



# STEERING COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDCPP)

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55 Avenue Kléber, 75016 Paris**

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## **Cultural Heritage and Technical Consultancy**

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DOCUMENT FOR INFORMATION

### **Draft decisions**

*The Bureau:*

- **took note** of the progress in the activities and backs the current projects and the activities scheduled for the next stage;
- **stressed** the importance of the contribution expected from the heritage sector for the emergence of a new generation of transversal projects and an integrated approach to the Organisation's priorities, particularly in the field of democracy and citizen participation.

## BACKGROUND

The CDCPP adopted the “*Medium-term orientations and perspectives for cultural heritage activities in the Council of Europe*” [CDCPP(2012)5] at its first plenary meeting from 14 to 16 May 2012. These “Orientations” define a new rationale in terms of “activities” geared to supporting the many current or planned “projects” on the 2012-2013 programme. This new rationale reinforces the cultural heritage sector within the Organisation’s priorities, and enhances the expediency of implementing transversal actions shared by the different sectors under the CDCPP’s terms of reference. They also provide innovative perspectives for defining a new generation of transversal and integrated projects for the period 2014-2015. The medium-term perspectives for the heritage, as for the other sectors, will be confirmed following the initiative of the Director General (DGII) geared to defining a strategy for developing the 2014-2015 activities which the CDCPP might conduct under the Reform.

The implementation of these “Orientations” should theoretically have little impact on the form and content of each of the projects (see “State of progress” below). It does, on the other hand, radically transform the Council of Europe’s position on these subjects and the relations with the various internal and external partners in the context of the Reform of the Council of Europe. In terms of both communication and action, the member States must be reassured that the Council of Europe will continue to shoulder its responsibilities in the cultural heritage fields as set out in the European Conventions. However, they must also be convinced of the Secretariat’s determination to move the concepts forward in order to take up Europe’s societal challenges and of the need to address these complex questions by adopting innovative approaches to democracy and good governance, as pursued by the CDCPP.

In order both to complete the projects in hand and to guarantee the Council of Europe’s basic missions in the cultural heritage fields, the Secretariat is intending to concentrate on the “Principles and Values”, “Policies and Strategies”, and “Field Action” activities. It will be a case of gradually affirming the Council of Europe as the guardian of European standards and an international framework for developing new common references, as a platform for the convergence and harmonisation of legal and institutional practices, and as a framework for co-operation and innovation.

Concurrently, in close co-ordination with the other sectors monitored by the CDCPP and drawing on its input, the heritage sector will help establish a new generation of projects for 2014-2015, in accordance with the CDCPP’s “vision”. These future projects will be transversal and integrated, in conjunction with the Council of Europe’s “traditional” activities in the heritage field, which might be restructured accordingly.

## STATE OF PROGRESS

The activities are being implemented under the “*Technical Co-operation and Consultancy Programme related to the integrated conservation of the heritage*” [see “Reference Framework for the Technical Co-operation and Consultancy Programme related to the integrated conservation of the cultural and natural heritage”, AT(2011)016]

### **Activity 1 : “Principles and Values”**

The form and content of the “Convention monitoring” projects, geared to assessing and disseminating Council of Europe expertise, summarising priority subjects, producing evaluation reports and thematic studies for consideration by the CDCPP, etc, are currently being discussed

with the partner organisations. These specific projects must be based both on the *acquis* of the *Technical Co-operation and Consultancy Programme* and on solid partnerships.

Given the Council of Europe's status as guardian of European standards, this activity is intended to increase the coherency of member States' policies so as to reinforce the role of the heritage in establishing effective democracy and good governance, improving the living environment and developing the idea of "living together", based on mutual understanding, respect and tolerance.

### **Activity 2: "Policies and Strategies"**

The HEREIN database has been thoroughly overhauled, particularly in order to guarantee the operation of the HEREIN 3 system. The Legislative Support Task Force has reoriented its activities in order to carry out systematic evaluations of needs, policy issues and the expected results in terms of political sustainability in the countries participating in the Regional Programme for South-East Europe (Ljubljana Process and Pilot Projects for Local Development). Lastly, two sets of "Guidelines" are currently being drafted for publication (Urban Reference Plans and Post-Conflict/Post-Disaster Action).

The aim is to provide member States with strategic guidance and advice on the integrated conservation of the heritage, post-conflict/post-disaster reconstruction and urban regeneration, in order to improve their operational capacities and legal standards.

### **Activity 3: "Field Action"**

Through the *Technical Co-operation and Consultancy Programme*, the Council of Europe is a recognised framework for international co-operation and innovation. Several (pilot) projects are:

- a. completed:
  - Phase I – EU/CoE Support to the Promotion of Cultural Diversity in Kosovo<sup>1</sup> (Joint Programme);
  - Preliminary phase of the Pilot Project for the Rehabilitation of Cultural Heritage in Historic Towns in the South-Caucasus and the Black Sea regions (Joint Programme) ;
  - Evaluation of the situation of the heritage in the Republic of Moldova [report AT(2012)336].
- b. in hand:
  - Local Development Pilot Projects (Regional Programme on Cultural and Natural Heritage in South-East Europe);
  - Ljubljana Process II : "Rehabilitating Our Common Heritage" (Joint Programme);
  - Local Development Pilot Project for the Wine Villages of Limassol (Cyprus);
  - Rehabilitation of Lorca, Spain: implementation of Council of Europe recommendations [report AT(2011)323].
- c. under discussion:
  - Phase II of European Union/Council of Europe Support to the Promotion of Cultural Diversity in Kosovo<sup>1</sup> (Programme Joint);
  - Operational phase of the Pilot Project for the Rehabilitation of Cultural Heritage in Historic Towns in the Southern Caucasus and the Black Sea (Joint Programme);
  - Rehabilitation of the "Green Zone" in Nicosia (Republic of Cyprus).

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<sup>1</sup> All references to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nation's Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

## THE NEXT STAGES

While the field action projects will continue, by the end of 2012 the emphasis will shift on to Activities 1 (“Principles and Values”) and 2 (“Policies and Strategies”), in order to:

- launch HEREIN 3 (transfer of data by the countries);
- organise the evaluation of existing documents/reports in connection with the projects on the ground and of the impact of heritage activities in order to enhance the Council of Europe’s contribution;
- identify the main transversal questions/new ideas to be explored under the specific partnerships and/or field actions, as food for thought on the new generation of projects;
- study the implementation of a European platform for discussion and exchange of experience;
- conclude the negotiations with a view to signing Joint Programmes with the European Union: “EU/CoE Support to the Promotion of Cultural Diversity in Kosovo<sup>1</sup> – Phase II”, “Pilot Project for the Rehabilitation of Cultural Heritage in Historic Towns in the Southern Caucasus and the Black Sea”(Joint Programme);
- explore the possibilities for developing “Neighbourhood Projects” (eg in Tunisia).

## SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The Bureau of the CDCPP is invited to discuss specific issues which have been raised in the context of the heritage activities but which have a direct impact on the Council of Europe’s priorities and on the conditions for the emergence of a new generation of integrated projects. These issues include the following:

1. The “Reference Framework for the Technical Co-operation and Consultancy Programme related to the integrated conservation of the cultural heritage” [AT(2011)016] and the “*Medium-term orientations and perspectives for cultural heritage activities in the Council of Europe*” [AT(2012)355/CDCPP(2012)5] point up a number of priority fields of action for which the Council of Europe has acquired international recognition and which provide a wide range of facilities for developing transversal projects in co-operation with other Council of Europe sectors, eg: “urban rehabilitation for a better quality of life in cities”; “renewed cultural environments for a better way of living together”; “territorial approaches for managing global change”. The fields of action based on experience from the technical co-operation projects might fit in with such broader perspectives as : “Democratic Governance and citizen participation for a better quality of life”, or “Post-conflict/post-disaster management and dissemination of development models geared to stable relations with Europe’s neighbouring regions”.

**What interface should be developed with the other sectors? Which partner sectors take priority?**

2. The “Orientations” highlight the Council of Europe as a potential platform for convergence/a reference framework for all the international actors operating in the heritage fields. A great many initiatives have developed over the last few years, involving many actors but also blurring their responsibilities.

**How could we establish a “mega-network” (network of networks) in order to give the Council of Europe a unifying, or indeed cohesive role without attempting to turn back the clock, take the place of existing actors or supervise their activities ?**

3. The various heritage fields attract considerable investment from the States and the European Union. The sums invested make it a major sector of economic activity, although there are no precise data on the economic value of the heritage (unlike in the cultural sector). The European Union is becoming increasingly interested in this field, and is encouraging various initiatives.

**What role should the Council of Europe, the political organisation with the longest experience of promoting the role and values of the heritage, be playing in the necessary drive to raise awareness of the economic crisis and the societal transformations which are under way?**

4. The “regional” approach decided by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe in 2000 was intended as a response to the Organisation’s political priorities. The heritage sector has established a range of initiatives along these lines, but despite all the efforts expended, these initiatives are still confined to the heritage sector. The fact is that several international actors have gradually become involved in regional co-operation, often prioritising the intersectoral approach.

**Should/could the regional approach remain a priority for the CDCPP’s activities, and under what conditions?**

## LIST OF REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- Reference Framework for the Technical Co-operation and Consultancy Programme related to the integrated conservation of the cultural heritage, AT(2011)016 – English / French;
- Medium-term orientations and perspectives for cultural heritage activities in the Council of Europe, AT(2012)355/CDCPP(2012)005 – English / French;
- Council of Europe expert mission to the town of Lorca (Spain), AT(2011)353 – English / Spanish;
- Council of Europe expert mission to the Republic of Moldova – Evaluation of the situation of cultural heritage, AT(2012)336 – English / French;
- Final Narrative Report – Preliminary Phase, Pilot Project for the rehabilitation of the cultural heritage in historic towns, KI(2012)013;
- Activity Report 2011, Local Development Pilot Projects, AT(2012)081rev;
- General Reference Framework, Ljubljana Process II, TFCS(2011)09;
- Memorandum of Understanding, Local Development Pilot Project for the Traditional Villages of Limassol (Cyprus).

[www.coe.int/ldpp](http://www.coe.int/ldpp)

[www.coe.int/histowns](http://www.coe.int/histowns)

[www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Herein/Default\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Herein/Default_en.asp)

[www.coe.int/irppsah](http://www.coe.int/irppsah)

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