

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

Deliverable D14 EDS – Facilitators

PROJECT	
Participant:	1 - Stichting Joods Historisch Museum (JCQ)
PIC number:	940744995
Project name and acronym:	Looted Art and Judaica Project — LAJP

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	WP12 - D14		
Event name:	Facilitators		
Type:	Training, meetings with visitors		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	The Netherlands, Amsterdam		
Date(s):	June 12 & 26, Sept 12, 22 & 29, 2024		
Website(s) (if any):	https://jck.nl/en/looted-art-judaica-project		
Participants			
Female:	15		
Male:	11		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 the Netherlands:	26		
Total number of participants:	26	From total number of countries:	1
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
<p>The work package Facilitators consisted of 2 types of activities that aimed at engaging visitors in a meaningful and reciprocal way with the exhibition content of <i>Looted. Personal Stories on the Looting and Restitution of Jewish Cultural Property</i>. The first type of activity was a training programme of the facilitators; the second type of activity concerned the interaction between the facilitators and visitors on the museum floor.</p> <p>This should enable an exchange on the impact of the topic of looting Jewish property, in both an historical context and in relation to our society today. In particular in the complicated context of post 7 October 2023, this personal exchange is considered as highly important. The concept also allows the institution to receive direct feedback from participants.</p>			

Instruction Facilitators – June 12 & 26, September 12, 2024

Four selected professional tour guides received an instruction from the JCQ education specialist responsible for guides training and implementation of the I ASK methodology. The education specialist developed the concept and tools of the *Ask Me* concept in April and May. The concept aims at engaging visitors with exhibition content in a meaningful way by offering an I ASK aligned approach that enhances personal exchange between facilitator and visitor. In this personal contact, visitors can share what moves them, while the facilitators can offer a listening ear and/or offer additional background information on the exhibition and the stories on display.

The two 2-hours instruction sessions on June 12 and 26, 2024 focused on familiarising the selected guides with the exhibition content and training the guides in the *Ask Me* concept. After try-out sessions with the facilitators on the museum floor, on September 12 an interim evaluation took place. This session focused on discussing best practices in applying the concept, in particular how to actively approach visitors, as well as exchanging participant's feedback on the topics of looted art and Judaica, historical justice and restitution.

Facilitators working with participants – September 22 & 29, 2024

In July, August, September and October 2024 the facilitators worked in the exhibition *Looted*. On Sundays between 14:00-17:00 one *Ask Me* facilitator was available at each location of the exhibition: the Jewish Museum and the National Holocaust Museum in Amsterdam. They provided exchange as well as free walk-in guided tours through the galleries, depending on visitor's needs.

On September 22 and 29, 2024 the direct participants of *Ask Me* were documented by the facilitators. Those listed in this work package concern participants from the Netherlands, Furthermore, a number of participants from other European countries were documented (2x Belgium, 1x Czech Republic, 1x France, 2x Greece), as well as from countries that do not participate in the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (5x Brazil, 1x Israel, 2x UK, 2x USA).

One of the facilitators who worked on 29 September 2024 reported: "It was an emotional day. [...] I noticed that there were many mothers with daughters and grandmothers with grandchildren. Many of Dutch descent this time. All these people had a connection with a Jewish family or came from a Jewish family themselves. My role this time was mainly to offer a listening ear and let people share their own stories. At the end of the afternoon, I had a number of emotional people. Really sobbing people. I sat down with them on the bench in front of the exhibition. That was nice and afterwards these people thanked me by saying that they liked being taken care of."