

EUColComp

Testing a European Competency Framework for VET in Collections Management

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REPORT ON EXISTING TRAINING RESOURCES IN CONSERVATION AND CARE OF NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS IN EUROPE

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Natural History collections are used by a wide variety of disciplines. They are a unique resource for the understanding of global geo- and biodiversity, and for education at all levels. These collections must be easily accessible both today and well into the future to facilitate research. The requirements to manage collections are almost identical, but there is a widely varying application of best practice in their care, conservation and management across Europe. As shown by the results of a SYNTHESYS survey, the need for the development of a training curriculum for staff involved in collections care and management is clearly identified (Collins *et al.*, 2006).¹

A first step toward the establishment of a Vocational Education Training (VET) curriculum for the Competency Framework in Collections Management is to undertake an overview of the current and past courses and to analyse its strength and weaknesses. The present report is an effort to contribute to this need.

The present report provides an evaluation of the existing training resources in conservation and care of Natural History collections in Europe. The training resources for Natural History collections care and management in Europe were assessed through the answers of an online survey, from contacting staff working in Natural History collections, from reports, websites and other public documentation.

In Europe, training offer in conservation and care of Natural History collections definitely exists but the information is relatively hard to find and fragmented, especially for the non-academic courses. In recent years, thanks to organisations and initiatives such as e.g. SYNTHESYS, NatSCA, SPNHC, GfBS, Collections Trust, ICON several new courses are regularly organised. **However, there is no cohesive curriculum or programme that would allow collections professionals to easily identify the training resources they need to reach a given level of competency.**

The courses are mainly organised on a regular basis or in the framework of a special occasion. Large part of the training courses are short intensive courses which are open to an international public, targeting technicians and collections professionals. Most of the training is held in English.

Large part of the training is held at a non-academic level. Natural History Museums & Botanical Gardens hold a great expertise in conservation and care of Natural History collections and as such they contribute for a large part to the Natural History focused conservation training, whether or not in collaboration with networks or academics. In Natural History collections conservation, all types of collections are addressed in the training offer. And, all kind of topics related to conservation, care and

¹ Collins, C, Cornish, L., Huxley, H. & Owens, S.J. (2006). SYNTHESYS Network Activity C-Assessing Standards of Collections in European Museums. *Collection Forum* 21 (2): 5-18, SPNHC, Washington.

management of collections are addressed: management, environmental conditions, handling, transport, integrated pest management, digital data curation etc.

Courses at an academic level have a more Cultural Heritage focus. They cover a wide range of topics from conservation to ethics and educational display and are undoubtedly valuable for professional development for those looking for a career in conservation. Some of the programmes have an optional module related to 'Natural Sciences curatorship'.

Despite the large effort invested to reach the people involved in collections care and conservation training, gaps in the results from the survey and website info still exist. Some countries contributed largely to the inventory while information from other countries ranges from incomplete to lacking.

The results of this report will be used to evaluate the gaps and training needs in the conservation and care of Natural History collections and to develop a new VET curriculum addressing staff training requirements as identified from the set of defined competencies of the Competency Framework in Collections Management.

1. INTRODUCTION

RATIONALE

Natural History collections are used by a wide variety of disciplines. They are a unique resource for the understanding of global geo- and biodiversity, and for education at all levels. These collections must be easily accessible both today and well into the future to facilitate research. The requirements to manage collections are almost identical, but there is a widely varying application of best practice in their care, conservation and management across Europe.

This project addresses these issues by applying the competency framework principle used in other business sectors to the European museum community. By transferring and modifying the comprehensive framework developed by the Natural History Museum, London (NHM), a set of universal competencies will be created and applied across the EU to help organisations to a) identify the competencies required for particular roles; b) identify individuals' levels of competence and; c) identify the Vocational Education Training (VET) needed to address missing/weak competencies.

A first step toward the establishment of a VET curriculum for the Competency Framework in Collections Management is to undertake an overview of the current and past courses and to analyse its strength and weaknesses. The present report is an effort to contribute to this need.

The present report provides an evaluation of the existing training resources in conservation and care of Natural History collections in Europe. The most important aspects concerning accessibility to the training, targeted audience, content of the training, training material are analysed.

The report is done in the framework of '**Testing a European Competency Framework for VET in Collections Management**' (EUColComp), a Leonardo da Vinci Transfer of Innovation funded project. The report is part of WP2 'Research training needs and stakeholder analysis' activities, **Task 2.1 Review and report on existing training opportunities**.

The result of this survey will be used to evaluate the gaps and training needs in this discipline and to develop a VET curriculum to assist staff in developing the appropriate competencies.

DATA SOURCES

The training resources for NH collections care and management in Europe were assessed through the answers of an online survey, from contacting staff working in NH collections, from websites and other public documentation.

The online survey “ Survey on training resources in conservation and care of Natural History collections” aimed to collect information on past and present training resources for conservation and care of Natural History collections (biology, geology, paleontology), available in Europe, and was designed to collect information on:

- (1) training organisers and teaching staff
- (2) accessibility of the training
- (3) the type of training
- (4) the content of the training
- (5) availability of training material
- (6) willingness to cooperate in the design of a VET curriculum
- (7) contact information

The survey was made available online via Survey Monkey from 27 January 2014 till 5 April 2014 (https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/survey_training_NHcollections). A call to fill out the survey was launched via the EUColComp project network and through various other channels such as announcement on DEST website and NatSCA website, via DEST mailing list, CETAF mailing list, TAXACOM. Moreover the request was sent to museums, universities, botanical gardens, and other institutions. In addition, staff working in Natural History collections in European museums were contacted personally with the request to complete the survey.

Additional information on training was gathered from websites and from existing reports such as a SYNTHESYS report (2006) and the SPNHC ‘Museum Studies Programs’ list (<http://www.spnhc.org/46>).

A total of 95 complete sets of information on training in conservation and care were collected. Two of these sets were not taken into account as two courses were reported twice by different respondents. Finally, 93 complete sets of information were used for the analysis: 61 from the online survey and 32 sets from information in reports and from websites.

Despite the large effort invested to reach the people involved in collections care and conservation training, gaps in the results from the survey and website info still exist. Some countries contributed largely while the gathered information on other countries ranges from incomplete to lacking. Figure 1 illustrates this fact by showing the number of courses per country.

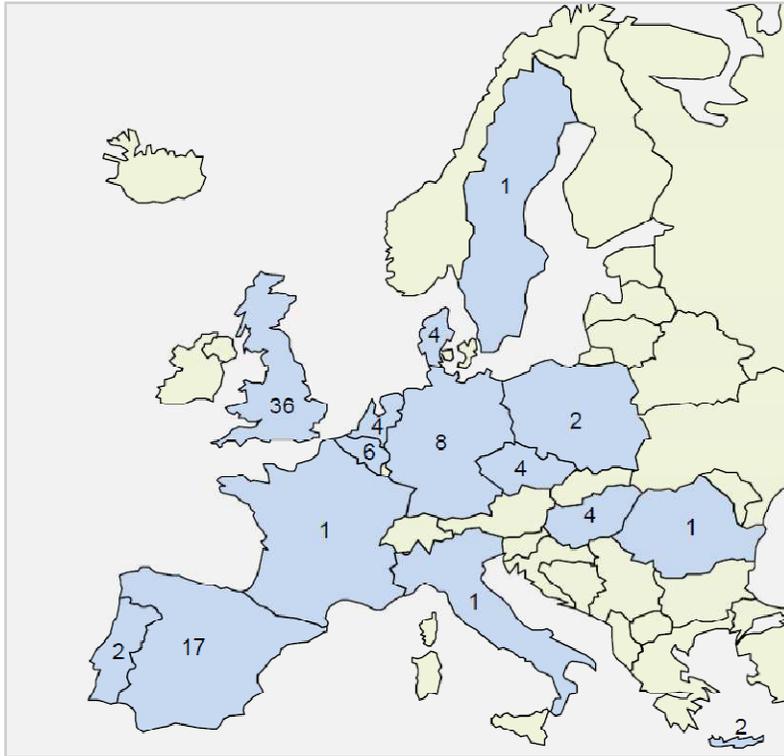


Figure 1 - Geographical distribution of training courses and number per country

In **Annex I** of this report the survey questions can be found. In **Annex II** the listing of existing training resources for conservation and care of Natural History collections in Europe can be found. This listing is based on the answers to the online survey (61 sets) and on additional information collected from websites and reports (32 sets manually introduced in survey). All data gathered by the survey are stored in Survey Monkey and in an excel database and, all individual answers in a PDF at RBINS.

Useful information on additional training opportunities in conservation/preservation of collections and training directories are given in **Annex III** of this report.

Abbreviations

CETAF - Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities <http://www.cetaf.org/>

Collections Trust - <http://www.collectionstrust.org.uk/>

DEST - Distributed European School of Taxonomy <http://www.taxonomytraining.eu>

GfBS - Gesellschaft für Biologische Systematik <http://www.gfbs-home.de/>

ICON – The Institute of Conservation <http://www.icon.org.uk/>

NatSCA - Natural Sciences Collections Association <http://www.natsca.org/>

SPNHC - The Society For The Preservation of Natural History Collections <http://www.spnhc.org/>

SYNTHEsys - Synthesis of systematic resources <http://www.synthesys.info/>

TAXACOM - e-mail list <http://mailman.nhm.ku.edu/mailman/listinfo/taxacom>

2. TRAINING RESOURCES IN CONSERVATION AND CARE OF NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS: WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN EUROPE?

The following results are based on the analysis of data collected through the online survey (61 sets) and from data found on websites and reports (32 sets manually introduced in the survey).

2.1 ACCESSIBILITY OF THE TRAINING

TARGETED GEOGRAPHICAL AUDIENCE

40% of the training courses target a national audience, 26% a European audience. The largest part of the courses (62%) is open to an international public. However, most of the national and European trainings are also open to an international public (Fig. 2).

In the 'other' category, respondents mentioned that although training is open to an international public, access is restricted as e.g. a bachelor or master course is given in the local language (Danish, Czech). Other respondents stated that although training is organised for a national public (or in-house public) the course is also open to any other person interested in the subject, whether national or international.

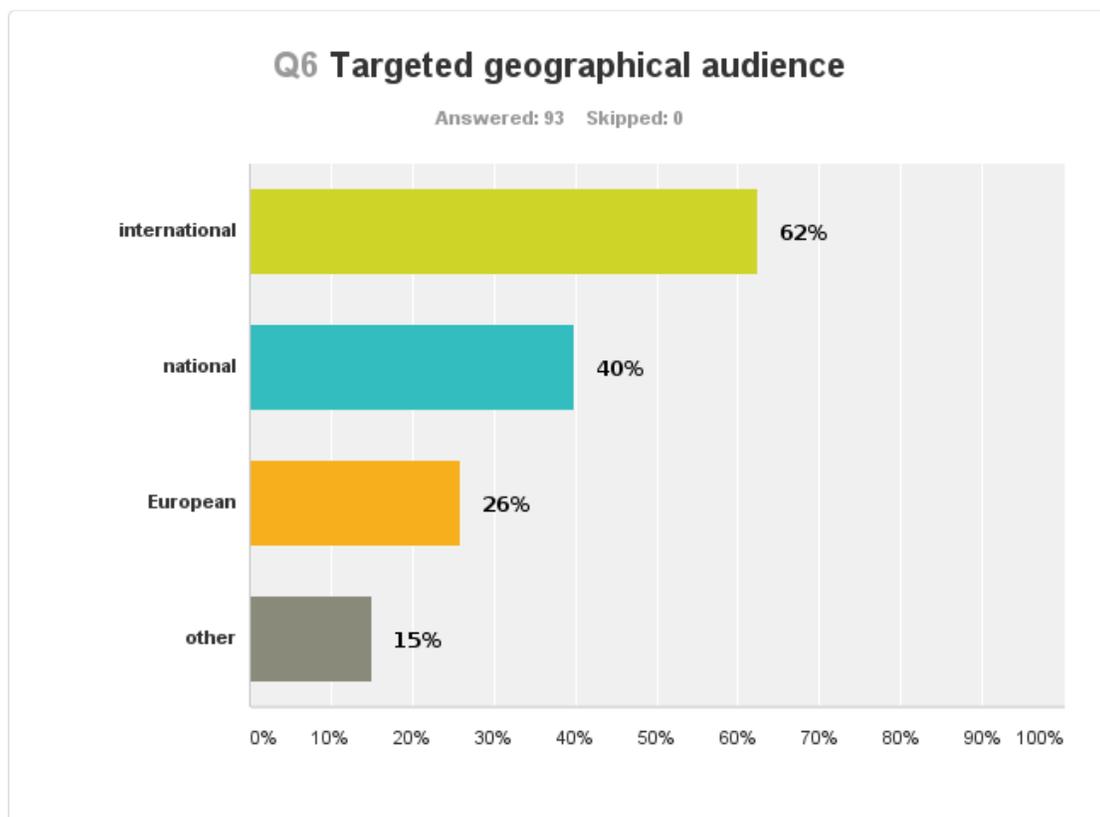


Figure 2

LEVEL OF TRAINING

Fig. 3 shows that a large part of the training (57%) is held at a non-academic level. The remaining 43% is held by the academic world and courses are offered at high school, bachelor, masters and PhD level. The 'other' category includes professional development at an academic level.

Note: looking into the individual responses this question was slightly misunderstood by some of the respondents. With level of training it was meant if the training was part of an academic curriculum e.g. high school, bachelor or master level or not. Some respondents understood this as level of training of the participants, having a certain degree level. Hence all answers were verified and corrected for the level of the training.

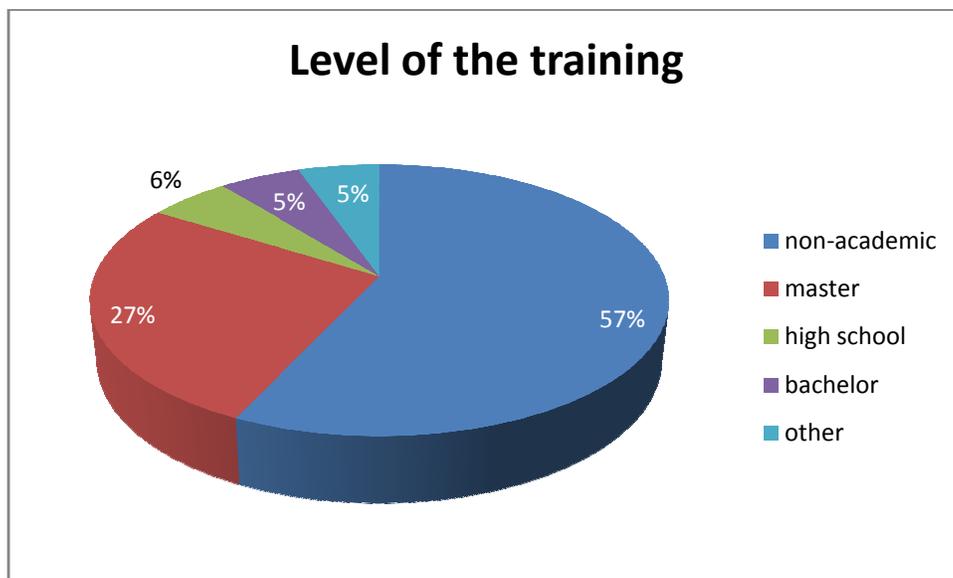


Figure 3

TARGET AUDIENCE

Very few courses are specifically organised for a large public or amateurs (Fig. 4). Most of the courses are organised for technicians and collections professionals. Education at an academic level is for a broad oriented audience in Cultural Heritage at undergraduate level. At graduate level possibilities are offered to choose a more specific area such as Natural Sciences collections. Some of the master modules give flexible access to a range of topics out of the master modules to people showing a certain knowledge degree, non-enrolled as a student. At postgraduate level several possibilities for professional development are offered at universities and the courses are open to non-enrolled students.

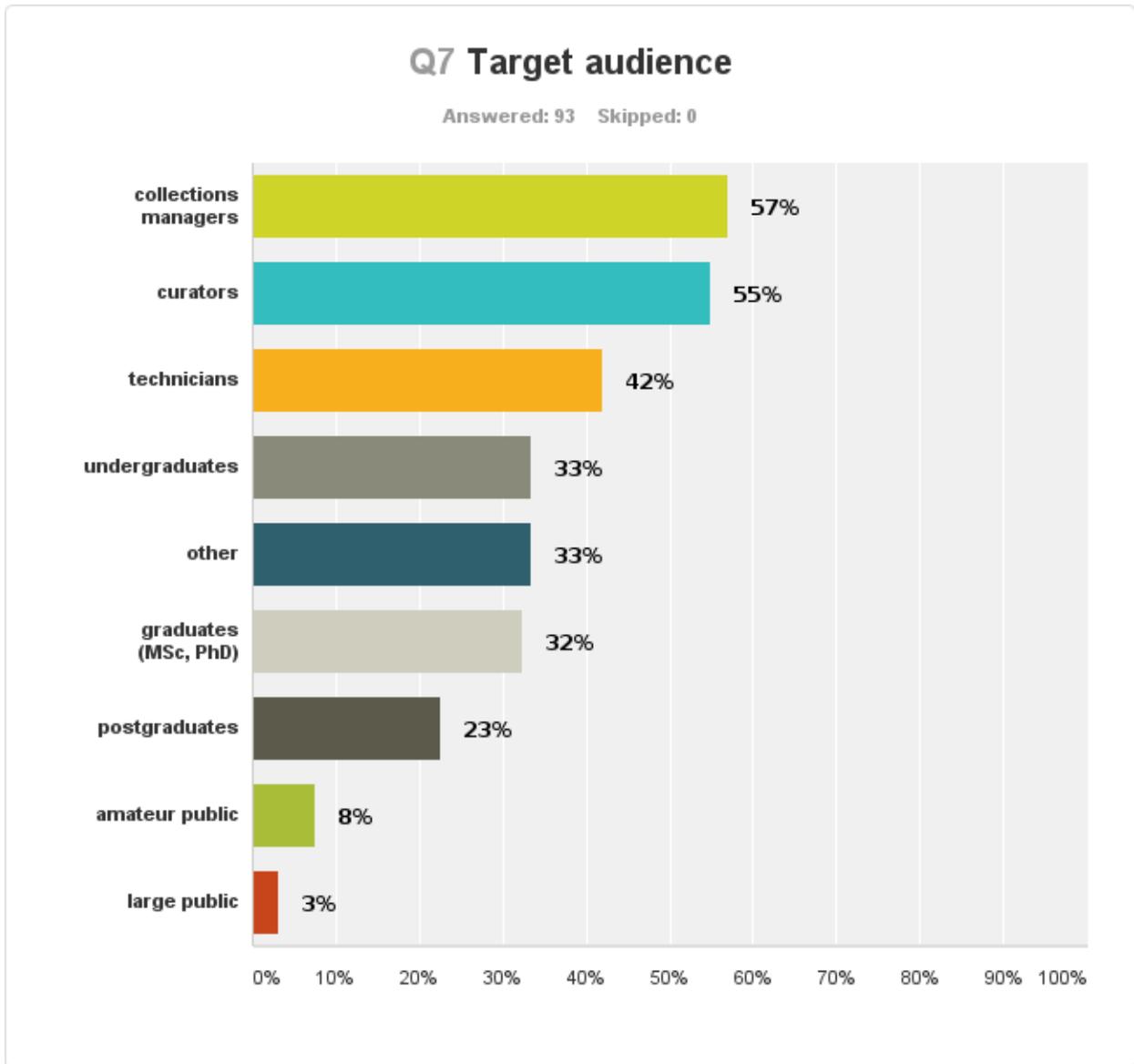


Figure 4

PERIODICITY AND DURATION OF THE TRAINING

Training courses are most of the time organised on a regular basis i.e. once a year (46%). But almost equal percentages are courses organised in the framework of a special occasion such as a conference, workshop (23%) or on demand (24%). The 'other' category (7%) are courses that have been organised in the past but are no longer held, or the training was held on one special occasion but in both cases there is intention to re-organise the training or it can be re-organised on demand (Fig. 5).

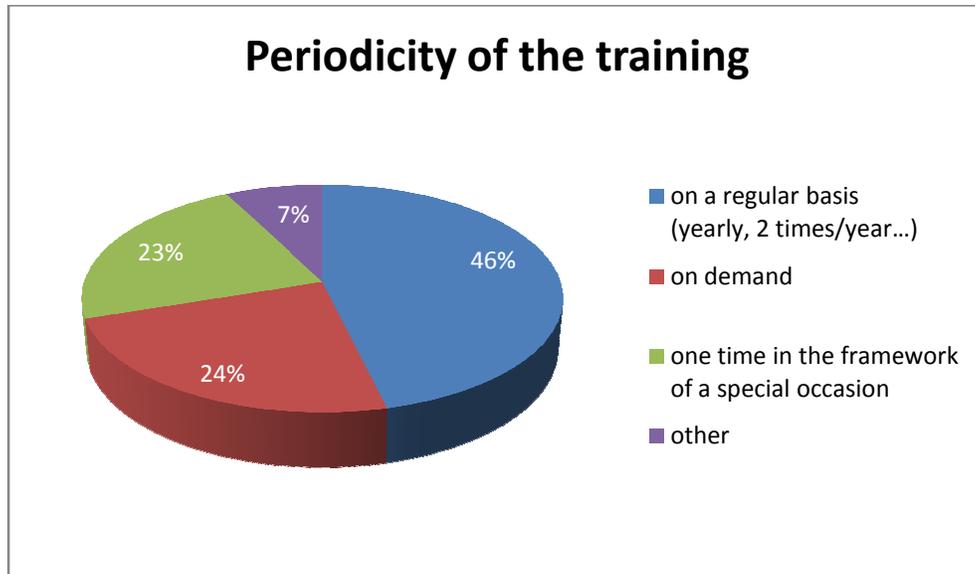


Figure 5

Fig. 6 shows that large part of the training are short, intensive courses that last for a couple of hours, one day or for less than 1 week (45%) and from 1 week up to 3 months (27%). Academic courses (28%) are spread out over 3 years for bachelors and from 9 months for a postgraduate diploma to a minimum of one year for masters full-time. In some cases, if needed, the length of the course can be adapted to the level of the participants.

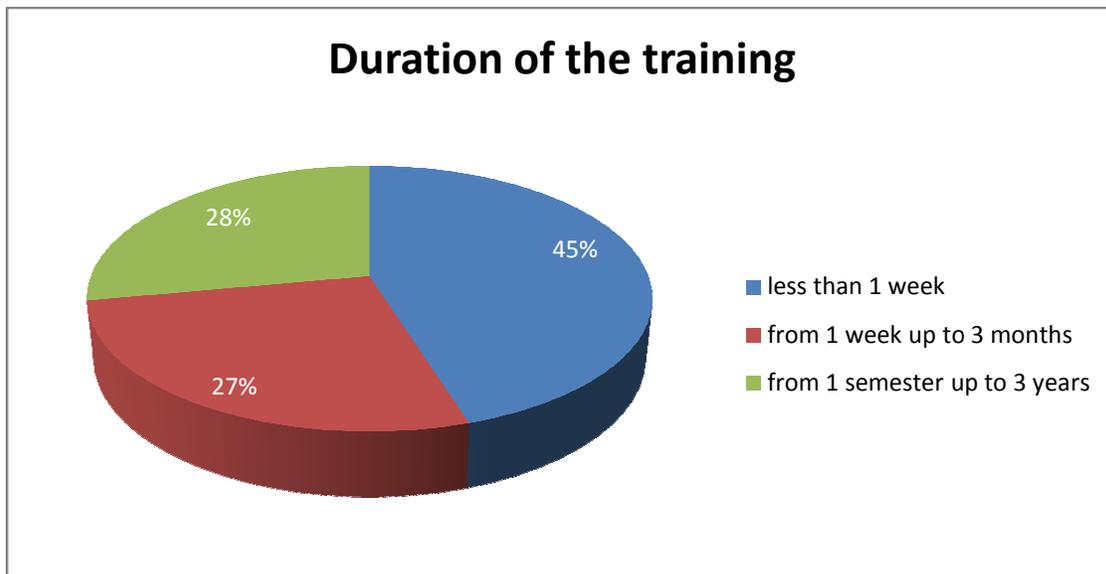


Figure 6

LANGUAGE OF THE TRAINING

Training can be held in one language or alternately in different languages (Fig. 7). Most of the training is held in English (61%), most frequent it is the language of the organising institution. However, a significant fraction of the training is specifically organised in English, even if it is not the language of the host country. This is the case for training held on special occasions such as workshops, conferences (SPNHC) or project training (e.g. in the framework of SYNTHESYS).

Some of the courses (6%) are organised in different languages such as English/Portuguese, English/German, Dutch/French, English/French/Dutch depending on the country where the course is held, the occasion and the audience attending.

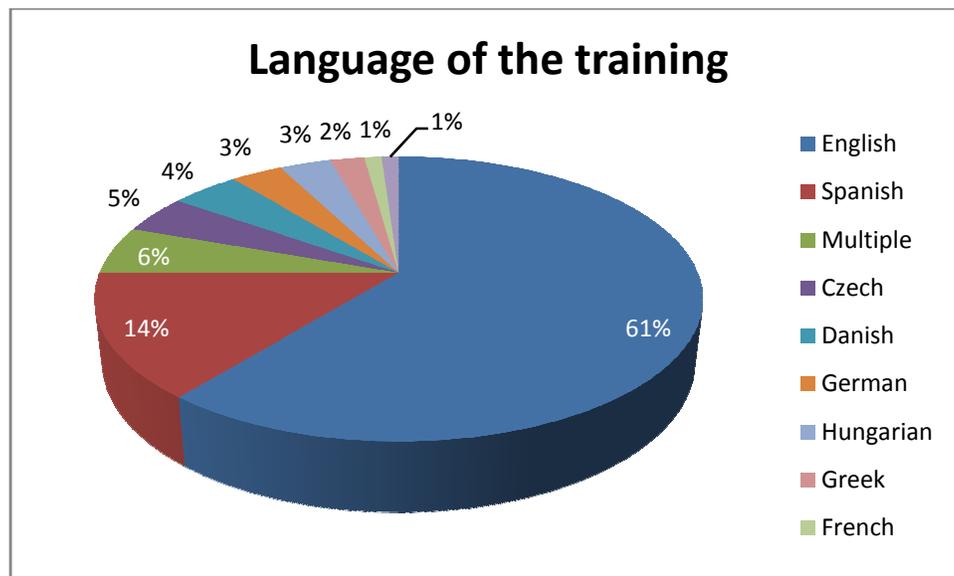


Figure 7

ORGANISER OF THE TRAINING

The organisers of the training can be divided into 6 categories (Fig. 8).

34% of the training is provided by High Schools & Universities (Department of Conservation, School of Museum studies, University Schools/Institutes of Arts & Heritage...). But as can be seen in Fig. 8 Natural History Museums/Botanical Gardens contribute for a large part to training (45%) whether or not in collaboration with networks or academics. Moreover, as associations /foundations (18%) have museum staff as members and also in the company category (3%) training is provided by trainers with a Museum background, it can be concluded that in 66% of the training museums are involved.

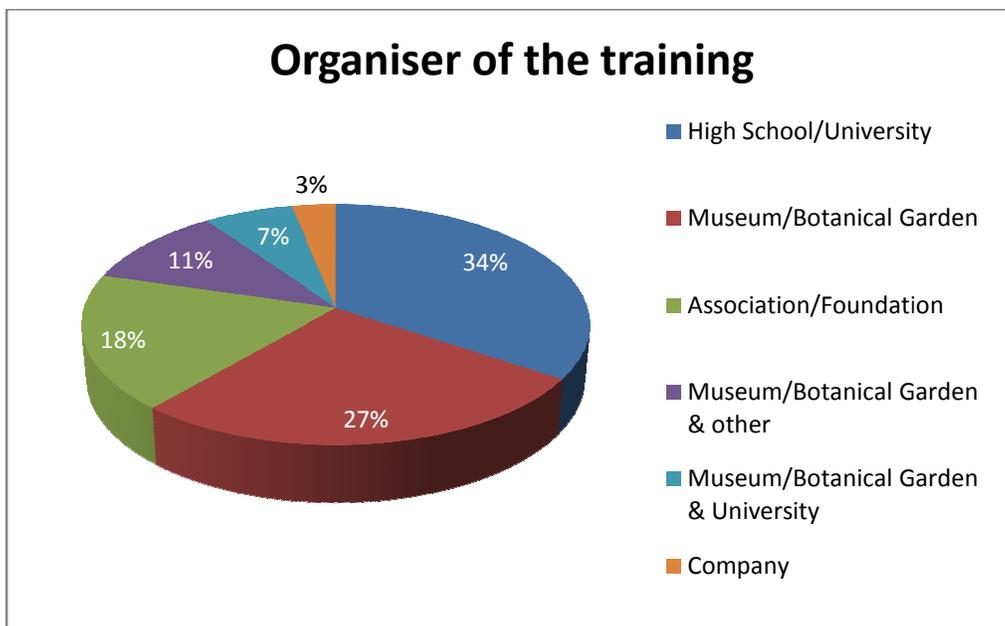


Figure 8

FINANCING

Most of the training (71%) is not organised in the framework of a funded project (Fig. 9). The remaining 29% is funded by EU-projects such as e.g. SYNTHESYS, other national and international projects or by societies.

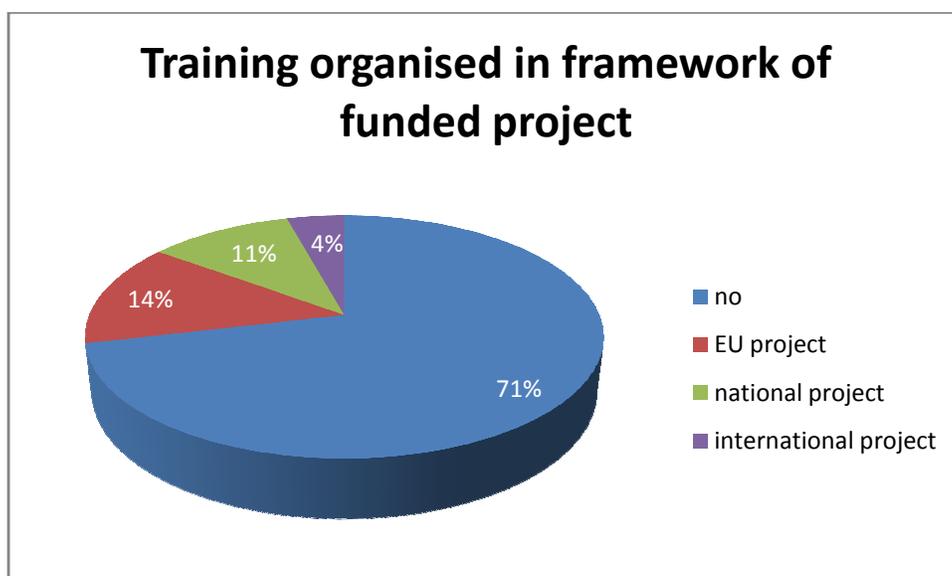


Figure 9

2.2 CONTENT OF THE TRAINING

TEACHING APPROACH

The teaching approach is very classic as 92% of all training include classroom lectures (Fig. 10). Large part of the training include hands-on training (74%) and exercise sessions (58%). E-learning is not often used (3%). The 'other' teaching option (24%) consists of work placement, study visits, dissertations, field work, museum visits and this in relation with a master degree.

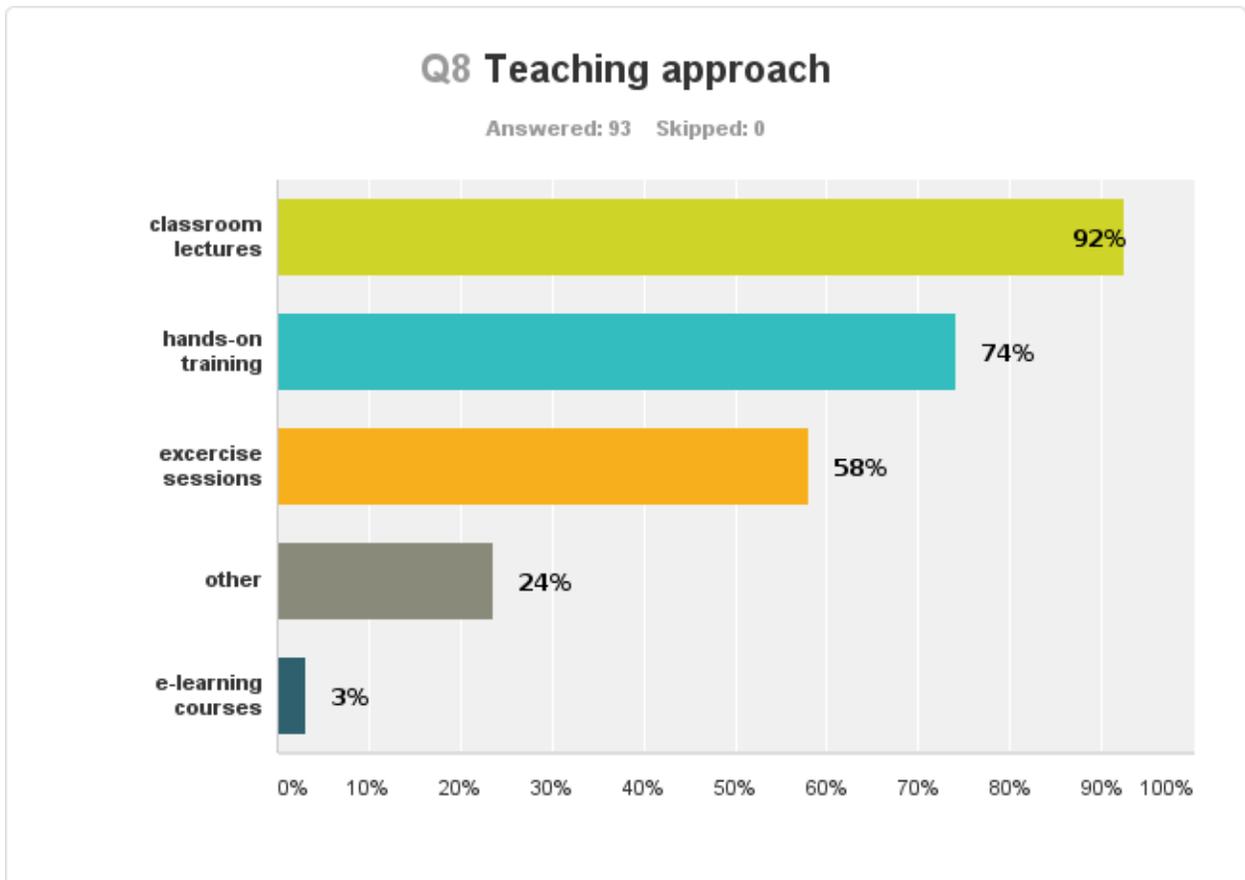


Figure 10

IMPORTANCE OF COLLECTIONS CARE & CONSERVATION IN THE TRAINING

For 2/3 of the respondents (68%), collections care and conservation is the exclusive focus of the training (Fig. 11). In 24% of the training it is not the exclusive focus but main part of the training. And, the remaining 8% are part of another course such as e.g. MSc courses in Systematic Biology, Tropical Plant Identification, Economic Botany or courses on Cultural Property, Digitisation of collections.

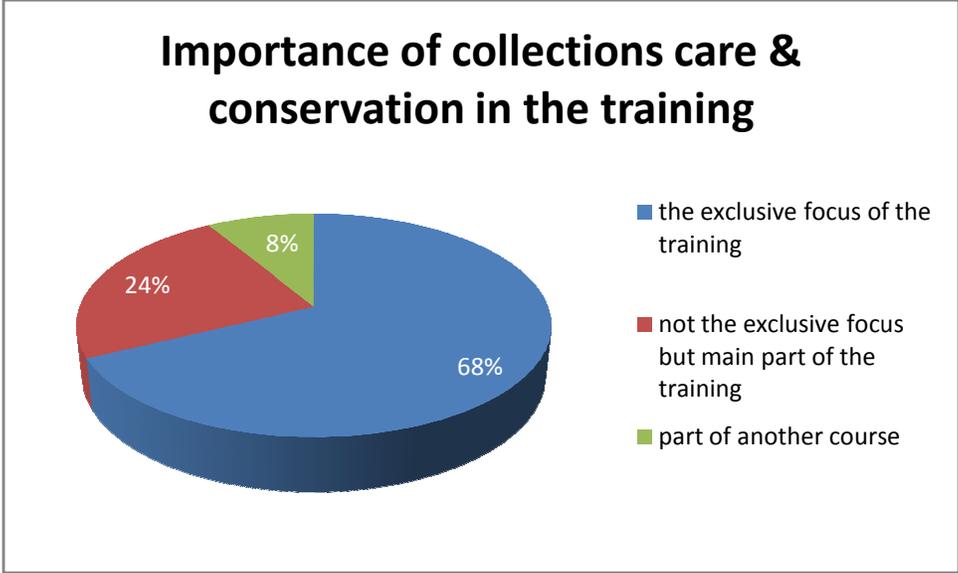


Figure 11

TYPE OF COLLECTIONS ADDRESSED IN THE TRAINING

All answers collected by the questionnaire (61 sets) have Natural History collections as focus (Fig. 12). In data found in reports and on websites, and that were introduced manually into the survey (32 sets), another 4 sets of answers contribute, giving a total of 70% for Natural History focused training. But, most of the 32 data sets have a Cultural Heritage focus (21 sets – 23%) and these relate to academic courses (bachelor, master, postgraduate). Three of them (Museum studies) have an optional master module in ‘Natural Sciences curatorship’. The remaining 7 sets of answers (7%) relate to general courses such as e.g. transport, pest management and target both Cultural Heritage and Natural History collections.

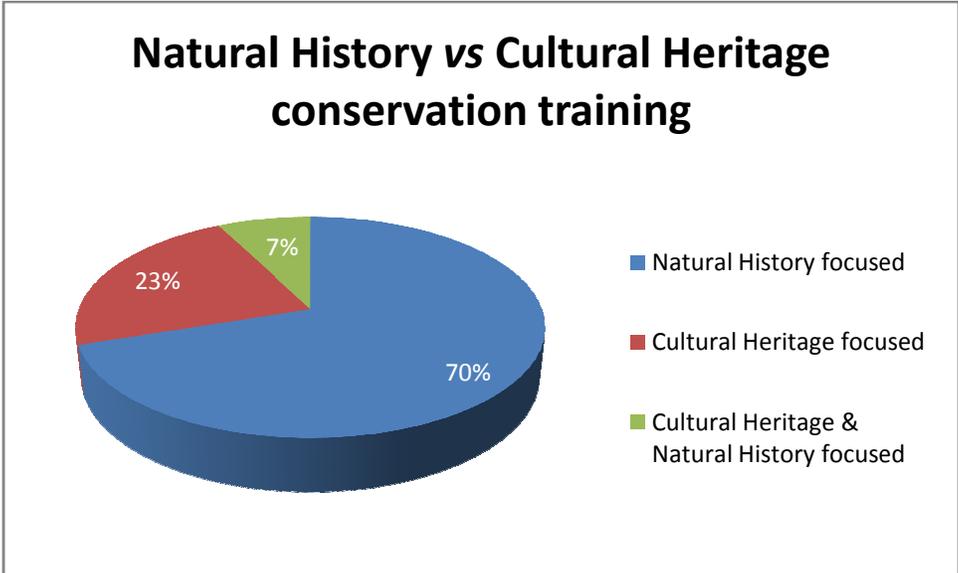


Figure 12

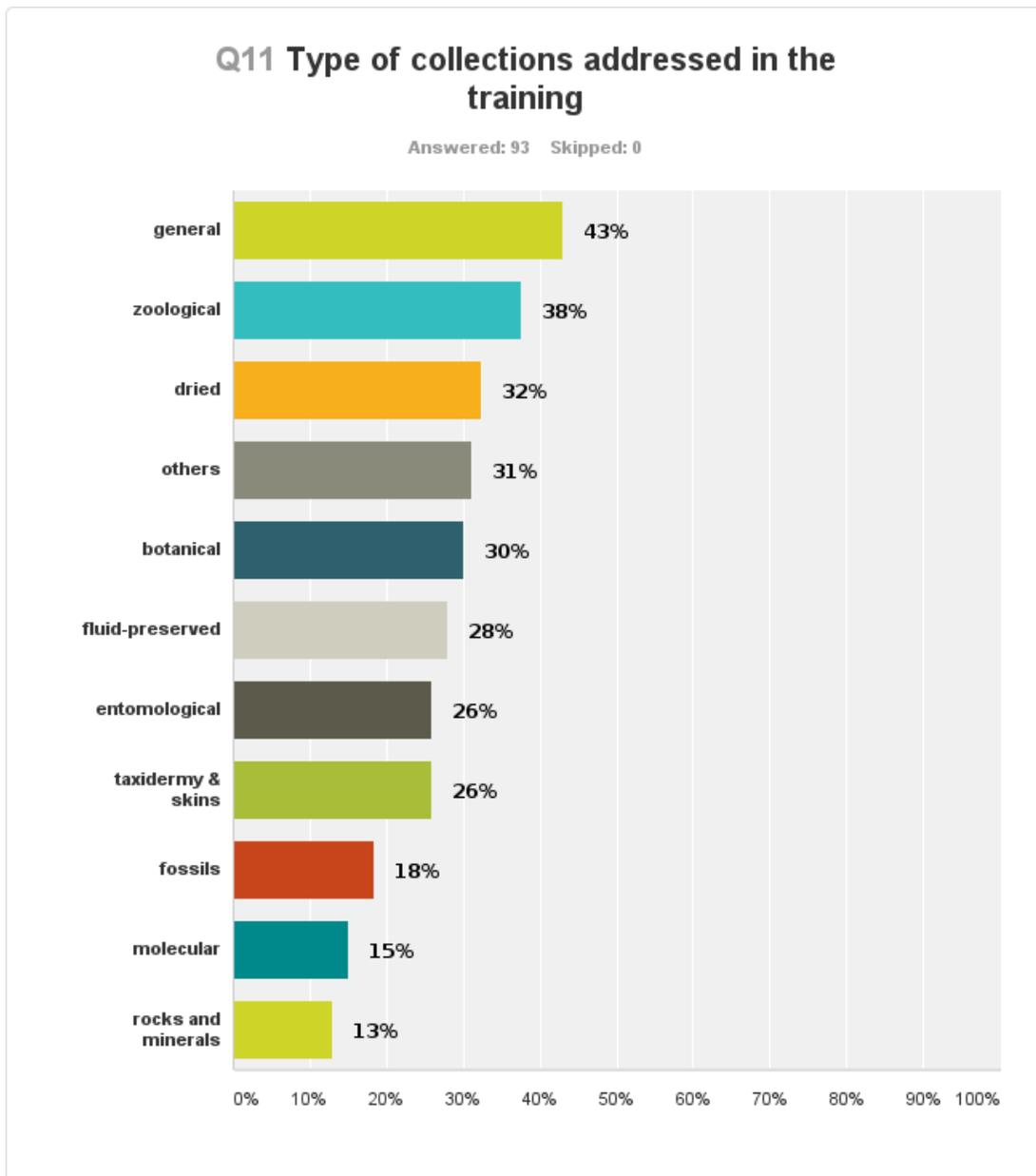


Figure 13

In Natural History collections conservation, all types of collections are addressed in the training offer going from zoological, botanical, mineralogical to geological collections (Fig 13). The 'general' category (43% of the respondents) included answers when the training topic is dealing with subjects such as management, digitisation, integrated pest management, storage, shipping etc. Some of the respondents who indicated a certain type (s) of Natural History collections also checked the 'general' category when the course topics addressed issues related to all types of collections. 'General' was also indicated when the course related to an academic course in Cultural Heritage. In the 'other' category, 31% of the respondents mentioned: all kind of museum objects, cultural heritage objects, archeological and ethnography, anthropology.

TOPICS ADDRESSED IN THE TRAINING

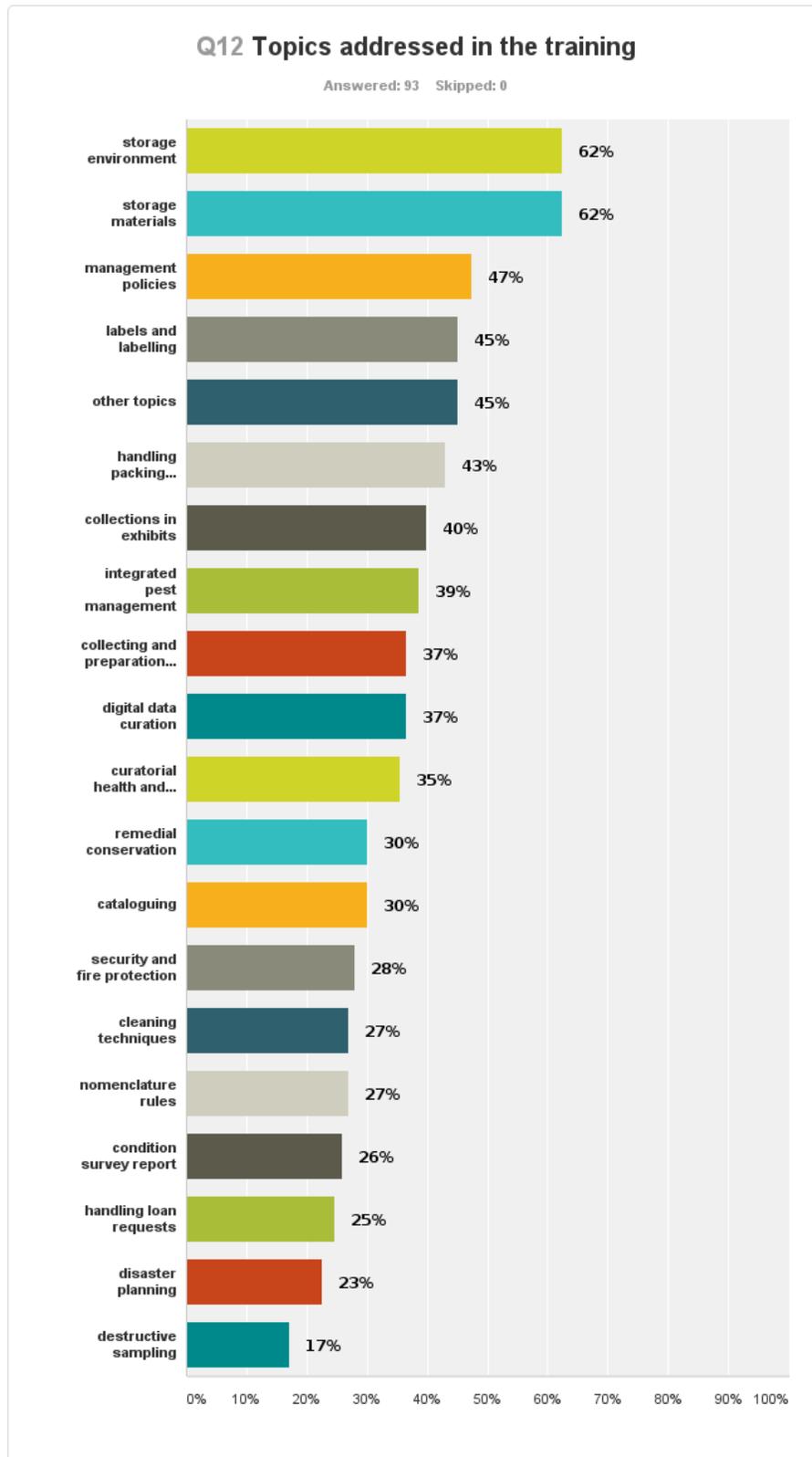


Figure 14

As can be seen in Fig. 14 all possible kind of topics in conservation are addressed in the training. In the 'other' category, 45% of the respondents mentioned the following topics: what is management, accreditation, instrumental analysis in conservation, material science, sustainable strategies, project planning, development of holistic knowledge and understanding of heritage materials, the social, cultural and economic significance of heritage, theory of science, chemistry, equipment & analyses, creative learning, education, communication, media . All these topics are related to academic courses (bachelor, master, postgraduate). Other topics mentioned are mould-making principles, the casting of materials, plant identification, palynology, tropical ecology, biochemical make-up, IUCN red listing, economically important plant products, use of GIS tools, legal and ethical aspects, train the trainer, training techniques etc.

2.3 TRAINING MATERIAL

AVAILABILITY OF THE EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL

As mentioned earlier in this report, 32 data sets were manually introduced based on informatioin found in reports and websites. In these data sets, as a default, the question on availablility of material was answered as 'do not know'. If we do not take into account these data sets, the majority of the training (80%) use educational material as a support to the courses. In 15% of the training courses no educatioinal material is present and 5% does not know.

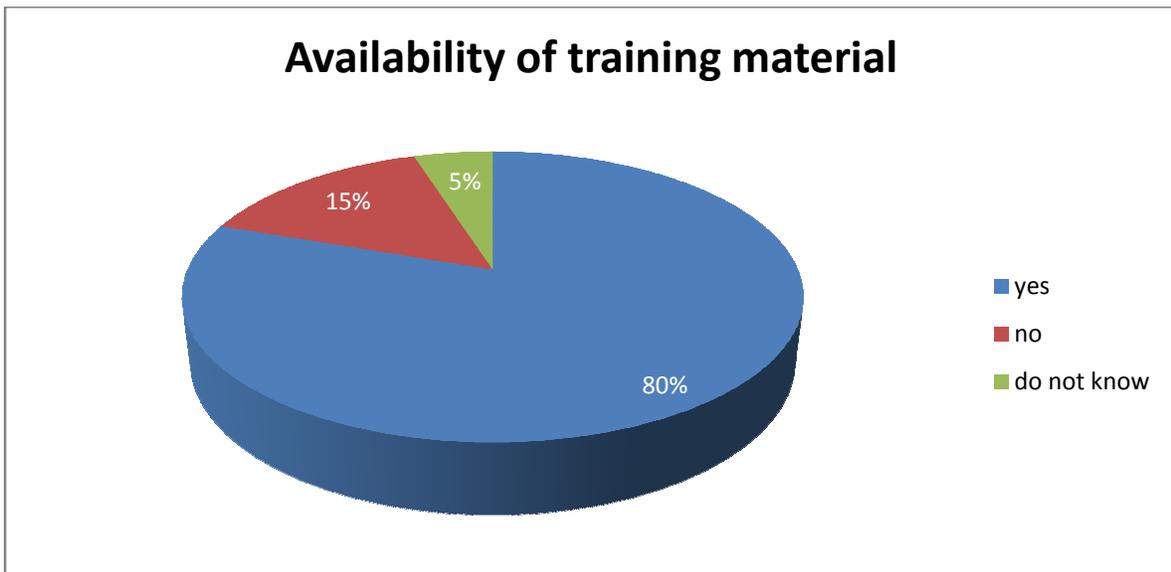


Figure 15

FORMAT OF THE EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL

PowerPoint presentations (82% of the respondents) and demonstration material (61%) such as specimens and objects are the preferred teaching tools (Fig. 16). Other classic forms of training material such as books, syllabi, unformatted notes, computer workstations are each regularly used during training (27-12% of the respondents). DVD/CD and e-learning are still little used (only 4% each). The category 'other' includes PDF of scientific papers, bound photocopies, e-book, templates to fill out.

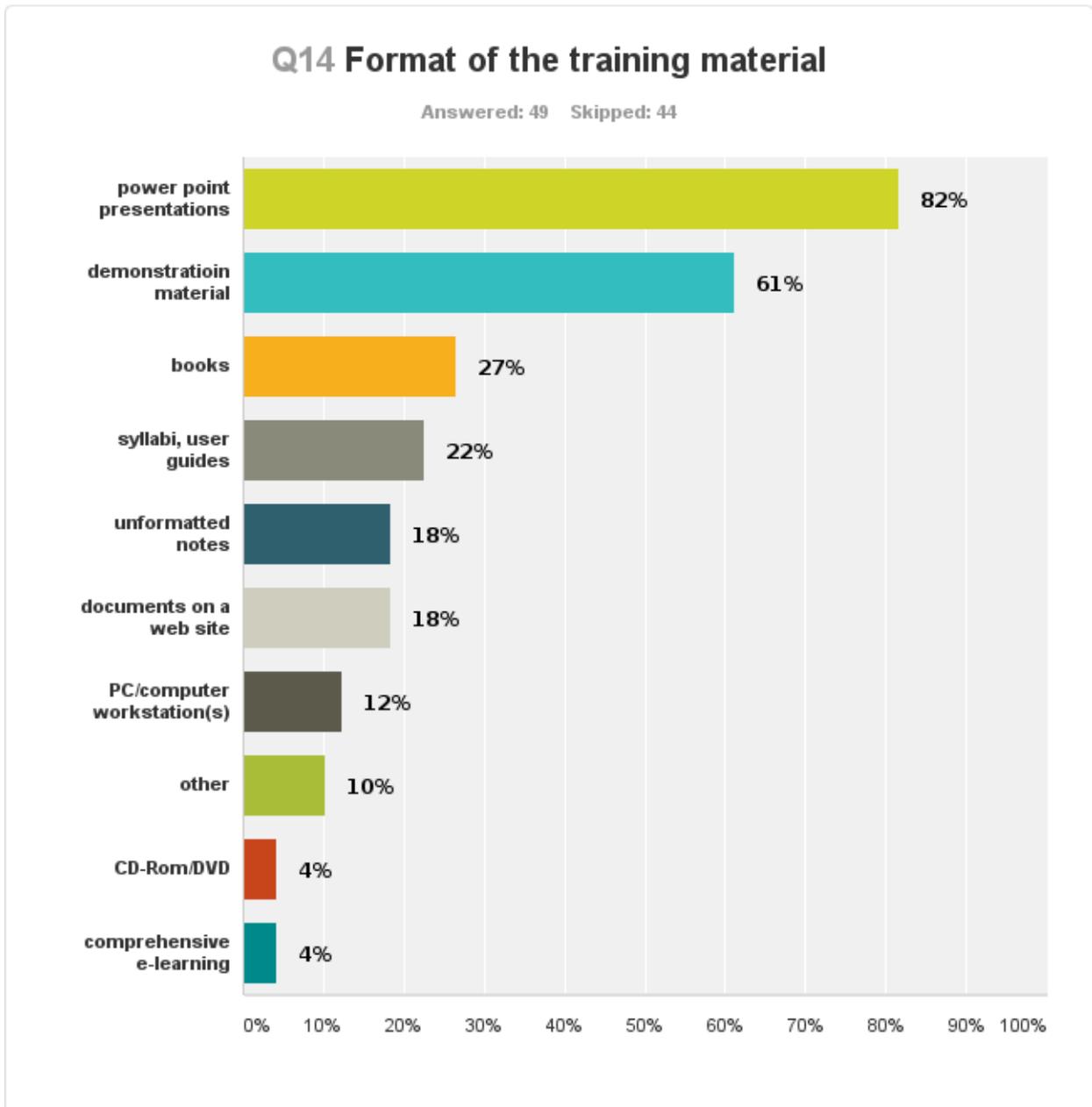


Figure 16

ACCESS TO THE TRAINING MATERIAL

The access to the educational material is in most cases privileged to those people attending the training (80% of the respondents) and is usually for free use (Fig. 17). Training material is in one case available for free use as an e-book, only available on request (8%) or charged (2%). In the 'other' category (20%) respondents specified that the material was online but no longer available, the material is also available on request even if people do not participate, is online for approved users, or there is intention to put the material online. None of the training material is available to the public at large except the e-book and none of the respondents checked the box that material needs to be purchased.

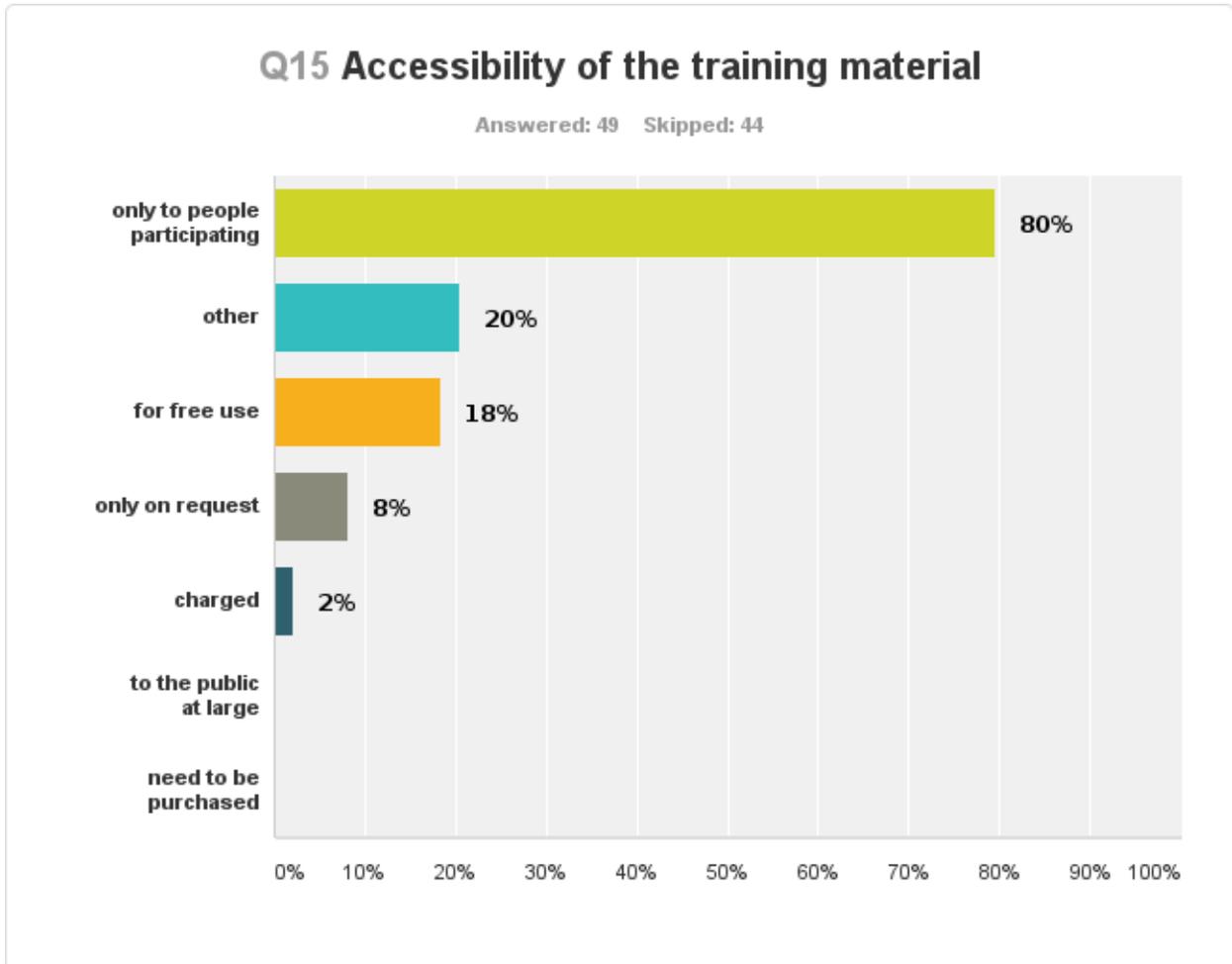


Figure 17

3. WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE IN THE LEONARDO VET CURRICULUM

All respondents (100%) said that they could be contacted for more information on the training. One respondent skipped the question, probably by distractibility (Fig. 18).

If the respondent was the training provider of the course he/she was asked if they would consider to cooperate with their course(s) to the design of a VET curriculum in the framework of this Leonardo project. 93% of the respondents gave a positive reply (Fig. 19). Those giving a negative reply (7%) did not specify the reason for not willing to cooperate.

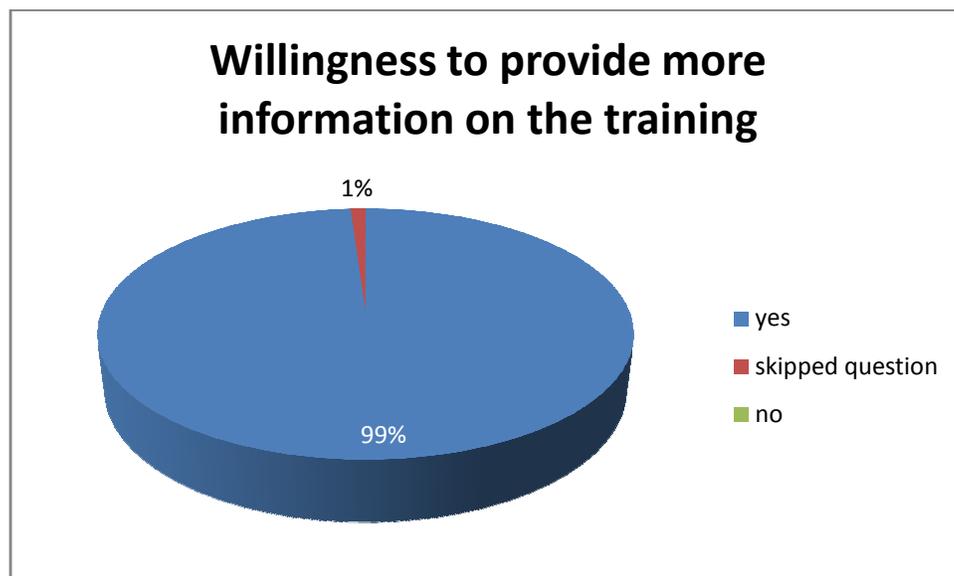


Figure 18

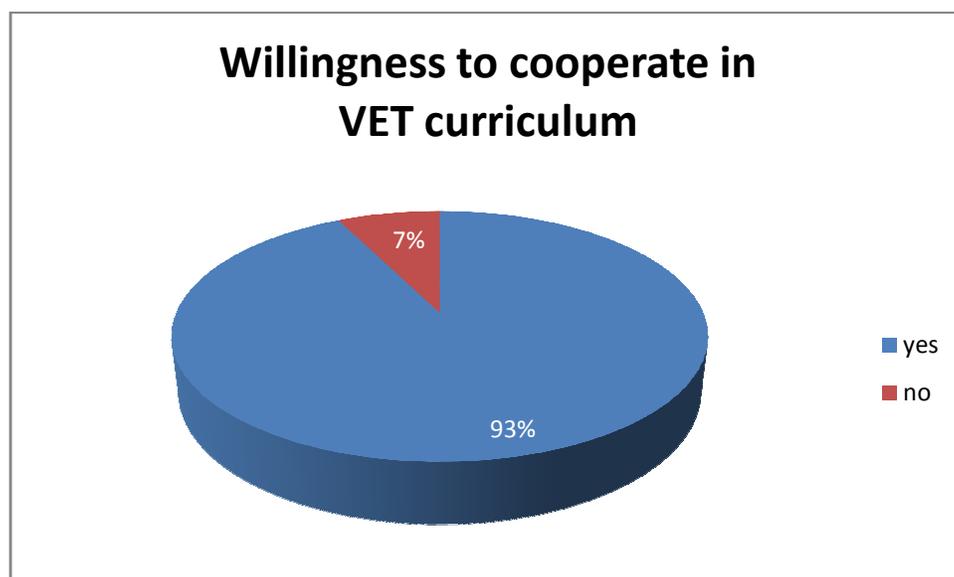


Figure 19

CONCLUSIONS

In Europe, training offer in conservation and care of Natural History collections definitely exists but the information is relatively hard to find and fragmented, especially for the non-academic courses. In recent years, thanks to associations and initiatives such as e.g. SYNTHESYS, NatSCA, SPNHC, GfBS, Collections Trust, ICON new courses are regularly organised. However, there is no cohesive curriculum or programme that would allow collections professionals to easily identify the training resources they need to reach a given level of competency.

Courses are mainly organised on a regular basis or in the framework of a special occasion so that the offer is likely to meet the demand at least for the covered topics. Large part of the training courses are short intensive courses that last for a couple of hours, one day or less than 1 week. They are easily accessible training courses because of time and budget resources. Moreover, the largest part of the courses is open to an international public.

Most of the training is held in English and some of the courses are given in different languages depending on the audience. A significant fraction of the training is specifically organised in English even if it is not the language of the host country.

Large part of the training is held at a non-academic level. Natural History Museums/Botanical Gardens hold a great expertise in conservation and care of Natural History collections. As such Museums/Botanical Gardens and associations/foundations linked with museums such as e.g. NatSCA, SPNHC, GfBS contribute for a large part to Natural History focused conservation training whether or not in collaboration with networks or academics. Courses at an academic level have a more Cultural Heritage focus but some of them have as an optional module 'Natural Sciences curatorship'. To our knowledge, the School of Conservation in Copenhagen is the only one delivering a BA in Natural History Conservation (in Danish).

Very few courses are developed for a large public or amateurs but target technicians and collections professionals. Education at an academic level is for a broad oriented audience in Cultural Heritage at undergraduate level. Some of the courses at a master or postgraduate level give flexible access to a range of topics to people showing a certain knowledge degree and are especially for professional development and are open to non-enrolled 'students'.

The teaching approach is very classic as most of the training courses include classroom lectures and hands-on training. E-learning is not often used. The majority of the training courses use education material as a support to the courses. Power point presentations and demonstration material are the preferred teaching tools. Access to this material is in most cases privileged to those people attending the training.

In Natural History collections conservation, all types of collections are addressed in the training offer. And, all kind of topics related to conservation and care of collections are addressed: management, environmental conditions, handling, transport, integrated pest management, digital data curation etc.

Despite the large effort invested to reach the people involved in collections care and conservation training, gaps in the results from the survey and website info still exist. Some countries contributed largely to the inventory while information from other countries ranges from incomplete to lacking (see Fig. 1).

The result of this report will be used to evaluate the gaps and training needs in the conservation and care of Natural History collections and to develop a VET curriculum to assist staff in developing the appropriate competencies as defined in the Competency Framework for Collections Management.

Survey on training resources in conservation and care of NH

The survey

This questionnaire aims to collect information on past and present training resources for conservation and care of natural history collections (biology, geology, paleontology), available in Europe and beyond.

Please take 10 minutes of your time to help us gather this valuable information and let us know about training you provide in this field or about training others provide.

Background

The survey is done in the framework of 'Testing a European Competency Framework for VET in Collections Management' (EUColComp), a Leonardo da Vinci Transfer of Innovation funded project, co-ordinated by NHM London. The result of this survey will be used to evaluate the gaps and training needs in conservation and care of NH collections and to develop a Vocational Education Training curriculum to assist staff in developing the appropriate competencies.

We'll appreciate your feedback!

The survey closes on Saturday 5 April 2014.

The EUColComp team

WP2 Research training needs and stakeholder analysis

Contact: Isabella Van de Velde

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If you want to read more on the EUColComp project:

<http://www.adam-europe.eu/adam/project/view.htm?prj=10833&projLang=en#.UvpDWvtWsfq>

Survey on training resources in conservation and care of NH

Please fill in one survey form per training course and make sure you click on 'done' before starting with the next one.

*1. Training resource

Title of the training	<input type="text"/>
Language of the training	<input type="text"/>
Organizing institution/organisation	<input type="text"/>
Host institution/organisation where the training is held, if different from organiser	<input type="text"/>
Additional country(ies) in which the course is (has been) held	<input type="text"/>
URL of training course (if available)	<input type="text"/>

*2. Teaching staff: main person responsible for the training

Name	<input type="text"/>
Function	<input type="text"/>
E-mail	<input type="text"/>
Institution	<input type="text"/>
Additional teaching staff (name, institution, e-mail)	<input type="text"/>

Survey on training resources in conservation and care of NH

Type of training

***3. Is the training organised:**

- on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
- one time in the framework of a special occasion
- on demand
- other, please specify

***4. Duration of the training? Please specify (one week, one day, 2 hours, etc.).**

***5. Level of the training? Please choose all that apply.**

- non-academic
- high school
- undergraduate
- master
- PhD
- other, please specify

***6. For which audience is the training organised? Please choose all that apply.**

- national
- European
- international
- other, please specify (e.g. in-house)

Survey on training resources in conservation and care of NH

*7. Target audience? Please choose all that apply.

- technicians
- collections managers
- curators
- undergraduates
- graduates (MSc, PhD)
- postgraduates
- large public
- amateur public
- other, please specify

*8. Does the training include:

- classroom lectures
- exercise sessions
- hands-on training
- e-learning courses
- other, please specify

*9. Is the training organised in the framework of a funded project?

- no
- national project
- EU project
- international project

Please list here the title of the project(s) involved

Content of the training

*10. Is collection care and conservation

- the exclusive focus of the training
- not the exclusive focus, but the main part of the training
- part of another course, which one?

*11. What kind of collections is the course addressing? Please choose all that apply.

- general
- botanical
- zoological
- fluid-preserved
- dried
- entomological
- taxidermy & skins
- molecular
- fossils
- rocks and minerals
- others, please specify

***12. Is the training addressing topics such as:**

- collection management policies and procedures
- collections storage environment and monitoring
- collections storage materials
- integrated pest management
- collections security and fire protection
- disaster planning
- collection condition survey and report
- collecting and preparation techniques (dry, wet)
- labels and labeling of specimens
- handling, packing and shipping of specimens
- cleaning techniques
- remedial conservation
- cataloguing
- handling loan requests, enquiries, visitors
- digital curation of data
- destructive and invasive sampling
- collections in exhibits
- curatorial health and safety in the work environment
- basics of nomenclature rules
- if not listed above, briefly list other subjects covered in the training

Available training material

***13. Is there training material available for the training?**

- yes
- no
- do not know

Survey on training resources in conservation and care of NH

Available training material

***14. In which form? Please choose all that apply.**

- unformatted notes
- syllabi, user guides
- power point presentations
- books
- CD-Rom/DVD
- documents on a web site
- comprehensive e-learning facility
- PC/computer workstation(s)
- demonstration material (specimens, etc.)
- other, please specify

***15. Is the training material accessible?**

- only to the people participating to the training
- for free use
- charged
- to the public at large
- need to be purchased
- only on request
- other, please specify

16. If the training material is accessible, please provide details for accessing the training material if you know.

URL

other

Survey on training resources in conservation and care of NH

Cooperation request

***17. Can we contact you if we need additional information on this training resource?**

- yes
- no

18. If you are the training provider, would you consider to cooperate with your course (s) to the design of a VET curriculum in the framework of this Leonardo project?

- yes
- no

19. Contact information (if different from main person responsible for the course)
We kindly ask you to provide us with some personal info. The information will only be used if we want to contact you for additional information. All personal info provided by you will be kept confidential. You can leave the fields blank if you prefer to do so.

Name	<input type="text"/>
Organisation/institution	<input type="text"/>
E-mail	<input type="text"/>

20. Open comments on the training
Please provide any additional comment.

This was the last question of the survey. You can use the 'Prev' button to make changes or otherwise hit the 'Done' button to submit the questionnaire.

If you have another course to report, please go to:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/survey_training_NHcollections

Thank you very much for your cooperation!

Annex II

LISTING OF TRAINING RESOURCES IN CONSERVATION AND CARE OF NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS IN EUROPE

This listing is based on the answers to the EUColComp online survey (61 sets) and on additional information collected from websites and reports (32 sets).

BELGIUM

Title: Behoud en beheer van collecties (NL) / Gestion des collections (FR)

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences

Language: Dutch/French

Content: Natural History focused (general, botanical, zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins, molecular, fossils, rocks and minerals, metal & paintings)

Level training: non- academic

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators

Geographical range of audience: national, mainly in-house however also collection collaborators of other institutes were invited

Periodicity: regularly organised until 2011, on demand

Duration: 2-3 days depending on educational level of participants

URL: -

Title: Fish osteology

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences

Language: English

Content: Natural History (zoological)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates

Geographical range of audience: national, European, international

Periodicity: on demand

Duration: 1-3 weeks

URL: <http://www.taxonomytraining.eu/content/fish-osteology>

Title: Management of herbarium

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Agentschap Plantentuin Meise (National Botanic Garden of Belgium)

Language: French/English/Dutch

Content: Natural History focused (botanical, dried)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, graduates (MSc, PhD), large public, amateur public

Geographical range of audience: European, international, in house

Periodicity: on demand

Duration: from 2 weeks to 3 months

URL: -

Title: Biodiversity Information Training
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Royal Museum for Central Africa
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (botanical, zoological)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates
Geographical range of audience: international, mainly for people from Sub-Saharan Africa
Periodicity: planning to do on a regular basis (yearly or once in two years, depending on available funds)
Duration: one month
URL:
http://cabin.cybertaxonomy.africamuseum.be/page/preliminary_program_biodiversity_information_training

Title: Information Networks (digitization, IT and related activities for database and collections management)
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): SYNTHESYS & Royal Museum for Central Africa
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (general)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, postgraduates, IT specialists dealing with digital collection management
Geographical range of audience: European
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: 3 days
URL: <http://synthesys.cybertaxonomy.africamuseum.be/node/306?107529035=1>

Title: Effective collections emergency planning and salvage
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): SYNTHESYS & Royal Museum for Central Africa
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (general)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators
Geographical range of audience: European
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: lunch-to-lunch course
URL: <http://synthesys.cybertaxonomy.africamuseum.be/node/94>

CZECH REPUBLIC

Title: Collection management in Natural History Museum

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Vyšší odborná škola informačních služeb

Language: Czech

Content: Natural History focused (general, botanical, zoological, entomological, taxidermy & skins, fossils, rocks & minerals)

Level training: academic (high school)

Target audience: collections managers

Geographical range of audience: national

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: 3 x 3 hours

URL: -

Title: Nomenclature in Palaeontology

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): National Museum

Language: Czech

Content: Natural History focused (fossils)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: curators, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates

Geographical range of audience: national

Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion

Duration: 3 x 3 hours

URL: -

Title: Museology in combination with another discipline

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Silesian University of Opava

Language: Czech

Content: Cultural Heritage focused

Level training: academic (undergraduate)

Target audience: collections managers, curators, undergraduate students

Geographical range of audience: international (but course in Czech)

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: 3 years

URL: <http://ects.slu.cz/plan/49046?kombinace=3691&lang=en>

Title: History and Museology

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Silesian University of Opava

Language: Czech

Content: Cultural Heritage focused

Level training: academic (master)

Target audience: collections managers, curators, undergraduates

Geographical range of audience: international (but course in Czech)

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: MA 2 years, BA 3 years

URL: <http://ects.slu.cz/plan/49080?lang=en>

DENMARK

Title: BA Programme in Conservation - Natural History

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): School of Conservation, Copenhagen

Language: Danish

Content: Natural History focused (botanical, zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins, fossils, rocks & minerals)

Level training: academic (undergraduate)

Target audience: collections managers, curators, undergraduate students

Geographical range of audience: international (but course in Danish)

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: 3 years

URL: <http://www.kons.dk/dk/site.aspx?p=518>

Title: MA Programme in Conservation

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): School of Conservation, Copenhagen

Language: Danish

Content: Cultural Heritage & Natural History

Level training: academic (master)

Target audience: collections managers, curators, graduates (MSc, PhD)

Geographical range of audience: national, European, international (but course in Danish)

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: 2 years

URL: <http://www.kons.dk/dk/site.aspx?p=465>

Title: Kursus i praktisk genstandshåndtering - Course in practical object handling

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): The Association of Danish Museums

Language: Danish

Content: Cultural Heritage focused (all kind of objects)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, for people handling museum objects

Geographical range of audience: international (but course in Danish)

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: 1 day

URL: <http://www.dkmuseer.dk/content/kursus-i-praktisk-genstandsh%C3%A5ndtering-fuldtegnnet-m-venteliste>

Title: Genstandshåndtering - Object handling

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): The Association of Danish Museums

Language: Danish

Content: Cultural Heritage focused (all kind of objects)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, for people handling objects

Geographical range of audience: international (but course in Danish)

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: 1 day

URL: <http://www.dkmuseer.dk/content/genstandsh%C3%A5ndtering-fuldtegnnet-m-venteliste>

FRANCE

Title: Les matériaux de conservation

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle Paris

Language: French

Content: Natural History focused (general)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians, collections managers

Geographical range of audience: in-house MNHN

Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion

Duration: 1 day

URL: -

GERMANY

Title: Shipping Workshop

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): CETAF & Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (botanical, zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins, molecular)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, undergraduates, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates

Geographical range of audience: national, European, international

Periodicity: twice in the CETAF context, will also be held at SPNHC conference in Cardiff (2014)

Duration: 2 days

URL: -

Title: Basic collections techniques

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): SYNTHESYS & Museum für Naturkunde Berlin

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (general, zoological, entomological, taxidermy & skins – also useful for botanical, molecular and palaeontology)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators

Geographical range of audience: European, international

Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion

Duration: 3 days

URL: http://synthesys.cybertaxonomy.africamuseum.be/page/basic_collections_techniques

Title: Sammlungsmanagement & Kuration (Collection Management & Curation)
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum Berlin-Dahlem, Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany
Language: German
Content: Natural History focused (general, botanical, fluid-preserved, dried, living)
Level training: academic (part of master)
Target audience: undergraduates
Geographical range of audience: national, European, international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 8 days
URL: -

Title: Notfallplanung (Disaster preparedness)
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft Berlin
Language: German
Content: Natural History focused (zoological collections used as example)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: museum professionals at different levels up to PhD
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: 2-3 days
URL: -

Title: Research collections in the contexts of preservation issues and scientific use (Invasive sampling)
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): GfBS Curator's Group, Peter Giere, MfN
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (botanical, zoological, molecular)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: collections managers, curators
Geographical range of audience: national, European, international
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: 1:30 hours
URL: <http://biosystemu.univie.ac.at/symposia-workshops/>

Title: Digitization
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): GfBS Curators Group, Peter Giere, MfN
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (general)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators
Geographical range of audience: national, European
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: 2-3 hours
URL: -

Title: Sammlungsschädlinge (Collection Pests)
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): GfBS Curators Group, Curators Meeting
Language: German
Content: Natural History focused (botanical, zoological, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: collections managers, curators
Geographical range of audience: national, Dutch participants were present
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: 2-3 hours
URL: -

Title: Disaster Preparedness
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): GfBS Curators group (Peter Giere, MfN)
Language: German/English
Content: Natural History focused (general)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: collections managers, curators
Geographical range of audience: national, European, international
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: 2 hours
URL: -

GREECE

Title: Taxidermy of arthropods. Guidelines for children.
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Natural History Museum of Crete
Language: Greek
Content: Natural History focused (zoological, taxidermy & skins)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: amateurs, children
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 3 hours
URL: <http://nhmcfriendsgr.weebly.com>

Title: Herbarium collections-Create, Conservation & Care. Guidelines for children.
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Natural History Museum of Crete
Language: Greek
Content: Natural History focused (botanical, dried)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: amateurs, children
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 3 hours
URL: <http://nhmcfriendsgr.weebly.com>

HUNGARY

Title: Access to collections

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): SYNTHESYS & Natural History Museum Budapest

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (general)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators

Geographical range of audience: European

Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion

Duration: lunch-to-lunch course

URL: <http://synthesys.cybertaxonomy.africamuseum.be/node/92>

Title: Collection management

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Hungarian Natural History Museum

Language: Hungarian

Content: Natural History focused (general, botanical, zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins, fossils, rocks & minerals)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians

Geographical range of audience: national

Periodicity: on demand

Duration: 5 weeks

URL: -

Title: Collection and preparation of specimens

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Szent István University

Language: Hungarian

Content: Natural History focused (zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins, molecular)

Level training: academic (master)

Target audience: graduates (MSc, PhD)

Geographical range of audience: national

Periodicity: on demand

Duration: 6 hours

URL: -

Title: Science Communication, Collection management, Museology

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Eötvös Loránd University

Language: Hungarian

Content: Natural History focused (zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins)

Level training: academic (master)

Target audience: graduates (MSc, PhD)

Geographical range of audience: national

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: 24 hours

URL: <http://scicom-msc.elte.hu/>

ITALY

Title: Collection Management

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Natural History Museum, Florence University

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (general)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: collections managers, curators

Geographical range of audience: national

Periodicity: on demand

Duration: 4 days

URL: http://formazionepersonale.unifi.it/info_corso.php?IDCORSO=587

NETHERLANDS

Title: Natural history collections and research

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Naturalis Biodiversity Center

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (botanical, zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, molecular, fossils); main part of the training course

Level training: academic (master)

Target audience: graduates (MSc, PhD)

Geographical range of audience: national, European, international

Periodicity: organised on a regular basis in the past, but (temporarily) stopped.

Can be organised on demand.

Duration: main part of 2 weeks course

URL: -

Title: Plant families in the Tropics

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Naturalis

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (botanical, fluid-preserved, dried, living)

Level training: academic (part of master)

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, undergraduates, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates

Geographical range of audience: international

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: small part of 3 weeks course

URL: <https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/courses/show/37895>

Title: MSc Course Economic Botany

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): National Herbarium of the Netherlands

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (botanical, dried)

Level training: academic (MSc)

Target audience: undergraduates, botanical gardens personnel
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 2 weeks + extra time for writing essay
URL: -

Title: Master in Museology
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Reinwardt Academie
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: collections managers, curators, undergraduates, for careers at policy-making, curatorial or managerial level within heritage organizations
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 18 months
URL: <http://www.ahk.nl/reinwardt/master/programme/>

POLAND

Title: Training programme in Crustacean systematics with specialisation in Cyclopidae (Copepoda)
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Museum and Institute of Zoology Polish Academy of Sciences
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (zoological, fluid-preserved)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 4 weeks
URL: <http://www.taxonomytraining.eu/content/training-programme-crustacean-systematics-specialisation-cyclopidae-copepoda-4>

Title: Methods and principles of systematic zoology (sensu lato: including zoogeography and phylogenetics) and systematics of the Buprestidae (Coleoptera)
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): DEST (Distributed European School of Taxonomy)
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (zoological, entomological)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, undergraduates, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates, large public, amateur public
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 4 weeks
URL: <http://www.taxonomytraining.eu/content/methods-and-principles-systematic-zoology-sensu-lato-including-zoogeography-and-phylogenetic-0>

PORTUGAL

Title: Natural History Collections and Biodiversity

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): National Museum of Natural History and Science (MUHNAC) & Centre for Environmental Biology (CBA) -- University of Lisbon

Language: English or Portuguese

Content: Natural History focused (botanical, zoological, entomological, molecular, animal sound collections)

Level training: academic (master, PhD)

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates, Museum volunteers, museum professionals (course also open to non-enrolled students)

Geographical range of audience: national, European, international

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: 1 week (course integrated in the programme 'Advanced courses of CBA')

URL: http://cba.fc.ul.pt/education/AdvancedCourses/Advanced_courses_2014/anuncio%20final-Natural%20History%20collections%20and%20Biodiversity%20%202014.pdf

Title: Medical entomological mosquito collections

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Instituto De Higiene E Medicina Tropical

Language:

Content: Natural History focused (entomological)

Level training: academic (master)

Target audience: technicians, graduates (MSc, PhD)

Geographical range of audience: international

Periodicity: on demand

Duration: 1 year (main part of the training)

URL: -

ROMANIA

Title: Collecting methods and identification of parasitic wasps, with special emphasis on Chalcidoidea (Hymenoptera)

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (entomological, dried)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates, amateur public

Geographical range of audience: international

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: 1 week

URL: <http://www.taxonomytraining.eu/content/collecting-methods-and-identification-parasitic-wasps-special-emphasis-chalcidoidea-hymenopt>

SPAIN

Title: Intensive Course in Systematic Biology

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Erasmus Programme (ICP-96-NL.3041/13), Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, taxidermy & skins)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: graduates (MSc, PhD)

Geographical range of audience: European

Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion

Duration: part of 1 month course

URL: -

Title: SYNTHESYS Advanced Training in Collections Management. Molecular collections management and linkage between biological specimen repositories and molecular sequence databases

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): SYNTHESYS & Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales Madrid

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (molecular collections)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: collections managers, curators, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates

Geographical range of audience: European

Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion

Duration: 2 days

URL: <http://synthesys.cybertaxonomy.africamuseum.be/node/103>

Title: SYNTHESYS Course in Management, Conservation and Care of Natural History Collections

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): SYNTHESYS & Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales Madrid

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (general, botanical, zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins, molecular, fossils)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: undergraduates

Geographical range of audience: European

Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion

Duration: 1 week

URL: -

Title: Técnicas básicas de conservación y mantenimiento de collecciones de historia natural y materiales didácticos en ies con fondos históricos

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales

Language: Spanish

Content: Natural History focused (general)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, graduates (MSc, PhD)
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 3 days
URL: -

Title: Conservación, uso y gestión de bancos de tejidos y ADN - Conservation, use and management of DNA and tissue banks
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales
Language: Spanish
Content: Natural History focused (molecular)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, graduates (MSc, PhD)
Geographical range of audience: national, European, international
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 3 days
URL: -

Title: Ponencia Riesgos en la manipulación de colecciones de Historia Natural.// Risk handling of Natural History collections
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Museo Nacional de Antropología /National Anthropology Museum
Language: Spanish
Content: Natural History focused (general, botanical, zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins, fossils, rocks & minerals)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: 1 hour (part of other course)
URL: -

Title: Arte Ciencia y Naturaleza
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Facultad de Bellas Artes
Language: Spanish
Content: Natural History focused (general), main part of the training
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: graduates (MSc, PhD)
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 8 months
URL: -

Title: Magister en Conservación Preventiva de Obras De Arte y Bienes Culturales
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Facultad de Bellas Artes
Language: Spanish
Content: Natural History focused (general), main part of the training
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: technicians, graduates (MSc, PhD)
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 8 months
URL: -

Title: Máster Universitario en Zoología. Módulo de Investigación. Técnicas en Investigación Zoológica. Museología
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Universidad Complutense de Madrid - MNCN
Language: Spanish
Content: Natural History focused (zoological)
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: collections managers, curators, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates
Geographical range of audience: national, European
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 week (part of master: one module museology)
URL: <https://www.ucm.es/muz/coordinacion>

Title: Management, access and conservation of species in trade: the international framework
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Universidad Internacional de Andalucía UNIA
Language: English/Spanish
Content: Natural History focused (general)
Level training: academic (postgraduate)
Target audience: collections managers, curators, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates, administrative authority CITES
Geographical range of audience: national, European, international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 3 months (main part of the training)
URL: http://www.unia.es/component/option,com_hotproperty/task,view/id,1057/Itemid,445/

Title: Especialización en Preparación, Conservación y Gestion de Colecciones de Vertebrados
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)
Language: Spanish
Content: Natural History focused (zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, taxidermy & skins)
Level training: academic (high school)
Target audience: undergraduate students
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: 1 month
URL: -

Title: Modificaciones adaptativas en aves en función de su alimentación
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)
Language: Spanish
Content: Natural history focused (zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, taxidermy & skins)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: 15 days
URL: -

Title: Colecciones de Vertebrados: Preparación e introducción a su Conservación y Mantenimiento
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)
Language: Spanish
Content: Natural History focused (zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, taxidermy & skins)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: undergraduates, professional development
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: 2 months
URL: -

Title: Ayudante de conservación y catalogación de colecciones de Historia Natural / Assistant to curation and cataloging of Natural History Collections
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas - Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales (Madrid, Spain)
Language: Spanish
Content: Natural History focused (zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins, fossils, rocks & minerals, restoration of fossils)
Level training: academic (high school)
Target audience: Unemployed, with a High School Level
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: 1 year
URL: -

Title: Manejo de colecciones zoológicas / Management of zoological collections
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Consejería de Empleo, Mujer e Inmigración de la Comunidad de Madrid /Department of Employment, Women and Immigration of the Community of Madrid.
Language: Spanish
Content: Natural History focused (fossil invertebrates & palaeobotany)
Level training: academic (FP)
Target audience: FP Graduates
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 1 year
URL: -

Title: E-Learning Workshop on Data Recording for Technicians in Natural History Collections
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): GBIF.ES
Language: Spanish
Content: Natural History focused (general)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, professional development for museum staff
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 30 hours in 2 weeks
URL: <http://www.gbif.es/formaciondetalles.php?IDForm=127>

Title: Recuperación de Colecciones de Historia Natural
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Fundación Caja Rioja
Language: Spanish
Content: Natural History focused (general, botanical, zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, fossils, rocks & minerals)
Level training: academic (high school)
Target audience: undergraduate students
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 2 weeks
URL: -

SWEDEN

Title: Master of Science in Conservation, 120 hec
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): University of Gothenburg
Language: Swedish
Content: Natural History focused (general, botanical, zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins, fossils, rocks & minerals) – at present: Cultural Heritage focused
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: collections managers
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: Natural History focus no longer available
Duration: 2 years
URL:
<http://www.conservation.gu.se/english/?languageId=100001&disableRedirect=true&returnUrl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.conservation.gu.se%2Futbildning%2Fprogram%2Fkonservator%2F>

UNITED KINGDOM

Title: International Diploma in Herbarium Techniques

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (botanical, fluid-preserved, dried)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians

Geographical range of audience: international

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: 8 weeks

URL: <http://www.kew.org/learn/specialist-training/international-diploma-herbarium-techniques>

Title: Curation of ethnobiology collections

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): SYNTHESYS & Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (botanical, ethnobiology)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, postgraduates

Geographical range of audience: European

Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion

Duration: lunch-to-lunch course

URL: http://synthesys.cybertaxonomy.africamuseum.be/page/module_5_curation_ethnobiology_collections

Title: Conservation of Natural History Collections

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Amgueddfa cymru - National Museum Wales

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (general, botanical, zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins, molecular, fossils)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: variable - high school, undergraduate, master, museum professionals

Geographical range of audience: international

Periodicity: on demand

Duration: variable

URL: -

Title: Fluid Preservation Course

Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Horniman Museum

Language: English

Content: Natural History focused (fluid-preserved)

Level training: non-academic

Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, undergraduates, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates, amateur public

Geographical range of audience: national, European, international

Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)

Duration: 4 days

URL: -

Title: Feather Conservation Course
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Horniman Museum
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (general, zoological, taxidermy & skins)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, undergraduates, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates, amateur public (requires some prior knowledge of collections/object based issues)
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 2 days
URL: -

Title: Conservation of Natural History Materials
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Natural History Museum London
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (general, botanical, zoological, taxidermy & skins, molecular, fossils, rocks & minerals, ethnographic)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, conservators
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 5 days
URL: -

Title: Train-the-Trainer: Methods in collections management training
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): SYNTHESYS & Natural History Museum London
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (general)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, postgraduates
Geographical range of audience: European
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: lunch-to-lunch course
URL: <http://synthesys.cybertaxonomy.africamuseum.be/node/93>

Title: MSc Plant Diversity
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): University of Reading
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (botanical, dried, molecular)
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: technicians, undergraduates, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates, large public, amateur public
Geographical range of audience: national, European, international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 week to 5 years
URL: <http://www.reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences/pg-taught/biosci-pgtmscplantdiversity.aspx>

Title: Caring for Entomology collections
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Natural Sciences Collections Association (NatSCA)
Language: English
Content: Natural history focused (entomological)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: collections managers, curators, professional development for museum staff
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 1 day
URL: http://www.icon.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1647&Itemid=129

Title: Caring for Botanical Collections
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Natural Sciences Collections Association (NatSCA)
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (botanical)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, those entering museum profession
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 1 day
URL: -

Title: Conservation of Fossils and geological material
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): natural-history-conservation.com
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (fossils, rocks & minerals)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, undergraduates, graduates (MSc, PhD), amateur public
Geographical range of audience: as required e.g. students, and/or to staff in museums
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: variable from ½, 1 & 2 days
URL: <http://www.natural-history-conservation.com/training.htm>

Title: Fluid preservation (biology), Taxidermy conservation, Entomology conservation (pinned insects), Herbarium conservation (dried plants)
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): natural-history-conservation.com
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (botanical, zoological, fluid preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, undergraduates, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates (for professionals)
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 4 days (FP), others 2-3 days
URL: via www.natural-history-conservation.com

Title: How to Mould and Cast Museum Specimens
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): natural-history-conservation.com
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (general, zoological, fossils, rocks & minerals)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, undergraduates, conservators
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 1 or 2 days
URL: <http://www.natural-history-conservation.com/training.htm>

Title: Natural Science Collections Development
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Welsh Museums Federation
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (botanical, zoological, entomological, taxidermy & skins, fossils, rocks & minerals)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: curators
Geographical range of audience: national
Periodicity: one time in the framework of a special occasion
Duration: 1 day
URL: -

Title: ICON Natural History Conservation, and QEST Natural History Conservation Scholar
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): ICON/Lancashire Conservation Studio/QEST
Language: English
Content: Natural History focused (botanical, zoological, fluid-preserved, dried, entomological, taxidermy & skins)
Level training: academic (undergraduate)
Target audience: conservators
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: ICON - non regular in specialism/QEST is self-organised and awarded
Duration: ICON=12 months/QEST=12 months
URL: -

Title: Collections Skills Seminars
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Collections Trust
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage & Natural History
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: designed for those working in small and medium-sized English museums that are accredited or that are working towards accreditation
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 day
URL: <http://www.collectionslink.org.uk/skills-seminars-programme>

Title: Object Handling and Packing
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): National Museums Scotland
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage & Natural History (all kinds of museum objects including NH specimens)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, anyone involved in handling packing
Geographical range of audience: national, international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 day
URL: <http://www.nms.ac.uk/pdf/Object%20Handling%202014.pdf>

Title: Packing and Transport of Museum Objects
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): International Academic Projects
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage & Natural History (all kind of objects)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators, anyone involved in handling packing
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 2 days
URL: <http://www.academicprojects.co.uk/>

Title: Integrated Pest Management workshop
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): International Academic Projects
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage & Natural History
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, collections managers, curators
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 2 days
URL: <http://www.academicprojects.co.uk/course-details.php?courseID=746>

Title: Mounting museum objects
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): International Academic Projects
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage & Natural History (all kind of museum objects)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians, persons who need to make mounts for display
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on demand
Duration: 3 days
URL: <http://www.academicprojects.co.uk/course-details.php?courseID=702>

Title: Moulding and casting museum objects
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): International Academic Projects
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage & Natural History (all kind of museum objects)
Level training: non-academic
Target audience: technicians
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 2,5 days
URL: <http://www.academicprojects.co.uk/course-details.php?courseID=714>

Title: Museum Studies
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Newcastle University
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused but with optional module on Natural Sciences curatorship
Level training: academic (master, work-based Master of Museum Practice)
Target audience: collections managers, curators, undergraduates
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 2 years full time, 4 years part time
URL: -

Title: Museum Studies
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Newcastle University
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused but with optional module on Natural Sciences curatorship
Level training: academic (master and PGDip)
Target audience: collections managers, curators, undergraduates, for those pursuing career in museum, gallery, heritage sector
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: MA 1 year full time, 2 years part time, PGDip 9 months full time, 18 months part time
URL: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/degree/museum-studies-ma-pgdip>

Title: Museum Studies
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): University of Leicester - School of Museum Studies
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused with option module on Natural Sciences curation
Level training: academic (master, postgraduate diploma)
Target audience: undergraduates, or minimum of 5 year work experience
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: MA/MSc 1 year full time, PGDip 9 months
URL: <http://www2.le.ac.uk/study/postgrad/taught-campus/museumstudies/studies>

Title: MA in Principles of Conservation
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): University College London Institute of Archaeology
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: undergraduates
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 year full time, 2 years part time
URL: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/studying/masters/degrees/ma_conservation/index

Title: BSc in Conservation of Objects in Museums and Archaeology
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Cardiff School of History, Archaeology and Religion - Cardiff University
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused including archaeological material
Level training: academic (undergraduate)
Target audience: collections managers, curators, students and museum employees
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 3 years
URL: <http://coursefinder.cardiff.ac.uk/undergraduate/course/detail/F481.html>

Title: MSc Care of Collections
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Cardiff School of History, Archaeology and Religion - Cardiff University
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: undergraduates
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 year full time, 2 years part time
URL: <http://coursefinder.cf.ac.uk/postgraduate/course/detail/p037.html>

Title: MSc Sustainable heritage
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): The Bartlett School of Graduate Studies (UCL)
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused
Level training: (academic) master
Target audience: collections managers, curators, undergraduates
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 year full time, 2-5 years part time
URL: <http://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/csh/learn/msc-sustainable-heritage>

Title: MRes in Heritage Science
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): The Bartlett School of Graduate Studies (UCL)
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: collections managers, curators, undergraduates
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 year full time, 2 years part time
URL: <http://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/programmes/postgraduate/mres-heritage-science>

Title: Art Gallery and Museum Studies
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): University of Manchester
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused including archaeology, ethnography
Level training: academic (professional development)
Target audience: collections managers, curators, graduates (MSc, PhD), postgraduates, professional development for museum staff
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 semester full time, 2 semesters part time
URL: <http://www.arts.manchester.ac.uk/museology/professionaldevelopment/index.htm>

Title: Art Gallery and Museum Studies
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): University of Manchester
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused including archaeology, ethnography
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: undergraduates
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 year full time, 2 years part time
URL: <http://www.arts.manchester.ac.uk/museology/postgraduatestudy/taught/>

Title: Cultural Heritage and Museum Studies
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): University of East Anglia
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused including archaeology and anthropology
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: undergraduates
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 year full time, 2 years part time
URL: <https://www.uea.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/taught-degree/detail/ma-cultural-heritage-and-museum-studies>

Title: Museum and Gallery Studies
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): University of St Andrews - School of Art History
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused
Level training: academic (undergraduate)
Target audience: undergraduate students and museum employees
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 year full time, 2 years part time
URL: <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/arhistory/prospective/pg/mgs/courses/graddip/>

Title: Museum and Artefact Studies
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Durham University
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused (archaeological and other artefacts)
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: undergraduates
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 year full time, 2 years part time
URL:
<https://www.dur.ac.uk/courses/2014/info/?id=6497&title=Museum+and+Artefact+Studies&ucas-code=V6K607°ree=MA&year=2014#coursecontent>

Title: Conservation of Archaeological and Museum Objects
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Durham University
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused (archaeology)
Level training: academic (master)
Target audience: undergraduates
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 2 years
URL: https://www.dur.ac.uk/archaeology/postgraduate/taughtprogrammes/ma_conservation/

Title: Management of Archaeological Material
Organising institution(s)/organisation(s): Bournemouth University
Language: English
Content: Cultural Heritage focused (archaeology)
Level training: academic (Nautical Archaeological Society accredited short course)
Target audience: undergraduates; or to non-graduates/ professionals with significant and relevant work experience
Geographical range of audience: international
Periodicity: on a regular basis (yearly, 2 times/year etc.)
Duration: 1 week
URL: http://courses.bournemouth.ac.uk/courses/training-course/management-of-archaeological-material/short-course/4664/course_information-course_overview/

USEFUL INFORMATION ON TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN CONSERVATION/PRESERVATION OF COLLECTIONS & TRAINING DIRECTORIES

American Institutes for Conservation

[Becoming a Conservator](#)

[Conservation Training in the United States](#)

[Getting into a Graduate Conservation Training Program: Undergraduate Prerequisites for Admission into a Conservation Training Program](#)

Collections Link

[Collections Link](#) is a unique resource for collections professionals that is being constantly updated with all the latest developments. A database of events listings including conferences, seminars, hackdays and training opportunities can be found in the menu 'Events'.

Collections Link is managed by the [Collections Trust](#).

Conservation OnLine (CoOL)

[CoOL](#) is a freely accessible platform to generate and disseminate vital resources for those working to preserve cultural heritage worldwide, operated by the [Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation](#).

The directory "[Educational Opportunities in museum, library, and archives conservation/preservation](#)" provides information on a wide variety of training opportunities at different levels and in various fields of conservation/restoration throughout the world with following topics:

[General Information](#)

[Resources for Conservation Educators](#)

[Training programs](#) in Europe and outside of Europe

European Network for Conservation-Restoration Education (ENCoRE)

ENCoRE is a network organisation of higher educational institutions in the field of conservation - restoration. At the time of writing this report, the [Education guide](#), listing institutions and specializations, is being updated.

Heritage Portal

The Heritage Portal was initially created as an output of the European Commission funded NET-Heritage Project and is an online resource for everyone in the Cultural Heritage community. [Training](#) provides a search engine for training resources in Europe but also outside of Europe.

The Institute of Conservation (ICON)

[ICON UK Training directory](#) gives a listing of programs in the United Kingdom

International Association of Book and Paper Conservators (IADA)

[IADA AUSBILDUNG / EDUCATION page](#) provides workshops on paper conservation and restoration in Europe.

International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

[ICCROM Training Directory](#) provides information on a wide variety of training opportunities at different levels and in various fields of conservation/restoration throughout the world.
[ICCROM courses](#): upcoming courses organised in Europe and outside of Europe.
[Training](#) provides information on upcoming courses in various fields throughout the world.

International Council of Museum (ICOM)

ICOM ITC - ICOM [International Training Centre for Museum Studies](#) was recently inaugurated in July 2013 to provide inclusive and participatory training programmes for museum professionals.

Natural Sciences Collections Association (NatSCA)

NatSCA is a UK based membership organisation and charity that represents natural science collections and the people that work with them. Announcement of upcoming NatSCA courses are made in [Events and Workshops](#).

Office de Coopération et d'Information Muséales (OCIM)

L'OCIM is a cooperative resource centre based in France that provides training programmes in the areas of exhibition, conservation, mediation, management and legislation.

Preserve/Net

[Preserve/Net's Education Page](#) provides preservationists with a comprehensive database of regularly updated internet resources on educational opportunities in the US.

Smithsonian

The [Museum Studies Training Directory](#) lists museum training programs and related disciplines in the United States, by state and by discipline. A separate listing of international programs is also included, as well as an index of U.S. programs. Programs of study can be found at the certificate, bachelors, masters, and doctoral degree levels. Formal classroom instruction, distance learning, as well as hands-on experience, comprise the bulk of museum training.

[Training Programs in the United States](#)

[International Training Programs](#)

[Training Program by Discipline](#)

[Index of US Training Programs by College/University](#)

The Society For The Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC)

In [Museum Studies Programs](#) a list is provided on training opportunities mostly from degree granting institutions in Europe and outside of Europe.

American Library Association (ALA)

The Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS), a division of ALA provides a [Preservation Education Directory](#), listing educational opportunities in the United States and Canada in the area of preservation and conservation training of cultural heritage collections in libraries and archives and training in the areas of audiovisual and digital media preservation. It includes both formal education courses from degree granting institutions, as well as informal sessions, workshops, and webinars available through various organizations.