

Third Regional Seminar
**"Faro Convention for concrete action
cultural heritage"**
"The Faro Way: enhanced participation in
cultural heritage"

Heritage communities and governance

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What is our aim and common goal in Viscri/Romania ?

To improve the inhabitants' **quality of life and living conditions** by:

- The valorization of the village/community authenticity.
- The revitalization of the traditional crafts (plasterer, carpenter, roof maker, tile maker, blacksmith, weaving...)
- The restoration of the village houses and local monuments with local materials (clay, sand, stone, slaked lime, local wood).
- Turning traditional houses into bed-and-breakfasts.
- Developing horse and cart itineraries for tourists.
- Encouraging agriculture, the use of home grown organic vegetables and promoting the local gastronomy.





How did we managed to achieve this common goal ?

- Use and implications of the Faro Convention principles on the social aspects, mainly integration of different minority groups.
- Successful integration through democratic participation.
- Co-operation between community members and villages through the application of the Faro Convention principles.





Use and implications of the Faro Convention principles on the social aspects, mainly integration of different minority groups

- The constant motivation of all vulnerable groups (such as Roma or women) to **participate** and **contribute** to the implementation of the **cultural heritage valorization projects** in Viscri, has generated the foundation for their sustainable integration in the community.
- Translate the values of the **pluri - cultural** community regarding the existent **cultural** heritage and the development of existing and new activities.
- Elaborate a common framework of regulations, including the **integration of the new village residents**.





Successful integration through democratic participation

- The strategic action plan and the social contract/agreement has been created **together with and for** the Viscris community members.
- Each group of interest involved in the development of these documents knows that the results need to be a **realistic, proactive and interactive agreement** which stays open to revision.
- The social contract/agreement, represents a pact for the Viscris community, includes an **informal parliament**, is discussing and agrees upon stipulations and arrangements before any new measures are implemented and in which all different village groups of interest are represented.



Monthly meetings of the informal parliament in Viscri



Co-operation between community members and villages through the application of the Faro Convention principles.

- The sustainable economic development the local community from Viscri has seen over the past 30 years is based on a **high level of solidarity and co-operation** between the **community members**.
- The new, **pluri-ethnic community** from Viscri, along with the **Mihai Eminescu Trust's (MET)** progress and projects, as well as the established agricultural practices, have all contributed to the development of sustainable tourism activities and traditional local crafts into a prosperous economic environment.
- In 20 years of activity (1267 implemented projects) the MET team has acquired great experience in engaging the community members in **46 villages** to preserve the cultural heritage, thus contributing to the sustainable development of the community by valorizing the local cultural and natural heritage.



