

Euromed Heritage *news*

Four-monthly Newsletter of the Euromed Heritage Programme, Year 3
n.1, January 2006

Managing Editor
Francesca Predazzi
Editorial Staff
Maria Giulia da Sacco

Editorial Office
Centro Città d'Acqua
San Marco 4149,
30124 Venezia, Italy

RMSU - Istituto Centrale per
il Catalogo e la Documentazione
via di San Michele 18
00153 Rome, Italy
tel +39 06 583 321 94
fax +39 06 581 793 96

Adopt a Mediterranean Heritage!

Adopt a Mediterranean Heritage is a new initiative promoted in the framework of the Euromed Heritage programme. Adopt a Mediterranean Heritage will be managed by the RMSU and serve as a facilitator between applicants representing cultural heritage located in Mediterranean countries and international investors. Eligible heritage has to be located in a Mediterranean Partner Country (Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestinian Territories, Syria, Tunisia, and Turkey) and must be tangible heritage: monuments, archaeological sites, but also sculpture, painting, or old musical instruments.

For more info: adopt@euromedheritage.net
www.euromedheritage.net/adopt/index.htm

Wave creators

The Delta project in Israel

"We made the first wave, others will follow".
In upper Galilee, the Delta project **continuing on page 3** ▶



A tale of a city

The exhibition "The last fifty years of Istanbul" revisits the city through 4 districts and some oral memories.

The clock of the Dolmabahçe palace stopped long a time ago, after the death of Mustapha
continuing on page 2 ▶

www.euromedheritage.net

From fine arts to a partnership strategy

At the RMSU/IEMed workshop in Barcelona cultural heritage was debated as a strategic contribution to economic development for a reinforced partnership. A vision in line with the Commission proposed "Plan-D for Democracy, Dialogue and Debate" aiming to stimulate a wider debate between the European Union's democratic institutions and citizens. More than

40 European and Mediterranean selected professionals representing institutions and civil society organisations deeply engaged in Cultural Heritage programmes and projects participated in the two-day workshop on 28th and 29th October 2005 in Barcelona.

The key recommendation of the workshop was to place cultural heritage and cultural activities within the future European Neighbourhood Policy instrument and to invite Governments to consider culture as a relevant tool for economic and local development and to build a national identity. It is important that international donors and national governments fully

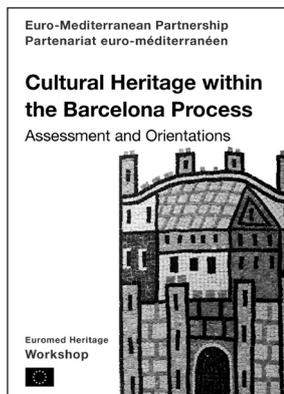
appreciate the economic value and "value-adding chain" of engagements in cultural heritage. The contribution of Cultural Heritage/tourism sector to the socio-economic development of the partner countries shows great potential for growth. As an example according to the World Bank, Morocco derives about 7% of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from this sector, and

the share of tourism in a EU Mediterranean country like Greece's is 18% of GDP.

The risk of turning a blind eye to this situation means burning the results of previous public investments and ignoring the role of one of the strategic development resources for Mediterranean countries, if not supported, the established networks will not fully demonstrate their potentialities

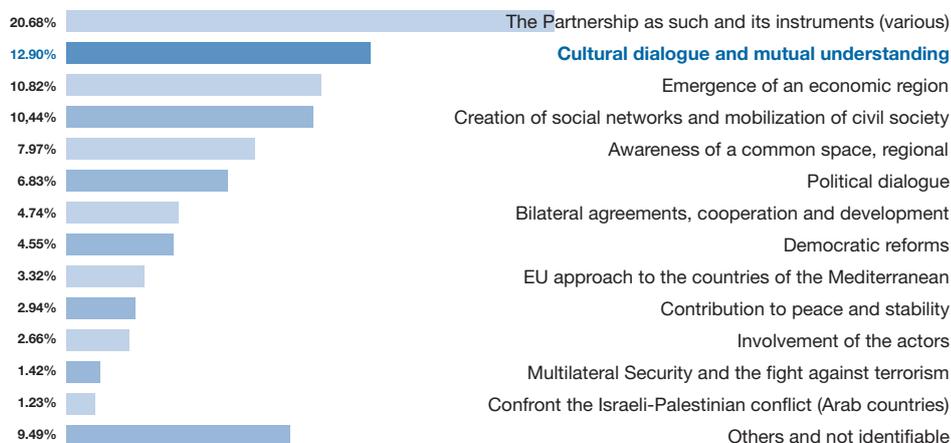
and will not contribute to reinforce the regional dimension of the programme.

Roberto Carpano, RMSU Co-ordinator
Matteo Malvani, RMSU Project Manager



http://www.euromedheritage.net/en/rmsu/rmsu_workshops/barcelona.htm

Main contributions of the Barcelona Process: Civil society' views



Source: "Ten years of the Barcelona Process. Civil Society's views", IeMed Survey, November 2005



THIS PROGRAMME
IS FUNDED BY THE
EUROPEAN UNION



▶ continuing from page 1

Kemal Atatürk, on the 10th November 1938 at 9h05, nevertheless the city has changed a lot since then. The evolution of Istanbul during the last fifty years, its districts and its people, is the main topic of the exhibition took place until 21st December 2005, in an antique hall, near the Topkapi seraglio. Photos, caricatures, memories, films and newspapers are gathered for this purpose.

While the country is on its way to join the European Union, the Turkish people wonder what course to follow and question the identity of the old Ottoman Empire. The laic and Moslem country risks somehow to be a bit of a disappointment. Thus, the nostalgia of a cosmopolitanism invented during the nineteenth century and the ambivalences of Istanbul as well as Turkey in all are becoming stronger. The exhibition, organized by the EuroMed project MedVoices, reflects this dilemma, by focusing on the present and past of four districts of Istanbul, mainly inhabited by the middle class. Fatih, Gaziosmanpasa, Arnavuthköy and Moda developed through the years, but preserved their social character. The inhabitants of these districts are not only some simple spectators of the sea. Their nostalgia remains attached to such tiny things, as others living in Alexandria or

Beirut. "People tend to deplore the sake of the old good days, but the accumulated oral stories prove the opposite. It is just an illusion", explains the sociologist Gülay Kaycan, one of the organizers of the event.

The collected stories are perhaps anonymous. Though they permit us to go deeply through the labyrinth of the city. The streets of Gaziosmanpasa have no more the same old sheds, constructed in the fifties to accommodate the Bulgarian repatriates, from Turkish origins. A firm Balkan personality characterizes the place as well as a live nationalism and a strong Moslem identity. Between 1960 and 1980, new migrant groups from different parts of Anatolia have moved to Gaziosmanpasa, especially some Kurdish people settled in the periphery.

In the Faith district, considered as the fief of the Moslem fundamentalists, it is not anymore the parasitical urbanism that distinguishes the place, but the most ostensible thing is the way life is organized around a historical mosque (the conqueror mosque). On the shown pictures, the presence of veiled women in black and bearded vendors happens to be very obvious and usual. "Radical Islam re-emerged between 1970 and 1980", indicates Kaycan, adding: "Lately, the fundamentalists have been authorized to organize a demonstration, without being arrested by

the police. Yet, the regime tries to appear as a democratic one".

The departure of the Greeks who lived in Arnavuthköy till the fifties was also a political decision. Their departure and before, their presence marked the style of life in this area, influenced by a typical Greek open-mindedness and a peasant conservatism, introduced by the new comers from the Black Sea.

The exhibition actually brings some valuable revelations about the cosmopolitanism which dominated in Arnavuthköy and Moda, known in the past as the neighbourhood of the Levantines. A question mark is put over the notion of the cosmopolitanism usually regretted or idealized.

Dalia Chams, Winner of the Euromed Heritage Journalistic Award 2005

Euromed Heritage Short Film

ICCD (Istituto Centrale per la Catalogazione e la Documentazione) and the RMSU have produced a short film on Euromed Heritage on behalf of the European Commission EuropeAid Cooperation Office.

Whilst the attempt was made to reflect the full diversity of the Euromed Heritage programme, it has not been possible to include images from all the projects available. ICCD and the RMSU have made all efforts to best reflect actors and projects and apologize for any inaccuracies and interpretation in the final text.

The broadcasting of this film is free, however please inform the RMSU on where and when

it will be transmitted. Should you also require further copies of the film, please do not hesitate to contact the RMSU at info@euromedheritage.net.



Turning Back to the Mediterranean

Mediterranean Voices Conference at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Alexandria 11th - 13th November 2005

In November the Bibliotheca Alexandrina was the setting for three days of academic panels, audio-visual presentations, exhibitions, film screenings, and workshop discussions to mark the closing stages of the project Mediterranean Voices: Oral History and Cultural Practice in Mediterranean Cities. The conference brought together the growing network of academics and activists who over the past three years have been collaborating in an exploration of tourism and heritage across the Mediterranean,

and their relationship to nationalism and other sources of identity. Like the project itself, the conference was a multi-media and multi-faceted event, aiming not only to give a taste of the diverse activities and outputs from the 13 cities of the Mediterranean Voices partnership, but also to provide a forum for the exchange of experience and ideas among the participating cities, research teams and their local partners, as well as with other colleagues, activists and distinguished guests from around the Mediterranean.

The audience of 90-plus delegates was treated to a screening of the documentary film output of the project, viewing some 10 short films over two evenings on aspects of the intangible heritage of Istanbul, Nicosia, Chania, Valletta, Beirut, and the Turkish-speaking communities of London. In order to encourage the exchange of ideas and experience, all sessions were plenary, and the interpreters were worked hard providing simultaneous translation in the languages of the project: Ara-

bic, Italian, Turkish, Greek, French, Spanish, Catalan and English. Keynote talks in the final session by Claudio Cimino of RMSU, June Taboroff of consultants GHK, and anthropologist Professor Jeremy Boissevain, provided valuable observations and comments not only on the conference content but also on ideas for future developments of the project, as it enters its post-grant sustainability phase. The welcoming reception on the 10th of November was also the occasion for the formal launch of the central output of the project, the on-line multi-media database of intangible heritage www.med-voices.org.

Julie Scott, Medvoices Coordinator

www.iicd.org/medvoices/alexandria



nators and nearly two hundred decision makers joined forces to take advantage of the economic strengths of the region. From religions and traditions to olive oil.

Gush Halav, upper Galilee. Michael Cohen, Delta project coordinator, meets Henry Alam, mayor of a village of 2800 inhabitants. They discuss the future of the area sharing a good meal. "I had an offer from the Jewish-Arab Theatre to build a theatre in town", the mayor says. Michael Cohen's eyes sparkle. After a three year project, benefits come at last. The theatre is one of them.

September 2005. A few days before the Delta project's end, both of them remember the early times. The first pilot meeting took place in Gush Halav, where 65% Christians and 35% Muslims live. "Nearly 200 people attended, everybody was looking at each other, doubting", Henry Alam explains. For the second meeting, all the mayors of the area compared the advantages of their cities and lands.

It's not a coincidence that the Delta project concerns this part of Israel. In theory, the aim was to promote a heritage management in a wide range of topics such as culture, landscapes, buildings or popular events.

That 60 km² area has many unexploited resources and has assets: the Byria forest with its 250,000 visitors per year, Zefat's neighbourhood, one of the four holy towns in Israel, the Rabbi Shimon Bar Yohai's tomb, situated at the bottom of mount Meron, which attracts 500,000 visitors a year. In Gush Halav for example, we can find 3rd century Byzantine tombs, a 4th century synagogue, but also a ten year old Maronite church!

A Cultural melting pot

The area focuses very strong beliefs. Jewish, Christians, Maronite Christians, Muslims, Circassians Muslims from the Caucuses, druses, live peacefully far from the troubles described in the national press.

Others important advantages: the Dalton wine, one of the most famous in Israel, and the Olive Feast during the two first weeks of November. This festival is one of the two main projects of the action plan. Thanks to

Michael Cohen's team, institutions cooperated for the first time, using the Olive Council experience. In the future, the protagonists plan to extend the festival events during the year. The second pilot project concerns territory preservation, like terraces cultures which tend to disappear.

For the time being, Michael Cohen considers that dynamic remains fragile: "We tried to bring a new vision to the area but tomorrow, if nobody carries on working on

the project, it would have been a three year dream... We'll estimate the achievement in the future", he adds. It seems that the Israeli government has checked the positive repercussions of such a project. Shimon Peres has already promised to create a new one in the Delta spirit.

Olivier Bouisson, Winner of the Euromed Heritage Journalistic Award 2005

A network for Delta partners

Proposal for a Euro- Mediterranean Network of Territorial Cultural System

A Network of the Delta project's partners will favour the implementation of the teachings drawn from on-field works and from encounters so that a large number of actors can take advantage of it. In order to function efficiently, the Network, which could be called « Delta Network », should therefore associate the institutions and pilot projects promoters that have participated to the Delta project to the public and private operators. In the framework of the Network's activities, common products, activities and services will be developed: on one hand the prototypes produced during the Delta project can become operational (Platform, Heritage Multiservice Card, Forum-exhibition of the Territorial Cultural Systems); on

the other hand, joint and compared studies and researches can be organized. The Network will first of all be able to benefit from the products that the DELTA project leaves as a legacy: the Internet Platform (Internet Database Management for Territorial Cultural Systems) and the "guidelines" for the heritage multiservice cards.

Seville, October 24th – 26th 2005

Abstract from: "Proposal for a Euro- Mediterranean Network of Territorial Cultural System"

For the full text of the Declaration:

www.euromedheritage.net/resources/texte_reseau_eng.pdf

Cultural Heritage as an Economic Engine: from Italy to the Mediterranean region

The valorisation of Cultural Heritage must be made by taking into account all its specific elements. Salvatore Settis observes that "Italy not only offers all of her monuments, museums and natural beauty, but also and above all their composition as a whole, in which the binding factor could be called "national tradition" or "national identity" that is, the consciousness of one's own heritage, of its unity and uniqueness and of the necessity of conserving it in situ... Our most precious cultural heritage is the context, the continuum between the monuments, the cities and the citizens; and it's not only the museums and monuments integrated in this continuum but also the culture of conservation that has handed them over to us.

The management and protection of cultural heritage is in itself a source of economy and is creating a blossoming market, characterised by small high tech enterprises.

Recent news in the Veneto region is the establishment of a Production District for Cultural Heritage. A preliminary survey on the makeup of

this district has revealed that in the cultural heritage sector in the Veneto, there are circa 900 enterprises operating with some 4,000 employees generating a turnover of circa €1 million.

The Mediterranean therefore can return to being a key for the economic and cultural transformation of a territory, but also the cradle of post-industrial civilisation. The region's essential characteristics can become strategic in an economic era that prizes the aesthetic, personalisation, lightness, the place and that at the same time requests increased respect for the environment and its ever decreasing resources.

Andrea Granelli

Distretto dell'Audiovisivo e dell'ICT

www.distretto.it

Abstract from the presentation at the conference 'The Mediterranean: Cultural Heritage and Values' Naples 25-26 October 2005 organised by AnsaMed



This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are solely the responsibility of the RMSU and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

Discover Islamic Art

An explosion of launches and a new website: the Virtual Museum becomes reality

The UK launch on Friday 25 November at the British Museum concluded the series of European launches that started on Tuesday, 22 November in Rome at the National Museum of Oriental Art where the event was attended by approximately 50 participants including representatives of the media as well as of different museums and academic institutions. On Wednesday, 23 November two simultaneous events took place in Lisbon (at the Gulbenkian Museum) and in Berlin (at the Pergamon Museum). The series of launches continued on Tuesday 29 November with the event organised by the Turkish partners at the Museum of Islamic and Turkish Art in Istanbul, followed by two simultaneous events taking place on Wednesday, 30 November in Amman (jointly organised by the Friends of Archaeology and the Department of Antiquities) and Ramallah (where the event is under the patronage of Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas); on Friday, 2 December followed Damascus with a ceremony at the Damascene hall of the National Museum chaired by the First Lady. The Egyptian launch taking place on 4 December in Cairo at the Supreme Council of Antiquities and chaired by its Secretary General, Dr. Zahi Hawas, concluded the series of Middle Eastern launches before starting, on Tuesday, 6 December the Maghreb launch with the event organised in Tunis, followed by Algiers on 10 December and finally Rabat on 13 December, whereby all three Maghreb launches will be chaired by the Minister of Culture. Last but not least, 9 December saw the launch of the website.

www.discoverislamicart.org

RehabiMed

Training course "Rehabilitation and Artisans"

Cairo, Egypt, from 1st to 8th February 2006. The second seminar organised by Rehabimed is directed to junior Architects and professionals interested in the rehabilitation field. The seminar will be held in English. For further information, please consult the programme online or write to rehabimed@apabcn.es.

Symposium Conclusions

The Conclusions of the regional Symposium Rehabilitation traditional Mediterranean architecture that RehabiMed has or-

ganized in Marseille (France), from 23rd to 25th of September 2005, with 165 participants are online in the fourth number of RehabiMed Bulletin.

www.rehabimed.net

Byzantium Early Islam

Soft red and white mosaics for the projects website

The Euromed Heritage III project, Byzantium Early Islam is pleased to inform that from the date of 1st November 2005 the project's website is activated at the following url: www.byzantiumearlyislam.net. Byzantium Early Islam, (BYZeIS) is a multidisciplinary project aiming to bring to the fore the region's Byzantine and Islamic cultural heritage and to modernise its ability to manage it intelligently through co-operation. The project is a golden opportunity to create the highest standards of heritage conservation and promotion in the MEDA region. The project partners come from Greece, Cyprus, Israel and the Palestinian Authority: Elliniki Etairia, the Hellenic So-

Barcelona, 25 November 2005

Algerian journalist Abdelmadjid Benchoubane today won a special ANSAMED prize at the Euro-Mediterranean and Media conference. The prize was a part of a journalistic competition Euromed Heritage 2005, while the conference was organised by the European Institute for the Mediterranean (IEMed), in collaboration with ANSAMED, Spanish news agency EFE and Copeam. Egyptian journalist Dalia Chams was also awarded a prize in her chosen field. Chams and Benchoubane received their awards from Richard Weber, director of the European Commission's EuropeAid office. The programme for the 2006 edition of the Euromed Heritage awards was also presented at the brief awards ceremony. Entries for the awards must be received before 31 March 2006. (ANSAMED).

For the Award 2006 regulations see

www.euromedheritage.net/award/index.htm

ciety for the Protection of the Environment and the Cultural Heritage, Athens University, the Palestinian Mosaic Workshop and the Committee for the Promotion of Tourism In Jericho Governorate, Israeli Antiquities Authority, and ETEK, Technical Chamber of Cyprus.

www.byzantiumearlyislam.net

Delta

Meeting with Communities in the Territory of the Pilot Project Biriya Creek

The meeting took place in the Biriya Castle, which is a center of the activities of the Jewish National Fund (JNF, Keren Kayemet LeIsrael), one of the associated partners. The event included 55 participants, all of them

from the Communities of the territory of the Pilot Project and representatives of the bodies involved in the activities there: JNF, National Parks and Reserves Authority, Israel Antiquities Authority, the ministry of tourism, local councils and the Merom Hagalil regional council. During the reception four artists displayed their artwork, and one pomegranate winery offered tasting. Prior to the open discussion, a local ensemble gave a short musical performance. The result of the discussion may lead to the sustainability of the project. The spirit of Delta in the Galilee is still living and breathing!

European Commission - EuropeAid Directorate A - Europe, Southern Mediterranean, Middle East and Neighbourhood policy

Carla Montesi *Head of Unit*

Leonidas Kiousis *Head of Section*

Claire Kupper *Euromed Heritage Operations Manager*

Fabrice Hendricks *Financial Officer*

ICCD

Referents for Euromed Heritage

Maria Rita Sanzi Di Mino *ICCD Director*

Luisa Granata *Administrative Manager*

Maria Lucia Cavallo *Liaison Officer*

Centro Città d'Acqua

Referents for Euromed Heritage

Rinio Bruttomesso *Director*

Mara Vittori *Liaison Officer*

Maria Giulia da Sacco *Technical Officer*

RMSU Managing Board

Maria Rita Sanzi Di Mino *ICCD*

Rinio Bruttomesso *Centro Città d'Acqua*

Caterina Bon Valvassina *ICR Ist. Centrale per il Restauro*

Eugenio D'Auria *Ministry for Foreign Affairs*

Luca Fornari *Ministry for Foreign Affairs*

Alfredo Giacomazzi *Ministry for Cultural Heritage*

Maria Luisa Polichetti *Cultural Heritage Expert*

Josep Giral *IEMed - Institut Europeu de la Mediterrània*

Francis Rambert *IEA - Institute Français d'Architecture*

Roberto Carpano *RMSU*

The **Regional Management and Support Unit (RMSU)** has been set up for Euromed Heritage II-III on behalf of the EuropeAid Co-operation Office.

The role of the RMSU is to assist partners and beneficiary countries in achieving project objectives, ensure coherent implementation of projects and full exploitation of opportunities, promote visibility and exchange of information and results.

The RMSU is located at the Istituto Centrale per il Catalogo e la Documentazione (ICCD) in Rome and benefits from the technical know-how of the international Centre Città d'Acqua of Venice.

Roberto Carpano *Co-ordinator*

Claudio Cimino *Project Manager*

Matteo Malvani *Project Manager*

Francesca Predazzi *Information Manager*

Andrea Sbisà *Financial Officer*

Monica Robelo *Administrator*

Drusilla Stacy Waddy *Office Assistant*

Mariateresa Cuomo *Financial Assistant*