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PROTECTING CULTURAL HERITAGE
FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF DISASTERS

Protecting Cultural Heritage from the Consequences of Disasters

Outline for setting up the “National Meetings” and
the “National Report on the safeguard of cultural heritage in emergency management”.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Background

Protection of cultural heritage is a relatively new civil protection sector at European level, however some European countries have already developed useful experiences and advanced arrangements and others are very interested in initiating national discussions for the development of capacities in this field.

Starting from available experiences and existing capacities at European level, the project will initiate discussions among partner countries and other interested European countries and with the contribution of relevant international organisations in order to identify the key elements of a common European response methodology. A dedicated multinational capacity will be created, able to provide guidance to interested States for developing preparedness measures for the protection of cultural heritage during emergencies and to intervene globally, in case of international emergency, to support national response efforts of affected countries in this sector.

The first step to achieve the mentioned objective is the organization of **national meetings**, to be held by each partner country **not later than September**, with representatives of all significant institutions/organizations involved in the safeguard of cultural heritage in both phases of preparedness and response. Each partner country should create a “national working group” to be involved for the purposes of the project. According to the decisions agreed during the kick-off meeting, held in Rome in 18-19 March, the project will focus on both **preparedness and response phases** and it will concern **movable and unmovable cultural heritage**.

The conclusions of the national meetings should be reported by each partner country in a final document, the “National Report on the safeguard of cultural heritage in emergency management”, to be defined on the basis of the following outline and finalized before the end of September.

Scope of this outline

This outline has been prepared to support the consultative assessment process in relation to the development of the reports concerning the possible contribution to a common European methodology and the list of cultural heritage protection assets available for international deployment.

Its scope is to: i) allow general understanding of the organization/status of cultural heritage policy in relation to its protection and safeguard in the context of severe events in each of project partners' countries; ii) identify and address operational aspects specifically related to





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existing national resources/equipment dedicated to safeguarding cultural heritage, including good practices and lessons learned; iii) identify and exchange good practice developed at both European and International levels for possible integration into project partners' countries, so as to contribute to increasing response preparedness in the beneficiaries and promoting European innovative approaches in the field of civil protection at international level in the field of cultural heritage protection.

The analysis conducted on the information collected following this outline will contribute to creating the basis for the development of asset/teams for the protection and safeguard of cultural heritage.

Participatory approach

Achieving meaningful results through the assessment implies participatory approach to that beneficiaries' perspectives are duly taken into consideration in evaluating existing capacities and identifying measures to effectively respond to identified needs.

Addressing the outline as appropriate may require discussion with different groups/organizations, for example in relation to the conduction of cultural heritage rescue operations at national/local level. Representatives from such groups/organizations should therefore be invited to take part in the discussion as required.

Confidentiality of information

This outline aims to provide guidance for structured discussion with relevant representatives in the beneficiaries. All information collected and/or discussed in accordance with the outline will be considered strictly confidential and will not be disclosed or made publicly available. All elaborations based on the information collected through the check-list will be treated as internal working documentation of the implementing Consortium.

SETTING UP THE NATIONAL MEETINGS

WHAT:

Each Partner should organize at least 1 national meeting

WHEN:

June-September 2019

WHERE:

In the Partner's Country of origin, preferably in a central and well connected city

DURATION:





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1 working day



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WHO:

Each partner should invite representatives of all significant institutions/organizations involved in the safeguard of cultural heritage in both phases of preparedness and response, according to the respective national institutional framework and to the emergency procedures.

WHO (e.g.):

- Ministry/Department of culture / cultural heritage / antiquities / tourism...;
- Ministry/Department of civil protection / civil defense...;
- Ministry/Department of interior /foreign affairs;
- Fire Fighters Corps specifically dedicated to the safeguard of cultural heritage;
- Police Forces specifically dedicated to the safeguard of cultural heritage;
- Army Corps specifically dedicated to the safeguard of cultural heritage;
- Religious Institutions (owners or responsible for cultural heritage);
- Universities, Research Centers, professional orders specialized or with relevant experience in the safeguard of cultural heritage and Architecture and Restoration and conservation's higher study programmes;
- Volunteers Organizations specialized in the safeguard of cultural heritage;
- National and International organizations /associations / N.G.O.s dedicated to the safeguard of cultural heritage;
- Local, Regional institutions with significant experience in the safeguard of cultural heritage;
- Other concerned stakeholders with relevant experience in the safeguard of cultural heritage (i.e. Museum's directors, private actors/foundations/ art auctions).

HOW:

The meeting should be the opportunity to assess, at national level, the situation in terms of protecting and safeguarding cultural heritage in both phases of preparedness and response.

After the meeting, each partner should edit a «**National Report on the safeguard of cultural heritage in emergency management** », which should be organized on the basis of a prearranged outline, agreed in advance among all the partners.

A) INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

- A.1. According to your institutional framework, define your responsibility and the Authority in charge of safeguarding cultural heritage at National/Regional/Local level during large-scale emergencies;





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- A.2. List and describe all significant institutions/organizations involved in the safeguard of cultural heritage in both phases of preparedness (risk reduction, training) and response, according to your institutional framework;
- A.3. Existing regional/national legislation in both phases of preparedness (risk reduction, training) and response, on safeguarding and protecting cultural heritage, including in relation to safety and security issues;
- A.4. List and describe existent protocols/agreements, if any, regarding the safeguard of cultural heritage in prevention, preparedness and response phases among institutions, associations, religious entities, universities, volunteers organizations, NGOs dedicated to the safeguard of cultural heritage;
- A.5. Institution responsible for the elaboration of shared interinstitutional procedures for the protection of cultural heritage;
- A.6. Existing local/regional/national guidelines, including in relation to safety and security issues.

B) CULTURAL HERITAGE RELATED STAFF RESOURCES AND TEAMS

B.1 National/local level status and distribution of capacities/resources for cultural heritage rescue activities:

- Are there any specific national/local teams for protecting cultural heritage?
- Which authorities are responsible for the teams?
- How many teams/resources exist?
- How do teams look like? How are they structured/organized?
- What type and quantity of equipment do existing teams have?
- How many staff are trained on the respective equipment?
- Is appropriate personal protective equipment available?

B.2 Any existing prescribed guidelines, technical protocols or tactical handbooks or SOPs in case of deployment of teams;

B.3 Other resources that could be available or useful to deploy in the context of severe situations for national or international use (e.g. assessment experts, cultural heritage experts, rescue activities...).





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C) METHODOLOGY

Concerning the methodology, please describe the methodological process (principles, phases, evaluation), in terms of typology of cultural heritage, kind of risk and scalability at European/international level, used for managing large-scale emergencies in the field of cultural heritage:

- C.1. Operational Procedures, Vademecums, Handbooks, Guidelines and Standards for the emergency response related to movable and/or unmovable cultural heritage;
- C.2. Training standards: Syllabus and organizational structure used for training courses dedicated to actors involved in the emergency management of movable and/or unmovable cultural heritage;
- C.3. Existing supporting tools for the safeguard of cultural heritage: standard forms for damage assessment and for monitoring safeguard activities;
- C.4. Available statistics/data dashboard on activation of the protection of cultural heritage (per year/organization/main areas of activity);
- C.5. Technical guidelines and references;
- C.6. ICT applications and technologies used to collect, manage, represent and share data and information regarding cultural heritage assets (Database, inventories, mapping, web G.I.S....).

D) CIVIL PROTECTION EMERGENCY PLANNING FOR THE SAFEGUARD OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

- D.1. List and describe civil protection emergency plans, if any, for large-scale emergencies related to the safeguard of cultural heritage: State of the art, relevant Institutions involved, scenario, model of intervention, operative centers, strategic assets (warehouses, laboratories, storage places...).
- D.2. List and describe Resilience or Preparedness/Prevention plans, if any, ensuring/enhancing readiness for adequately handling emergencies related to the safeguard of cultural heritage.

E) TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT

E.1 Training In Cultural Heritage Rescue Operations

- Are there cultural heritage related training activities?
- How is training structured? (No of days, ratio between theory and practice, etc.);
- Are there minimum standards/requirements for participants in cultural heritage rescue operations?





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- Who provides training for actors involved in safeguarding cultural heritage at regional/national level? How is training financed?
- Are there any training centres and venues (incl. available simulation centres) that could be available for cultural heritage rescue activities;
- How is staff for national/international missions recruited?

F) GOOD PRACTICES / SIGNIFICANT EXPERIENCES IN THE SECTOR

F.1. Describe national or international experiences/activities/exercises/documents that can be proposed as useful good practices (2 or 3 cases).

G) CONCLUSIONS AND SHARING OF THE CONTENTS OF THE «NATIONAL REPORT ON THE SAFEGUARD OF CULTURAL HERITAGE IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT».

List all strong points (in terms of national tools and capacities) and weak points (in terms of national needs) to share with other partners country in view of the creation of a common response capacity for the safeguard of cultural heritage at European/international level.

