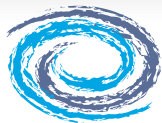


Bridge Trad



BRIDGES OF HISTORY AND TRADITION



European Territorial Cooperation Programme

Greece - Italy
2007-2013

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

Co-funded by the European Union (ERDF)
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The "Bridge.Trad Newsletters", published both in Italian and in English, are a valid instrument used to disseminate news and information regarding the progress of the project, the definition of the different steps and the reaching of the results obtained during and after the conclusion of the project. The newsletters will be edited and made available by an editorial staff constituted by the press agent, the communication designer and by the technical experts coordinated by the Project Manager.

UPI Puglia, aiming to ensure a wide dissemination of the project activities, has launched a service that will allow all the users, that will request the service through an on-line registration via the UPI website, to receive periodically and for free technical information and news regarding the promotional activities involving the stone bridges cultural heritage.

Therefore, on the website www.upipuglia.it it is possible to find all the news regarding the objectives and the implementation of the project phases, being also able to join the mailing list so as to be automatically and periodically informed about the project development. The newsletters will also be published on the institutional website of UPI Puglia as well as on online newspapers with the aim to inform the competent authorities and the interested parties about all the project activities and the actions implemented by UPI.

The mailing lists will also be sent to various authorities and organizations that promote the protection and the cultural and touristic valorization of the cultural heritage on the entire regional and national territory.

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The staff

Protection, valorization and promotion of the cultural heritage: these are the main objectives of the project "History of Bridges and Tradition" (acronym "Bridge.Trad"), funded within the European Union Cross-Border Cooperation Programmes (Territorial Cooperation Greece - Italy 2007 - 2013), implemented in the regional territory by UPI Puglia. In particular, all the stone bridges existing within the entire Apulian territory, from Santa Maria di Leuca up to Gargano, will be catalogued and included in new touristic itineraries.

The presentation of the project objectives and goals has been made at the hall of the Provincial Council of the Province of Bari, attended by a great number of guests whose interventions have been moderated by the RAI journalist, Mr. Attilio Romita.

The debate was introduced by the president of UPI Puglia, Mr. Francesco Schitulli followed by other field experts. "The general objective of the project, the project manager Mr. Roberto Serra explained, aims to the exploration and mapping of new cultural attractors, represented by the ancient Stone Bridges as well as by other cultural goods that can integrate the available cultural heritage within regional and trans-border touristic itineraries, with the aim to enhance a thematic tourism and increase the number of people visiting the cooperating territorial areas (for Italy the Apulia Region, for Greece the Region of Epirus".

The actions of exploration, mapping and cataloguing of the bridges have been described by the architect Mr. Vito Fortini, coordinator of a team of architects, preservers and art historians, to whom the implementation of the project activities has been appointed. The actions regarding the IT implementation have been described by the web developer of the project.



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The debate was also attended by prof. Ettore Vadini, faculty of Architecture - University of Basilicata, prof. Ignazio Carabellese, Architectural Restoration - Polytechnic of Bari, architect Maria Raffaella Lucarelli, Council Member of the Professional Association of Architects of the Province of Bari.

During the evening debate, the attendants have decided to launch an extensive study in order to register and classify all stone bridges existing in the cooperating territorial areas on the basis of their historical and cultural relevance, also registering the potential decay they may have suffered throughout time. The study will also be extended to all the buildings or castles involved some way in the itineraries where the bridges are located. The material produced will be used to mark the maps, the itineraries and other locations of touristic relevance that will also be available on-line through the creation of virtual routes. The project actions also aim to improve the trans-border cooperation and trades, in order to increase the number of visitors enhancing the involved regions' attractiveness, supply information to the territory and develop structured sustain mechanisms to support the touristic development of the areas.

