

PRESS RELEASE



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Perpetuating the life of heritage assets through prevention

*The first regional thematic workshop on **Preventive conservation and maintenance** is organised on **23-25 November 2009** in **Ghardaïa, Algeria**, within **Euromed Heritage 4**, a programme funded by the European Union.*

Conservation practices are essential for the **safeguard and modernisation of the traditional architecture and houses** which make the charm of historic centres and contribute to the unfolding of social activities within the Mediterranean communities. The workshop will examine **conservation methodologies and practices currently implemented in the EU and its Mediterranean partner countries** taking into account aspects of **regular maintenance** which assure houses basic functionality standards and **interventions aiming at adapting historical houses to modern standards and uses**.

The main objective is **to draw a series of recommendations for authorities in charge of heritage as well as local populations, for a better conservation and management of cultural heritage in their countries**. Debates will revolve around issues such as **habitat modernisation, effects of air pollution on cultural heritage, conception of practical tools for intervention**.

Participants include representatives from Mediterranean countries at various levels - Ministries of Culture and Environment, Departments of Antiquities - Universities, specialised institutions, civil society entities and NGO's.

The workshop is organised in partnership with the "Office pour la Protection de le Vallée du M'zab" (O.P.V.M.) in Ghardaïa - Algerian partner of the Euromed Heritage 4-funded project "Montada" - and the Algerian Ministry for Culture-Directorate for Cultural Heritage, in association with the UNESCO Chair on "Preventive conservation" at the Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation (Belgium).

For more information

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