



PROJECT EVALUATION – PHASE TWO

Executive Summary	2
Evaluation Methodology	4
Project Timeline	5
Section 1: Evaluation Aims	6
Section 2: Evaluation against agreed sub-outcomes	25
Section 3: Financial Evaluation	33
Section 4: Recommendations and conclusions	35
Annexes	39

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Research Centre
Trust, Peace and
Social Relations



Department for
Digital, Culture
Media & Sport



Executive Summary

Since 2017 around 30 young people (18-28 year olds) living in the South Hebron Hills, occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), have interviewed members of the oldest generation in thirty villages and hamlets to gather their intangible cultural heritage. The name 'On our Land' reflects the way in which this cultural heritage is connected to the land.

The Palestinians living in the South Hebron Hills are both villager dwellers and Bedouin. The Bedouin communities of Palestine have a rich cultural heritage, including vivid oral tradition, pastoral and agricultural practices, food and drink, and traditional arts and handicrafts, which is intertwined with that of their non-Bedouin Palestinian neighbours. This heritage is at risk as a result of the Israeli occupation which has seriously impacted on how Palestinians share their lived cultural heritage between generations and communities.

The creation of Israeli closed military zones, the imposition of severe restrictions on movement between Israel, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank (including East Jerusalem), and evictions of communities has threatened the existence of traditional ways of life. Paying attention to cultural heritage protection has become a low priority for many when compared to pressing needs such as jobs, education, or legal protection. The aim is to demonstrate the value of cultural heritage protection as an important potential resource to support social and economic life in communities in South Hills.

On our Land is a collaboration between the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations at Coventry University, and a Palestinian community organisation, the Palestinian Popular Struggle Coordination Committee.

Key findings of this evaluation:

- 70 hours of interviews recorded with 60 community members drawn from 30 villages and hamlets across the South Hebron Hills, representing an invaluable and significantly expanded record of the distinctive cultural heritage of the region. 20 hours of interviews have been transcribed, expected to rise to 40 hours by the end of January. 20 hours of interviews have been translated to English.
- 25 youth researchers representing communities across the area have attended 14 training sessions on oral history and research techniques, film and photography, and advocacy and presentation skills. Feedback from the researchers overwhelmingly reports the positive impact of this training on their confidence and skills in protecting their heritage and advocating for their communities.
- Heritage recorded by the youth researchers has been shared with local, national and international audiences, including by hosting 7 visits by experts and community groups to the South Hebron Hills, and participating in 5 conferences, festivals and exchange visits in other parts of the oPt. Youth researchers took part in two meetings in Jordan as part of the Corridors for Peace initiative, and sent two representatives to showcase the project in 17 meetings and events in the UK as part of the On our Land speaking tour.
- A suite of resources to further support the youth researchers in communicating their heritage to a wider audience has been developed, including maps, podcasts, photographs and a short film in Arabic and English documenting the methodology and findings of the project.
- Progress still needs to be made in developing a cultural inventory and archive to ensure the long-term preservation and accessibility of the materials gathered. In particular, an approach to this task needs to be developed that reflects the participatory ethos of On our Land and the needs of community stakeholders.

- Project management and communication structures, and staff capacity were improved from Phase 1, but would still benefit from further refinement in order to make sure this challenging transnational project is managed effectively, and in a way that promotes a sustainable long-term future for On our Land in and for the oPt.
- Priorities for the future include identifying project partners and supporting skills development that can help to build the long term sustainability of On our Land; Creating an accessible archive of materials gathered through the first two phases of the project in order to ensure its legacy and continued impact; Continuing to extend the reach of the project by making the methodology available to wider communities, supported by the highly skilled cohort of youth researchers from the South Hebron Hills.

Evaluation Methodology

This evaluation has been carried out against the aims and outcomes identified in the Evaluation Plan submitted to the British Council at the beginning of Phase Two of the On our Land project, and against the recommendations formulated in the Phase One evaluation. Data has been collected throughout the duration of Phase Two in order to inform this evaluation, including trip reports and regular submission of evaluation evidence reports by all team members using a common template, in addition to progress reports provided to the British Council. Several rounds of evaluation activities were carried out with project participants. Twelve mid-term evaluation interviews were conducted with the youth researchers, which focused on training and learning. The youth researchers also participated to an end of project focus group to capture their reflections and experiences of the project more broadly. In-depth face to face interviews were carried out with a cross section of youth researchers (2 interviews), community members (2 interviews) and advisory and technical committee members (2 interviews), to gain a more detailed understanding of the project's impact and reach. Interviews via Skype were also carried out with all six of the On our Land project staff, in order that learning about the logistics and management of the project could be fully integrated into the evaluation. Materials in support of the evaluation can be found attached to this report as annexes.

Project Timeline – On our Land Phase Two

20-21 February	Project set-up meeting, OPT
23 February – 4 March	Community outreach meetings and visits to introduce the project to the population of the South Hebron Hills.
27 February	Initial technical committee meeting, Bir Zeit University
16 March	Initial community stakeholder meeting
19 April – 13 July	Oral History training for youth researchers, including interviewing, film and photography, transcription and quality control
4 May	Participation in Oral History conference, Al Jalazoun refugee camp, West Bank
16 May	Cultural Protection Fund partner meeting, Bethlehem
25 May	Community outreach meeting – Iftar dinner
June – October	Oral history data collection in South Hebron Hills
6 June	Visit to South Hebron Hills by students from Bir Zeit University
14 June	Advocacy training for youth researchers
18 June	Youth researchers present the project at Bir Zeit Rozana Festival
11 July	Exchange visit by Youth researchers to Khan al Ahmar
30 July – 3 August	Bedouin exchange visit as part of planning for ‘Corridors for Peace’ initiative, Jordan
31 August	Transcription training workshop for youth researchers
7 September	Seminar hosted in Al Twani – History of South Hebron Hills under Ottoman Rule
12 September	British Council visit to South Hebron Hills
20 September	Exchange visit by Palestinian youth from Baladna (Israel)
5 October	Female only photography and video training, Al Twani
18-22 October	Regional Meeting of Bedouin in Wadi Rum, Jordan, as part of ‘Corridors for Peace’ initiative.
21 October	Visit to project by Alyson King, UK Government spokeswoman for the MENA region
1 November	Networking and presentation skills training
13 November	Exchange visit by youth researchers to Al Rashaida
November	On our Land film developed, shot and edited
19 November – 3 December	Two youth researchers visit UK for speaking tour of London, the Midlands, Bristol and Exeter.
5 December	Exchange visit by Bedouin women’s weaving group from Naqab (Israel)
13 December	Community closing ceremony and presentation of certificates of acknowledgement to youth researchers

Section 1: Evaluation Aims

The evaluation plan identifies five key aims of the project:

Evaluation aim 1	To showcase the impact the research project has had on protecting the lived cultural heritage of the Bedouins living in Occupied Palestinian Territories (oPt)
Evaluation aim 2	To understand the impact the project has had on building the capacity and the skillset of the young researchers involved in the project
Evaluation aim 3	To share the stories of lived cultural heritage project with key stakeholders both nationally and internationally to highlight the issues Bedouins in the oPt face on their day-to-day life
Evaluation aim 4	To share lessons learned about the logistics and management the project and to understand what worked and what could have been improved
Evaluation aim 5	To evidence how cultural heritage protection can act as an important resource to support social and economic development and resistance in these kind of communities

In addition to this, the evaluation for Phase One identified the following recommendations:

1. Extend project to all 28 villages of the South Hebron Hills in order to capture in greater detail the ICH which is distinctive to this region and these communities, and allow all to benefit from the impacts of the project. There was a strong appetite from the youth volunteers and local community to introduce the project to the rest of the villages in the area.
2. Ensure project materials (films, photos, transcripts and inventory) are stored in a format and locations that make them accessible to the widest possible audience. This includes the project website, archived in oPt and elsewhere, and developing a resource pack with all materials for the youth research teams to continue to use in their activities.
3. Prioritise the development of the participatory ICH inventory in line with UNESCO guidance in order to develop clear, convincing tool (in both Arabic and English) for use in future outreach activities by the communities, including in educational settings
4. Ensure future projects benefit from a robust and clear information management system, supported by sufficient project capacity in the UK and oPt teams. All team members need to have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities, how these relate to other team members and the capacity to meet the expectations placed on them. This should be agreed in person prior to the start of the project.
5. Consult with youth researchers about any logistical challenges specific to the exact context of the communities (for example, related to transport). As the people tasked with carrying out the research, they may have a different perspective of what is needed.
6. Build in sufficient project management and strategic outreach capacity in the oPt project team in any future project. This would allow for smoother running of the project from day-to-day and free up other team members to undertake analysis and development tasks that were at times overlooked during this project.

Based on the evaluation data gathered in Phase Two, the following section will consider to what extent the On our Land project has achieved each of these aims.

Evaluation Aim One: To showcase the impact the research project has had on protecting the lived cultural heritage of the Bedouins living in Occupied Palestinian Territories (oPt)

“In the beginning I wasn’t very interested in my cultural heritage. There is so much about our cultural heritage that we should be curious about. I didn’t use to ask, however after the project I am more interested. For example, when I would see certain tools I was only concerned with their purpose, now I am more concerned with its history, to learn more and to document this knowledge, especially considering that we are under occupation.” Thahab Abu Sabha, 18



Figure 1: Youth researchers interviewing a community member in Al Qaryatain.

70 hours of oral history testimony were recorded for this phase of the project, representing interviews with 60 community members. Crucially, the interviews recorded in Phase 2 were on average significantly longer (around 60-90 minutes long in most cases) and more in-depth than in Phase 1, recorded using better equipment and reflected a higher standard of videography and interviewing skills on the part of the youth researchers. This reflects, in particular, the significant investment in training and follow up with the youth researchers, and the high level of commitment of the oPt based team to delivering this. On the whole, this has resulted in a trove of high quality interviews and images documenting the heritage of communities in the South Hebron Hills that will be accessible for future generations. Whereas the previous phase of the project was focussed on just a few locations in South Hebron Hills, researchers in Phase 2 were able to carry out interviews in 30 of the 33 communities the researchers mapped across the area, building a comprehensive record of the distinctive ICH of the region as a whole for the first time. In each community researchers carried out at least two interviews – one focussed on recording the place and its distinctive history, and one on a specific element of heritage found in the area. This responded to the first recommendation made in the evaluation of Phase 1. The interviews focussed on documenting heritage around a number of key themes, developed by the youth researchers themselves on the basis of Phase 1 findings, initial interviews and consultation with community members. The eight ICH themes identified were as follows: Caves/Cave

living; Water and Wells; Agriculture; Milk products; Grazing sheep; Family reconciliation; Weaving and textiles; Traditional songs and music. These themes were supplemented by interviews that aimed to document a sense of place and history of the individual communities involved, contributing to mapping and supporting the villages of the South Hebron Hills.

Developing the cultural inventory and archive

Whilst the gathering and recording of examples of ICH in the South Hebron Hills has been significantly improved in 2019, the project has continued to struggle in matching this with the same level of transcription, translation and the development of a cultural inventory for archiving. So far 23 hours of interviews have been transcribed, with a total of 3 hours of excerpts translated into English. An additional transcriber/translator has been hired in the final months of the project in order to speed this process. It is expected that the transcriber will have completed 20 hours of interviews by the end of December, and the youth researchers a further 20 by the end of January 2020. Information management has been significantly improved in the way audio-visual files are stored, managed and backed up on a regular basis by the oPt based team (see Figure 2 – this was stressed in Recommendation 4 of the Phase 1 Evaluation). However, whilst this represents an important first step in preserving this valuable heritage, this has yet to be developed into a more sustainable and, crucially, accessible archive, as stressed in Recommendation 2 of the Phase 1 Evaluation. Indeed, when surveyed about their priorities for the project's future, the youth researchers themselves identified the development of an accessible archive as their number one priority. The delay in doing this can partly be attributed to the interviewing phase taking place over a longer period than initially envisaged, which has delayed the start of the transcription/translation phase. All of the youth researchers have educational, work or caring responsibilities. They have demonstrated remarkable commitment to the project despite the fact that most are only able to carry out work for this at weekends. Moreover, communities involved are spread over a wide geographical area with little infrastructure linking them, therefore ensuring the project worked with all 33 communities was a time consuming process, but one which the project team felt was worthwhile in order to gather a comprehensive and high quality record of heritage in the area.

A second challenge related to the development of the inventory and archive has been identifying a format and partner that is appropriate for a project such as On our Land, that is grounded in participatory methods and youth empowerment. Meetings were held to discuss the relative merits of different approaches to developing and archiving a SHH cultural inventory, including working towards UNESCO recognition. These discussions, as well as feedback from the youth researchers, have highlighted both the potential of working towards an outcome such as UNESCO recognition, but also the inherent tension between this kind of formal, top-down approach, which requires the support and expertise of a range of elite level stakeholders, and the participatory, community focussed approach that has been the project's strength so far. These are not mutually exclusive approaches to heritage preservation, but will require careful negotiation particularly to ensure agency remains in the hands of local communities and youth researchers. One priority of any next phase of the project will be to identify an archivist that can help to navigate this tension, and work with the youth researchers to develop an archive of materials that will be accessible and meaningful both to the communities of SHH and external researchers. Identifying the right external partners to support and host this archive will be crucial to the success of this work.

Promoting intergenerational transfer of knowledge

Of course, recording and archiving examples of heritage is only one part of the challenge of protecting intangible cultural heritage. Another way in which the On our Land project has made a significant impact on the protection of heritage in the South Hebron Hills has been by sensitising young people to the importance of this heritage, and facilitating the intergenerational transfer of this knowledge through the interview process.



Figure 3: A youth researcher, A'dan Nawajaa, walks with her grandmother in Al Jawaya.

Every youth researcher interviewed for this evaluation agreed or strongly agreed that they have a greater understanding of the role of cultural heritage in their community as a result of participating in the project. As one youth researcher, Sami Huraini, reflected “Overall, before this project I wasn’t really aware about our heritage, I wasn’t very interested in the beginning. This project raised my sense of awareness about protecting our heritage. If don’t protect it, it will disappear and we would lose our heritage. I appreciate the project for raising our sense of awareness”. Youth researchers reported that participation in the project had not only made them more appreciative of the ICH in their communities, but that it had contributed to a greater sense of understanding between older and younger generations. One researcher, Khalil Makhamra, explained that he felt that the elderly generation were less dismissive of his use of computers and technology, now that they had seen how he was using it to document their stories. Another, Ahmad Abu Jondya, described how he would now pay more attention to the knowledge and experiences of his older family members: “A week ago my aunt was over at our place and she was working on weaving something and before I even came up to say hello to her, I thought of going to get my camera (...) I have become more inquisitive and I ask more questions now just like a field researcher would, even when we have a discussion at home, just like our teacher Mahasen taught us”. By its very definition, lived cultural heritage only survives if it is passed on from generation to generation – perhaps the most important impact of this project, then, will be in reinventing the flow of this knowledge within the communities of SHH.

Defining the heritage of the South Hebron Hills

One important finding of the first two phases of the On our Land project, has been to map out both the richness and the complexity of the cultural heritage of Palestinians living in the South Hebron Hills, an area that receives little attention at either the national or international level. On our Land was designed on the basis of an identified need to protect the heritage of Bedouin communities in this area. However, the work of the youth researchers over the past two years (and particularly the more thorough engagement with populations across the whole of South Hebron Hills in Phase 2) has revealed a more nuanced picture. Bedouin and agricultural communities live alongside each other and many heritage practices are shared or familiar to both. Agricultural communities often have strong ties to the town of Yatta and a tradition of moving between the town and the villages/hamlets of the South Hebron Hills, whilst the Bedouin communities can largely trace their time in the area to their expulsion from the Naqab in 1948. What is common to all of these Palestinians is the direct line they draw between the land and their heritage, emphasising how many of the features that are distinct to the South Hebron Hills, such as cave living or pastoral techniques, are directly drawn from their relationship to the land, and the ways they have lived and thrived there for so many years. For this reason, it seems more appropriate now to refer to the distinct cultural heritage of the South Hebron Hills (inclusive of all communities that call this area home), rather than focussing solely on what could be classified as Bedouin. Such an approach allows for a fuller engagement with the range of heritage practices in this area and, crucially, authentically reflects the findings of the youth researchers and experience of local communities.

Evaluation Aim Two: To understand the impact the project has had on building the capacity and the skillset of the young researchers involved in the project

“My first experience with this project was an interview that lasted 5 minutes and I thought that it was more than enough, however as we developed further and took more trainings, I wanted to conduct more interviews that would reach an hour and more. And each interview would be different and it would motivate me to carry on.” Mahmoud Makhamra, 22

Phase 2 of the project delivered significantly more training to the youth researchers than originally promised in the project plan, providing a total of 14 different training days, covering a range of topics from oral history methods, interviewing skills, filming and photography, research ethics, transcription, and advocacy (See annex for full details of the training schedule). Levels of participation in the training sessions ranged between 11 – 22 people, with sustained female participation in the programme at all times (the gender ratio never exceed 60:40 in terms of men to women, with the obvious exception of the female only session detailed below). These sessions were supplemented by daily communication and mentoring of the youth researchers by the oPt based team, which is testament to the commitment of this team to the success of the project and the personal development of the youth researchers involved. For the first time, an additional female-only training session was included in the training programme, after some female researchers were identified as lacking confidence in filming and photography.



Figure 4: Kauther Nawajah and Amira Hureini taking part in female-only film and photography training.

The researchers appreciated the provision of this session, and emphasised that more female-only training would help make the project sustainable in the long run by encouraging

This focus on training paid dividends in the skills development reported by the youth researchers. During the mid-term evaluation (see Annex Seven) 11/12 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they felt more confident in their ability to use oral history techniques after taking part in this project. Similarly, 10/12 youth researchers agreed or strongly agreed that they felt more confident to carry out research in their community after taking part in this project (although one researcher disagreed, noting the difficulties she had faced in convincing older people to be interviewed to the point that “my throat dried up trying to convince them!”). All 12 researchers interviewed as part of the evaluation agreed or strongly agreed that they felt more confident presenting their work to an audience after taking part in this project. The youth researchers identified a wide variety of areas where they had developed their skills by virtue of their involvement in the project, including oral history methods, the fieldwork/research process, interviewing skills (particularly how to phrase questions to encourage people to speak), working with the older community, and video and filming skills. Importantly, numerous researchers reported that the project had helped them to build their own self-confidence, as researcher Ibrahim noted “I feel confident in presenting my work. I have presented the interviews I conducted in front of other young people and the team and I feel capable of presenting it to anyone.”

Putting skills into practice

The depth and breadth of skills represented by the cohort of youth researchers can be evidenced by their increasing involvement in other areas of project delivery in Phase Two. For example, one researcher (Mahmoud Makhamra) delivered the female-only film and photography training, whilst another (Khalil Makhamra) has taken on responsibility for editing the podcasts. Several more have

participated in transcribing interviews, having taken part in an earlier training on this. Youth researchers have taken on a leading role in presenting the project at local, national and international events, including presenting to royalty, ambassadors and one audience of over 150 people. Not only does this demonstrate a recognition of the capacities of the young people involved in the project, and how these are going from strength to strength, but it also points to a more sustainable future for the project in which its activities are overwhelmingly led by the youth of the South Hebron Hills (see conclusion for further discussions of sustainability). A member of the On our Land technical committee, noted “This is an extremely important experience for the youth who learned a lot about how to ask questions, how to conduct interviews, how to work as a team and this should enable them in their future. We are creating not only potential oral historians but also potential academics”. The breadth of skills demonstrated by the youth researchers in Phase 2 has been recognised in the application submitted for impact funding in Phase 3, which identifies a number of activities (including website editing, production of short films, development of social media channels) to be led and managed by the youth researchers themselves. This would represent an important step in handing over more control over the project to the youth themselves, supporting their agency in driving the future of heritage preservation in the South Hebron Hills.

Evaluation Aim Three: To share the stories of lived cultural heritage project with key stakeholders both nationally and internationally to highlight the issues Bedouins in the oPt face on their day-to-day life

“By documenting the richness of the region, On our Land illustrates what people are ‘for’, rather than what they against. This proves a refreshing and powerful form of advocacy and resistance”

Member of audience during UK speaking tour

One of the great successes of Phase 2 of On our Land has been in sharing the work of the youth researchers, and the rich heritage they have recorded, with a wider audience. This has taken place in events held at the local, national and international levels.

Local Events

In 2019 the project team and youth researchers have hosted 7 visits by external guests and groups to the South Hebron Hills to learn more about the project and exchange ideas. These have included visits by representatives of the British Council and UK Government, by groups of young people from Baladna (Association for Arab Youth based in Haifa) and Bir Zeit University, academics and members of other Bedouin communities in the Naqab. Such visits have proved vital opportunities to demonstrate the vibrant heritage of the region to visitors in person, and build on the development of the heritage trails in Phase 1.



Figure 5: Celebrating the visit of Martin Daltry (British Council) to visit the project.

These visits have been complemented by a parallel focus on community centred events, ensuring that the project's goals and findings are shared with local communities as the most important stakeholders in this work. As part of researcher recruitment, visits were made by first phase youth researchers, staff and mayors to 19 communities at the very start of the project. Three large community meetings have been held in Al Twani (at the project's inception, for Iftar and as a closing ceremony), each gathering between 40-60 people. These were complemented by four smaller outreach meetings in Khalit Al Dabi', Al Majaz, Dqaiqa, and Qwawis, attended by between 11 and 20 people.



*Figure 6:
Community outreach
meeting in Al Twani*

National Events

The youth researchers took the opportunity to present the project at two significant national level events focussed on heritage in 2019. Five researchers travelled to Al Jalazoun refugee camp, West Bank to present at the Oral History conference. The audience of around 60 people was made up of heritage focussed professionals such as tour guides, academics and NGOs. The youth researchers also represented the project at the Rozana Festival at Bir Zeit, networking with other heritage organisations present and explaining the On our Land initiative to visitors to the festival. The youth researchers visited Bedouin communities in Khan al Ahmar and the Jordan Valley to share their experiences and discuss heritage and resistance strategies. Unfortunately the researchers were not able to participate in another national level initiative where the project was presented, the Nablus Road open house, as their permits to travel were refused by the Israeli military administration. In addition to this, members of the On our Land project team presented the project at the Cultural Protection Fund partner meeting, Bethlehem. This was another vital opportunity to engage with cultural organisations from across oPt, including Masar Ibrahim, Welfare, Rozana, Centre for Cultural Heritage Preservation, HYDEA, Premiere Urgence International, and Riwaq.

International Events

Three youth researchers were able to travel to Jordan from July 30th – August 3rd to represent the On our Land project in a Bedouin exchange visit as part of planning for the ‘Corridors for Peace’ initiative. The meeting provided opportunity for the youth researchers and other Bedouins from the region to share experiences and learn about the context of each community. Eleven youth researchers and two staff then took part in the Regional Meeting, with participants from Jordan and Lebanon, held in Wadi Rum, Jordan, 18-22 October. From November 19th – December 3rd two youth researchers, Sameeha Huraini and Khalil Makhamra, took part in a speaking tour of the UK in order to share their work with audiences in the UK. They attended 17 meetings and events (see Annex 5) presenting the heritage and experiences of their communities to a variety of audiences from cultural and heritage focussed organisations (for example, the Royal Court theatre and Screening Rights Film Festival), to academic institutions (Coventry University, University of Birmingham), to organisations with expertise in Palestine and the Middle East (for example, the Centre for Advancing Arab British Understanding, or the Palestine Museum, Bristol). Audience sizes for public events ranged from the low tens to 154, with around 450 people in total coming to hear Sameeha and Khalil speak.



Figure 7: Khalil Mahkamra and Sameeha Hureini sharing the stage with former Secretary of State for International Development Clare Short during the Screening Rights Film Festival, Birmingham.

Many attendees reported this was the first time they had been able to hear directly from people from the South Hebron Hills, and that they had little prior knowledge of this area – indeed, the Palestine Museum (Bristol) reported that they had never previously run an event about this region. This demonstrates, how important the work of the youth researchers has been in putting their communities on the map at the local, national and international levels. The Coventry University based team has also engaged in a number of events aimed at sharing the work of the youth researchers with a wider international audience, presenting the project at four academic conferences in the UK in 2019, as well as at a public lecture at the Getty Villa (USA) and to delegates at a training course run by the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (Italy, see annex for further details of all events).

Developing a resource pack

The combined effect of these local, national and international events means that the story of the communities of the South Hebron Hills, and their distinctive heritage, has reached a considerably wider audience in Phase 2 than in Phase 1. In order to continue to extend this reach, and to allow the youth researchers to take control of this process, the project has developed a set of materials that can be used either independently or together to share these stories with audiences at home and abroad. These materials include a short film, podcasts, maps and slides for presentations (developed by Coventry University architecture student Rebecca Bubb as part of a placement in On our Land), the project website, as well as a selection of photos with agreed captions, all of which are stored centrally at the On our Land office in Al Twani. The development of these materials responds directly to Recommendation 2 made in the Phase 1 evaluation. The project has made important progress in recording the 33 communities of the South Hebron Hills through its mapping efforts, but this could be developed further as a resource for the researchers and communities in any future programme of work. These communities have historically been excluded from maps produced by the Ottoman, British and Israeli authorities, therefore further developing the maps that have been begun under Phase 2 could be a powerful tool for locating and recording heritage, and resisting displacement.

The On our Land website has continued to be a useful resource for the project in 2019, attracting 475 users to December 10th, and 1512 page views. The majority of visitors to the site come from the UK (41%) and US (28%), with 6% from Israel and 4% from Palestine. Whilst this is a good start, more could be made of this resource, particularly in attracting visitors from Israel and Palestine. The Phase 3 extension application envisions engaging the youth researchers in creating content and driving traffic towards the site, making it a more active hub for the project.



Figure 8: Screenshots from the On our Land short film.

The development of the film has been a particular success of Phase 2. Running at around 20 minutes long, and recorded in Arabic with English subtitles, the film showcases the heritage of the South Hebron Hills and work of the youth researchers, by allowing them to present the project in their own words. It features extracts from five interviews carried out with community members aged 60-85 covering themes such as sheep grazing, wells, wedding customs, farming, displacement, and cave living. Each interview is accompanied by a reflection by the youth researchers on why they felt this particular element of heritage was important, and what they had learned. The film was shown to audiences at 15 events in the UK as part of the speaking tour, including as part of the final event of the Screening Rights Film Festival at the Midlands Arts Centre (Birmingham). Crucially, the film has allowed the youth researchers to present a different vision of life in oPt to the one that Western audiences may be used to seeing. As Khalil reflected at the end of the tour “Sometimes when I see the film I think no-one will be active because of this because we don’t show the occupation or disaster. But there’s something very important for me – at the start we should show the sweet ways of our heritage, the culture, the high value of our heritage”. This view was mirrored by audience members – as one attendee at the Coventry Friends of Palestine event put it “we hear negative, negative, negative [about the situation in oPt]. It is great to hear positivity and resilience, very moving and informative”. Another audience member in Walsall remarked that the film was “very moving and powerful”, adding “it’s important for people to see this internationally”.

Evaluation Aim Four: To share lessons learned about the logistics and management the project and to understand what worked and what could have been improved

Investment in community outreach improves transparency and trust



Figure 9: Outreach meeting in the community of Al Jawaya.

One of the most important changes in Phase 2, introduced as a direct response to shortcomings identified in Phase 1 (see Recommendation 5), was the emphasis placed on extensive community consultation and outreach at the beginning of the year. By mid-March 2019 teams made up of project team members, youth researchers from Phase 1, and advisory committee members had visited 19 communities in the South Hebron Hills, distributing more than 100 leaflets about the project and 60 application forms for potential youth researchers. As discussed above, this was complemented by a series of community meetings aimed at raising awareness of the project in the area. This sustained programme of community outreach meant that the project was perceived as transparent and open to all, and widely supported in the region. This was summed up by youth researcher Ibrahim Nawaja, recruited as one of the new youth researchers, who explained “I used to think this was like any other project. However, this project was very precise and clear and transparent. I introduced it to a lot of people and they wanted to join. The project is excellent, it is an honest project.” This transparency also extended to the recruitment of the youth researchers, meaning that the new cohort represented a cross section of villages in the area and retained a good gender balance.

Increasing investment in staff

The Phase 1 evaluation highlighted the need to “build in sufficient project management and strategic outreach capacity in the oPt project team in any future project” as well as to “ensure future projects benefit from a robust and clear information management system, supported by sufficient project

capacity in the UK and oPt teams”. To this end, Phase 2 introduced a new project team structure, with two permanent members of staff and one consultant significantly increasing staff capacity in oPt. It also introduced new tools for communication and reporting, such as an Evaluation Evidence form used by all staff members to record and report activities (see Annex 9), secure shared project site hosted by Coventry University where all files could be uploaded in compliance with GDPR legislation, and an agreed structure for communications and reporting between oPt and UK teams. One of the most important changes introduced in Phase 2 was to hold an in-person project kick-off meeting for UK and oPt based staff on the 20-21st February, to make sure all team members had a shared understanding of the aims of the project, their roles, and key milestones. The impact of these changes can be seen in the increased level of training and support provided to the researchers in 2019, the significantly improved quality of interviews and materials produced as part of the project, the marked rise in engagement between SHH researchers and external stakeholders, and considerably improved systems for information management in oPt and communications between project teams in the UK and oPt. As oPt based Oral History Project Manager Mahmoud Solimann notes “more investment in staff leads to better outcomes for the project across the board”.



Figure 10: Oral History Project Manager Mahasen Rabus delivering a training session.

Nevertheless, project team members in the UK and oPt have identified a number of improvements that should still could be made to the project management in order to make a third phase more effective and impactful. Despite the increase in staff time allotted to the project, team members in oPt and the UK consistently worked over their allotted hours in order to deliver the outcomes and make sure that the youth researchers were adequately supported. This was particularly true of the oPt team, who were in daily contact with the youth researchers (at times spending up to four hours a day communicating with the youth researchers during their data collection), and the Coventry team

during key events such as the UK speaking tour and film development. Whilst this reflects the strong personal commitment of all team members to the success of the project and the young people involved, it also suggests that allocated staff time should be reviewed again for a third phase of the project. This has been reflected in the application submitted for impact funding.

Improving team structures and communication

Similarly, whilst improvements to communications and information management structures were welcomed by project team members, there is also an acknowledgement that these can be further enhanced. The On our Land project has operated according to a very flat management structure, which has enabled all team members to get a good knowledge and experience of all activities. However, this has led at times to a duplication of roles and a lack of clarity about project responsibilities, which has undermined the efficiency of the project and at times left some team members feeling excluded from important discussions about the direction of the project. As the project moves into a new phase, it will be appropriate to refine the management structure further to ensure that it is the most appropriate to continue to deliver its aims and outcomes. Greater clarity about the roles and responsibilities of each team member would be welcomed. What is more, this reflects a wider concern on the part of project team members, local stakeholders and the youth researchers themselves to ensure that the On our Land project has a sustainable future based in and led from the oPt (an aim that will be discussed further in Section 4).



Figure 11: The youth researchers participating in the Corridors for Peace meeting in Wadi Rum, Jordan.

Evaluation Aim Five: To evidence how cultural heritage protection can act as an important resource to support social and economic development and resistance in these kind of communities

“I learned how to research my own village and to place it on the map, and to ensure its existence and to tell the whole world that there are people living in this area, and that there are people living here and they deserve to live in dignity.” Hamdan Balal, 29

Renewing social links

Youth researchers and local community members alike have remarked on the contribution the On our Land project has made to rejuvenating social links in between and within communities in the South Hebron Hills. As the Head of Al Twani council remarks “now people know each other more and their historical stories. There is much more respect for the older generation and there is more hospitality. The youth researchers themselves, especially the young women, they had a leading role in their communities”.



Figure 12: Youth researcher Taha Al Emour with an interviewee.

This is partly due to the project’s practical focus on intergenerational exchange, explored above, which has had a positive impact on levels of contact and respect between older and younger generations. These social links have also been strengthened by the process of mapping and working with all 33 communities in the South Hebron Hills. Phase 1 of On our Land made clear that many of these villages and hamlets were barely known outside their immediate vicinity, and their residents felt isolated and overlooked even at the local level (indeed, this had led to some tensions in Phase 1, since this only focussed on a few locations in the area). As youth researcher Hamdan’s quote eloquently demonstrates above, the process of mapping and recording these places has been transformational for some residents. Another researcher, Taha Hussein, reflected that learning about the history and culture of his village (Mejaz) had “changed my perspective and my sense of belonging to Mejaz”. Whilst it is difficult to measure this kind of impact, the feedback gathered from youth researchers and community members suggests that the processes of mapping, recording and sharing heritage across the South Hebron Hills has made an important contribution to supporting a sense of pride and recognition in and of these communities – “the area got to be known more by its own people” in the words of Mr Rabiha.

Resisting displacement

The youth researchers have a very clear vision of the way that the heritage they have recorded through the On our Land project can act as a resource to support social development and resistance. The communities of the South Hebron Hills exist under the near constant threat of demolition and displacement – indeed one youth researcher, Jabeer Dababsa, had his home demolished by the Israeli military during Phase 2 of the project.



Figure 13: Women working on their farmland.

The researchers have identified two ways in which recording their local heritage can support their resistance to such displacement. On the one hand, they see in this heritage a way of proving that they live on these lands and have done for generations. As youth researcher Ali explains “cultural heritage is a proof of our identity. Here in South Hebron, considering that we are under the Israeli occupation which tries to diminish these areas, through our stories and documentation of daily life of our elders before occupation, this has led to us growing more attached to our land and it increased our belief in our right over this land.” In a situation of extreme precarity, this heritage provides an invaluable resource to demonstrate the deep roots of the communities of the South Hebron Hills, and how they have flourished in years gone by.

The youth researchers also recognise that this heritage provides them with a new and powerful way of presenting their communities to the outside world. As Khalil and Sameeha reflected following their tour of the UK, external audiences are bombarded with negative imagery of the situation in oPt, whereas their message stands out by focussing on the richness of the communities they represent. Ahmad Abu Jondya, another youth researcher, went further – “The residents in these areas are focused on presenting life under occupation to visitors, however when I got involved in this project and I got to know more about our heritage through several interviews, I see that when you tie heritage with the implications of occupation on our daily lives, the message is stronger and you present an

overview picture. You tie the past with the present, and so your message is stronger.” This represents an important learning point from the project over two phases so far, and one that is perhaps applicable to the wider suite of projects funded as part of the Cultural Protection Fund. Whilst the primary aim of this funding has been to protect and preserve heritage at risk from the impacts of conflict, and this has certainly been one of the main achievements of the On our Land project, it has been apparent through the work of the youth researchers that this relationship goes in both ways. Conflict-affected communities are working hard to protect their at-risk heritage, but the heritage they are keeping alive is in turn helping these communities to protect themselves from the pervasive impacts of conflict, such as displacement, social fragmentation and marginalisation.

Supporting economic development – an opportunity missed?

Whilst researchers and other local stakeholders were united in their appreciation of the contribution the On our Land project has made to promoting social development and resistance, there was concern that more could be done to use the materials and skills developed through the project to support local economic development. Local stakeholders recognise the great potential in reviving and developing some of the traditions documented to promote tourism and small businesses. The Head of Masafer Yatta Council, acknowledged that the documentation work carried out by the project was a step in the right direction, but urged us to go further; “Through the videos and the collection of data, it proves indirectly how we can have more economic interventions like handicrafts that could provide economic opportunities and how women could lead these initiatives. This would also affect the social relationship among women in different areas.” Similarly, the youth researchers themselves have requested training that would enable them to develop and apply for funding to support economic initiatives based on their findings, arguing that this would make the project more sustainable and help bring further investment to communities which are among the most deprived in the West Bank.

Section 2: Evaluation against agreed sub-outcomes

The following section presents a brief assessment of the project's achievements against the three main outcomes:

- Cultural heritage under threat is researched, documented, conserved and restored to safeguard against permanent loss
- Local professionals have sufficient business or specialist skills to be able to manage and promote cultural assets which will benefit the local economy
- Local people are able to identify and value their cultural heritage and have a good understanding of what can be done to protect their cultural heritage and the role it plays in society and the economy.

OUTCOME 1: CULTURAL HERITAGE UNDER THREAT IS RESEARCHED, DOCUMENTED, CONSERVED AND RESTORED TO SAFEGUARD AGAINST PERMANENT LOSS		
Sub-outcome: Cultural heritage will be in better condition and/or protected against physical damage or destruction		
Project Objectives	Key performance indicators	Progress to date
Intangible cultural heritage/oral history will be identified and/or recorded in SHH, extending reach of existing project from 4 villages to c28 villages. This additional mapping exercise and 4 initial community meetings will enable project team to ensure that the project is widely known and understood throughout SHH and that there is transparency around recruitment of youth researchers, local advisory group members, stakeholder meeting participants, and interviewees	>28 Bedouin communities will have been located in addition to the 4 locations where the project was run during phase 1	<p>On our Land researchers visited and mapped 33 communities in the SHH, recording at least two interviews in 30/33 communities. Youth researchers from Phase 1 visited villages to introduce the project and recruit new youth participants, accompanied by SHH advisory group members, the Chair of Trustees for the PSCC, Oral history project manager and Education and Advocacy consultant distributing over 100 leaflets and 60 application forms. Meetings to explain the project were held with Mayors of three larger communities in the area: Masfer Yatta, Rakiz and Al Twani.</p> <p>These communities have been included on a number of maps developed by CU Masters student Rebecca Bubb as resources for the youth researchers to use in their future advocacy for these communities and their heritage (See Annex 6)</p>

60 additional hours of high quality intergenerational video interviews will have been recorded by the youth researchers from the SHH Bedouin communities not included in first phase of project (estimated at 24-32 Bedouin communities)	60 hours of video interviews pertaining to elements of Bedouin cultural heritage recorded by youth participants	70 hours of intergenerational video interviews have been conducted by the youth researchers by end of October 2019. These video interviews are very high quality technically and focus on place, or a wide range of selected themes including caves, milk production, agriculture, popular songs, weddings, family reconciliation law, water wells, grazing sheep, traditional handmade clothes.
Sub-outcome: Cultural heritage will be better managed		
A dedicated office space will have been hired for project in South Hebron Hills to ensure that the youth researchers will have a secure space to leave the purchased equipment and to have a meeting space	The availability of a dedicated space for the project will encourage the Oral History Project manager and youth researchers to meet more frequently and enable them to store material and equipment safely	Office space in Al Twani taken into use in the beginning of April and has been used by the youth researchers for trainings, equipment storage and hosting meetings.
40 hours of high quality video interviews will have been transcribed by the end of the project	40 hours of video interviews will be transcribed by oPt based transcribers, including the youth researches of the South Hebron Hills. A selection of the transcribed interviews will be uploaded to the project website	35 hours of interviews have been transcribed so far – 15 by youth researchers and 20 by a professional transcriber. This figure is expected to rise to 40 hours by mid-January.
20 hours of video interviews will have been professionally translated by the end of the project	20 hours of video interviews will be professionally translated from Arabic to English by an UK based translator A selection of the translated	20 hours of interviews have been translated into English.

	video interviews will be uploaded to the project website	
An expanded Cultural Inventory Archive will have been developed on the basis of the 60 hrs of additional intergenerational interviews conducted	Intangible cultural heritage inventory is shared with UNESCO and Palestinian Ministry of Culture A selection of material from the Cultural Inventory Archive will be published on the project website	Youth researchers have developed a set of 8 themes to categorise the heritage they have recorded, which will form the basis of their own cultural heritage inventory. Meetings have been held with local experts to discuss the relative merits of following the UNESCO approach, and discussions held with the national Palestinian archive in Abu Des and with Palestinian museum regarding hosting an alternative inventory.
OUTCOME 2: LOCAL PROFESSIONALS HAVE SUFFICIENT BUSINESS OR SPECIALIST SKILLS TO BE ABLE TO MANAGE AND PROMOTE CULTURAL ASSETS WHICH WILL BENEFIT THE LOCAL ECONOMY		
Sub-outcome: Local staff and/or volunteers will have developed skills		
Two experienced Palestinian staff (Oral History Project Manager and Advocacy and Education Consultant) will have deepened their experience in their specialist fields through their work in these marginalised communities	Two employees with the required skills and expertise will be hired in February 2019 A mid-term evaluation will be conducted with the two employees to discuss their contribution to the project and any development needs	All positions were advertised and three employees recruited on the basis of 100 applications. Regular meetings are held with the project staff in oPt to discuss progress in the project.
10 new youth researchers will attend two Oral History Training workshops delivered by the Oral History Project Manager extending the reach of the project from 4 villages to circa 28 villages	10 new youth researchers (gender balance) actively participate for full programme and learn skills necessary for video interviewing older generation and recording oral histories on selected themes with a view to expanding inventory of intangible cultural heritage.	A total of 25 youth researchers participated in Phase 2, of which 16 were recruited in 2019. An average of 16 youth researchers attended each of 11 Oral History training sessions between 19 th April and 13 th July. Every session was attended by near equal numbers of male and female youth researchers.

10 new youth researchers will engage with additional video and filming training, learning how to record and produce high quality videos with good sound quality.	Oral History Project Manager, 10 existing youth researchers, 10 new youth researchers (gender balance) actively participate for full programme and learn skills necessary for making high quality films (audio and visual)	Specific training sessions were held on video and filming as part of the wider programme of oral history training on 3-4 th May and 14 th June, attended by between 14-22 people. Separate female only video and photography training was held on September 5 th and attended by 5 youth researchers. Training was delivered by Mahmoud Makhamra, one of the youth researchers who is a professional photographer.
The existing 10 youth researchers will have engaged with "Training of trainers" in oral history techniques and skills	The 10 youth researcher trained during the first phase of the project will train 10 other young people in oral history interview techniques and skills	The Training of Trainers workshop including the first cohort of youth researchers and the new youth researchers was conducted on 25 May, 15 June, 28-29 June.
Sub-outcome: The local cultural heritage workforce will be more diverse		
A balanced gender ratio will be ensured amongst the young researchers as well as the research participants. Careful attention will be paid to ensure the wider community of the marginalised Bedouins will be involved in the project. The project will have engaged both the younger and older generations of the community	<p>Monitor the gender ratio in the research teams to ensure it is balanced</p> <p>The project has engaged with a wide audience from several different communities and reached out to both younger and older generations</p>	Project teams in Coventry (3 female, 1 male) and oPt (2 female, 1 male) demonstrate a commitment to gender balance. No training or project activity involving youth researchers has strayed outside a maximum ratio of 60:40 of male to female participation, with many activities involving a majority of female participants. A number of activities (including female only video training, female only outreach, and a visit by Naqab Bedouin women's group) were designed to facilitate female involvement in the project. The project was represented by 1 male and 1 female youth researcher in the UK speaking tour. 60 older members of the community agreed to be interviewed for the project, aged 45 – 88, including 17 women.
OUTCOME 3: LOCAL PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO IDENTIFY AND VALUE THEIR CULTURAL HERITAGE AND HAVE A GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PROTECT THEIR CULTURAL HERITAGE AND THE ROLE IT PLAYS IN SOCIETY AND THE ECONOMY		
Sub-outcome: Local people will have volunteered time to help protect or promote their cultural heritage		
20 youth researchers recruited will have volunteered their time to conduct the video interviews with the local community members. In addition, at least 40 local	At least 40 people from local community will have volunteered their time to be interviewed and the 20 youth researchers will have volunteered	22 new applications to become youth researchers were received. 9 youth researchers continued from the first phase, and a total of 16 more were recruited during the 2 nd phase, meaning 25 youth researchers participated the project. 60 members of the community volunteered to be interviewed.

community participants have volunteered their time to participate to the interviews	their time to conduct the interviews	
Technical Advisory Committee will have been formed to operate for the duration of the project to provide advice and developmental proposals on the project	<p>Consultation in person or remotely 4-6 times per year</p> <p>The availability of a technical advisory committee with strategic networks in oPt will increase opportunities for advocacy and education by Bedouin communities of South Hebron Hills</p>	<p>Technical Advisory committee was formed.</p> <p>Meetings were held with members of the committee on the 27th February, 18th March, and 5th May. Further technical advice was sought on an ad hoc basis, from a number of project supporters.</p>
Sub-outcome: More and a wider range of people will have engaged with cultural heritage		
A South Hebron Hills Local Advisory Group will have been convened to represent the c.28 communities in the area to ensure a fair and equal representation of the different communities in the area for the project.	Representation of (with at least two women) geographically diverse Bedouin communities in 6 member local advisory group willing to engage in project, post stakeholder meeting this group includes 60% from Bedouin communities not included in existing project	The SHH local advisory group was particularly active in initial community outreach, meeting 5 times and carrying out over ten community visits and attending the stakeholder meeting on 16 March. The Local Advisory Group has also provided advice on risk assessments and supported the OOL team in resolving local conflicts during project implementation, meeting in different forms around 30 times over the year.
Stakeholder meeting will be convened to ensure the whole project team will gain a good understanding of the aims and outcomes of the project		Stakeholder meeting was held on 16 th March in Al Twani Village Hall, attended by 56 people from 18 different communities in South Hebron Hills. This included all the three Mayors of the Councils, as well as Youth of Sumud, Community of Resilience and Defence and Women's cooperative (both from Al Twani & Susya).
Bedouin community members in SHH will have gained a better	4 geographically dispersed locations reached	The project team with the local advisory group organised 5 outreach meetings in the following communities:

understanding of their cultural heritage and value through participation in 4 outreach meetings in South Hebron Hills Outreach meetings	Local advisory group members, existing youth researchers, with support of advocacy and education consultant introduce, explain and promote project in South Hebron Hills	<p>Khalit Al Dabi' (18 people attended), A Majaz (20 people attended)</p> <p>Al Dqaiqa (16 people attended), Qwawis (11 people attended), Al Twani (56 people attended). An Iftar dinner (25/05, attended by 40 people) and public history talk (07/09, attended by 36 people), and closing ceremony (13/12, attended by around 60 people) gave further opportunities to update the community on the activities of the project and its findings.</p> <p>In December 2019, a closing ceremony was organised in Al Twani school to celebrate the achievements of the youth. The event was well attended (over 50 invited guests from South Hebron Hills).</p>
Bedouin community members in oPt (East Jerusalem corridor) and Israel (Negev and Galilee) will have exchanged experiences particularly in field of social and economic development	<p>Bedouin from South Hebron Hills will exchange visits with Bedouin from 4 other locations (programme will be facilitated by consultant)</p> <p>All youth researchers from SHH will exchange experiences with Bedouin from other locations.</p> <p>Evidence that stories of lived cultural heritage shared with other Bedouin/marginalised communities;</p> <p>Examples of how cultural heritage can act as an important resource to support social and economic development;</p> <p>Evidence of exchange of experiences of the role of local and international stakeholders in protecting cultural heritage.</p>	<p>Participation of 3 youth researchers and Oral History Project Manager in planning for the 'Corridors for Peace' workshop, Jordan 30 July – 3 August.</p> <p>Thirteen youth researchers participated in the Corridors for Peace Regional Meeting held in Wadi Rum, Jordan, 18-22 October, including meetings with Bedouin groups from Lebanon and Jordan.</p> <p>Visit to Khan Al Ahmar Bedouin community (near Jerusalem) to discuss the threat of eviction and forms of heritage based resistance.</p> <p>Visit by Youth Researchers to the Bedouin communities Jordan Valley to visit heritage sites and discuss heritage protection strategies 12 July.</p> <p>Visit to SHH by Bedouin women's weaving initiative 'Sidreh' from the Naqab region 5th December.</p>
A 20-30 min high-quality film will have	20-30 minute Film of HD resolution (1080p)	20 minute film produced by Palestinian News Network showcasing the work of the youth researchers and 5 of

been produced to showcase the cultural heritage of the South Hebron Hills Bedouin communities to a wider audience	with stereo sound; fully subtitled in Arabic/English; BC Communications Dept approval	their interviews, with subtitles in English. The film was screened in 15/17 events during the UK speaking tour, including to the British Council.
A project website will have been regularly updated to include new blog posts, cultural inventory material and transcribed and translated video interviews.	Website visitors including Bedouin in oPt, wider Bedouin and Palestinian populations in MENA, advocates for Bedouin cultural heritage worldwide	Website has been updated with blog posts from project team members, photos and news from the project. Address to the website is provided in all communication materials
The cultural inventory archive will have been produced and its sustainable management for the future will have been agreed	By end 2019 archive of oral histories generated by project is curated by an organization with a longer term commitment to either Palestinian heritage or to oral history, eg Palestinian Museum or Concordia University (home to largest international collection of oral history archives)	Youth researchers have developed a set of nine themes to categorise the heritage they have recorded, which will form the basis of their own cultural heritage inventory. Meetings have been held with local experts to discuss the relative merits of following the UNESCO approach, and discussions held with the national Palestinian archive in Abu Des and with Palestinian museum regarding hosting an alternative inventory.
4 quality Podcasts episodes will have been produced in Arabic to showcase the cultural heritage of the South Hebron Hills Bedouin communities to a wider audience in the OPT	Evidence that 4 podcasts shared with other Bedouin/marginalised communities eg via INHERIT partnership Regional Meeting	Three podcasts have been recorded in Arabic – one on the theme of folk music and resilience, and one reflecting on the UK speaking tour and the youth researchers' experiences of advocacy. These were edited by youth researcher Khalil Makrameh. The podcast will be uploaded to Soundcloud (specialist podcast app), where the project will have its own channel. Although the podcast material is recorded and the first round of edits has been done, we want to make some final changes to the episodes. Therefore, they are not yet publicly available
Key people in wider Palestinian society in oPt will have better understanding of cultural heritage of SHH, including	4 meetings will be held with key people in oPt to promote intangible cultural heritage of Bedouin in SHH; Youth researchers from SHH	9 meetings and visits held with oPt based stakeholders with an interest in heritage protection: 3 rd May - Director of British Council East Jerusalem office visited SHH to learn about the project.

Ministry of Culture, Universities, Museums, civil society organisations related to heritage (eg RIWAQ) , tourism organisations (eg Masar Ibrahim al Khalil)	selected for participation in UNESCO/Ministry of Culture cultural inventory project	<p>4th May – 5 Youth Researchers present at Oral History Conference in Al Jalazoun refugee camp in West Bank.</p> <p>22-23rd May – project showcased by British Council East Jerusalem office in Nablus Road open house (Youth Researchers were denied permits to travel to attend by the Israeli military administration).</p> <p>Visit by BirZeit University students and graduates to learn about project and discuss future networking and collaboration 6 June.</p> <p>Visit by Youth Researchers to the Jordan Valley to visit heritage sites and discuss heritage protection strategies 12 July.</p> <p>18 June - Participation by Youth Researchers in Rozana cultural festival in Bir Zeit.</p> <p>Lecture about the history of SHH 1538 – 1947 presented to the Youth researchers, local Mayors and community members in Al Twani, September 7th.</p> <p>21st October - Visit to project by Alyson King, UK Government spokeswoman for the MENA region</p> <p>20th November - Presentation by Youth Researchers to Ambassador Zomlot at the Palestinian Mission to the United Kingdom</p>
2 youth researchers from the South Hebron Hills will have conducted a UK wide speaking tour in 4 different locations to talk about the cultural heritage and situation of Bedouins in the South Hebron Hills	At least 10 events with 20<100 attendees in 5 locations; youth researchers present and respond to Q&A sessions with English language speaking UK based audience with confidence	<p>Two Youth Researchers completed a speaking tour of the UK from November 19 – December 3rd. The tour had a total reach c.450 people in 17 events and meetings held across 8 towns and cities (See Annex Five for a full schedule)</p> <p>In January 2020, 3 Palestinian youth researchers, Mahmoud Makhamra, Ibrahim Nawaja and Ameera Hureini visited the UK for the launch of an exhibition 'Arab Bedouin: No future without a past'. The exhibition at the Bargehouse, South Bank, London includes a continuous showing of the film On our Land.</p> <p>As part of their visit, a special showing with question and answer was organised at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University, Friday 17th January with an audience that numbered over 50.</p>

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Section 3: Financial Evaluation

Overall the project has delivered its planned outcomes within the original budget of £192,854.17. The total project spend has been £189,996.33.

Details available on request

Section 4: Recommendations and conclusions

“To understand history from someone who lived it is very different. For example, reading about the 1936 Arab revolt in Palestine differs from listening to someone who experienced it...this is the importance of oral history. It tells you about people whose names and stories aren’t written as part of history but you need to put them on the map.”

Hamdan Balal, 29

Overall the second phase of On our Land has been largely successful. In the course of 2019, the project has met or exceeded the majority of its targets in terms of recording and protecting the heritage of the South Hebron Hills, and telling this story to the wider world. In particular, the project has made great strides in extending its reach to all of the communities and villages of the area, something which is testament to the hard work and commitment of the youth researchers and oPt based project team. This also demonstrates the benefit of building in sufficient time and capacity for in-depth community outreach work at the start of any such initiative, which represented a significant change from Phase 1. There has been a marked improvement in the quality of materials recorded by the youth researchers in 2019, reflecting both a serious investment in training and mentoring, and the emergence of a highly skilled group of young researchers in the South Hebron Hills. The skills and capacities demonstrated by the young men and women involved in On our Land has been a highlight for everyone involved in the project, and represents an extremely valuable resource for the future of heritage protection and social and economic development in the South Hebron Hills.



Figure 14: A shepherd with his flock in the South Hebron Hills.

This phase of On our Land also reflects a step change in the way that the story of the South Hebron Hills – its heritage, the lives of the people that live there, and the challenges they face – is told to external audiences. Throughout 2019 the youth researchers and On our Land project team have been constantly active in presenting the project and its findings to audiences from the West Bank, to Wadi Rum to Walsall, using a range of resources generated through the project to bring this story to life for audiences from all backgrounds, such as the short film 'On our Land'. By focussing on the rich and distinctive heritage of the area that they are seeking to protect, rather than on a narrative of human rights violations and violence, the youth researchers have found a new and empowering way of advocating for their communities' futures, and one which resonates with a broad range of audiences. This has also had real impact within the South Hebron Hills, as the process of mapping communities and recording the stories of the older generations has helped to renew intergenerational and social ties that had been eroded by the pernicious impacts of conflict. More than anything, perhaps, the experience of the On our Land demonstrates the powerful mutually sustaining relationship that can exist between actions to protect heritage from the impacts of conflict, and actions to protect communities from the impacts of conflict.

It is important to acknowledge, however, that a number of challenges remain in the project. Most significantly, there is still a great deal of progress to be made in terms of creating an inventory of the heritage identified and recorded through On our Land, and archiving this in a way that is accessible to local and international audiences for the long term. This is a vital step that the project has so far struggled to bring to fruition due to pressures on time, and delays in identifying the most appropriate model of inventory and partner for archiving. Managing preservation and access to these materials must be the main priority of any third phase of the project, and has been identified as such in the application submitted for impact funding. In addition to archiving, some team members, youth researchers and local community members have suggested the project could do more to maximise the project's potential to support economic development in South Hebron Hills communities. The project's contribution to social development has been widely acknowledged by partners and participants alike, but many would like to see this go further in supporting economic opportunities such as tourism and handicrafts. Finally, although important improvements have been made in terms of project management and capacity this year, not least through the recruitment of a dedicated and professional project team in oPt, there is still room for improvement in the way the project is managed and structured, not least in terms of increasing staff time, clarifying project roles and responsibilities, and further improving communication between Coventry and oPt based teams.



Figure 15: An On our Land youth researcher interviewing an older community member.

Underpinning all the conversations and interviews that have informed this evaluation, however, lies a key challenge for the future of the On our Land project, and the work to preserve the heritage of the South Hebron Hills that it has supported. That is, how can we make On our Land sustainable? What steps do we need to take to promote a long term future for this work based in and led by the South Hebron Hills/oPt more widely? There is a broad consensus among the project team, youth researchers and local advisory group members that this work has crucial value in helping to secure both the past and the future of the South Hebron Hills, and that as such it reaches beyond the confines of a time-bound 'project' to a long term commitment to safeguarding the area's heritage. As discussed above, this heritage can also play a vital role in supporting the communities wish to stay, and thrive, on their lands despite ongoing conflict-related pressures. It will be key, therefore, to ensure that On our Land is gradually shifted onto a sustainable footing within oPt, in which Coventry University can play a supportive and proactive role, but where the ownership of the project and its future direction rests decisively in Palestinian hands. A number of the recommendations made below act as steps towards building this long-term future for the project.

Recommendations

- Prioritise the development of a cultural inventory in a format that is appropriate to the youth-led and participatory approach of the project, and the archiving of these materials in a way that is accessible to local and international audiences. This should involve completing transcriptions of materials (and translation where appropriate), developing the archive in partnership with one or more organisations who can provide technical support and expertise, and training the youth researchers to access and update the archive, and also to pass this knowledge on to their communities to ensure they can also freely access the materials.

- Identify partners, or develop existing partnerships, that will enable the On our Land project to continue to work and grow on a sustainable footing from within the oPt, driven by the needs and agency of local communities, and in particular the youth researchers themselves.
- Continue to support the skills development of the On our Land youth researchers, in a way that further supports the sustainability of the project. This could include training and mentorship about how to identify sources of funding, bid writing and developing project proposals, or the provision of support for pilot projects. This would in turn be an important step in demonstrating how the heritage of the South Hebron Hills could support economic development in the area.
- Work towards the extension of the methodology pioneered in the South Hebron Hills to other places where heritage, in particular intangible cultural heritage, is at risk from conflict. In the words of youth researcher Sameeha 'We can be an example for other communities. I'm sure young people want to do something, but they don't know how. We were the same way – they need leadership, and maybe we can be the leaders'.
- Put into place a project management structure that facilitates effective communication within the project team, reflects its commitment to an oPt driven future for On our Land, and is matched by the investment in staff time to ensure this can happen.

List of Annexes

Details available on request