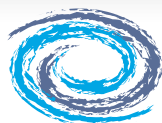


# Bridge Trad



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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## NEWSLETTER

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## Bridge Trad

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](http://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

Continues without interruptions the implementation 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) and realized in the regional territory by UPI Puglia - Regional Union of Apulian Provinces. During the Info Day, carried out on December 17th, 2013 at the Palazzo of the Province of Bari (Provincial Authority Building), have been described the project objectives as well as the reconnaissance activities launched in the territory. Such activities are conducted by a team of six experts (Architects and Experts in preservation of the cultural heritage) and regard the presence of traditional stone bridges in the entire Apulian territory having the aim to obtain a detailed and innovative cataloguing that, as regards the territorial mapping, does not have any precedent.

The necessary requirements for the determination of the methodology used, under the technical - scientific aspect, have been defined by a team of experts whose aim, from November up to the present date, has been to identify the bridges existing in the territory on the basis of their attractiveness profiles as well as on their historical - qualitative characteristics. The team has conducted surveys among the authorities somehow interested in the infrastructures (Superintendence offices, Regions, Provinces, Municipalities, ANAS - National Autonomous Roads Corporation-, Aqueducts) and has also collected various information in order to evaluate and edit a best practices research. Furthermore, some thematic entries of the infrastructures studied within cultural itineraries have been considered, allowing subsequently the selection of the bridges to examine and catalogue. The bridges selected are listed hereafter:

n	locality	name	thematic field
<b>ROMAN BRIDGES</b>			
1	Monopoli	BA roman bridge	roman bridges
2	Polignano	BA bridge on lama Monachile	roman bridges
3	Canosa	BT roman bridge on river Ofanto	roman bridges
4	Candela	FG roman bridge in Palino S. Agata di Puglia	roman bridges
5	Ascoli Satriano	FG roman bridge on Carapelle stream	roman bridges
6	Deliceto-Resega	FG roman bridge on Carapellotto stream	roman bridges
7	San Severo	FG roman bridge Gallucci	roman bridges
8	Bovino	FG bridge on river Cervaro	roman bridges
9	Ordona	FG remains of a Roman bridge on Carapelle stream	roman bridges
<b>BRIDGES ALONG THE COAST</b>			
10	Taranto	TA stone bridge	coast
11	Gallipoli	LE seventeenth-century bridge	coast
12	S. Cesarea Terme	LE bridge on the cliff	coast
13	Ugento	LE Torre San Giovanni bridge	coast
14	Castrignano del Capo	LE Papa Benedetto XVI bridge	coast
15	Otranto	LE Alimini bridge	coast
<b>PONTI SULLE GRAVINE E SUI CORSI D'ACQUA</b>			
16	Gravina	BA roman aqueduct bridge	ravines and watercourses
17	Castellaneta	TA Santa Lucia railway bridge	ravines and watercourses
18	Palagianello	TA former viaduct and railway bridge S. Stefano	ravines and watercourses
19	Massafra	TA bridge on the ravine	ravines and watercourses
20	Bitonto	BA bridge Lamaja on Lama Balice	ravines and watercourses
21	Spinazzola	BT bridge with 21 arches	ravines and watercourses
22	Minervino	BT white and red bridge	ravines and watercourses
23	Giovinazzo	BA white and red bridge	ravines and watercourses
24	Ceglie Messapica	BR bridge of the Apulian aqueduct	ravines and watercourses



# BRIDGES OF HISTORY AND TRADITION

Out of a total of about 70 bridges located on the entire territory, there have been selected for their unique aspects, both under the architectural and the historical aspects, the bridges located in the area between Canosa, Ascoli Satriano, Candela mostly dating back to the Roman times. Some of them are private properties, completely unknown to the population and to public bodies. A cultural heritage unknown to the interested parties and, therefore, unexploited within the cultural tourism circuit, that after the detailed mapping that will be carried out by the end of September will be made available to the Apulia Region, to research institutes of the Apulian and the Greek areas, to the competent Authorities at both a regional and a national level and to all the stakeholders.



Bridge in Monopoli

Enchanting, as for their natural and landscape characteristics, are the bridges spotted in the areas of Bari and Taranto, and particularly the ones located in the "gravine" (typical Apulian gorges) and on water-courses.



Rail bridge in Minervino Murge

In the territory of Salento and along the coasts, that form almost entirely marine reserves for the flora and fauna, the existence of the bridges is undoubtedly an excellent added value that in some cases is transformed into poetic expressions of remarkable beauty. Very interesting, as to the technical, engineering and educational profile, is the Apulian aqueduct infrastructure that, with its extraordinary bridges, unfolds from Capo Sele all the way to Leuca for over 300 km. Generally the selection of the bridges to include in the study has been based not only on their historic importance and their architectonic qualities but also on the ability of the structure, as an infrastructure, to be harmoniously integrated into the landscape enhancing its aesthetic qualities. The team of architects will now undertake a more in-depth and organized study of the selected bridges that will allow, after the first on-site surveys, the emergence of the data regarding the actual status of the structures as well as the possible ongoing good practices.

"The exploration and mapping of the stone bridges will integrate the knowledge of the cultural heritage that is available within the regional and trans-border touristic itineraries, in order to enhance a thematic tourism and increase the number of people visiting the territorial areas involved in the project activities - is what the Project Manager, Mr. Roberto Serra, states - . At the same time, the activities will aim to analyze the historical characteristics and the relations with the surrounding environment, to record the potential decay that they may have suffered throughout time, to valorize the natural materials and the techniques used for the construction of the bridges, to point out the relations with the surrounding territory demonstrating that human interventions and nature can merge harmoniously.

Make widely recognizable this cultural heritage will allow to ease the interchanges within the thematic tourism field, to mark the maps, the itineraries and the other tourist attractions, to improve the road signs and the indications regarding the stone bridges in order to make them easily accessible to visitors. The economic and employment potential of the cultural tourism make it one of the most important development factors, since 20% of the tourists visiting Europe have mainly cultural motivations and 60% of the European tourists are interested in making cultural experiences during their trips. As regards the growth of this segment, whose will is to visit historical sites, the valorization of the stone bridges, with their architectonic harmony, will be able to represent in the Apulian as well as in the Greek territories a unique reference point for all the needs linked to tourism that the businessmen working in this field can seize in order to plan new itineraries.

The post-industrial phase constrains the territories to assume once again a central relevance as regards the production of wealth and the creation of competitive advantages sustainable overtime, a key of economy where historical characteristics and uniqueness must be discovered and made well known abroad. The team that manages the project implementation, consistent with such an approach, relies on the fact that the final product obtained after the implementation of all the project activities will be able to represent a further contribution to this goal. With a strategy aiming to a locally-generated development of the territories involved, where the local milieu and the cultural/environmental "resources" can function as strategic assets, passing through a wider diffusion of a conscious and sustainable as well as participated and long-lasting development culture that eases the creation and the maintenance of a high territorial competitive advantage.

The respect of such guidelines and the contribution offered through the implementation of the "Bridge.Trad" project - concludes the Project Manager - will also demand the scheduling, planning and management of the promotion pertaining to the institutions and a business know-how aiming to widen the range of the products supplied integrated with the valorization of new cultural attractors, creating thus a complete and appropriate offer in order to meet a demand becoming more and more varied.

The completion of the project activities will represent a valid contribution in order to achieve, both in the Italian and in the Greek territories, an increase of the touristic competitiveness that, according to the World Economic Forum Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index places Italy and Greece respectively at the second to last and at the last place of the ranking among the Western European countries. This ranking is undoubtedly influenced by aspects as the environmental sustainability or the security, but also by secondary factors as the complete signaling for a detailed indication of the cultural attractors existing in the territories. The implementation of the project phases will continue in the following months and, following this direction, it will be able to give a significant contribution to cross-institutional cooperation and to system agreements with all the actors involved in the territorial development.