



The program included awareness activities addressing the core values of the site, aiming to educate the local community, to raise their appreciation for the site and involve them in the safeguarding of this important cultural asset.

Awareness activities included workshops and guided tours on site with the participation of the local and central authorities of the Directorate of Antiquities of Jordan (Amman and Madaba), professors and students from the YU, the personnel of the site and the local community, as well as representatives of the Greek Orthodox Church of Madaba. The high participation of the local community underlined the success of the program. Moreover, in 2019, the workshop offered the ground for a fruitful dialogue between the Bishop of Madaba, Archimandrite Aristovoulos, and the representatives of the Universities and the Department of Antiquities of Jordan (DoA), on the spiritual and religious values of the Early Christian Monuments of Um Al Rasas and the potential of the promotion of the site for religious/pilgrim tourism.

Five Jordanian Master students have attended courses at UNIWA so far, one of which has now submitted a proposal for a PhD Thesis, with shared supervision between the UNIWA and the UY. Four Greek students have received grants for training and internship and have accomplished their undergraduate dissertations in Jordan. Professors from both institutions have delivered lectures and demonstrations and have determined the areas of common research interests.

In 2017, a short video was presented at the 13th ICCM Conference in Barcelona by G. Agavanakis and Ch. Xourgias, students of UNIWA, who undertook their dissertation in YU, Their video won a honorary mention and has been uploaded at the ICCM YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jqUGIsgDbk>.



As an outcome of this collaboration, a conservation/training field program was organized in 2020 at the World Heritage Site of Um Al Rasas, by the Architectural Conservation Laboratory of UNIWA, the DoA and the European Center for Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments (EKBMM).

The program was funded by EKBMM and offered job opportunities to UNIWA graduates who had participated to the Erasmus+ program.