

## PAC Centres: Planning for 2017-18

### Centre:

Qatar National Library  
Doha – Qatar

Reminder : The Qatar PAC Centre has 2 primary goals, namely:

- A focus on Preventive Conservation in all Arabic countries
- And a focus on harnessing global Preventive Conservation expertise for the benefit of the Arab world

### Language of Communication:

English - Arabic

### Website-if different from the one on the IFLA page:

<https://www.qnl.qa/>

<https://www.qnl.qa/en/library-services/conservation-and-preservation-services>

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### What Activities Do We Plan To Carry Out To Support International Cooperation In 2017-18?

- Translate and publish technical documents into Arabic (at least one this year)
- Prepare e-learning videos in Arabic probably in cooperation with western libraries. The videos published in 2016-2017 by the Centre were very successful.
- Contact most of libraries in Arabic countries to explain to them the role of PAC centre in Qatar, and how we can support them (we have more than 1000 contact emails). The PAC centre/ Qatar has now hired one expert (Arabic and English speaking) to manage all activities and contacts.
- Contacts and discussions started with UNESCO and ICCROM to implement a survey of all libraries in conflict areas (Syria, Yemen, Iraq and Libya). The Qatar PAC will also organize a workshop in Qatar about this subject and invite professionals from Arab countries.
- Contact all PAC centres and have exchanges with them about their projects and any possible cooperation can be forged with them.

### Which Other Countries Are We Collaborating With?

- Support the library of Kaslik university in Lebanon – they want to develop their scientific analysis laboratory of books and manuscripts, we will do two activities for them:
  - Invite a representative of their library to attend an awareness presentation of our scientific activities. This presentation will include descriptions about our scientific equipment and the application of each one – why scientific analysis are important- what is useful from the results of preservation and conservation scientific analysis.
  - We will invite also one person from their library to attend 5 days training workshop in March 2018 about the scientific analysis in the conservation and preservation laboratories. This workshop training will be carried out with an international expert.
- We are processing support requests from libraries in Morocco, Tunisia, and Algeria.
- Also from Italy's Vatican Library's cooperation for the conservation of Arabic materials.

### Which New Countries Are We Planning To Work With?

- All Arabic Countries.
- Maybe will have a project with Sudan to support the Sudanese libraries. We also intend to contact the National Library and the National Archives of Sudan.
- Ongoing projects in Lebanon.
- We are currently establishing contact with the possibility of offering a short course on conservation principles- probably by the end of 2018- for the Arab Maghreb countries (Morocco – Tunisia - Algeria). This course will be held in one of these countries.
- We are also currently involved in discussions with Canadian and French institutions for other projects.

### What Activities Do We Plan To Carry Out At The National/Local Level In 2017-18?

- We have big project with one of the leading architectural company in Qatar. The **Arab Engineering Bureau** (AEB). Founded in 1966 AEB was the first architectural and engineering consulting firm in Qatar. AEB has thousands of old architectural plans that they aim to document, archive and preserve properly. The number of architectural sheets in their storage adds up to almost 12,000 sheets of varied sizes most of which are for governance and important building in Qatar. Our Centre will support them archiving, conservation and preservation expertise.

- We will provide to Qatari Conservators and all interested people access to Refwork database. This database includes bibliography of references in conservation and preservation fields as well as access to original digitized articles.
- We will also invite local libraries conservators and ordinary people to attend all our training and workshops in Doha.
- Project With Qatar University Library to;
  - Provide them with awareness training on conservation and preservation
  - Invite them to attend a training course on the identification of infested books.
  - Assist them to set up a conservation vacuum system and provide training on its functions.
- Organize weekly and monthly tours for conservators, librarians, students, and all interested parties to visit our laboratories facilities and to attend our presentations.

#### **What Workshops Training Courses Or Events Do We Plan To Carry Out In 2017-18?**

- Workshop on how to deal with wet books and disaster planning (December 2017)
- Training course (first week of March 2018) on:
  - Use of Reflectance Spectrometer
  - Multispectral Imaging System
 We will invite conservators from Arabic libraries
- Workshop how to use Refwork database to document conservation works (January 2018)
- Workshop on fungus activity test on books (February 2018)
- We will organize a workshop in Qatar for Arab countries about libraries in conflict areas(June 2018)
- As earlier stated, we intend to offer a course on conservation for the Arab Maghreb countries (Morocco – Tunisia - Algeria) around May 2018 either in Morocco, Tunisia or Algeria.
- We also intend to provide a lecture on the relationship between Science and the book history. In other words, on the importance of scientific analysis.
- Lectures on book history and codicology are also going to be organized sometime in 2018.

#### **What Standards, Guidelines And Best Practices Will We Develop And Share In 2017-18?**

We will prepare a prototype model of a Library disaster plan to be shared with all Arabic libraries. Probably, the first disaster plan template in Arabic.

### **What Actions Will We Take To Promote The IFLA Risk Register In 2017-18?**

We will inform all libraries in Qatar and all other Arabic countries to promote it.

### **Do We Have Any Other Plans We Would Like To Share?**

- There is need to undertake more projects related to scientific analyses and to highlight the importance conservation work, especially looking at the fact that there are limited studies on this subject in the Arab world.

### **Who Are Our Partners?**

All libraries and Archives in Arab countries.

All IFLA PAC centres

Selected Libraries and Archives in the developed world