



Załącznik do Uchwały Nr 239/4743/20
Zarządu Województwa Podkarpackiego
w Rzeszowie
z dnia 23 grudnia 2020r.

“Memorandum of Understanding”

Agreement for supporting local working groups for Intangible Cultural Heritage valorization

signed between

ARTISTIC Project Partner: Rzeszow Regional Development Agency

and

Local actor No. 1: Association Municipal Functional Area - MOF Przeworsk-Jarosław

Local actor No. 2: Podkarpackie Voivodeship

Local actor No. 3: Voivodeship Culture Centre in Rzeszow

Local actor No. 4: The District Museum in Rzeszow

Local actor No. 5: Museum in Przeworsk Palace and Park Complex

Local actor No. 6: Rzeszow Culture Incubator "Estrada Rzeszowska"

Local actor No. 7: Association of the Carpathian Euroregion Poland

Local actor No. 8: Regional Center of Borderland Culture in Krosno

With the signing of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), the subjects mentioned above, hereinafter referred to as “the Sides”, in the framework of the Interreg Central Europe Programme, Project No. CE1152 “Valorization of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Assets for local sustainable development in CE Regions”, Acronym “ARTISTIC”, intend to express their interest in cooperating for the realization of the project strategies, and the implementation of actions necessary for set-up of local networks, and their promotion for the generation and implementation of new Intangible Cultural Heritage projects.



The Sides

recognizing the need for protecting and sustainably using natural and cultural heritage and resources;

recognizing that the heritage and resources also constitute valuable assets of central European regions and represent important location factors benefiting regional development;

recognizing the importance and benefits of improving connectivity and cooperation between Central Europe regions through the implementation of intelligent solutions;

have reached the following understanding:

Introduction

According to UNESCO (2015: 2), Intangible Cultural Heritage can contribute to sustainable development along each of its three dimensions (economic, social and environmental) and to the requirement of peace and security as fundamental prerequisites for sustainable development. It is widely recognized that Intangible Cultural Heritage is a driving force for economic development, comprising a diversity of productive activities, with monetary and nonmonetary value, strengthening local economies (UNESCO 2015: 9).

Nevertheless, many intangible cultural heritage initiatives are depending on public funding that is insufficient. Moreover, systematic approaches to the recognition, management and evaluation of new experiences in this field is also missing. The cultural operators and people that manage cultural projects lack financial resources and expertise. The ARTISTIC project aimed to improve cooperation between cultural operators, citizens and financial operators.

The project worked to support all these groups, valorize intangible cultural heritage and look for solutions on how to make local projects sustainable. To reach this objective, ARTISTIC developed a strategy with a toolset and services. The project created synergies from a content-related and financial point of view, particularly focusing on crowdfunding options. Partners trained 'cultural mediators' and established permanent local 'Intangible Cultural Heritage Desk Points' (ICH) to guarantee assistance to Intangible Cultural Heritage initiatives.

The project foresees the settlement at local level of Working Groups, to support Intangible Cultural Heritage project identification, generation and development, composed by citizens, associations, stakeholders, entrepreneurs and cultural operators, involved at different levels in several activities under the coordination of the local ICH Desk Points.

Article 1 - Aim

The Sides welcome the cooperation within the Local Working Group, and intend to establish stable and lasting relationships over time, and after the end of the ARTISTIC project.

The Sides express their commitment to activities aimed at:

- preservation, promotion, sustainable development and valorisation of the Intangible Cultural Heritage
- supporting the creation, development and financing of initiatives and projects in the field of Intangible Cultural Heritage
- creating favorable conditions and solutions for the preservation, development, promotion and support for financing the Intangible Cultural Heritage

in the Podkarpackie Voivodeship, among others by implementing the Local Action Plan (LAP) developed for each of the two local ICH Desk Points, helping the organizations and institutions representing the Local Working Group and its future members to achieve their statutory goals regarding Intangible Cultural Heritage.



Article 2 - Local Working Group organizational model

The Sides encourage direct cooperation, exchange and participation in the Local Working Group. Taking in consideration the possible contribute, the expertise and knowledge of each member the Group is composed by institution / organization public, private and civil society organizations connected regional development, culture, development of entrepreneurship and innovation development, nature protection, education, community development and local traditions.

The Local Working Group will be led and coordinated by the Rzeszow Regional Development Agency supported by Association Municipal Functional Area - MOF Przeworsk-Jarosław (as local ICH Desk Points in the region), which in the last 3 years have worked to strengthen the cooperation of the local institutional and organizational network.

Group members will contribute to the achievement of the Objective of the Memorandum of Understanding by appointing competent representatives of their institution for the implementation of specific activities set out in the Local Action Plan for each of the local ICH Desk Points. Each member will be represented by at least 1 permanent representative during Local Working Group meetings. The number of additional experts and specialists indicated by a member of the Local Working Group to contact in the implementation of specific activities is not limited. The key criteria here will be the knowledge, experience and competence of representatives of individual members of the Local Working Group.

Members of the Local Working Group will engage in mentoring, consulting, organizational, promotional and informational activities included in the Local Action Plan for each of the local ICH Desk Points depending on the scope of their activity in this field, experience and possibility of offering specialists in this subject area.

It was assumed that the Local Working Group will develop over time, expanding its composition with new members who can support the implementation of the assumed goal.

Local Working Group meetings will be held at least once every 3 months (once a quarter), starting from January 2021. The meetings will be chaired by Rzeszow Regional Development Agency. Decisions on the activities of the Local Working Group will be made by voting by its members by simple majority in the presence of at least half of the members of the Local Working Group. In disputes, the decisive vote will be for Rzeszow Regional Development Agency as a coordinator of the activities of the Local Working Group. Each member of the Local Working Group has 1 vote, regardless of the number of representatives representing him.

Article 3 - Local Working Group activities (LWG)

The Sides agree to be involved, each for the specific competence and availabilities, in the initiatives and activities carried on by the Local Working Group. Concrete proposals, actions and details will be discussed between the Sides on yearly basis.

The main activities of the Local Working Group include:

- Ensuring the continuity of operation and development of the Local Working Group;
- Conducting information and promotion activities in the region in cooperation with Local Working Group members;
- Support for local Intangible Cultural Heritage actors in searching for funding for Intangible Cultural Heritage projects / initiatives;
- Raising the knowledge and skills of local Intangible Cultural Heritage actors, in particular in the field of running their own business, preparing business plans, communication with the environment and investors, sources of Intangible Cultural Heritage financing, crowdfunding as a financing tool for the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
- Support for the exchange of knowledge and experience of Intangible Cultural Heritage actors;
- Development and implementation of a program supporting cooperation between cultural operators, Intangible Cultural Heritage creators, and local government units.



The detailed scope of activities of the Local Working Group results from the provisions of the Local Action Plans for the established ICH Desk Points, which constitute annexes to this document.

Article 4 - Local Action Plan (LAP)

The parties participated in the development and consultations on the provisions of the Local Action Plan for each ICH Desk Point and expressed their willingness to support its implementation. The Local Action Plan for each ICH Desk Point is an integral part of this Memorandum of Understanding (annexes to the agreement). The Local Action Plan is an operational instrument that defines the measures, structures and actions to be taken to valorize the ICH at the local level. The Local Action Plan was presented and discussed at two online meetings held on August 25, 2020 and August 28, 2020, and through numerous individual consultations with local stakeholders via email and online.

The Local Action Plan not only defines the current role of the Local Working Group, but also constitutes a kind of map outlining the directions of activities for the future, in which the parties to the agreement declare to participate.

Article 5 - Validity and effectiveness

The present Memorandum of Understanding will take effect upon the date of signing. It has a pure symbolic character, it will not create any legal or financial obligations under national or international law.

Signed in one original document in English.

Each Side / Party involved receives a copy of the document.

Annexes:

- Local Action Plan for the local ICH Desk Point operating at the Rzeszow Regional Development Agency (partner no. PP9 of the ARTISTIC project);
- Local Action Plan for the local ICH Desk Point operating at the Association Municipal Functional Area - MOF Przeworsk-Jarosław.



Name of the organization:

Rzeszow Regional Development Agency

Stamp and signature

Date

Name of the organization:

Association Municipal Functional Area - MOF Przeworsk-Jarosław

Stamp and signature

Date

Name of the organization:

Podkarpackie Voivodeship

Stamp and signature

Date



Name of the organization:

Voivodeship Culture Centre in Rzeszow

Stamp and signature

Date

Name of the organization:

The District Museum in Rzeszow

Stamp and signature

Date

Name of the organization:

Museum in Przeworsk Palace and Park Complex

Stamp and signature

Date



Name of the organization:

Rzeszow Culture Incubator "Estrada Rzeszowska"

Stamp and signature

Date

Name of the organization:

Association of the Carpathian Euroregion Poland

Stamp and signature

Date

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Regional Center of Borderland Culture in Krosno

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Date