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PRO-Heritage

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Coordinator: Burghauptmannschaft Österreich

Partner:

1. Burghauptmannschaft Österreich, Austria
2. Planned new partner, United Kingdom
3. North of England Civic Trust, United Kingdom
4. narodny trust no, Slovakia
5. Secretaria Geral da Presidencia da Republica, Portugal
6. UBW Unternehmensberatung Wagenhofer GmbH, Austria
7. Asociacion Espanola de Gestores de Patrimonio Cultural, Spain
8. ECQA GmbH, Austria
9. International Software-Experts for Collaborative Networks I.S.C.N. GesmbH, Austria

Objectives:

1. Capacity and structural overview and evaluation of traditional competences and skills for energy efficient, built cultural heritage sites
2. Quality analysis of selected training provider for traditional built cultural heritage competences and skills for energy efficient, built cultural heritage sites
3. Harmonised training of traditional competences and skills for energy efficient, built cultural heritage sites
4. Best practices advices on traditional competences and skills for energy efficient cultural heritage sites

Key Outputs:

- Country report on certified and non-certified education for craftsmen in energy issues
- Best Practice reports “Energy efficient historic buildings”
- Report on study visits of training provider for energy efficiency and renewable energy for historic buildings
- Training concept and training material for craftsmen (traditional handcrafts) to get a certificate as Energy Expert for Heritage Asset
- Certification and validation process for craftsmen (traditional handcrafts) as Energy Expert for Heritage Asset
- Operational Readiness of PRO-Heritage Online Portal
- PRO-Heritage Energy Expert Validation and Recognition Report and Certificate Report
- Business plan for PRO-Heritage staff exchange
- Report on produced video or other visual aids of “right” procedures
- Report on created guidelines / instruction of “right” procedures

Abstract:

According to the climate change and energy policy of the EU, each member state needed to identify and develop a series of energy efficient goals and regulations, of which buildings are a key element, in order to reach the set goals. However, Europe has numerous historic buildings, which need permanent maintenance and refurbishment in order to fulfil the requirements of sustainability and use.

When responsible bodies do spend money anyway, it seems logical and ecologically worthwhile to apply “soft” maintenance procedures, which save costs and also reduce energy consumption of historic buildings. Integrating these buildings into national climate change and energy policies seems therefore quite necessary and a challenge, as far as appropriate techniques and procedures are concerned, which can only be met through excellently trained craftsmen and apprentices of the crafts concerned.

PRO-Heritage partners aim to offer initial and permanent education for professionals and craftsmen providing traditional competences and skills for built heritage, based on Best Practice of partner organisations. Additionally, PRO-Heritage is going to establish a structure and environment for regular journeyman's travel in Europe, in order to further support the exchange of competences and skills across Europe.

Major needs addressed in PRO-Heritage are

- to protect traditional competences and skills for built Cultural Heritage relevant for energy efficiency and renewable energy
- the need to involve adequately educated and trained professionals and craftsmen in “soft” conservation, maintenance and ongoing care
- the need to certify those professionals and craftsmen in order to give them recognition of their competences and skills

Achieving better energy performance in historic buildings is a WIN-WIN situation for all – owners facing less energy costs, residents enjoying modern comfort at reasonable prices and society reducing energy consumption and CO₂ emission.

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