

UNESCO-EU Project “Protecting Cultural Heritage and Diversity in Complex Emergencies for Stability and Peace



UNESCO Cairo office in cooperation with the Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit of the Culture Sector held a workshop in benefit of heritage professionals of Libya, (Tunis, 30 July-1 August 2018) on “First Aid to Cultural Heritage on evacuating collections and securing them in safe storages”.

The training for Libyan professionals including evacuating collections and securing them in safe storages, assessment of museums’ collections for safekeeping and storage and upgrading according to best practices and international standards. Ten (10) officials from the Department of Antiquities (DoA) of Libya, coming from different governorates of the country met in Tunis under the guidance of specialized tutor from ICCROM in an effort to integrate the expertise and know how on the stabilization and urgent safeguarding of cultural heritage properties in Libya.

The workshop included an introduction to risk management, associated concepts, key terminologies, pre-warning and evacuation plans, cause and effects as well as value assessments. Furthermore, in consultation with the participants, an overview about the pragmatic methodology for risk assessment in the context of Libya was established. This was also an opportunity to address the working context and cultural heritage collections in Libya. The participants were given practical exercises on risk assessment for their own work environment and asked to prepare basic mitigation strategies for the sites under their supervision. In addition, the final day of the workshop was devoted to practical exercises on first aid for cultural heritage collections; emergency documentation; on-site stabilization for objects; emergency packing, storage and reporting.

The Project “Protecting Cultural Heritage and Diversity in Complex Emergencies for Stability and Peace”, generously funded by the European Union aims at implementing a number of urgently needed actions in Iraq, Libya, Syria and Yemen to protect cultural heritage. These actions will allow for the stabilization and urgent safeguarding of the cultural heritage of these countries and strengthen the positive role that culture can play in promoting resilient, culturally diverse societies and in develop more sustainable approaches to inclusive peace and stability in transitional contexts.

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/cairo/culture/unesco-eu-project-protecting-cultural-heritage-and-diversity-in-complex-emergencies-for-stability-and-peace/>