

IFLA PAC Centres: Planning for 2019-2020

Centre:		
Qatar National Library in Doha – State of Qatar Hosts the IFLA PAC Centre for Arab countries and Middle east		
Languages of Communication:		
English and Arabic		
Website (if different from existing IFLA page):		
https://www.qnl.qa/ https://www.qnl.qa/en/library-services/conservation-and-preservation-services		
Lead Representative (and contact details):		
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What activities do you plan to carry out to support international cooperation in 2019-20?		
<p>1. SPECIFIC REGIONAL AND PLURIANNUAL PROGRAMS</p> <p>1.1 Phase 2 of Project with UNESCO to Support Documentary Heritage Preservation in the Arab Region (<u>this project will continue till 2020</u>)</p> <p><i>Agreement signed in July 2018, already done the mapping of documentary heritage institutions in the Arab region and survey have been distributed.</i></p> <p>Actions foreseen for 2019-2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Publish the report of the Surveying the heritage libraries in the Middle East and North Africa to understand their documentary heritage, legislation, challenges, needs and opportunities the report will be accessible publicly online• Organization of a regional conference on documentary heritage in the Arab region with 70 participants (42 regional guests and 3 international experts)• Three main workshops for training of trainers in Arabic (maybe in cooperation with ICCROM), to get Arabic trainers to can help in giving training later in their countries. In three main topics:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Preventive conservation2) Disaster preparedness and first aid to documentary heritage at risk3) Collection and documentation techniques• E-map of heritage libraries in Arabic countries: includes the addresses and general information about the libraries.		

Organizing an awareness event to highlight the importance of documentary heritage in the Middle East and North Africa.

1.2 Feasibility study for a new Regional Project for Heritage Protection and Codicological Studies (to be implemented in 2021 -2023 with a preliminary phase in 2020)

We are working on the developing a new phase of the regional project (please see 1.1), the partnership structure may be developed again with UNESCO or other partners (to be confirmed soon) and the financial resources under reviewing for the approval. The project will cover all Arabic countries, Turkey and Iran. And the key points of this project will be:

- Policy and politic improvement for heritage documents better protection
 - Comparative study of protective laws regarding documentary heritage in MENA countries (22 Arabic country + Turkey and Iran)
 - Fight against illegal circulation and trafficking of heritage documents
 - M. Ipert will join a working group of EGATT : Expert group against Theft, Trafficking and Tampering (EGATT) which the International Council on Archive set up recently
 - Helping to establish fire and army brigades specialized in heritage salvage in Arabic countries
 - The PAC center will work in MENA countries on OpenGLAM
 - M. Ipert will participate in a WIPO conference 18-19 October on “International Conference on Copyright Limitations and Exceptions in museums and libraries”

- Studies of manuscripts materials for a better understanding of Islamic documents deterioration and production: paper, inks and pigments (with a specific focus on verdigris deterioration) the first phase in 2020 as preliminary phase will be on papers in Islamic Manuscripts and archival documents.
 - ❖ Potential partners in this project: Malek National Library and Museum, Iran
 - ❖ Beit Gazo Center for Research and Restoration of the Heritage of the Churches of Orient, Lebanon.
 - ❖ Turkey Manuscript Institute (Türkiye Yazma Eserler Kurumu Başkanlığı), Turkey.
 - ❖ Kgrakow University, Poland.

2. TRAINING AND EDUCATION

2.1 Short thematic courses and workshops

During this year, we planned to conduct some short courses (in addition to all trainings also planned in the framework of our project with UNESCO as 1.1).

The planned training courses includes:

2.1.1 Training course: *Practical Methods for the Scientific Examination of Library objects*

Attendance: conservators and specialists from Lebanon and Levant countries.

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

Date: 25 – 28 November 2019

Teachers: A. Cosentino and M. Nasra

Some grants will be provided for participants from outside Lebanon.

This course will be organized in cooperation with the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik and the Beit Gazo center (Beit Gazo Center for Research and Restoration of the Heritage of the Churches of Orient)

2.1.2 Training course: *Practical Methods for the Scientific Examination of Library objects*

Attendance: conservators and specialists from Iraq

Location: Iraq

Date: January 2019

Teachers: A. Cosentino and M. Nasra

2.1.3 Training course: *Arabic Paper (production and history)*

Attendance: Conservators and specialists from Qatar and Arabic countries.

Location: Doha, Qatar

Date: 9-13 February 2020

Teacher: Jean Louis Esteve (TBC)

Some grants will be provided for participants from outside Qatar.

2.1.4 Training course: *Islamic Dyes, Pigments and inks*

Attendance: conservators and specialists from Qatar and MENA countries.

Location: Doha, Qatar

Date: 23-27 February 2020

Teacher: M. Barkeshli

Some grants will be provided for participants from outside Qatar.

2.1.5 Training course: *Practical Methods for the Scientific Examination of Library Objects*

Attendance: conservators and specialists from Iraq, Gulf countries and Yemen.

Location: Kuwait

Date: 8-12 March 2020

Teachers: A. Cosentino, S. Ipert and M. Nasra

Some grants will be provided for participants from outside Kuwait, this course will be organized in collaboration with National Library of Kuwait.

2.1.6 Training course: *Blue Lapis Lazuli pigment and using the scientific techniques to identify it*

Attendance: conservators and conservation scientists from Qatar and MENA countries.

Location: Doha, Qatar

Date: 29 March- 2 April 2020

Teacher: 2 teacher and M. Nasra

Some grants will be provided for participants from outside Qatar.

2.1.7 Training course: Preservation of historic photographic techniques

Attendance: for conservators and specialists from Qatar and MENA countries.

Location: Doha, Qatar

Date: 5 days- October 2020 (TBC)

Teacher: Bertrand Lavedrine

Some grants will be provided for participants from outside Qatar.

2.1.8 Training course: Practical Methods for the Scientific Examination of Library Objects

Attendance: conservators and specialist from East Jerusalem

Location: East Jerusalem

Date: December 2020

Teachers: A. Cosentino and M. Nasra

Some grants will be provided for participants from outside East Jerusalem

All the brochures and details of the above trainings will be shared with all our contacts worldwide, on our websites and platforms and will be shared with IFLA to publish on IFLA website.

2.2 Customized training sessions in Doha

2.2.1 Capacity building program on preservation and conservation at QNL laboratories for a group of conservators and specialists from different libraries in Iraq, in cooperation between QNL, Iraqi Embassy in Doha and the Ministry of Culture and Sports in Qatar.

Date: 28-30 October 2019

2.2.2 Capacity building program on preservation and conservation at QNL laboratories for a group of conservators and specialists from different libraries in Tunisia.

Date: January 2019

2.2.3 Capacity building courses and workshops in the field of preservation and conservation will be organized in the Center's laboratories, based on year-round requests from different libraries and institutions in Arab countries to train their staff. Details of any program to be organized will be mentioned in our annual report.

2.3 E-training / E-learning

- 2.3.1** Produce learning videos on conservation and science and other topics
- 2.3.2** Produce a Digital Leaflet about the IFLA PAC Center at QNL to outline our role, activities, plans, our websites and social media addresses and contact details.
- 2.3.3** Conduct e-training as per requests from the libraries in MENA, all implemented programs will be documented in our PAC center annual report.

3. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

3.1 In Qatar

Technical advice service on QNL website to support the collectors and Institutions locally and regionally to help and advise them on the conservation and preservation issues.

3.2 In MENA countries

A meeting will happen between QNL and Iraqi National Library and Archives as per their request to discuss the aspects of technical advice we can provide them in the coming periods. A training will be held on 28-29-30 October 2019 for a group of specialists from Iraq at QNL (please see above).

Create regional network of scientists and experts in MENA countries in the field of manuscripts analyses and research studies and support scientific projects.

4. PUBLICATIONS OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION FOR PROFESSIONALS IN MENA REGION

4.1 Doing 2 more FAQ (FAQ sharing projects between all PAC centers))

- 4.1.1** Scientific analysis
- 4.1.2** Bookbinding

4.2 Translate into Arabic and publish technical guides/standards for Arabic conservators and specialists

- 4.2.1** In 2019, the FAQ produced by the PAC centers will be translated into Arabic.

4.3 Diffusion of technical bibliography

We provide to all conservators in Arabic countries and Middle East access to Refwork database. This database includes bibliography of references in conservation and preservation fields as well as access to original digitized articles.

4.4 Create a platform in QNL website about scientific techniques used in the research and studies of heritage library objects (ongoing project)

This platform (which start on faisabiliy phase in 2018-19) will present the most commonly used scientific techniques for studying manuscripts and other heritage libraries objects. It will include information about the techniques and its applications, its limitations and other important information, and it will be in Arabic and English (it will be the first project in Arabic about scientific techniques in the heritage analyses).

All the techniques are non-destructive and most of it are portable such as:

Raman spectrometer

XR- Fluorescence

Fourier-transform Infrared spectroscopy (FTIR)

Fiber Optic Reflectance Spectrometer (FORS)

USB microscope in UV/visible/NIR

Technical Photography

Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI)

4.5 Pigment Database Platform:

Developing this database is a part of our extensive study on pigments and dyes used in illuminated Islamic manuscripts, this database will contain information about the pigments and dyes used in specific Islamic countries and will be classified geographically and by time period. This project will help for further manuscripts codological studies.

5. SPECIFIC ACTIONS FOR PREVENTIVE CONSERVATION

5.1 Technical assistance to libraries worldwide, upon request

As the Qatar/PAC center works on preventive conservation issues with all world libraries:

Participate in FAQ project with PAC Centers, we work on the topic (How to do efficient preventive conservation in your climate) and produce a dozen (12) simple questions about this topic and choose the answers from the best practices and standards, this project will be for world libraries, and it will be added by IFLA on their website.

5.2 Publication of technical information

- Develop a disaster plan template in Arabic language for Arabic libraries.

6. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OUTSIDE ARABIC REGION

6.1 Participation in international events and conference

Conference title	date	location	Participant from IFLA PAC Qatar
An interdisciplinary scientific and practical conference "Book Monuments in the aspect of preservation"	15-17 October 2019	Russia	Fareed Al Shishani

Ink Corrosion Conference – ICC	24-25 October 2019	Austria	Anna Amandorla
Oriental Turkish paper analysis	23 November 2019	Istanbul	Stephane Ipert
Practical seminar using of most modern scientific technique for the analyses of heritage objects	9-13 December 2019	Italy	Maxim Nasra
History of Islamic Decorated Papers	27 December 2019	St Petersburg	Stephane Ipert
Seminar at the Turkey Manuscript Institute	February 2019	Istanbul	Chanaka Perera
InArt 2020: 4 th International conference on innovation in Art Research and Technology	14-17 April 2020	France	Maxim Nasra
Scientific Methods in Cultural Heritage Research	12-17 July 2020	Switzerland	Maxim Nasra

6.2 Cooperation with IFLA HQ and other PAC centers

Participate in all monthly meeting and discuss any sharing projects.
Participate in the conference organized by IFLA PAC Russia (Book Monuments in the aspect of preservation), one of our staff, Fareed AlShishani presented a paper.

7. COMMUNICATION

7.1 Social media

All our news, achievements and upcoming activities will be posted on the websites and social media platforms.

QNL website/ Preservation and Conservation services page

QNL YouTube

QNL Facebook page

7.2 Newsletter of IFLA PAC Center at QNL

To be issued twice a year in English and Arabic; The aim is to establish a regular contact with libraries in Arabic countries, PAC centers and our contacts worldwide to provide relevant communication about the activities of PAC center in Qatar.

7.3 QNL YouTube Channel

contain all our e-learning videos about preservation, conservation and science

7.4 QNL Preservation and Conservation Blog

Create the first Arabic Blog for Preservation and Conservation, which will include our IFLA PAC regional center news, in addition to valuable information about preservation and conservation, what is new in the field globally, and will be a platform for Arabic conservators and specialists.

<https://preservationandconservation.wordpress.com/>

Which other countries are you working with?

- Through our project with UNESCO, we are working with libraries and institutes in all Arab countries.
- We work with different libraries in Turkey and Iran, and invited their staff to attend our training courses and workshops.
- Work outside MENA region: there are discussion about projects with Library of Congress, and Canadian Conservation Institute.

Which new countries are you planning to work with?

- Lebanon as mentioned above, we will organize a training session on “Practical Methods for the Scientific Examination of Library Objects” at the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik.
- Kuwait, we will organize a training session on “Practical Methods for the Scientific Examination of Library Objects” at the National Library in Kuwait.
- Cooperation with Turkey and Iran on the project of Heritage protection and scientific studies (as mentioned above)
- Cooperation with Poland (Krakow university) on some aspects of E-learning on the topic of conservation science
- And others (will be mentioned in the annual report)

What activities do you plan to carry out at the national/local level in 2019-20?

- Week of science – collections and science **March 2020**: Each year, in Qatar, there is the week of science organized in cooperation between QF vice president services and QEERI.
QNL scientific lab will participate and present to the large public the scientific technics for art and manuscripts analyses and It will be an exhibition on plaza with panels, life demo and videos.
- A lecture from a French expert (because of the occasion of the French/Qatar cultural year) will be invited for a key lecture on photographic material conservation.
- We invite local conservators and the general public people to attend our training sessions and workshops.
- We organize weekly and monthly presentations and tours in our laboratories for conservators, librarians, students and all interested.
- We continue to support libraries and other cultural institutions—particularly in Qatar—when they need to conduct scientific analyses on their heritage objects using our portable, non-destructive equipment.

What workshops, training courses or events do you plan to carry out in 2019-20?

Please see above

What standards, guidelines and/or best practices will you develop and share in 2019-20?

- Develop a disaster plan template in Arabic for Arab libraries

What actions will you take to promote the IFLA Risk Register in 2019-20?

As usual, we will send the information to all our contacts and encourage all libraries in Qatar and other Arab countries to promote it.

Do you have any other plans you would like to share?

- We are planning to organize a scientific session in IFLA WLIC 2020, the subject to be confirmed later (probably on exhibition conservation issues, MicroFading Test (MFT).
- Presents lectures and presentation in regional and international conferences to promote our activities, research and our role as IFLA PAC Center.
We organize annual meeting for all scientists in Qatar Foundation interested in the topic science and art.

With which partners will you work?

All the partners are mentioned above.