

# NILE'S EARTH

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

4-6 JULY 2023

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

EXTENDED SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday 30 December, 2022



### STUDY AND CONSERVATION OF EARTHEN ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IN ANCIENT EGYPT AND SUDAN

Earth, as a building material, played an important role in making possible the development of the ancient kingdoms along the Nile Valley from its earliest periods. However, this outstanding earthen heritage remains poorly known, while its resulting archaeological assets are increasingly threatened due to neglect, human activities, as well as by climatic and ecological changes (e.g., heavy rains, dam construction, extension of cultivation areas, soil salinisation), etc.

The hypothesis of the ANR Nile's Earth project is that specific solutions are needed to effectively preserve and protect this heritage. Its aim is to explore the potential of multidisciplinary approaches for a better identification and knowledge of these earthen archaeological remains, the assessment of their state of conservation, and the definition of adapted and sustainable conservation methods and techniques. The assumption is that, to be relevant, conservation protocols must rely on a thorough knowledge of ancient building techniques and materials, as well as the original building culture.

Within this framework, the Nile's Earth International Conference aims at stimulating an international debate towards better characterisation and long-term management of earthen architecture of the ancient Nile Valley, including potential lessons to be learnt to address some of the current concerns for a more sustainable development.

Researchers from different backgrounds and disciplines are invited to share their own experiences, issues and results on the three main themes of the conference which will be the basis for discussions towards a better knowledge, recognition and valorisation of this outstanding heritage of Egypt and Sudan in accordance with international standards and recommendations.

*The ANR project Nile's Earth (2021-2024) is led by the École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Grenoble (ENSAG-UGA) in collaboration with the UMR 5189 Histoire et Sources des Mondes Antiques (CNRS), UMR 8167 Orient & Méditerranée (CNRS), the International Centre for Earthen Construction (CRAterre), the French Institute of Oriental Archaeology in Cairo (Ifao), the Centre Franco-Égyptien d'Étude des Temples de Karnak (CFEETK, CNRS/MoTA), and the Section française de la direction des antiquités du Soudan (SFDAS).*

ANR-21-CE27-0019-01

#### SCIENTIFIC THEMES

##### › THEME 1

##### Archaeology, Architecture and Building cultures

- 1.1 History of earthen architecture: origins, evolutions, technological breakthroughs and continuity
- 1.2 Typologies, functions and uses
- 1.3 Building techniques, practices and know-how in their historical, environmental and cultural context
- 1.4 Building design, systems and metrology
- 1.5 Construction site organisation: production chains, manufacturing processes, workforce, etc.
- 1.6 Ethnoarchaeology and vernacular traditions
- 1.7 Ancient maintenance and rehabilitation practices

##### › THEME 2

##### Raw and Building materials

- 2.1 Characterisation of building materials
- 2.2 Material analysis (laboratory and field) and protocols
- 2.3 Geoarchaeological and environmental analyses
- 2.4 Physico-technical analysis
- 2.5 Archaeobotanical analysis

##### › THEME 3

##### Conservation, Valorisation and Management

- 3.1 Threats, circumstances and processes of decay; impact of climatic change
- 3.2 Condition survey protocols
- 3.3 Preventive conservation.
- 3.4 Green conservation practices
- 3.5 Reconstruction: potential and limits with regard to international standards
- 3.6 Planning, management and community engagement

#### SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

<https://nilesearth2023.sciencesconf.org/submit>

#### SELECTION PROCESS

Abstracts can be submitted for a paper or a poster. Abstracts will be peer-reviewed by the Scientific Committee resulting in a selection of about 40 papers to be completed before their oral presentation during the conference. All papers and posters will be in English. All oral presentations will be held live and on-site and only after registration. The selected papers will be published in the conference proceedings.

#### ABSTRACT FORMAT AND CONTENTS

- Last and first name of the author(s)
- Academic title and scientific degree of the author(s)
- Affiliation of the author(s) (acronyms are to be avoided)
- Contact details: e-mail, telephone number, postal address
- Short Bio of author(s) (max. 50 words)
- Title of the paper/poster
- Keywords (maximum 5)
- Abstract of the paper/poster (300 to 500 words)
- Chosen theme/sub-theme(s) of the conference
- The abstract will be written in English

#### ABSTRACT EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Concordance of the subject with the theme/sub-themes
- Scientific relevance
- Originality of the subject or the approach (methodology, innovation, impact, etc.)
- Clarity of drafting

#### KEY DATES

Sept 30 <sup>th</sup> '22	1st call for abstracts
Oct 31 <sup>th</sup> '22	2nd call for abstracts (recall)
Nov 30 <sup>th</sup> '22	Deadline submission of abstracts
Dec 16 <sup>th</sup> '22	Announcement of selected abstracts and call for papers/posters
<b>Dec 30<sup>th</sup> '22</b>	<b>Extended deadline for abstracts</b>
Jan 12 <sup>th</sup> '23	2nd announcement of selected abstracts and call for papers/posters Deadline for submission of completed papers and posters / speaker registration
Apr 28 <sup>th</sup> '23	Recommendations and suggestions from the Scientific Committee
Jun 27 <sup>th</sup> '23	Nile's Earth International Conference
Aug 31 <sup>st</sup> '23	Sending of final papers
Sept - Oct '23	Final review by editorial committee
Dec '23	Publication of the proceedings