

# REGIONAL HERITAGE PLAN CENTRAL

2015 - 2018



Support to the Promotion of Cultural Diversity

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by the European Union  
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# **Regional Heritage Plan Central**

*2015 - 2018*

**MAY 2015**  
*Prishtinë/Priština*

# Foreword

Communities around the globe are increasingly seeking ways to become more active in local governance and have a say on the management of their local resources. Democratic participation with an inclusive approach to all, ensuring the right to practice one's own culture, is essential to wellbeing of communities where multiple identities and diversity are considered important assets.

Heritage, as one of the foundations of contemporary life, plays a crucial role in local economic development as responsible care and management of heritage resources could offer opportunities for communities. The European Union/Council of Europe Joint Project - Support to the Promotion of Cultural Diversity in Kosovo\* (PCDK) has been very innovative in engaging local communities with their heritage, while developing locally appropriate methodologies and programmes, based on agreed standards.

With its integrated approach to heritage and diversity, this Heritage Plan brings together the distinguished elements of the communities in a regional framework. Besides the well-known heritage assets, it tries to bring the intangible aspects of contemporary community life and ties the diverse ways in which heritage plays a role. The participatory nature of the development of the Heritage Plan encouraged local actors to play an increasingly important role at an early stage and planning for its future. The entire process paid a particular attention to sustainability and took necessary measures by providing concrete examples and guidance as well as training human resources to carry on the actions.

The Heritage Plan is a useful tool that will create a platform for local stakeholders to join their forces together under a regional strategy and pave the path for a stronger relationship between grassroots action and central level policy making, offering a dynamic and systematic approach to local development process through utilisation of existing heritage resources.

While encouraging a coordinated action among municipalities of Kosovo Central, the plan also sets a common framework between Kosovo regions as they all followed the same process in their respective areas. In line with the principles of democratic participation, diversity and innovative actions, the process is aimed to lead the development of Kosovo Heritage Plan that will assist Kosovo authorities with their objective to become closer to European norms and standards.

I hope that the work of the Joint Project PCDK in setting an example through its technical assistance will provide stimulus for authorities to facilitate the work of local actors and create conditions for communities to better appreciate, protect and manage our common heritage.

## **Claudia Luciani**

Director of Democratic Governance Directorate  
Council of Europe  
Strasbourg

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\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

## Modern goddesses

All of those who have ever seen the anthropomorphic terracotta figurine, named “Goddess on Throne” or “Mother of Earth”, found in the suburban area of Prishtinë/Priština, don't really need lectures on the power of heritage: this unique representation of woman, more than five thousand years old, has become a symbol of both Prishtinë/Priština and Kosovo!

The fact that such treasures are representing Kosovo is not just a question of tradition. Many of such discoveries were also the concrete result of a very contemporary joint programme of support to the Promotion of Cultural Diversity in Kosovo (PCDK), mainly funded by the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe.

It is enough to move to another suburb to Prishtinë/Priština for a jump through ages: the cultural history of the Middle Ages can be witnessed through the Monastery of Gračanica/Gračanicë, built and decorated in 1321. Today, together with Pejë/Peć and Deçan/Dečane monasteries, Gračanica/Gračanicë monastery is on the UNESCO list of sites with universal values.

That's exactly why also such plans are conceived, drafted, discussed, approved and published: in order for the past to get life again, for people to get ideas of possible changes by reinventing some old near-forgotten values, like dialogue and mutual understanding. You can call it diversity, sustainable development or simply quality of life: the point is that citizens should always benefit from good ideas being put into practice.

In the capital of Prishtinë/Priština, with so many people moving in and out, and so many interests intertwined, contemporary evaluations of important heritage are sometimes more difficult to achieve – but it is essential to understand its importance for local development and improving quality of life. By doing so, the awareness of heritage becomes very, very tangible: it begins to create new knowledge, new jobs, new business opportunities and – above all – new ideas among new generations.

I sincerely hope this Heritage Plan will encourage all stakeholders to prove they can be proudly anchored in the inherited past and well oriented into the future. With such understanding, they would all participate in a process that is not just another “pilot project”, but a process that can serve as an inspiration to other flights through the difficult territories of our contemporary crisis.

### **Samuel Žbogar,**

Head of the European Union Office and  
EU Special Representative in Kosovo

# Introduction

All who have been engaged with the Support to the Promotion of Cultural Diversity in Kosovo (PCDK) project have been working towards progressive transformation of societies through participatory democracy, utilising heritage as a common value. We strive towards ensuring the wellbeing of communities, as a key contributory factor to fundamental human rights, through improved quality of life and living environments. By improving quality of life and living environments, we mean to encourage community life based on active individuals, committed through free and democratic participation in the process of development. This democratic development process should be based on the sustainable use of local heritage resources, on the creation of opportunities for equal access to these resources, and on the fair distribution of benefits among peoples in a dignified manner.

Genuine involvement of communities in their daily life practices, where they are active participants of decision making processes for economic and social development, is vital in helping us to approach the complexities of living together. Through intercultural dialogue we have the opportunity to create the necessary mutual understanding to relate to each other and redefine our relationships. Our existence today and our future perspectives are often influenced by our own past and what we inherit from the past.

Heritage might simply be described as the cultural and natural assets and resources that civilisations inherit from the past; at a local level, heritage is a woven montage of communities, places, stories and landscapes. How we personally perceive heritage largely depends on our age – children tend to associate heritage with anything “old” or historical, adults may associate heritage with identity, while those more senior might associate heritage with the “golden past” and a “loss” of values. But all ages recognise the importance of heritage at some level.

Recognising the importance of heritage does not always translate into valuing and understanding heritage. Heritage has also been subject to destruction; sometimes consciously, for complex reasons, or unconsciously, having been left to deteriorate, disintegrate and disappear.

Acknowledgement of the value of diverse heritage, honouring and placing it in the right place in history, is a challenging but exciting process, if managed responsibly.

The Heritage Plan for Kosovo Central is a product of a regional community initiative of the Local Economic Development component of the EU/CoE Joint Project - Support to the Promotion of Cultural Diversity in Kosovo (PCDK) and follows on from a pilot project already completed in Kosovo West. It provides a framework for the identification of the most appropriate strategies to advance the objectives, in the context of developing sustainable, heritage-led initiatives and tourism components within an overall tourism strategy for the region.

The Local Economic Development (LED) component of the PCDK project has been inspired by and is closely associated with the Local Development Pilot Project (LDPP) of the Council of Europe’s Regional Programme for Cultural and Natural Heritage in South East Europe.

While the PCDK I & II project followed a more specific focus on heritage-led initiatives and heritage tourism, it always sought to maintain linkages with the regional programme to complement efforts made across other countries in the region. Our heritage-led work creates platforms where transversal issues relevant to the communities are brought together around concrete actions, setting examples for the type of society we aspire to build.

As a result of the success of the heritage plan process in Kosovo West, it was extended to the other four regions of Kosovo.

The development of a Heritage Plan as a concept was influenced by the successful example of the Irish Heritage Council model, and experts from the Irish Heritage Council have assisted the process of shaping the Heritage Plans as well as providing support for capacity development of the local stakeholders. The implementation of the heritage plan in the four regions is based on the methodology proven in Kosovo West involving community engagement, data-collection, feasibility assessment, pilot actions, capacity development efforts, heritage plan preparation and implementation.

A systematic, analytical and structured approach was adopted based on the local strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in relation to the development of sustainable heritage-led initiatives and tourism in the area. Pilot actions that took place simultaneously in the regions made a significant contribution to the formulation of the heritage plan.

The underlying strategy involves the integration of heritage-led initiatives and heritage tourism development with the development of the general tourism sector in the region.

The strategy focuses on awareness-raising, education, training and suggested actions in relation to cultural and natural heritage, and addresses practical issues embracing ongoing data collection/validation, site conservation, restoration, signage, heritage information and site security, all through a facilitated partnership and cooperation process involving all central, municipal, community, heritage and tourism stakeholders and actors in the region.

The process has been based on partnership, cooperation and community ownership, and in Kosovo Central region key partner has been the NGO 'Kosovar Stability Initiative (IKS)', working with all communities.

The Heritage Plan contains eight sections, emphasising the essence of heritage at the heart of community life, providing an overview of the heritage of the region, introducing the idea of heritage and a heritage plan, and describing how this heritage plan was developed. Further, it reflects upon changing attitudes and approaches of local stakeholders as a result of the process, and highlights the strategic considerations in the development process. Finally, it sets out objectives and their associated achievable actions with a clear 'roadmap' on how to implement the plan while providing brief highlights from each municipality in the region in relation to the heritage plan.

The PCDK project's efforts to highlight the organic linkage between heritage and diversity manifests itself by minimising the distinction between tangible and intangible cultural heritage and natural heritage through a holistic, participative and integrated approach where all the communities have a voice and place. It also encourages the inclusion of contemporary arts as a form of expressing heritage, diversity and multiple identities of the region. This is essential for social inclusion and sustainable economic development.

At the PCDK project, we believe that this regional Heritage Plan will have a significant impact on the local development of Kosovo Central, gradually leading to Kosovo Heritage Plan and presenting a positive example for other regions in Europe.

**Hakan Shearer Demir**  
PCDK Team Leader

**Terry O'Regan**  
CoE Expert

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- PCDK Regional Working Group members
- Regional Centre for Cultural Heritage in Pristina and Institute for Protection of Monuments
- Mayors of Pristina, Podujevë/o, Gračanica/Graçanicë, Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Obiliq/ć, Lipjan/Lipljan, Glllogovc/Glogovac
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## List of Abbreviations

<b>BIOFOR-IQC</b>	Biodiversity and Forestry Indefinite Quality Contract
<b>CHL</b>	Cultural Heritage Law
<b>CHwB</b>	Cultural Heritage without Borders
<b>CoE</b>	Council of Europe
<b>CRIS</b>	Comparative Regional Integration Studies
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organisation
<b>EP</b>	European Partnership
<b>EPAP</b>	European Partnership Action Plan
<b>ERA</b>	Environmentally Responsible Group
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EU CARDS</b>	European Union Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stabilisation
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GIZ</b>	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
<b>GTZ</b>	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
<b>HCN</b>	Heritage Community Network
<b>IMPWG</b>	Inter-Municipal Working Group
<b>HDP</b>	Heritage and Diversity Programme
<b>IMWG</b>	Inter Ministerial Working Group
<b>LDPP</b>	Local Development Pilot Project
<b>LED</b>	Local Economic Development
<b>LSP</b>	Law on Spatial Planning
<b>MAFRD</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development
<b>MCYS</b>	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports
<b>MEST</b>	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
<b>MESP</b>	Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning
<b>MLGA</b>	Ministry of Local Government Administration
<b>MTI</b>	Ministry of Trade and Industry (Department of Tourism)
<b>MTT</b>	Ministry of Transport and Telecommunication
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>PCDK</b>	Promotion of Cultural Diversity in Kosovo
<b>RCCH</b>	Regional Centre for Cultural Heritage
<b>RWG</b>	Regional Working Group
<b>SOC</b>	Serbian Orthodox Church
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development



# 01

*The old fountain in Prishtinë/Priština, 17th or early 18th century*

# HERITAGE AT THE HEART OF COMMUNITY LIFE



## 1.1 What is Heritage?

Heritage is everything we have inherited from the past including monuments, archaeological and other heritage objects, architectural heritage, religious heritage, flora, fauna, wildlife habitats, geology and topography, landscapes, genealogy, traditional music, games, events and performances, folklore, folk-life artefacts, oral heritage and local history.

Heritage is a vital part of our identity and sense of place. It is an intrinsic part of our daily lives, and an exceptional resource contributing to societies' wellbeing including employment, recreation, health, learning and enjoyment. The social value of heritage is priceless in terms of providing a focus for community engagement and cooperation, inspiring pride in the character of our streetscapes and landscapes, and encouraging us to care for our everyday environment.

There is sound economic rationale in supporting heritage, as heritage-led initiatives and heritage tourism in particular have a vital role to play in developing economies. Heritage-led initiatives and tourism deliver employment and sustainable financial income when it is integrated as part of a comprehensive development programme.

***“ Heritage embraces both tangible and intangible elements that reflect the culture and creativity of human communities since time immemorial as well as the rich diversity and beauty of natural environments. ”***

Heritage embraces both tangible and intangible elements that reflect the culture and creativity of human communities since time immemorial as well as the rich diversity and beauty of natural environments.

## 1.2 The Value of Heritage

In the past, heritage was often wrongfully perceived as solely being the responsibility of governments and academics. But just as there is central ownership of heritage, there is also communal and even personal ownership of heritage. Most households will have treasured 'family heritage'

by way of furniture, ornaments, books and documents, photographs, stories, songs, history, and even clothes that have been handed down from generation to generation. Heritage is a vital ingredient in educational programmes throughout the world. It is thus recognised at all levels of society as having a value not always measurable in monetary terms.

The complex ownership and associated values of heritage may explain why it is so often under threat. Its symbolic values can sometimes result in targeted destruction in conflict situations. Its perceived lack of monetary value can result in ill-informed destruction or overlooked deterioration, particularly where its significance has not been officially recognised, researched, identified and protected from interference and environmental damage. An awareness of such threats to heritage must be built into any strategy aimed at placing heritage at the core of the

value system of all societies. Responding to such threats and realising the maximum value of heritage for all citizens requires adequate funding and a versatile approach to sourcing and justifying the necessary funds.

It is fortunate therefore that throughout the world today, communal heritage has an acknowledged important economic value at central, municipal and community level as a focus for small enterprises, an attraction for tourists and, increasingly, for investors. Most, if not all, states have heritage sites of international significance - but usually these are few in number and whilst their very significance ensures a flow of visitors, they usually have capacity constraints and in themselves rarely provide the basis of a viable, sustainable national heritage tourism sector. All progressive, responsible communities therefore have a strong incentive to engage proactively and creatively with their wider heritage.

Taking action in the field of heritage involves identifying its social, cultural, environmental and economic value. Through six essential steps, communities can:

- identify and record their heritage,
- ensure that it is safeguarded,
- develop their heritage and landscape,
- integrate it into the living culture of today, and where possible assign it a new sustainable use while respecting and accepting responsibility to pass their heritage intact to future generations.

This requires a strategic structured approach at the central, regional, municipal and community level and is at its most successful and sustainable where it is based on local communities sharing their valued heritage with visitors, rather than being solely based on commercial interests exploiting a cultural and natural heritage resource as a tourism product.

The Heritage Plan approach represents a practical, yet sustainable, framework strategy to facilitate and coordinate the five key actions identified above in order to realise



*'Goddess on throne', terracotta figurine, Tjerrtorja/Predionica archaeological site, Prishtinë/Priština Municipality (photo: MCYS)*

the full communal value of heritage for society.

### 1.3 What is a Heritage Plan?

A Heritage Plan is a strategy for the identification, protection, conservation, enhancement, interpretation and sustainable management of heritage, and applies at central, regional and municipal levels. It is an agreed, realistic action plan, with reference to delivery mechanisms and budgetary requirements. At the different levels, actions can be undertaken by one group or body, or by a number of groups in partnership. At a regional level a heritage plan can take the form of an overall strategic regional plan accompanied by a number of municipality-based plans. Whatever the scale, it should identify priorities for action by all stakeholders over a three year period, and should include a mechanism for review and evaluation.

A Heritage Plan is an opportunity to identify heritage issues and needs at central, regional and municipal level, and to address them locally. It is intended to influence the actions and activities of all the key players and stakeholders involved with heritage, and to raise awareness of that heritage, its value and its potential. It is therefore both a strategic statement about what the population wants to achieve in terms of heritage management and conservation over a 3 year period, and a list of actions to be undertaken to achieve the strategic aims and objectives.

### 1.4 Why have a Heritage Plan?

Heritage conservation and management is the responsibility not just of central authorities or local municipalities, but of everyone within the community. It often works best when undertaken as a partnership involving all interested groups and individuals. A Heritage Plan is an effective way to reach consensus on how best to conserve and manage heritage collaboratively in a way that focuses a range of collective energies and initiatives for the benefit of that heritage and the participating communities. It is a coordinating

mechanism that provides a strategic context for communal actions, to ensure the greatest benefits are afforded to the heritage resource.

The efforts and initiatives of local groups and central authorities can find a broader context within a Heritage Plan and facilitate agreement on the identification of priorities for the distribution of available funding for the conservation and promotion of heritage.

### 1.5 Who is a Heritage Plan for?

A Heritage Plan is for the people, for all of the relevant agencies and groups of the region, and for municipalities. It is underpinned by the principle of shared responsibility for and ownership of heritage.

**“ A Heritage Plan is an opportunity to recognise and acknowledge the presence of heritage all around us, rather than viewing it as something that is just visited on holidays or at weekends. ”**

### 1.6 What is the Aim of a Heritage Plan?

A Heritage Plan aims to secure benefits for the local community through increased awareness, appreciation, enjoyment and sustainable use, economic and otherwise of their rich cultural and natural heritage. The plan can also be used to gain the support of key players and to forge new partnerships in protecting, raising awareness of, and presenting heritage. It enables a range of actors to engage in a discourse on the importance of heritage in terms of its global, cultural, educational, academic, economic, recreational, aesthetic and personal values, in addition to its own intrinsic values. The plan also recognises the value of sharing information and

responsibility in relation to that heritage.

The Heritage Plan is based upon an integrated approach to the identification, protection, conservation, management and presentation of the heritage assets. It should seek to holistically incorporate the various aspects of that heritage, looking at the historic, natural, cultural, social and economic environment as a whole, rather than attempting to deal with them in a compartmentalised way. This is a fresh, dynamic concept of heritage.

### **1.7 How is the concept of heritage embodied in a Heritage Plan?**

A Heritage Plan is an opportunity to recognise and acknowledge the presence of heritage all around us, rather than viewing it as something that is just visited on holidays or at weekends.

In putting forward such a concept, the Heritage Plan should deal with the environment as a whole, rather than seeking only to protect the best – or most obvious – examples of heritage.

To date, legislation, funding and administrative efforts have tended to concentrate on the protection of the most ‘significant’ aspects and examples of heritage. Whilst the importance of these sites, structures and species justifies their careful protection, the heritage plan also recognises heritage outside these designated areas. It acknowledges the impact of the past and its peoples on every aspect of our lives and landscapes, tangible in its appearance and its morphology.

It is often the undesignated or ‘ordinary’ portion of the landscape that provides the context for important designated sites and structures - both in terms of space and meaning – allowing them to be more fully understood. Such a concept of heritage is closer to the principles of sustainable development, representing a wider understanding of heritage and making it more relevant to our modern lives. It also allows for a more coher-

ent understanding of the environment, the interactions between the different aspects of heritage, and greater public participation in the debate about what is important, what should be protected, and how it should be presented to local, national and international visitors. Such a holistic approach invites a wider set of values to inform the debate.

### **1.8 What does a Heritage Plan contain?**

A Heritage Plan reviews the actions that may have already been undertaken and features a list of further actions which might be undertaken by a range of actors over the three-year period covered by the plan. It contains a list of broad strategic objectives which such actions will help to achieve. Insofar as possible the plan indicates who will carry out each action and may indicate the anticipated timescale for each. The plan may indicate possible funding sources.

The Heritage Plan does not necessarily include actions which are specific to a building, site or place, or the stabilisation of a particular monument. In general the Heritage Plan contains actions which reflect priorities identified in relation to collecting data, raising awareness, promoting best practice and presentation.

### **1.9 Sustainable Heritage**

The economics of heritage is a double-edged sword. Protecting, restoring and managing heritage is an expensive process, and few governments in the world have the resources to fund such important work unless central funding is augmented by income generated by the heritage resource. Internationally, heritage-led initiatives and heritage tourism have become vital mechanisms for generating much needed direct and - more importantly - indirect income to support the heritage sector.

There is a substantial and proven tourism market for professionally-presented, sustainably-managed heritage tourism products. In many developing countries tourism in many

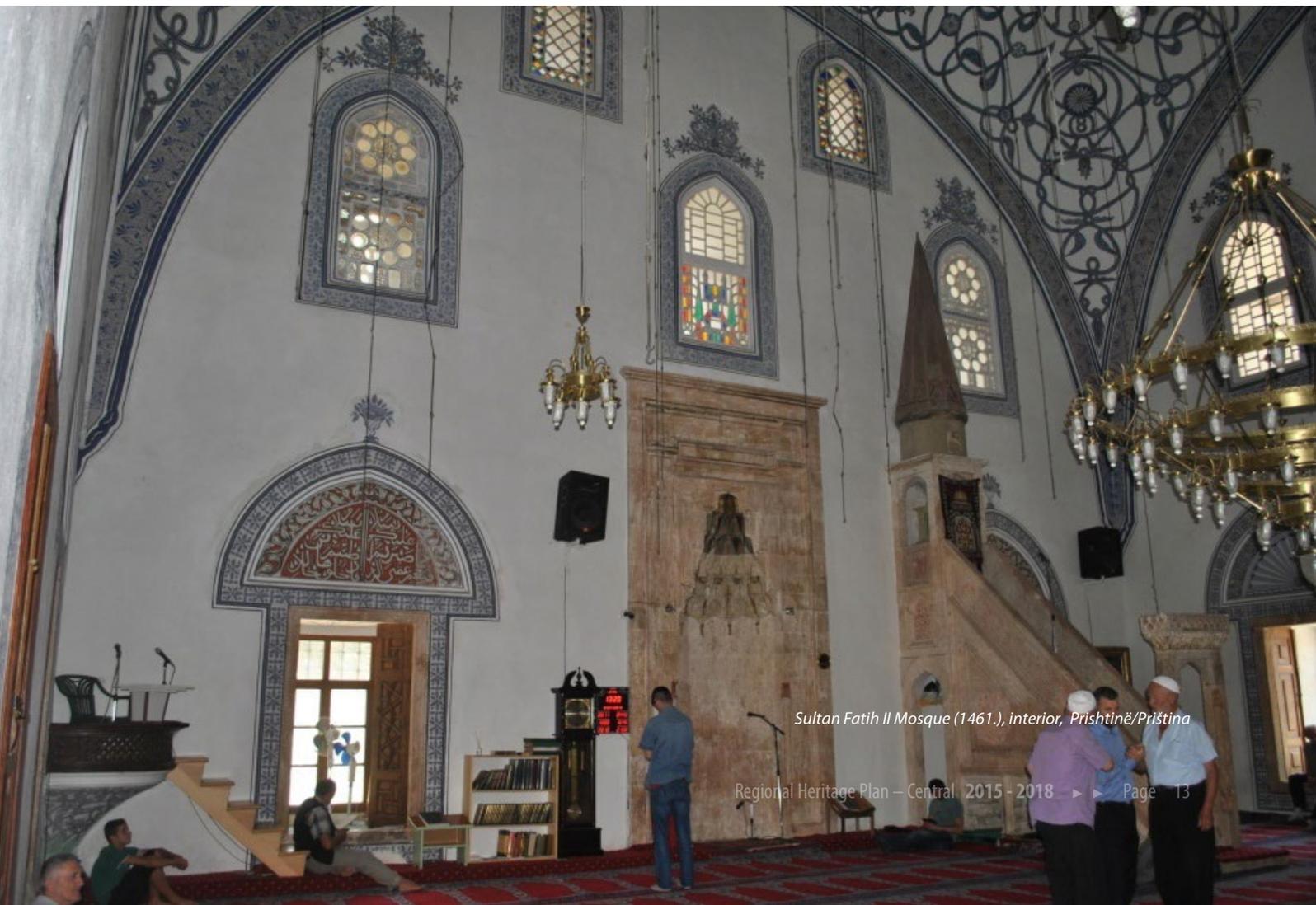
cases generates over 20% of a state's GDP, and it is the primary source of foreign exchange for the countries with lesser economic means in the world.

In Ireland, a small country comparable in certain respects with Kosovo, 40% of tourist expenditure is attributable to the historic environment. Annually some 2.5 million people visit its houses and castles, and some 2 million people visit its monuments. The income generated by heritage tourism arises directly by way of admission fees and other associated merchandise sales, but the real economic benefit arises indirectly from the local spend on food, accommodation and other services.

It must be noted, however, that sustainable tourism - where the attraction is managed and protected while its value is being realised in a responsible manner - requires a planned approach from the beginning of the development of a heritage tourism product. It has to be recognised that heritage tourism gives rise to extra wear and tear on the heritage resource and increases the level of maintenance and care required.

It is also essential to note that the small and medium business enterprise (SME) sector has been the backbone of the European economy, and this reality is embodied in the approach of this plan.

While larger corporations may tend to selectively and intensively exploit the prime heritage sites at the expense of extensive development throughout the wider community, the SME sector thrives in a heritage tourism environment and is inherently more sustainable at a local level and smaller scale.



*Sultan Fatih II Mosque (1461.), interior, Prishtinë/Prishtina*

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*The Clock Tower in Prishtinë/Priština, 19th century*

# HERITAGE OF KOSOVO CENTRAL REGION<sup>1</sup>

The Heritage plan of Central Kosovo covers the territories of 7 municipalities: Prishtinë/Priština, Podujevë/Podujevo, Obiliq/Ć, Lipjan/Lipljan, Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Gračanica/Graçanicë and Glllogovc/Glogovac. In almost all of the municipalities, the ethnic Albanian are the majority of the population, with the exception of Gračanica/Graçanicë where the majority are Serbs. The minority groups are represented by Serbs, Bosniaks, Roma, Ashkali and Turks. The biggest town in the region is Prishtinë/Priština, the administrative centre of the eponymous municipality and the capital of Kosovo.

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Natural beauty and well landscaped area of the Gërmia mountain, the Regional Park Gërmia, located on the north-west of Prishtinë/Priština, is one of the most visited sites by the local population. Gërmia's area covers a territory of 62 km<sup>2</sup>. Its highest peak is "Butovc" - 1500 m above the sea level. The mountain is rich of biodiversity. It has some 600 types of flora including four forest gender - the Hungarian and Turkey oak, hornbeam, sessile oak and common beech, as well as over 30 species of birds among which are the golden and imperial eagle. In 1989 "Gërmia" complex was taken under protection by the Prishtinë/Priština Municipality and classified as a Regional Natural Park. In 1996 a section of Gërmia's lowland was declared as a "forest for picnic". Well landscaped recreation area of 42 ha. includes pool, footpaths around the meadows, children's playground equipment, sports terrains and inns.

Another very popular natural site, known as "Marble Cave of Gadime", is located near the village of Gadime/Gadimlje (Municipality of Lipjan/Lipljan) on the road to Ferizaj/Uroševac. Over 1300 m<sup>2</sup> of the tunnels of 80 million years old cave formed of marble rocks and decorated with stalactites and stalagmites in different colours are open to the public. The cave located west of Kishnareka (Kishna River) near Glllogovc/Glogovac was also recognised as a natural monument. The most interesting part is the "cave's room" which is over 37 m long and 15 m wide. The cave is rich with decoration of stalactites and stalagmites shapes.

The artificial Batlava Lake is not only a recreational destination for the locals but also the most important water resource for the Prishtinë/

<sup>1</sup>The PCDK project refers to the regions as North, South, Central, East, West based on Regional Development Agencies' definition.

Priština and Podujevë/Podujevo region. The area around the Lake is hillside terrain with an altitude of 800 to 1000 m. The rich mineral composition of the water of the Mineral spring of Poklek, located in the eastern part of Drenica river basin on the south-east of Glllogovc/Glogovac makes the Spring in Poklek a natural rarity protected by the Law as a natural monument.

Another natural site of great importance is the Wetlands of Henc village that is located on the territory of three municipalities of Prishtinë/Priština region: Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Gračanica/Graçanicë and Lipjan/Lipljan. Its importance lies on bio-diversity values and characteristics of its eco-system. In 2014, the site was officially proclaimed as special protected zone for migrating birds. The protected zone includes the area of 109 hectares. This zone has the potential for development of educational and raising awareness activities linked to protection of environment.

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Archaeological material of the region of Prishtinë/Priština confirmed existence of very old cultural layers. Artefacts of the famous Neolithic culture, known as "Vinca Culture", were discovered on the archaeological site of Bardhosh/Devet Jugovića, north of Prishtinë/Priština, on the road to Podujevë/Podujevo, as well as on the site of Barileva/Barilevo, near the Llap River. The most characteristic artefact is an anthropomorphic terracotta figurine "Goddess on Throne"/"Mother of Earth" found on the site of "Tjerrtorja/Predionica" ("Emshir") which is located in the suburban area of Prishtinë/Priština called "Kalabria". This unique example of Kosovo variation of Vinca Culture, representing the dominant role of the woman in that age of time (the 4-3 millennium BC), became a symbol of Prishtinë/Priština and Kosovo as well.

Most of the findings of the Neolithic settlement near the Surkish/Surkiš village, south-southeast of Podujevë/Podujevo town, known by the toponym Gumurishte, are stone tools used by the Neolithic people in land cultivation. The last phase of the

Bronze Age is marked with the creation of so called Illyrian culture, later known as the Dardanian Kingdom. The excavated area of the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age site Bërnice Poshtme/Donja Brnica, situated 5 km. from Prishtinë/Priština on the road to Podujevë/Podujevo, is characteristic by the flat necropolis where urn-burial was practiced. Among the remains of the mountainous settlement's fortress of the Copper and Iron Age - Gradishta, located on the eastern part of Gadime e Epërme/Gornje Gadimlje (Lipjan/Lipljan Municipality), significant fragments of pottery decorated with laceration motifs were found. In the first century AD, the Illyrian land of Dardania was completely occupied by the Romans. According to the sources, this territory was developed under the Roman administrative system becoming a part of the Roman Province Moesia, later on – a part of the newly established Roman Province Moesia Superior and finally, in 297 AD, a self-administered Roman Province of Dardania.

The geo-strategic importance and economic development of this region during the Roman time could be documented by the findings of the excavated area of Vindenis, near the village of Gllamnik/Glavnik (Municipality of Podujevë/Podujevo). The site was well known road station on the Roman communication route - Laissus-Naisus. Excavated fragment of floor mosaic with the figure of Orpheus and a golden ring with carved decoration of shaking hands on the surface of a cameo are unique examples of the high artistic achievements of the Vindenis site culture.

The area of the archaeological site of Ulpiana (Municipality of Gračanica/Graçanicë) has been the subject of interest of many generations of researchers taking into account many sources that talk about its evolution as well as the discoveries on a part of the territory of once very developed site. Ulpiana was established as a Roman municipium in 169 AD. According to the surveys carried out in the area, the Roman and Byzantine site of Ulpiana occupied some 50 ha. Remains of

well organised street network, water supply system, number of buildings of profane and religious character are an evidence of its political, cultural and economic importance, particularly during the 3rd and 4th century, and later in the 6th century, during the rule of the Byzantine emperor, Justinian the Great, when Ulpiana was rebuilt and re-named in Justiniana Secunda.

\* \* \*

The Early Middle Age settlements were evidenced through the findings from the necropolis in Matiqan/Martičane (neighborhood of Prishtinë/Priština town) and Graboc/Grabovac (9 km. west of the town of Fushë Kosova/Kosovo Polje). Products of local craftsmen made of gold and silver that followed the Early Byzantine style in jewellery production were excavated from the graves of the noble families of that time. Remains of fortresses, as typical defensive structures of the Early Mediaeval Age, have been excavated in Veletin (Shaskoc/Šaškovac), near Ulpiana archaeological site, (Municipality of Prishtinë/Priština), Harilaq/Ariljača (Municipality of Fushë Kosova/Kosovo Polje) and Llapushnik/Lapušnik (Municipality of Glogovac/Glogovac).

\* \* \*

The cultural history of the region of the Middle Ages could be testified through few preserved monuments among which the most representative is the Monastery of Gračanica/Gračanice, the last endowment of the Serbian king Milutin. The Church of the Monastery of Gračanica/Gračanice was built and decorated right before the death of king Milutin in 1321. With its complex and gracious forms this monumental building represents the Byzantine architectural achievements of the end of 13th and the beginning of the 14th century. The ground floor is rectangular while the central part of the building is cross in square with a dome. The lateral bays are covered by barrel vaults while the corners are covered by smaller domes. It is assumed that the first layer of fresco decoration was made by the workshop of the famous king Milutin's Court painters, Michael

and Eutihus from Thessalonica. Portraits of the king Milutin and his wife, the queen Simonida, were represented on the lateral passage leading towards the naos while for the number of representatives of the Serbian dynasty of Nemanjic the painter used for the first time the well-known Byzantine iconographic scheme of Christ's genealogy, the Jessie's Tree.

At the beginning of the 14th century the Monastery of Gračanica/Gračanice was the seat of the Bishopric of Lipjan/Lipljan. From that time, in the nearby Lipjan/ Lipljan village there is still preserved church dedicated to the Entrance of the Holy Virgin into the Temple. The architectural appearance of this small, one-aisle church represents the characteristic Byzantine building tradition of stone and brick in alternation and blind arcade decoration on the facades. The portrait of unknown nobleman, the founder of the church, was painted on the northern wall of the naos, while in the narthex which was built in 16th century; a scene of the Serbian royal family history with the miracle of the healing of the sight of Stefan of Dechani was illustrated.

One of the most dramatic events of the Late Middle Ages in the Balkans is associated with this region, more precisely with the area of Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje where in 1389 a battle between Serbian and Ottoman armies took place. The victory of the Turks enabled deeper penetration of the Ottoman Empire to the Balkan Peninsula and its further expansion towards Central Europe. In memory of this glorious epic and the courageous actors of both sides, several monuments on the site called Gazimestan ("place of heroes") were built at different times. In 1953, a 25 meters high tower was erected with a museum exhibition that represents the struggle of the Serbian army and its tragic outcome for the Serbian medieval state. In the near vicinity, in the village of Mazgit (Municipality of Obiliq/Obilić), another two monuments associated to the Kosovo battle were built. One is Turbe of Sultan Murat I who was believed that was killed in the battle. His re-

mains were taken to be buried in Bursa (the first capital of the Ottoman Empire) while his son Bayezid I built the turbe in the village of Mazgit in his father's honour. To provide shelter and accommodation to the visitors of this place of pilgrimage, sultan Abdulhamid Khan ordered the construction of two-storey selamlık (a type of hostel), which was completed in 1896. The other monument is Turbe of Bajraktarit, built in the 19th century and dedicated to the flag-bearer of Sultan Murat I named Mestan who was thought that was also one of the heroes who died in the battle.

It is believed that in the memory of the Ottoman army victory in the Kosovo battle, the successor of the sultan Murat I, sultan Bayezit I, was the founder of the first mosque in the area, known as Çarshia (Bazaar) Mosque. The mosque is located in the centre of Prishtinë/Priština, in its "Historic zone". The construction of the mosque was completed in the 17th century during the rule of sultan Murat II.

It could be assumed that the "Historic zone" of Prishtinë/Priština was the area of the former rural settlement around which the town began to develop. Several mosques that were erected in different times, few residential building complexes and remains of the old bazaar facilities are a testimony of that dynamic social and economic development of the town during the Ottoman period.

The biggest and the oldest mosque is Sultan Fatih II Mosque, erected in 1461. The Sultan Fatih Mehmet II Mosque (King' Mosque/ Great Mosque) consists of large hall covered by a spacious dome. Along the western part of the prayer hall runs a colonnaded porch. On the east side of the hall stands the marble mihrab decorated in typical Islamic design (shapes of "stalactites"). Near the mihrab stands the minber whose door lintel has also carved marble decoration. The sources inform that the mosque was restored in 18th- 19th century when the painted decoration of the dome, pendentives, windows' frames, the ceiling of the balcony and the

blind domes of the porch was done. One of the motifs used in the decoration design is the tulip which was very popular ornament used in the decoration of muslim objects of that time.

It was a Muslim tradition the central prayer building, the mosque, to be accompanied by facilities used for religious rituals and public gatherings among which an important place has been given to the hammams (public baths). In that context, on the southern side of the Sultan Fatih II Mosque, the so-called "Great Hammam", was built at the same time. Fragments of the original bath tubs with sculptural decoration of stylized flowers, rosettes and geometric ornaments can still be seen.

The Clock Tower, located in the vicinity of the Sultan Fatih II Mosque is a facility that each developed trade area of the Ottoman towns usually had. This 26 m. high structure, built in the late 19th century of stone (the lower part) and brick (the upper part, replaced the older clock tower of the market area which was more simple stone construction. As reminiscence to the developed Prishtinë/Priština's market of oriental type there is a public fountain located close to the Çarshia Mosque. It was probably built in late 17th or early 18th century when the market experienced a great development. Marble slabs of its simple octagonal structure were carved with floral decoration in a shape of rosette representing the so called "tulip" style developed in the Ottoman Empire under the influence of the European Baroque decorative art.

Yashar Pasha Mosque is the youngest Ottoman sacral monument preserved in the area. It was built in 1835 by one of the biggest donors of many constructions all over Kosovo in the 19th century, Jashar Pasha who was born in Prishtinë/Priština. The mosque is a single domed building on a square plan with a dodecagonal minaret attached to its south-west part. The monument is an example of the Ottoman Late Baroque style.

Several residential building complexes located in the area, owned by wealthy merchants or Ottoman administrators from the 19th century, were built in oriental style. The family houses and the ancillary structures were arranged in the landscaped courtyards fenced with walls on the side to the street. The dominant area of the two-storey houses which was used for family gathering, was the wooden, opened or glazed gallery/balcony (çardak). Most of the preserved complexes were adapted for functioning of different Kosovo' institutions: the housing complex of Emin Gjiku became a museum of the Ethnographic Department of the Museum of Kosovo, the property of Tefik Rushit Mirashi and the Domaniku family is a seat of the Association of the Previous Political Prisoners and the house built by Maliq Pasha is a seat of the National Institute for Protection of Monuments. The most impressive monumental building from the time of modernisation of the Ottoman towns under the influence of the European architecture is the seat of the Museum of Kosovo, built in 1885/86 as a seat of the Ottoman army administration ("Turkish Military Barracks"). The style is eclectic with elements of the Neoclassical European architecture. The other monument that is associated to the Austro-Hungarian architecture, built at the beginning of 20th century, is the elementary school "Elena Gjika".

Museum collections that are exposed to the wider public in the building of Kosovo National Museum and in its Ethnographic department, located in the residential complex of Emin Gjiku, lead us through the rich cultural history of Kosovo. In addition to significant artefacts associating with the ancient history of the central region of Kosovo, an important place in the museum exhibition was given to the objects and practices of traditional life, still existing in the memory of today' population. In that context, items processed in the workshops of popular artisans and articles made by the skilled Albanian women from Drenicë/Drenica region (Central Kosovo that includes areas of the municipalities of Glllogovc/Glogovac, Skënderaj/Srbica and several villages of Klinë/

Klina, Mitrovicë/a and Vushtrri/Vučitrn), presented in the Emin Gjiku Museum, could be specifically marked; Rich costumes that originates from this region, composed of several layers of cloth and decorated in embroidery in various colours are associated with the traditional celebrations of important events, accompanied with performances among which one of the most popular was "Drenica Dance". This dance is still playing in many occasions.

In this brief presentation of the heritage of the region, the emphasis was put on the historic centre of Prishtinë/Priština. The area was studied by experts in collaboration with the Municipality with the aim to present the value and condition of heritage that could help in its protection and revitalisation activities. In this zone of rich cultural heritage there are still small "oasis" of open space where different cultural activities and performances could be organised which would contribute to the enrichment of the social and cultural life of the citizens and might become an additional attractive offered to tourists. Such places include the Archaeological Park (located opposite of the Museum of Kosovo), the area between the Sultan Fatih II Mosque and the Great Hammam, the yard of the Museum of Kosovo and the area around the old fountain located at the entrance of the historic area.



*Two handle dish from the Iron Age, Bellaçec/Belačevac village, Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje Municipality (photo: MCYS)*

# 03



Artistic interventions in public spaces,  
Prishtinë/Priština

# DEVELOPMENT OF A HERITAGE PLAN FOR KOSOVO CENTRAL REGION



## 3.1 Towards a Heritage Plan – Research and Assessment

The Heritage Plan evolved as an output of the PCDK project component on Local Economic Development, first in the Kosovo West region as a pilot action and extended to other regions in 2013 and 2014. The Heritage Plan process focuses on heritage management and heritage-led initiatives/tourism development, effectively drawing together a range of proven community engagement activities and pilot projects into an integrated strategy for the region, with an initial two year development phase laying the foundations for an action plan to be implemented over a further three year timeframe.

The successful methodology (as developed in Kosovo West) is structured in five phases:

- 1. Diagnosis Phase**
- 2. Feasibility Study**
- 3. Pilot Actions**
- 4. Plan for Regional Heritage Management & Heritage-led Initiatives/Local Economic Development**
- 5. Introduction and installation of the Heritage and Diversity Programme and its coordinators**

The project's progress responds to the dynamics of the region, with the focus of the process being on cultural and natural heritage and its related development potential including heritage-led tourism.

A priority throughout the process has been the engagement of communities with their common heritage, by means of awareness-raising, promotion, education, and capacity development activities.

## The workflow adopted included the following actions:



The initial diagnosis phase involved a wide-ranging data collection and survey undertaken by different entities, presented on an online database application designed by a local expert.

### I. MCYS & Regional Centres for Cultural Heritage provided:

1. Official list of immovable cultural heritage in the region protected by the Cultural Heritage Law, presented by the MCYS – Department of Cultural Heritage
2. Data concerning the selected immovable cultural heritage of the region – provided by the Regional Centre for Cultural Heritage in Prishtinë/Priština and Institute for Protection of Monuments.

### II. MESP experts provided:

Data regarding the protected natural monuments and areas in the region

### III. NGO 'Kosovar Stability Initiative (IKS):

1. Information on the current condition of the selected cultural and natural monuments/sites
2. Presentation by the NGO of recognised intangible cultural heritage elements
3. Photo and video documentation on the reported activities on immovable and intangible cultural heritage and natural heritage.

The feasibility study evaluated and assessed the data collected, and confirmed the strategies and options identified that might be pursued to sustainably realise the value of the rich heritage of the region in social, cultural, educational and economic terms.

Pilot actions were undertaken in parallel with other phases to inform the process and to draw the communities of the region into active participation in the process.

This Heritage Plan represents a practical yet sustainable framework to facilitate a strategy that builds on the work completed to date, and underpins the implementation of the actions identified as desirable in the feasibility study.

### 3.2 Towards a Heritage Plan – Guidelines & Field Work

From the experience acquired in the Kosovo West region, the regional capacity assessment and data-collection undertaken in Kosovo Central region during 2013, and guided by the feasibility study conclusions, the PCDK project team, working with the communities of the regions, have identified actions that aim to realise the potential of Central Kosovo heritage and its environment in the wider context of strategic planning.

The development of the Heritage Plan has involved the active engagement of all actors of the region including local NGOs, with contributions from the Centres for Cultural Heritage, with specific reference to establishing a current inventory of heritage in accordance with criteria provided by the PCDK project team.

In selecting heritage sites and assets for the pilot actions, all of the known heritage and diversity of the region were considered as potential attractions that could initiate the development of “alternative tourism sub-sectors”, e.g. cultural, spiritual or eco-tourism. The criteria for the selection of natural and cultural landscapes and historical monuments, sites and living traditions have been implemented according to the assessment of:

- Condition of the heritage asset, i.e. its presentation to the wider public
- Appropriate access to the heritage asset
- Availability of data of evaluated features of the heritage asset
- Infrastructural capacity of the surrounding/environment
- Interest and willingness expressed by the practitioners for safeguarding and transmitting of living traditions to the next generations.

In addition, a workshop series on heritage, carried out in conjunction with the other regions, accompanied the engagement of local stakeholders in processing the plan and establishing connections with their colleagues, keeping the larger picture in mind.

***“ This Heritage Plan represents a practical yet sustainable framework to facilitate a strategy that builds on the work completed to date, and underpins the implementation of the actions identified as desirable in the feasibility study. ”***

The following diagram illustrates the weaknesses in the heritage sectors of the region, identified in the SWOT analysis undertaken as a core action in the feasibility study:

#### IMMOVABLE CULTURAL HERITAGE:

- Archaeological sites and monuments not properly presented to the wider public
- Absence of signage of archaeological sites and built heritage
- Poor road signage to areas of natural and cultural heritage
- Urgent need for an updated and approved comprehensive inventory on building heritage and cultural landscapes
- Urgent need of conservation measures on building structures according to established priorities
- Need for an integrated approach to heritage within spatial planning
- Absence of appropriate management and rehabilitation programmes

#### MOVABLE CULTURAL HERITAGE:

- Urgent need for an integrated comprehensive inventory of museum collections
- Appropriate promotional materials urgently required
- Urgent need for a systematic approach to the conservation, storage, display and interpretation of museum collections.

#### LEGAL INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS FOR PROTECTION OF HERITAGE:

- Revised Cultural Heritage Law and Law on Spatial Planning
- Appropriate Regulations derived from the Cultural Heritage Law
- Appropriate Guidelines derived from the Cultural Heritage Law
- Appropriate guidelines for implementation of the Law on Nature

#### INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE:

- Absence of inventory
- Promotional materials on traditional lifestyles of communities absent or inadequate
- Few organised events and performances
- Inadequate support for the practitioners of traditional handicrafts, performances and related intangible cultural heritage products

#### NATURAL HERITAGE:

- Insufficient information of the natural biodiversity and landscape resource
- Inadequate conservation measures
- Weak infrastructure for satisfactory public access;
- Lack of an integrated approach towards landscape management & planning in all areas including high value natural heritage areas
- Poorly developed infrastructure for the overall management of natural heritage



*Batlava/Batlava Lake, Podujevë/ Podujevo Municipality*



04

*Street art competition, first prize, artwork of Pleurat Spahiu*

# CHANGING ATTITUDES AND APPROACHES



During the course of the PCDK II project, a range of activities took place in the region with the active involvement of local stakeholders. A preliminary ongoing assessment that was undertaken on the impact of the work conducted by the PCDK project identified changing attitudes and approaches towards local development and heritage as a resource. According to these local stakeholders, the PCDK II project contributed to:

- Change of approach among CSO and NGOs from desiring to act more on regional initiatives rather than solely local actions.
- Increased cooperation with and appreciation for multiple stakeholders, including international partners, in methodology and approach.
- Enhanced relationships and cooperation between local NGOs, communities, local authorities and institutions, including Regional Centres for Cultural Heritage.
- Increased interest and involvement of the RCCH in initiatives on intangible heritage practices, which is beyond the current mandate.
- Increased interest and willingness of the local artisans to transmit their knowledge and skills to new generations and provide organised workshops for the sake of preserving and continuing the traditions, rather than solely financial benefit.
- Increased awareness of local institutions and NGOs on the continued necessity for professional development on cultural heritage.
- Acknowledgement of the importance and power of small and meaningful actions by local communities, promoting and using local heritage resources for local economic development.
- The acceptance and support for the launch of the HDP programme by all stakeholders as a necessity for the region.
- Understanding and interest in continued platforms for dialogue and cooperation, which was initiated as a Regional Working Group, where all municipalities are represented.
- Awareness and willingness of all local stakeholders for cooperation with all other regions in the spirit of a network on heritage.
- Increased awareness and readiness of local stakeholders and authorities to link and merge project activities from different international organisations under a commonly shared vision and programme.
- Increased awareness that cultural and natural heritage work requires more community and volunteer engagement.
- Understanding the necessity of multidisciplinary collaboration of people from different sectors in the region alongside experts from different fields and levels.
- Increased knowledge and awareness among teachers in elementary schools about communicating the value of cultural heritage and diversity at an early age to students.



05

*Holy Mother of God with Jesus Christ, (14th century fresco-icon), Church:  
Presentation of the Holy Virgin into the Temple, Lipjan/Lipljan*

# STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS



## **An Integrated Approach to Heritage Planning and Management**

The development of viable heritage planning and management in accordance with European norms and standards, with a strong emphasis on community wellbeing through the active participation of all stakeholders and civil society, requires a sustainable and integrated approach.

The Heritage Plan approach will facilitate the incorporation of heritage-led initiatives within the wider economic development with particular focus on tourism sector and products. The strategy will not focus solely on cultural tangible/intangible and natural heritage issues (including site preservation, restoration, signage, heritage information and site security), but will also involve the heritage authorities operating in partnership and cooperation with other tourism and community stakeholders and actors. Further it will encourage incorporating contemporary arts into heritage work as a form of expressing heritage, diversity and the multiple identities of the region.

This approach, as promoted by the PCDK project, has the potential to address conflicting demands, including the reconciliation and integration of diverse ethnic communities through mutually beneficial, sustainable economic and tourism development, whilst maintaining the integrity and pre-eminence of dynamic cultural heritage over time. This expectation will depend on the impetus of the commercial momentum being responsive to communal sensitivities throughout the process.

These strategic considerations are closely inter-connected, and the successful protection of heritage in Kosovo Central region will depend on the effectiveness and cohesion of the level of cooperation that is achieved between the public and private partners. For protection to succeed, it is vital that local communities are fully aware of the importance of what is being protected, why it has this importance, and how the activities of local people can impact on protection. A sound heritage management plan must embrace diversity, which requires a careful design and planning process. Well-protected, designed and managed heritage assets with proper promotion are essential for the development of sustainable, successful heritage tourism.

The heritage plan framework will be an important catalyst in achieving this desirable outcome through a range of specific strategic approaches.

# Recommendations for Potential Integrated Regional Approach

*The central region, as the administrative centre, presents the characteristics of urban and semi-urban life styles. Historic centres, such the case of Pristinë/ Priština and life revolving around historic monuments such as Graçanicë/Gračanica constitute the urban nucleus of the towns in various levels and attract public to enjoy a common space.*

*As unplanned growth of towns has a tremendous impact on the quality of life and environment, the need for public space, their function and the role of democratic participation in their development and utilisation manifest a challenge. Pristina, with a large amount of circulation during the weekdays, accommodates people from across Kosovo and tries to cater the need of an urban life style, while nearby municipalities of the region share these urban culture phenomena as they play the suburb role. Consequently, the region increasingly regenerates its urban culture, gradually expanding and settlements gradually connecting. In this development process, creation and use of public spaces through democratic participation could bring a new dimension to urban development where heritage resources are better valued, well utilised and play pivotal role in increasing the quality of life for its residents.*

*The central region is very rich with its heritage assets, including tangible, intangible and natural. However, rapidly growing urban scenery in the name of modernity threatens the existence and value of these significant heritage assets. Therefore, a careful analysis as well as strategic planning and management of these heritage assets in line with the growing urban culture stand out as the priority in the region.*

*Majority of municipal urban centres and some neighbourhoods have great amount of potential of transforming public spaces into exceptional places where local populations, together with the authorities, could take an active role in designing and planning as well as deciding their functions and management. Reconsidering and in some cases redefining the role and functions of public spaces with active citizen participation are imperative for the appreciation of their common heritage and opens doors for economic development. The vibrant cultural and arts scene in Pristinë/ Priština and Graçanicë/Gračanica could be a catalyst and set examples for similar arts and cultural initiatives in order to create platforms for awareness raising, encouraging citizens to actively engage in the process.*

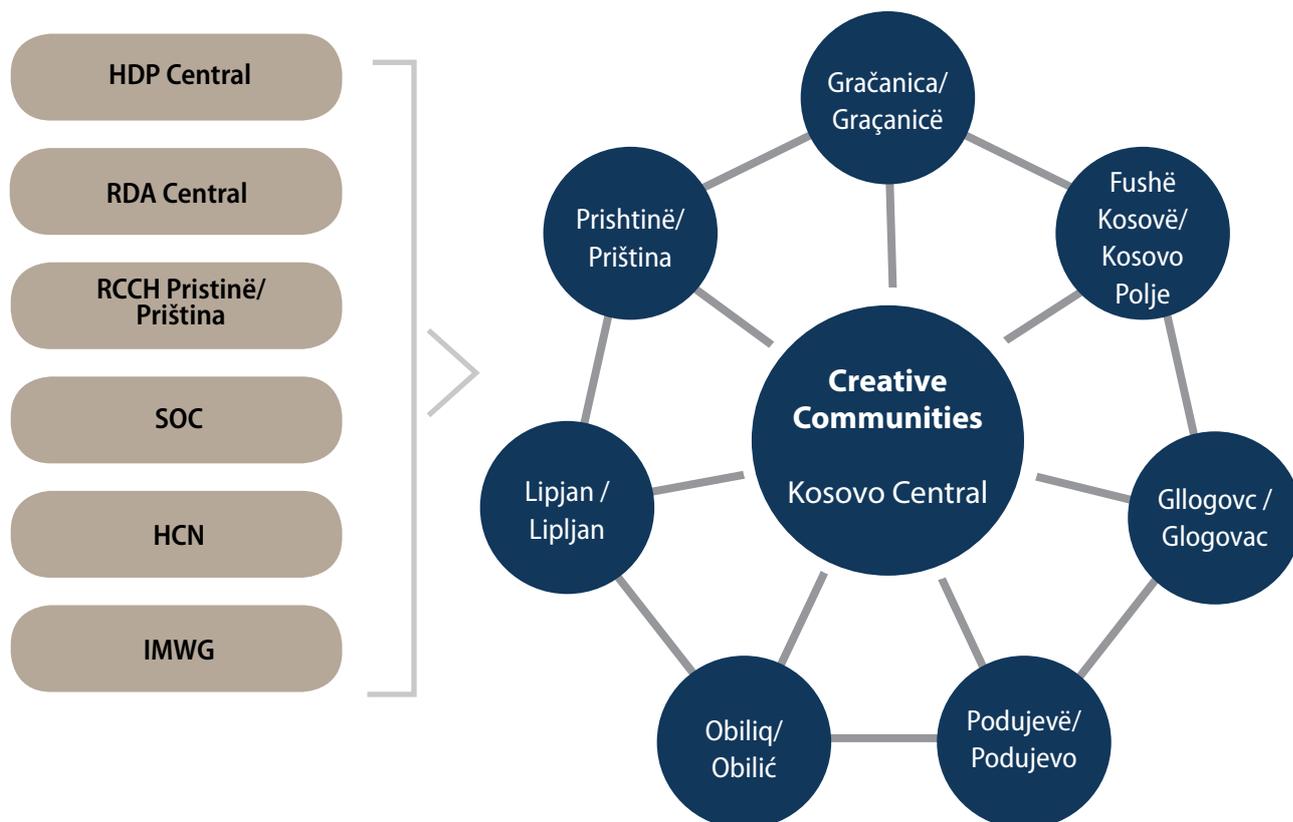
*Consequently, the Heritage Plan Central region recommends that stakeholders work towards an overall vision of the development of the region, where the heritage and diversity in urban nucleus as well as outstanding neighbourhoods (whether it is historic or contemporary sites) are linked with the needs of contemporary life, shaping the enriched living environment through active democratic participation of its citizens.*

*The UN Habitat's Municipal Spatial Planning Support Programme (MuSPP) is a very concrete resource that could provide guidance in technical aspects in many municipalities while PCDK Case study Pristinë/ Priština has carefully studied the urban nucleus and offered sound recommendations. Improvements in recent years regarding use of sidewalks, pedestrian areas have shown the positive affect on population and have enriched the public life as well as economic opportunities. It is essential that citizen actions combined with the strategic points laid out in the Heritage Plan are carefully incorporated in the municipal development plans in the region central.*

*Extensive involvement of contemporary art could inspire residents to come up with innovative approach to urban spaces and set examples for other regions alternatives, a new wave of appreciation of heritage and use of public space in Kosovo.*

*Examples created in the region should integrate all elements as per the Junik model and could inspire similar private and public initiatives in the region. (Please see information on the methodologies developed in the Case study on Urban Rehabilitation – Neighborhood of the Tourism Centre in Junik, Stone that Talk Programme in Junik and the Case study on Integrated Conservation – Conservation Basis for the Historic Centre of Prishtinë/Priština, in Appendix 3).*

## Integrated Regional Approach through Public Space and Democratic Participation for the transformation of urban nucleus



### 5.1. Considerations in conceptualising an integrated approach

- **Preserving and protecting the resources:** Development of a plan for the preservation and protection of special places, sites and traditions that attract the local population and wider range of visitors. The plan should consider the meaning and value of heritage assets to society and should be in accordance with all applicable local and national laws/regulations in line with international standards. It should also be focused on the development of initiatives for landscape protection and development, as well as on safeguarding of traditional practices and events following the interest of the individuals, groups of people or communities in the area.
- **Focusing on authenticity of sites, living traditions, expressions and effective**

**presentation:** The contributions of previous generations and diverse groups shape the history and culture of a place and community today, making it unique and an attraction point for visitors. In order to value the present we must understand our past and find creative and attractive ways to present it in order to build the relationship between places, individuals and communities, as well as with visitors. Authenticity of places, people and their stories distinguishes one from the other and offers distinctive experiences.

- **Making the sites come alive with quality of interpretation:** A destination is a place with a story! Using creative methods in interpreting the stories, special cultural sites, traditions, events and personalities, as well as the beauties of the natural environment, make the community or region distinctive. There should be an inclusive

approach by respectfully telling the story of all groups that have made contributions to common heritage.

- **Finding the balance between community life, preservation of heritage and tourism development:** A community that values and protects its heritage will contribute to the development of a successful project, with funds, volunteers and political support required. Awareness and knowledge among the community about heritage preservation and tourism opportunities is crucial for sustainable development. The specific value of any given heritage asset to the community should be carefully considered as their well-being should not be sacrificed in the name of preservation of heritage or tourism development. Particular attention should be given to balanced community-oriented programmes for the development of landscapes, in accordance with its importance to the local people. A comprehensive community consultation process is key to an effective dialogue in order to find a balance.
- **Gender mainstreaming:** Mainstreaming gender means ensuring equal opportunities and non-discrimination practices in all policy development and implementation. If gender is mainstreamed, all actions should be planned, implemented, monitored, reported on, and evaluated with a gender perspective in mind. While women represent a strong social link in Kosovo society and play a crucial role in transmitting heritage to younger generations, they have limited recognition in the labour market and decision-making power in policies and community actions. Techniques with a direct positive impact on women at society level such as gender-sensitive project objectives, gender budgeting, a gender impact assessment and gender disaggregated data are the most powerful measures to promote gender equality through actions. Gender mainstreaming and promoting gender equality in heritage-led initiatives should
- **Inclusion of marginalised groups / communities:** The presence of diverse groups, irrespective of their number and length of time spent in the territory, is an asset for society and heritage-led initiatives. Each group / community has its own value systems and unique contributions to the common heritage of a place, and should be able to have its rightful place in all stages from the conceptualisation of actions, taking into consideration their needs, culture, beliefs and ways of living. Marginalisation of groups based on their age, ability, gender, ethnicity, socio-economic background, geographic origin, etc. widens the gap and brings inequality, contributing to tensions between groups. Heritage-led initiatives create constructive platforms and should consider all groups / communities in the territory.
- **Collaborating for sustainability of management:** Preservation of heritage and tourism development demand the participation of numerous individuals and organisations. There is a need to create partnerships to broaden support and the chances for success through, for example, packaging sites and traditional events in the community or region, the promotion of natural beauty where access and infrastructure meet standards, and encouraging cross-promotion with other sites to maximise exposure. These preconditions are crucial for heritage tourism to be a sustainable form of economic development. Collaboration between the central authorities and Regional Centres for Cultural Heritage, as well as the responsible entities for environment/nature protection, academia and educational institutes, is essential. This also encourages heritage owners to understand the importance of working with the local authorities in conservation and safeguarding of heritage resources while developing mechanisms for education and the sustainable management of heritage resources.

## **5.2. Considerations in planning and designing an integrated approach**

### **A - Assessment of the potential of heritage – determine the current resources using inventories**

The goal of the assessment is not just to list resources but to evaluate potential quality and level of services. Creation of inventories is imperative in order to begin with an objective appraisal of assets including existing attractions and events or practices and those with potential for development. Historical importance, physical state of immovable cultural heritage, the traditional heritage elements, the attractions of natural heritage and landscape are essential data for characterising sites, practices and activities in the inventory process. The inventory information helps to identify the overall framework of a heritage development plan.

### **B - Ensuring ongoing professional development - protection, maintenance and management**

Consideration of plans for protection, maintenance and management in order to achieve long term results is one of the important preconditions for developing objectives for actions to be highlighted within the Heritage Plan. Preservation of assets, maintenance of natural heritage and characteristic landscape areas, as well as the safeguarding of traditional practices and stories passed down through generations, are essential issues to be considered for preserving the character of the community and its living environment.

Preservation involves producing “tangible” improvements to historic or natural sites or traditional practices and events, ensuring the protection of all assets and artefacts, and the telling of their story through interpretation.

Research is important to compile and/or update information, which will prove necessary when restoring the structure or traditional practice and interpreting them to the visitors.

As a process of returning the asset to a state of utility through repair or alteration which makes efficient contemporary use without attacking its historic and cultural value, rehabilitation is expected to be considered in the heritage plans. Standards pertain for all types of historic buildings and also encompass related landscape features, the environment and natural heritage sites. The standards are applied to specific rehabilitation projects taking into consideration technical and economic feasibility.

### **C - Local Economic Development through Heritage Resources and potentials**

(Heritage Planning and Creative Industries Development)

Cultural heritage and the creative capacity and inventiveness of the human race have been closely integrated throughout the ages. On the one hand, our most valued heritage has often been the creative output of different cultures over time. On the other hand, cultural heritage has served as an inspiration and resource for artists and craftspeople throughout the world.

Today, creative enterprises are drawing their inspiration from local tangible and intangible heritage, providing employment and support for local economies often in quite remote locations. Such heritage-led initiatives enhance the attractiveness of areas for tourists and highlight the value and diversity of local heritage, while not being necessarily dependent on a local tourism market to sell their products.

## D - Increasing Public Awareness and Education

Heritage awareness begins with education. An understanding of what heritage encompasses is essential to the appreciation of the different heritage issues in the region, municipality and among communities.

A successful heritage plan reaches out to the community in order to gain support. In return, heritage knowledge and awareness will be raised, which will then encourage community members to contribute to ongoing heritage efforts. This is a cyclical, ongoing process, as the community grows and new residents want to be involved and learn more about the unique identity of the place in which they are living.

Heritage Education Programmes in schools are not intended only to introduce the importance of heritage to the younger generations but also to raise the overall level of heritage awareness in the community, encouraging re-

**“ Heritage awareness begins with education. An understanding of what heritage encompasses is essential to the appreciation of the different heritage issues in the region, municipality and among communities. ”**

spect for diversity and creativity to better express it. Contemporary arts play a powerful role to express heritage, diversity and the multiple identities of heritage where individuals and communities are able to define themselves with the changing reality of the world today.

## E - Active community engagement and citizen participation

While the legislative and technical protection measures are regulated by central and local authorities, communities play a crucial role for the planning and management of heritage in their respective regions. Active citizen participation is crucial to understand the meaning of heritage and pay necessary attention to its importance at a local level, where communities have increased appreciation of their common heritage and treat it with care and respect. All planning and design of heritage plans and projects should actively seek community engagement and encourage citizen participation with an inclusive approach.





*Ethnographic Museum "Emin Gjiku", Prishtinë/Priština*

# 06

*Elementary school "Elena Gjika", administration building from the early 20th century, frontal façade, Prishtinë/Priština*

# OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

The Feasibility Study recommendations focused on the delivery of the project objectives in relation to cultural diversity, the communal cultural and natural heritage resources, and the potential for heritage-led initiatives and heritage tourism in the region – all integrated with local economic development with a focus on tourism, whilst taking practical account of available resources, authorities and legislative or other constraints.

The Action Plan that is central to the Heritage Plan focuses on addressing the heritage weaknesses in a manner that recognises the relationship between heritage, community wellbeing and the local economy for an improved quality of life and living environment. This includes tourism potentials, and represents a continuation and diversification of actions already completed or facilitated by regional and municipal working groups.

### **These actions have included:**

- The establishment and training of the regional and municipal working groups.
- The overall data collection and validation exercise.
- Heritage data assessment and validation projects in each municipality.
- Pilot projects focusing on cultural events/traditions in each municipality.
- Heritage-led initiatives and tourism demonstration pilot projects.
- Workshop series on heritage

Based on the strategic considerations already outlined, the following are objectives and associated actions planned for the next three years:

# Objective 1

To raise awareness and promote appreciation of heritage in Kosovo Central region

## Actions & Potential partners

### **1.1 Organise on-going data collection and validation of the cultural and natural heritage of the region including the local practices and traditions, sites, moveable heritage and cultural products.**

(HDP, CSOs, RCCH, Institute for protection of Monuments, Academia, respective municipalities)

### **1.2 Organise diverse heritage promotion activities with active community involvement, highlighting the local practices, sites and cultural products in the region**

(HDP, Media, Practitioners, CSOs, RCCH, Institute for protection of Monuments, Business community, municipalities)

### **1.3 Develop and adopt a joint regional education and awareness-raising strategy with all municipalities involved, including competitions, events and workshops**

(HDP, CSOs, Municipalities, RDA-Centre, local schools, municipal Directorates of Education, Practitioners, Experts in Heritage)

### **1.4 Promote the Regional Heritage Plan and its implementation results through a number of awareness activities working with local, regional and central partners as appropriate**

(HDP, Municipalities, RDA-Centre)

### **1.5 Improve awareness of the integrated approach to heritage among authorities and the general public**

(HDP, RCCH)

### **1.6 Maintain the website promoting the region and ongoing activities**

(HDP)

## Objective 2

To take necessary measures for the protection of heritage in Kosovo Central region.

### Actions & Potential partners

#### 2.1 Ensure ongoing data assessment of heritage

(HDP, CSOs, RCCH, Institute for Protection of Monuments, municipalities)

#### 2.2 Initiate the compilation of an inventory on intangible cultural heritage elements in cooperation with the scientific institutions and/or experts and with participation of the practitioners.

(HDP, CSOs, Municipalities, Practitioners, Ethnographic Museum, Academia)

#### 2.3 Initiate projects for conservation of the archaeological and other heritage artefacts following consultations with central institutions.

(MCYS, Institute of Archaeology, Municipalities, RCCH, Institute for Protection of Monuments)

#### 2.4 Initiate a rural assessment with particular attention to biodiversity and natural heritage assets, including identification of species of highest conservation concern in the region

(MESP, Municipalities, CSOs, RDA-Central)

#### 2.5 Carry out an inventory of landscape areas from a heritage perspective

(HDP, MESP, Municipalities, CSOs, MCYS)

#### 2.6 Create a database for the museums and their collections (movable cultural heritage)

(Museum of Kosovo, Ethnological Institute, Municipalities, CSOs)

#### 2.7 Compile a "Heritage at Risk Record".

(HDP, CSOs, RCCH, Institute for Protection of Monuments)

#### 2.8 Create a map of protected built cultural heritage assets, intangible cultural heritage elements, moveable heritage items and natural heritage sites based on comprehensive study and research

(HDP, RCCH, Institute for Protection of Monuments, CSOs, Municipalities)

#### 2.9 Take immediate steps for raising awareness and promotion of traditional practices

(MCYS/Department for Cultural Heritage, Museum of Kosovo, Ethnographic Museum, Academia)

## Objective 3

To develop and encourage thorough assessment, integrated project design and planning with sound heritage management plan in Kosovo Central region

### Actions & Potential partners

#### **3.1 Encourage coordination and cooperation between all heritage and spatial planning agencies, interested bodies and individuals in the region**

(HDP, RCCH, Institute for Protection of Monuments, CSOs, Municipalities, MESP)

#### **3.2 Utilise the conservation and management tools introduced in the Ljubljana Process of CoE /EU Regional programme, the EU /CoE PCDK project as well the other successfully implemented projects and programmes supported by the respectable international organisations**

(HDP, RCCH, Institute for Protection of Monuments, Municipalities, MESP)

#### **3.3 Organise regular regional heritage forums to keep all stakeholders updated**

(HDP)

#### **3.4 Issue an annual publication 'Our Common Heritage – a Civil Society Review in Kosovo Central', sharing research and assessment results**

(HDP, Heritage Forum)

#### **3.5 Provide regular and appropriate access to the selected heritage sites with a tourism perspective, including signage and guidance services.**

(RCCH, Institute for Protection of Monuments, Municipalities, MCYS, Ministry of Transportation)

# Objective 4

To develop and coordinate appropriate heritage management practices in Kosovo Central region

## Actions & Potential partners

### **4.1 Coordinate annual reviews of the implementation of the Heritage Plan and the preparation of the next Heritage Plan in 2018 for a further 3 year period**

(HDP, Heritage Forum, )

### **4.2 Ensure improved quality services for heritage led initiatives /tourism through professional development**

(IMWG, HDP, CSOs, municipalities)

### **4.3 Develop tools and mechanism for an integrated approach to rehabilitation of heritage, enterprise/tourism and education programs with multiple partners**

(HDP, Municipalities, CSOs, RCCH)

### **4.4 Plan tailored programmes in light of current and potential tourist flow**

Municipalities, CSOs, business community

### **4.5 Initiate plans for rehabilitation of selected immovable cultural heritage, intangible heritage and natural heritage through active intercultural dialogue among all stakeholders (central and local), including marginalised communities**

(Projects operating in the region, RCCH, NGOs)

### **4.6. Provide the HDP coordinators with operational financial and political support as well as technical assistance.**

(Municipalities, RCCH)

## Objective 5

Develop locally appropriate and sustainable heritage-led tourism initiatives in Kosovo Central region

### Actions & Potential partners

#### 5.1 Initiate a training programme for local part-time heritage guides in each municipality

IMWG, HDP

#### 5.2 Participate in heritage-led tourism projects

(HDP, MCYS, Municipalities, CSOs, Business community)

#### 5.3 Conduct cost/benefit analysis on proposed projects in order to prioritise applications for funding in a coordinated manner

(HDP, RCCH, Institute for Protection of Monuments, Municipalities, Ministry of Trade and Industry)

#### 5.4 Ensure coordinated action in order to utilise diverse heritage assets and practices spread across the region.

(CSOs, municipalities, HDP, RDA Centre)

#### 5.5 Improve basic tourism services based on SMEs (family-based businesses)

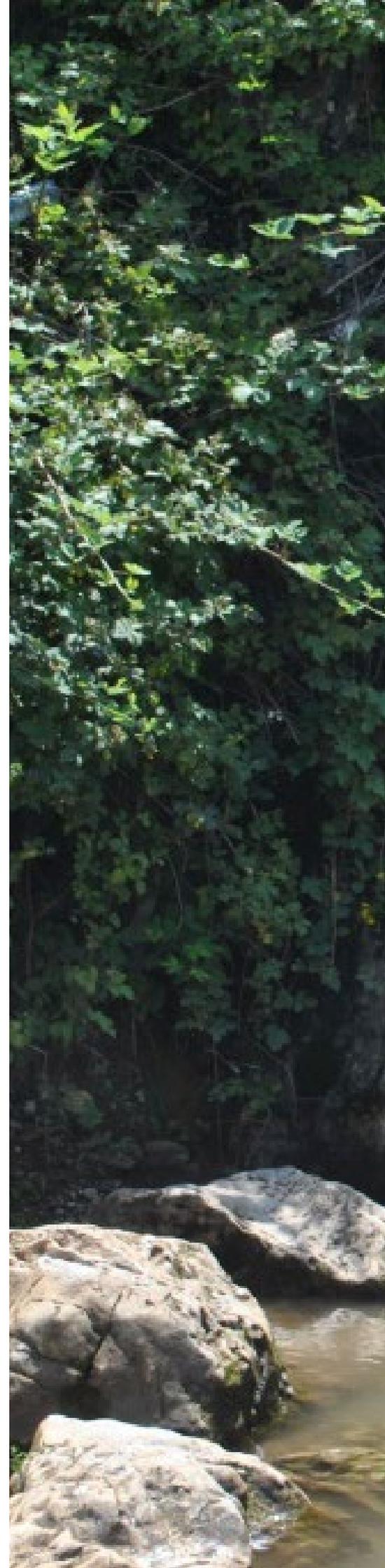
(Loan companies, banks, municipalities, community members, Ministry of Trade and Industry/Department of Tourism, tourism agencies)

#### 5.6 Support intangible cultural heritage practices through responsible application of creative industries – as a link to contemporary arts initiatives / events in the region

(CSOs, artists, municipalities, HDP, business community, MCYS)

#### 5.7. Together with other municipalities in the region develop a joint regional program, working toward branding the region with its regional logo

The Action Plan will be monitored by the Heritage and Diversity Programme coordinator with the support of participating municipalities of the region.





*Thermal water spring in Baincë/Banjica village,  
Lipjan/Lipljan Municipality*



07

*Church: Presentation of the Virgin into the Temple, 14th century, Lipjan/Lipljan*

# THE MUNICIPALITIES OF CENTRAL REGION



While the LDPP Regional Programme has a wider scope in the sphere of economic development, PCDK / LED focuses on heritage-led initiatives in relation to heritage tourism with the principles of democratic participation in the development process. In this capacity, PCDK / LED aims to create conditions to facilitate social cohesion and economic development through utilising the potential of cultural and natural heritage for the region of Kosovo Central.

The suggested integrated approach sets a feasible structure, methodology and examples of how, if managed effectively, heritage could be an asset of great benefit to local communities as part of a dynamic social and economic development process.

In preparation for the Regional Heritage Plan, the PCDK project acknowledges the existence of all heritage sites and assets in the region, based on the information provided by local and central authorities and institutions, as well as local communities and CSOs.

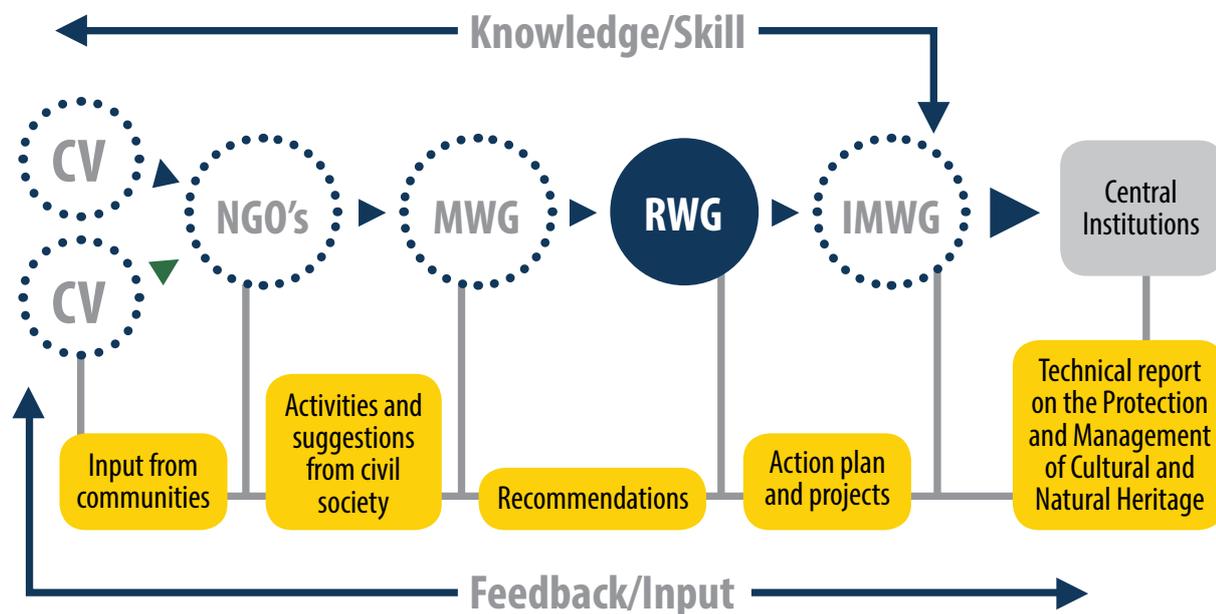
Piloted and recommended actions, however, have focused on attractions and features that are currently accessible and presentable to the general public and visitors for the purpose of heritage tourism.

This chapter has been prepared for stakeholders in the respective municipalities to accompany the Regional Heritage Plan and its recommendations. It encourages the active involvement of local communities and stakeholders in the implementation of priority actions in the respective municipality, in coordination with the five other municipalities in the region, as well as with central authorities.

Suggestions provided are not exhaustive and by no means suggest the exclusion of other initiatives and resources which are detailed in the annexes. The Heritage Plan, offering a viable way forward, encourages the use of these heritage assets in coordination with all stakeholders, taking into account the strategic considerations highlighted in Section 5.

The Heritage Plan is a dynamic process providing a strategic context for community actions with existing resources to ensure the greatest benefit to local communities in the region. It aims to facilitate joint actions in the identification of priorities for the distribution of available funds for the conservation and promotion of heritage, in coordination

with the central government, the municipalities and other interested parties. To ensure active engagement of stakeholders, the PCDK project adopted the following methodology and workflow, ensuring there is continuous feedback and input from communities into policy-making, while regular knowledge and skill transfer is encouraged at the community level.



### Involvement in the PCDK project included

- Research on cultural and natural heritage assets and identification of the intangible heritage elements with the participation / contribution of:
  - MCYS – department of Cultural Heritage
  - Regional Center for Cultural Heritage in Prishtinë/Priština
  - Emin Gjiku Ethnographic Museum
  - Museum of Kosovo
  - Local expert on Ethnological items
  - Municipalities of Region Centre
  - NGO 'Kosovar Stability Initiative' (IKS)
  - Pristina Youth Network
  - Local experts on Natural Heritage
  - Local expert on development of the database application
- Pilot actions with active participation of the communities of the region in presenting and promoting their common intangible heritage elements and practices
- The workshop series on heritage in processing the plan and establishing platform for co-operation within and between regions.
- Heritage Forum with the participation of all communities, contributing to the development of the Regional Heritage Plan
- Inventory of movable heritage - the collection of Ethnographic Museum Emin Gjiku.
- Development of regional logos
- Study visits and trainings exposing local stakeholders to good practices and equip them with an understanding and knowledge – base on local economic development processes, community involvement and democratic participation.

- Gatherings of the Heritage Community Network with the involvement of a wide range of individuals and entities who values specific aspects of heritage.
- Awareness raising activities through site visits and training sessions on cultural and natural heritage with participation of:
  - Elementary school teachers
  - Pupils
  - Parents
  - Artisans
  - Elderly people
  - Local communities
  - Local NGOs

### **Recommended immediate actions for the municipalities of the region**

- In the first forum following the launch of the Heritage Plan, and together with HDP coordinators, identify areas in the municipality where an asset could potentially be identified as a designated area.
- Create a community action group on this issue.
- Discuss possibilities with the municipal authorities.
- With the endorsement of the municipal authorities, carry out a community consultation process involving community members from the designated area.
- Explain the Heritage Plan and the importance of the joint regional action in the context of each respective Kosovo region and the whole of Kosovo.
- Together with the communities, develop a common shared vision and an integrated action in line with the recommendations of the Heritage Plan Central.
- Develop a concept note to be endorsed and supported by the municipal authorities.
- Work together with the HDP coordinator who will assure the coordination and cooperation between municipalities and regional approach.
- Seek the support of other organisations that are operating in the region for future implementation.

# Fushë Kosovë / Kosovo Polje Municipality

It covers an area of approximately 83 km<sup>2</sup> and includes Fushë Kosovë/ Kosovo Polje town and 15 villages. The total population is 34,827 inhabitants, and it is composed of Albanians (86.9 %),

Ashkali (9.4 %), Roma (1.2 %), Serbs (0.9 %), Egyptians (0.8 %), Turks (0.1 %), Bosniaks (0.09 %) and others (0.3 %). The infra-structural specification of this municipality includes the railway station which is the biggest railway station in Kosovo and connects capital Prishtinë/Priština with the western part of the municipality's territory.

## Tangible heritage

- Fortress of Bellaqevc/Belačevac, Bellaqevc/Belačevac village, Bronze age
- Fortress of Harilaq/Ariljača, Harilaq/Ariljača village, 4-6 c.
- Archaeological site Grabovc/Grabovac village, Early Medieval

## Natural heritage

- Wetlands in Henc village

## Intangible heritage

- N/A

## Recommended priority actions contributing to regional plan and programming

### To raise awareness and promote appreciation of heritage in Kosovo Central

- Organise neighbourhood / heritage walks to raise awareness among local population, making them become familiar with diverse concepts of heritage including community life itself.
- Support school-based awareness raising activities in the municipality
- Utilise the regional logo for branding
- Ensure regular waste collection and awareness-raising on the importance of a clean environment





*Remains of Havilaq/Ariljača fortress (4-6 century),  
Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje Municipality*

### **To take necessary measures for protection of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Research and identify unique practices of traditions, games and heritage in Fushë Kosovë/ Kosovo Polje in order to document these according to guidelines
- Map all the built, moveable, intangible and natural heritage assets with relevant information and regularly update the central authorities
- List the buildings at risk in the municipality and report to the RCCH Prishtinë/Priština region and the municipality

### **To develop and encourage thorough assessment, integrated project design and planning with sound heritage management plan in Kosovo Central**

- Identify necessary tourism service delivery standards and provide training to local service providers
- Have a clear updated heritage tourism map of all assets that are ready for visitors.
- Keep regional website regularly updated for others to be informed on upcoming events.
- Provide input to annual regional report on 'Our Common Heritage' in Kosovo Central
- Ensure proper signage for sites that are ready for tourism
- Test cultural products and marketing styles in your respective area of work in the region
- Ensure that diverse heritage-led initiatives are diverse, inclusive and distinctive to attract the community members and visitors

### **To develop and coordinate appropriate management practices for the care of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Organise capacity development for increased heritage management skills, including local guides
- Participate in regular meetings / forums to share developments and be informed about the regional programme
- Send locally produced brochures and promotional materials to the HDP coordinator

### **Develop locally appropriate and sustainable heritage tourism initiatives in Kosovo Central**

- Identify a public space area in the municipality to participate in the regional plan
- Support Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) initiatives

### ***Podujevë/ Podujevo and Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje Joint Action on the archaeological sites***

The archeological sites located in the territories of Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje (the fortresses on the hills near the villages of Bellaçec/Belačevac and Harilaq/Ariljača), and Podujevë/ Podujevo [Gumnishte near Surkish/Surkiš village (Neolithic time) and Vindenis (Roman time), near Gllamnik/Glavnik village] have been recognised by the archaeologists as important settlements dated back from the Bronze Age to the Late Antique. Understanding the urban nucleus of these historic sites and linking them into the contemporary life in the region presents a great amount of opportunity for the communities and authorities in these two municipalities. This integrated approach of the two municipalities in promotion of their archaeological heritage could make the common programme developed richer, dynamic and more interesting for the participants. Development of additional activities on open space (the landscape area of the sites, including the use of wetlands) could contribute to the attractiveness of the programme to the young participants.

Action: Development of educational and recreational projects for the archaeological sites, starting from the awareness raising among population, research by the institutes, joint strategic plan for the area and management plan for the area all with active involvement of local communities.

Partners: Municipality of Podujevë/ Podujevo, Municipality of Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Institute of Archaeology, Prishtinë/Priština University, local schools.

# Glogovc/Glogovac Municipality

The municipality of Glogovc/Glogovac lies in the central part of Kosovo in a territory of 290 km square including Drenas/Glogovc/Glogovac town and 37 villages. The total population of 58,531 inhabitants and it is composed of Albanians (99.8 %), Bosniaks (0.02 %), Turks (0.008 %) and others (0.03 %)

## Tangible heritage

- Llapushnik fortress, Llapushnik/Lapušnik village, Bronze Age
- Archaeological site Gradina, Vuçak/Vučak village, Late Antique
- Kulla of Ibish Morina, Çikatovë/Çikatovo village, 19th c.
- Komplex of Dervisholli family, Gradicë/Gradica village, 18th – 19th c.

## Natural heritage

- Cave of Kishnareka,
- Mineral spring in Poklek

## Intangible heritage

- Drenica dance

## Recommended priority actions contributing to regional plan and programming

### To raise awareness and promote appreciation of heritage in Kosovo Central

- Organise neighbourhood / heritage walks to raise awareness among local population, making them become familiar with diverse concepts of heritage including community life itself.
- Support school-based awareness raising activities in the municipality
- Utilise the regional logo for branding
- Ensure regular waste collection and awareness-raising on the importance of a clean environment





*Kulla of Ibish Morina, 19 century, Ćikatovë/Ćikatovo village,  
Glogovac/Glogovac Municipality*

### **To take necessary measures for protection of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Research and identify unique practices of traditions, games and heritage in Glllogovc/ Glogovac in order to document these according to guidelines
- Map all the built, moveable, intangible and natural heritage assets with relevant information and regularly update the central authorities
- List the buildings at risk in the municipality and report to the RCCH Prishtinë/Priština region and the municipality

### **To develop and encourage thorough assessment, integrated project design and planning with sound heritage management plan in Kosovo Central**

- Identify necessary tourism service delivery standards and provide training to local service providers
- Have a clear updated heritage tourism map of all assets that are ready for visitors.
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- Ensure that diverse heritage-led initiatives are diverse, inclusive and distinctive to attract the community members and visitors

### **To develop and coordinate appropriate management practices for the care of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Organise capacity development for increased heritage management skills, including local guides
- Participate in regular meetings / forums to share developments and be informed about the regional programme
- Send locally produced brochures and promotional materials to the HDP coordinator

### **Develop locally appropriate and sustainable heritage tourism initiatives in Kosovo Central**

- Support Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) initiatives

***Joint Action for clean air and water – Municipalities of Glogovac/Glogovac & Obiliq/Obilić***

These two municipalities have been subject to alerting industrial pollution primarily due to the Obiliq/Obilić power plant and the Glogovac/Glogovac smelting plant Ferro-nickel complex. The impact of pollution on the quality of life and environment is very concerning; particularly regarding clean air and drinking water. Both towns having quite active NGOs and history of cultural activities including folk dances, storytelling, etc., combination of these elements to raise awareness and advocacy actions on clean air and drinking water could be explored. The joint efforts of both towns could use the active civil society elements on environment and improve cooperation between authorities and communities to address these issues. Identification of an industrial heritage site and transforming it into a public place where local artistic and civil society energy is channeled to advocacy and awareness raising on clean air and drinking water. These efforts could gradually be linked to landscape observatory to be developed in Kline/a under the auspices of the MESP.

Action: Identification of a site for possibility of rehabilitation and developing a comprehensive program on air quality, water and artistic activities

Partners: Artists, community members, municipal authorities, MESP, MCYS, business community, schools.

# Gračanica/Gračanice Municipality

Gračanica/Gračanice Municipality covers an area of approximately 131 km<sup>2</sup> and includes Gračanica/Gračanice town and 16 villages. 2011 The total population is 10,675, composed of: Serbians (67.5 %), Albanians (23 %), Roma (6.9 %), Ashkali (0.9 %), Gorani (0.2 %), Turks (0.1 %), Bosniaks (0.1 %) and others (0.4 %). The specifics of this municipality include agriculture and production of specific brandy which is presented in annually organized 'Rakija Fest'.

## Tangible heritage

- Archaeological site Ulpiana, Roman period Archaeological site Ulpiana
- Gračanica/Gračanice Monastery, 14th c.
- Church of St. Dimitrius, Sušica village, 18th c.

## Natural heritage

- Badovc (Gračanica/Gračanice) lake
- Hot water spring, Kishnicë/ Kišnica village

## Intangible heritage

- Production of 'čvarci' (pork crisps)
- Blacksmith artisan

## Recommended priority actions contributing to regional plan and programming

### To raise awareness and promote appreciation of heritage in Kosovo Central

- Organise neighbourhood / heritage walks to raise awareness among local population, making them become familiar with diverse concepts of heritage including community life itself.
- Support school-based awareness raising activities in the municipality
- Utilise the regional logo for branding
- Ensure regular waste collection and awareness-raising on the importance of a clean environment





*Monastery of Gračanica/Gračanicë (14th century),  
Gračanica/Gračanicë Municipality*

### **To take necessary measures for protection of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Research and identify unique practices of traditions, games and heritage in Gračanica/ Graçanicë in order to document these according to guidelines
- Map all the built, moveable, intangible and natural heritage assets with relevant information and regularly update the central authorities
- List the buildings at risk in the municipality and report to the RCCH Prishtinë/Priština region and the municipality

### **To develop and encourage thorough assessment, integrated project design and planning with sound heritage management plan in Kosovo Central**

- Identify necessary tourism service delivery standards and provide training to local service providers
- Have a clear updated heritage tourism map of all assets that are ready for visitors.
- Keep regional website regularly updated for others to be informed on upcoming events.
- Provide input to annual regional report on 'Our Common Heritage' in Kosovo Central
- Ensure proper signage for sites that are ready for tourism
- Test cultural products and marketing styles in your respective area of work in the region
- Ensure that diverse heritage-led initiatives are diverse, inclusive and distinctive to attract the community members and visitors

### **To develop and coordinate appropriate management practices for the care of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Organise capacity development for increased heritage management skills, including local guides
- Participate in regular meetings / forums to share developments and be informed about the regional programme
- Send locally produced brochures and promotional materials to the HDP coordinator

### **Develop locally appropriate and sustainable heritage tourism initiatives in Kosovo Central**

- Support Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) initiatives

### *Gračanica/Gračanicë Neighbourhood walks –*

Ulpiana archaeological site and Gračanica/Gračanicë Monastery are well known landmarks in the municipality that currently attract visitors. In recent years a vibrant arts scene in Gračanica/Gračanicë has proved itself to be very active, also attracting visitors and artists. In addition, Gračanica/Gračanicë offers particular gastronomy with unique domestic products (domestic brandy, chvarci) at very pleasant locations. Creation of a 'Gračanica/Gračanicë neighbourhood walks path' that offers a mini cultural route where visitors could follow a specific path that visit all the sites and enjoy artistic performances and events as well as gastronomy that the community proudly offers. It is essential that these already existing resources are well coordinated and presented in an attractive manner with necessary promotion, signage and information as a package with active involvement of community members. Combination of heritage sites, intangible heritage practices and cultural products, the area could become a destination for many locals and visitors, artists, youth, etc., offering a positive experience of an integrated approach.

Action: Community consultations, determining of the path, identifying participating partners, data collection, orientation and training of the public and businesses, signage development, periodic activity calendars, promotional activities

Partners: Municipal authorities, business sector, community, SOC, schools, archaeological institute



*Family cemetery, Archeological site Ulpiana,  
Gračanica/Gračanicë Municipality*

# Lipjan/Lipljan Municipality

Lipjan/Lipljan Municipality covers an area of approximately 422 km<sup>2</sup> and includes Lipjan/Lipljan town and 62 villages. The total population is 57,605, composed of Albanians (94.5 %), Ashkali (3.1 %), Serbs (0.8 %), Roma (0.5 %), Turkish (0.2 %), Bosniak (0.07 %) and other (0.4 %).

## Tangible heritage

- Archaeological site Gradishte, Neolith period.
- Orthodox church Presentation of the Virgin into the Temple, Lipjan/Lipljan, 14th c.
- Vernacular architecture of Janjevë/Janjevo, 19th-20th c.

## Natural heritage

- Marble cave in Gadime/Gadimlje
- Blinaja/Lipovica natural park, Blinaja/Lipovica village
- Thermal water spring, Bainsë/Banjica

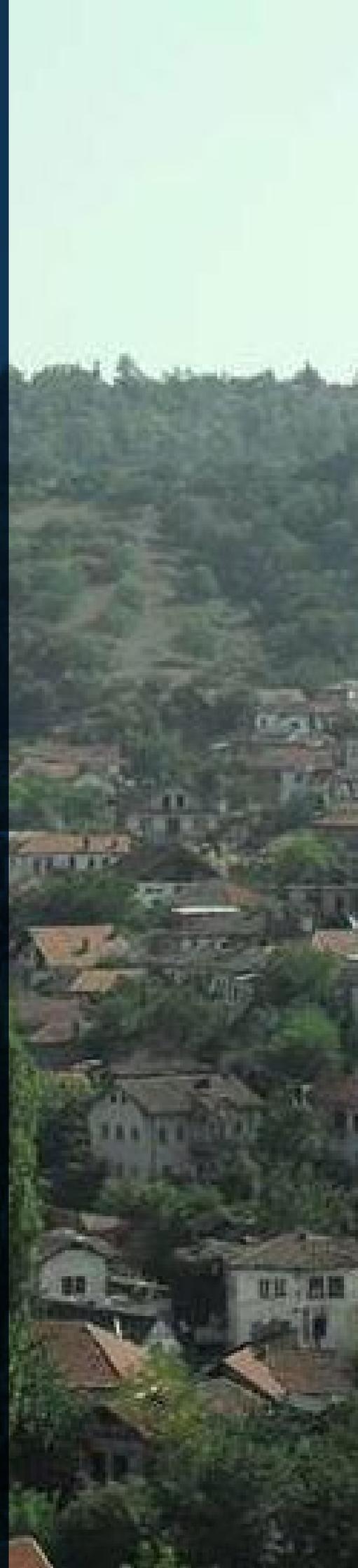
## Intangible heritage

- Traditional religious performance of Croatian ethnic group

## Recommended priority actions contributing to regional plan and programming

### To raise awareness and promote appreciation of heritage in Kosovo Central

- Organise neighbourhood / heritage walks to raise awareness among local population, making them become familiar with diverse concepts of heritage including community life itself.
- Support school-based awareness raising activities in the municipality
- Utilise the regional logo for branding
- Ensure regular waste collection and awareness-raising on the importance of a clean environment





*View of Janjevč/Janjevo village,  
Lipjan/Lipljan Municipality*

### **To take necessary measures for protection of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Research and identify unique practices of traditions, games and heritage in Lipjan/Lipljan in order to document these according to guidelines
- Map all the built, moveable, intangible and natural heritage assets with relevant information and regularly update the central authorities
- List the buildings at risk in the municipality and report to the RCCH Prishtinë/Priština region and the municipality

### **To develop and encourage thorough assessment, integrated project design and planning with sound heritage management plan in Kosovo Central**

- Identify necessary tourism service delivery standards and provide training to local service providers
- Have a clear updated heritage tourism map of all assets that are ready for visitors.
- Keep regional website regularly updated for others to be informed on upcoming events.
- Provide input to annual regional report on 'Our Common Heritage' in Kosovo Central
- Ensure proper signage for sites that are ready for tourism
- Test cultural products and marketing styles in your respective area of work in the region
- Ensure that diverse heritage-led initiatives are diverse, inclusive and distinctive to attract the community members and visitors



*Marble cave near Gadime/Gadimlje village,  
Lipjan/Lipljan Municipality*

## **To develop and coordinate appropriate management practices for the care of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Organise capacity development for increased heritage management skills, including local guides
- Participate in regular meetings / forums to share developments and be informed about the regional programme
- Send locally produced brochures and promotional materials to the HDP coordinator

## **Develop locally appropriate and sustainable heritage tourism initiatives in Kosovo Central**

- Support Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) initiatives

### ***Lipjan/ Lipljan House of Dialogue***

Janjevë/Janjevo, despite of its size, is an interesting place with diversity of its population. Among Albanians and Roma community members, the Croatian community is very active in fostering its Catholic traditions, celebrating various religious holidays as well as other community rituals, which are well attended by other community members regardless their background. In addition, Janjevë/Janjevo managed to preserve its traditional residential buildings surrounded by beautiful mountainous landscape. Considering the value and appreciation given to a minority community practices, focusing on the celebration of multiculturalism and multiple identities could be an interesting addition to regional programme.

Actions: Programme for promotion of the multicultural events led by the Croatian ethnic group, combined with the other local minority ethnic group traditions. One of the existing traditional buildings could be rehabilitated as 'House of Dialogue' where cultural events dedicated to enrichment and promotion of intercultural understanding could be organised consistently. The activities of this place could include artists, story tellers, folklorists, including Janjevë/Janjevo folklorist Shtjefen Gjeqovi.

Partners: Municipality authorities, local business sector, local ethnic groups representatives, NGO's

# Obiliq/ Obilić Municipality

It covers an area of approximately 105 km<sup>2</sup> and includes Obiliq/ Obilić town and 19 villages. The total population is 21,549 and it is composed of Albanians (92.1 %), Roma (3 %), Ashkali (2.6 %), Serb (1.2 %), Bosniak (0.2 %), Egyptian (0.1 %) and other (0.2 %).

## Tangible heritage

- Sultan Murad's Tomb, Mazgit village, 14th c.
- Bajraktar's Tomb, Shkabaj/Orlović village, 15th c.
- Gazimestan, 20th c.

## Natural heritage

- Guri i plakës/Staričin kamen, Grabovc/Grabovac village

## Intangible heritage

- N/A

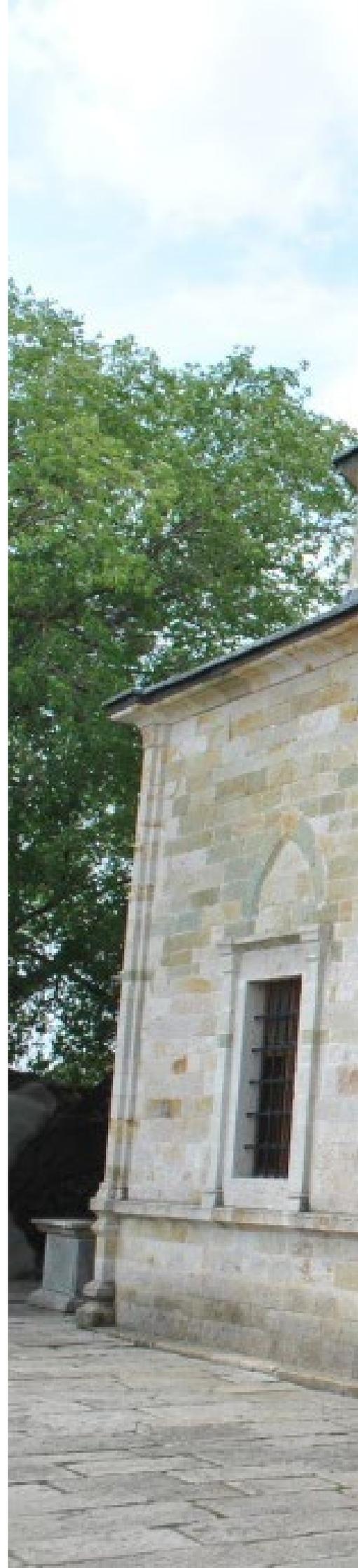
## Recommended priority actions contributing to regional plan and programming

### To raise awareness and promote appreciation of heritage in Kosovo Central

- Organise neighbourhood / heritage walks to raise awareness among local population, making them become familiar with diverse concepts of heritage including community life itself.
- Support school-based awareness raising activities in the municipality
- Utilise the regional logo for branding
- Ensure regular waste collection and awareness-raising on the importance of a clean environment

### To take necessary measures for protection of heritage in Kosovo Central

- Research and identify unique practices of traditions, games and heritage in Obiliq/ Obilić in order to document these according to guidelines
- Map all the built, moveable, intangible and natural heritage assets with relevant information and regularly update the central authorities
- List the buildings at risk in the municipality and report to the RCCH Prishtinë/Priština region and the municipality





*Turbe of Sultan Murat I, village of Mazgjit,  
Obiliq/Obilić Municipality*

### **To develop and encourage thorough assessment, integrated project design and planning with sound heritage management plan in Kosovo Central**

- Identify necessary tourism service delivery standards and provide training to local service providers
- Have a clear updated heritage tourism map of all assets that are ready for visitors.
- Keep regional website regularly updated for others to be informed on upcoming events.
- Provide input to annual regional report on 'Our Common Heritage' in Kosovo Central
- Ensure proper signage for sites that are ready for tourism
- Test cultural products and marketing styles in your respective area of work in the region
- Ensure that diverse heritage-led initiatives are diverse, inclusive and distinctive to attract the community members and visitors

### **To develop and coordinate appropriate management practices for the care of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Organise capacity development for increased heritage management skills, including local guides
- Participate in regular meetings / forums to share developments and be informed about the regional programme
- Send locally produced brochures and promotional materials to the HDP coordinator

### **Develop locally appropriate and sustainable heritage tourism initiatives in Kosovo Central**

- Support Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) initiatives

#### ***Joint Action for clean air and water – Municipalities of Glogovac/Glogovac & Obiliq/Obilić***

These two municipalities have been subject to alerting industrial pollution primarily due to the Obiliq/ Obilić power plant and the Glogovac/Glogovac smelting plant Ferro-nickel complex. The impact of pollution on the quality of life and environment is very concerning; particularly regarding clean air and drinking water. Both towns having quite active NGOs and history of cultural activities including folk dances, storytelling, etc., combination of these elements to raise awareness and advocacy actions on clean air and drinking water could be explored. The joint efforts of both towns could use the active civil society elements on environment and improve cooperation between authorities and communities to address these issues. Identification of an industrial heritage site and transforming it into a public place where local artistic and civil society energy is channeled to advocacy and awareness raising on clean air and drinking water. These efforts could gradually be linked to landscape observatory to be developed in Kline/a under the auspices of the MESP.

Action: Identification of a site for possibility of rehabilitation and developing a comprehensive program on air quality, water and artistic activities

Partners: Artists, community members, municipal authorities, MESP, MCYS, business community, schools



*Turbe of Bajraktarit, (19th century),  
Obiliq/Obilić Municipality*

# Podujevë/ Podujevo Municipality

Podujevë/Podujevo Municipality covers an area of approximately 663 km<sup>2</sup> and includes Podujevë/Podujevo town and 77 villages. The total population is 88,499 inhabitants composed of Albanians (98.8 %), Ashkali (0.7 %), Roma (0.08 %) and other (0.04 %).

## **Tangible heritage**

- Archaeological site Vindenis , Gllamnik/Glavnik village, Roman period
- Archaeological site Gumnishte , Surkish/ Surkiš village, Neolith period
- Water mill, Metehi / Metohi village, 19th c.

## **Natural heritage**

- Batllava lake

## **Intangible heritage**

- Saddler craft

## **Recommended priority actions contributing to regional plan and programming**

### **To raise awareness and promote appreciation of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Organise neighbourhood / heritage walks to raise awareness among local population, making them become familiar with diverse concepts of heritage including community life itself.
- Support school-based awareness raising activities in the municipality
- Utilise the regional logo for branding
- Ensure regular waste collection and awareness-raising on the importance of a clean environment

### **To take necessary measures for protection of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Research and identify unique practices of traditions, games and heritage in Podujevë/ Podujevo in order to document these according to guidelines
- Map all the built, moveable, intangible and natural heritage assets with relevant information and regularly update the central authorities
- List the buildings at risk in the municipality and report to the RCCH Prishtinë/Priština region and the municipality



*Marble sarcophagus, Roman Time, detail, archaeological site of Vindenis, Podujevë/Podujevo Municipality (photo: MCYS)*

### **To develop and encourage thorough assessment, integrated project design and planning with sound heritage management plan in Kosovo Central**

- Identify necessary tourism service delivery standards and provide training to local service providers
- Have a clear updated heritage tourism map of all assets that are ready for visitors.
- Keep regional website regularly updated for others to be informed on upcoming events.
- Provide input to annual regional report on 'Our Common Heritage' in Kosovo Central
- Ensure proper signage for sites that are ready for tourism
- Test cultural products and marketing styles in your respective area of work in the region
- Ensure that diverse heritage-led initiatives are diverse, inclusive and distinctive to attract the community members and visitors

### **To develop and coordinate appropriate management practices for the care of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Organise capacity development for increased heritage management skills, including local guides
- Participate in regular meetings / forums to share developments and be informed about the regional programme
- Send locally produced brochures and promotional materials to the HDP coordinator

### **Develop locally appropriate and sustainable heritage tourism initiatives in Kosovo Central**

- Support Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) initiatives



*Fragment of floor mosaic, Roman Time, archaeological site of Vindenis, Podujevë/Podujevo Municipality (photo: MCYS)*

### ***Podujevë/ Podujevo and Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje Joint Action on the archaeological sites***

The archeological sites located in the territories of Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje (the fortresses on the hills near the villages of Bellaçec/Belačevac and Harilaq/Ariljača), and Podujevë/ Podujevo [Gumnishte near Surkish/Surkiš village (Neolithic time) and Vindenis (Roman time), near Gllamnik/Glavnik village] have been recognised by the archaeologists as important settlements dated back from the Bronze Age to the Late Antique. Understanding the urban nucleus of these historic sites and linking them into the contemporary life in the region presents a great amount of opportunity for the communities and authorities in these two municipalities. This integrated approach of the two municipalities in promotion of their archaeological heritage could make the common programme developed richer, dynamic and more interesting for the participants. Development of additional activities on open space (the landscape area of the sites, including the use of wetlands) could contribute to the attractiveness of the programme to the young participants.

**Action:** Development of educational and recreational projects for the archaeological sites, starting from the awareness raising among population, research by the institutes, joint strategic plan for the area and management plan for the area all with active involvement of local communities.

**Partners:** Municipality of Podujevë/ Podujevo, Municipality of Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Institute of Archaeology, Prishtinë/Priština University, local schools.

# Prishtinë/ Priština Municipality

Prishtinë/Priština municipality covers an area of approximately 572 km<sup>2</sup> and includes Prishtinë/Priština city and 40 villages. It is the administrative, political, economic and cultural centre of Kosovo and the most densely populated municipality. The total population is 198,897 inhabitants composed of Albanians (97.7 %), Turkish (1 %), Ashkali (0.2 %), Serb (0.2 %), Bosniak (0.2 %), Gorani (0.1 %) and other (0.1 %).

## Tangible heritage

- Archaeological site Tjerrtorja/"Predionica, Prishtinë/Priština, Neolith period
- Archaeological site in Bardhosh/Devet Jugovića, Neolith period
- Archaeological site 'Kovac fields', Barilevë/Barilevo, Neolith period
- Archaeological site Bërnice Postme/Donja Brnica, Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age
- Necropolis of Matiçan, Matiçan/Matiçane village, Early Middle Age
- Veletin fortress, Shashkovc/Šaškovac village, Early Middle Age
- King's Mosque (Sultan Fatih II Mosque), Prishtinë/Priština, 1461
- Great Hammam, Prishtinë/Priština, 15th c.
- Shadervan (public fountain), Prishtinë/Priština, 17th – 18th c.
- Jashar Pasha Mosque, Prishtinë/Priština, 1835
- Kosovo National Museum, 1889, Prishtinë/Priština,
- Clock tower, Prishtinë/Priština, late 19th c.
- Elena Gjika primary school, Prishtinë/Priština, 19th c.
- Traditional residential building – the Seat of the Former Political Prisoners, Prishtinë/Priština, 19th c.
- The House of Hyniler family, Prishtinë/Priština, 19th c.
- St. Nicholas Church, Prishtinë/Priština, 19th c.
- Emin Gjiku residential complex, Prishtinë/Priština, 19th c.
- Hivzi Sylejmani library, Prishtinë/Priština, 19th -20th c.
- Hebraic cemetery, Prishtinë/Priština, 17th —20th c.
- Bazaar mosque, Pristina, 15th c.
- Maliq Pasha residential facility – the Seat of Kosovo Institute for Protection of Monuments, Prishtinë/Priština, 19th c.



*Terracotta figurine and Terracotta head, Barilevë/Barilevo archaeological site, Prishtinë/Priština Municipality (photo: MCYS)*



*The House of Luan Rudi, detail, Prishtinë/Prishtina*

### **Natural heritage**

- Regional Park of Gërmia

### **Intangible heritage**

- Ocarina artisanship
- Flute and pipeza

## **Recommended priority actions contributing to regional plan and programming**

### **To raise awareness and promote appreciation of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Organise neighbourhood / heritage walks to raise awareness among local population, making them become familiar with diverse concepts of heritage including community life itself.
- Support school-based awareness raising activities in the municipality
- Utilise the regional logo for branding
- Ensure regular waste collection and awareness-raising on the importance of a clean environment

### **To take necessary measures for protection of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Research and identify unique practices of traditions, games and heritage in Prishtinë/Priština in order to document these according to guidelines
- Map all the built, moveable, intangible and natural heritage assets with relevant information and regularly update the central authorities
- List the buildings at risk in the municipality and report to the RCCH Prishtinë/Priština region and the municipality

### **To develop and encourage thorough assessment, integrated project design and planning with sound heritage management plan in Kosovo Central**

- Identify necessary tourism service delivery standards and provide training to local service providers
- Have a clear updated heritage tourism map of all assets that are ready for visitors.
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### **To develop and coordinate appropriate management practices for the care of heritage in Kosovo Central**

- Organise capacity development for increased heritage management skills, including local guides
- Participate in regular meetings / forums to share developments and be informed about the regional programme

- Send locally produced brochures and promotional materials to the HDP coordinator

### **Develop locally appropriate and sustainable heritage tourism initiatives in Kosovo Central**

- Support Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) initiatives

#### ***Prishtinë/ Priština – heritage-led urban regeneration***

The Historic zone of Prishtinë/Priština, with a number of significant monuments, public spaces and still “untouched” areas, offers opportunities for efficient use of public spaces. While this area is currently in the middle of main traffic crossroads, and does not receive well-deserved attention, reconsideration of the area with active participation of the wider public could create a very attractive area for a common place for gathering of the Prishtinë/Priština citizens. Its physical connection with the Mother Teresa street as a pedestrian zone, gives the important heritage assets visibility, create a pleasant public space, contributing to cultural landscape of the urban nucleus. Active artistic community could play a crucial role in raising awareness, advocating and contributing to this urban regeneration.

Action: Development of a Programme for cultural events on open space (locations proposed: Archaeological Park, open space between the King Mosque and the Great hammam, the yard of Museum of Kosovo building and the area of the old fountain).

Participants: Municipality of Prishtinë/Priština, MCYS, tourism agencies, artistic groups, community members.



*Workshop of Mr. Shaqir Hoti, producer of traditional music instruments, Prishtinë/Priština*

The image shows the interior of a 19th-century residential house. The room features a large, multi-paned window with a wooden frame, offering a view of green trees outside. The ceiling is made of dark wood with decorative carvings. The floor is covered with a red and black patterned rug. A long, low wooden bench is covered with a white cloth and a red patterned rug. A small wooden table and a chair are placed on the rug. The overall atmosphere is warm and traditional.

# 08

*Ethnographic Museum "Emin Gjiku", residential house  
from the 19th century, interior, detail, Prishtinë/Priština*

# HERITAGE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION GOING FORWARD



The ongoing implementation of the Regional Heritage Plan is an essential part of the process and active involvement of local stakeholders will play a crucial role for its effectiveness.

Since the Heritage Plan process has been tested and proved to be functioning well in Kosovo West, the linkage between regions, looking into best practices of Kosovo West in particular, is essential for the implementation. In addition, it is hoped that the professional relationships established with the Irish Heritage Council, the Regional Natural Park of Vosges North in France and the Balkan Heritage Foundation in Bulgaria may assist professional exchanges during the implementation phase in the upcoming period. In addition, the participating countries in the Council of Europe LDPP regional programme remain part of the network that allows exchanges between ongoing projects.

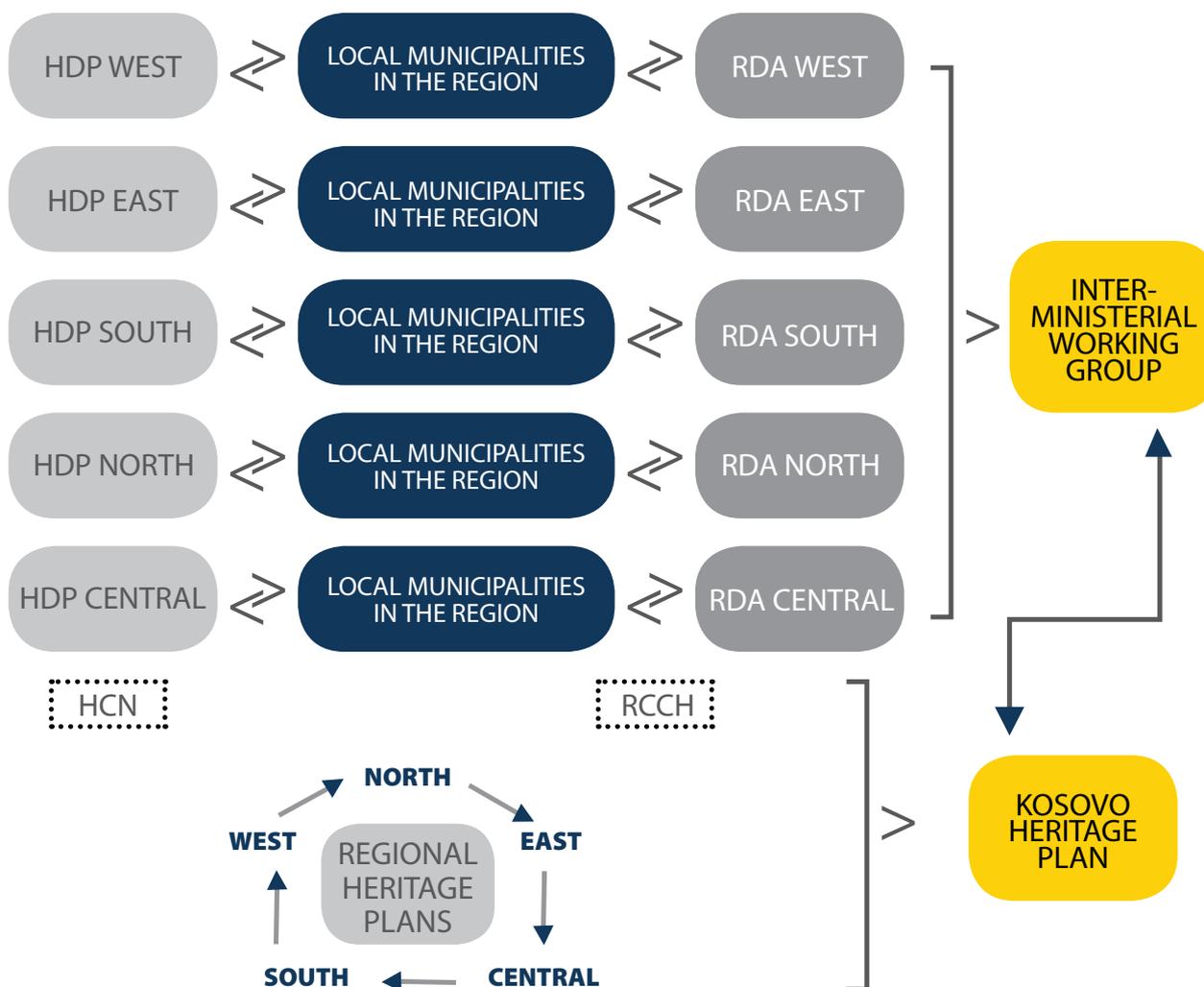
To coordinate the process a Heritage and Diversity Programme (HDP) coordinator has been recruited for each region. They will facilitate, coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Heritage Plan, which offers possible

regional initiatives with the contribution of respective municipalities. Therefore, the HDP coordinator, with the support of the municipalities, institutions and communities, works for the benefit of the entire region. Ongoing capacity development and consistent improvement of knowledge and skills in this field are crucial to the implementation process. The HDP coordinator ensures the assessment of capacity development needs and addresses these needs by encouraging linkages and constant dialogue between entities and communities. While the Heritage Plan and its recommended actions acts as a guiding tool, the promotion and advocacy of cultural and natural heritage in the development of heritage-led initiatives could vary based on the means and willingness of the participating municipalities. This initial plan plays an essential role in bringing municipalities and communities of the region together around a shared common vision, gradually becoming an effective part of local structures.

**“The ongoing implementation of the Regional Heritage Plan is an essential part of the process and active involvement of local stakeholders will play a crucial role for its effectiveness.”**

From this point on, the Heritage Plan encourages a dynamic process where all stakeholders work in the spirit of solidarity and synergy to contribute to their regional objectives in their respective municipalities and further their engagement with other municipalities to benefit from this process in the most positive way. The dimensions of these benefits go beyond financial means and include monitoring of the democratic participation of all communities in the development process and relative increase in the quality of life and living environment.

## HERITAGE & DIVERSITY PROGRAMME (HDP) AND ITS CONNECTION TO HCN AND IMWG



The chart above broadly indicates the main issues. Ideally, it is envisaged that each HDP coordinator will be financed by the involved municipalities in their respective regions (following the Memorandum of Understanding to be signed, as already finalised in Kosovo West). They should conduct their work along five themes as follows:

- Research
- Promotion
- Innovative Actions
- Professional Development
- Support to Strategy-making and Heritage Plan

## Some suggested steps are as follows:

1. Heritage and Diversity Programme and coordinators will be specific to each region and guided by the same shared handbook.
2. Sample regional joint programmes such as Cultural Itineraries (already being implemented by PCDK in the west, along with other initiatives) will be initiated by the HDPs in other regions.
3. Annual gathering of HDPs together with HCN and IMWG.
4. Annual Report – Our Common Heritage: this civil society review will be produced each year as a key output of the heritage plan process, promoting and monitoring its progress.
5. Periodic Review of Regional Heritage Plans (to be reviewed and updated subsequently every 3 years)
6. A Kosovo Heritage Plan will in time be produced by local stakeholders with HCN and IMWG, under the guidance of the HDP coordinators.
7. Kosovo Report on Heritage to be produced by local stakeholders with HCN and IMWG, under the guidance of the HDP coordinators.

This is an outline scenario. The heritage plan process is self-regenerating but it is also a dynamic process that will respond to the level of community interest, engagement and commitment. The ownership of the process will, over the course of the next year, pass to the local stakeholders and they will refine and adjust the future scenarios over time.

## Long term strategy

With Heritage Plans being introduced into four other regions in Kosovo, today all five regions - west, south, east, north and central - have regional plans. Through the methodology, tools and sample programmes, developed by the PCDK project as well as through the installation of the Heritage and Diversity Programme coordinators, a long term operational model has been introduced.

While the Heritage Plan concerns the entire region of Kosovo Central, linkage between municipal, regional and central level is imperative for an effective and efficient implementation period. In this capacity, close cooperation and coordination between the Inter-Ministerial Working Group<sup>2</sup>, Heritage Community Network and HDP coordinators in the five regions will ensure the integrity of the process and will feed into the development of a Kosovo Heritage Plan.



<sup>2</sup>The PCDK project refers to the regions as North, South, Central, East, West based on Regional Development Agencies' definition.

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# APPENDICES

## Appendix 1 – Pilot Actions

As part of the integrated approach, and in addition to the research conducted on built cultural heritage and natural heritage, the intangible heritage practices listed below were evaluated in 2014. This was essential part of the integrated field work phase and the feasibility study report which has created a good platform for development of the Regional Heritage Plans. The Intangible Heritage listed has been identified and recognised as being of heritage value to communities, samples of the rich and diverse heritage of the region. The ongoing work under the Heritage Plan will add to this list on a progressive, incremental and planned basis.

During August – October 2014, pilot actions on Intangible Heritage practices were implemented in all four regions, encouraging active involvement of the community. These pilot actions have presented diverse intangible elements to the local stakeholders, making each region very specific and unique while also complementary to each other.

The selected pilot action carried out in Prishtinë/Priština was focused on promotion of very old traditional instrument named Ocarina, represented by the only one known practitioner, Mr. Shaqir Hoti, who is a player on ocarina as well. The PCDK project produced a documentary film on this unique intangible cultural heritage element to raise interest of the responsible entities in its safeguarding and transmitting to the future generations. The documentary could be located at [www.coe.int/pcdk](http://www.coe.int/pcdk).

# Appendix 2 – Members of Working Groups

## Main partners

Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports  
Regional Center for Cultural Heritage in Prishtinë/Priština  
NGO 'Kosovar Stability Initiative'

## Regional Working Group

Lindita Hajdari, Directorate of Culture, Prishtinë/Priština Municipality  
Nuriye Avdiu, Directorate of Culture, Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje  
Adem Abazi - Directorate of Culture, Novobërdë/Novo Brdo,  
Basri Hashani, Directorate of Culture, Lipjan/Lipljane  
Rifadije Paloja – Directorate of Culture, Obiliq/ć  
Agim Kastrati - Directorate of Culture, Glllogovc/Glogovac,  
Ilija Mladenovic, Directorate of Culture, Gračanica/Graçanicë  
Nexhmi Balaj, Directorate of Culture, Podujevë/Podujevo,  
Merita Gorani Bajri, Regional Center for Culture Heritage, Prishtinë/Priština  
Burbuqe Bakija Deva – Regional Center for Culture Heritage, Prishtinë/Priština

## Inter-municipal working group members (Prishtinë/Priština, Podujevë/Podujevo and Gračanica/Graçanicë)

Lindita Hajdari, Department of Culture; Zoja Krasniqi, Department of Youth; Donika Xhemajli, professor; Merita Bajri, Pristina RCCH; Belgjyzare Muharremi, NGO representative; Edis Prapashtica, Prishtinë/Priština Youth Council; Andi Belegu, Prishtinë/Priština Youth activist; Nexhmi Balaj, Department of Culture; Oremira Dibrani, literary club; Adem Ajvani, professor; Ilirie Balaj, NGO representative; Blinere Haxhiu, youth choir; Premton Murati, production/media; Bunjamin Hoti, youth network; Raba Haxhiu, community representative; Ilija Mladenović, Department of Culture; Boban Todorović, coordinator for Cultural heritage; Ivan Todorović, professor; Gazmend Salijević, NGO representative; Ivan Nikolić, NGO representative; Dragan Josifović, community representative.

## Inter-municipal working group members (Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Obiliq/ć, Lipjan/Lipljan and Glllogovc/Glogovac)

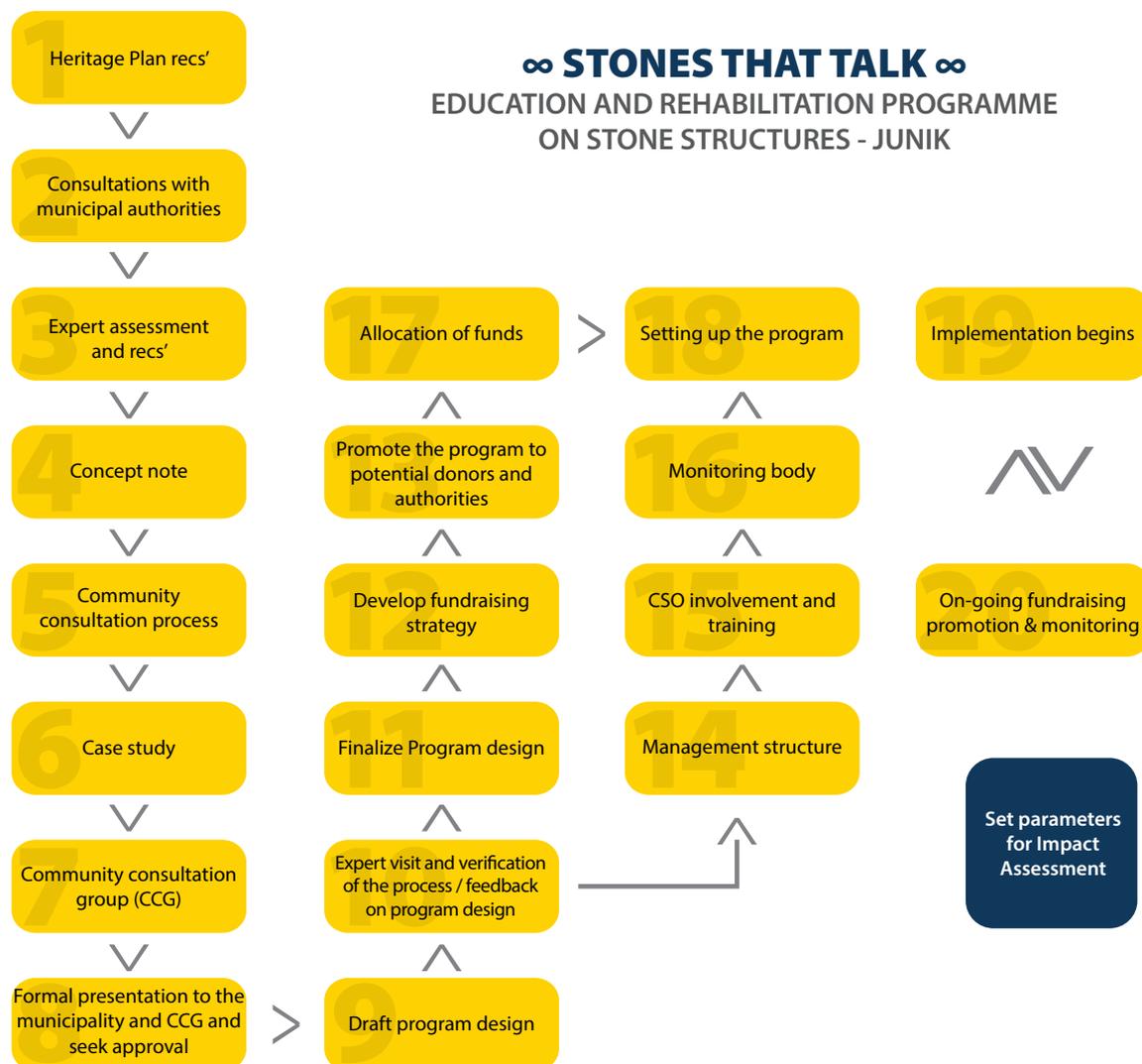
Nuriye Avdiu, Department of Culture; Ali Topalli, municipality representative; Elmie Zymeri, Education Department; Fehmi Gashi, community representative; Agim Jashari, HANDIKOS representative; Fatime Pllana, Department of Culture; Suzana hashani, municipality representative; Rifadije Paloja, Department of Culture; Nazif Shala, Department of Environment; Gazmend Mirena, teacher; Ardiana Gervalla, youth representative; Eljesah Terbunja, HANDIKOS representative; Basri Hashani, Department of Culture, Selman Jashanica, municipality representative; Bajram Gashi, teacher; Fehmi Gajtani, community representative; Denis Gashi, NGO representative; Murat Murati, NGO representative; Gjyste Dabaj, community representative; Agim Kastrati, Department of Culture; Shaban Dobra, municipality representative.

## **Experts, representatives of institutions/authorities and private companies involved:**

Terry O'Regan, Council of Europe expert – Ireland  
Liam Scott, Heritage Council of Ireland  
Julija Trichkovska, PCDK Specialist in Cultural Heritage  
Valmira Gashi, expert from the MESP  
Fadil Bajraktari, expert from the MESP  
Nora Arapi, PCDK focal point from MCYS  
Uragan Alija, local expert on data collection analysis  
Rexhep Kqiku, web software developer  
ASHA Company

# Appendix 3 – Community based development methodology (Junik)

## a. Chart



## b. Junik case study

[http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/cooperation/Kosovo/Publications/Junik-Case-Study\\_en.pdf](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/cooperation/Kosovo/Publications/Junik-Case-Study_en.pdf)

## c. Stone that Talk Programme brochure

[http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/cooperation/Kosovo/Publications/Stones\\_en.pdf](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/cooperation/Kosovo/Publications/Stones_en.pdf)

## d. Prishtinë/ Priština case study

<http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/cooperation/Kosovo/Publications/20130129-PristinaCS.pdf>

# Appendix 4 - Strategic Considerations Checklist in implementing an integrated approach

## A. Community Engagement and Awareness Raising

- Extensive ongoing data collection and validation to recognised international standards.
- Assessment of local structures, influences and issues to better understand the stakeholder's needs and wants.
- Building capacity among stakeholders to raise local/regional awareness of heritage and diversity issues.
- Cooperation and guarantee of a certain level of coordination and consistency of approach with relevant partners.
- Promotion of effective knowledge-sharing based on research and facts.
- Ensuring the inclusion and participation of all communities, and accommodation of diverse ideas.
- Planning and undertaking of simultaneous awareness-raising activities with effective outreach to all communities and authorities, with necessary cultural appropriateness.
- Provision of strategies and resources for local awareness campaigns, which are both fun and educational.
- Provision of mechanisms to evaluate impact.

## B. Protection measures

- Ensure the effective implementation of comprehensive and up-to-date legislation for the protection of heritage.
- Utilise heritage expertise.
- Develop proper management policies, programmes and plans.
- Maintain ongoing inventory preparation and detailed recording of different categories of cultural heritage in accordance with the criteria provided in the Cultural Heritage Law and the Guidelines on Inventory of Cultural Heritage Assets.
- Monitor the implementation of conservation projects in accordance with established criteria and procedures, and in balance with the reasonable requirements of the owners/occupants and local authorities' programmes and plans.
- Be aware of the "Archaeological Map" of the region so that preventive action can be taken if construction or other activities are intended to be undertaken in areas with archaeological features.
- Support the development of guidelines to encourage the retention, integration and enhancement of existing cultural and natural heritage.
- Be vigilant, and utilise all opportunities to encourage partnerships in the revitalisation of built heritage between responsible institutions, local authorities and owners.
- Focus on the long term impact in developing an integrated approach towards a sustainable and integrated network of national parks and reserves.

## C. Planning and Design

- Thorough assessment with all stakeholders, particularly local communities.
- Realistic analysis of organisational and operational capacity.

- Increased cooperation and coordination between institutions, civil society and local authorities.
- Comprehensive Heritage Management Plan: prioritisation, technical assessment, and feasibility study.
- Specific attention on the inclusion of marginalised communities.
- Intercultural sensitivity towards existing groups based on age, geographic location, ability, gender, race, ethnicity.
- Comprehensive analysis of fundraising options and market trends.
- Effective public information campaign
- Well-planned monitoring and evaluation mechanism, with the follow-up phase in mind.
- Timely and accurate documentation.
- Appropriate professional development opportunities.

#### **D. Management measures require:**

- Remaining loyal to the set parameters agreed by stakeholders.
- Ensuring systematic quality control of goods and services.
- Maintaining a balance between tasks and process.
- Treating monitoring and evaluation as a learning process.
- Careful balancing of financial and human resources, and programme activities.
- Undertaking of regular assessment and data analysis to be able to adapt to changes.
- Awareness of the potential linkages and possibilities of cooperation to save resources and build partnerships.
- Provision of regular updates to stakeholders on the project progress to reinforce engagement.
- Promotion of the completed works to demonstrate progress and attract internal and external donors, partners and investors.

#### **5.5 Cultural Heritage and Tourism involves:**

- Recognising that Heritage Tourism can be a major contributor to local economic development.
- Recognising that heritage projects can increase heritage tourism when they are carried out as part of an integrated heritage tourism package. It would be beneficial to prioritise projects which are allied to good tourism infrastructure and commercial developments such as restaurants and accommodation provision.
- Ensuring involvement and integration of local populations with local heritage sites and the associated heritage tourism development.
- In developing and presenting heritage tourism, be sensitive at all times to the cultural diversity of local populations and tourists.
- Striving to present a balanced narrative of the heritage and history of the region, ensuring that presentations and information provided is based at all times on sound professional knowledge and research.
- Ensuring that a reasonable proportion of the income derived from heritage tourism is channeled back into heritage conservation.
- Recognising the inherent risk that exploiting one dimension of heritage as a tourism attraction in an area may threaten the conservation or even very existence of other heritage resources in the area.
- Recognising that heritage tourists will expect internationally-recognised standards with regard to the local physical and hospitality infrastructure.

- Prior to presenting heritage sites as tourism attractions, ensure that the requisite heritage protection measures are in place.
- Prior to presenting heritage sites as tourism attractions ensure that the associated health and safety issues have been addressed.
- Recognising that uncoordinated heritage tourism can give rise to negative impacts on local populations such as loss of privacy, increased traffic congestion, damage to property and the local public environment and disruption of local lifestyles.



Within the framework of the European Union and the Council of Europe Joint Programme "Support to the Promotion of the Cultural Diversity", this Heritage Plan maps a road of reconnection, re-joining and reconciliation between people, their land and their heritage. The plan reaches out to the wide diaspora of each municipality to write a joined-up story of wisdom, understanding and progress, providing all citizens with a dynamic process for sharing that story with their neighbours and visitors.



The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organization. It includes 47 member states, 28 of which are members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

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

The European Union is a unique economic and political partnership between 28 democratic European countries. Its aims are peace, prosperity and freedom for its 500 million citizens in a fairer, safer world. To make things happen, EU countries set up bodies to run the EU and adopt its legislation. The main ones are the European Parliament (representing the people of Europe), the Council of the European Union (representing national governments) and the European Commission (representing the common EU interest).

<http://europa.eu>

### Support to the Promotion of Cultural Diversity

Funded  
by the European Union  
and the Council of Europe



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