

Memories from the past, stories for the future: a Conceptual Interpretive Planning in Hellenic Rural Landscape

Introduction

The Directorate of Modern Cultural Heritage of the Greek Ministry of Culture will address a call to Institutions, Organizations and other cultural Bodies who deal with Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH), in order to highlight traditions related to the sustainable management of natural resources in the whole country.

In traditional communities, energy production and use of resources in general determined the present and the future of the community. Traditional practices were based on sustainability.

The submitted proposals will be assessed on promoting and highlighting cultural heritage living traditions and practices related to the use of energy from the sun, wind, water, soil and mineral resources, forests, flora and fauna, as well as the landscape management practices and policies (collective choices, historical transformations, etc.).



Bridge Dotsiko, Grevena

- ✧ Highlight the practices of traditionally sustainable use of resources and their long history, from which the local community and nowadays' generations can benefit in many ways.
- ✧ Urge local communities and support local identities by bringing back memories and strengthening values.
- ✧ Help young people to evaluate differently the environment and to appreciate its value.



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- ✧ Highlight techniques related to sustainability and promote partnerships and sustainable development networks, as well as
- ✧ possible future collaborations with other institutional and governmental organizations.

- how is this project related to heritage interpretation and/or local engagement and/or adult training?

The selected proposals will be implemented with the help and participation of locals, focusing on raising public awareness. Awareness training activities will be carried out by interpretive guided tours.

Local Engagement

The locals will participate in all phases of the program: in research, promotion and presentation of the ICH data. They will contribute by sharing their memories, possible personal documents, photos, etc., as well as by actively participating in the presentations or interventions. Also, with the help of local people, a map of the existing ICH elements will be created. The organizations that will undertake the program will be expected to cooperate with other relevant local or non-local bodies, utilizing all pre-existing relevant research and knowledge, in order to adequately highlight each element in its historical and cultural context and dimension.

Local engagement will be assured in the assessment phase of the project proposals. For a project to be selected, the proposing partners must be able to ensure that:

- 1.They have done particular work in the management of cultural and natural heritage, and they have knowledge and experience in promoting the ICH. They must propose a comprehensive plan, that will take into account scientific updates and concerns in the mentioned field.
- 2.They can use - if it is necessary - qualitative research methods and oral history tools, depending on the research needs.
- 3.Locals will participate in all the stages of the implementation: study - research, collecting of material, documentation - promotion, communication - dissemination of the results.
- 4.They will take into account the diversity of the population. The involvement of the inhabitants will concern both local populations and populations with immigrant origin or immigrants. The involvement of the latter mainly deals with the development of fruitful reflection on sustainable resource management and its traditions, which are common in the whole planet. They can, for example, take part in open discussions and awareness-raising workshops, to share their opinions and experience.



Forrest Philippaioi, Grevena

Interpretation

The results of the research and the highlighting data will be communicated to the general public through interpretive guided tours. All selected proposals should include an interpretive plan consisting of a comprehensive theme line, of at least one ICH phenomenon and propose several personal and non-personal interpretive media. The phenomena to be included in these plans should preferably be among those that have not already been sufficiently highlighted, but are characteristic or important in the specific area.

Target Groups

The target groups are the local communities that are connected with the various elements of ICH, but also the Greek society as a whole, as the action mainly aims at raising awareness on the general population. Therefore, it should be clear from the submitted projects how the message will reach the public and how its various phases will be communicated, from the research phase to the phase of dissemination of the results.

In addition, a special interest group will be young people.

The intangible elements of cultural heritage concerning sustainability are in a very critical phase in Greek local communities - most of them on the verge of oblivion - and only in recent years some interest has arisen. The local community has the opportunity to recall memories and to acknowledge identity elements, which urge the interest in the community itself. Inspiring respect to the traditional practices will promote local identities and raise pride for the existing -and almost forgotten in many cases- heritage that is connected with the common European values and the latest scientific prompts. Today, worries are being raised about energy consumption leading to the use of alternative ('clean') energy resources that have their roots in traditional elements of the ICH, making the latter popular again. In addition, a comprehensive program that highlights the ICH elements will upgrade the concerning area and offer great tourism potential to the locals.

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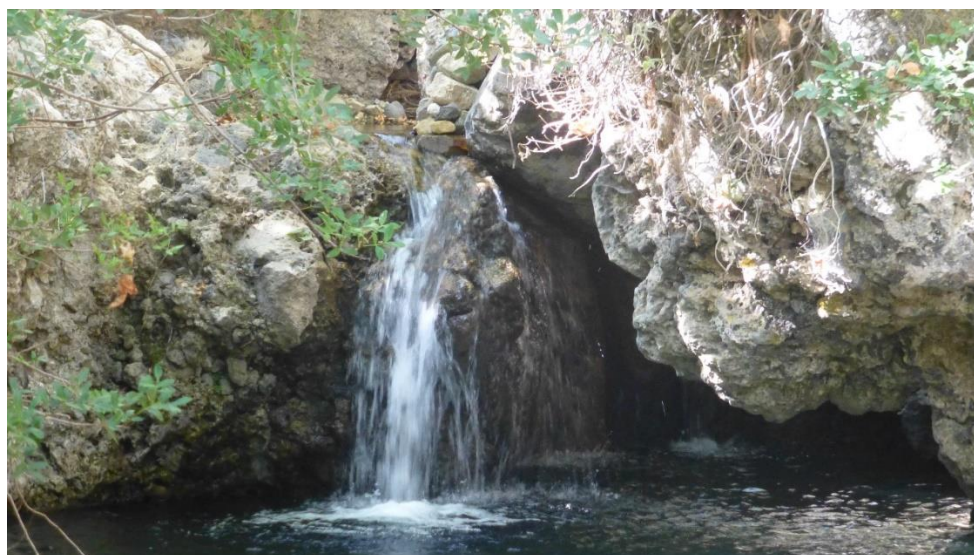
Young people are excited to discover new ways of communicating with nature. Promoting the values of traditional environmental and resource management methods will benefit the relationship among generations.

Media

Due to the character of this specific DELPHI project, it is not possible to describe or even foresee the character of the interpretive media to be used – since these will be decided by the project partners who will be selected. However, all projects results will be disseminated as follows:

The presentation of the whole project in the media (on websites, etc.) should be enriched with material from oral history interviews and / or field research material and / or from workshops and presentations within local communities and / or interpretive guided tours. The material should meet the ethical rules of production and distribution of such issues – i.e. tools of related science (preferably an optical anthropologist who can undertake the entire production of the video).

The results (research, interpretive walks, maps, highlights of the workshops, etc.) can be posted on the websites of the involved bodies, as well as the websites of the Directorate of Modern Cultural Heritage, of the Ministry of Culture, and the websites of other relevant cultural NGOs and institutions. The Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the involved organizations can create a video from the whole material, which will highlight the elements of cultural heritage associated with sustainability, as parts of the identity of local communities and Greek society in general, in order to raise awareness of sustainable traditions and their value.



Waterfall, Chania Crete

Maria Fakiola

Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports

Directorate General for Antiquities and Cultural Heritage, Athens, Greece



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