2008-2018: 10 years working together for our common heritage

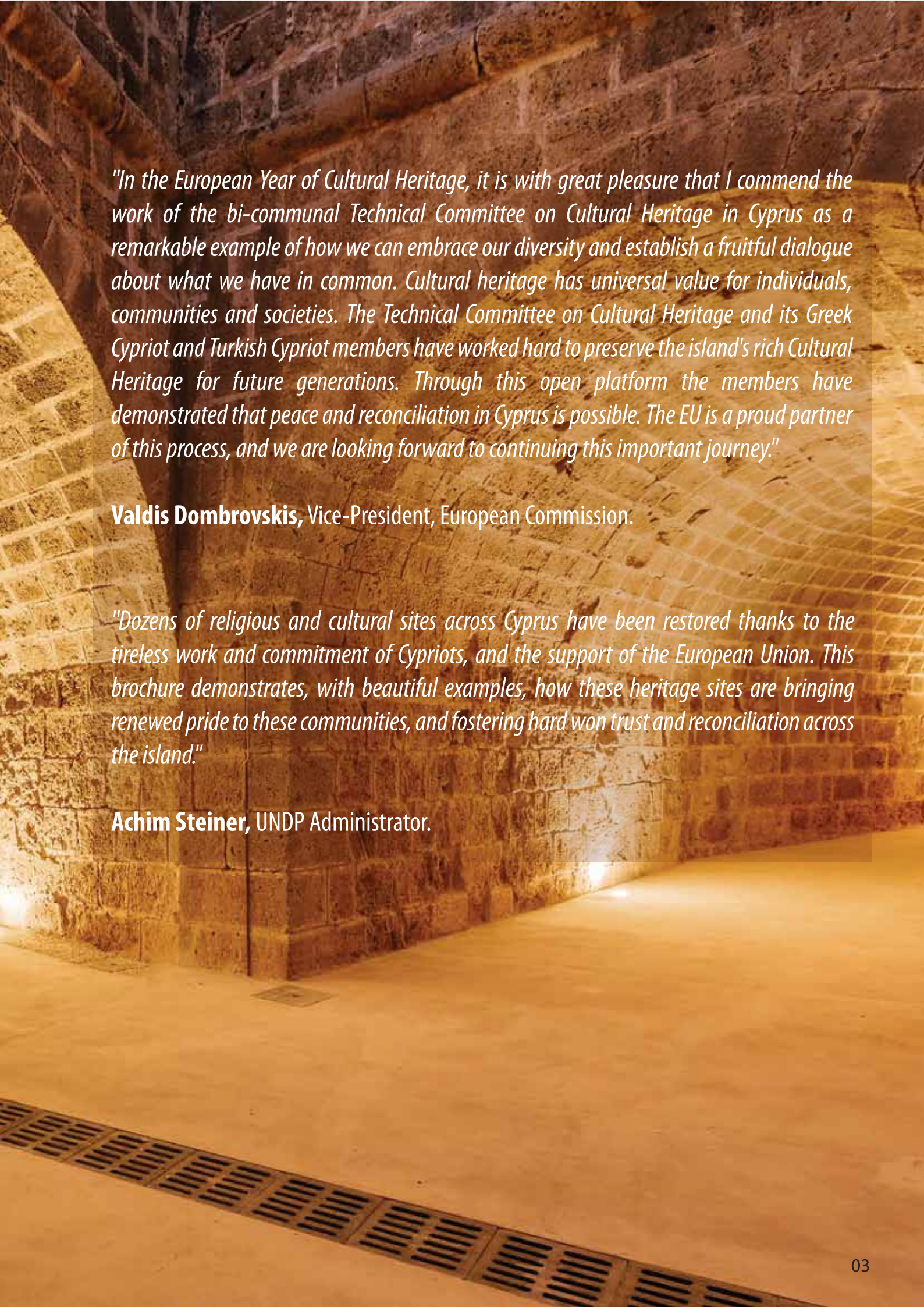


The Technical Committee
on Cultural Heritage
in Cyprus

October 2018



Martinengo Bastion Galleries after conservation, Famagusta. © UNDP Photo/Kerim Belet, September 2017.



"In the European Year of Cultural Heritage, it is with great pleasure that I commend the work of the bi-communal Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in Cyprus as a remarkable example of how we can embrace our diversity and establish a fruitful dialogue about what we have in common. Cultural heritage has universal value for individuals, communities and societies. The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage and its Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot members have worked hard to preserve the island's rich Cultural Heritage for future generations. Through this open platform the members have demonstrated that peace and reconciliation in Cyprus is possible. The EU is a proud partner of this process, and we are looking forward to continuing this important journey."

Valdis Dombrovskis, Vice-President, European Commission.

"Dozens of religious and cultural sites across Cyprus have been restored thanks to the tireless work and commitment of Cypriots, and the support of the European Union. This brochure demonstrates, with beautiful examples, how these heritage sites are bringing renewed pride to these communities, and fostering hard won trust and reconciliation across the island."

Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL HERITAGE

OUR WORK IN A NUTSHELL 05
HOW WAS IT ESTABLISHED? 08
THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE'S OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK 09
HOW ARE CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES SELECTED? 10
THE ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION 12
THE ROLE OF UNDP 16
OUR EDUCATION PROGRAMME 18
OUR SMALL PROJECT ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME 19
FROM DECISION MAKING TO IMPLEMENTATION - OUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS SO FAR 20

PANAGIA CHURCH 21
AGIOS NIKOLAOS CHURCH 22
DENEIA/DENYA MOSQUE 24
PANAGIA MELANDRINA CHURCH 26
EVRETOU/EVRETU MOSQUE 27
TSERKEZOI/ÇERKEZ MOSQUE 29
PAPHOS HAMAM 30
AGIOS AFKSENTIOS CHURCH 32
OTHELLO TOWER/CITADEL IN FAMAGUSTA 34
OLD ST. GEORGE CHURCH 38
PROFITIS ELIAS CHURCH 40
WATERMILL/AQUEDUCT IN CHRYSOCHOU/HIRSOFU 42
MONASTERY OF APOSTOLOS ANDREAS 44
HOLY CROSS CHURCH IN KARPASEIA/KARPAŞA 50
AGIOS PANTELEIMONAS MONASTERY 51
AGIA MARINA CHURCH 55
VENETIAN WALLS BETWEEN THE ARSENAL AND SEA GATE 56
MARTINENGO BASTION 58
ARCHANGELOS MICHAEL CHURCH 60
PAPHOS CLUSTER 62
MARTINENGO CLUSTER 64
RAVELIN/LAND GATE 68
AGIOS PHILON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE 70
WHAT THE PRESS SAYS 71
WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING 72

OUR WORK IN A NUTSHELL (2018)

100 INITIATIVES ISLANDWIDE

→ **6** LARGE PROJECTS

→ **25** MEDIUM SIZE PROJECTS

→ **23** SMALL PROJECT ACTIVITIES

→ **46** DESIGNS

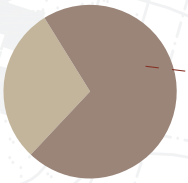
COMMUNITY IMPACT

- INCREASED VISITATION TO HERITAGE SITES
- MORE THAN 7,000 GREEK CYPRIOTS AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS INVOLVED
- INCREASED INTER-ISLAND EXCHANGES
- INCREASED NUMBER OF RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES

DIVERSIFICATION OF PROJECTS

- Orthodox, Maronite, Armenian Churches
- Mosques and Minarets
- Hamams
- Fortifications
- Watermills and Aqueducts

PERCEPTION SURVEY



71%

"Cultural heritage monuments can help to improve the confidence and peace building process among the two communities"



FUNDING FROM:

€14.7M EUROPEAN UNION / €2.5M CHURCH OF CYPRUS / €2.5M EVKAF / €150,000 OTHER DONORS



TOTAL FUNDING







Takis Hadjidemetriou and Ali Tuncay, Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot representatives of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage receiving the European Parliament's Citizen's Prize 2015 Award. © EPIO Cyprus Photo/Sarah Malian.

"The history of Cyprus is written in its land with its variety of monuments which all together make up its character and physiognomy. Let us allow the monuments to speak. They will teach us about the history and the people of our country much better than books and lectures are able to do. An indissoluble network of civilisation unites the whole of Cyprus and its people, Greek Cypriots, Turkish Cypriots, Maronites, Armenians, and Latins."
Takis Hadjidemetriou, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

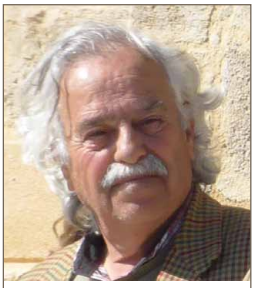
"Cyprus is an island at the crossroads of three continents, at the 'furthermost west of east' and the 'furthermost east of west'. All civilisations that have passed through our island with a history that exceeds 10,000 years belong to us. Traditions and customs of all these civilisations live with us in our features. We are the Mycenaean, Phoenician, Roman, Byzantine, Venetian and the Ottoman. Both the mosque and the church are ours. Both the Apostolos Andreas Monastery and the Hala Sultan Tekke belong to all of us. In short, all the monuments of all civilisations that passed through the island are our common cultural heritage and common richness. As the members of the Technical Committee we acknowledge the responsibility of preserving and sustaining this richness so it can be handed over to future generations."
Ali Tuncay, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL HERITAGE

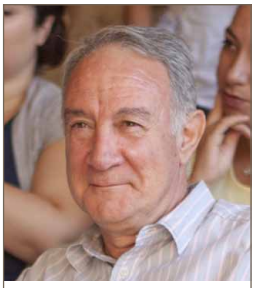
REPRESENTATIVES


TAKIS HADJIDEMETRIOU


ALİ TUNCAY


MUSTAFA HASIM ALTAN


FİGEN CANER


GLAFKOS CONSTANTINIDES


NACİYE DORATLI


KERIME DARBAZ


ALI KANLI


IOANNIS KARIS

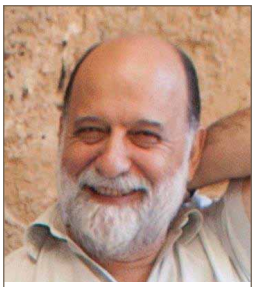

SOTOS KTORIS


ATHINA PAPADOPOULOU

ADVISORY BOARD

COORDINATORS


İLKAY FERIDUN


THEMOS DEMETRIOU

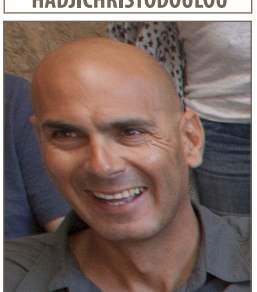

EVI FIOURI


CHRISTODOULOS HADJICHRISTODOULOU


CEREN KÜRÜM


EMINE REIS


BELGİN SAKALLI


ÖZGE SAMIOĞLU


ANDREA SOFRONIOU


EGE ULUCA TÜMER


GIORGOS GEORGIOU

THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL HERITAGE – HOW WAS IT ESTABLISHED?

"The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage believes that it is the primary responsibility of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots to protect the endangered cultural heritage of the island, and that it is important for these monuments to be preserved, not only because they are important symbols for both Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots, as well as for humanity, but also because they have an intrinsic value of their own."

(Press statement of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage, 6 May 2009).

The Agreement of 21 March 2008 reached between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots under the auspices of the United Nations (UN), paved the way for the establishment of the **Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage**, dedicated to the recognition, promotion and protection of the rich and diverse cultural heritage of Cyprus.

The Committee is supported in its work by an Advisory Board composed of archaeologists, architects, art historians and town planners from both communities. All its programmatic decisions are taken in line with the agreed principles and the task attributed to them by the two Leaders.

The members of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage wish to acknowledge the support and facilitation provided by the European Commission, the office and the staff of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in Cyprus and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).



The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage attending one of their weekly meetings at the United Nations Protected Area. © UNDP Photo

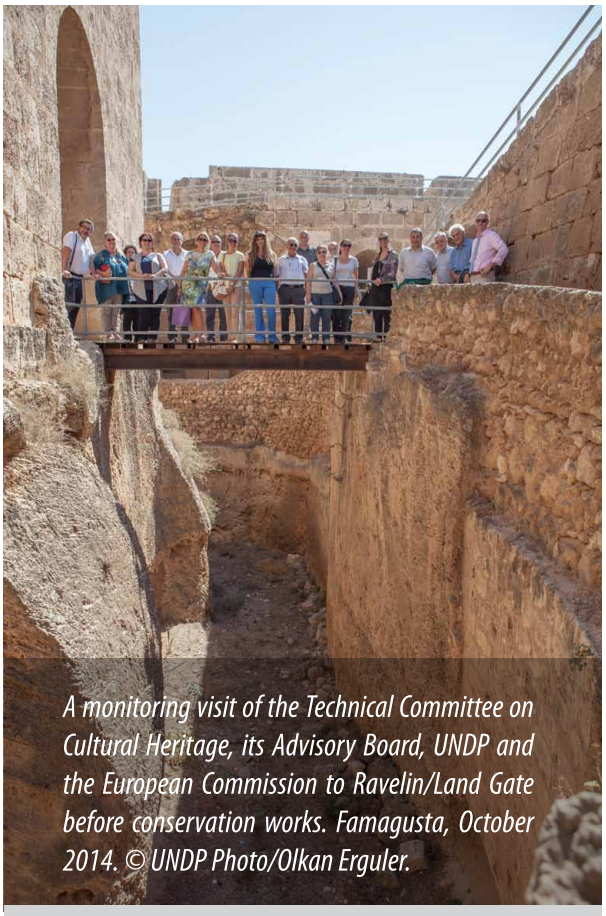
The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage works to provide a mutually acceptable mechanism for the implementation of practical measures for the proper preservation, physical protection and restoration (including research, study and survey) of the cultural heritage of Cyprus.

The Committee believes that the protection of cultural heritage is an integral part of the ongoing process of broadening areas of cooperation between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, which can most effectively be achieved through joint efforts.

The protection of cultural heritage also stimulates sustainable development and mutual understanding. For this reason, we call on those interested in our work to continue supporting our efforts to preserve our heritage so that we can build a future based on a culture of peace, tolerance, cooperation, dialogue, confidence and respect for differences.

OUR MANDATE :
THE PRESERVATION OF
CYPRUS' CULTURAL HERITAGE

THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE'S OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK



A monitoring visit of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage, its Advisory Board, UNDP and the European Commission to Ravelin/Land Gate before conservation works. Famagusta, October 2014. © UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.

The members of the Technical Committee, empowered by the mandate given by the Leaders, have invested time and effort to discuss, iron out and agree on the values, principles and mechanisms guiding their work and strengthening their cooperation.

A common vision for cultural heritage in Cyprus
As the cornerstone of its activities, the Technical Committee has developed and is actively promoting a common vision of the importance of cultural heritage for Cyprus. The Committee regards all cultural heritage as our common richness without making any distinction.

Volunteer ethos
The Committee, although appointed by the Leaders, operates on the basis of a strong volunteer ethos which accounts for much of its significant achievements.

Commitment to achieving practical results
While acknowledging the diversity of ideas and the complexity of conservation techniques, the Committee adopts a positive and result-oriented practical approach which guides its step-by-step method of implementing actions on the ground.

Technical support
The Committee is strongly supported by an Advisory Board providing valuable technical expertise. Where necessary, the Committee also receives support from other local and international experts working in the field of cultural heritage.

Implementation mechanism
The Committee is able to implement its projects through the logistical, contractual and operational framework of the Office of the United Nations Development Programme.

Resources
The capacity of the Committee to define, agree and formulate action priorities and a strategy for the future has been strongly supported by the European Commission since 2012.

Social acceptance
The achievements of the Committee have given rise to a broadening awareness of its role in both communities, to the extent that new initiatives are now being embarked upon to mobilise local resources for the purpose of local interventions.

Partnerships
The Committee's strong bicommunal and multicultural ethos and demonstrated commitment to cooperation have led to the development of partnerships with various heritage-related institutions, most notably the Church of Cyprus and EVKAF, extending also to local and other competent authorities, expert groups and, not least, UNDP and the Cyprus Settlement Support Unit of the European Commission in Nicosia.

The Committee has become mature enough to develop relations with international institutions working in the field of cultural heritage.

HOW ARE CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES SELECTED?

The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage aims to achieve the best possible outcomes for the stability, survival, cultural and social value protection of selected monuments.

In doing this, we strongly promote and apply a holistic and bicommunal approach when selecting the monuments to be protected, taking into account the rich and diverse heritage of Cyprus and its need for protection, but also the resources available in order to maximise efficiency and impact in all our activities.

An initial list of 40 sites in need of emergency care and conservation was approved by the Leaders. Additional monuments of great historical value or notable size have been added to this list. Particular attention is given to the archaeological importance of the monuments, reflecting their uniqueness, historical significance and role in society as well as their future educational role.

The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage implements three types of projects:

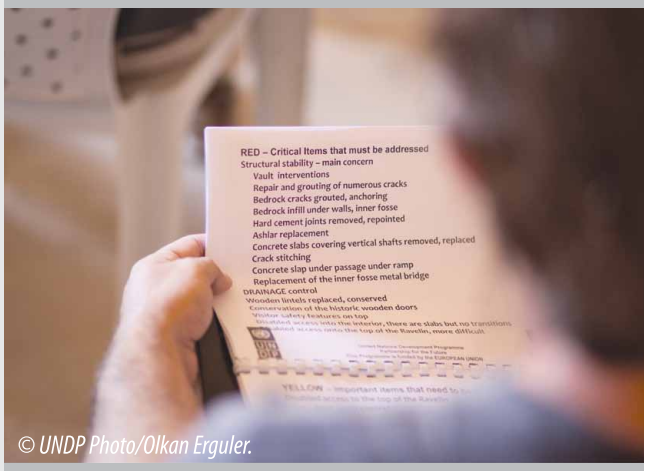
Large projects focus on monuments with great historical and social value, such as the Apostolos Andreas Monastery, the Othello Tower, the Famagusta Walls Complex, and the Agios Panteleimonas Monastery.

Medium size projects focus on conservation projects of moderate cost and high impact.

Small project activities (SPA) focus on minor interventions with fast results that both safeguard cultural heritage and enhance community development.

The medium-sized and large projects of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage are implemented by UNDP. This allows the Committee's technical teams to meet international restoration and cultural heritage preservation practitioners to discuss various conservation challenges that may arise. This also contributes to strengthening the Committee's technical knowledge, capacity and awareness.

Monitoring visits to project sites and strict collaboration on aspects of the Committee's work also allow for increased exchange of experiences and the setting of a positive example of successful collaboration between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots in the field of cultural heritage.

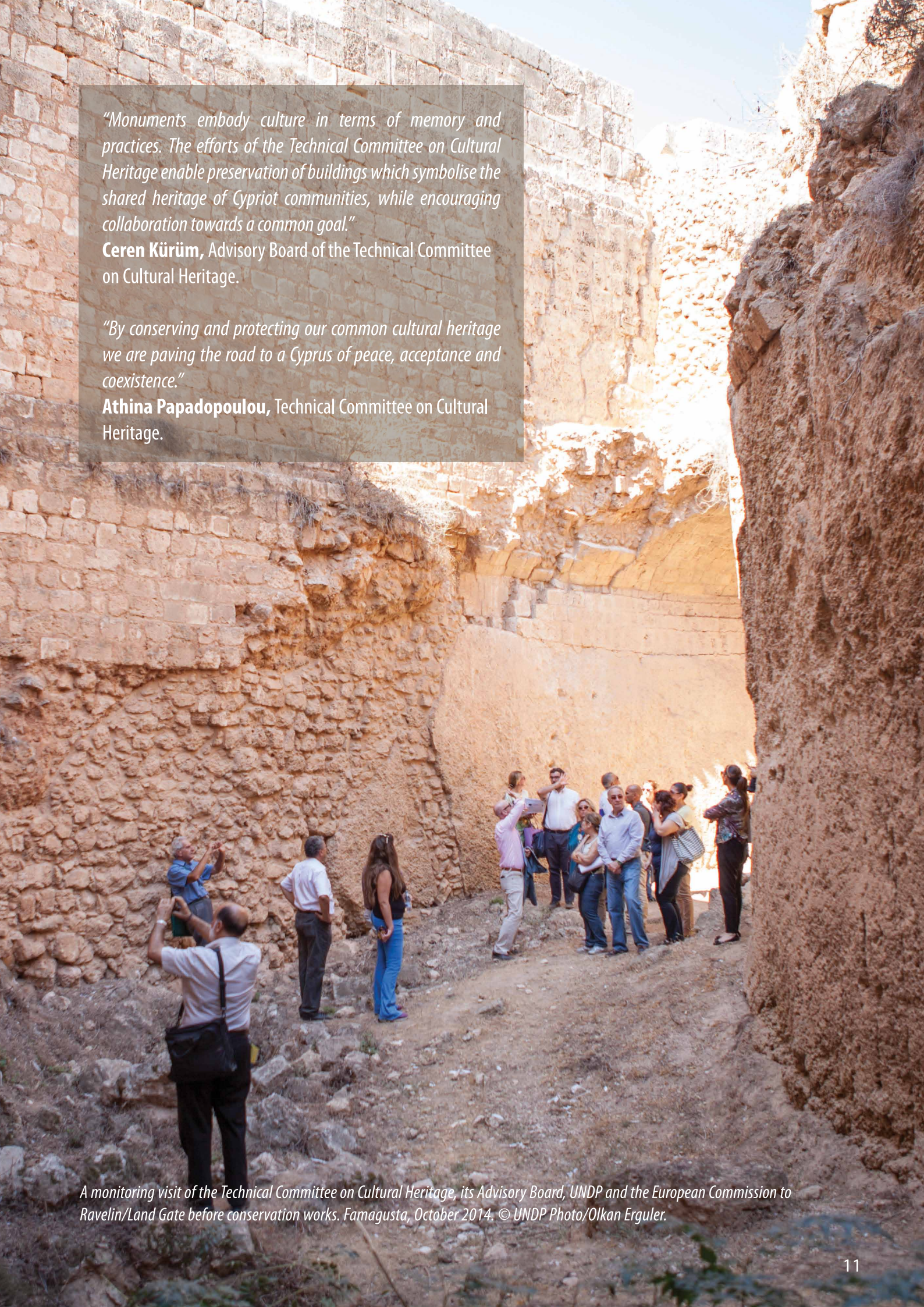


© UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.

MONITORING OF EMERGENCY AND CONSERVATION WORKS

"Monuments embody culture in terms of memory and practices. The efforts of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage enable preservation of buildings which symbolise the shared heritage of Cypriot communities, while encouraging collaboration towards a common goal."
Ceren Kürüm, Advisory Board of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

"By conserving and protecting our common cultural heritage we are paving the road to a Cyprus of peace, acceptance and coexistence."
Athina Papadopoulou, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.



A monitoring visit of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage, its Advisory Board, UNDP and the European Commission to Ravelin/Land Gate before conservation works. Famagusta, October 2014. © UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.

THE ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

In 2008, the European Parliament requested that the European Commission carries out a study on the condition and the estimated cost of restoring cultural heritage in Cyprus. In 2009 the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage agreed to compile such a study of the immovable cultural heritage of Cyprus. The European Union-funded study was finalised in 2010 with the support of UNDP. The study resulted in the compilation of a list of more than 2,300 cultural heritage sites, the preparation of around 700 inventory charts, including historical backgrounds, pictures, topographical details and architectural sketches of each monument, and the carrying out of 121 technical assessments, analysing the current conditions of the monuments, and restoration costing needs.

Since 2012 approximately €14.7 million of European Union (EU) funds have been provided by the European Commission (EC) to implement the priorities of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage, for the islandwide preservation of Cyprus' cultural heritage. This makes the EU the biggest contributor to the work of the Committee.



Mary McCarthy, Director, Structural Reform Support Service (SRSS), European Commission, Kjartan Björnsson, Head of Unit, Cyprus Settlement Support, SRSS, European Commission, Michaela Di Bucci, former Head of Unit, Cyprus Settlement Support, Alessandra Viezzer and Michela Foresti, former Head of Cooperation, Cyprus Settlement Support, SRSS, European Commission and Agustín M. Colorado, former Programme Manager, Cyprus Settlement Support, SRSS, European Commission, attending several project completion ceremonies.

"Over the past years, the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot members of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage have done a lot to preserve the island's rich Cultural Heritage for future generations. They have devoted a lot of time and effort to building trust and confidence. And more importantly, to show the Cypriot society that it is possible to work together for peace and reconciliation and for the common good. We warmly commend them for their dedication to the idea of a better Cyprus."
Mary McCarthy, Director, Structural Reform Support Service (SRSS), European Commission.

"The European Union is a proud partner of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage and UNDP in Cyprus. In the European Year of Cultural Heritage we will continue to support the conservation and use of Cultural Heritage sites as confidence building meeting points. It is very important to understand the capacity of monuments to bring people together, around a shared heritage that goes beyond communities. The work of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage is a great example of collaboration and reconciliation between Cypriots. I hope that 2018, as European Year of Cultural Heritage, will bring bigger contributions to reconciliation in Cyprus."
Kjartan Björnsson, Head of Unit, Cyprus Settlement Support, SRSS, European Commission.



"The success of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in Cyprus is the establishment of an open platform for dialogue in which all participants feel just Cypriots taking care of a common heritage for the benefit of the future generations"
Michela Foresti, former Head of Cooperation, Cyprus Settlement Support, SRSS, European Commission.

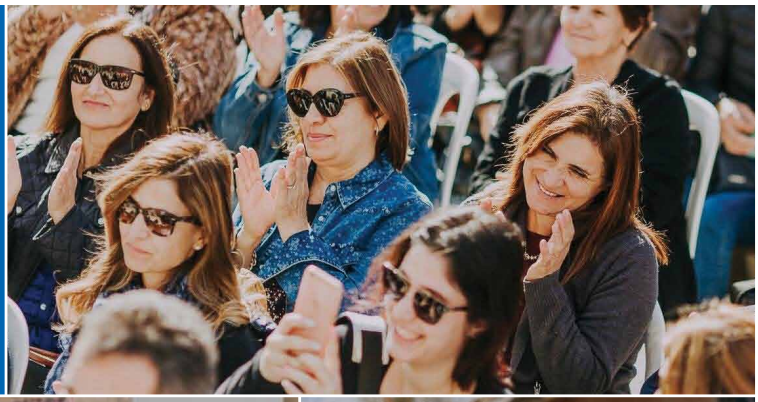
"I have had the privilege of working closely with the members of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in Cyprus for the last five years. In this time I have seen how they have nurtured dialogue and trust on the basis of empathy and a shared vision. For them, reconciliation is not a word or an idea but a reality that takes the form of cultural heritage sites preserved for the future. I am very grateful and proud of being part of this common effort."
Agustín Moya Colorado, former Programme Manager, Cyprus Settlement Support, SRSS, European Commission.





EU Commissioner for Regional Policy Corina Crețu, Kjartan Björnsson, Head of Unit, Cyprus Settlement Support, SRSS, European Commission, and other EU representatives meeting with the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage at different completion events.







The EU is the biggest supporter of the work of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in Cyprus



€14.7M *of EU funding invested in the cultural heritage of Cyprus*

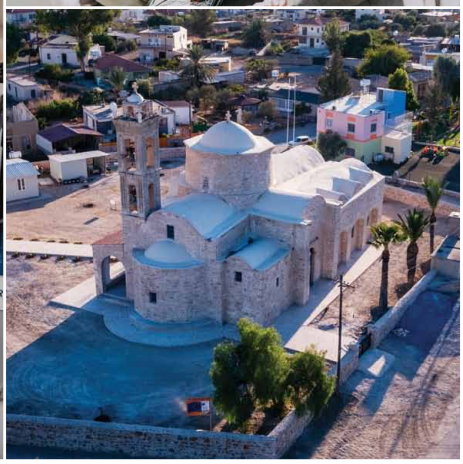


More than €4M invested in Famagusta's heritage





2018 *European Year of Cultural Heritage*



Mary McCarthy, Director, Structural Reform Support Service (SRSS), European Commission, Kjartan Björnsson, Head of Unit, Cyprus Settlement Support, SRSS, European Commission, Michela Foresti, former Head of Cooperation, Cyprus Settlement Support, SRSS, European Commission, attending several project completion ceremonies.

OTHER DONORS

In January 2013 a multi-donor partnership agreement for the restoration of the Monastery of Apostolos Andreas was set up and €2.5 million was donated respectively by the EVKAF Administration and the Church of Cyprus for the restoration of the monastery. A small but symbolically significant contribution of US$25,000 was made by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The project for the conservation of the Kyrenia Shipwreck is supported by the Honor Frost Foundation.

Moreover, in 2016 new funds were received from the Holy See and the A.G. Leventis Foundation. Private contributions to support ad-hoc projects are expected in the future.

All funds are channelled through UNDP.

The value of the cultural heritage of the island is considered inestimable, and expanding the scope of work of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage towards more partnerships and greater inclusiveness is fundamental if we are to preserve more of our precious heritage.





UNDP's Senior Programme Manager and Head of Office Tiziana Zennaro signing the contract for the conservation of Apostolos Andreas Monastery with the Church of Cyprus and the EVKAF Administration. © UNDP Photo.



EU Heads of Mission and other donors visiting TCCH projects. © UNDP Photo.

THE ROLE OF UNDP

Since 2010 the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has assisted the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in preserving the cultural heritage of Cyprus.

In strong partnership with the European Commission in Cyprus, UNDP supports the development of the capacity of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage to conduct inclusive consultations on technical and strategic aspects of its work, including facilitation of consultations with religious leaders from both communities, technical departments and local media.

UNDP liaises with donors, technical departments and local communities, on behalf of and/or together with the Technical Committee. It directly implements and administers the Committee's conservation works and visibility efforts, hence creating a favourable environment for the non-political consideration of cultural heritage on both sides of the island.

Joint monitoring visits and regular meetings with the Advisory Board of the Technical Committee are facilitated by UNDP to encourage and ensure the direct involvement in each stage of the project cycle. The direct involvement of technical teams from both communities (architects, archaeologists, engineers etc.) act, in time, as team- and confidence-building measures, allowing for increased exchange of experiences and the setting of a positive example of successful collaboration between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. For each project, two focal people from the advisory board (one from each community) work with UNDP to advise the Technical Committee and contribute to the implementation process.

UNDP also assists the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in planning and organising consultative processes to ensure that stakeholder aspirations and concerns are understood, beneficiary needs addressed and feedback shared. Under the current project cycles, public consultations are held at the beginning of each project and public outreach exercises/surveys are conducted by dedicated personnel in each project location with the support of village representatives and local communities. Moreover, UNDP provides logistical and strategic support to the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in its efforts to re-establish community links between villages and their former residents and encourage cross-community exchanges.

"As Programme Manager of UNDP in Cyprus I know that we have a critical role to play. We are the implementer of the Technical Committee's strategy and our work contributes to their success. In my work I meet with religious representatives and technical experts from both communities. Synergy between different actors is essential for fostering a conductive environment around our work. For this reason, I enjoy sitting with them in front of project drawings, wearing my helmet and accompanying them on-site to witness our work first-hand, as well as working together to find a common solution to any problem that can arise, whether it's obtaining permission or helping them select the right type of intervention. In this process, I am lucky to be guiding a small but dedicated team of professionals."

Tiziana Zennaro, UNDP Senior Programme Manager and Head of Office in Cyprus.



UNDP Senior Programme Manager and Head of Office Tiziana Zennaro with Ali Tuncay and Takis Hadjidemetriou. Agios Nikolaos Church project completion ceremony, October 2014. © UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.







The UNDP Cyprus Team.

"In our office Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots work side by side in a small international team. Together we share ideas, discuss project designs and help our partners select the right type of intervention. We help the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in communicating their achievements. We are aware that even while conducting a simple task, like deciding on small conservation interventions or how to remove layers of paint, we are actually unveiling layers of history and mistrust and building new layers of peace. Working together for our common heritage is a privilege and a responsibility we feel honoured to have."
Programme and Communications Team

"We are UNDP's operations team. We are the people working behind-the-scenes. Our work has to do with contracts, tenders, tables and numbers. But here in Cyprus it is much more than that. Every project touches us personally as Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots working together for our common future."
Operations Team

"We are the face of UNDP on site. Everyday at work we are reminded of the richness of the Cypriot heritage. We interact daily with different teams of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot experts who use their expertise and skills in service of a common heritage. Designers, conservators, contractors. It is a unique experience to share the responsibility of selecting the compatible and right materials and ensuring the preservation of our common heritage sites for future generations. And it is an even more rewarding feeling that we are doing this together."
Site Supervision Team

OUR EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Education is central to the mission of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage. The Committee actively works to create an interactive educational programme that gives the younger generation of Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots the opportunity to learn about each other and the cultural heritage of their island.

The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage, in partnership with UNDP, offers university graduates and undergraduate students the possibility to visit project sites while conservation works are ongoing. This gives students a behind-the-scenes look at the practical work of the Committee and how it aims to bring Cypriots closer to their shared heritage. Moreover, students have the unique opportunity to meet and ask questions to experts from both communities (designers, workers, conservators etc.), working side by side on a common project.

Over the past two years, more than 2,000 students have taken part in guided tours to ongoing heritage conservation projects or attended presentations organised at their universities by the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage and UNDP.



Student visit to the Othello Tower, Famagusta. © UNDP Photo.

"The fact that you invite students to visit the site and the works, helps with the advancement of expertise for the next generation of scientists, so that we will be able to face related issues in the future".
Aikaterini Lekou, aged 23, student of architecture.



Students visiting the Apostolos Andreas Monastery during conservation works. © UNDP Photo.

OUR SMALL PROJECT ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME

The Small Project Activities (SPA) initiative focuses on grassroots, low-cost interventions on monuments requiring simple, non-structural, small-scale works capable of producing early results and bringing local communities closer to the work of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage. Examples of Small Project Activities include: internal and external site cleaning, removal of vegetation from roofs and walls, minor repairs, replacement of doors, fences and windows at heritage sites. *"This SPA programme enhances the outreach of the Technical Committee to the communities demonstrating the importance and the capacity for quick responses at a grassroots level,"* **Glafkos Constantinides**, Member of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

Under the first phase of the programme 10 projects were completed with funding from several donors. Namely, the chapel of Agios Mikallos in Akanthou/Tatlısu, the mosques of Kotsiati/Koçşat, Akaki/Akaça, Nissou-Pera Chorio and Orounda/Orunda. The mosques situated within the walled city of Nicosia Tophane and Tabakhane and the churches of Agios Photios in BellaPais/Beylerbeyi, Agios Mamas in Lapithos/Lapta and Agios Antonios in Masari/Şahinler.

Under the current EU-funded phases,13 SPA projects have been completed. Namely, the churches of Agia Paraskevi in Stroggylos/Turunçlu, Agia Varvara in Akanthou/Tatlısu, Agios Antonios in Masari/Şahinler, Agios Charalambos in Akanthou/Tatlısu, Agios Demetrios in Leonarisso/Ziyamet, Agios Georgios in Davlos/Kaplıca, Agios Sozomenos in Davlos/Kaplıca, Agios Thereseon (Therapon) in Angastina/Aslanköy, Archangelos Michael in Aigialousa/Yenierenköy and Panagia Akentou in Lefka/Lefke, as well as Köprülü Mosque in Limassol, the Mosque in Mathiatis/Matyat and Tophane Mosque's courtyard in Nicosia.

Depending on their location, SPA projects are implemented by local communities, local contractors, relevant bodies and by the EVKAF Administration in partnership with UNDP and the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

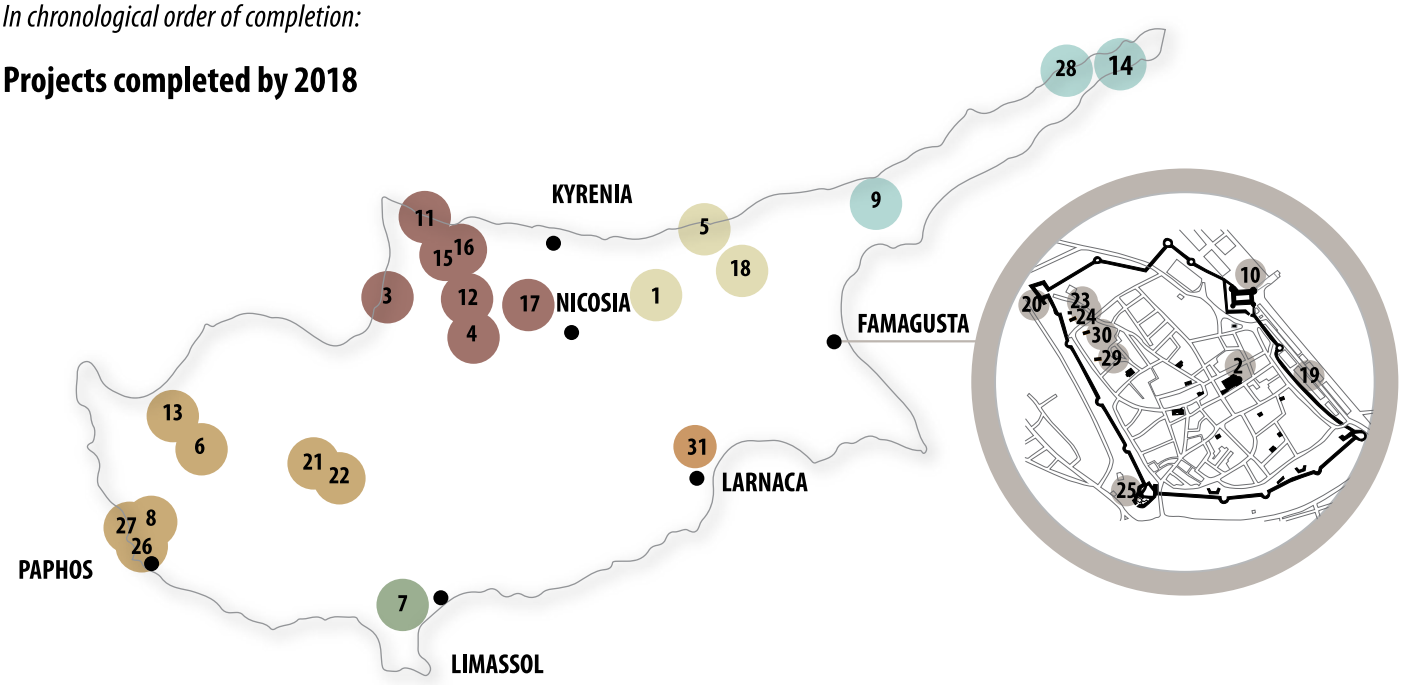


Small Project Activities, islandwide. Photos © Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

FROM DECISION MAKING TO IMPLEMENTATION – OUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS SO FAR

In chronological order of completion:

Projects completed by 2018



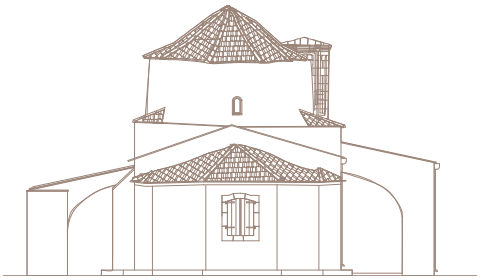
1. Panagia Church in Trachoni/Demirhan (2013)
2. Mustafa Pasha Mosque in Famagusta (2014)
3. Agios Nikolaos Church in Syrianochori/Yayla (2014)
4. Deneia/Denya Mosque (2014)
5. Panagia Melandrina Church in Kalograia/Bahçeli (2014)
6. Evretou/Evretu Mosque (2015)
7. Tserkezoi/Çerkez Mosque (2015)
8. Paphos Hamam (2015)
9. Agios Afksentios Church in Komi Kebir/ Büyükkonuk (2015)
10. Othello Tower/Citadel in Famagusta (2015)
11. Old St. George Church in Kormakitis/Koruçam (2015)
12. Profitis Elias Church in Fyllia/Serhatköy (2015)
13. Watermill/Aqueduct in Chrysochou/Hirsofu (2016)
14. Apostolos Andreas Monastery (Church complex)(2016)
15. Holy Cross Church in Karpaseia/Karpaşa (2017)
16. Agios Panteleimonas Monastery in Myrtou/Çamlıbel (2017)
17. Agia Marina Church in Agia Marina/Gürpınar (2017)
18. Archangelos Michael Church in Lefkonoiko/Geçitkale (2017)
19. Venetian Walls between the Arsenal and Sea Gate in Famagusta (2017)
20. Martinengo Bastion in Famagusta (2017)
21. Agios Ioannis/Ayyanni Mosque (2017)
22. Agios Nikolaos/Aynikola Mosque and Minaret (2017)
23. St. Mary's of the Armenians Church in Famagusta (2018)
24. St. Mary of Carmel in Famagusta (2018)
25. Ravelin (Land Gate) in Famagusta (2018)
26. Minaret of Cami-i-Kebir (Ktima) in Paphos (2018)
27. Hamam/Bath (near Hasan Aga tomb) in Paphos (2018)
28. Agios Philon archaeological site in Rizokarpaso (2018)
29. St. Anne's Church in Famagusta (2018)
30. Tanners' Mosque in Famagusta (2018)
31. Tuzla Mosque (frescoes) and Hamam in Larnaca-Phase 1 (2018)

Conservation designs completed or planned to be completed by 2018:

Apostolos Andreas Monastery (chapel and monastic buildings), Kyrenia Shipwreck Gallery in Kyrenia Castle, Turkish Cypriot school in Kotsiatis/Koççat, Panagia Church in Askeia/Paşaköy, Agios Artemon Church in Afanteia/Gaziköy, Agios Andronikos Church in Kythrea/Değirmenlik, Arsenal/Canbulat Bastion in Famagusta, Nicosia walls (Mula bastion to Kyrenia Gate) vegetation removal, Afendrika archaeological site in Karpasia/Karpaz, Agia Triada basilica & baptistery in Karpasia/Karpaz, Nicosia walls (Kyrenia Gate to Flatros bastion) vegetation removal, Agios Sergios and Vackhos Church in Agios Sergios/Yeni Boğaziçi, St. Anthony Latin chapel in Kontea/Türkmenköy, Traditional house in Limnia/Mormenekşe, Windmill in Limnia/Mormenekşe, Sourp Magar Monastery in Halefga/Alevkayası, Agios Synesios Church in Rizokarpaso/Dipkarpaz, Archangelos Michael Church in Aigalousa/Yenierenköy.

For updates on ongoing activities (designs and works) please refer to **www.cy.undp.org**

PANAGIA CHURCH



Project funded by: European Union

Start date: April 2013
End date: October 2013
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx.€150,000

ABOUT THE CHURCH

The church of Panagia in Trachoni/Demirhan is a small building of the inscribed-cross architectural type with a dome and protruding semi-circular apse. Based on parallel structures, it is believed that the church may have been built during the 16th Century. During the 19th or early 20th Century, an open portico with pointed arches was added and the vaults covered by Marseille-type roof tiles.
The gilded wooden *iconostasis* dates back to the 19th Century.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

Panagia Church was selected as part of the priority intervention emergency projects of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage and was the first cultural heritage site to be elevated to a conservation project soon after emergency measures were completed.

Conservation works included: general cleaning, supporting, excavation, consolidation and repairing of the walls; removal of debris and vegetation from the building and inside the yard; consolidation of deteriorated masonry in order to prevent it from further collapse, repairing of the bell tower, portico, doors, windows, wooden staircase and the wooden slab of the *gynaikonitis* (women's section) as well as the *iconostasis*. The church's furniture was cleaned and put back in its original position. The altar was also renovated. Sections of the garden stonewalls were also repaired and olive trees were planted in the garden of the church during the ceremony, to create an 'Olive-grove for peace'.

Panagia Church was the first project of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage to be completed in 2013. Hundreds of Greek Cypriots attended the completion ceremony on **11 December 2013**.



Panagia Church after conservation. © UNDP Photo, December 2013.

AGIOS NIKOLAOS CHURCH



Project funded by: European Union

Start date: January 2014
End date: July 2014
Type of intervention: Emergency and conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €149,000

ABOUT THE CHURCH

It is believed that Agios Nikolaos Church was built during the late Byzantine period. Located in the village of Syrianochori/Yayla, the original edifice of the church was rebuilt, and more than likely renovated, in the 19th Century. It consists of a single-aisle, articulated into four bays, covered by pointed groin vaults and supported by arches.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

The church was selected as part of the priority intervention projects of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage. An assessment was carried out in 2012, the aim of which was first to identify the critical problems, research and understand the monument and then create the designs for stabilising the monument, protecting the elements that are most at risk while observing internationally recognised conservation standards and creating a safe environment for the community.

The works focused mainly on removal of debris and vegetation from the building and inside the yard, consolidation of cracks on the apses and dome of the church, repairing of the roof of the original scuppers as well as of the internal and external walls, vault and decorative cornice, which were in danger of collapsing. It was possible to preserve one of the original door leafs (panel) at the west entrance while the missing leafs of the other doors and windows were renewed. The bell tower was also repaired together with the wooden staircase and slab of the *gynaikonitis* (women's section). The *iconostasis* and furniture were cleaned/repaired and put back in their original position.

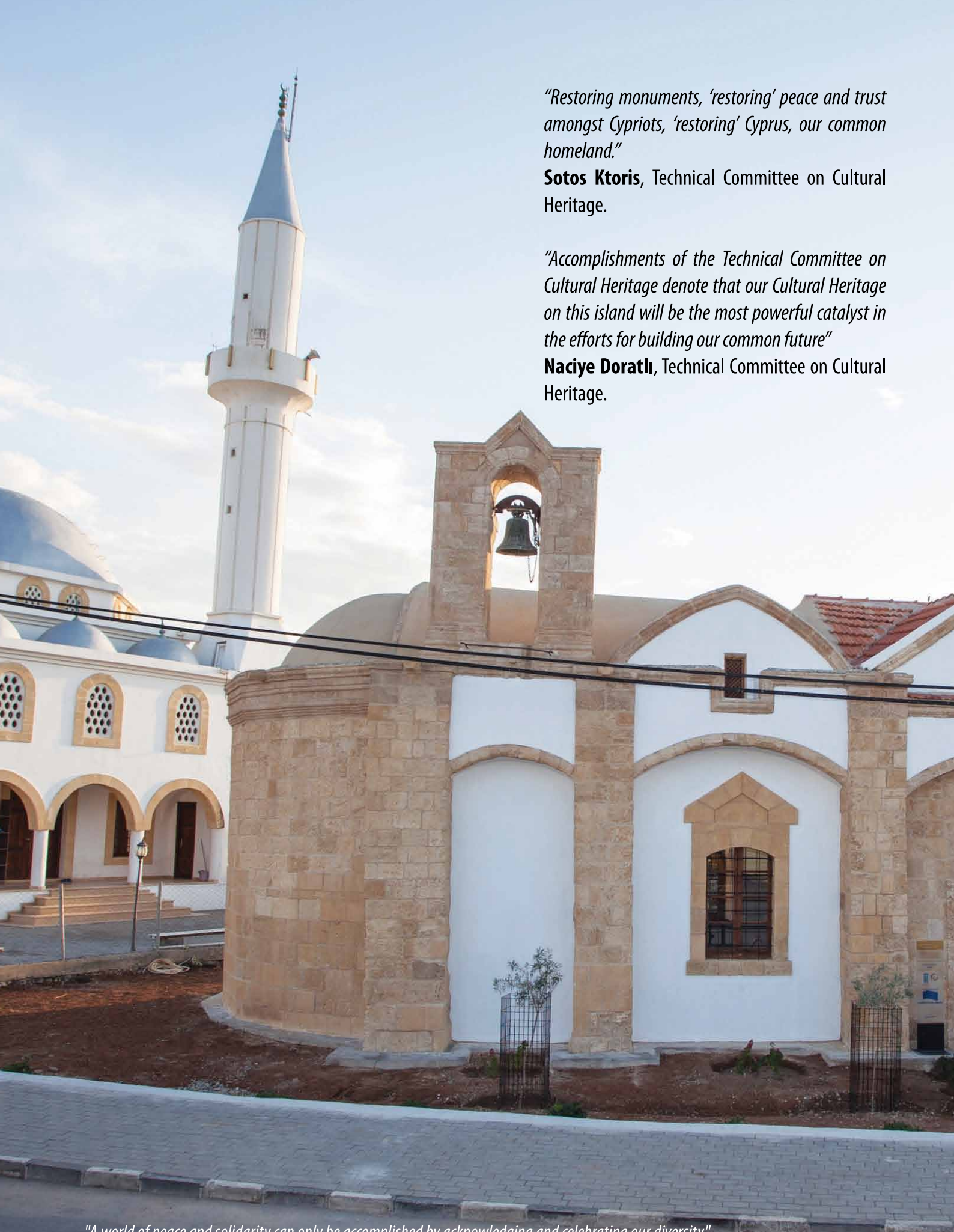
Members of the diplomatic community, as well as many Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots attended the completion ceremony on **15 October 2014**.



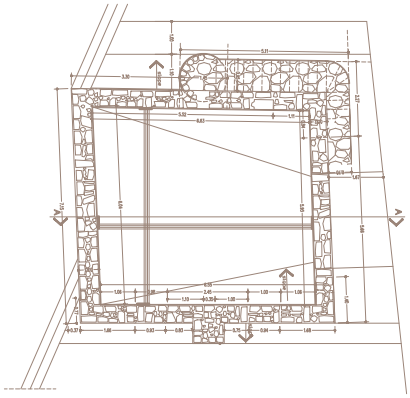
Agios Nikolaos Church before and after conservation. © UNDP Photos/Olkan Erguler, October 2014.

"Restoring monuments, 'restoring' peace and trust amongst Cypriots, 'restoring' Cyprus, our common homeland."
Sotos Ktoris, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

"Accomplishments of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage denote that our Cultural Heritage on this island will be the most powerful catalyst in the efforts for building our common future"
Naciye Doratlı, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.



"A world of peace and solidarity can only be accomplished by acknowledging and celebrating our diversity."
Former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. World Day for Cultural Diversity, 2011. © UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.



Project funded by: European Union

DENEIA/DENYA MOSQUE

Start date: November 2012
End date: November 2014
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €125,000

ABOUT THE MOSQUE

The mosque was built during the Ottoman period and renovated in the late 19th or early 20th Century. Inhabitants of the village say that there was a building in the surrounding area of the mosque that formed the Muslim primary school. Despite the lack of historical information about the mosque, it remains one of the rare remaining ruins of Ottoman architecture preserved in the region of Nicosia. It holds great historical, architectural and cultural significance.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

Deneia/Denya Mosque was the first site from the initial list of 40 selected by the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage, to benefit from emergency measures in 2012. Following the completion of emergency measures in April 2013, further works were implemented upon request of the Committee, in order to provide the mosque with a roof and hence ensuring its longer-term preservation.

The interventions carried out comprised of restoration and preservation of the stonework and architectural features as well as fencing and landscaping of the site. The *mihrab* paintings were restored by a conservationist and placed back in their original location. Furthermore, the stone masonry and walls were reinforced and enhanced, structural damage was repaired, while window frames were consolidated and restored. A completely new roof was built according to the original measurements. Signage was erected with references to the history and architecture of the monument.

Villagers and Turkish Cypriots of Deneia/Denya attended the completion ceremony on **5 December 2014**.



Ali Tuncay and Takis Hadjidemetriou at Deneia/Denya mosque project completion ceremony. © UNDP Photo, December 2014.



"My grandfather used to be the hodja *of the mosque and my mother grew up in this village. I remember going there with my grandfather and feeling their pain inside. At the time the conservation works were completed my mother was already old and very sick. Yet she insisted on coming. Two months after having celebrated the reconstruction of her mosque she passed away in peace. Every time I visit the mosque or the village I feel their presence next to me."*

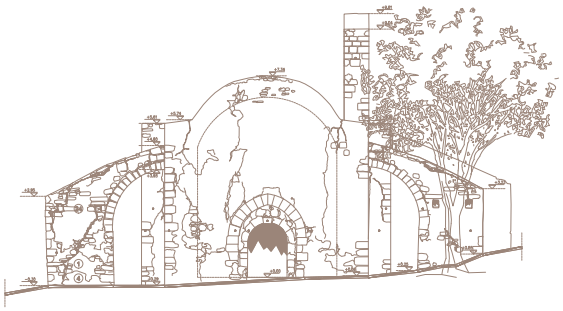
Mustafa Dinarlı, son of Hatice Hanım, the lady portrayed in this photo.

"I feel happy when our Turkish Cypriot fellow villagers come to see the mosque and they also feel good about it. Since the mosque was restored, more Turkish Cypriots have been coming back to their village. I consider this our reward and a message. It means Peace."

Christakis Panayiotou, village representative.

Hatice Dinarli returning to Deneia/Denya to attend the completion ceremony of conservation works to the mosque and meeting old neighbours.
© UNDP Photo, December 2014.

PANAGIA MELANDRINA CHURCH



Project funded by: European Union

Start date: April 2013
End date: April 2014
Type of intervention: Emergency measures
Total Project Cost: Approx. €168,000

ABOUT THE CHURCH

The monastery of Panagia Melandrina in Kalograia/Bahçeli was in use up until 1940. The date of its establishment remains unknown, and of the monastic complex only the church is now preserved. More than likely, this single-aisle church was built during the 15th Century.
The rectangular structure is roofed by a barrel-shaped vault enclosed to the east by a hemispherical apse with a five-sided outer wall. The structure is supported by three buttresses in the shape of pilasters on each of the long sides. The five flying buttresses are no doubt later period additions. The belfry is also a later addition to the church.

THE EMERGENCY MEASURES PROJECT

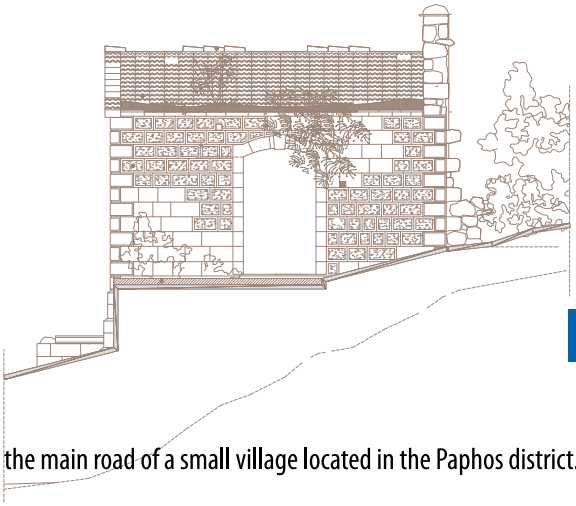
The interventions carried out on this monument consisted of emergency support measures in order to preserve the building's current status and to prevent it from collapsing.
Emergency measures included: general cleaning, removal of debris and vegetation from the building and inside the yard, consolidation of deteriorated masonry, control of organic growth, permanent timber structural support, consolidation of the walls and provision of a temporary roof to prevent rainwater from infiltrating the building.

A bicommunal media site visit to the church marked the completion of the project on **25 February 2015**.



Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage, European Union and UNDP representatives attending a project completion site visit to Panagia Melandrina Church. © UNDP Photo, February 2015.

EVRETOU/EVRETU MOSQUE



Project funded by: European Union

Start date: June 2014
End date: February 2015
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €94,000

ABOUT THE MOSQUE

Evretou/Evretu Mosque was built at the beginning of the 20th Century on the main road of a small village located in the Paphos district.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

Selected as part of the priority intervention emergency projects of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage, emergency measures to the mosque included clearing/cleaning the mosque and the surrounding area, removal of collapsed parts, strengthening of the walls and floors, installing doors and windows, constructing the roof of the collapsed section and some masonry work.

Conservation works focused on the cleaning of the site including removal of vegetation, excavation for the purposes of natural drainage and prevention of further erosion of the external stonewall, repair of windows and the entire reconstruction of the roof. The project also included repairing of the internal and external walls, strengthening of the structure with metal rods, restoration of stonework and rebuilding and sealing of joints.

More than 100 people, including former Turkish Cypriot residents, attended the completion ceremony on **1 March 2015**.



Evretou/Evretu mosque after conservation works. © UNDP Photo, March 2015.

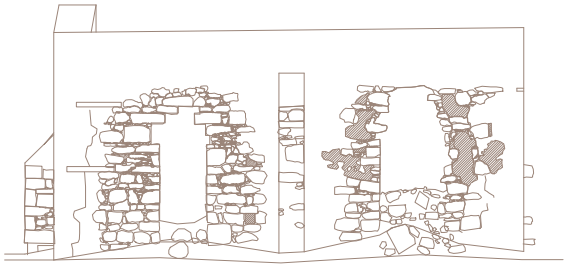


"I am proud to be a Member of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage. Through our work we are not just protecting the cultural heritage of Cyprus but the cultural heritage of humanity."
Figen Caner, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

"A monument is no more than an anchor to reality for planning our future adventures. Without it, no such plans are possible."
Themos Demetriou, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

Turkish Cypriots from the village attending the project completion ceremony. © UNDP Photo, March 2015.

TSERKEZOI/ÇERKEZ MOSQUE



Project funded by: European Union

Start date: June 2014
End date: December 2014
Type of intervention: Emergency measures
Total Project Cost: Approx. €28,000

ABOUT THE MOSQUE

Tserkezoi/Çerkez Mosque was the principal Muslim religious building of the old Tserkezoi/Çerkez farm, which was built during the Ottoman period. It is located in Tserkezoi district, just five kilometres west of Limassol, on the way to Asomatos village.

THE EMERGENCY MEASURES PROJECT

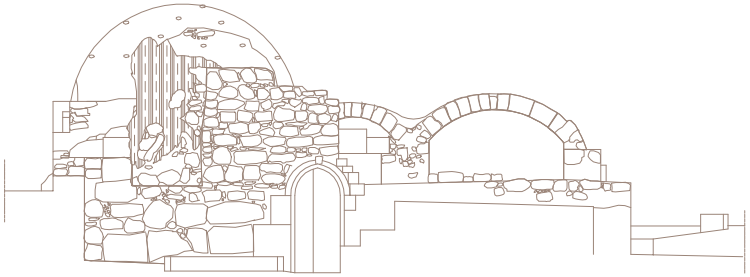
The type of intervention carried out for this monument was comprised of emergency measures to preserve and protect the monument from further collapse.
These measures included: cleaning of the site including removal of vegetation, sanitation of the wall footing and buttress, improved drainage and prevention of further erosion of the external stonewall, repairs to the walls including restoration of stonework and rebuilding and sealing of joints, re-pointing and re-plastering with lime mortar.

Members of the diplomatic community attended the completion ceremony on **18 March 2015**.



EU Heads of Mission and the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage celebrating completion of conservation works to Tserkezoi/Çerkez Mosque. © UNDP Photos, March 2015.

PAPHOS HAMAM



Project funded by: European Union

Start date: June 2013
End date: March 2015
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €61,000

ABOUT THE HAMAM

The Paphos Hamam/Baf Hamam, also known as the Medieval Turkish Bath, was part of a larger complex built during the Medieval period and modified and expanded during the Ottoman period. Today it presents the typical arrangement of an Ottoman bathhouse comprised of a disrobing room, a warm room and a hot room. It consists of two domed rooms and two smaller rooms with a barrel vault roof placed on the long sides of a narrow entrance hall.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

Conservation works to the Hamam consisted of general restoration of the stonework including grouting and re-pointing of mortar-joints on the interior wall surfaces and exterior low walls, rendering of the walls, cleaning of the interior floor including removal of vegetation and replacement of sand. Repairing of the external surfaces of the domes including removal of the de-bonded parts of the outer rendering, consolidating the stonework beneath and then rendering. An outer layer similar to the original one was then placed, and cleaning and pointing of the interior surfaces of the domes was carried out, including preservation of the traces of wall paintings. In addition, general waterproofing was conducted, as well as cleaning and pointing of the interior surfaces of the vaults, repairing of the collapsed first vault, excavations in the south-west corner and exposure of the findings.

Members of the diplomatic community as well as many Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots of Paphos attended the completion ceremony on **18 March 2015.**



Paphos Hamam after conservation. Main entrance and traces of previous structures. © UNDP Photo, March 2015.

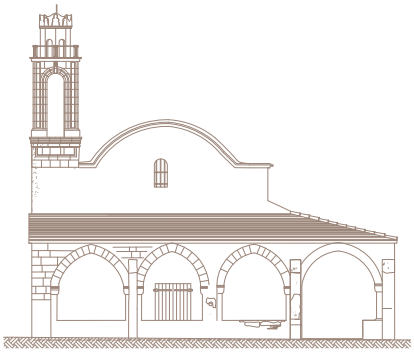


Monitoring visit of the Advisory Board of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage. © UNDP Photo, October 2013.



Ali Tuncay and Takis Hadjidemetriou celebrating the completion of the project. © UNDP Photo, March 2015.

AGIOS AFKSENTIOS CHURCH



Project funded by: European Union

Start date: February 2014
End date: February 2015
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €303,000

ABOUT THE CHURCH

Agios Afksentios Church is located in Komi Kebir/Büyükkonuk. The existing structure of the church was built during several periods, although the exact dates remain unknown. Parts of previous structures were incorporated into the existing building.
Entirely built from stone, the church is a single-aisle orthogonal plan building. It is roofed with a pointed vault which is supported by two transverse strengthening arches. The east end, which houses the *bema* has a wide semi-circular apse, which is covered by a semi-dome. Two arch recesses are built on both the north and south walls respectively.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

Born as emergency measures and later turned into conservation works, the project aimed to consolidate and stabilise the structure to prevent possible collapse, thus leading to an aesthetic upgrading of the church.

The works carried out on this church were lengthy and included, among other things: strengthening of the walls and vaults, replacement of broken/cracked or heavily weathered stones, repair of the church roof and apse semi dome, provision of new wooden doors and windows, and the proper protection of a mural painting by a specialist conservator. The altar has also been partially reconstructed. The construction works revealed, among other things, three arches, now blocked, on the northern wall; a door frame, of its initial phase, on the west edge of the north wall; a wall-painting on the western arch of the south wall and remains of other wall-paintings elsewhere and a number of icons and carved wooden items found above the central arch.

The completion event was attended by Greek Cypriots, Turkish Cypriots, members of the diplomatic community and Bishop Christoforos of Karpasia together with the İmam Fahrettin Öğdü on **4 June 2015**.



Agios Afksentios Church after conservation works. "I know of many friends who visited the village for the first time after the restoration of the church. They used to tell me how they would have liked to return to the village but never did. The restoration of the church convinced them to come, and ever since then, I see them coming more and more often." **Christina Pavlou Solomi Patsia**, a Greek Cypriot of the village. © *UNDP Photos/Olkan Erguler.*



"The cultural heritage of Cyprus, as one of the island's most precious values, is the common past and future of all Cypriots. The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage is making a great contribution to safeguarding both our past and our future."
Ege Uluca Tümer, Advisory Board of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

"The success of the Technical Committee in restoring and preserving the multicultural heritage of Cyprus lies in its Members, who cherish a common vision for a united Cyprus."
Ioannis Karis, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

Father Savvas and İmam Fahrettin Öğdü attending the completion ceremony of Agios Afksentios Church on 4 June 2015.
© UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.

Project funded by: European Union

OTHELLO TOWER/CITADEL IN FAMAGUSTA

Start date: May 2014
End date: July 2015
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €1,305,000

ABOUT THE TOWER/CITADEL

An important monument in the history of Famagusta, Cyprus and the Mediterranean, the Othello Tower/Citadel forms the key defensive position for the city of Famagusta located at the apex of the city walls and acting as the protector between the port and the sea.
The citadel consists of wall fortifications, connecting walls and four remaining towers (originally eight). These elements were in various states of decay due to the ruin of entire walls and rib vaulting. The monument comprises of two structures – one inside the other. The outer Venetian fortifications that date from 1492 were constructed around an earlier Lusignan fortification, which dates from the 14th Century.
Selected as part of the priority intervention projects of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage, its significance as well as its sense of age and mystery are evident walking through the portals of the citadel, with the Lion of Venice still presiding after hundreds of years.
On-site visitors can find out more about the monument through a series of installation panels placed in the Great Gallery, explaining its history, values and the conservation process.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

The project, which started in May 2014 and was completed by July 2015, was the first heritage site in Famagusta to benefit from the work of the Committee.
A 'Survey, Investigations, Assessment and Project Design' study was carried out in 2012.
The aim of the study was first to identify the critical problems, research and understand the monument and then create the designs for:

- stabilising the monument
- protecting the elements that are most at risk while observing internationally recognised conservation standards
- creating a safe environment for the community and visitors
- accommodating disabled persons with an access path and toilet facilities

The works carried out focused mainly on emergency masonry stabilisation works to walls, arches and other unstable sections. Areas where losses/collapses had occurred over the years were strengthened. A proper drainage system was constructed to canalise and take away water, which was one of the most damaging causes of deterioration for the Tower/Citadel. New roof layers were installed with compatible materials to avoid future rainwater infiltration. Visitors' information features were also provided as well as accessibility at ground level and sanitation facilities for persons with disabilities.





Details of conservation works at the Othello Tower/Citadel. © UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.

"We are not just restoring cultural heritage, we are also restoring our link with history."
Ali Kanlı, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

"Preservation of our cultural heritage is the preservation of the spirit of every single person who ever lived on this island."
George Georgiou, Advisory Board of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

Aerial view of the Othello Tower/Citadel before conservation. Photo © Sonia Halliday Photo Library

Aerial view of the Othello Tower/Citadel after conservation. © UNDP Photo/Flycam Aerial Photography and Filming Ltd.

INAUGURATION NIGHT

The reopening of the Othello Tower/Citadel and completion of Phase 1 of the structural stabilisation and conservation works, was aptly celebrated by a theatre performance of the play which gave the structure its name – William Shakespeare's *Othello*. The play was performed inside the castle itself by a bicommunal cast of both Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot actors.
One month after the conservation works were completed, the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage chose the Othello Tower/Citadel as the venue for their first bicommunal event.
The attendance of both Leaders, Nicos Anastasiades and Mustafa Akıncı, highlighted the importance of the monument not only as a major part of the island's cultural heritage but as part of the confidence-building measures and ongoing peace process.



Project completion ceremony, 1July 2015 © UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.


© UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.


Nicos Anastasiades and Mustafa Akıncı attending the Technical Committee on Culture's music event "Under the Moonlight" at the Othello Tower/Citadel on 28 July 2015. © Photo/Dilara Aşardağ.



Othello Tower/Citadel, July 2015. © UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.

OLD ST. GEORGE CHURCH



Project funded by: European Union

Start date: July 2014
End date: July 2015
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €239,000

ABOUT THE CHURCH

The Maronite Old St. George Church is located in the village of Kormakitis/Koruçam. Built in the 16th Century, the church is adjacent to a nunnery. It was the main church of the Maronite community until the early 20th Century when it ceded with the building of the new St. George Cathedral. The Old St. George Church was the first Maronite heritage site to be preserved under the auspices of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

Designs carried out in 2014 by the Maronite Church Committee through a tri-communal team of architects, engineers and quantity surveyors identified the following needs: structural conservation of the main body of the church, reconstruction of the belfry and landscaping. The restoration of the church focused on the removal of all concrete and cement that had been applied to the original stone structure of the church, and structural conservation of the main body (foundations, walls, floor and vaulted roof) of the church. This included the upgrading of the courtyard and provision of accessibility for persons with disabilities, the provision of proper drainage and protection of the foundations, the restoration of wooden doors and the reconstruction of the bell tower and installation of a new bell.

Hundreds of Maronites as well as religious leaders from different faiths celebrated the completion of the conservation works to the Church during an official ceremony on **14 November 2015**.



Old St. George Church completion ceremony, November 2015. © UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.

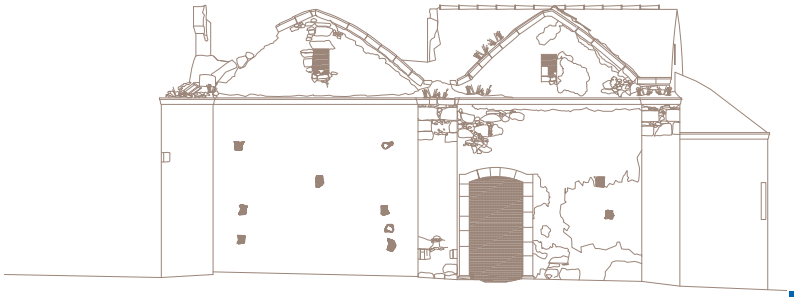


"Today, we are working to protect and transfer the immovable cultural heritage of Cyprus to future generations. We are just the temporary owners of this heritage, the real owners of this heritage are future generations."
Belgin Sakallı, Advisory Board of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

"Our team is strong. It can achieve a lot with communion and meritable cooperation. The monuments all over Cyprus which have been conserved constitute true testimony of this."
Dr. Christodoulos Hadjichristodoulou, Advisory Board of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

H.E. Yousef Soueif Archbishop of the Maronite Church of Cyprus and H.E. Dr. Talip Atalay Mufti of Cyprus at the completion ceremony of conservation works to the Old St. George Church, November 2015. © UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.

PROFITIS ELIAS CHURCH



Project funded by: European Union

Start date: April 2013
End date: July 2015
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €171,000

ABOUT THE CHURCH

The Church of Profitis Elias, a church of basilical plan, dates back to the second half of the 19th or early 20th Century and is situated in the village of Fyllia/Serhatköy. It is covered by a series of two cross-vaults and consists of rubble masonry and limited use of porous stone, mostly on the door frames and the shrine of the external west wall. Externally, the walls are reinforced by a series of three buttresses on the north and south sides. The apse of the *bema* on the east is semi-circular, both internally and externally.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

Profitis Elias Church was selected as part of the priority intervention emergency projects of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage and in March 2014 was elevated to a full conservation project. During the extended conservation works conducted from 2013-2015, the west cross-vault, that had collapsed, was restored. Emergency measures to protect, restore and preserve the stonework and architectural features in their present state (stabilisation of the ruin) were implemented and measures were taken to secure the site as well as upgrading of the surrounding area (fencing and landscaping of the site).

Dozens of former Greek Cypriot residents and members of the diplomatic community attended the completion ceremony on **17 November 2015**.



European Union representatives, the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage and UNDP celebrating completion of conservation works at Profitis Elias Church, November 2015. © UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.



Bishop Neophytos of Morphou with Takis Hadjidemetriou and Ali Tuncay at the completion ceremony of conservation works to Profitis Elias Church, November 2015. © UNDP Photo/Olkan Erguler.

Project funded by: European Union

WATERMILL/AQUEDUCT IN CHRYSOCHOU/HIRSOFU

Start date: July 2015
End date: February 2016
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €147,000

ABOUT THE WATERMILL/AQUEDUCT

Lying on the east bank of Chrysochou river, the watermill is located at the west edge of Chrysochou village in the Paphos district. The most important and impressive parts of the complex are the water tower and the aqueduct which conveyed water from Chrysochou river to the west. The aqueduct is visible today for approximately 100 metres. These two structures were built in the same period and they are the oldest parts of the complex. The most recent parts of the watermill complex are the miller's house and the cement bypass channel, which can be dated in different phases to the first half of the 20th Century.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

Following a study and condition assessment commissioned by the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage between May and June 2014, a number of structural problems were identified.
Conservation works included the restoration of the stone walls of the aqueduct including repair of damaged walls and reassembling of millstones, removal of vegetation, restoration of the roof, installation of a new door, construction of a new retaining wall for the aqueduct, restoration of stone stairs and conservation and protection of existing elements (stone and wood) of the mill mechanism. The upper floor of the miller's house was also conserved and new doors and windows installed.

Hundreds of Turkish Cypriots and members of the diplomatic community attended the completion ceremony on **22 June 2016**.



Watermill/Aqueduct after conservation works. Reassembled original stone wheels, conserved channels and new information panels.
© UNDP Photos, June 2016.



"When we are going to tell the next generation about this place, we will say that there is a monument in Chrysochou/Hirsofu, and the reason it is still standing is the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage." **Metin Ertop**, former resident of the village.

Turkish Cypriots of Chrysochou/Hirsofu and European Commission representatives unveiling the plaque of the restored watermill. © UNDP Photo, June 2016.

MONASTERY OF APOSTOLOS ANDREAS



Project jointly funded by the Church of Cyprus and the EVKAF Administration
Start Date Phase A: September 2014
End Date Phase A: November 2016

ABOUT THE MONASTERY

Located at the edge of a promontory overlooking the sea, near the tip of the Karpasia/Karpaz peninsula, in the northern part of Cyprus, Apostolos Andreas Monastery has always been a landmark of the island. The monastery has been a place of pilgrimage for Cypriots as well as for tourists travelling to the region for centuries. Now, thanks to a bicommunal restoration project, it is set to become a symbol of peace and cooperation between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities of Cyprus.
The building complex of the Monastery occupies a large area that starts at sea level, where the oldest buildings are located, and extends to the west where the latest guesthouses were built. The building complex includes a neoclassical church built in 1867 that has several annexes dating up to 1914. This church stands just above the west wall of the medieval chapel that was built, along with its surrounding additions, most likely during Frankish rule in the 15th Century.
The belfry was constructed over the south-east corner of the church around the end of the 19th Century, or the latest at the beginning of the 20th Century, prior to 1906. An extended repair with strong cement plaster was done in 1930, due to extended erosion of the stone facing the sea.



Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot press at the opening event of Apostolos Andreas Monastery. © UNDP Photo/Kerim Belet, November 2016.



Ali Tuncay, Turkish Cypriot representative of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage lighting a candle at Apostolos Andreas' temporary chapel, during the monastery's conservation works. © UNDP Photo.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

"Apostolos Andreas Monastery is more than a work of restoration. It represents two years of dialogue, inter-communal encounters and exchange of experiences between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot heritage professionals who worked together on this project," explains **Tiziana Zennaro**, UNDP Senior Programme Manager and Head of Office in Cyprus. *"Until a couple of weeks ago, if you were anywhere near the project site, you would hear Cypriot dialects mixing as Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot craftsmen, conservators, electricians, archaeologists, architects and engineers worked side by side."*

Long-awaited restoration work started in September 2014 after UNDP signed two historical contribution agreements with the Church of Cyprus and the EVKAF Administration. Apostolos Andreas Monastery has since become the first heritage conservation project in Cyprus to be fully funded by both communities. Supported by a contribution from USAID, and the commitment of a bicommunal network of heritage experts from both communities, the Apostolos Andreas Monastery is now one of UNDP's key confidence-building projects in Cyprus.

Designed by the University of Patra, the overall restoration of the Apostolos Andreas Monastery will be developed over two phases:

- Phase A: Restoration of the church and the adjacent buildings, and geotechnical investigations and tests.
- Phase B: Restoration of the chapel and the fountain, restoration of the building on the north wing, and external works around the complex.

Works within Phase A started in September 2014 and included the full structural and architectural restoration of the main church as well as new electrical and mechanical installations. Inside the church, the existing *gynaikonitis* (women's section) was extended, and the altar, the *ambon* and the *iconostasis* were restored together with 58 icons. On the back of the church, a new arcade was constructed. Other works included the improvement and upgrading of the electrical and mechanical installations in the church and the adjacent buildings. The works ensured that the church and the adjacent buildings are well restored to their original state in accordance with the technical designs and drawings. In this Phase, geotechnical investigations were also carried out in the area outside the chapel and the fountain, the results of which will be utilised for Phase B (restoration of the chapel and the fountain).

Dozens of people from both communities and members of the diplomatic community attended the completion ceremony on **7 November 2016**. Hundreds of people celebrated Apostolos Andreas' name day at the Monastery for the first time after restoration works were completed on 30 November 2016.



Karima Bennoune, UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights at Apostolos Andreas Monastery with UNDP's designer and site engineer and H.E. Archbishop of America Demetrios and H.E. Bishop Christoforos of Karpasia with the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage and UNDP during conservation works. © UNDP Photos.
















Photos from the Apostolos Andreas completion ceremony. © UNDP Photo/Kerim Belet, 7 November 2016.

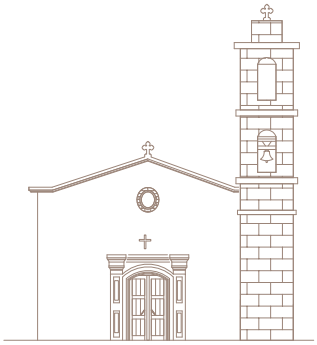


"Together, as Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, we are sending out the message that culture has no political or religious borders. I am not saying that we never had problems, but we always did our work with love. What shines bright at Apostolos Andreas now, is the glory of our cooperation." **Takis Hadjidemetriou**

Aerial view of Apostolos Andreas Monastery after conservation works. © UNDP Photo/ Flycam Aerial Photography and Filming, November 2016.



"In nearby geographies, we are watching as cultural heritage is ruthlessly destroyed. We are sending a different message: cultural heritage, when used correctly, has the potential to serve to bring different societies and cultures together." **Ali Tuncay**



Project funded by: European Union

HOLY CROSS CHURCH IN KARPASEIA/KARPAŞA

Start Date: May 2016
End date: February 2017
Type of intervention: Conservation Works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €50,000

ABOUT THE CHURCH

Karpaseia/Karpaşa Church, built in the 14th Century, is one of three Maronite religious heritage sites selected by the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage to benefit from conservation interventions. The other two Maronite sites to benefit from similar interventions are: the Old St. George Church in Kormakitis/Koruçam and the Church of Agia Marina.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

Conservation works to the church included: general cleaning, replacement of metal gutters and downpipes, removal of existing plaster and repointing of stonewalls surfaces, repairing of the stone belfry, replacing of damaged stones and conservation of frescoes.
A ceremony marked the completion of the project on **6 April 2017**.



View of the church of Karpaseia/Karpaşa after conservation works. Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage and Church Committee in front of the main entrance of the church. © Ioannis Karis Photo, UNDP Photos, April 2017.

AGIOS PANTELEIMONAS MONASTERY

Start date: October 2015
End date: November 2016
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €1,050,000

Project funded by: European Union
with a contribution from A.G.Leventis
Foundation

ABOUT THE MONASTERY

Located in Myrtou/Çamlıbel, Agios Panteleimonas Monastery is considered by the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage one of four 'Large Projects,' along with Apostolos Andreas Monastery, the Othello Tower and the Famagusta Walls Complex. The Committee considers these large-scale monuments to be of great historical and social value.

The monastery is considered an important site given its history and significance. It is a physical testament to the history of the region and Cyprus itself. The monastic complex is composed of three main parts: the landscape features and archaeological remains, the surrounding monastic buildings, and the main central church. Originally, all of these parts functioned together as the monastery was a self-sufficient complex, school, community and religious centre. While the church was the spiritual centre, the monastic buildings were the learning, working and living centres. These buildings housed the meeting and reception rooms, offices, school, living quarters and dining facilities of the monastery.

The present church, approximately at the centre of the enclosed area of the monastery, dates from 1600 with later interventions. The bell was donated and sent by Cypriots of Venice in 1830 and installed in 1839. Historians place the date of erection of the monastic buildings to the 18th Century, describing a monastic complex with arcades that surround the church along the southern, western and part of the northern side.



Aerial view of Agios Panteleimonas Monastery before and after conservation works. © UNDP Photo/Flycam Aerial Photography and Filming Ltd.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

A 'Survey, Investigations, Assessment and Project Design' study was carried out between April and May 2014. Conservation works focused on the stabilisation of the monastic buildings (refectory building, reredorter building, south dorter and north dorter buildings), conservation of wall paintings inside the church, and repair works to the roof of the church. Other works included the structural stabilisation of elevations, vaults, cracks, and finishes, control and drainage of water around the entire site, site clearing, exterior surface treatments of the cloister, closing off unsafe buildings, installation of didactic informational materials and provision of access for persons with disabilities.

On the occasion of the 2016 International Day for Monuments and Sites, hundreds of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots of the village and university graduate students from both communities visited the monastery.

Hundreds of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots attended the completion ceremony on **18 May 2017**.



View of the main church of Agios Panteleimonas monastic complex before conservation works. © UNDP Photo.



Student visit at Agios Panteleimonas Monastery on the occasion of the 2016 International Day of Monuments and Sites. © UNDP Photo.



View of the main church of Agios Panteleimonas monastic complex after conservation works. © UNDP Photo/Kerim Belet, April 2017.

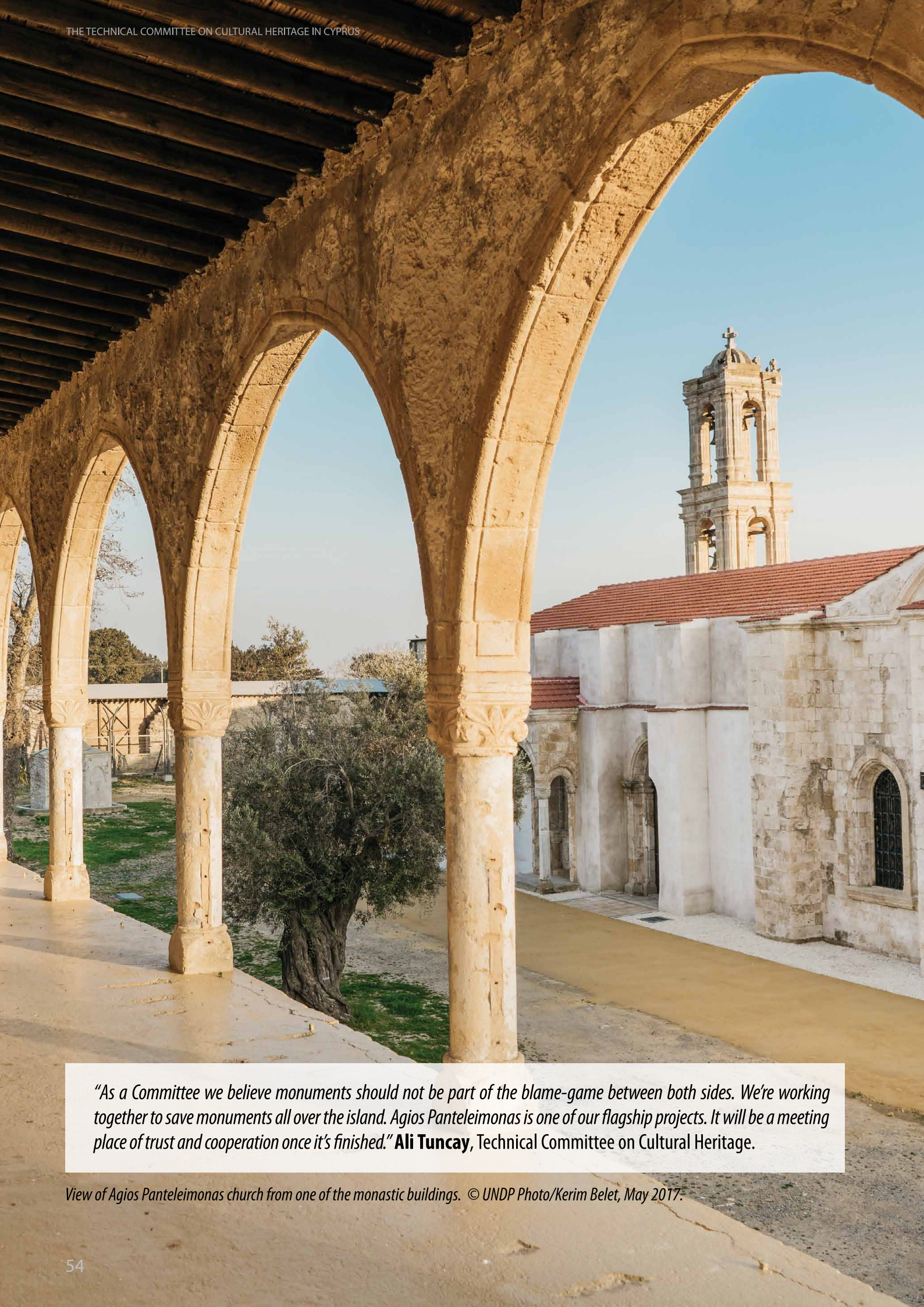








European Union representatives join hundreds of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots from the village to celebrate completion of conservation works to Agios Panteleimonas Monastery. © UNDP Photo/Kerim Belet, May 2017.

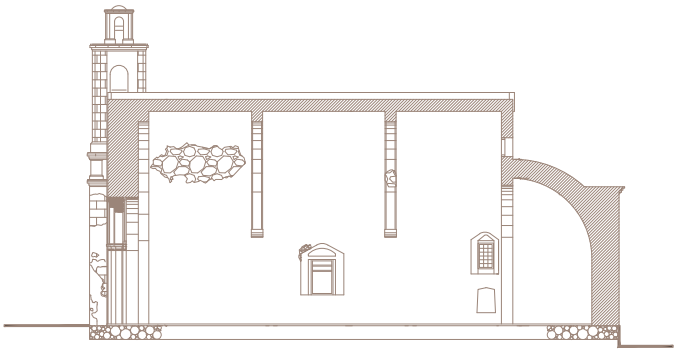


"As a Committee we believe monuments should not be part of the blame-game between both sides. We're working together to save monuments all over the island. Agios Panteleimonas is one of our flagship projects. It will be a meeting place of trust and cooperation once it's finished." **Ali Tuncay**, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

View of Agios Panteleimonas church from one of the monastic buildings. © UNDP Photo/Kerim Belet, May 2017.

AGIA MARINA CHURCH

Start Date: July 2016
End date: December 2016
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €194,000



Project funded by: European Union

ABOUT THE CHURCH

Agia Marina/Gürpinar was a village situated in the Nicosia area, where Maronites and Turkish Cypriots lived together. The old church, built in the 15th Century, is in the middle of the village and there is no evidence of its exact date of construction. Agia Marina Church is the third Maronite heritage site to benefit from conservation works after the Old St. George Church (completed in November 2015) and Karpaseia/Karpaşa Church.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

Survey and project designs were carried out between February and March 2016. Conservation works to the church included: general cleaning of the site, cleaning and repairing of the existing roof including careful removal of the tiles and cement additions on the roof of the building, conservation and structural interventions to the walls, conservation of the belfry, cleaning and plastering of stonewall surfaces, construction of new drainage channels and provision of new wooden doors and windows.
Hundreds of people attended the completion ceremony on **1 June 2017**.

"The inclusion of Agia Marina Church in the conservation programme of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage demonstrates the respect and care for the Maronite culture, its people and its contribution to the diverse and rich heritage of Cyprus. The completion of the Church will add yet another valuable cultural landmark we will all be proud of."

Glafkos Constantinides and **Ali Tuncay** on behalf of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.





H.E. Yousef Soueif Archbishop of the Maronite Church of Cyprus and Ali Tuncay, Turkish Cypriot representative of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage planting an olive tree in front of the conserved Agia Marina Church. © UNDP Photo, June 2017.

Project funded by: European Union

VENETIAN WALLS BETWEEN THE ARSENAL AND SEA GATE

Start date: July 2016
End date: September 2017
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €600,000

ABOUT THE VENETIAN WALLS

Famous throughout Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, the Walls of Famagusta were constructed over many centuries as the city grew, changed rulers and adapted to warfare technology. The first fortifications were most likely made by the Lusignans after the Third Crusade sometime in the 10th Century (992). It is safe to assume the Lusignans made many modifications until the interruption of their reign by the Genovese (1372). The Genovese made many modifications and improvements, such as expanded ditches, fortified and enlarged gates. The Lusignans later reconquered the city and ruled for several more years before being formally incorporated into the Venetian Empire. The Venetians also made enormous interventions and improvements to the walls (1489-1571). The Ottomans ruled Famagusta from 1571 to 1878 and broadened the walls in several construction phases. During the British period (1878-1960), new interventions, including conservation measures, were also conducted. The walls are principally constructed of a rubble masonry core with sandstone ashlar facing held together with a variety of mortars. They are an important record of military architecture and adaptation to changing technology and rulers. Of particular note is the fact that there are few such fortifications still in existence, making its protection and conservation even more important.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

A 'Survey, Investigations, Assessment and Project Design' study was carried out between April and August 2014. This resulted in a condition assessment and report for both the city and port side of the walls between the Othello Tower and the Arsenal. The aim of the study was first to identify the critical problems, research and understand the monument and then create the designs for stabilising the monument, protecting the elements that are most at risk, while also observing internationally recognised conservation standards. Works focused only on the city side of the walls between the Arsenal and Sea Gate and included access control measures, site and vegetation cleaning, drainage control system, masonry and stone works, access for persons with disabilities and provision of information for visitors.

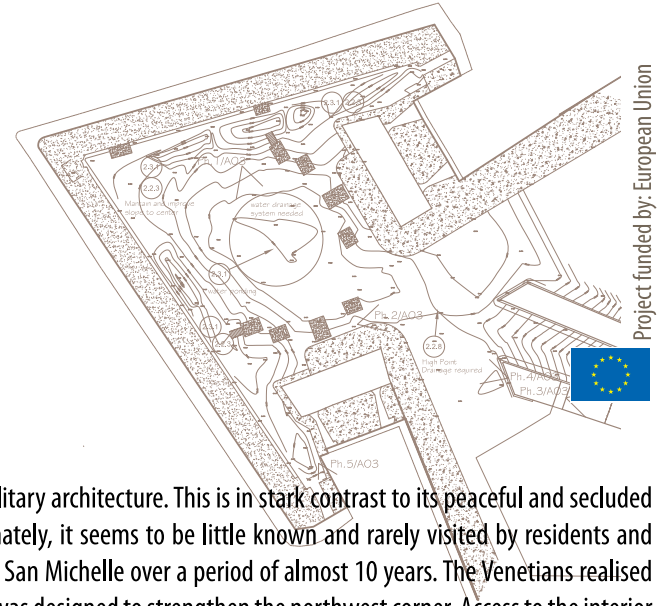
A completion ceremony was held on **12 September 2017**.



Aerial view of the Famagusta Walls between Arsenal and Sea Gate after conservation works. © UNDP Photo/Flycam Aerial Photography and Filming Ltd., September 2017.



Night view of the Famagusta Walls between Arsenal and Sea Gate after conservation works. © UNDP Photo/Kerim Belet, September 2017.



Project funded by: European Union

MARTINENGO BASTION

Start date: July 2016
End date: September 2017
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €966,000

ABOUT THE BASTION

Martinengo Bastion is a prime example of state of the art renaissance military architecture. This is in stark contrast to its peaceful and secluded setting, which is some distance from the centre of Famagusta. Unfortunately, it seems to be little known and rarely visited by residents and visitors alike. The Bastion was created by the Venetian architect Giovanni San Michelle over a period of almost 10 years. The Venetians realised that this corner of Famagusta city's defences was weak and this structure was designed to strengthen the northwest corner. Access to the interior is through dual ramps designed to allow easy access for horses and heavy munitions to supply the cannon to the interior of the bastion.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

A 'Survey, Investigations, Assessment and Project Design' study was carried out between April and January 2015. The condition assessment report describes the Martinengo Bastion as "generally very stable", but identified a series of issues such as large and small holes in the bedrock base and undercut of the bedrock right over the earthen floor of the moat, cracks in the bedrock on which some parts of the bastion sits, capillary water action occurring in many places, stains and salts in the vaults and interiors coming from water percolation from above, stone ashlars at the apex of the vault ceilings in all diagonal passageways suffering from significant loss of material; lack of visitor safety and control measures, particularly on the upper portions. The conservation project addressed all the points identified above.

A completion ceremony was held on **12 September 2017**, attended by hundreds of Cypriots.



"These thick walls served a defensive purpose separating one side from the other. Today we witness this once defensive construction turned into a source of cooperation and unity for the members of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage."
Mary McCarthy, Director, Structural Reform Support Service (SRSS), European Commission.

Aerial view of the Martinengo Bastion in Famagusta after conservation works. © UNDP Photo/Flycam Aerial Photography and Filming Ltd., September 2017.



View of the Martinengo Bastion galleries after conservation works. © UNDP Photos/Ufuk Akengin, September 2017.

ARCHANGELOS MICHAEL CHURCH



Project funded by: European Union

Start Date: October 2016
End date: October 2017
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €600,000

ABOUT THE CHURCH

The exact date(s) of construction of the church complex located in the village of Lefkonoiko/Geçitkale in the Mesaoria plain, is unknown. The existing structure was built over several periods, as was common in the past, with renovations taking place over the years. These different phases can only be partly recognised today since the original walls were either demolished or plastered over, and the phases are not clearly visible. In its present state it is a double aisled church with a projecting chamber at its southwest corner and an arcade along its south side. Preliminary studies of its construction history show that the oldest part is probably the chamber in the south-west corner which seems to be a Medieval structure. Along the whole width of the west side of the church, there is, on the second level, a *gynaikonitis* (women's section) - accessed via a half stone-built, half wooden stairs on the southwest side. The church is built entirely out of stone and the big arch of the south wall is covered with frescoes. A painting of Archangelos Michael, to whom the church is devoted, covers the whole wall of the blind arch.

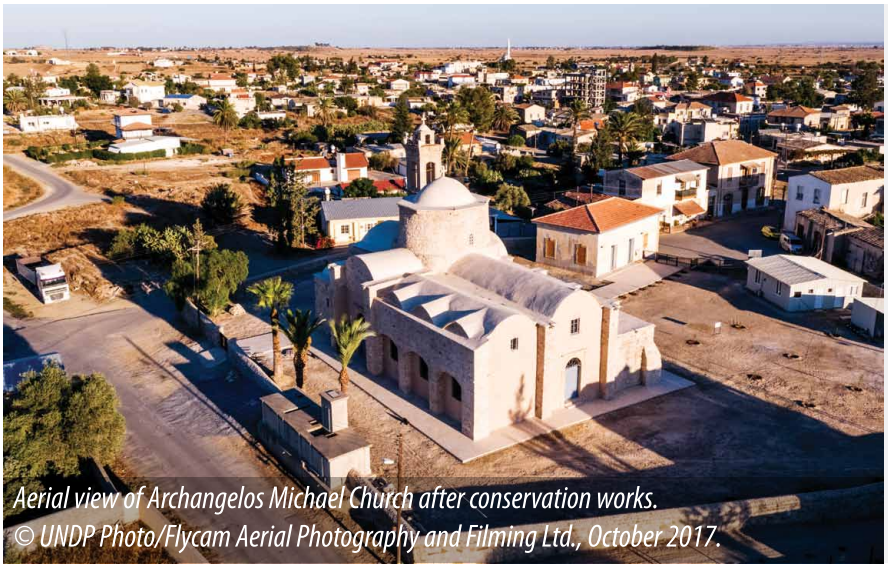
THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

The main structural interventions aimed at consolidating and stabilising the church in order to return the building, to the maximum degree possible, to its original state. The church benefited from a major structural consolidation of walls, vaults, arches and dome with some tie rods stitching and extensive injection grouting. The dome was repaired, cracks were bridged with tie rods and filled with grouting. The belfry was consolidated and repaired *in situ*. The roof of the church was returned to its original barrel shape with repairs and waterproofing. The south portico's roof was reconstructed. Original doors and windows were restored and/or reconstructed.

A painting of Archangelos Michael, to whom the church is devoted, covers the whole wall of the blind arch. An older fresco was discovered during the works on the *intrados* of the blind arch of the south wall; repaired and stabilised. This fresco is now visible to the public and protected by a glass case. Inside the church, frescoes were stabilised and protected, the altar repaired, the *iconostasis* wooden poles restored, as well as the carved wooden floor of the *gynaikonitis* (women's section). The floor was retained and missing elements installed.

Externally, perimeter walls were repaired and the missing parts were reconstructed; entrances were gated and access for persons with disabilities was made possible from the gate on the north side of the church. The courtyard was cleaned, graded and compacted for rainwater management. The old school building adjacent to the church was also repaired and a roof was provided.

Hundreds of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots and members of the diplomatic community attended the completion event on **12 October 2017**.



Aerial view of Archangelos Michael Church after conservation works.
© UNDP Photo/Flycam Aerial Photography and Filming Ltd., October 2017.

"We want only good things happening in our village and the renovation of the church can only bring good."
Fatma Çobanoğlu.

"The church of Archangelos Michael is not only for religious people, it is an important point of reference for all the residents of the village and its renovation means a lot to everyone."
Andreas Ioannides.









Clockwise from top: external view of the church after conservation works, Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots from the village visiting the church with the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage during conservation works, Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots from the village attending the completion ceremony, restored frescoes of Archangelos Michael Church. © UNDP Photo/Kerim Belet, October 2017.

Project funded by: European Union

PAPHOS CLUSTER

In 2017 a new set of heritage conservation projects started in the Paphos region. This included: the Hamam/Baths (near Hasan Aga Tomb) in Kato Paphos, the Minaret of Cami-i-Kebir (Ktima) in the Moutallos area, Agios Nikolaos/Aynikola Mosque and Minaret in Agios Nikolaos village and Agios Ioannis/Ayyanni Mosque located in Agios Ioannis village in the Paphos district. These new projects followed the ones already completed in 2015, the Paphos Hamam in Agia Kiriaki/Chrysopolitissa archaeological site, the mosque in Evretou/Evretu and the watermill in Chrysochou/Hirsofu forming part of the so-called "Paphos cluster".

AGIOS IOANNIS/AYYANNI MOSQUE



Total Project Cost: Approx. €116,000

The mosque is situated in the centre of the village of Agios Ioannis/Ayyanni, 43km east of Paphos. It is a rectangular shaped building and replaces a previous mosque. The *mihrab* (prayer niche) is still preserved, as well as a simple wooden *minbar* (pulpit).

A ceremony to celebrate the completion of the conservation project took place on **23 November 2017**.

AGIOS NIKOLAOS/AYNIKOLA MOSQUE & MINARET



Total Project Cost: Approx. €120,300

The mosque is situated in the centre of the village of Agios Nikolaos/Aynikola, 47km from Paphos, and next to the village school. The mosque is a rectangular shaped building which replaces a previous mosque built in the Ottoman period. The minaret was added in 1937.

A ceremony to celebrate the completion of the conservation project took place on **23 November 2017**.

HAMAM/BATHS (NEAR HASAN AGA TOMB)



Total Project Cost: Approx. €154,000

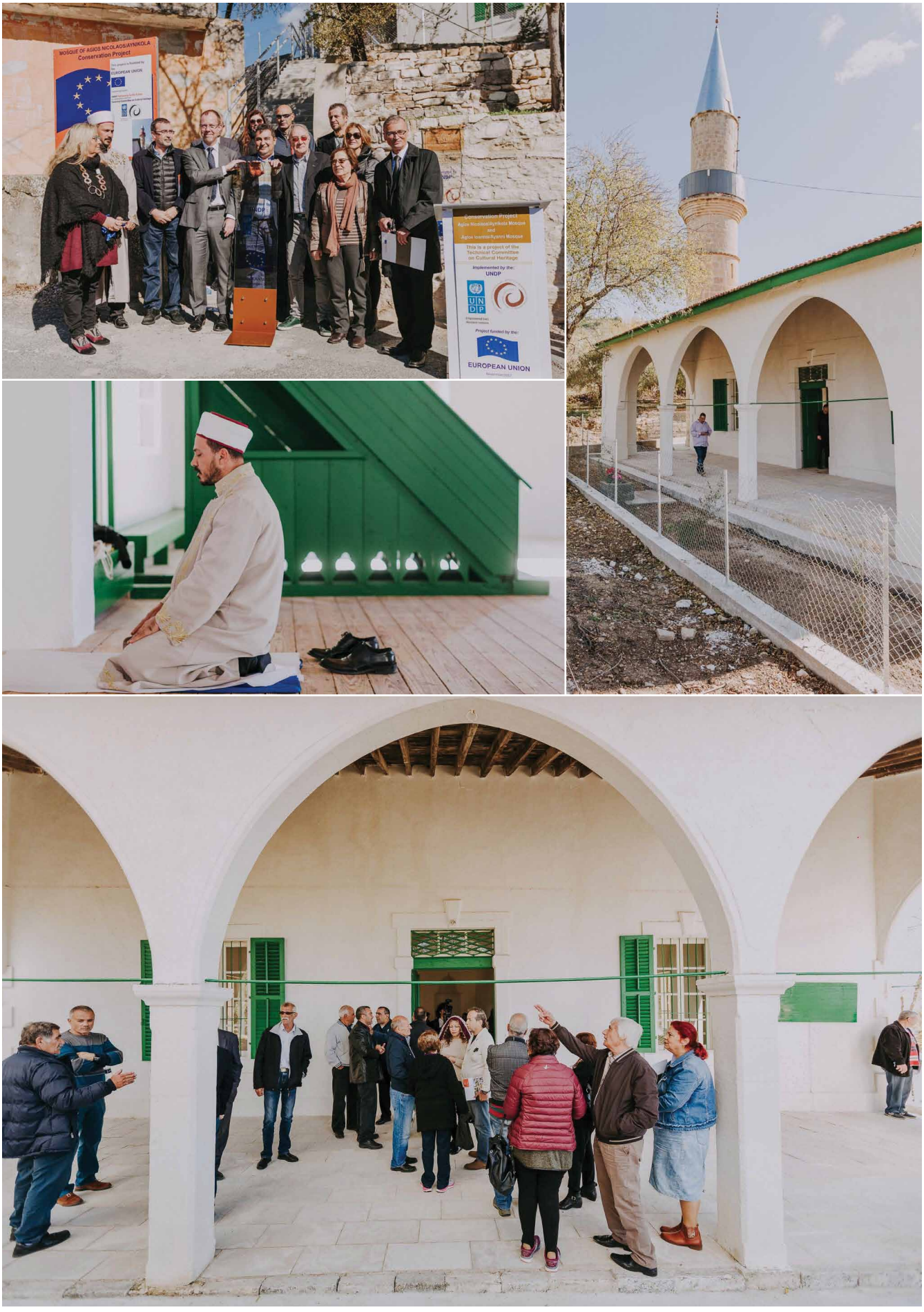
Also known as the Medieval Baths or ancient Turkish baths, they were actively used until 1896. The preserved structure is an almost square-shaped plan, with four spaces each covered by domes pierced by small circular apertures, in a style typical of Ottoman architecture. A 'Survey, Investigations, Assessment and Project Design' study was completed in June 2016.

MINARET OF CAMI-I-KEBIR (KTIMA/AŞAĞI BAF)



Total Project Cost: Approx. €76,000

The mosque is located in the heart of the Turkish quarter of Paphos, two kilometres east of the archaeological area of the Tombs of the Kings. It used to be an old Byzantine church, probably built in the 15th Century. During the Ottoman period, the church was converted into a mosque and a minaret was added to its northwestern corner.



Mosques of Agios Nikolaos/Aynikola & Agios Ioannis/Ayyanni completion ceremony, 23 November 2017. © UNDP Photo/Kerim Belet.

Project funded by: European Union

MARTINENGO CLUSTER

The Famagusta region is one of three cluster areas identified by the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage. Together with the Othello Tower/Citadel, Martinengo Bastion and the city-side portion of the Walls between Arsenal and Sea Gate, St. Mary's of the Armenians Church, St. Anne's Church, St. Mary of Carmel Church (Carmelite) and the Mescit of Tabakhane/Tanners' Mosque form part of the so-called "Martinengo-Famagusta cluster", by which the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage aims to promote the protection of the walled city's important cultural heritage.

'Survey, Investigations, Assessment and Project Design' studies for these four monuments were completed in June 2016.



Aerial view of the Martinengo Cluster, © UNDP Photo/Flycam Aerial Photography and Filming Ltd.

Project funded by: European Union

ST. MARY'S OF THE ARMENIANS

The church was probably built after the middle of the 14th Century by Armenian refugees from the port of Lajazzo. It was therefore built in a smaller simpler scale and form than the others around it. The church consists of a single nave and apse roofed by a square groin vault.
A ceremony to celebrate the completion of the conservation works took place on **26 May 2018**.

Total Project Cost: Approx. €174,000



View of St Mary's of the Armenians Church after conservation works, International Day of Monuments and Sites 2018, Famagusta Open Day. © UNDP Photo/Kerim Belet, April 2018.

Project funded by: European Union

TANNERS' MOSQUE

Initially built as a Jacobite Church and converted into a small mosque (mescit) during the Ottoman period, it lies between the church of St. Mary of Carmel and St. Anne's Church and is a curious mix of French, Gothic and Byzantine architecture. Built in the 15th or 16th Century it was later converted into a mescit (small mosque). Built of fine cut ashlar stone it consists of two bays roofed with groin vaults and it has a circular apse with a semi dome.

Total Project Cost: Approx. €353,000



Aerial view of Tanners' Mosque before conservation works. © UNDP Photo/Flycam Aerial Photography and Filming.

ST. ANNE'S CHURCH

The church was probably built in the early 14th Century and was part of a monastic complex. It was built in what was known as the Syrian quarter and was originally a Latin, Catholic church but it was given to the Maronites in the 14th Century. It also consists of a single nave with two bays with groin vaults separated by transverse ribs.

Total Project Cost: Approx. €342,000



Aerial view of St Anne's Church before conservation works. © UNDP Photo/Flycam Aerial Photography and Filming.

Project funded by: European Union

ST. MARY OF CARMEL

This Carmelite church was part of a monastic complex dedicated to the Virgin Mary, built between 1324 and 1366 and painted sometime between the 14th and 15th Centuries. It is a beautiful and simple building consisting of a single nave with three bays and a semi hexagonal apse.
A ceremony to celebrate the completion of the conservation works took place on **26 May 2018**.

Total Project Cost: Approx. €477,000



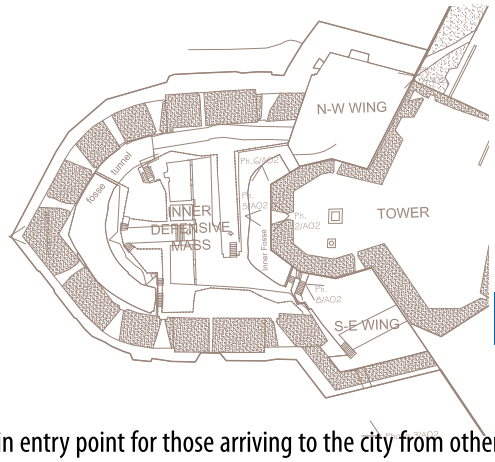
Interior view of St Mary of Carmel Church after conservation works. © UNDP Photo/Kerim Belet, April 2018.



Exterior view of St Mary of Carmel Church, south facade after conservation works. © UNDP Photo, May 2018.

RAVELIN/LAND GATE

Start Date: February 2017
End date: June 2018
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €930,000



Project funded by: European Union

ABOUT THE GATE

The Ravelin/Land Gate is an essential part of the walls of Famagusta and the main entry point for those arriving to the city from other parts of Cyprus. It is a massive, complex structure built into the living rock with many layers of history from the original Lusignan tower to the Venetian gate to the later changes by the Ottomans, and finally British conservation efforts. It is comprised of various levels of construction, connected by small passageways, bridges and fosses, and connected to the outside of the city across the fosse (at least on one side) by a bridge and drawbridge. Because of its importance and prominence as the main entry point into Famagusta it receives many visitors.

THE CONSERVATION PROJECT

A 'Survey, Investigations, Assessment and Project Design study' was carried out between April 2014 and January 2015. The condition assessment report describes the Ravelin/Land Gate as 'structurally solid but not sound'. The conservation project has therefore focused on two main components: the conservation of the monument and the improvement of its functional spaces. In particular, improvement works to structural elements have been carried out (e.g. grouting fissures, replacement of stones, stitching of cracks and drainage). Conservation works also include replacement of the failing concrete cap over the chimney, vegetation removal and cleaning. The usability of the space has also been improved. Paved surfaces have been adapted to ensure access for persons with disabilities and include electrical conduit, visitor safety and didactic features.

More than 400 people, Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, attended the completion ceremony on **19 June 2018**. Elizabeth Spehar, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (SRSG) and Head of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), Ierotheos Papadopoulos, Head of EC Representation in Cyprus and 11 EU Heads of Mission also joined the ceremony.



Ravelin/Land Gate Project Completion ceremony. © UNDP Photos/Ufuk Akengin, June 2018.



Aerial view of Ravelin/Land Gate after conservation works. © UNDP Photo/Flycam Aerial Photography and Filming Ltd.



Inner courtyard of Ravelin/Land Gate after conservation works.© UNDP Photo.

Project funded by: European Union

AGIOS PHILON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

Start Date: May 2018
Expected completion: November 2018
Type of intervention: Conservation works
Total Project Cost: Approx. €177,000

ABOUT THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

The ancient city of Karpasia, which gave its name to the whole peninsula, lies 3.5km north-east of the village of Rizokarpaso/Dipkarpaz. Only a limited part of the city has been unearthed by the archaeological excavations which started in 1935 and continued until 1938. The area around the Byzantine church of Agios Philon (12th Century A.D.) has been excavated revealing part of the early Christian episcopal complex (5th Century A.D.) and earlier structures which date back to the Hellenistic and Roman period (4th Century BC - 4th Century AD). Today, the visible remains of the archaeological site are the early Christian episcopal complex with the basilica, the narthex, the atria, the baptistery and many ancillary spaces. The colonnaded basilica with galleries and a wooden roof was preceded to the west by a narthex and an atrium, now lost in the sea. In the southern wall of the basilica, a door gave access to the baptismal complex. The baptismal complex is a free-standing rectangular structure consisting of different chambers: a rectangular room with an apse to its eastern side and four smaller rooms along the southern side (the second from the east was provided with the cruciform-shaped baptismal font). The floor of the basilica and of the baptismal complex has a magnificent decoration in opus sectile, while other rooms are paved with slabs of schist *marmara* (Cypriot marble) and limestone. The now ruinous domed pier cross-in-square church of Agios Philon was built in good ashlar masonry over the nave and the south aisle of the early Christian basilica in the 12th century A.D.

A multidisciplinary team comprised of specialist professionals such as archaeologists, architects, civil engineers and conservators, has designed the conservation project based on the idea that minimum interventions could provide the maximum conservation, consolidation and protection of the site.



View from above: Agios Philon Church before and during conservation works © UNDP Photo/ Flycam Aerial Photography and Filming Ltd.

WHAT THE PRESS SAYS

News/ Politics/ Technical Committee sets a good example of cooperation

Technical Committee sets a good example of cooperation

18.06.2015 14:20 Politics

sigmalive



The Technical Committee C is an example of how Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots can effectively co-exist and function together. Its chairmen, Takis Hadzidemetriou and Ali Tuncay, have turned into custodians of the island`s cultural heritage.

News/ Local/ Συγκίνηση στην παράδοση του επιδιορθωμένου Αγ. Νικολάου

Συγκίνηση στην παράδοση του επιδιορθωμένου Αγ. Νικολάου

15.10.2014 21:24 Κύπρος

SigmaLive



Rebuilding Peace: Cyprus Restores Derelict Churches, Mosques

Seyfi Tunelci long watched in sorrow as the derelict Orthodox Christian monastery at Myrtou in Cyprus' overwhelmingly Muslim north crumbled before his...

NYTIMES.COM

Aynikola ve Ayanni camileri restore edildi

Cuma 24 Kasım 2017



Άρχισε η συντήρηση του ναού του Τιμίου Σταυρού στην Καρπάσια

ΣΤΟ ΠΛΑΙΣΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΟΣ ΤΟΥ UNDP ΠΟΥ ΧΡΗΜΑΤΟΔΟΤΕΙΤΑΙ ΑΠΟ ΤΗΝ ΕΕ

Άρχισαν τα έργα συντήρησης της εκκλησίας του Τιμίου Σταυρού στην κατεχόμενη Καρπάσια. Οι εργασίες, που θα ολοκληρωθούν περί τα τέλη Αυγούστου, χρηματοδοτούνται πλήρως από την ΕΕ με κόστος 34,700 ευρώ.

Την έναρξη των έργων συντήρησης





Girne'deki 'Arhangelos Mihail Kilisesi' tamir edilecek

Girne'deki "Arhangelos Mihail Kilisesi"nin tamiratının, Kültürel Miras Teknik Komitesi'nin kararlaştırdığı süre içerisinde tamamlanacağı bildirildi.



Restorasyon başlıyor



Restoration works on Hamam and mosque completed (Updated with quotes)





Ιούλ 12, 2016 - 14:30 μμ

Προσφορές για συντήρηση της εκκλησίας Αρχαγγέλου Μιχαήλ στο Λευκόνοικο



Cypriots unite to restore Othello's tower

Greek and Turkish residents of Cyprus try to rebuild trust as they start renovation on heritage site.





Consecration of Agios Afksentios church offers hope for better days to come, Cypriots declare

CNA – Emilia Christofi – Cyprus/NICOSIA 4/6/2015 21:37

Sırada Mağusa Surları ve Othello Kalesi var



Kültürel miras teknik komitesi Gazimağusa'da yeni çalışmalar başlatıyor



Papadopulu kültürel mirasla ilgili bilgilendirme yaptı



Kültürel Miras Teknik Komitesi, etkinlik düzenlendi



WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

"Monuments have a way of revealing to us that in Cyprus, people of different religions and different ethnicities can live together as they have done in the past."
Giorgos Pachis, participant in the Watermill/Aqueduct completion event.





"This hamam is in the neighborhood where my grandmother used to live. I heard that it had been restored and came back to visit it. Seeing the old neighborhood was very emotional. I met with my grandmother's and uncles' old neighbours and old friends from Paphos. The hamam brought us together again."
Hatice Momin, participant in the Paphos Hamam completion event.

"Preserving the Old St. George Church is of utmost importance since it demonstrates the historic continuity of the village but also the historic presence of the Maronite community in the area."
Joseph Solomou Andreou, participant in the Old St. George Church completion event.



"I think this is a very serious and worthwhile effort as both our monuments and those of the Turkish Cypriots are being restored and it shows that there is respect between the communities, for whatever is left."
Youla Kemekki Vrondi, participant in the Agios Afksentios completion event.

"I am originally from this village and since the church was restored, I have met many of my co-villagers that I didnt know before, and now we have become very close friends and we see each other often. This church has brought communication between the Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots who lived in this village before, and I am so thankful."
Gülay Komili, participant in the Agios Afksentios completion event.



"After the restoration of the church, the former residents of the village started to visit the village and hold services. The village has become livelier and people get the chance to talk to each other."
Ayhan Talaş, participant in the Agios Nikolaos Church completion event.



"I consider the cultural heritage of our land, is not just our heritage, Greek Cypriot or Turkish Cypriot, but that it is the heritage of the entire world. And I consider the work done by the TCCH very important and it offers a lot to this land."
Christina Valanidou, participant in the Agios Panteleimonas Monastery completion event.



"This mosque has become the symbol of our village. Nobody lives in Evretou/Evretu any longer. But thanks to the work of the Technical Committee this mosque is now there to represent us and our history so that it will not be forgotten, and it will be told to the ones who will come after us. So, as long as the mosque is there, there will be proof that there was life there once upon a time."
Kadri Angın, participant in the Evretou/Evretu Mosque completion event.





"As an expert on conservation, I am proud to be a Member of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage, which has undertaken important missions in conserving our common historical monuments, each of which is proof of our common past cultures."
İlkay Feridun, Advisory Board of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

"Through the work of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage we are working together, not just to repair the monuments but we are learning the other side's culture as well."
Emine Reis, Advisory Board of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

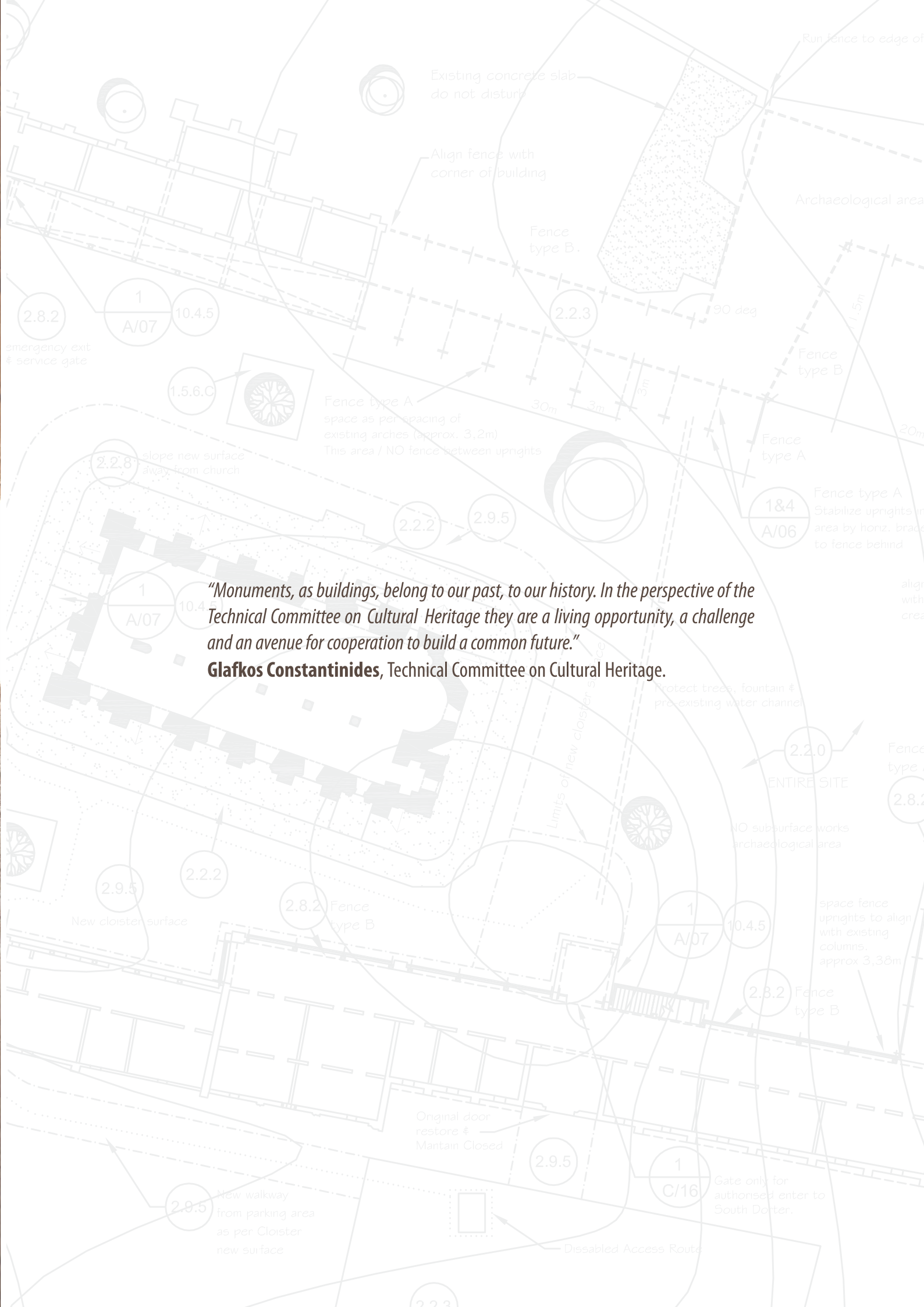
"The work that we are carrying out within the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage is contributing to the establishment of an atmosphere of cooperation between the two sides of Cyprus."
Mustafa Haşım Altan, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

"Cultural heritage or heritage of culture is the general name used to denominate monuments created by previous generations and that are believed to have universal values. As the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage we are working and striving so that the monumental structures, building groups and sites of historical, artistic or scientific universal values on our homeland of Cyprus can be carried over to future generations."
Özge Samioğlu, Advisory Board, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

"As the Technical Committee on Cultural heritage we are working to save monuments that represent our history and our identity. Through our work we are also contributing to the establishment of our future."
Mehmet Kanan, former member of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.



Bicommunal media site visit to Martinengo Bastion during conservation works. © UNDP Photo, December 2016.



"Monuments, as buildings, belong to our past, to our history. In the perspective of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage they are a living opportunity, a challenge and an avenue for cooperation to build a common future."

Glafkos Constantinides, Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.





This booklet is published under the responsibility of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.
The views expressed herein do not reflect any official or legal position.

Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

This booklet has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union and the United Nations Development Programme.