

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IAEA COLLABORATING CENTER ATOMS FOR HERITAGE AT UNIVERSITÉ PARIS-SACLAY

LOÏC BERTRAND

Université Paris-Saclay, ENS Paris-Saclay, CNRS, PPSM, 91190, Gif-sur-Yvette, France

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has designated Université Paris-Saclay as the first IAEA Atoms for Heritage Collaborating Centre in heritage sciences on Friday 17 September 2021. The new Centre focuses on five key themes linked to heritage conservation: characterising and dating materials; developing safe analysis methods; analysing and sharing data in accordance with open science strategies; educating and raising awareness among the public and future generations about heritage issues; and combatting the illicit trafficking of heritage objects.

The Collaborating Centre builds on a very unique ecosystem of infrastructure and competencies. It works closely with two of the University's core Interdisciplinary Programmes (The Interdisciplinary Institute of Materials, and "Palabre" which focuses on interdisciplinary work), in coordination with three Graduate Schools (Humanities – Heritage Sciences, Physics and Chemistry).

Through the Atoms for Heritage Collaborating Centre, the IAEA and Université Paris-Saclay, alongside its partner organisations, aim to play a key role in the development and application of physical, chemical and digital techniques to study and improve the preservation of heritage objects, whether they are cultural artefacts such as monuments and paintings, or natural objects such as fossils.

IAEA support will facilitate the hosting of international scientists, curators and technical personnel who will come to the site for training. This will open significant new opportunities to establish and expand international research collaborations through the arrival of experts from around the world within the university's programmes.

Two years after Université Paris-Saclay co-signed the Paris Declaration on "Heritage, Sciences and Technologies: An Opportunity for our Societies and the Global Economy" at the Institut de France (<https://www.dim-map.fr/en/heritage-and-ancients-materials/paris-declaration/>), the launch of the Collaborating Centre for heritage preservation will play a key role in promoting international peaceful nuclear applications and cooperation for the benefit of society.

We will present the Collaborating Centre and its first practical developments