World Heritage Education Project

Presented By:
Mrs. Anjum Haque
Director of UNESCO Amman

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Yarmouk University
UNESCO's Young People's World Heritage Education Project was launched in 1994 to raise awareness among students and teachers around the globe about World Heritage Conservation.

World Heritage Educational Resource Kit entitled “World Heritage in Young Hands” was published by WHC/UNESCO in 1999, as of 2005 the World Heritage in Young Hands Kit is currently being implemented and adapted in 700 Associated Schools in more than 130 countries and more than 20 different national language versions.

The project aims at encouraging young people to become involved in heritage conservation, at promoting awareness among them of the importance of our common World Heritage and that of the UNESCO 1972 World Heritage Convention.
BACKGROUND:

The Kit invites teachers of various disciplines to explore various aspects of heritage conservation with their students in the form of a journey through the world’s magnificent cultural and natural heritage. The Kit proposes classroom and extra-curricular activities, as well as student activity sheets, and provides a series of enlarged photographs of World Heritage sites, a poster, a World Heritage map, stickers and thematic overhead projection sheets to be used for classroom discussions.
Partners:

The project was implemented by:

- UNESCO World Heritage Centre (WHC)
- The Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet) Coordination Unit.
- The Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation (NORAD)
- Italian Government
- Rhône Poulenc Foundation, France
- ICCROM
Funding:

- The Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation (NORAD)
- Rhône Poulenc Foundation, France
- Italian Funds – In - Trust (FIT).
- UNESCO Regular Budget
- ICCROM
Main Objectives:

- Integration of World Heritage Education into secondary school curricula.
- Participation of young people in World Heritage conservation
- Create a new synergy amongst teachers, curriculum developers, heritage experts and other relevant people from local to global levels.
- Instilling a deep sense of responsibility towards our common cultural and natural heritage and diversity in tomorrow's decision-makers.
The overriding aims/objectives of the project

- Introducing World Heritage Education in Classroom teaching and in school curricula;
- Creating new information channels to exchange best practices on heritage education through traditional and new Information & Communication Technologies;
- Establishing a network of World Heritage schools featuring school links and exchange;
- Promoting a new synergy between educators; decision makers and heritage experts (museum personnel, site managers, conservation specialists, ICOMOS, ICCROM, ICOM, IUCN.)
WHYH Kit Contents:

The World Heritage in Young Hands (WHYH) kit includes forty-two suggested activities which are farmed in boxes. These activities can be adopted, modified and further development in accordance with your local context and the needs of your students.
UNESCO launched the Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet) in 1953, as a tool to emphasize on reinforcing the four pillars of Learning for the 21st Century (learning to know, to do, to be and to live together) and promoting quality education as outlined in the Dakar Framework of Action. There are over 7,000 institutions that are part of the global network.

National Commissions for UNESCO and Ministries of Education establish a network of schools interested in carrying out extra-curricula activities at national, regional and international in order to improve quality education, particularly its ethical, cultural and international dimensions by developing effective teaching approaches, methods and materials.
Promotion of the World Heritage Education Project in the Arab Region:

PHASE ONE (2001):

- **Production of World Heritage Educational Material in Arabic.**
  1. An Arabic Version of the World Heritage Education Kit in Young Hand
  2. Petra Manual in Arabic

- **Capacity Building Workshops**
  1. Training of the Trainers workshops (TOT)
  2. ASPnet National Coordinators to conduct a national Training workshops in their countries.
Training Workshops

- **Jordan Petra Workshop 2002**
  Petra workshop was held on 2002 and targeted students aged 14 – 16 years. The major outcome of the workshop was to developing the Petra manual based on the World Heritage Education Kit which will serve as a useful guide for secondary schools teachers.

- **Syria Workshop 2004**
  The aim of the workshop was to create awareness on conservation heritage and improved information dissemination on cultural and natural heritage, and preservation at different levels.

- **Tunisia Workshop 2005**
Phase Two (2003):

- Piloting:
  - Translation of the World Heritage Education in Young Hands in Arabic.
  - Printing 3,200 copies of the Arabic Version of the World Heritage Education in Young Hands Kit.
  - Distribution of the WHYH Kit in 71 schools in 11 countries in the Arab Region.
Future Challenges:

- The resource kit still implemented as extra-curricula.
- UNESCO to collaborate with MOE in the region to integrate the Kit within the framework of Arts Education.
- MOE to develop policies in Arts Education.
- Assist in capacity building.
- Providing technical support to MOEs in Arab region to integrate the resource kit in the curricula;
- Developing localized resource manuals;
- Developing inter-regional and regional projects under WHE;
- Assist in heritage management with local communities near the World Heritage sites;
- Encourage more partners such NGOs to promote World Heritage Education;
- More copies of the WHE in Young Hand and Petra manual to be printed and distributed.
WHC Kit in Jordan

- WHC Kit distributed in Jordan to all Schools by the Ministry of Education;
- ASPnet teachers in Jordan were trained;
- 100 ASPnet Schools in Jordan;
- Manual for Training Teachers produced (Petra Manual) and distributed;
- The manual is still being taught as Extra-Curricular activities;
- Friends of Environment (FOEs) in collaboration of WHC and GLOBE (NGO) had trained teachers and students how to protect the World Heritage site using the environmental techniques;
- Four schools in Jordan collaborating with four Danish schools and 28 teachers from the Denmark visited Jordan in 2005 with the framework of the World Heritage Education in Young Hands Kit.
Petra Manual is an educational manual for the secondary schools, which was produced as part of the UNESCO special project “Young People’s participation in World Heritage preservation and promotion”.

Petra Manual was developed by UNESCO Amman in collaboration with WHC and ICCROM funded by the Italian Fund- in- Trust. The development of the Petra Manual was aimed at strengthening heritage education in secondary schools, including on-site teaching and integration into secondary school curricula. The role of teachers is of vital importance and the manual is intended to assist the educators in raising awareness among young people who will become the future decision makers and guardians of heritage sites and places.
Objectives:

- To encourage the participation of the schools in the conservation and awareness programmes aimed at safeguarding heritage sites and places;
- To forge links between teachers and those responsible for cultural heritage conservation and management;
- To enhance school co-operation with heritage site managers, NGOs and stakeholder at the local level;
- To promote a model of long term co-operation between schools and heritage sites.
Manual Contents

*The Manual contains five units covering the following topics:*

Unit 1: The Concept of World Heritage and Cultural Heritage
Unit 2: Documentation/ research, and cases of decay
Unit 3: Conservation and site management
Unit 4: Socio-economic development at archaeological sites
Unit 5: Awareness and outreach
Main Activities

- **Production of the Petra Manual in Arabic**
  
i. The manual distributed to all ASPnet coordinators and Ministries of Education in all Arab States.
  
ii. Revised second edition being finalized with ICCROM.

- **Capacity Building Workshop**
  
i. Tunisia workshop on Petra Manual (2005):
  
  *The main objective of the workshop was to revise the first edition of the Petra Manual by ASPnet Coordinators & ICCROM experts.*
Evaluation

The first Edition of the Petra Manual was evaluated during the Tunisia workshop and a draft revised second was finalized. The revised the second edition is currently being finalized by ICCROM integrating the comments from the Tunisia workshop.
Future Challenges

- Capacity Building at regional and national levels.
- Printing of the Petra Manual in Arabic.
- Distribution of the Petra Manual in the Arab States.
- Integration of the Petra Manual in the Secondary School curricula.