at the sites in terms of the following questions (UNESCO, 1998)¹:

- Is basic documentation available at the site?
- Is there a conservation and management plan?
- Is there appropriate expertise in the staff at the site?
- Do they have necessary tools to do their job on a continuing basis?

Moreover, during the training courses, the first module will be taught to the whole group of trainees. Subsequently, the group will be split into two

groups (beginners and advanced), depending on their background and knowledge in recording, documentation, and information systems.

The contents of each remaining module will be adapted to the beginner and advanced groups.

Case Studies:

Preference has been given to sites inscribed in the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Natural heritage: Ichkeul National Park (Tunisia): The Ichkeul Lake and wetland are a major stopover point for hundreds of thousands of migrating birds, such as ducks, geese, storks and pink flamingoes, who come to feed and nest there. Ichkeul is the last remaining lake in a chain that once extended across North Africa (Inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger: 1996).

Cultural heritage: Memphis and its Necropolis - the Pyramid Fields from Giza to Dahshur (Egypt), focusing on Saqqara: the capital of the Old Kingdom of Egypt has some extraordinary funerary monuments, including rock tombs, ornate mastabas, temples and pyramids. In ancient times, the site was considered one of the Seven Wonders of the World (Inscription on the List of World Heritage in 1979).

Target audience: trainees

Trainees: experts on cultural and natural heritage preferably with both knowledge of cultural heritage recording and documentation and computer skills. Desirably with experience in computer-aided drafting tools (ex. AutoCAD, MicroStation, etc) and other graphic packages (ex. Adobe PhotoShop, Corel Draw, etc). They should be attached to the

Figure 4: Saqqara, Egypt. Author.



national authority dealing with protection of World Heritage sites.

Number of trainees: young professionals (from 25 to 35 years old) on this field will be invited from each State Party of the region. There will be approximately 18 to 20 participants for each training course; each country may propose three candidates, from which the WHC staff will select one.

Duration:

The training workshop consists of four modules, designed for both mapping cultural and natural heritage sites. The duration will be of 2 weeks (6 days per week 8 hours a day) of intensive training.

Furthermore, study a technical excursion to visit other cultural and/or natural sites are planned during the training course; these could be organized by the hosting State Party at a site currently being documented.

PROPOSED TRAINING STAFF:

The course will be taught by an interdisciplinary group of experts covering the training module contents.

Executive Committee:

Giovanni Boccardi, UNESCO World Heritage Centre (Paris, France)
Karim Hendili, UNESCO World Heritage Centre (Paris, France)
Mario Santana Quintero, UNESCO World Heritage Centre (Paris, France)

Local Organizing Committee:

Zahi Hawas, Director, Supreme Council of Antiquities (Cairo, Egypt)
Fathi Saleh, Director, Centre for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (Cairo, Egypt)
Fekri Hassan, University College London (London, UK), Center for documentation of cultural and natural heritage (Cairo, Egypt)

International program committee:

Alonzo C. Addison, Director, Center for Design Visualization, UC Berkeley (Berkeley, USA)
Philippe De Maeyer, Geography department of the University of Ghent (Ghent, Belgium)
Gaetano Palumbo, World Monuments Fund and University College London (London, UK)
Koenraad Van Balen, R. Lemaire International Centre for Conservation, University of Leuven (Leuven Belgium)
Paul Van Lindt, Ministry of the Flemish region, department of monuments and landscapes (Brussels, Belgium)
Maurizio Forte, Italian Research Council (Rome, Italy)

Rand Eppich, Digital Lab, Getty Conservation Institute (Los Angeles, U.S.A.)

These experts would help in:

- Providing support for preparing the contents of the teaching modules.
- Travel and teach an intensive training course to the participants, including theory and practice.
- Provide an evaluation report and contribution to the publication of a handbook after the completion of the training course, of scientific contents of training workshops, as well as with supplying instructors to teach the different modules.

Furthermore, depending on their resources, the national institutions who will host the training workshops will be asked to provide logistic support and present their scientific expertise and digital equipment (computers, scanners, printers, etc) for the course.

Notes:

¹ UNESCO Report to the Director-General of UNESCO on the management review of the world heritage convention, Paris 1998.