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FINAL PROJECT REPORT

**Archaeological Citizen-science Project:
Local & International Civic Inclusive Engagement (ArcheOPENLAB)**

2026-07-23

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1. Project Title

Archaeological Citizen-science Project: Local & International Civic Inclusive Engagement (ArcheOPENLAB)

2. Context & Short Description

ArcheOPENLAB is an archaeological citizen-science project designed to foster inclusive participation of local and international communities in cultural heritage research. It forms part of a broader collaborative initiative aimed at democratizing archaeological knowledge and strengthening connections between researchers, citizens, and educational institutions. The project engages diverse audiences in activities such as heritage documentation, basic analysis, and public dissemination, combining participatory methods with open digital tools. Its scope includes training workshops, community-based recording campaigns, the co-creation of educational resources, and the promotion of intercultural dialogue around shared heritage. By integrating scientific practices with civic engagement, ArcheOPENLAB seeks to enhance public awareness of archaeology, support responsible heritage stewardship, and build long-term collaborative networks. Ultimately, the project encourages inclusive scientific literacy and empowers communities to take an active role in understanding and preserving their archaeological environments.

3. Partners

Partner Name	Type (academic, non-academic stakeholders, students, ...)	Bio (2–3 lines)	Website/Link	Photo/Logo
Directorate-General for Cultural Heritage and Fine Arts-Ministry of Culture	Community organization National stakeholder/ Non-academic stakeholder	Directorate-General is responsible for protecting, conserving, and promoting Spain's tangible and intangible cultural heritage. It oversees heritage policies, restoration projects, and the management of historical assets, while fostering public access, education, and cultural engagement.	https://www.cultura.gob.es/ministerio/organigrama/ ministerio /secretaria-estado-cultura/dg-patrimonio-cultural-bbaa.html	
Directorate-General for Cultural Heritage of the Community of Madrid	Regional stakeholder/ Non-academic stakeholder	Regional authority responsible for safeguarding, managing, and promoting Madrid's historical, artistic, architectural, and archaeological heritage. It oversees conservation policies, supervises interventions, and maintains official heritage registries. The institution also promotes public	https://www.comunidad.madrid/transparencia/unidad-organizativa-responsable/direccion-general-patrimonio-cultural-y-oficina-del-espanol	

		access, cultural dissemination, and educational initiatives to ensure the preservation and appreciation of the region's cultural assets.		
City Council of Manzanares El Real	Municipal government/ Non-academic stakeholder	It is the local government authority responsible for managing municipal services, urban planning, and community development. It also promotes cultural, environmental, and social initiatives to enhance the quality of life for residents and preserve the town's heritage and natural surroundings.	https://manzanareselreal.es/	 Ayuntamiento Manzanares El Real
City Council of El Boalo, Cerceda, and Mataelpino	Municipal government/ Non-academic stakeholder	This governs the three municipalities, managing local services, urban planning, and community development. It promotes cultural, environmental, and social initiatives to support residents and preserve the region's heritage and natural environment.	https://elboalo-cerceda-mataelpino.org/	 AYUNTAMIENTO EL BOALO • CERCEDA • MATAELPINO
ADESGAM – Sierra de Guadarrama Development Association	Community organization/ Non-academic stakeholder	This is a non-profit organization that promotes sustainable social, economic, and environmental development in the Sierra de Guadarrama region. It supports local communities through cultural, educational, and conservation projects, fostering regional cohesion and heritage preservation.	https://www.adesgam.org/	 ADESGAM ASOCIACIÓN DE DESARROLLO SIERRA DE GUADARRAMA
Parque Nacional Sierra de Guadarrama	Environmental stakeholder	It is an institution which protect natural area spanning roughly 33,960 hectares across Madrid and Castilla y León. It conserves diverse ecosystems, rich flora and fauna, and unique geological landscapes, and plays a key role in regional environmental conservation and sustainable tourism management.	https://www.parquenacionalsie rruguadarrama.es/	 SIERRA DE GUADARRAMA PARQUE NACIONAL
APADIS – Association of Parents of People with Intellectual Disabilities,	NGO / Social organization	It is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families. It provides	https://www.apadis.es/	 apadis

San Sebastián de los Reyes		educational, social, and recreational programs to promote inclusion, personal development, and community participation.		
AMI3 – Association in Support of People with Disabilities, Tres Cantos	NGO / Social organization	It is a non-profit organization that promotes the well-being, inclusion, and empowerment of people with disabilities. It offers educational, social, and recreational programs to foster personal development and active participation in the community.	https://www.comunidad.madrid/centros/centro-ocupacional-tres-cantos-ami-3	
Equipo Patrimonio Sierra S.L. (Heritage Consulting Company)	Non-academic stakeholder / Private company	It is a heritage consulting company specializing in the management, conservation, and promotion of cultural and natural heritage. It provides technical services, project planning, and advisory support for heritage preservation and sustainable development initiatives.	https://equipopatrimoniosierra.es/	
La Pedriza Hostel, Manzanares El Real	Non-academic stakeholder / Private company	It is a hospitality and tourism facility offering accommodation and services for visitors to the Manzanares El Real area. It supports cultural and nature-based tourism, providing access to the surrounding natural and heritage sites.	https://hostellapedriza.es/	
SECYR-UAM	Academic stakeholder	SECYR is an academic research group at the Autonomous University of Madrid specializing in archaeological analysis, material culture, and heritage documentation. It contributes scientific expertise, research methodologies, and student training, strengthening the project's academic rigor and advancing collaborative knowledge production in archaeology.	https://www.uam.es/uam/secyr	

4. Beneficiaries, Participation and Impact

ArcheOPENLAB has been conceived and implemented as a citizen-science project aimed at fostering inclusive participation in the documentation, conservation, and dissemination of archaeological and cultural heritage. Over the course of the project, it has successfully engaged a wide and diverse range of beneficiaries, including local communities, students, non-governmental organizations, cultural and heritage associations, municipal and regional authorities, as well as an international network of volunteers and researchers. The project has created a collaborative ecosystem in which all these actors have contributed to and benefited from co-creation processes, participatory research, and shared knowledge production.

Local communities have constituted one of the central pillars of the project. Citizens were actively involved through open calls, hands-on workshops, and participatory activities focused on archaeological documentation, digital mapping, oral history collection, and 3D modelling of heritage sites. Co-creation sessions enabled participants to contribute to defining priorities and dissemination strategies. Across the different regions involved, annual participation ranged between approximately 50 and 150 local participants per site, resulting in several hundred individuals engaged over the duration of the project. This sustained involvement not only enhanced participants' technical and scientific skills but also fostered a strong sense of ownership, responsibility, and pride in local cultural heritage, reinforcing long-term community engagement in heritage preservation.

Students represented another key beneficiary group, including secondary school pupils, university students, and adult learners engaged through continuing education programmes. Throughout the project, students participated in workshops, field-based activities, internships, and research-oriented modules. These experiences provided practical training in archaeological methods, digital documentation, data collection, and heritage analysis, as well as the use of open-source tools for mapping, 3D reconstruction, and virtual exhibitions. Annual participation ranged from approximately 30 to 100 students, depending on the level of institutional collaboration. In addition to technical competencies, students developed transferable skills such as teamwork, communication, and civic engagement. Importantly, their role as multipliers contributed to extending the project's impact beyond direct participants, increasing awareness of cultural heritage within their social and educational environments.

Non-governmental organizations, community associations, and cultural heritage groups played a fundamental role in the successful implementation of the project. Typically, between five and fifteen partner organizations per region were actively involved, contributing to project design, volunteer mobilization, and the organization of public-facing activities such as talks, exhibitions, workshops, and guided heritage visits. These organizations provided essential local knowledge and networks, facilitating the identification of heritage assets and ensuring the inclusion of diverse and often underrepresented groups. Their collaboration strengthened institutional capacities in areas such as community engagement, digital heritage documentation, and intercultural dialogue, while also enabling the project to reach broader and more diverse audiences.

Municipal and regional public authorities were also actively engaged throughout the project lifecycle. Local councils, heritage departments, and cultural offices participated in coordination meetings, co-design sessions, and validation processes for heritage data. Typically, between one and five authorities per locality were involved in planning and implementation. Their participation ensured alignment with local policies, regulatory frameworks, and urban or regional development strategies. Furthermore, public authorities benefited from access to citizen-generated data, innovative methodologies, and community perspectives, which have informed policy development and contributed to more participatory and transparent governance practices in heritage management.

In parallel, ArcheOPENLAB established a significant international dimension by engaging volunteers, researchers, and heritage enthusiasts from outside the participating regions. These contributors participated both remotely and on-site, supporting activities such as data validation, digital transcription, 3D modelling, archival research, and documentation review. The project reached dozens to several hundred international participants annually, depending on outreach capacity. This global engagement enriched the project through the incorporation of diverse perspectives and expertise, while also connecting local heritage initiatives to broader international networks and fostering cross-cultural exchange.

Participation in the project was structured through a range of complementary mechanisms designed to maximise engagement and ensure sustainability. Training workshops and capacity-building sessions equipped participants with practical and digital skills for heritage documentation and analysis. Open calls and volunteer campaigns facilitated broad and inclusive participation in specific project tasks. Co-creation sessions enabled stakeholders to actively contribute to project design and dissemination outputs, including exhibitions, presentations, and educational materials. Additionally, community-driven heritage recording and monitoring systems were established to ensure the long-term maintenance, updating, and enrichment of collected data.

The flexible and scalable design of ArcheOPENLAB allowed the project to adapt to different local contexts while maintaining a coherent methodological framework. Variations in participation levels reflected differences in regional engagement, institutional support, and available resources. Nevertheless, the project consistently achieved its dual objective of generating high-quality scientific and cultural data while promoting social inclusion, civic participation, and intercultural dialogue.

The impact of ArcheOPENLAB on its beneficiaries has been significant and multidimensional. For local communities, participation increased awareness of cultural heritage, strengthened social cohesion, and fostered a sense of shared responsibility for heritage preservation. For students, the project provided valuable experiential learning opportunities, bridging academic training with real-world practice. For NGOs and community organizations, involvement enhanced institutional capacity, expanded collaborative networks, and enabled participation in high-impact cultural initiatives. For public authorities, the project contributed to improved decision-making processes and encouraged more participatory approaches to governance. Finally, for international participants, the project offered opportunities for meaningful engagement, knowledge exchange, and involvement in innovative heritage research.

In conclusion, ArcheOPENLAB has demonstrated the effectiveness of citizen science as a framework for inclusive and participatory heritage management. By bringing together local, regional, and international stakeholders, the project has created a sustainable model for collaboration that not only advances scientific knowledge but also strengthens community engagement, promotes cultural understanding, and supports the long-term preservation and appreciation of shared heritage.

5. Social Impact and Added Value

ArcheOPENLAB has generated a significant and multidimensional social impact across educational, cultural, social, civic, and economic domains. Throughout its implementation, the project has demonstrated its capacity to benefit a highly diverse range of participants, while fostering inclusive participation, knowledge exchange, and sustainable heritage practices at local, regional, and international levels.

One of the most notable areas of impact has been in higher education and training. The project has actively engaged students from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM), as well as participants from other European universities, including members of the CIVIS

European University Alliance. Through their involvement in fieldwork at sites such as the Castillo Viejo de Manzanares El Real, as well as laboratory-based and digital activities, students have gained hands-on experience in archaeological excavation, conservation practices, heritage documentation, zooarchaeology, and digital heritage methodologies. This practical engagement has complemented formal academic training, enabling students to develop technical and analytical competencies, as well as transversal skills such as teamwork, communication, and problem-solving. Moreover, participation in interdisciplinary and multicultural environments has strengthened students' preparedness to operate in complex professional contexts, while fostering a deeper understanding of the social relevance of cultural heritage.

A key dimension of ArcheOPENLAB has been its strong commitment to inclusion and accessibility. The project has successfully integrated people with functional diversity through tailored strategies developed in collaboration with specialized organizations such as APADIS. Activities and tasks were adapted to ensure meaningful participation in excavation, documentation, and conservation processes. This inclusive approach has contributed to promoting social equity, empowering participants, and reinforcing the principle that cultural heritage is a shared resource accessible to all members of society. Furthermore, the active participation of people with functional diversity has enriched the project by incorporating diverse perspectives, fostering empathy, and promoting more inclusive heritage practices.

At the community level, the project has had a transformative effect on local engagement and civic participation. Archaeological sites that were previously underutilized have been reactivated as spaces for collective memory, identity, and community interaction. Through workshops, participatory excavation campaigns, heritage walks, exhibitions, and co-creation sessions, local residents have been encouraged to actively engage in heritage processes. This involvement has fostered a sense of ownership and responsibility, strengthened local identity, and promoted intergenerational knowledge exchange. As a result, ArcheOPENLAB has contributed to the creation of sustainable networks of engaged citizens committed to the preservation and dissemination of their cultural heritage.

The project has also delivered substantial educational and capacity-building outcomes. Participants across all groups—including students, volunteers, and community members—have acquired practical knowledge in heritage research, documentation, and analysis, as well as competencies in the use of digital tools such as GIS mapping, 3D scanning, and archival systems. Workshops and co-creation activities have facilitated knowledge exchange between academic researchers, local communities, NGOs, and public authorities, reinforcing collaborative learning environments. These acquired skills have direct applicability in both professional and community contexts, strengthening local and institutional capacities for heritage management and cultural programming.

Another important outcome has been the strengthening of collaborative networks and partnerships. ArcheOPENLAB has brought together a wide range of stakeholders, including universities, citizens, NGOs, local authorities, and international volunteers, fostering cooperation and mutual learning. These networks have enabled the exchange of best practices, resources, and expertise, while connecting local initiatives to broader European and international frameworks. Collaboration with municipal authorities has ensured alignment with local policies and planning strategies, enhancing the long-term sustainability and societal relevance of project outcomes. Importantly, co-creation processes have empowered participants to contribute to decision-making and influence how heritage is managed and communicated.

The cultural impact of the project has been equally significant. ArcheOPENLAB has contributed to raising public awareness of the value of cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, promoting appreciation, understanding, and responsible stewardship.

Participants have developed a stronger sense of identity and belonging, while inclusive practices have reinforced the idea of heritage as a shared social good. The participation of diverse groups, including individuals with functional diversity and international contributors, has fostered intercultural dialogue and broadened perspectives, strengthening the European and global dimension of heritage understanding.

In addition, the project has generated positive economic and sustainability impacts through the valorisation of cultural heritage. Activities such as site conservation, public exhibitions, guided visits, and educational programmes have increased the visibility and attractiveness of participating localities, including municipalities such as Manzanares El Real and El Boalo. These initiatives have contributed to the promotion of cultural tourism and local economic activity, demonstrating the potential of heritage as a driver for sustainable development and community resilience.

At the institutional level, ArcheOPENLAB has promoted more participatory and transparent models of governance. By involving public authorities, academic institutions, civil society organizations, and citizens in co-creation and consultation processes, the project has contributed to more inclusive and democratic approaches to heritage management. This has enhanced the legitimacy and effectiveness of conservation strategies, while supporting policy development that is responsive to both scientific evidence and community needs.

In conclusion, the social impact of ArcheOPENLAB has been broad, cumulative, and long-lasting. The project has successfully combined academic research, citizen participation, and inclusive practices to generate tangible benefits for individuals, communities, and institutions. It has strengthened skills, fostered social cohesion, enhanced civic engagement, and promoted sustainable approaches to cultural heritage. By connecting local actions with regional and international networks, ArcheOPENLAB stands as a robust example of how citizen science can drive meaningful social transformation and support the preservation and appreciation of shared cultural heritage.

6. Methodological Approach and Implementation Framework

ArcheOPENLAB has been implemented through a comprehensive participatory methodology grounded in the principles of citizen science, co-creation, and community engagement. The project has successfully combined scientific activities with social, educational, and cultural objectives, establishing an inclusive and collaborative framework in which diverse stakeholders actively contributed to the documentation, analysis, and preservation of cultural heritage.

At the core of the methodology lies a co-creation approach, whereby local citizens, students, researchers, non-governmental organizations, and public authorities were involved from the outset in defining research priorities, identifying heritage assets, and shaping project outputs. Through structured co-creation workshops, participants engaged in dialogue and collaborative decision-making processes, ensuring that the project responded to local needs, knowledge, and expectations. This approach not only enhanced the relevance and quality of the project but also fostered a sense of shared ownership and responsibility among participants.

Field-based archaeological work constituted another fundamental pillar of the methodology. Participatory excavation campaigns and on-site documentation activities were carried out in selected heritage locations, enabling both specialists and non-specialists to collaborate directly in the generation of archaeological knowledge. Participants were trained in basic excavation techniques, stratigraphic recording, artefact processing, and conservation practices, ensuring that all activities adhered to scientific and ethical standards. This hands-

on engagement facilitated experiential learning while demystifying archaeological practice and making it accessible to a broader audience.

Complementing fieldwork, ArcheOPENLAB incorporated a strong digital heritage component. Participants were trained in the use of open-source tools and technologies for digital mapping, data collection, and heritage visualization, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS), 3D modelling, and digital archiving platforms. These tools enabled the creation of accessible, shareable, and sustainable heritage records, while also enhancing participants' digital literacy. The integration of digital methodologies allowed for both on-site and remote participation, expanding the reach of the project and enabling contributions from international volunteers and collaborators.

Community engagement was systematically embedded throughout all phases of the project. Open calls, volunteer programmes, public workshops, guided visits, and dissemination events ensured broad and inclusive participation. Particular attention was given to engaging underrepresented groups and ensuring accessibility, including the adaptation of activities for participants with functional diversity. Collaboration with local NGOs and community associations played a crucial role in mobilizing participants, facilitating communication, and strengthening local networks.

In June 2025, the Castillo Viejo de Manzanares El Real, a medieval fortress located in the heart of the Sierra de Guadarrama, served as the setting for more than a conventional archaeological campaign. At this site, within the walled enclosure, archaeology students from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece) and the University of Bucharest (Romania) worked alongside their Spanish counterparts as part of ArcheOPENLAB, an ambitious citizen-science project with an international scope.

During their stay in Spain, these students not only took part in the excavation campaign at the Castillo Viejo—already in its fifth edition—but also attended open days, contributed to the dissemination of the project, and participated in educational visits to the scientific facilities of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM) and museums.

One of the most highly valued experiences for the international students was their visit to the SECYR Laboratory (Service for the Conservation, Restoration and Scientific Study of Archaeological Heritage), directed by Professor Joaquín Barrio Martín. This pioneering centre in conservation techniques and archaeological materials analysis provided participants with a comprehensive understanding of how artefacts are restored and studied.

Another particularly significant experience was the visit to the Zooarchaeology Laboratory at UAM, where Professor Arturo Morales and his team demonstrated how the study of animal remains enables the reconstruction of past diets, economic practices, and ways of life.

The methodology also emphasized capacity building and knowledge exchange. Training sessions and workshops provided participants with practical skills in heritage documentation, conservation techniques, and digital tools, while also fostering dialogue between academic researchers and community members. This bidirectional exchange of knowledge ensured that scientific expertise was complemented by local knowledge, memories, and perspectives, enriching the overall process.

As part of the dissemination and scientific exchange activities of the ArcheOPENLAB project, a Round Table on Public Archaeology was successfully held on November 21, 2025, at the University of Bucharest (Romania). The event took place in the D. Pompeiu Hall (2nd floor, Faculty of History) with a hybrid format that also allowed online participation via Zoom.

The round table was organized within the framework of the CIVIS project ArcheOPENLAB and supported by the UB workshop "Archaeology and Citizen Science." Its main objectives were to showcase the experiences of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM) and the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), and to explore the potential implementation of public archaeology and citizen-science approaches at a Black Sea archaeological site led by researchers from the University of Bucharest.

The program was structured in two thematic sessions:

First Session – Projects of public archaeology from Spain and Greece (Chair: Alexandra Lițu, UB)

- Javier Salido Domínguez (UAM): *From Public Archaeology to Citizen Science: UAM Projects of Community Engagement in Northern Madrid*
- Marlen Mouliou (NKUA): *Public Archaeology: experiences for pupils and students as a (Service) Learning process. Key take-aways from the excavation site of Plasi, Marathon*
- Esther Rodríguez González, Sabah Walid, Juan José Pulido & Sebastián Celestino (Instituto de Arqueología CSIC-Junta de Extremadura and La UNDERGROUND Colectiva): *Tarteso en Comunidad: a Community Science Project in Rural Areas (online)*
- Evangelia Christodoulidou (NKUA): *Integrating Archaeology in the school classroom. The case of Cyprus*

Second Session – Archaeological projects and Cultural Heritage in Romania. Potential for growth into public archaeology (Chair: Alexandra Lițu, UB)

- Sorin Ailincăi (UB / 'Gavrilă Simion' Institute): *Heritage protection through explaining archaeology. Some cases and stories from Dobrogea and Wallachia*
- Mihai Constantinescu (UB / 'Francisc I. Rainer' Anthropological Research Center): *Glina, a site for student archaeological practice and a future archaeological park near Bucharest*
- Cristian Ștefan (UB / 'Vasile Pârvan' Institute of Archaeology): *The evolution of the Neolithic human habitation in the Mureș valley: the case of Șoimuș-La Avicola (Ferma 2, Romania)*
- Valentin Bottez ('Dinu Theodorescu' Lab of Classical Archaeology, UB): *The Beidaud Archaeological Microzone – a challenge for heritage conservation and public awareness*
- Iulia Iliescu (UB): *Pottery Analysis in Public Archaeology. The case of the Western Black Sea Region*

The day concluded with final remarks and next steps in the CIVIS OpenLab.

This event represented a key milestone in the internationalization and visibility of ArcheOPENLAB. It facilitated the exchange of best practices in public archaeology and citizen science between Spanish, Greek, and Romanian teams, strengthened interdisciplinary networks within the CIVIS alliance, and opened concrete pathways for applying inclusive and participatory methodologies to Romanian archaeological contexts (particularly in the Black Sea region and other heritage sites with high potential for community engagement).

In addition, ArcheOPENLAB adopted a continuous and iterative process of monitoring and feedback. Participants were encouraged to reflect on their experiences, provide input on project activities, and contribute to the ongoing refinement of methodologies and outputs. This adaptive approach allowed the project to remain flexible and responsive to different local contexts, levels of engagement, and emerging challenges.

Finally, the project promoted shared decision-making and collective responsibility in heritage management. By involving stakeholders at all stages—from data collection to interpretation and dissemination—ArcheOPENLAB ensured that outcomes were co-produced and socially relevant. The resulting outputs, including heritage records, exhibitions, and educational materials, reflect a plurality of voices and perspectives, reinforcing the democratic and inclusive nature of the project.

Overall, the methodology implemented in ArcheOPENLAB has proven effective in bridging the gap between scientific research and society. By integrating co-creation, participatory fieldwork, digital innovation, and community engagement, the project has established a scalable and transferable model for inclusive heritage management, generating both high-quality outcomes and meaningful social impact.

7. Dissemination and Engagement Events

Throughout its implementation period, the **ArcheOPENLAB – Archaeological Citizen-science Project: Local & International Civic Inclusive Engagement** developed an extensive and multifaceted programme of activities. These initiatives successfully integrated rigorous scientific research, international academic collaboration, hands-on training, and wide-ranging public engagement, fully embodying the principles of citizen science, co-creation, and inclusive heritage management.

Fieldwork constituted the backbone of the project. Between **April and May 2025**, comprehensive archaeological excavations were carried out at the sites of **El Boalo, Cerceda, and Mataelpino** (Community of Madrid, Spain). These campaigns actively involved university students, local residents, NGOs, heritage volunteers, and members of the general public in all stages of the archaeological process — from initial surveying and excavation to documentation and preliminary analysis. The excavations fostered genuine participatory knowledge production and strengthened the connection between the academic community and local stakeholders. Further information about these campaigns is available at: [VII Campaña de Excavación](#).

Following the excavation season, **Open Doors / Public Access Days** were organised in **May 2025** at the same sites. These events allowed local citizens, tourists, and interested visitors to explore the excavated areas, learn about the ongoing research, and engage directly with the archaeologists. The initiative proved highly effective in promoting heritage awareness and encouraging long-term community stewardship of local archaeological resources. Details of one of these public days can be consulted here: [Jornada de Puertas Abiertas – El Rebollar 2025](#).

In **June 2025**, the project reached one of its most significant international milestones with the excavation campaign at **Castillo Viejo de Manzanares El Real**. This one-month campaign welcomed students from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece) and the University of Bucharest (Romania), who worked side by side with Spanish students and local volunteers. The international team participated in excavation, stratigraphic recording, artefact processing, and conservation activities, while also contributing to educational visits to laboratories at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (such as the SECYR Conservation Laboratory and the Zooarchaeology Laboratory). This experience greatly enriched the participants' skills and reinforced the project's commitment to internationalisation and inclusive archaeology. More information is available in the [Excavation Notebook](#) and in this [documentary video](#).

At the conclusion of the June campaign, additional **Open Doors** events were held in Manzanares El Real and El Boalo, providing the public with direct access to the sites and the opportunity to discuss the findings with the project team. These activities helped transform archaeological sites into spaces for active cultural dialogue and community learning.

A continuous programme of **guided tours** was maintained every weekend throughout 2024 and 2025 at the El Rebollar site in El Boalo. These regular visits offered an accessible and educational experience to hundreds of visitors, tourists, students, and local residents, significantly increasing public appreciation and understanding of the region's archaeological heritage. Full details are available at: [Guided Visits to El Rebollar](#).

The project also maintained a strong presence in local cultural events. In **October 2025**, ArcheOPENLAB participated actively in the **Otoño Visigodo Festival** in Manzanares El Real and El Boalo. Through workshops, interactive presentations, and heritage-themed activities, the project team engaged families, students, and visitors in the celebration and reinterpretation of Visigothic heritage. More information about the festival can be found here: [Otoño Visigodo](#).

In parallel, the project team conducted several interventions in **local media and radio stations** in September 2025 across the municipalities of Manzanares El Real and El Boalo.

These appearances helped disseminate the results of the excavations, raise awareness about the importance of heritage preservation, and encourage broader citizen participation in future activities.

On the academic recognition front, ArcheOPENLAB was awarded the **Third Prize for Service-Learning within the CIVIS Alliance** on **29 May 2025** at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. This distinction highlighted the project's innovative integration of academic training with community service and its contribution to more inclusive and socially relevant higher education.

Student training remained a priority. In **October 2025**, specialised **hands-on archaeological field practices** were organised for university students at the sites of Manzanares El Real and El Boalo. These sessions combined practical excavation and documentation work with training in digital heritage tools, public communication of science, and community engagement strategies.

At the European level, project representatives participated in the **CIVIS Open Lab Council** held in **Stockholm in September 2025**. During this meeting, the team presented the main outcomes, methodologies, and impacts of ArcheOPENLAB, contributing to the collective advancement of citizen science initiatives across the CIVIS university network. Further information is available on the [CIVIS Open Labs page](#).

One of the culminating moments of the project was the organisation of the **Round Table on Public Archaeology and Citizen Science** on **21 November 2025** at the University of Bucharest (Romania), held in hybrid format. This international event brought together researchers from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, and various institutions in Romania. It provided an excellent platform for presenting the ArcheOPENLAB methodology, results, and social impact, while fostering discussions on the future of public archaeology in the Black Sea region and beyond.

Finally, the project achieved notable public dissemination through major cultural institutions. A **temporary exhibition** dedicated to the Visigothic church of El Rebollar was inaugurated at the **Museo Arqueológico y Paleontológico de la Comunidad de Madrid (MARPA)** in 2025, allowing a wide audience to discover the project's archaeological findings. Information about the exhibition is available at: [MARPA Exhibition](#). Additionally, a specialised public lecture was delivered within the **MAN Museum Lecture Cycle** (Museo Arqueológico Nacional, Madrid) in November 2025, presenting the key scientific results and developments of the project to a broad academic and general audience: [MAN Lecture](#).



Figure 1. Excavations UAM – El Boalo, Cerceda & Mataelpino (Madrid, Spain)



Figure 2. Open Doors / Public Access UAM – Post Excavations (Madrid)



Figure 3. Otoño Visigodo Festival. Annual cultural event celebrating Visigothic heritage with workshops, presentations, and heritage-themed activities for families, students, and visitors (UAM).



Figure 4. Third Prize for Service-Learning within the CIVIS Alliance (UAM)



Figure 5. Excavations – Castillo Viejo de Manzanares El Real, June 2025. One-month continuation of field excavation, including international students from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and the University of Bucharest, along with local citizens and volunteers. Emphasis on preservation, recording, and co-created heritage outputs (UAM).



Figure 6. Open Doors / Public Access – Post Excavations. June 2025, Manzanares El Real (UAM)



Figure 7. Guided Tours – Every Weekend. Weekly guided tours providing access to archaeological sites and local heritage. Audience includes visitors, tourists, local residents, and students. El Boalo (Madrid). UAM.



Figure 8. Local Media & Radio Participation. Engagement with local radio stations and media outlets to publicize project activities, share excavation results, and increase community participation. Audience includes local residents, students, and broader public. UAM



September 2025. Stockholm. <https://civis.eu/es/engage/open-labs>



Figure 10. Participation in the annual CIVIS Open Lab Council, presenting project outcomes, strengthening inter-university collaboration, and contributing to the strategic development of Open Lab initiatives across the alliance. September 2025. Stockholm. <https://civis.eu/es/engage/open-labs>



ROUND TABLE ON PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY

University of Bucharest, November 21th 2025

D. Pompeiu Hall, 2nd floor, Faculty of History, University of Bucharest and online <https://zoom.us/j/95753141430>



In the framework of the **CIVIS** project

ArcheOPENLAB
Archaeological Citizen-science Project: Local & International Civic Inclusive Engagement

and of the UB workshop

Archaeology and Citizen Science



Figure 11. Presentation of ArcheOPENLAB project results, methodology, and social impact at an international congress, engaging researchers, students, and heritage professionals. (Congress Link: <https://share.google/kNVzzS4ZBtjKLYrMy>). University of Bucarest.



Archaeological Citizen-science Project:
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ArcheOPENLAB



The round table at the University of Bucharest is organised within the framework of the CIVIS Archaeological Citizen-science Project: Local & International Civic Inclusive Engagement (ArcheOPENLAB) and supported by the National Workshop Classical Antiquity and Citizen Science. The event aims to showcase the experiences of UAM and NKUA and to explore the implementation of this approach to social archaeology at a Black Sea site led by a professor from the University of Bucharest. Presentations followed by discussions will be given by professors from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens involved in public archaeology projects, by professors from the University of Bucharest engaged in archaeological projects with the potential to adopt a public archaeology perspective, as well as by renowned specialists involved in citizen-science initiatives.

ArcheOPENLAB seeks to build upon the objectives and challenges established in the CIVIS Open Lab *Heritage for All: Citizen Participation and Social Innovation*, coordinated by Javier Salido Domínguez (UAM) since 2021 as part of the 2nd CIVIS Open Lab Call. The goal of this Open Lab (OL) is to provide an open, collaborative, creative, and inclusive space where CIVIS universities and their partners engage with local communities to integrate archaeological sites into the social and economic fabric of municipalities. Its aim is to internationalize a model of archaeology with extensive citizen participation in excavation processes and heritage discovery. Through innovative initiatives and the involvement of various universities in citizen-science projects related to archaeology, the Open Lab has a positive impact on the broader community (Public Archaeology), with special attention given to individuals with functional diversity (Inclusive Archaeology). Citizen science can—and should—extend beyond academic instruction to immerse participants directly in the scientific experience.

The Open Lab explores ideas, models, encouragement, caution, and ideally, provides support to foster ongoing discussions and the growth of citizen science within the field of archaeology. The potential benefits of citizen science in archaeology for long-term site preservation, legal protection, public engagement, and stakeholder involvement are immense. These projects have transformed archaeological sites into tourist attractions and educational venues for small groups of students at various levels. This requires a comprehensive conservation plan that not only protects archaeological heritage but also ensures safe and informative visitor experiences.



**Archaeological Citizen-science Project:
Local & International Civic Inclusive Engagement
ArcheOPENLAB**

CIVIS added value of the initiative

- 1. Internationalisation of the Project:** The creation of the OPEN LAB facilitates a fluid dialogue with the organising members of the CIVIS Open Lab. Recognising that internationalisation goes beyond student mobility and the signing of international agreements, the goal is to foster multilingualism, multiculturalism, and internationalisation through various activities developed within CIVIS Hub. This approach seeks to explore additional dimensions of internationalisation, such as the development of new, more globally-oriented training curricula and courses in collaboration with foreign partners. The project places a strong emphasis on cultural heritage, understood in its multidimensional and constitutive structure. This heritage is closely tied to discursive mechanisms that construct and reproduce operational identities, making it a subject of both national and international public policies. These policies focus on its existence, preservation, and its direct socio-economic and political impacts.
- 2. Creation of European-Level Research Networks:** The project aims to consolidate transdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research by involving various research teams from UAM and other CIVIS universities.
- 3. Establishing Collaborative Spaces:** The project will create spaces for collaboration between CIVIS universities and entities associated with the current project, fostering dialogue and partnership.
- 4. Fostering Student Relationships:** The project aims to facilitate interactions between UAM students and students from other CIVIS universities, encouraging cross-cultural exchanges and academic collaboration.



PROGRAM

D. Pompeiu Hall, 2nd floor, Faculty of History, University of Bucharest and online
<https://zoom.us/j/95753141430>

15 minutes talk followed by 10 minutes discussions

10.10-10.20 **Welcome speech**
Alexandra Lițu, Vice-Dean of the FIUB, UB

FIRST SESSION **Projects of public archaeology from Spain and Greece (Chair Alexandra Lițu, UB)**

10.20-10.45 **Javier Salido Domínguez (UAM)**

From Public Archaeology to Citizen Science: UAM Projects of Community Engagement in Northern Madrid

10.45-11.05 **Marlen Mouliou (NKUA)**

Public Archaeology: experiences for pupils and students as a (Service) Learning process. Key take-aways from the excavation site of Plasi, Marathon

11.05-11.20 **Coffee break**

11.20-11.45 **Esther Rodríguez González (Instituto de Arqueología (CSIC-Junta de Extremadura)**

online **Sabah Walid (Instituto de Arqueología, CSIC-Junta de Extremadura)**

Juan José Pulido (La UNDERGROUND Colectiva)

Sebastián Celestino (Instituto de Arqueología (CSIC-Junta de Extremadura)

Tarteso en Comunidad: a Community Science Project in Rural Areas

11.45-12.05 **Evangelia Christodoulidou (NKUA)**

Integrating Archaeology in the school classroom. The case of Cyprus

12.05-12.45 **Debate**

12.45-13.45 **Lunch**



SECOND SESSION

Archaeological projects and Cultural Heritage in Romania. Potential for growth into public archaeology

Chair Alexandra Lițu (UB)

13.45-14.10

**Sorin Ailincăi (UB/ 'Gavrilă Simion' Institute for
Eco-Museal Research Tulcea)**

Heritage protection through explaining archaeology.
Some cases and stories from Dobrogea and Wallachia

14.10-14.35

**Mihai Constantinescu (UB/'Francisc I. Rainer'
Anthropological Research Center)**

Glina, a site for student archaeological practice and a
future archaeological park near Bucharest

14.35-15.00

**Cristian Ștefan (UB/'Vasile Pârvan' Institute of
Archaeology in Bucharest)**

The evolution of the Neolithic human habitation in the
Mureș valley: the case of Șoimuș-La Avicola (Ferma 2,
Romania)

15.00-15.25

**Valentin Bottez ('Dinu Theodorescu' Lab of
Classical Archaeology, UB)**

The Beidaud Archaeological Microzone – a challenge for
heritage conservation and public awareness

15.25-15.50

Iulia Iliescu (UB)
Pottery Analysis in Public Archaeology. The case of the
Western Black Sea Region

15.50-16.15

Final remarks and next steps in the CIVIS OpenLab



Figure 12. Temporary exhibition at the Museo Arqueológico y Paleontológico de la Comunidad de Madrid (MARPA) on the Visigothic church of El Rebollar. Exhibit (2024–2025) showcasing the archaeological findings from El Rebollar, promoting awareness and public dissemination of heritage research.
<https://marpa.madrid/actividades/exposiciones-temporales/la-iglesia-visigoda-de-el-rebollar-el-boalo>

De palacio a castillo: el proyecto de arqueología y de conservación en el castillo viejo de Manzanares El Real (Madrid)

Martes, 19 de noviembre. Salón de actos, 18:00. Asistencia libre y gratuita hasta completar aforo

Conferencias y cursos

Joaquín Barrio Martín y Javier Salido Domínguez (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid)

El Proyecto del “Castillo Viejo de Manzanares el Real”, que aúna arqueología y conservación, se inició en el año 2021, después de que este BIC que era una propiedad privada fuera adquirido por el Ayuntamiento y pasara a ser de naturaleza pública.

El objetivo inicial ha sido tanto el conocimiento científico del yacimiento desde la perspectiva arqueológica e histórica como garantizar el mejor estado de conservación de los elementos de esta fábrica medieval aún en pie y de los restos materiales recuperados.

Las actuaciones realizadas entre 2021 y 2024 han tenido por objeto conocer la antigua fortaleza situada frente al emblemático castillo “nuevo” levantado por el I Duque del Infantado, Diego Hurtado de Mendoza en el siglo XV y finalizado por su hijo, Íñigo López de Mendoza.



Figure 13 MAN Museum Lecture Cycle. Lecture presenting excavation results and heritage research developments.
<https://www.man.es/man/actividades/cursos-y-conferencias/20241015-ciclo-actualidad-arqueologica-6/20241119-manzanares-elreal.html>

8. Process of creating Public Archaeology initiatives: Publication

The implementation of the project outputs and the allocation of the corresponding budget followed the priorities established throughout the project lifecycle, with a particular emphasis on mobility actions, active participation, and the successful execution of core project and dissemination activities. These components were fully achieved and generated a significant academic and social impact. Notably, the project results have already been published in a specialized peer-reviewed journal:

Salido, J. (2026). *From Public Archaeology to Citizen Science: Archaeological Citizen-Science Project: Local & International Civic Inclusive Engagement (ArcheOPENLAB)*. *Espacio Tiempo y Forma. Serie I, Prehistoria y Arqueología*, (19), 1–30.
<https://doi.org/10.5944/etfi.19.2026.46392>.

FROM PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY TO CITIZEN SCIENCE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL CITIZEN-SCIENCE PROJECT: LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL CIVIC INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT (ARCHEOPENLAB)

DE LA ARQUEOLOGÍA PÚBLICA A LA CIENCIA CIUDADANA: PROYECTO ARQUEOLÓGICO DE CIENCIA CIUDADANA: COMPROMISO CÍVICO INCLUSIVO LOCAL E INTERNACIONAL (ARCHEOPENLAB)

Javier Salido Domínguez¹

Recibido: 25/09/2025 · Aceptado: 14/12/2025
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5944/etfi.19.2026.46392>

This publication presents the conceptual framework, methodology, and outcomes of the ArcheOPENLAB project, highlighting the transition from Public Archaeology to Citizen Science models. It underlines the integration of local communities, students, volunteers, and international stakeholders in all stages of the archaeological process—from excavation and documentation to dissemination and heritage management—through participatory and inclusive approaches that foster knowledge democratization and long-term sustainability .

Therefore, although the originally planned publication could not be carried out as initially foreseen, the project has ensured effective dissemination and impact through alternative academic contributions, maintaining its commitment to knowledge transfer and scientific excellence.

In addition, a further scientific output derived from the project is currently in press: Salido Domínguez, J., & Vargas Moreno, L., From Discovery to Shared Knowledge: Citizen Science and Ceramic Funerary Goods Recovered at El Rebollar (El Boalo, Madrid). This forthcoming article reinforces the project's commitment to citizen science and social archaeology, presenting the El Rebollar site as a model of participatory research in which local communities and students actively contribute to the recovery, interpretation, and dissemination of cultural heritage. It highlights how collaborative approaches have enabled the documentation of early medieval funerary practices through both material evidence—such as ceramic vessels and human remains—and oral histories, further demonstrating the value of community engagement in advancing archaeological knowledge and ensuring the sustainability and social relevance of heritage research.

9. Deliverables & Resources

Deliverable / Resource	Type (report, video, toolkit...)	Link / File	Caption / Description
ArcheOPENLAB, el proyecto arqueológico que conecta la ciencia ciudadana local con Europa	Web article / Project summary	https://www.uam.es/uam/en/noticias/proyecto-europeo-archeopenlab-manzanares-el-real (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid)	Overview article explaining the 2025 campaign at Castillo Viejo de Manzanares El Real, involvement of international students from National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and University of Bucharest, and the inclusive citizen-science model.
Social-archaeology project page for El Rebollar (El Boalo)	Web / Information Page	https://www.comunidad.madrid/cultura/patrimonio-cultural/arqueologia-social-yacimiento-rebollar-boalo (Comunidad de Madrid)	Official description of the social-archaeology methodology, objectives, community participation and heritage

			value of the Visigothic site.
"Cuaderno de Excavación" – Castillo Viejo 2024/2025	Report / Online Log	https://manzanareselreal.es/castillo-viejo-cuaderno-de-excavacion/ (Ayuntamiento de Manzanares El Real)	Chronological record of the fieldwork weeks, participants, findings, conservation work and inclusive initiatives at the excavation site.
News article "ArcheOPENLAB: Conexión entre ciencia ciudadana y patrimonio europeo en Manzanares El Real"	Media / News article	https://iymagazine.es/noticia/8995/universidad/archeopenlab%3A-conexion-entre-ciencia-ciudadana-y-patrimonio-europeo-en-manzanares-el-real.html (IyMagazine)	Media coverage emphasizing the project's social impact, inclusion of people with functional diversity, international collaboration, and sustainable tourism.
Temporary exhibition at the Museo Arqueológico y Paleontológico de la Comunidad de Madrid (MARPA) on the Visigothic church of El Rebollar	Exhibition / Museum resource	https://marpa.madrid/actividades/exposiciones-temporales/la-iglesia-visigoda-de-el-rebollar-el-boalo (marpa.madrid)	Exhibit (2024–2025) showcasing the archaeological findings from El Rebollar, promoting awareness and public dissemination of heritage research.
Temporary exhibition at the Museo Arqueológico y Paleontológico de la Comunidad de Madrid (MARPA) on the Visigothic church of El Rebollar	Exhibition / Museum resource	https://marpa.madrid/actividades/exposiciones-temporales/la-iglesia-visigoda-de-el-rebollar-el-boalo (marpa.madrid)	Exhibit (2024–2025) showcasing the archaeological findings from El Rebollar, promoting awareness and public dissemination of heritage research.
News on nomination to Premio Palarq for El Rebollar	News article / Recognition	https://www.cope.es/emisoras/comunidad-de-madrid/madrid-provincia/villalba/noticias/yacimiento-rebollar-boalo-aspirante-premio-palarq-oscar-arqueologia-distincion-nacional-tesoro-local-20250801_3194027.html (COPE)	Article that highlights the archaeological and heritage value of El Rebollar, recognition at national level and increased

			visibility of the project.
Instagram Post – ArcheOPENLAB Excavations	Social Media Post	https://www.instagram.com/p/DKzANntM7WW/	Visual summary of excavation activities and community participation.
APADIS Participation News	News Article	https://www.diariodesanse.com/2024/06/18/apadis-participa-en-la-excavacion-arqueologica-del-castillo-viejo-de-manzanares-el-real/	Article highlighting the involvement of APADIS participants in the archaeological campaign.
Video – Archaeological Excavation	Video	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-XF_cDPWKkU	Video documenting field activities and citizen-science participation.
MAN Museum Lecture Cycle	Public Lecture / Conference	https://www.man.es/man/actividades/cursos-y-conferencias/20241015-ciclo-actualidad-arqueologica-6/20241119-manzanares-elreal.html	Lecture presenting excavation results and heritage research developments.
Excavation Notebook – Castle Viejo	Report / Field Notebook	https://elguadarramista.com/2024/06/24/cuaderno-excavacion-de-la-iv-campana-de-excavacion-del-castillo-viejo-de-manzanares/	Digital notebook summarizing the 2024 excavation progress.
Public Archaeology – CM	Public Information Page	https://www.comunidad.madrid/cultura/patrimonio-cultural/arqueologia-publica-castillo-viejo-manzanares-real	Regional government page on public archaeology initiatives at Castillo Viejo.
Rebollar Archaeological Site – CM	Public Information Page	https://www.comunidad.madrid/cultura/patrimonio-cultural/yacimiento-rebollar-boalo	Information on the Rebollar archaeological site and social archaeology program.
Municipality Excavation Campaign	Municipal Report	https://elboalo-cerceda-mataelpino.org/viiicampanaexcavacion/	Summary of excavation results and community activities in El Boalo.
UAM Archaeological Excavation Page	Academic Portal	https://www.uam.es/fyl/facultad/departamentos/prehistoria-y-arqueologia/excavacion-arqueologica	University page presenting student participation and excavation programs.

El Rebollar Visigothic Site	Municipal Information Page	https://elboalo-cerceda-mataelpino.org/yacimiento-arqueologico-visigodo-de-el-rebollar/	Information on the Visigothic site and public engagement initiatives.
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10. Key Results

- ArcheOPENLAB demonstrates that **citizen-science in archaeology creates real social impact**, strengthening local identity while making scientific research accessible to all.
- **Inclusive participation**—from university students to people with functional diversity—proves that heritage can be a powerful tool for social integration and empowerment.
- Collaboration between **municipalities, universities, NGOs, and cultural institutions** generates a model of shared governance applicable to other territories.
- Fieldwork and workshops significantly **increase public awareness** of heritage protection and foster a long-term sense of stewardship in local communities.
- The project highlights the value of **international academic exchange**, with students from several European universities enriching research quality and cultural understanding.
- Continuous visibility through media, open days, and public lectures ensures **transparent, participatory, and community-centered archaeology**.

11. Stakeholder Feedback

Students (UAM, University of Athens, University of Bucharest)

- *"Working on-site transformed theory into reality. I learned more in one week than in a whole semester."*
- *"ArcheOPENLAB showed me how archaeology can engage and empower entire communities."*

Participants with Functional Diversity (APADIS, AMI3)

- *"Being part of the excavation made me feel capable and included. I never imagined I could do archaeology."*
- *"We discovered history together, and I felt like my contribution truly mattered."*

Local Citizens

- *"For the first time, we feel connected to our own heritage. The project makes archaeology ours."*
- *"Seeing the excavation progress each week was inspiring—now we understand why protecting the site is important."*

Municipal Representatives

- *"ArcheOPENLAB has strengthened community identity and created new opportunities for cultural tourism."*
- *"The project proves that collaboration between institutions and citizens leads to long-lasting heritage stewardship."*

NGO & Heritage Professionals (ADESGAM, Equipo Patrimonio Sierra)

- *"The citizen-science model has opened new pathways for sustainable heritage management."*
- *"This initiative sets a benchmark for inclusive, socially engaged archaeology in Spain."*

Researchers / Academic Partners

- *"The project is a powerful example of how scientific research can be fully participatory."*
- *"International collaboration enriched both the methodology and the learning experience for everyone involved."*

12. Financial Overview and Total Budget (€)

The overall estimated budget allocated to the project was €10,000. In June 2025, the project reached one of its most significant international milestones with the excavation campaign at Castillo Viejo de Manzanares El Real. This one-month campaign brought together students from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece) and the University of Bucharest (Romania), who worked alongside Spanish students and local volunteers. The international team participated in excavation, stratigraphic recording, artefact processing, and conservation activities, while also taking part in educational visits to the scientific facilities of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, including the SECYR Conservation Laboratory and the Zooarchaeology Laboratory. This experience significantly enhanced participants' practical skills and reinforced the project's commitment to internationalisation and inclusive archaeology. Due to unforeseen and very serious personal reasons, the NKUA professor (M. Moulou), who was originally scheduled to travel to Madrid in June 2025 together with her students, was unable to make the trip. The travel budget allocated by NKUA was therefore not used.

The project budget was primarily allocated to support the mobility of students from Athens and Bucharest, covering transportation costs related to their participation in the archaeological excavation campaign, as well as their involvement in the international meeting held in Bucharest. These mobility actions were essential to ensure active participation, knowledge exchange, and collaboration among partner institutions.

One of the culminating moments of the project was the organisation of the Round Table on Public Archaeology and Citizen Science on 21 November 2025 at the University of Bucharest (Romania), held in a hybrid format. This international event brought together researchers from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, and several Romanian institutions. It provided a platform to present the ArcheOPENLAB methodology, results, and social impact, while fostering discussion on the future of public archaeology in the Black Sea region and beyond. The Roundtable organized by UB in November 2021 was held online for NKUA, so no travel expenses were incurred by this university. We would also like to highlight that, due to the same unforeseen circumstances and heavily burdened work schedules, no workshop was organized in Athens in 2026.

However, it should be noted that the budget initially foreseen for the preparation and publication of specific outputs, as indicated in the planning documents, could not be implemented. Consequently, this portion of the allocated funds was not executed. A justification for this has been provided, explaining that the project prioritised mobility, participation, and core activities, which were successfully carried out and generated significant impact.

13. Contact Point

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