

Social Contract/Agreement (SCA)

The Social Contract idea, within the context of the Faro Convention, was developed to address the challenges that emerged as a result of local development and community regeneration processes in Viscri, Romania. A social contract is a non-legally binding tool, produced through consistent community consultation and participation to create a consensus on the issues that concern the collective well-being of the communities. It helps to set the norms for a desired quality of life and for the commons. It should be revisited periodically and revised according to the changing dynamics and needs of the communities. If embraced by the community members, it can also become a powerful political tool.

The Social Contract Workshop aims to assist participants to:

- understand the value of the Social contract/agreement (SCA) as a tool, and the impact to solve a problem, or create an opportunity in their community;
- understand how to better enhance the desire of individuals in the community to shift focus from the individual to the common good of the community;
- leave equipped with the ability to adapt the concept of the Viscri SCA to the specific context of their community;
- engage with the presenter and other attendees to build a first draft outline of an SCA so they can return to their team and begin working together.

The workshop, taking place in small groups, provides a detailed overview of the SCA with specific examples from Viscri, and guides the participants through the steps to work on their respective SCA. This interactive workshop allows participants to exchange views during the development of their draft SCAs and receive constructive feedback from other participants. The workshop is more effective when the participants fulfill the preliminary work through a Google Form, focusing on the following questions and sharing their replies with the trainers five days before the workshop.

- 1 What historical or cultural recognition does the community hold, if any? i.e. local or national historical/cultural heritage, UNESCO, Faro, etc.
- 2 What is the focus of your organisation within the community? Are you aware of other organisations carrying on similar tasks? i.e. social issues, immigration, historical or cultural preservation, etc.
- 3 How are local authorities and administrations involved in these issues? Do they work with your organisation or others?
- 4 What are the principal economic activities of the city/community?
- 5 What are the three biggest issues you've identified in the community?
- 6 Which issues are unique to the community, because of the historical or cultural context?

Each workshop is constructed specifically based on the answers received from the participants, which constitutes the main points of the draft SCA.

This workshop can be very useful for communities that experience constant mobility and face problems with over tourism and development activities.