



*Under the Patronage of His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi
Member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates, the Ruler of Sharjah*

ICCRM-ATHAR SHORT COURSE SERIES

INTEGRATING DOCUMENTATION IN HERITAGE MANAGEMENT: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE USE OF GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS – GIS

Dates: 28 February – 03 March 2016

Place: ICCROM-ATHAR Regional Conservation Centre in Sharjah, UAE

Course Partners

- ICCROM-ATHAR Regional Conservation Centre in Sharjah
- UCL-Q: University College London, Qatar
- Government of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

Background and Aims

ICCRM-ATHAR Regional Conservation Centre in partnership with UCL-Qatar has developed a short course series titled “*Informed Conservation*”, aimed at professionals who are looking to expand their working knowledge and experience in the field of cultural heritage conservation.

GIS can be a powerful tool for inventory purposes, as well as for assessing, examining, conserving and protecting cultural heritage. It can assist heritage managers in preventing and reducing the damages to cultural heritage affected by the current crises in the region, such as looting, illicit trafficking, environmental degradation, and illegal building activities.

This course introduces participants to the basic concepts of GIS and how it can be used as a research tool to acquire, analyse and display cultural heritage data. Furthermore it will demonstrate how GIS can be used to manage cultural heritage, by being used to conduct risk assessment and monitoring, as well as compile inventories. The course is divided into themes to familiarise participants with the different aspects of GIS, by providing different case studies. Participants will also work on exercises in order to practice the skills acquired in class.

Course Objectives and Expected Results

By the end of the course participants are expected to be able to:

- Understand the basic principles of GIS.
- Use the basic GIS tools for research and archaeological data analysis and management.
- Use basic open source GIS tools.
- Conduct risk analysis and monitoring with the help of GIS.
- Present geo-referenced data in soft and hard versions according to different categories.

Course Structure

This five-day course which focuses on GIS applications in heritage site management, will take place in the premises of the newly established ICCROM-ATHAR Regional Centre in Sharjah, UAE.



Course instructors will discuss database design, data processing, and forming queries to extrapolate information. The course will consist of interactive, participatory sessions, both theoretical and practical in a classroom environment. The course will also include group work exercises for which participants will be required to work on in their free time to meet the course requirements. The topics discussed in the course are:

- Day 1: Introduction to GIS (structure, functions, operations)
- Day 2: GIS for archaeological research
- Day 3: GIS for conservation
- Day 4: GIS for heritage management
- Day 5: GIS for cultural heritage inventories

Through practical exercises in the course, participants will be given the opportunity to identify the needs of cultural heritage in their own countries and devise strategies for rescuing their endangered heritage.

Participants and Admission

The course is intended for 15-20 participants with backgrounds in relevant fields (archaeologists, architects, art historians, collections and site managers, conservators-restorers, conservation scientists, curators, directors of museums, galleries and archives, etc) from the Arab region. Priority will be given to those with field experience, and those who have basic knowledge of GIS. Admission to the course will be subject to selection criteria that include:

1. **Professional background:** at least a BA in a relevant field.
2. **Letter of intent:** candidates are requested to provide a letter stating clearly the reasons for applying to the course, what they hope to learn from it, and how it will benefit them and their institution, country, or future employer.
3. **Employment:** priority is given to government employees or government affiliated professionals.
4. **Work experience:** those who have already gained at least 3 years of practical or research experience in the field will have priority.
5. **Working languages:** the working languages will be both Arabic and English. Proficiency in English will be required particularly for research work and reading of reference materials.
6. **Insurance:** all participants should also have health and accident insurance. Upon selection, they should return to ICCROM-ATHAR a signed medical and accident participant's release form.
7. **Applications:** please use the **application form** available on this web site. Applications should be endorsed by the relevant ministry or entity in the candidate's home country. The carefully completed forms should be to:

ICCRUM-ATHAR Regional Conservation Centre in Sharjah

PO Box: 48777 Sharjah, UAE,

Tel: +971 (0)6 5552250 I Fax: +971 (0) 6 5552213

E-mail: abh@iccrom.org

Financial Resources / Support

A request for **financial support**, or the availability of other sources, should be indicated in the application form. ICCROM-ATHAR will provide a few scholarships only upon request (subject to evaluation), to cover accommodation, meals and travel during the course.

Course Fees: 450 US Dollars

Payments will be accepted in cash or bank transfer to ICCROM's account details below:



ICCROM

INTESA SANPAOLO S.P.A.

F.A.O. Branch N. 06825 – Rome

Via delle Terme di Caracalla

00153 – Rome – Italy

Bank Coordinates (ABI) (C.A.B.): 03069 03356

Account #: 130109604345 in USD

Swift Code (BIC): BCITITMM

European Bank Coordinates (IBAN): IT14 N030 6903 3561 3010 9604 345

Application Deadline: 5 January 2016

Please note that any applications received after this deadline will not be considered in the selection process of candidates for this course.