Citizen engagement and academia: Drivers of open innovation in cultural heritage preservation in contexts of crisis?

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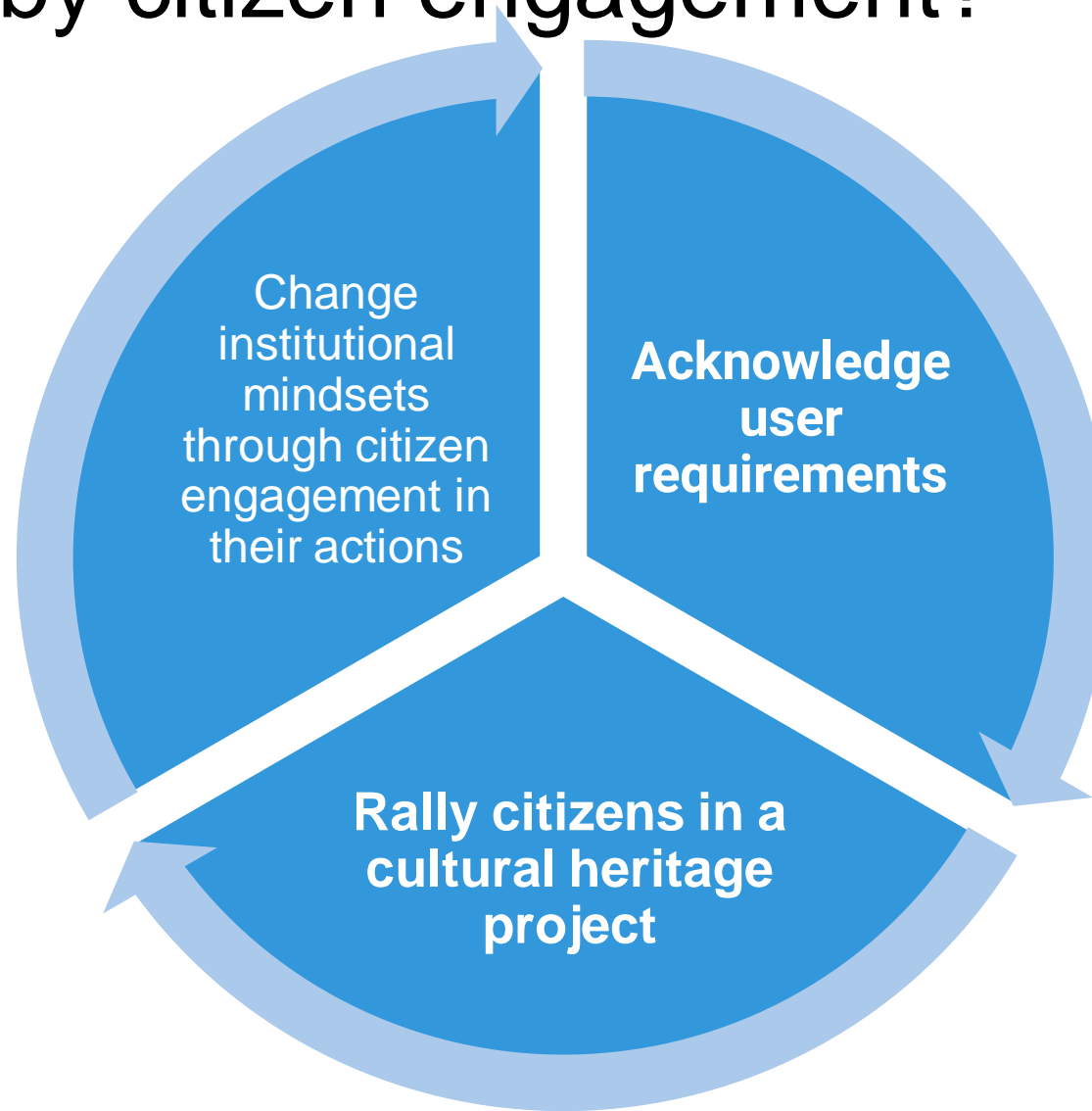
Europeana Conference 2022, September 30.

Why citizen engagement (in cultural heritage preservation)?

- Citizens as **agents of change** in their communities

- **Digital technologies** can empower people in action taking for cultural heritage preservation

- Embrace the feeling of belonging and engaging in an issue that really matters: safeguarding and **preserving a community's cultural heritage**

What do we mean by citizen engagement?

Acknowledge user requirements

Rally citizens in a cultural heritage project

Change institutional mindsets through citizen engagement in their actions

What do we mean by citizen engagement?

Communities safeguarding cultural heritage in different Arab countries

Meet user needs to widen uptake of digital cultural heritage products and services

Change institutional mindsets through citizen engagement in their actions

Acknowledge user requirements

Rally citizens in a cultural heritage project

Forms of citizen engagement in Ukrainian war

Citizens enhanced remote sensing (cultural) data

Citizen-cartographers contributing data to open-source GIS sites

4 incentives for taking action

#1: Technology and the diaspora

Citizens in and outside a conflict zone, as well as researchers and professionals from the cultural sector, join forces to take action, sometimes by just using their mobile phones.

#2: Forms of activism are present more than ever seen before in human history

An unprecedented spread of digital activism in support of social purposes (environment, social injustice, etc).

Zourou, K., Oikonomou, S. 2022. "Resilience and action-taking: a vision of crowd initiatives for cultural heritage preservation in an armed conflict". Blog post available at https://web2learn.eu/resilience-and-action-taking-a-vision-of-crowd-initiatives-for-cultural-heritage-preservation-in-an-armed-conflict,

#3: Immediacy and action.
"If you do not act at once, the material risks disappearing"
(Andreas Segerberg, blog post)

#4: Role of culture to bridge dichotomies.

Cultural values; community bonds

Projects on digitally-enhanced citizen engagement within and beyond academic and civil society organisations

HEIDI: Digital action at HEIs as a catalyst for social change in the COVID-19 crisis

eCHOIng: Recovery of cultural heritage through higher education-driven open innovation

The GLAMers: Enhancing GLAMs through youth engagement during the COVID-19 crisis

CitizenHeritage: Citizen Science Practices in Cultural Heritage: towards a Sustainable Model in Higher Education

Daniele Spizzichino "The European Cultural Heritage User requirement: the Copernicus Cultural Heritage task force"

Bente Lilja Bye "Citizens enhanced remote sensing data to manage cultural heritage threats in conflict areas"

Alex Papadopoulos "Assessment and mitigation of Anthropocene threats to cultural heritage(s): A threats/ risk mitigation spatial model, rubric, and atlas."

Isber Sabrine "The Arab Network of Civil Society Organizations to Safeguard Cultural Heritage (ANSCH)"

Stefania Oikonomou & Katerina Zourou "Forms of citizen engagement in cultural heritage preservation: examples from the war in Ukraine".

Thank you

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