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**STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE  
AND LANDSCAPE (CDPATEP)**

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Monitoring the Granada Convention:  
The Netherlands Pilot of the Granada Case Study  
Modules

Amersfoort, 14-15th October, 2010

Aide Memoire

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**Summary:** This document was prepared by Sarah Wolferstan, member of the Core working group or the Granada Convention Monitoring project. The participants appear in the list appended to this *Aide Memoire*.

## **1. The programme**

The programme for The Netherlands Pilot Study Visit was as follows:

- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October: Arrival and welcome at hotel
- Workshop 1: Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup> 09:00-12:00 Meeting with municipalities and provinces
- Workshop 2: 1400-1700 Heritage Communities
- Workshop 3: Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup> 0900-12:00 National level
- Dinner with organisers and core working group
- Organised tour to Soestdijk Palace, in Baarn

## **2. Organisation and participation**

The official participation in the pilot was extended by the Netherlands after Italy and the UK were not able to organise pilots in their Member States. The Herein Co-ordinator, Ben de Vries organised the pilot visit, together with Aart de Vries, both Senior Officers from the International Policy Team of the State's Cultural Heritage Agency (Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed - RCE).. The Council of Europe Secretariat, Anna Trigona, had forwarded the project description, the CSM (post-Cyprus) questionnaire and brief prepared by the core working group. Art and Ben interpreted the brief well and only required limited assistance in order to clarify that answers were not expected during the workshops, only comments on the questions.

## **3. Invitations and publicity material**

Ben and Aart (RCE) invited participants by e-mail, and followed this up by telephone to ensure each group was well represented. Participants were sent all of the documents by email as soon as they had confirmed their attendance. A register of attendance was kept during the workshops (see annex 1). An excellent poster advertising the event was displayed at workshop location.

#### **4. Methodology**

As described in the project description and workshop brief (sent out in advance of the project together with the draft Granada Case Study Module (the questionnaire), the overall methodology was the same as that used in Valletta CSMs, structured questionnaires on themes of interest established by the Granada Working Group following a brainstorming session in December 2007 and consultations during 2008. However, the delivery of the pilots was different on this occasion. During the Valletta pilots, the questions were explained by the expert team, and then filled in over the next few months by the participants. At the end of the Valletta pilot project, we concluded that it was the feedback on the questions, rather than the answers themselves, which proved to be the most useful outcome. Thus during the visit, we asked for participation to be limited to the workshop setting, when the questions would be refined.

The documents had been forwarded to the participants and printed out for the workshops themselves. I prepared a PowerPoint so that the questions could be placed on screen.

#### **5. Workshops**

The workshops were held in the RCE's new headquarters. Leonard de Wit, manager at the RCE welcomed the group and gave a quick summary of the aims of the workshop. Participants then introduced themselves, describing not only their role but their particular interest in the meeting. This was followed by a brief presentation by the Core Team on the aims of the pilot, which took around 45 minutes. The first was on the background to the mission and the content of the CSMs (Sarah and Paul), on the role of Herein (Adrian) and another on the Faro convention (Dag). The first 20-25 minutes of the workshop were taken up with introductions. Paul led throughout the rest of the workshop, introducing the four CSMs, and going through each question, inviting comments. I annotated the CSM with the comments and suggestions throughout the three workshops. The other experts also annotated their copies and sent them to me so that they could be incorporated.

The morning sessions were followed by lunch in the RCE restaurant, together with the participants. This was very valuable as it gave the participants an opportunity to meet and catch up with each other and question the experts on the content of the workshops.

##### **a. Workshop 1: Regional Government**

This was attended by representatives working on heritage from Municipalities and Provinces. This group was interested in the Herein Grid, which they had little knowledge of, and how they would participate in the convention follow up activities in the future. They raised several issues that could be addressed by future CSMs on Granada such as focusing on;

- groups of buildings and historic areas;
- replacing destroyed historic monuments and reusing places of worship;
- the effect of the free market on the quality of heritage work.

Many helpful suggestions were made on the wording, structure, order and accompanying guidance for the questions; for example there was some confusion as to how municipalities should deal with the archaeology of buildings in the module, given that it concerned the subject of the Granada Convention but discussed archaeological value, and the need for the

guidance documents to include and/or link to the explanation provided for the Herein 3 system.

It was also decided that it was important to set out in the general introduction to all of the CSMs and Herein grid that it may not be possible for respondents to answer all of the questions, as the data is not collected at present in the form required, or the issue has never been considered. If so, the questions will provide an opportunity for reflection.

#### **b. Workshop 2: Local and National Heritage Communities**

This was aimed at non-governmental organisations concerned with heritage. The associations and NGOs present welcomed the opportunity to be able to comment on heritage management processes in their context. An interesting question was raised about research into environmental sustainability, a question that features in CSM4, and it was pointed out that social sustainability should also be considered, although this may need to be the topic of a separate CSM. However, it was included in a question on impact.

#### **c. Workshop 3: National RCE**

Participants included representatives of three ministries: the RCE, which deals directly with built heritage, archaeology and cultural landscape., the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (Directory of Cultural Heritage) and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning. There was an interesting discussion about the relevance of CSM 3 on training for non-technical conservation-related skills, which was seen as relevant to the context in The Netherlands, with a recent policy move from conservation of monuments to adaptive reuse and incorporation in development, placing “a high tension on the different interests... so we have to redevelop the different concepts of what we value in the building as different interest groups. We need to know what the economic value of the building is, the developer’s motivations and interests.” CSM 4 on the tension between heritage and other public values was also seen as pertinent, especially in the context of increasingly dominant EU regulations. There were also suggestions on having a separate CSM on

- the issue of social sustainability, with a particular emphasis on evaluating the social benefits of heritage;
- the economic value of heritage.

### **6. Dinner and Trip**

On Thursday night, the Core group was invited by RCE to a delicious dinner in an Indonesian restaurant in Amersfoort. An excursion was organised for the core group and several members of RCE on Friday afternoon to visit the late Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard’s former residence, Soestdijk Palace, in Baarn. We had a tour of the gardens, tea in the orangery, watched a short film on the history of the building, and a guided tour. It was extremely interesting to be party to the ongoing debate as to the future of the palace, which has been opened to the public for a brief period and is soon to be closed once more, pending a decision about its long-term use.

### **7. Summary**

The workshops were very successful and achieved their main aim of further refining the questions; several more have been deleted, adapted and modified as a direct result of the help provided by the participants.

Many participants requested to be kept informed of the outcome of the general convention follow up activities of CDPATEP and more specifically the progress of the Granada CSMs pilot process. They seemed very willing to be involved in phase 2 of the pilot, testing the questionnaire on-line. One of the participants thanked us at the end of the workshop, saying “Thank you for your document, it was provocative, and led me to think that there are many interesting issues that we need to tackle, very educational. The process is very interesting. We are very interested in the outcome of this.”

The organisers took advantage of the workshop to raise the profile of the Granada Convention in the Netherlands, which is not as well known to the community of Heritage Professionals as the Valletta Convention. It also welcomed the way that the Faro Framework convention had been integrated into the questionnaire as the Netherlands had recently undergone a similar integration of disciplines, with the archaeology and historic building professionals now located in the same agency headquarters. It was also used to communicate the RCE’s involvement in other areas of work with the CoE (e.g. the Thesaurus) as well as to distribute publications.

## Annex 1 List of participants

NAME	INSTITUTION	e-mail
<b>Organising group</b>		
Aart de Vries	RCE Senior, Officer International Policy	<a href="mailto:a.de.vries@cultureelerfgoed.nl">a.de.vries@cultureelerfgoed.nl</a>
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<b>Workshop 2: Meeting with heritage organisations</b>		
Gerard Koster	Association of Dutch municipalities	<a href="mailto:Gerard.Koster@VNG.NL">Gerard.Koster@VNG.NL</a>
Karel Loeff	Heemschut – private cultural heritage organisation working with volunteers	<a href="mailto:Loeff@heemschut.nl">Loeff@heemschut.nl</a>
Eric Dil	Erfgoed Nederland: umbrella organisation for heritage organisations	
Diederik van Asbeck	Heritage Inspection	<a href="mailto:asbeck@erfgoedinspectie.nl">asbeck@erfgoedinspectie.nl</a>
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<b>15<sup>th</sup> October: Workshop 3: National Organisation</b>		
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