



## **STRUCTURE AND REGULATION OF THE TOWARDS EXCELLENCE IN CULTURAL TOURISM (TECT) NETWORK OF TWINNED TOWNS**

**The TECT Network of twinned towns shall use the Partnership Agreement, approved and signed by all members as a general regulation.**

### **1. AIMS**

**1.1** The project „Towards Excellence in Cultural Tourism”, funded by the Europe for Citizens programme of the European Union, lays the foundations of a stable, international, intercultural network, serving as a tool for associating and developing new synergies among citizens, local authorities and businesses from different European towns; enriching their knowledge on intangible cultural heritage preservation and valorization, on the opportunities for entrepreneurship it provides.

**1.2** The Network aims at fostering cooperation at European level between municipalities on the theme of intangible cultural heritage, preservation and valorization through cultural tourism.

### **2. OBJECTIVES**

**The objectives of the Network are:**

#### **Short-term**

- to build a structural network of towns aiming at developing and preserving the local cultural heritage in a sustainable manner as common heritage of European people;
- to organize six different events, which will allow local communities to participate in the building of the Network;
- to provide the participation of local communities in the decision-making process;
- to affirm principles of unity and co-operation of the member communities in the light of the process of stabilization in the area.
- to promote Network members' territories as tourism destinations;
- to foster international, cross-sectoral cooperation;
- to optimize cultural tourism through the exchange of good practices;
- to develop joint projects for the achievement of the objectives of the Network;
- to increase citizens' knowledge on European policies and the opportunities the EU provides;
- to show the importance of preservation and valorization of intangible cultural heritage and the opportunities it provides for entrepreneurship;
- to promote Active Ageing and inter-generational learning;



- to enable the youth to make new contacts, find potential employers, meet successful entrepreneurs and learn from their experience;
- to stimulate the members to co-operate in different projects;
- to stimulate bilateral exchanges and mutual knowledge between its members;
- to help establishing the SMEs, NGOs, cultural and tourism organizations as key actors in the development and promotion of cultural tourism;
- to help optimize businesses' operational capacity through good practices exchange with their European colleagues and develop new synergies;
- to create a shared platform for discussion, experience exchange, and cooperation, and thus facilitate and increase the international cooperation and partnerships among the different stakeholders

### **3. ETHOS**

The Network will be non-party in politics and non-sectarian in religion and will be fully committed to policy of equal opportunity to all irrespective of gender, class, creed, disability or ethnic background.

### **4. MEMBERSHIP**

**4.1** The participation in the Network is free and without charge, in a spirit of cooperation, friendship and common sharing of experiences and objectives.

**4.2** During the lifetime of the project, the members of the Network are set as follows:

Municipality of Sandanski, Bulgaria

Municipality of Agia, Greece

Municipality of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain

Municipality of Sepino, Italy

Municipality of Hårryda, Sweden

Local Government Association, Malta

**4.3** After the lifetime of the project, membership of the Network is not restricted. Membership will be open to all towns and/or associations of towns that will contribute to the achievement of the aims and objectives of the Network.

**4.4** Where the conduct of an individual, group or organization is detrimental to the interests of the Network or their behavior is such as to be likely to bring the Network into disrepute, the Network shall, where it sees fit and having given prior notice in writing to that individual, group or organization, exclude that individual, group or organization from membership of the Network or the support of the Network.

### **5. MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

**5.1** Each member will be responsible for:



### 5.1.1 Complying with the rules of the Network

**5.1.2** Organizing the foreseen by the TECT project events and for including as many local participants as suitable throughout the process. Each partner is responsible for selecting the most relevant participants taking into account the themes of the event and the areas of expertise required during the lifetime of the project;

- Involving the local communities in the events, to visit and to participate, to share and exchange experiences, opinions and values;
- Maintaining the project website and project sections on partners' websites
- Promoting the project objectives and progress;
- Promoting European Union, contributing to developing a sense of belonging to common European ideals;
- Providing stakeholders with information and assistance related to the realization and implementation of the Network objectives

## 6. MANAGEMENT

### 6.1 Management Committee

**The duties of the Management Committee are to have regard to the overall management and control of the Network.**

**6.1.1** The activities and meetings of the Network shall be controlled by a Management Committee, which shall consist of 6 members (representatives of each partnering institution).

**6.1.2** A quorum of the committee shall be at least 50 % +1 member.

**6.1.3** Each member will have one vote on the Network. However, there will be no limit placed on the number of representatives from any one member who may attend Network events.

**6.1.4** Each member will nominate a representative, to whom correspondence relating to the Network is to be addressed. It will be this person's responsibility to ensure that their institution is informed of, and represented at Network events.

**6.1.5** In the event of a member failing to attend three meetings of the Network, of which they have been properly notified, without apology, they will be deemed to have resigned from the Network.

**6.1.6** The official written language of The Network shall be English

**6.1.7** The responsibilities of the Management Committee shall be:

- to pursue the aims of the Network;
- to organize and control the meetings;



- to set up the agenda for discussions;
  - to draft the annual priorities of the Network;
- Each member shall be responsible for the organization of consultations with the target groups of the TECT project in order to ensure the active involvement of the local communities in the process of establishing the annual priorities of the Network. The draft of the annual priorities shall be sent in writing to the other members 1 month before the second annual meeting of the Network.
- to ensure the maintenance of the Web platform;
  - to approve new members of the Network;
  - to exclude members of the Network;
  - members of the Committee will hold as confidential all matters relating to the affairs of the Committee and Network;
  - the Management Committee shall have the power to make, alter and revise the rules of the Network;
  - the Management Committee is empowered to respond to media queries which may arise, but no member of the Network/Committee is empowered to make any public statement purporting to represent the views of the Network without the prior approval of the Committee.

## **6.2 Presidency**

**6.2.1** The Network shall be chaired consecutively by the different members for 1 year on a rotational basis. The Municipality of Sandanski will assume the function of a chair for the period, covering the duration of the project, followed by Municipality of Agia, Greece, Municipality of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain, Municipality of Sepino, Italy, Municipality of HÄrryda, Sweden , Local Government Association, Malta;

**6.2.2** The representative of the member – chair of the Network shall assume the function of a Chairman of the Management Committee;

**6.2.3** The announcement of the new chair of the Network shall take place during the annual meetings of the Network.

## **7. MEETINGS**

**7.1** The general Network's meetings will be held during the project's events as follows:

- Kick-off meeting - HÄrryda, Sweden - attended by each partner's official representatives, approval of the management, evaluation and dissemination plans for the project, participants will draft the structure of the network, its strategic priorities and short-term (within the project lifetime) and long-term (2014-2020) goals;
- Workshop - Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain - the network structure, priorities and goals will be presented for further discussions and amendment during the workshop;

# *Towards Excellence in Cultural Tourism*

Network Structure and Regulation  
Version 1.00



Europe  
for Citizens

With the support of the Europe for Citizens  
Programme of the European Union

- “Cultural Tourism and Active Ageing” Forum - Agia, Greece - will build on the results of the Workshop by setting the focus on inter-generational dialogue and active aging;
- Cultural Tourism Fair – Malta - creates opportunities for actors in the fields of culture and tourism and create sustainable partnerships, access new markets, exchange ideas;
- Festival of Cultures - Sandanski, Bulgaria - creates connections among traditional artists and artisans and allows citizens to taste the cultural richness and diversity of Europe;
- Closing event - Sepino, Italy - the project results, the final version of the structure of the network, its strategic priorities, long-term goals and action plan will be presented to the public.

## **7.2 Meetings after the end of the project**

**7.2.1** The Network’s members shall meet at least two times per year – in May and in November, and at such other times as may be deemed necessary in order to:

- discuss the development of the Network;
- share new practices, new opportunities, new perspectives that occurred after the end of the project;
- discuss the development of new partnerships at different levels and in different fields of shared interest inside the Network ( rural development, health, research etc.);
- not less than 14 days notice in writing of such meeting will be given to all members before every meeting;

**7.2.2** The meetings shall be held through the project Web platform or through any other electronic media when no other means is appropriate.

## **8. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

Amendments to the Network structure and regulation shall only be made at the annual general meetings. Notice of proposed amendments shall be given in writing to all towns, two months before the date of the meeting. No amendment shall be carried, unless at least two thirds of the towns assent.