

# Interactive Educational Activities in the Natural History Museum of Crete

Location: Natural History Museum of Crete, Heraklion

## 1. Workshop Description

In the context that nowadays formal education is facing new challenges and schools can no longer be mere providers of knowledge, non-formal education increasingly appears fundamental to science education. Natural History Museums can provide supplemental services to formal education beyond the classroom context.

Current literature indicates new approaches to learning through inquiry and hands-on experiences which are not usually found in schools, while at the same time museums and science centres have the potential to become more educationally accountable in order to allow students to enhance their learning experience.

The development and use of novel graphical interfaces that will facilitate visitors' navigation through a series of learning pathways will contribute on improving and empowering access to and use of environmental culture content related to natural history and nature/environment preservation.

In the framework of the workshop the Natural History Museum educational team will involve to the participants to three interactive and hands-on activities:

- “Live Nature”: A Hands on experience in the museum Discovery Centre. An experiential activity.
- “Discover the Nature of the Mediterranean Sea”: An Interactive educational program for High School

students and teachers into the museum Exhibition Halls. An experiential activity.

- “The Natural History Museum Fairy Tale”: An interactive educational program for Pre School children into the museum Exhibition Halls. An experiential activity.

The proposed workshop addresses all stakeholders of the educational sector, ranging from trainers, to tutors and teachers, despite the application domain in which they specialize. The subjects of learning theory and its application in schools will be of interest of all practitioners within the broader field of education.

## 2. List of Instructors

**Convenors:** C. Voreadou & D. Grammenos

Dr. C. Voreadou  
(Natural History Museum of Crete)

Dr. D. Grammenos  
(Foundation of Research and Technology Hellas)