

# Mapping Palestinian Cultural Resources in Jerusalem

## Three Overlapping Aims

**Cultural Mapping** – collecting, recording, analyzing and synthesizing information in order to describe the cultural resources, networks, links and patterns of usage of a given community or group.

**Resource Mapping** – identifying and recording tangible cultural resources usually making use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) tools and platforms.

**Community Identity Mapping** – exploring “intangible cultural resources”: the unique memories, personal histories, attitudes, values and stories that honor the past, celebrate the present, and envision the future.

## Process

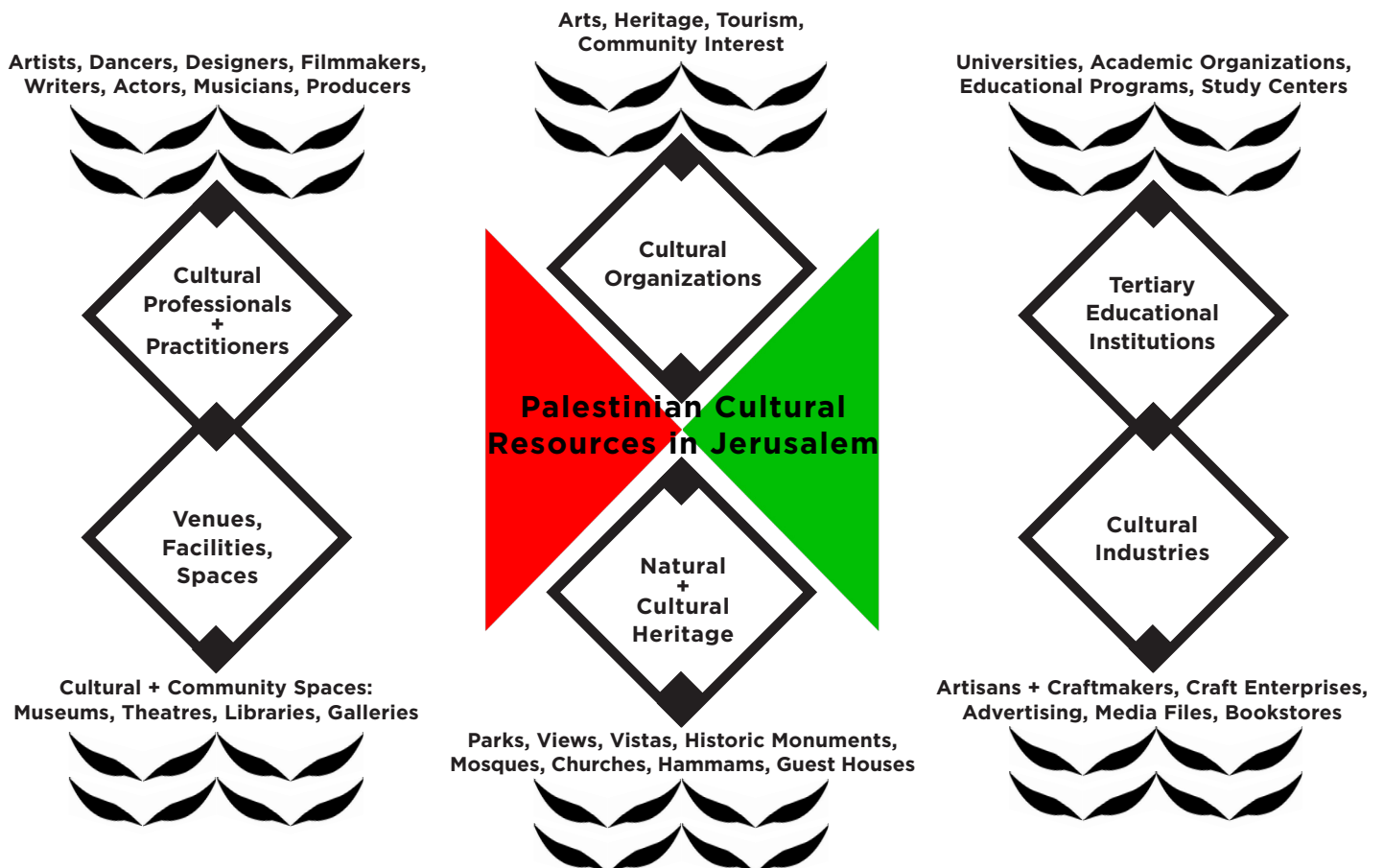
### Stage I – Planning

- Determining objectives with the community
- Obtaining buy-in from grassroots organizations and community leaders
- Identifying and assembling mapping resources – these can be human, financial or technical

### Stage II – Project Design

- Designing the inventory
- Drafting survey questionnaires and interview questions
- Setting interim and final deadlines.

Fig. 1 - Public interface, showing the themes selected, and the organization of subcategories under each theme.



### Stage III – Data collection

- Public announcement (newspapers, posters, radio and other media announcements)
- Broad-based internet research – community surveys
- Targeted research – interviews
- Assembling the inventory
- Taking stock

### Stage IV – Synthesis

- Roughing out the map (text-based, web based and/or graphic)
- Analyzing the results
- Interpreting the results
- Fact-checking with the community

### Stage V – Finalizing the Map

- Speaking to different audiences - This will be comprised of a wide cross section of municipal, cultural, business and community representatives and interests.

### Stage VI – Going Public

- Previewing the map
- Presenting the results to the target audience

## Output from Mapping of Cultural Resources

- **A Cultural Asset Inventory:** Given the fact that the built heritage of Jerusalem is of “outstanding universal value,” for project and budgetary reasons we will limit our scope to the Old City of East Jerusalem. As we start the mapping, we will develop criteria in parallel which will allow us to refine our selection to include a representative subset of the rich panoply of Palestinian cultural heritage within the targeted boundaries.
- **An Interactive Map:** An interactive map will be created to display the data collected over the course of the project. The map will serve as a gateway for organizations, businesses, community groups and the public to easily identify and explore the assets. These will be based on a theme and represented by a tear drop symbol, which is colour coded based on the East Jerusalem Cultural Mapping categories and subcategories. Some of the tools developed for users of the map will include: layers, a keyword search, information window, annotation and drawing tools, Google street view (where possible), and social media sharing.
- **Cultural Policy:** The project will provide a broad framework to inform stakeholders, for problem solving, planning support and cultural development.
- **Workshops:** Workshops will be held with all interested parties to learn more about the cultural map, how it works, and how to sustain it.
- **Final Cultural Mapping Report:** The coordinators will complete a report entitled “Mapping Palestinian Cultural Resources in Jerusalem.”