

KALAM. Analysis, protection and development of archaeological landscapes in Iraq and Uzbekistan through ICTs and community-based approaches

Initiative: Globale Herausforderungen – Integration unterschiedlicher Perspektiven

Ausschreibung: Integrating Different Perspectives on Heritage and Change

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Laufzeit: 4 Jahre

"Lived-in landscapes" are the result of the constantly changing interaction between communities of inhabitants and the environment. In this context, the project aims at re-thinking the understanding and approach towards archaeological landscapes, adopting new practices for their documentation, preservation and management. The project's activities take place in Iraq (Nineveh and the area South of Bagdad) and Uzbekistan (Zeravshan and Surkhandarya river valleys), which present a similar socio-political fragile context and heritage-related threats. Three main research questions will be followed: The first deals with how a combined approach of remote assessment (GIS, AI) and fieldwork activities can enhance the identification, analysis and documentation of archaeological sites and landscapes both in quality and time. The second revolves around the classification and recording of threats, the successive training of different kinds of heritage operators, and the implementation of pilot projects for the conservation and safeguarding of sites and landscapes. The final objective focuses on the systematic involvement of local communities and heritage operators in view of a shared enhancement plan for those landscapes, and the conceptualisation of dissemination materials and visitor centres. The ultimate goal of the project is inspiring people to join in the protection effort of newly perceived archaeological landscapes in order to extend the project outcomes even after its conclusion.

Projektbeteiligte

Prof. Dr. Nicolò Marchetti

Università di Bologna

History and Cultures

Bologna

Italien

Prof. Khalid Salim Ismael

University of Mosul

College of Archaeology

Department of Iraqi Ancient Languages

Mosul

Irak

Dr. Farhod Maksudov

Uzbek Academy of Sciences
National Center of Archaeology
Tashkent
Usbekistan

Prof. Dr. Adelheid Otto

Universität München
Kulturwissenschaften
Institut für Vorderasiatische Archäologie
München