

THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN CULTURAL HERITAGE AGENCY

HISTORY

The Euro-Mediterranean Cultural Heritage Agency (Euromed Agency) was founded in March 2003 in Lecce and represents the continuation of the activities developed under the project "Unimed Cultural Heritage II", funded by the European Community and presented in 2001 by Municipality of Lecce, UNIMED (Mediterranean Universities Union) and by other 20 Euro-Mediterranean partners. The aim of the project was to improve cooperation in the field of preservation, restoration and management of cultural heritage and to promote actions and partnerships in support of the permanent policies enhancing the safeguard of cultural heritage of the Euro-Mediterranean States.

The **Euro-Mediterranean Cultural Heritage Agency** was founded by: **Municipality of Lecce, University of Salento - Lecce, University of Foggia and UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union - Rome.**

Current associates are:

Municipality of Lecce
Municipality of Matera
University of Salento

Honorary members are:

CUM (Community of the Mediterranean Universities) - Bari, Italy
University of Patras - Greece
Lecce Fine Arts Academy
"Guglielmo Marconi" online University - Rome, Italy
Institute for the History and Archaeology of Magna Graecia - Taranto, Italy
Province of Lecce

The Euro-Mediterranean Cultural Heritage Agency was founded to fill an institutional gap at a local level: the lack of an institutional body working to enhance the realization of the Euro-Mediterranean identity, where culture represents the common identity and culture is considered a resource. The resource to bet on.

Its peculiarity lies in cooperation, collaboration and sharing of a **common goal** with public and private bodies and organizations: that is the **need to enhance the culture**, which has now become not only a priority but a requirement. The Euro-Mediterranean Cultural Heritage Agency does this leveraging a real synergy with public and private institutions. The aim is not only to encourage, but also to develop and implement permanent actions in support of policies enhancing actions leading to know, recognize and appreciate the cultural heritage as a vehicle of identity.

The Agency has presented and taken part to many Community, (INTERREG CADSES, CULTURE 2000, LIFELONG LEARNING EUROPAID, MED, IPA), national (Avviso Pubblico: "Giovani per la valorizzazione dei beni pubblici"- Ministero della Gioventù) and regional (POR, APULIAN ICT LIVING LABS) programmes, all focused on the protection, restoration, preservation, and promotion of the Euro-Mediterranean culture.

The Association has also organized and promoted numerous national and international conferences, seminars, meetings, workshops, exhibitions and events all centered on the promotion of Euromediterranean artistic, linguistic and cultural heritage.

MISSION

The Euro-Mediterranean Cultural Heritage Agency is a nonprofit association, with legal status that develops and promotes actions aiming at the protection, restoration, preservation, enhancement, communication of Euromed cultural heritage, also leveraging the policies of national states and international organizations.

ACTIVITIES

The Agency, since its constitution, has always set the quality of initiatives among its strategic goals, professionalism and competence of the team as a fundamental basis of projects and initiatives and the evaluation of the results as an essential tool for improving performance and the full achievement of objectives. A path that is often difficult and arduous, but tenaciously pursued. Thanks to this strategy the Agency has fulfilled many and prestigious high-profile cultural activities and projects, aiming at enhancing, protecting, exploiting Cultural Heritage, true vehicle of common identity and collective memory of peoples.

The main fields of activity are:

- **Project Planning and Management**
- **Organization of conferences, meetings, workshops, seminars, conventions and exhibitions**
- **Education and training on the job**

Just to mention the more significant projects and the results, Euromed Agency has until now:

- **presented and taken part to 21 Community**, (INTERREG CADSES, CULTURE 2000, LIFELONG LEARNING COMENIUS REGIO), **national and regional** (POR, APULIAN ICT LIVING LABS, P.O. FESR PUGLIA 2007-2013, REGIONE PUGLIA PROGRAMMA ATTIVITÀ CULTURALI) **funding programmes**, all targeted on actions enhancing the protection, restoration, preservation, and promotion of the Euro-Mediterranean culture;
- **patronized 27 national and international conferences** on topics related to European and Mediterranean cultural heritage;
- **organized 76 events including conferences, meetings and national and international workshops** on intercultural cooperation, development and promotion of Mediterranean cultural heritage and traditions ;
- **patronized, sponsored, lavished contributions, recognized awards to 25 events and initiatives**, for a sum higher than € 125,000.00;
- **organized 12 exhibitions** one of which under the High Patronage of the President of the Italian Republic;
- **contributed to the organization of 2 master's degrees**;
- **offered** the opportunities of **high profile training courses to 11 trainees**, some of whom coming from abroad
- **organized 2 courses of Euro-community planning, 8 courses of Modern Greek language and culture and 3 courses of Turkish language and culture.**

The projects developed and implemented by Euromed were funded by the following Community, National and Regional Programmes.

EU Funding Programmes

INTERREG IV C - European Territorial Cooperation Operational Programme "Greece-Italy" 2007-2013
INTERREG / CARDS ITALIA - ALBANIA 2004 - 2006
INTERREG III B ARCHIMED 2000-2006
PIC INTERREG III A ITALIA-ALBANIA 2000-2006
INTERREG III B CADSES
COMENIUS REGIO
CULTURA 2000 PROGRAMME
LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

National Funding Programmes

CARIPLO FUNDS

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS - ""Youth for the enhancement of public goods"

Regional Funding Programmes

REGIONAL OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME 2000-2006 - APULIA
APULIAN ICT LIVING LABS

NETWORKS

Since 2007 the Agency is a member of **Anna Lindh Foundation Italian Network**, an international organization that promotes cooperation in the fields of culture, education, science and communication. From 2014 it is associated **with RIDE - Italian Network for Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue (ALF)**, a network of networks of Civil Society and Institutions (University, Local authorities, etc.), an organization created by the European Union and the Mediterranean Partner Countries within the Union for the Mediterranean. The Agency is also a founding member of "**ANNA LINDH ITALIA FEDERATION**", established in 2016, with the aim of capitalizing experience and synergies gained in over 10 years of belonging to the ALF Network and to promote, support and implement the cultural and social interaction between Italy and the Euro-Mediterranean countries.

In 2015 the Agency has joined the "**Distretto Produttivo Puglia Creativa**". Institutional task of the district is to link the regional policies for the business support with needs and objectives of cultural and creative activities.

HEADQUARTER

The Euromed Agency has its headquarter in Lecce, in the heart of the old center, in **Via Libertini, 1**, in the precious spaces of the "**Ex Conservatorio S. Anna**", a beautiful historical building which houses the administrative offices, a media room with 10 seats two conference rooms, and exclusive exhibition spaces available for the organization of exhibitions and events.