

# JOINT STRATEGIES FOR THE NET-WORK OF SMART HISTORIC VILLAGES









## **INDEX**

INTRODUCTION	3
PART 1. Identity characteristics of the territory focused on cultural heritage	5
1.1. Location and geographical characteristics of the territory	5
1.2. Brief description of the territory (socio-economic statistical data; some facts regard political frameworks)	_
1.3. The cultural framework (agent involved in the culture sector; tangible and intangil and historic heritage; fests; cultural infrastructures)	
1.4. SWOT analysis focused on cultural and historic heritage	26
PART 2. Strategic planning	32
2.1. Vision of the smart historic villages	32
2.2. Strategic planning	33
2.2.1 Heritage	33
2.2.2 Citizens	33
2.2.3 Competitiveness	34
2.2.4 Tourism management and governance	35
2.2.5 Promotion and commercialization	35
2.2.6 Authorities	36





## INTRODUCTION

The project objective is to create a **network of European smart historic villages** that enhances the citizens' involvement and participation in the socio-economic life of their villages, promoting social commitment actions and defining local development strategies based on the opportunities offered by the material and immaterial cultural heritage of those historic territories, as assets for the EU smart, sustainable and inclusive rural growth.

In the #EuSAVE project are participating 40 small rural municipalities with less than 10,000 inhabitants, from 8 different countries (Spain, Italy, Croatia, Belgium, Portugal, Bulgaria, Republic of Macedonia and Latvia), belonging to the four areas of Europe (East, West, North and South). During a period of 4 years, a wide range of activities of citizen participation will be carried out by the transnational thematic working groups in the framework of the European smart historic villages network set by #EuSAVE project. Through those actions, best practices mapping of successful initiatives aroused from the synergies between social innovation and cultural heritage will be developed.

The best practices mapping of successful initiatives arising from synergies between social innovation and cultural heritage will be analysed, on the basis of which **joint development strategies** and **lines of action** for smart villages will be defined. Its objectives are:

- Functional and sustainable cooperation between different European rural local communities, for a better collaboration, participation and interaction towards new EU ruralities where the cultural heritage interacts with the social innovation.
- To exchange good practices, experiences and knowledge and to create joint synergies that lead to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth of the European local communities.
- To foster the EU citizenship and its participation in the European democratic life and towards the valuing of the cultural& historical life of their local communities and, of their common Europe.
- To promote knowledge, awareness and identification of European rural communities with their history and culture by increasing and consolidating the social value of the shared cultural heritage while involving as many citizens as possible in the projects of historic villages' revitalization.
- To promote the European citizenship and to improve the conditions for the EU rural population participation, by encouraging citizens' debate on the future of the European rural territories and active participation in the search for solutions that ensure the rural development sustainability.
- To improve the mutual understanding and learning about EU multicultural diversity and to promote opportunities for social and cultural engagement.





The **Joint Strategies document** is structured in two parts, as follows:

- PART 1 "Identity characteristics of the territory focused on cultural heritage", which was elaborated mainly with the partners' contributions regarding the main features of their respective territories (location and geographical characteristics, socio-economic statistical data, political facts, agents involved in the culture sector, tangible and intangible cultural and historic heritage, cultural infrastructures, SWOT analysis, etc.) and,
- PART 2 "Strategic planning", which was developed as a result of the feedback received from 255 people participating in the Virtual Forum and 37 experts interviewed, in the eight countries participating in the #EuSAVE project.





## PART 1. Identity characteristics of the territory focused on cultural heritage

Countries	Spain, Italy, Croatia, Belgium, Portugal, Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Latvia			
Project partner name	Municipality Vimianzo, Unione dei Comuni della Grecia Salentina (UCGS), Local Action Group Zagorje-Sutla, ALDA – European Association for Local Democracy, Intermunicipal Community of Alto Alentejo (CIMAA), Bolyarovo Municipaliti, Berovo Municipality, Dagda Municipality			
List of municipalities	Spain - Municipality Vimianzo			
involved in the strategy	Italy -Calimera, Carpignano Salentino, Castrignano de 'Greci, Corigliano d'Otranto, Cutrofiano, Martano, Martignano, Melpignano, Sogliano Cavour, Soleto, Sternatia, Zollino			
	Croatia – Cities: Pregrada, Klanjec and Zabok, municipalities: Sveti Križ Začretje, Krapinske Toplice, Kraljevec na Sutli, Hum na Sutli, Desinić, Kumrovec, Tuhelj, and Zagorska Sela			
	Belgium- Ieper Municipality			
	Portugal – Marvao Municipality			
	Bulgaria – Bolyarovo Municipality			
	North Macedonia – Berovo Municipality			
	Latvia – Dagda Municipality			
1.1. Location and geographical characteristics of the territory	Vimianzo is a municipality of Galicia, in the northwest of the Iberian Peninsula. It is the historical capital of the Terra de Soneira region and it is in the center of Coast of Death, the tourist region of Finis Terrae, where pilgrims finish their journey after arriving in Santiago de Compostela. It has 187.27 km² of surface area distributed in 14 parishes. Its territory borders the sea at two points, one open to the Atlantic Ocean and the other one to the Camariñas estuary. Most of its territory is inland, with large areas of forest and agricultural grass crossed by low-altitude mountain ranges (the highest peak is 536 meters) and with large valleys, such as in Vimianzo. Its territory is drained by a multitude of small rivers and springs, many of which flow into the main one: the Grande River, which forms the Camariñas estuary at its mouth.			
	The Unione dei Comuni della Grecìa Salentina (Union of Municipalities of Grecìa Salentina) is in the Puglia Region (in particular, in the Prov-			





ince of Lecce) in the area of Grecìa Salentina, an Hellenophone linguistic island of Salento located in southern Puglia and consisting of 9 Municipalities in which a neo-Greek dialect known as Griko.

Since 1990, however, the term "Grecia Salentina" has been partly distorted by its original meaning, becoming the expression of a consortium of Municipalities, also sponsored by the European Union. In fact, since 2007, 3 other non-Hellenophonic municipalities have joined the original 9 municipalities, which have become part of the Union of Municipalities of Grecia Salentina comprising, today, about 60.000 inhabitants.

Currently, 12 Municipalities are part of the Union of Municipalities of Grecìa Salentina: Calimera, Carpignano Salentino, Castrignano de 'Greci, Corigliano d'Otranto, Cutrofiano, Martano, Martignano, Melpignano, Sogliano Cavour, Soleto, Sternatia, Zollino. The Municipalities of the Union share not only the culture and (in part) the language, but also a series of district services. Although only Melpignano and Soleto have no Griko speakers, other countries have also lost their language almost completely. The idiom is still spoken mainly in the Municipalities of Sternatia, Martignano, Calimera, Corigliano d'Otranto, Zollino and Martano. The Municipalities of Carpignano Salentino, Cutrofiano and Sogliano Cavour, on the other hand, are not Hellenophones.

The current area of the Grecia Salentina is the residual part of a larger Grecia, which went from the Ionian to the Adriatic, with particular relevance in the ideal quadrilateral at the top of which are the municipalities of Otranto, Casarano, Gallipoli and Nardò.

The Local Action Group Zagorje - Sutla (LAG Zagorje - Sutla) comprises a total of 11 local self-government units covering an area of more than 439 km² with a population of more than 44.000. It includes three towns, Pregrada, Klanjec and Zabok, and eight municipalities: Sveti Križ Začretje, Krapinske Toplice, Kraljevec na Sutli, Hum na Sutli, Desinić, Kumrovec, Tuhelj, and Zagorska Sela. The LAG area is in the northern part of Croatia. Local Self-Government Units (JLS) of LAG members belong administratively to the Krapina-Zagorje County, and the area represents 35,72% of the territory of the Krapina-Zagorje County.

LAG Zagorje - Sutla is in a significant territory connecting Croatia with the rest of the western part of the EU. Road and rail corridors and highways link the LAG with other socio-economically substantial actors.

The LAG population lives in 188 settlements. Small and dispersed settlements are characteristic of the entire Krapina-Zagorje County, which is challenging for spatial planning (need for significant infrastructure, the difficult overall organization of space).

Some settlements are more isolated than others, but this isolation can give them an advantage in the development of rural tourism and special forms of recreational tourism related to natural heritage.

The geographical specificity of the area is characterized by hilly areas with several peaks no higher than 600 m, the river Sutla and many streams, springs, forests, and other natural phenomena.





**Ieper (Ypres in French)**, Flemish province of West Flanders, Westhoek region, Belgium.

GPS coordinates: 50.851, 2.886

Ypres is an ancient city located in the Flemish province of West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen) in the Westhoek region of Belgium, near the border with France. The municipality of Ypres includes the city itself and several villages: Boezinge, Brielen, Dikkebus, Elverdinge, Hollebeke, Sint-Jan, Vlamertinge, Voormezele, Zillebeke and Zuidschote. Ypres and these villages count a population of 34.845 (2019) while the center of Ypres counts with approximately 18.000 inhabitants.

Ypres lies along the Yperlee (Ieperlee) River, south of Ostend. In the Middle Ages it became a major cloth-weaving city and together with Bruges and Ghent was the country's most prominent city. At that time, it was reputed to have a population of 80.000 inhabitants. Its richness was also reflected in the architectural wealth: impressive buildings, the halls and various civilian and guild houses are a reminder of Ypres' glorious past as a cathedral city

An unsuccessful but devastating siege of the city by the English in 1383 during the Hundred Years' War helped cause Ypres's decline. By the late 16th century its population had decreased to 5.000 inhabitants. The town was frequently besieged by the French in the 17th century.

**The town of Marvão** is in Portugal, in the Alto Alentejo region, in the District of Portalegre. It is at the top of the Serra do Sapoio, at an altitude of 860 metres.

**Bolyarovo Municipality** is situated in Southeastern Bulgaria. Southern border of the municipality coincides with the border of the State with the Republic of Turkey. Bolyarovo Municipality is located 70 km away from the Black Sea, and 47 km away from a Border crossing point with Republic of Turkey.

The Municipality consists of 20 settlements -1 town Bolyarovo and 19 villages. The area of the Municipality is  $668 \text{ m}^2$ .

The Berovo Lowland is in the utmost eastern part of the Republic of Macedonia, between 41° 06" latitude and 23° 12" and 22° 37" longitude. The municipality of Berovo in the south borders with the municipality of Novo Selo, Bosilovo and Vasilevo, in the west with the municipalities Radovis and Vinica, in the north with Delcevo and Pehcevo and in the east with the state border with Bulgaria. The total area of the municipality is 595 km², and it is at around 800 m above sea level. The relief is mainly hilly-mountainous, with lowland terrains only along the riverbed of the River Bregalnica. The Males Mountains have a central position in the municipality, their lowland slopes are quite dissected by the spring river valleys of the River Bregalnica. The natural unity Males, where the town Berovo is located, lays on an absolute elevation of 800-900 m above sea level; with the





mountain branches of Vlaina Mountain, Obozna, and Bejaz Tepe to separate it from the Pijanec region. The south frame of the municipal territory is the Mountain Ograzden. The most prominent peaks are Dzami Tepe with 1.801 m above sea level (a.s.l.) and Chengino Kale with 1.748 m a.s.l. The highest peak is Kadiica, with 1.932 m a.s.l.

**Dagda municipality** is located in the south-eastern part of Latvia and borders the parishes of Kraslava municipalities, the parishes of the Aglona municipality, the parishes of Rezekne municipality, the municipality of Ludza and the Republic of Belarus. The border parishes of Dagda municipality, which borders Belarus, are the parishes of Skaune, Berzini and Kepova, with a total length of the border of ~ 44 km.

Dagda municipality was formed as a result of an administrative territorial reform on 1 July 2009 and the administrative territory of the municipality includes the city of Dagda and 10 parishes - Andrupene, Andzeli, Asune, Berzini, Dagda, Ezernieki, Konstantinova, Ķepova, Svarini and Skaune civil parish.

County area: 949,7 km<sup>2</sup>

Administrative centre of the municipality: Town Dagda

Distance to capital: Riga - 267 km

Distance to the nearest cities (from town Dagda):

Kraslava – 36 km, Rezekne – 59 km, Preili – 62 km, Daugavpils – 80 km. The total area of the Dagda municipality amounts to 949.7 km², representing 1.47% of the State territory of Latvia (64.573 km²). In terms of the area between 110 Latvian municipalities, Dagda municipality is 17th. The administrative centre of the municipality is the town of Dagda, which is in the geographical centre of the municipality. The size of the town of Dagda is only 2,92 km². The largest parishes of Dagda municipality by area are Andrupene civil parish (136,23 km²), Ezernieki civil parish (128,62 km²) and Skaune civil parish (123.40 km²), while the smallest is Dagda civil parish (57,32 km²), and Kepova civil parish (57,5 km²).

The parishes of Dagda municipality Andrupenes, Andzielu and Ezernieks are partly included in the territory of the Rasna National Park. The largest natural fortune of Dagda municipality is the county lakes. 123 lakes have been registered in the county, the most notable of which is Lake Ežezers, which is the island's richest lake in Latvia - 33 islands. The largest lakes of the municipality are Lake Ežezers, Lake Dagda, Lake Visolda, Lake Olaveca and Lake Bize. Several lakes are located on the border of Dagda municipality and are included in the administrative area of the municipality, Siers, Garais, Biža, Ilzuns. The county is crossed by several rivers - Saryanka, Dzeguze, Asunica.

1.2. Brief description of the territory (socioeconomic statistical data; some facts regarding the political frameworks)

## Vimianzo Municipality

Vimianzo has 7.057 inhabitants distributed by its 14 parishes, with a population dispersed in a multitude of small towns. The municipal capital, Vimianzo, is the most inhabited urban area with around 2.000 inhabitants. Like many other Galician municipalities, Vimianzo has an ageing population (average age of 51,95 years) and a negative vegetative balance of -93.





Its economic activity is based on the services sector (53,82%), followed by industry and construction (34,61%) and finally agriculture and fishing (11,57%). Vimianzo continues to be one of the main cities in Coast of Death area with a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of 15.099 per inhabitant.

## Union of Municipalities of Grecia Salentina

The Grecia Salentina is one of the most interesting territories in the Italian cultural and tourist scene thanks to a heritage that from culture (with the language, history and Grika tradition, popular music, events such as the Taranta night) to art, with monuments that cut time (ripest settlements, archaeological sites, dolmens, menhirs, species, nervier, crypts, underground oil mills, castles, palaces, churches, courtyard houses, etc.), nature and the environment, the fabric of small and medium-sized agri-food companies, crafts, gastronomy, up to tourist services and the culture of hospitality, creates an extraordinary appeal.

Today, after years of administrative efforts, the foundations have been created for a relaunch and affirmation in the tourism, economic and cultural fields of this area with an action that, within the dynamics of promotion of the entire regional territory and, specifically, the Salento one aims to affirm a model of tourism, cultural, economic and social development that brings together public administrations, tourism and economic operators, bodies and associations of the territory.

The effort is aimed at safeguarding historical and cultural traditions, but also at the economic and social revitalization of an area that can pursue development models that combine, with professionalism and respect, its roots, its historical, artistic and cultural heritage with the ability to create services and opportunities for our businesses.

It is for this reason that the Union of Municipalities of Grecia Salentina has deemed it appropriate to relaunch a communication and marketing action also through the web such as, for example, the internet site greciasalentina.org managed by the Tourist Front Office Salento Griko which aims to bring together all the actors of the territory, looking at the end web user (be it a tourist, a citizen, a scholar, a business or other) as a resource for the development of this territory.

The Municipalities mentioned above belong to the Union of Municipalities of Grecia Salentina - of which the Municipality of Melpignano (home of a famous Festival of Popular and Traditional Music) - of which the data relating respectively to the population and to the population is reported below. density per sq km and surface: Calimera (7.084 inhabitants / 635,9 / 11,14 sq km), Carpignano Salentino (3.783 inhabitants / 78,8 / 48,03 sq km), Castrignano de 'Greci (3.937 inhabitants / 413,6 / 9,52 sq km), Corigliano d'Otranto (5.787 inhabitants / 206,2 / 28,06 sq km), Cutrofiano (8.992 inhabitants / 161,4 / 55,72 sq km), Martano (9.151 inhabitants / 419,0 / 21,84 sq km), Martignano (1.665 inhabitants / 262,2 / 6,35 sq km), Melpignano (2.235 inhabitants / 204,5 / 10,93 sq km), Sogliano Cavour (4.154 inhabitants / 803,5 / 5,17 sq km), Soleto (5.444 inhabitants / 181,8 / 29,95 sq km), Sternatia (2.293 inhabitants / 138,9 / 16,51 sq km), Zollino (1.981 inhabit





ants / 200,3 / 9,89 sq km). Therefore, the total population is equal to 56.077 inhabitants. (Istat data referring to 2016)

The UCGS adheres to the Association "Borghi Autentici d'Italia" ("Authentic Villages of Italy") and the Italian Parliament has recognized - as national recognition - the Greek community of Salento as a linguistic minority with the name of "Greek linguistic minority of the Erico-Salento ethnic group". The Union of Municipalities is a local authority with statutory autonomy within the principles established by the Italian Constitution and by European, state, and regional standards. The statute determines the fundamental rules of the organization and activity of the Union which performs a plurality of functions and services of the member municipalities. Its task is to promote the integration of administrative action between the Municipalities and ensure coordination of the program and development policies of the territory, improving the quality of the services provided to citizens, and at the same time developing economies of scale. Its territorial scope coincides with that of the municipalities that make it up.

The Union is established for an indefinite period. According to article 2 of the Statute, the aims of the organization are: a) to mediate all the communities that reside on its territory and to compete with the Municipalities that constitute it to care for its interests and to promote its development; b) to promote the progressive integration with the aim of optimizing and rationalizing the administrative action between the municipalities that constitute it; c) contribute to the determination of the programs of the Municipalities that constitute it, as well as the programs of the Province of Lecce and of the Puglia Region and to provide for their specification and implementation; d) constitute the optimal territorial area for the performance of municipal functions and services in associated form conferred with laws of the State or the Region.

Also, in the Statute (precisely in article 8) are listed the functions and services that the Municipalities delegate to the Union (or rather that they intend to delegate). The exercise of administrative functions and the management of the services and / or tasks listed below are transferred to the Union: 1) civic defense; 2) internal control office, pursuant to paragraph 4 of article 147 of Legislative Decree 267/2000; 3) office for the management of labor disputes, pursuant to article 12 of Legislative Decree 165/2001; 4) civil disabled office; 5) cadastral services; 6) local police and civil protection; 7) staff services (salaries, pensions, training, contract application); 8) economic development and one-stop shop, including all initiatives in the sector of production sites with possible shareholdings and / or construction of mixed public-private companies and the so-called "location packages"); 9) services to prevent and combat stray dogs (including the construction and / or management of health kennels and / or shelters); 10) maintenance services for urban and local roads; 11) board and purchases; 12) necropsy and cemetery services; 13) canteen service; 14) school and local transport; 15) Europe counter; 16) vocational training and orientation; 17) services related to mechanization and computerization; 18) social services; 19) tourism promotion services; 20) enhancement of cultural, artistic,





historical, environmental, museum, architectural and book assets; 21) library service and youth information center; 22) technical, town planning and expropriation office; 23) direct tax collection services with the possible establishment of capital companies and / or entrusting the collection to companies regularly registered in the register); 24) billboard and advertising service; 25) public relations offices; 26) services relating to environmental hygiene and the transport and disposal of solid urban waste.

They are also entrusted to the Union, as far as possible, planning, and legal consultancy activities in favor of the Municipalities for the purpose of coordinating activities of inter-municipal interest where such activity involves the use of financial uses due to the need to make use of external consultancy, the Municipalities concerned will also be able to entrust the task to the Union.

It should be noted that most of the delegated functions and services are still de facto performed by individual municipalities and not collectively. This is because, from a purely administrative point of view, the creation and management of services to be managed on such a large territory entails many organizational-managerial difficulties, social impact and, above all, financial difficulties. For these reasons, many of the more immediate targets have undergone an understandable postponement of the deadlines, also because some services have requested the completion of a series of political-environmental analyzes, that is, of examinations and evaluations in relation to the effects that a given program of structural modification of the institutions could have generated. It was also necessary to prepare a feasibility study for some of the more complex services to be organized, such as that of the local police, a project whose complexity derives from the involvement of 34 traffic police, each carrying specific requests and needs, as well as from the reorganization of the vehicles and the resources available to them.

On the linguistic aspect, the union has not yet achieved bilingualism. The Grika language continues its agony, albeit with a slower speed than a few decades ago, above all thanks to the commitment of associations of enthusiasts.

## The Local Action Group Zagorje - Sutla

According to the latest 2011 census, there are 44.443 inhabitants in the LAG area, which is 1,04% of the population of the Republic of Croatia. The town of Zabok has the highest number of inhabitants (8,994), while the smallest number has the municipality Zagorska Sela (996). The population density of the LAG area is 113,40, which is higher than the average population density in KKZ, which is 108.13% and the Republic of Croatia 75,1%. Between 2001 and 2011, the population decreased by 3.685, thus continuing the long-term trend of population decline in the LAG area. In 1948 there were a total of 64.234 inhabitants of the LAG, while by 2011, the number had decreased by 19.791 inhabitants, which is a significant decrease of 30%. In the period 2001 - 2011, all local self-government units within the LAG recorded a decline in population, with the most significant





decreases recorded in Zagorje Selo (20,18% and 201 persons, respectively) and Desinić (18,58% and 545 persons, respectively).

The average population age is 42.6 for the LAG area, which is higher than the national (41,7) and county (41,7) average. An aging index showing the ratio of persons aged 60 and over to young people under the age of 19 is 128,3 for the LAG area and is higher than the national average of 115,0. The highest aging index is in Zagorska Sela and stands at 156,2. The age coefficient indicates the proportion (%) of people aged 60 and over by the total population and for the LAG area is 25,1, which is slightly higher than the national (24,1) and county (23,5) coefficients).

The dominant industries in the LAG are manufacturing and trade, which account for 73% of total LAG revenues. Manufacturing is the most significant in terms of the number of employees with a total of 3.601 persons. The considerable activities are also in the construction and transportation sectors, with a 5,5% share in total revenues.

The LAG area includes three cities, Pregrada, Klanjec and Zabok, and eight municipalities: Sveti Križ Začretje, Krapinske Toplice, Kraljevec na Sutli, Hum na Sutli, Desinić, Kumrovec, Tuhelj, and Zagorska Sela. Croatian cities and municipalities have the following responsibilities:

Towns and municipalities, in their self-governing field, carry out activities of local importance that directly meet the needs of citizens, which are not assigned to state bodies by the Constitution or law, and those relating to:

- Settlement and housing
- Apatial and urban planning
- Utilities
- Childcare
- Social welfare
- Primary health care
- Primary education
- Culture and sports
- Consumer protection
- Protecting and enhancing the natural environment
- Fire and civil protection
- Traffic
- Other duties under special laws

## **Ieper Municipality**

Ypres was for a long time the hub of trade between the 60 km distant Flemish coast and its trading ports (Dunkirk, Furnes, Nieuwpoort, Ostend and Bruges) on the one hand, and the Champagne route on the other. Served by a few major roads, situated at the heart of a network of rivers and canals (most of them unsuitable for modern navigation), it controlled access to the North Sea, and this was still the case at the beginning of the First World War.

For its role during the First World War, Ypres is an important symbol of wartime hardship and later recovery. Ypres found itself in the British lines on the Western Front during World War I. It was the site of three major





battles: i) First Ypres (October–November 1914); ii) Second Ypres (April–May 1915; marked by the Germans' first use of poison gas as a weapon); iii) and Third Ypres (also called Passchendaele; July–November 1917) with total Allied and German casualties exceeding 850.000.

The city was destroyed during the fighting and was subsequently rebuilt in its original style. Its notable structures include the magnificent Cloth Hall (originally from 1214); the Cathedral of St. Martin (13th century), which contains the tomb of Cornelius Otto Jansen, bishop of Ypres and founder of Jansenism; the medieval ramparts, which were rebuilt by Sébastien de Vauban in the 17th century; the Lille Gate; and the Menin Gate, a memorial to the British soldiers who died in World War I. There are 140 cemeteries, mostly containing war graves, in the environs. Ypres is also an agricultural market center and manufactures textiles and building materials. Ypres is an historic city, and it generates a high percentage of its income from tourism. Nevertheless, it also counts with a high number of industrial areas, especially along the Ieperlee canal.

## **Marvao Municipality**

Marvão is the seat of a municipality with 154,90 km² of area, four parishes, and about 3.000 inhabitants. The municipality is limited to the north and east by Spain, to the south and west by the municipality of Portalegre and to the northwest by Castelo de Vide.

## **Bolyarovo Municipality**

The population of Municipality of Bolyarovo is 4.160 inhabitants. The population density is 6,2 people per square kilometer ten times lower from the national average. Natural growth is -21, this is 3,5 times higher than the national average. More than 37% of the population is over 60 years. Around 53% are between 14 and 60 years.

The local economy is mainly represented by agriculture (wheat, rapeseed, sunflower, walnuts, vines, lavender, and herbs) and livestock (cattle, sheep, and bees).

Trade and processing industry (meat processing plant and broom processing plant) are developed.

The territory of the municipality is characterized by preserved natural environment, presence of springs of mineral water, forest areas.

As local public body, the Municipality of Bolyarovo performs the following functions /Law on local Government and Local Administration, Art.17/: management of municipal property, finance, local taxes and administration; organization and development of the municipality; activities related to pre-school and school education; health and social care; culture - libraries, museums and museum collections, municipal ritual centers, activities related to local traditions and folklore; organization of communal - domestic services for the population - water sewerage, electricity, telecommunications, public utilities, transportation, transport, service; social activities; conservation and environmental protection and rational use of all natural resources; protection and preservation of all cultural, historical and





architectural monuments of local importance; development of sport and tourism.

As a typical peripheral and rural region, Bolyarovo municipality faces the following challenges and problems: depopulation, population aging, lack of job opportunities, distance from hospitals, pharmacies, administrative institutions, cultural institutions, quality education.

## **Berovo Municipality**

According to the data from the census in 2002, Berovo has had 13.941 citizens. This places Berovo among the smaller municipalities in the R. of Macedonia. As one can see from the Chart about the number of the population per settlement according to the censuses 1921-2002, the inhabitants has continuously been increasing from 1921 to 1991 and then it has been declining with an average annual rate of 0,4%. In relation to the previous census from 1994 their number has decreased for 238 people, or 1,7%, and the average annual rate of growth -0, 21%, compared to the Macedonian average annual rate of growth which for this period is 0,48%.

The local economy has a rich history. From relatively small, underdeveloped, and peripheral area, in the 1960s and 1970s the Berovo municipality experienced intensive growth with rates of the national product of over 20% (higher than the national average) higher growth of the employment compared to the national average and with significant structural changes. Thus, there was a significant shift from agriculture to industry, and a considerable progress in construction and traffic was also achieved. The typical change in the industry is its diversification, which means that (according to the participation in the national product) there are four dominant branches: the textile, with 33,9%, the woodwork, with 25,5%; the non-metallic industry, with 18% and the food and tobacco industry, with 13,2%.

Four of the bigger banks in Macedonia have branches in Berovo: Stopanska Bank, Invest Bank, Macedonian Bank and Uni Bank, with totally 30 employees that provide services for physical and legal entities, and part of then have ATM bank machines. Macedonian Post has a central post office in Berovo and branches in four bigger villages. There are registered firms: one for providing computer services and computer training, one private language school and two centers for computer training and language learning for the citizens in the municipality. In one cycle they can train about 50 people for computer work and the same number of people for foreign languages. Services and advice from the area of agriculture are provided by the Agency for inciting and individual agriculture. On the territory of the municipality there are three active law offices and two notary offices, but there are still no business consulting services.

#### **Dagda Municipality**

According to the data of the State Land Service (VZD) - "Land Report 2018 of the Republic of Latvia", Dagda leads the largest area of land by type of land to 01.01.2018. is composed of forests - 43276,0 ha or 45.6%, followed by agricultural land - 36684.0 ha or 38.7% of the total land of





Dagda municipality. including arable land - 25644.0 ha, orchards - 246 ha, meadows - 3071 ha and pastures - 7723,0 ha. In the division of the land of Dagda County, 4205 ha or 4,4% is composed of water grounds, 3213 ha or 3,4% is composed of swamps, 2.624,0 ha or 2,8% of scrubs, 1.761 ha or 1,9% of land under roads, 898 ha or 0,9% under buildings and courtyards and 2083 ha or 2.2% of other land. A total of 13.483 units of land with a total area of 94.744 ha have been registered in the county of Dagda.

Division of the land of Dagda municipality by type of use to 01.01.2018.

- Forests
- Agricultural land
- •Swamps
- •Grounds of water
- •Crumbies
- •Ground under the roads
- •Land under buildings and courtyards
- •Rest of the land

Of the total area of land of Dagda municipality, 7.543 units of land with a total area of 48.517,7 ha (51,2%) are owned by natural persons, 2049 units of land with a total area of 25.838,7 ha (27,3%) - owned by legal persons, 171 units of land with a total area of 593,6 ha (0,6%) - owned by the municipality, 70 units of land with a total area of 5.158,2 ha (5,4%) - owned by State and State institutions, 74 units of land with a total area of 97.9 ha (0,1%) - mixed status in joint ownership, while 332 units of land with a total area of 1 673,8 ha (1,8%) in the use of natural persons, 285 units of land with a total area of 612,1 ha - for legal persons in use.

According to the figures of the Nationality Migration Affairs Office (PMLP) Population Register, the total population of Dagda after the declared place of residence at the end of 2018 (31.12.2018.) is 7361 inhabitants, which are 247 inhabitants or 3,2% less than at the beginning of 2018 - 7608.

According to data from the Central Statistical Bureau (CSP), the number of permanent residents after their actual residence at the beginning of 2018 in the county of Dagda comprises 6.992 inhabitants, less than at the beginning of 2017 (7253) and 616 inhabitants less, compared to the figures of the PMLP, the declared population of Dagda in the beginning of 2018. In the course of 2018, the number of permanent residents has decreased by 215 inhabitants following their actual place of residence in the county of Dagda and amounts to 6.777 on 31.12.2018., which is by 584 less than the declared population.

At the end of 2018, the population density in Dagda is estimated to be 7.8 people per 1 km<sup>2</sup>, which is significantly less than average in Latvia (32,4 people/km<sup>2</sup>), on average in Latgale (20 people/km<sup>2</sup>), and in neighbouring counties in Kraslava (14,7 people/km<sup>2</sup>), Ludza (13,6 people/km<sup>2</sup>) at the end of 2018.

In the county of Dagda, 2067 residents, or 28,1% of the total declared population, declared their place of residence in the town of Dagda, while in the





rural area, 5.294 residents, or 71,9% of the total population declared in the county, declared their residence in 10 parishes. In Dagdas region, the largest population density is in town of Dagda: 707.9 inhabitants per 1 km², while municipalities between 3.0 and 12.5 people per 1 km². The smallest population density in the rural area of Dagda municipality is in border parishes: in the parish of Ķepova, 3,0 people/km², in Berzini civil parish - 3,5 people/km² and Svarini parish – 3,5 people/km², while the largest in Dagda parish - 12.5 people/km².

In the last year, the population has decreased in all territorial units of the county by an average of 3,4%, while the population has decreased most rapidly in the parishes of Svarini, Kepova, Andrupene. Comparing PMLP and CSP data, it can be concluded that the declared population in the municipality is 616 more than the number of independent populations in early 2018, indicating that the declared population in the municipality of Dagda registered their actual residence outside the municipality of Dagda in 2018.

1.3. The cultural framework (agent involved in the culture sector; tangible and intangible cultural and historic heritage; fests; cultural infrastructures)

## Vimianzo Municipality

## Tangible and intangible cultural and historic heritage

Undoubtedly the most famous and outstanding heritage element of the municipality is the medieval castle of Vimianzo. Located in the town itself, it is an active monument where people can discover the history of the territory and enjoy the intangible heritage of crafts with the Live Crafts Show that takes place throughout the year. Among the ten artisan activities that can be admired, the bobbin lace, a typical tradition of local women from Vimianzo, has an outstanding space.

In the area of the town of Vimianzo, there are the classic country house of Trasariz, the fort of Barreiras (Iron Age hillfort) and the prehistoric origins of life in the valley.

There is also one of the greatest archeological heritage assets of the municipality: the dolmens. A megalithic route runs through the nine most outstanding dolmens, many of them still conserve cave paintings and engravings (Pedra Cuberta, Pedra da Arca, Pedra Moura, etc.). Vimianzo is one of the places in Galicia with the highest concentration of megalithic culture monuments.

Another great heritage attraction is the ethnographic complex of Mosquetín. It conserves an exceptional set of mills and fulling mills that can be seen on function. It is especially interesting to see the fulling mills, practically the only original preserved ones in all Galicia.

Other heritage sites of the municipality are:

- Porto de Cereixo an old port and town with the medieval origin, which has the perfectly preserved traditional architecture; there are the country house of Torres de Cereixo, a tidal mill or the Romanesque church of Santiago de Cereixo, with an outstanding tympanum, unique in the Romanesque art, which represents the "Translatio" legend about the transfer of the body of Apostle James from Palestina to Galicia.
- Penedos de Pasarela e Traba declared Protected Landscape in 2008, it's a monumental granite mountain range whose rocks have a form of surprising figures, what was an inspiration for poets and artists.





- Late Roman necropolis of Tines tombs from the last era of Romanization and the Galician Suevian kingdom; there was found the oldest Christian tombstone in Galicia.
- Petroglyphs of Berdoias prehistoric stone carvings with the beautiful and enigmatic shapes.
- Cruceiro dos Santos the 15th century sculptural cross; in this area there also the other cruises like Paizás, Trasouteiro, etc.
- Religious architecture: Romanesque art in Baíñas, Tines or Treos; baroque in Cambeda, Calo, Castrobuxán, etc.
- Chapels with rites and traditional festivals of interest: San Fins de Cambeda, Montetorán, San Bartolo, Santa Cristiña, etc.
- Civil architecture: rural palaces (country houses) of Trasouteiro, Castromil, Boallo, Comareiro, etc.
- Ethnographic heritage: farmyard of Santa Cristiña, beehives, granaries, mills, bridges, traditional houses in well-preserved villages (Calo, Carnés, Cereixo, etc.), traditional dry stone walls (UNESCO intangible heritage) [check here: https://ich.unesco.org/en/RL/art-of-dry-stone-walling-knowledge-and-techniques-01393?RL=01393].

## • The intangible cultural heritage:

In addition to the already mentioned crafts, there is a multitude of cultural forms associated with intangible heritage such as legends, characteristics, and diverse varieties of the Galician language in the same municipality, proverbs, customs linked to material heritage, gastronomy, music, traditional dance, festivals, religious and magical rites.

#### **Feast**

Most of the feasts celebrated in the territory have a religious element; they are dedicated to patron saints of the different parishes or other figures of devotion.

The Faguía de Carnés is a gastronomic feast with more than 400 years of history dedicated to Saint Christopher and it stands out for its uniqueness in this category. Moreover, it has been declared also a Festivity of Tourist Interest in Galicia.

The Assault on the Vimianzo Castle is the festival that gathers the largest public becomed a symbol of the municipality. This great music, gastronomic and cultural festival is inspired by the Great Irmandiña War, a successful popular revolt against feudal power in the XVth century.

Another unique feast is the Rapa das Bestas, where the wild horses that live in the Mount Faro are brought together to cut their manes in a beautiful wooden and stone farmyard.

#### Agent involved in the culture sector

Generally, the different cultural agents involved in a territory are divided into three categories: in the case of Vimianzo:

• Public administration: Although the closest and most influential administration is the Council of Vimianzo, there are other administrations that





affect cultural activity to a greater or lesser degree (financing, promotion of activities...), such as: Provincial Deputation of Coruña, Ministry of Culture and Tourism (Government of Galicia) and Ministry of Culture (State Government);

- Associationism: The citizens of Vimianzo are grouped into different social groups with different cultural purposes.
- Traditional Galician music and dance: A.C. Trubisquiña, Airiños do Río Grande de Pasarela, O Revoltixo de Carantoña;
- Crafts: Palilleiras Association "As Nemanquiñas", Art in Palla de Baíñas,
   As. Neira Marcos de Salto.
- Neighborhood associations: As. Neira Marcos de Salto, Parochial Association of Berdoias, Veciños Castrelo Association, AAVV parish of San Xoan de Cambeda, Cereixo AV "O noso carballo", AAVV Cañóns do Pozo do Corvo, Asoc. De Pasarela residents.
- Musical festivals and cultural events: AC Cherinkas, AXVALSO.
- Holding popular festivals: A.C. e Monte Faro cabaret, Castrobuxán. AC. Monte Torán, Fray Diego de Cádiz, Festivals de Vimianzo, AC Virgen de Fátima de Cambeda, Santa Irene and San Ramón Festivals Association, Cultural and Recreational Association of Carnés.
- Other associations: As Curandeiras Feminist Sociocultural Association, Baíñas no Camiño Association, Terra de Soneira Spanish Red Cross, ANPA San Vicenzo Association, Vimianzo Merchants and Entrepreneurs Association, AC Stabat Mater de Vimianzo, AC O Castelo de Vimianzo de Carnés, Amas de Casa de Vimianzo, Asoc. Peña Barcelonista Irmandiña, AC Mocatriz, Asociación da Coral Polifónica Lusco e Fusco, A Rula.

At this level, the Regional Study Seminar of Coast of Death can be also referenced as an associative institution that investigates and disseminates the heritage of Vimianzo and the Coast of Death in general.

- Private organizations: Although there are not many private agents dedicated only to cultural activities, some cases can be referenced:
- Hospitality (hotel and catering business) that promotes or hosts cultural events (concerts, book launches, etc.);
- Companies that offer courses or cultural entertainment (traditional music and dance, activities for children, etc.);
- Freelancers involved in the musical, theatrical, audiovisual, craft, literary activities.
- $\circ$  Other companies that are not involved in the cultural sector but provide the financial support.

## <u>Cultural infrastructures</u>

The Council of Vimianzo has various cultural infrastructures, both in the municipal capital and in the other areas of the municipality.

The Cultural Centre of Vimianzo (Casa da Cultura) is a central building where the municipal cultural activity is coordinated and managed. This place has a large auditorium (seating capacity of 419), the Antón Mouzo exhibition hall, conference room, the municipal library, telecentre (computer room), classrooms, offices, and warehouses.





In the town of Vimianzo there are other municipal places where cultural activities take place:

- Vimianzo castle in addition to its value as a tourist resource, it is an active cultural center which hosts the Live Crafts Show all year round, and different cultural activities, such as: musical, theatrical, literary, artistic, throughout the year.
- Social center in this building there are currently different classrooms for municipal cultural activities.

In the rest of the municipal territory, most of the old unitary schools have a new usage as cultural facilities for the residents of the different parishes:

- Former school in Berdoias;
- Former school in Cambeda;
- Former school in Carnés;
- Former school in Castrelo;
- Former school in Ceán, Bamiro;
- Former school in Devesa, Carnés;
- Former school in Orbellido, Baíñas;
- Former school in Outeiro, Baíñas;
- Former school in Padreiro, Baíñas;
- Former school in Pasarela;
- Former school in Reboredo, Salto.
- Former school in Subeiro, Serramo;
- Former school in Tines.
- Former school in Treos.
- School in Castromil, Salto.
- School in Vilar de Cereixo, Cereixo;
- School in Carantoña;
- School in Carnés;
- Social Center in Señoráns, Salto.

There are also two unique infrastructures in the parish of Baíñas:

- Culture Centre (Casa da Cultura) in Baíñas (small auditorium and classrooms).
- Auditorium of Nature in Val (classroom for activities in a natural environment).

## Union of Municipalities of Grecia Salentina

The area of Grecìa Salentina is particularly rich in cultural, historical, and natural heritage related to its history. In this regard, it should be noted that the Greek penetration in the Salento peninsula occurred both in ancient times (Magna Grecia), and with the subsequent Byzantine domination and with the emigration of many religious in the period of disputes over iconoclasm in the 8th century and again with massive immigration following the military campaigns of Emperor Basil I which continued also in the following centuries. The numerous villages had Greek culture and language and practiced the Greek Orthodox religion.

Starting from the Norman conquest (starting from the 11th century) and even more with the successive Swabian, Angevin, Aragonese and Spanish





dominations, the clergy and Catholic monks supplanted the Orthodox. Even the Greek language was gradually abandoned and in the eighteenth century it was still spoken only in thirteen villages. After the Second World War, both due to the phenomenon of emigration and to the spread of radio and television media, the number of speakers still decreased.

Starting from the nineties, a process of cooperation takes place between the Hellenophone-speaking municipalities mentioned above to enhance and promote grike culture and traditions. Pursuant to Article 25 of Law No. 142 of 8 June 1990, the Union of Municipalities of Grecìa Salentina was officially established. In 1996, after a series of attempts, the 9 Municipalities concerned (with the collaboration of the Province of Lecce) decided to formalize a coordination plan for their interventions to give greater effectiveness and unity to their administrative work, thus giving life to the Union of the Municipalities of Salento Grecìa. The Union's goal was and is to promote knowledge of the Greek area of Salento and to safeguard the culture and language that were being lost over time, also implementing the associated management of tourist functions and services.

Salento, land between the two seas, land of conquest, land of conquest is a peninsula of centuries-old olive trees, infinite sea that the wind moves to the rhythm of melancholy. Snakes of dry-stone walls seem to crawl on the boiling greenhouses that break the monotony of the territory. Smell of freshly harvested gold pinches the sense of smell creating Mediterranean suggestions. And then, sea, sand, overhangs and verticalizes that penetrate the transparent blue of the water and seem to want to reach the underworld. Grecia Salentina is, together, an island of millenary words of Hellenic memory and a people of poetry and starlings. East and West at the same time, united by the faces and wrinkles of the farmers, the heart and soul of our memories. Faces of saints bless with a Byzantine hand in the cold and wet crypts of Greek papedas intent on smelling the medicinal poppy plant, a remedy for all evil if used with thrifty wisdom, ecstasy of the senses in the hands of the immature novice. Backs bent on patient codes and serene monastic culture. Calogeri intent on copying the ancient knowledge of man miraculously escaped the uncultivated and barbarian.

The municipalities that survived the cultural erosion of the time are 9. Last part of Greek origin which in the Middle Ages included a much larger portion of Salento. Calimera, Castrignano dei Greci, Corigliano d'Otranto, Martano, Martignano, Melpignano, Soleto, Sternatia and Zollino, Carpignano and Cutrofiano represent the residual Greek nature of this part of Italy. The contacts and migrations of populations of Aegean origin in Salento are already attested in the Mycenaean period and have continued throughout the classical age. The Greek language (as Salento Greek is called) is however probably, deriving from the Byzantine colonization of southern Italy starting from the 6th century AD.

After the definitive abandonment of the Eastern emperors of Terra d'Otranto, Eastern culture also survived with the new rulers such as, for example: Normans, Swabians, Angevins, Aragonese. This testifies how deeply rooted this culture was in the people.





In the 16th century, the Council of Trent strongly opposed any form of culture that departed from the Latin one. Very hard times began for the Salento Greek-Catholics who within a century abandoned the Eastern religion to follow the Western religion. Still in the eighteenth century, however, there are testimonies of baptisms and weddings in the Greek way.

From this moment on, even the language will progressively undergo a constant but unstoppable degradation even if, at the beginning of the 1900s, almost all the citizens of Grecia spoke in Greek, almost completely ignoring the Latin dialect and especially Italian. Compulsory education gave the final blow to the language. The children who spoke Greek at school were punished or even beaten because the teachers considered it the language of the poorest and therefore had to be forgotten. Today, still a good percentage of people express themselves in grico, even if young people no longer know it.

## The Local Action Group Zagorje - Sutla

LAG Zagorje - Sutla is an area of rich cultural, historical, and natural heritage. In the LAG area, cultural monuments are categorized as secular cultural monuments, sacral cultural monuments, and archeological sites (registered with the Ministry of Culture in Zagreb) and tangible and intangible cultural property. The most recognizable form of cultural heritage in the LAG area are castles and sacral objects. The Veliki Tabor court, the Franciscan monastery, and the Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Klanjec and the Staro Selo Museum in Kumrovec are tourist-valorized and promoted.

Various objects from different historical periods represent significant artifacts, some of which, besides their aesthetic value, still have useful value, such as the organ, the sacral inventory of many churches, sarcophagi, curtains, and other.

Besides the tangible heritage, the LAG area is also rich in intangible heritage such as legends, narratives, poetry, folk expressions, traditional cuisine, etc., (For example, The Legend of Veronica Desinićka).

The cultural and historical heritage shows that in the LAG area, various types of crafts such as masons, butchers, tailors, locksmiths, joiners, potters, barrels, furriers, and jewelers were represented. The population gathers in different social and cultural organizations intending to preserve local traditions.

During the archaeological supervision of the works on the chapels of St. Mary Magdalene above Krapinske Toplice, fragments of ceramic utensils found, part of a ceramic weight or tableware, parts of a home and stone tool-hoe. Archaeological findings indicate the existence of a high-altitude settlement and are dated to prehistoric times, that is, to the late Bronze Age (1200 - 800 BC). Also, archeological findings from prehistoric and ancient times speak of the millennial continuity of life in the Sutla Valley area. In ancient times, a road passed by the Sutla River, which retained its importance until the Middle Ages. The oldest place names from the municipality are Graca and Radakovo.





Many towns and municipalities in the LAG area were built as a suburb of forts dating from the 12th to the 14th centuries.

The LAG area preserves significant spiritual and memorial heritage related to the lives and activities of historical figures. Numerous personalities from this area have contributed to Croatian culture, art, and science. Their legacy is preserved, and there are marked monuments in their hometowns that interpret and promote their heritage. Some of them are Janko Leskovar (writer), Ivan Broz (linguist and creator of the first Croatian dictionary with F. Iveković), Franjo Iveković (philologist, Zagreb canon), Oton Iveković (painter), Cyril Metod Iveković (architect and archeologist), Josip Canić (musicologist and musician), Antun Augustinčić (sculptor), Kvirin Broz (beekeeper), Josip Broz Tito (statesman), Antun Mihanović (writer) and many others.

The cultural and historical features of the LAG have a distinct artistic, architectural, and ethnological value, but their tourist and creative potential has not yet been sufficiently exploited.

Special forms of tourism are developed in the LAG area. Traditional tourism (health, wellness, and spa tourism) is already being promoted, while recreational, gastronomic, and cultural forms of tourism are just beginning to develop.

Numerous galleries, cultural centers, and concert halls complement LAG's cultural infrastructure.

The City of Zabok is the urban cultural center of LAG. Cultural events are primarily organized by the Open University, the City Library, educational institutions, and numerous associations. With the reconstruction of the city's cinema hall in 2009, this space became a Multimedia Center with an auditorium with 234 seats and a stage. Multimedia Center gave the city the space to present the results of numerous associations, as well as to hold cinemas and theater performances. The hall is equipped with standard and digital cinema equipment, including a 3D projector, and it is the only operating cinema in the LAG area. The Open University manages the Multimedia Center as well as the Great Gallery of the City of Zabok, which hosts exhibitions of renowned artists, lectures, meetings, music, and other programs. The implementation of the most significant cultural infrastructure project in LAG is Regenerator will start in 2021.

Many active associations take part in the abundant cultural and artistic life of the LAG, and numerous cultural events are held, mainly related to the revival of old crafts, agriculture, and folk customs (Grape Harvesting Festival, Pumpkin Strudel Festival, Eco Ethno Festival, My grandmother's treasure, etc.)

Centuries-old cultural heritage is visible in different cities and municipalities of LAG. For example, we have a school monument in Klanjac, which states the existence of a private school around 1830, and in the same town, the first public school was opened in the Franciscan monastery in 1841.

The most important natural resources are thermal springs and drinking water resources, for which it is still necessary to plan and implement protection measures. Thermal springs are used for therapeutic and tourist-





recreational purposes. Along with the cultural and natural heritage is one of the significant features of the county. The relatively preserved natural and cultivated landscape should be protected as an exceptional spatial potential and, with its natural and cultural heritage, better used for tourism development.

Wine is a traditional product of Croatian Zagorje and thus of the LAG area. There are several autochthonous wine varieties that we find in the LAG area. Studies have shown that Old Krapina Belina is the parent of more than seventy varieties, and together with the Pinot variety is one of the parents of the Chardonnay variety. There is also Cesargradski Sokol, an ancient grape variety preserved thanks to a Franciscan monastery. Further investment in research and production is needed for the wine varieties to be fully revived and branded.

## **Ieper Municipality**

Despite the devastation of Ypres by the end of 1918 many of the famous historic buildings in the reconstructed town were built as a close likeness to their original architecture. There are sights to see of First World War interest in Ypres, some of which are buildings of special historical significance which were destroyed by the war, and which were rebuilt as a result of it.

City of Piece: Ypres is known as "The city of Piece". It has always displayed a courageous attitude and shown a great deal of resilience throughout its rich history. After Pope John Paul II went to Ypres to pray for peace in the world under the Menin Gate on May 17, 1985, the city gained its status as a true city of peace. An International Peace Prize is awarded every three years to someone who has made a name for themselves in the service of world peace. Together with the Japanese city of Hiroshima, Ypres is also spearheading the "Mayors for Peace" world movement, which has been working for the total elimination of nuclear weapons around the world since 1982. As a City of Peace, Ypres maintains a link with its wartime legacy, recalling and preserving the memory of the many war victims. For example, since 1928 an impressive ceremony has been held every evening at 8 pm under the Menin Gate. The Last Post Association has set itself the goal of keeping this tradition alive forever. Meanwhile, The Last Post has been sounded more than 31,000 times.

City of cats: The cat has become an object of worship in Ypres. Every three years, on the second Sunday in May, a cat statue is taken to the streets of the city during the cat's parade.

Medieval city: Ypres enjoyed an enviable reputation during the Middle Ages. With a population of 40,000 in 1260, ypres was acknowledged as a powerful world-class city.

#### **Marvao Municipality**

Castelo and the imposing walls are imposing monuments in the town, but Marvão has more to offer, such as the 13th / 14th century Mother Church - former Santa Maria Church (now Municipal Museum), the Churches of





Santiago and Espírito Santo, the Calvary Chapel, the Convent of Our Lady, the old Town Hall building, the Manueline Cross or the Pillory. Located in the Serra de São Mamede Natural Park, from the top of Marvão has amazing views over the whole surrounding area, from the Torre de Menagem.

## **Bolyarovo Municipality**

Municipality of Bolyarovo has cultural, historical, and natural heritage. On the territory of the municipality there are at least three significant sites classified as cultural monuments of national importance - House-Museum of the national hero Stefan Karadzha, Archaeological excavations of the fortress, which served as the residence of bishops from Byzantine time-in XI and XII centuries. The fortress has an area of 1100 square meters and was demolished during the Third Crusade at the end of the XII century. Many church buildings have their architectural artistic meaning.

Besides the tangible heritage, Municipality of Bolyarovo is also rich in intangible heritage such as legends, narratives, preserved traditions, folk songs, and dances.

There are six Community centers in Bolyarovo Municipality. The community center is a typical Bulgarian public institution, which performs educational and cultural functions. Typically, the community centers consist of a library and an interest club where various activities are developed by amateur like folk dances and songs.

The different settlements organize meetings and events, but the most popular festival is the National folklore festival "Willow pipe". It is a Festival of competitive nature for children performing folklore-songs, dances, and traditions. It is organized by the municipality of Bolyarovo in the town of Bolyarovo every first Saturday of June.

In the area of Municipality of Bolyarovo there is a significant source of mineral water which is not used properly.

One civil servant is responsible for cultural activity and tourism.

Cooperation with other institutions is based on an agreement between three Municipalities (one of them is Municipality of Bolyarovo), University of Library and Information technologies and Yambol Historical Museum. The main aim of the agreement: Research and preservation of local identity and cultural and historical heritage is achieved by formation and functioning of an International Summer Southeast University.

The municipality of Bolyarovo has resources for the development of various forms of tourism. But they are not yet fully exploited.

#### **Berovo Municipality**

The House of Culture "Dimitar Berovski" is the only institution of the kind in the Municipality of Berovo and is the center and the main moving force of all the cultural and entertainment events in the municipality. In the frames of the House of Culture work a library, a museum, and a dilapidated cinema. With the Law on decentralization the House of Culture, including the library, are under the competence of the local authorities. The House of





Culture is not rationally exploited and adapted to the needs of the citizens, especially the library that should be in the role of a citizens' cultural center. The total book fund is 28.839 books, and the modernization of the library is one of the municipal priorities. On the territory of the Municipality of Berovo there are more sporting capacities: town football stadium, handball and basketball playgrounds, recreation parks, tennis court, as well as recreation terrains that are relatively preserved, but time is damaging them every year. Organized sport is not very developed on municipal level due to lack of interest and financial support. To revive the indoors team sports, beside the gym, it will also be necessary to provide and organize financial support and human resources. There are only two organized clubs. They are Football Club "Males" and Canoeing Club" Jovan Drakalski".

In the municipality of Berovo there is one public radio station, which is currently being transformed, and two private commercial stations. The Macedonian Television (national TV) has a local reporter, while the main events are covered by regional reporters of other national stations and newspapers. Information on local events, commercial and social events is not enough present.

## **Dagda Municipality**

In order to promote the participation of the residents of Dagda County in improving publicly accessible facilities, the local government has organized a project competition called "Company with Soul" for the fourth year. A lot of LEADER projects were established for ensuring the attractiveness of Dagda's municipality cultural events. Some of them: Setting up an outdoor class in Dagda, diversifying public activities for the local population, Arranging the hospital "Dagda" area for accessibility, quality and reach of services by creating a car parking place, Construction of the Capella for accessibility, quality and reach of ritual services in the village of Andzeli, deployment of open-air training devices in the city of Dagda for the diversification of public activities for local people, purchase of floorball equipment for diversification of public activities in the county of Dagda, purchase of open-air cinema equipment for the diversification of public activities and the development of professional activities, promotion of Latgale's cultural and historical heritage and diversification of public activities by purchasing old Latgale costumes, making popular outfits by promoting public involvement in cultural development initiatives, purchase of Latvian folk outfits for the diversification of public activities for local residents, arranging the site of the Dagda People's House for service access, quality.

\* Konstantin Raudive was a philosopher, writer, parapsychologist. After researching possible life after death, he developed his own method of recording the voices of dead people using the "electronic voices" phenomenon. Konstantin Raudive is author of several philosophical essays and a wide range of prose works. His works reveal the concept of Raudive's phi-





losophy, the search for the meaning of life, and the critique of antihumanism. He is one of the most remarkable reflectors and promoters of Spanish culture in Latvia in the 1930s, he has translated into Latvian Don Juan Quixote, Novel of the Sample, Miguel de Unamuno's remarkable novel "The Mist" and other literary works.

- \* Traditional fests: one of them Meteni or Metenis is an ancient Latvian spring waiting holiday, that ends on Ash Wednesday, which is followed by Lent. Meteni is about people eating and drinking as much as they wanted. As with every winter holiday, kekatas were traveling the country and paid visits to people. There is a belief that the longer Meteni is celebrated, the better the harvest is expected following summer
- \*Every year on June 23 village inhabitants gather around large bonfire to celebrate the traditional Latvian holiday Ligo (Midsummer). Midsummer's Eve is the most celebrated Latvian holiday. This is the only wide celebration that still retains ancient Latvian traditions
- \* Museum of ethnography in Andrupene village (Latgale's cultural and historical heritage).
- \* Kroma kolna Brotherhood (Set up a medieval cultural education center).
- \* Documentation of the May services at the roadside crossings in the county of Dagda(the services of May in the open nature at the roadside and village crossings are one of the most vivid manifestations of folk poetry in Latgale, while the revelation of singing pleasure, a component of Latgale's spring sound landscape, and one of the musical symbols of the Latgale affiliation, it is important to maintain this unique tradition of Latgale).

## 1.4. SWOT analysis focused on cultural and historic heritage

## **Strengths**

#### **Vimianzo Municipality**

- 1. Great wealth and heritage diversity (archaeological, ethnographic, architectural, intangible, etc.). Important heritage elements belong to municipal property (Pedra Cuberta dolmen, Casota de Freáns dolmen, Castro das Barreiras, An Agra mill, Cruzeiro dos Santos) or are managed by the municipality (Vimianzo castle, Batanes and O Mosquetín mills, petroglyphs of Boallo).
- 2. Organized artisan groups.
- 3. Implementation of numerous cultural activities to promote heritage.
- **4.** Financial support from the Provincial Government for the management of the Vimianzo and Batanes de Mosquetín castles and hiring of staff for heritage management.
- **5**. Bet for the Cultural Tourism in Vimianzo and Coast of Death.
- **6**. Implementation of the consolidated and reference celebrations (festivals);
- 7. Geographical location of Vimianzo in the center of Coast of Death. Union of Municipalities of Grecia Salentina





- 1. Common cultural identity of the whole area of Salento Grecia;
- 2. Rich religious, cultural and artistic-musical heritage;
- **3**. Stable and long-lasting cultural events.

## The Local Action Group Zagorje - Sutla

- 1. A wealth of thermal springs.
- 2. Rich cultural heritage.
- **3.** Established cultural events.
- **4.** Relatively preserved natural and cultivated landscape.

## **Ieper Municipality**

- 1. Rich historical heritage related to World War I.
- 2. Integrated touristic offer related to the World War I.
- 3. Natural heritage.
- **4.** Active youth population.

## Marvao Municipality

- 1. Tourist potential supported by material and immaterial heritage, architectural and landscape, gastronomy, handicraft, endogenous products and events.
- 2. Close to the border with Spain.

## **Bolyarovo Municipality**

- **1.** Cultural and historical heritage and natural resource potential, creating prerequisites for the development of tourist activity.
- 2. Preserved natural environment.
- **3.** Proximity of the municipal center to the largest port in the country/port of Bourgas/and to a border crossing point with Republic of Turkey.

## **Berovo Municipality**

- 1. Rich cultural heritage.
- **2.** Clean air, with high concentrate of oxygen.
- 3. Rich with forest and plants.
- **4.** Established cultural events.
- **5.** Touristic place with huge number of visitors.
- 6. Berovo lake.

## **Dagda Municipality**

- 1. Undamaged, minor-transformed nature and landscape.
- 2. Natural resources and diversity in all seasons.
- **3.** An ordered environment.
- **4.** Low natural pollution.
- **5.** Many lakes.
- **6.** National identity, Latgalicity;
- 7. Cultural and historical heritage and traditions.
- **8.** Developed culture houses and libraries in the city and parishes.
- **9.** Public Internet access points in rural libraries.
- 10. Museums, memorial rooms.
- 11. Local government support for culture, education, and sport.
- **12.** Folklore clusters.
- 13. Friendly, educated and working people.
- 14. Demand for cultural events.
- **15.** Citizens' desire to engage in creative processes.





	o European Chien
	16. Cultural professionals; municipal leaders.
	17. Interesting, Latgale cultural events in each parish (Jani, Anna Day).
	<b>18.</b> Tourism facilities.
	<b>19.</b> Developing a strategy for the development of RNP tourism.
	<b>20.</b> As part of the EAFRD project, the reconstruction of the Jaundomes
	manor is being carried out, the exposure "Water" is being constructed.
	21. Under the EAFRD project, the "Forest Exposure Hall" is established in
	parish of Kepova.
Weaknesses	Vimianzo Municipality
	1. In the face of the great patrimonial wealth, there is a need of more re-
	sources.
	2. Lack of marked and approved hiking trail.
	3. Private heritage elements which can't be managed by the Municipality
	(examples: Country House of Trasariz and Country House of Trasouteiro);
	4. Necesity to improve the access to resources (car parks, tracks, trails, ac-
	cessibility, geolocation, signage).
	Union of Municipalities of Grecia Salentina
	1. Insufficient use of cultural and historical resources as generators of tour-
	ism.
	2. Lack of financial resources for the conservation and protection of the
	natural and historical-cultural heritage.
	<b>3.</b> Insufficient investment in modernizing and adapting social infrastructure
	structures. The Legal Action Charm Zagaria Sutla
	The Local Action Group Zagorje – Sutla
	1. Insufficient use of cultural and historical features as tourism generators.
	2. Lack of financial resources for the preservation and protection of the
	natural and cultural-historical heritage.
	3. Insufficient investment in modernization and retrofitting of social infra-
	structure facilities.
	Ieper Municipality
	1. Low diversification of the touristic offer.
	2. Touristic offer built especially around the First World War Centenary.
	3. Lack of diversification in the international touristic market (international
	tourists mainly come from UK and The Netherlands).
	Marvao Municipality
	1. Aged population, municipality with very dispersed localities and sites,
	low birth rate.
	<b>2.</b> Little industrial investment which results in little job offer.
	Bolyarovo Municipality
	1. Depopulation.
	<b>2.</b> The impact of numerous unfavorable factors that could have a retarding
	effect on the development of tourism.
	<b>3.</b> Lack of investment for development of modern tourism.
	Berovo Municipality
	1. Insufficient investment in development of local economy.
	2. Young people leaving the municipality for better future.
	2 No consensation for account and to find the

**3.** No opportunities for young people to find job.





	<b>4.</b> Insufficient use	of cultural	and historical	features as	tourism	generators.
--	----------------------------	-------------	----------------	-------------	---------	-------------

## **Dagda Municipality**

- **1.** Geographical location far from major cities and cultural centers.
- 2. Disordered Road infrastructure.
- **3.** Technical infrastructure in civil parish.
- **4.** Closed border, no direct transition to Belarus.
- **5.** Lack of active tourism supply (adventure routes, farming possibilities).
- **6.** Insufficient quality of tourism services, and delivery capacities in line with today's the request.
- **7.** Few interesting and exciting tourist routes and trails.
- **8.** The lack of booklets of prominent places, shrines, traditions, booklets.
- **9.** Insufficient provision for funding for the development of cultural and tourism areas.
- 10. Abandoned fields and houses.
- 11. Lack of catering services.
- **12.** The low purchasing power of the population and the high unemployment rate.

## **Opportunities**

## Vimianzo Municipality

- **1.** Situation triggered by Covid-19: natural, rural and unspool spaces are demanded; there is an increased potential for local tourism.
- 2. Tendency towards non-mass and experiential tourism.
- **3.** Interest rate of the local gastronomy.
- **4.** The patrimonial diversity allows to fit offers in different products (megalith, medieval, artisan, gastronomic, natural, architectural, etc.).

## Union of Municipalities of Grecia Salentina

- **1.** Development of special forms of tourism such as, for example, religious tourism, cultural tourism, and artistic-musical tourism.
- 2. Recognition of Grecia Salentina as a single brand.
- **3.** Additional development of social infrastructure combined with tourist and recreational facilities.

## The Local Action Group Zagorje - Sutla

- **1.** Development of special forms of tourism.
- 2. Recognition of Zagorje as a unique brand.
- **3.** Additional development of social infrastructure combined with tourist and recreational facilities.

## **Ieper Municipality**

- **1**. The history related to World War I attracts a high number of tourists every year.
- **2**. Cycling is part of Ypres touristic offer. Ypres will be the starting point for the Ghent-Welgem cycling events for six years, bringing a lot of opportunities to the city.
- **3**. A high number of resources was invested in "Ypres Museum" to diversify the touristic offer and to give visibility to every aspect of Ypres cultural heritage.

## **Marvao Municipality**

**1.** Differentiating events (International Film and Music Festivals, Al Mossassa, Ammaia Festum, Chestnut Fair).





## **Bolyarovo Municipality**

- **1.** Optimal use of the available resources for the development of the territory.
- 2. Creating opportunities for successful territorial cooperation initiatives.
- **3.** Development of special forms of tourism.

## **Berovo Municipality**

- 1. Development of local economy.
- 2. Better infrastructures for tourist.
- **3.** Open municipality for young people.
- **4.** More restaurant and hotels for visitors.

## **Dagda Municipality**

- **1.** Building natural paths IN EASIAL areas and other areas of beautiful nature.
- **2.** Creating tourism routes (identifying and arranging tourism places, development and creation of tourism infrastructure, promoting unconventional tourism through modern technologies, development of active tourism during the winter period);
- **3.** Raising funds for projects from EU funds, etc.
- **4.** Use of Latgale chlorite in the tourism sector.
- **5.** Development of agricultural production.
- **6.** Development of cultural activities.
- **7.** Identification and appreciation of the values of municipality culture and tourism (historical evidence, legends).
- **8.** Encouraging local young people to return to the county.
- **9.** The preservation of existing educational establishments in all parishes and cities.
- **10.** Support for existing frameworks and small entrepreneurs by helping to project development and implementation.

#### **Threats**

## Vimianzo Municipality

- **1.** Situation triggered by Covid-19: potential tourist demand, the reduction of number of travelers, reduction of the purchasing power of the population.
- 2. Peripheral geographical situation.
- **3.** Ageing and decreasing of population.
- **4.** Bureaucratic problem related to heritage conservation for individuals and public administration, related to authorizations, requirements, and high costs.
- **5.** Excessive orientation to cultural heritage tourism, decoupling it from its use by the local population.

## Union of Municipalities of Grecia Salentina

- **1.** Accentuated demographic decline and depopulation involving all the Municipalities belonging to the Union of Municipalities of Grecia Salentina;
- **2.** Lack of a common approach to the use of religious, cultural and artistic-musical heritage.
- **3.** Poor financial capacity of the Union of Municipalities of Grecia Salentina and of the individual member municipalities.





## The Local Action Group Zagorje – Sutla

- **1.** Demographic challenges population decline.
- **2.** The lack of a common approach to the use of cultural and historical heritage.
- **3.** Poor financial capacity of the area.

## **Ieper Municipality**

- **1.** A decrease in the interest towards the First World War after its centenary.
- **2.** A decrease in tourism due to Covid-19 emergency.

## **Marvao Municipality**

**1.** Depopulation, departure of young people from the municipality, with advanced level of studies.

## **Bolyarovo Municipality**

- **1.** The peripheral position of the municipality will have a more significant impact.
- **2.** Increasing the negative impact of the ongoing demographic processes and the gradual depopulation of the small settlements.
- **3.** Lack of comprehensive strategy and understanding of the need to develop sustainable tourism.

## **Berovo Municipality**

- 1. Demographic challenges population decline.
- **2.** Closed factories, no opportunity for workers.
- **3.** No free space for visitors, full capacities of hotels and restaurants.
- **4**. Air pollution.

## **Dagda Municipality**

- **1.** Shrinking population (including leaving abroad and metropolitan areas) and rural extinction.
- **2.** Management of land purchased by citizens of other countries by polluting the environment.
- **3.** Lack of financial resources for organizing and managing events.
- **4.** Low economic activity and economic crisis.
- **5.** Increasing population intolerance.
- **6.** Population discontent with the economic situation.





## PART 2. Strategic planning

Information on the people involved in the preparation of part 2 Strategic planning Spain -55 respondents and 4 experts

Italy -31 respondents and 5 experts

Croatia – 39 respondents and 5 experts

Belgium- 7 respondents and 5 experts

**Portugal** – 32 respondents and 3 experts

**Bulgaria** – 31 respondents and 5 experts

North Macedonia – 30 respondents and 5 experts

**Latvia** – 30 respondents and 5 experts

# **2.1.** Vision of the smart historic villages

### **Municipality Vimianzo**

Smart historical villages should be an example of reducing the differences between towns and cities by maintaining its value. They must promote culture, tradition and historical heritage, but also combine it with innovation. In addition, villages should have access to the Internet and technological resources to constantly improve the standard of living of their inhabitants and fight for rural development.

# The Unione dei Comuni della Grecia Salentina (Union of Municipalities of Grecia Salentina)

Smart historical villages should be capable of building a long-term vision; to focus on the enhancement of culture, on the recovery and promotion of both material and intangible and natural heritage and, therefore, be characterized by a strong propensity for sustainable tourist attraction; to promote co-creative innovation practices of social services in rural areas and, therefore, be characterized by a strong drive towards social innovation; promoting and fostering the development of young people's soft skills and, therefore, fostering innovation and proposals for local development solutions for the new generations.

The Local Action Group Zagorje - Sutla (LAG Zagorje - Sutla) Smart historic villages are those in which the community learns and nurture its natural, historical, and cultural heritage giving it a modern look and is using available technology to promote and preserve that heritage. Smart historic villages are authentic, accessible, have developed infrastructure (roads, internet, lighting, etc.), essential services (schools, healthcare, playground), and produce healthy food.

## ALDA – European Association for Local Democracy

A city that takes different aspects and areas into account, that allows





participation, support, and development and that is open to everyone.

## **Intermunicipal Community of Alto Alentejo (CIMAA)**

Smart historic villages have an environmental sustainability, with defense of built heritage and digital transition, with implemented new technologies without colliding with historical preservation. They are smart, promote sustainable development and have something to say to the visitors.

## **Bolyarovo Municipality**

Smart historic villages are an attractive tourist destination that touches with history, way of life, culture and nature. They are a combination of traditional way of life and culture with modern technologies with an active local community that knows its history, culture and intangible heritage and effectively develops tourism products / natural, culinary, historical / and respectively the local economy.

## **Berovo Municipality**

The development of smart villages has included computerization of agriculture, the transition to a circular economy, digitalization, such as the introduction of broadband internet and the use of renewable energy, to make more attractive to live in. Smart, self–sustaining, green, affordable, well-developed infrastructure, well-developed attractions: traditional and in line with natural resources, well-promoted in the EU.

## **Dagda municipality**

Smart historic villages are settlements that, based on their existing strengths, values and capabilities, develops and solves problems, actively uses original solutions, digital communication technologies, innovation and better application of knowledge.

#### 2.2. Strategic planning

#### 2.2.1 Heritage

#### Goals:

- To protect and enhance the cultural heritage through multiple actions involving its care and promotion.
- Modernizing cultural heritage and cultural events, as this is a way to reach out to all generations.

#### Action 1

Rebuilding and care of cultural heritage.

#### **Action 2**

To promote training actions on local cultural heritage

#### Action 3

Increase in investments aimed at enhancing cultural heritage

#### Action 4

Modernization of cultural heritage and cultural events, supporting those types of cultural events

#### 2.2.2 Citizens

#### **Goals:**





- Promoting citizen participation and awareness of cultural heritage
- To make citizens aware of the opportunities offered by cultural heritage, in particular on employment.
- Enable the population to access services and reduce poverty by facilitating their digitalization and vocational training.

#### Action 1

To promote citizen participation in projects around cultural heritage

#### Action 2

Promotion of local cultural heritage in schools

#### Action 3

Planned management of public spaces of tangible cultural heritage and development of entrepreneurship of young people in the fields of culture, traditional crafts, and creative industries

#### Action 4

Increase in public aid for self-employment in the field of cultural heritage management

#### Action 5

Support and co-finance of private initiatives for development of cultural heritage

#### Action 6

Digitalization so people don't have to travel to other places to work

#### Action 7

Improve access to services

#### **Action 8**

Poverty reduction

#### Action 9

Trained population for work in hotels and tourist branches

## 2.2.3 Competitiveness

#### Goals:

- Relate heritage with de local trade, including tourism businesses, with the aim of enhancing the development of both through a strategy to achieve sustainable economic and social development.
- To turn these villages into a tourist attraction with a focus on the traditional, giving the villages a standard for housing from which they can profit through the adhesion of their houses and to encourage the development of cultural centres.

#### Action 1

Creation of seminars or specific campaigns with aim to relate the heritage with the gastronomy or the local trade

#### Action 2

Develop a standard for housing, defining and certifying houses and buildings adhering to a "traditional" model

#### **Action 3**

Elaboration and implementation of a medium-long term cultural heritage development strategy to achieve sustainable economic and social development

#### Action 4

Greater integration and collaboration between cultural and creative industries and tourism businesses

## **Action 5**





Development of cultural centers and strengthening of the ability to conceive and carry out events related to intangible cultural heritage

## 2.2.4 Tourism management and governance

#### Goals:

- Encourage and assist in the proper conservation of tangible heritage.
- Create jobs related to heritage management, hire more professionals and improve the training of existing ones.
- Expand the tourist offer related to culture and cultural heritage, improving its time planning, logistics and seasonal adjustment.

#### Action 1

To encourage the conservation of tangible heritage, such as real estate, promoting and facilitating their use and correct use

#### Action 2

Creation of direct or indirect employment for the management of heritage assets to give life and maintain these resources

#### Action 3

To hire the cultural managers, socio-cultural animators, tourist guides, archaeologists, historians, sociologists, ethnographers; professionalization for research, conservation

#### **Action 4**

Increase the training of personnel and professionals working in the field of cultural heritage management

#### **Action 5**

Greater cooperation between universities and research centers and operators in the sector related to the management and enhancement of cultural heritage

#### Action 6

Greater seasonal adjustment of the tourist offer connected to cultural heritage

#### Action 7

Greater use of technologies and modernization of tools for enhancing and managing cultural heritage and cultural events

## **Action 8**

Active merging of tourism with cultural heritage and logistic support and such partnerships

#### Action 9

Merging culture with cultural heritage -creating the itineraries which would be easily accessible in both physical and digital form, creating real-life marked tracks that should connect different localities with defined schedule

## 2.2.5 Promotion and commercialization

#### Goals:

- Promote tourism related to cultural heritage and rural development through the creation of an identity or brand.
- Promote cultural assets (music, languages, etc.) as well as their most significant locations.
- Raise investor awareness of the benefits of heritage and empower traditional entrepreneurs.

## Action 1

Promotional campaigns to raise awareness among businessman about the opportunities of heritage

#### **Action 2**





Empowerment of the traditional artisan or gastronomic products and their promotional image

#### **Action 3**

Promotion of natural heritage and local legends, language, music, and regional identity.

#### **Action 4**

Dissemination through publications, symposiums, conferences

#### Action 5

Develop an identity, a brand that can be promoted

## **Action 6**

Greater promotion of religious tourism

#### Action 7

Greater promotion of health tourism linked to cultural heritage assets

#### **Action 8**

Strengthening of the territorial brand and the promotion of rural locations

## **Action 9**

Promotion of rural development in general

## 2.2.6 Authorities

#### Goals:

- Strengthen co-ordination and collaboration between municipalities and increase the exchange of good practices.
- Raising more funds for the development of cultural heritage, including public and private investment.
- Encouraging interest in living in the village.
- Promote the autonomy of municipalities and improve their conditions of access to all their locations.

### **Action 1**

Strengthen coordination among local municipalities

#### **Action 2**

Strengthen capacity of "intermodal" transportation for people - easier connection of the more remote locations

#### Action 3

Strengthen administrative collaboration between municipalities and other local authorities

#### Action 4

Greater ability to attract international investors interested in investing capital in the enhancement, promotion, and management of cultural heritage

## **Action 5**

Increase the exchange of good practices at transnational and local level

#### Action 6

Increase in the ability to attract European funding dedicated to the sector of culture, goods, and cultural heritage

#### Action 7

Separating all the necessary funds required for development of cultural heritage that forms the property of local/regional government

#### **Action 8**

Opening bids for collecting the best ideas for development of cultural heritage in local/regional com-





## munity

## **Action 9**

Financial help, subventions that will be useful for strategic approach to local development, based on cultural and natural heritage. Subventions of the activities that form the additional content in terms of cultural heritage

#### Action 10

Public investment on the quality of the inhabitants of the area

## **Action 11**

Invest in all type of housing, not only the historical ones so it will enhance the possibility of people wanting to live in the village

## **Action 12**

Creating conditions for independence of small settlements/ municipalities and preserving their autonomy





















The European Commission support to produce this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.