



Contracting Authority: European Commission

**Preparatory actions for preserving and restoring cultural
heritage in conflict areas
in the Western Balkans for the year 2010
Grant Application Form**

Budget line: 22.0209

Reference: EUROPEAID/131266 /C/ACT/MULTI

Title of the action:	<i>"Restore our past to build the future". Preparatory actions of participatory and intercultural requalification of civil war- damaged mosques and churches in FYRoM.</i>
Number and title of lot	N.A
Location(s) of the action:	<i>Country: Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) Region: Pelagonia and Polog Region; Locations: Municipalities of Tetovo and Bitola.</i>
Name of the applicant	COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE SUD SUD (CISS)
Nationality of the applicant ¹	Italian

¹ The statutes must make it possible to ascertain that the organisation was set up by an act governed by the national law of the country concerned. In this respect, any legal entity whose statutes have been established in another country cannot be considered an eligible local organisation.

EuropeAid ID ²	IT-2007-DOM-2711209457	
Ongoing contract/Legal Entity File Lumber (if available) ³	6000063459	
Legal status ⁴	Non profit making organisation	
Partner(s) ⁵	Name: Republic of Macedonia National Conservation Centre (NKC); EuropeAid ID: N.A.; Nationality: Macedonian; date of establishment and Legal status: 1948; Public Institution (under the Ministry of Culture)	
Estimated total eligible cost of the action (A)	Amount requested from the Contracting Authority (B)	% of estimated total eligible cost of action (B/Ax100)
EUR 320.000	EUR 288.000	% 90
Estimated taxes (C) ⁶ * if applicable	Estimated total accepted cost of the action (either A or, if applicable, A+C)	% of estimated total accepted cost of action (B/A+Cx100) * if applicable
[EUR/National currency]	[EUR/National currency]	%
Total duration of the action :	30 months	

Applicant's contact details for the purpose of this action	
Postal address:	Via Marconi 2/a 90141 Palermo (Italy)
Telephone number: (fixed and mobile) Country code + city code + number	+39.091.62.62.004 - +39.091.62.62.694
Fax number: Country code + city code + number	+39.091.34.70.48
Contact person for this action:	Ms. Margherita MANISCALCO
Contact person's email:	m.maniscalco@cissong.org
Address:	Via Marconi 2/a 90141 Palermo (Italy)
Website of the Organisation:	www.cissong.org

Any change in the addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers and in particular e-mail, must be notified in writing to the Contracting Authority. The Contracting Authority will not be held responsible in case it cannot contact an applicant.

² To be inserted if the organisation is registered in PADOR. This number is allocated to an organisation which registers its data in PADOR. For more information and to register, please visit <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/onlineservices/pador>

³ If an applicant has already signed a contract with the European Commission and/or has been informed of the Legal Entity File number. If neither of this apply, indicate "N/A".

⁴ E.g. non profit making, governmental body, international organisation

⁵ Add as many rows as partners

⁶ If there are no taxes or the Beneficiary/partner can reclaim them, this row does not need to be filled in.

PART A. CONCEPT NOTE

SUMMARY OF THE ACTION

Title of the action:	“Restore our past to build the future”. Preparatory actions of participatory and intercultural requalification of civil war- damaged mosques and churches in FYROM.
Specific objective: <i>(If Applicable) Specify whether you apply for specific Lot</i>	N.A.
Location(s) of the action: - <i>specify country(ies), region(s) that will benefit from the action</i>	Country: Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) Region: Pelagonia and Polog Region; Locations: Municipalities of Tetovo and Bitola.
Total duration of the action (<i>months</i>):	30 months
Amount (in EUR) of requested EU contribution	288.000,00 Euro
Objectives of the action	Overall objective: Contributing to the restoration process of the Macedonian cultural heritage damaged by the armed conflict in a reconciliation and intercultural perspective. Specific objective: Implementing pilot actions of participated and intercultural restoration of churches and mosques damaged by the armed conflict.
Target group(s)	Target Groups: <u>12 experts of the Macedonian National Conservation Centre; 50 local citizens of Tetovo Bitola,</u> representatives of the school system, social and cultural services, private sector, youth and ecologist associations; <u>6 public administrators; 12 reference teachers and 500 students of the secondary schools of Tetovo. 180 persons.</u>
Final beneficiaries	Final beneficiaries will be 200.000 citizens of Macedonia, living in the territorial municipalities of Tetovo (ca. 104.000) and Bitola (c.a. 96.000).
Estimated results	Expected Result A: The capacities, skills and knowledge in implementing participatory and intercultural restoring projects of 12 local experts and 50 local citizens, are enhanced. Expected Result B: A church and a mosque damaged by the conflict are restored and revitalized with the involvement of the local communities. Expected Result C: A best practice of participatory and intercultural community planning is created and capitalized in the filed of cultural heritage protection and promotion.
Main activities	Preparatory activities: participatory and technical mapping; participatory and technical planning; civic education trainings and capacity building; technical training for local young experts (architects, conservators, painters, chemical technician, technicians for wood); technical assistance from foreign specialised experts; technical equipment of NKC. Restoring Activities: icons, corridors and cupola rehabilitation works in 1 church and 1 mosque; scientific documentation. Capitalization Activities: collection of best practices, publication, raising awareness.

RELEVANCE OF THE ACTION (MAX 3 PAGES)

1.1.1. Relevance to the objectives/sectors/themes/specific priorities of the call for proposals

The relevance of the action to the objective(s) and priority (ies) of the call for proposals.

Cultural heritage is of great symbolic importance for the identity of a community. For this reason is often one of the first targets of attack during armed conflicts. The **religious Orthodox and Muslim heritage in FYRoM** has suffered severely from the armed clash in 2001 in Macedonia. A first mapping of the **damages inflicted to 16 religious object, buildings and sites** during the conflict, was drafted in 2001 by the *Macedonian National Conservation Center (NKC)* and a first rehabilitation was funded by the *European Agency for Reconstruction*, providing a complete reconstruction of one church and some small restorations. A consistent part of this valuable heritage is still **at risk of deterioration**. The action will contribute to the **Global Objective** of the call, since it will contribute to the preservation and restoration of valuable religious objects damaged by the war and remained abandoned as result of the political latent conflict. The project will provide the technical assistance to the rehabilitation process as well as will create an enabling social and cultural environment for the future preservation of the heritage. The project will directly contribute to achieve the **Specific Objectives** of the call since: 1) *will foster restoration knowledge and will broaden the local skill base* of the Macedonian operators, thanks to the technical assistance provided by the **cooperation** of Western Balkan and European experts; 2) *will help evolution of the local socio-economic conditions both in terms of education possibilities and revenue generating activities* among the communities living in the area surrounding the damaged cultural heritage, thanks to the creation of participatory intercultural rehabilitation and revitalisation process. According to the **priorities** expressed in the call, the "preparatory" character of the proposed activities will be considered in a twofold perspective: the technical conditions for re-activating the rehabilitation process will be created and a new cultural (intercultural) approach toward the religious sites, *going beyond the restoration, will place heritage at the heart of the rehabilitation process.*

The relevance of the action to any specific subthemes/sectors/areas and any other specific requirements

The intervention will focus on several priority sectors of the call for proposals, in particular: 1) it will provide an update of the existing **database at national level**; 2) it will provide **new expertise on rehabilitation** of threatened buildings through trainings addressed to young professionals and operators of the sector; 3) it will introduce **international best practices**, perfected in other countries (i.e. Italy and Slovenia); 4) it will **rehabilitate 2 objects** (a church and a mosque) selected and restored following a participatory process, as a pilot project of participatory rehabilitation and/or restoration; 5) it will suggest plans of **new sustainable uses** of the buildings, giving attention to the reappropriation from the local community of the renewed spaces, and to the integration of every cultural and linguistic group; 6) thanks to the experimentation of **new methodological approaches** (technical and educational), *cultural heritage will be considered as a tool for the revitalisation of places and communities and local socio-economic development and as a tool of reconciliation in post-conflict areas.* The final aim of the project is to promote **new practices of intercultural citizenship** in Macedonian multi-ethnic society, where cultural heritage become a tool to stimulate the intercultural dialogue and cohesion rather than conflict and division. The organization of **inter-religious community exchanges** at national level and the ton the spost **visits of Italian and Slovenian archeologists, architects and restorers** will support the intercultural and international cooperation.

Which particular expected results mentioned in the guidelines of the call will be addressed.

The project *will rehabilitate one church and one mosque damaged by the civil war*, opposing the Albanian (muslim) minority and the Macedonian (orthodox) majority living in the country. The action will support the reconciliation between these the communities involved in the conflict, in a process of re-appropriation of the national cultural heritage, in the sense of a shared property. The *symbolic value* of the project will be relevant. *The experience gained under these preparatory actions will serve to develop a permanent and wider approach for preserving and restoring cultural heritage.* The project aims to promote a **pilot experience** of cultural heritage rehabilitation, developing a **best practice** described in the guidelines *"Pathways for participatory restoration in an intercultural framework"* elaborated as output of the project.

1.1.2. Relevance to the needs and constraints of the target country, region(s) and sectors

The specific pre-project situation in the target country/countries, region(s) and/or sectors

methodology on cultural heritage education has been developed in the framework of this initiative, in partnership with the *Macedonian Ministry of Education and Science*.

How the action fits or is coordinated with a larger programme or any other planned project.

As already mentioned, in 2001 and 2003 a map of the damaged cultural heritage was prepared by NKC with the support of the European Union. The proposed mapping activities will be based on this preliminary analysis that will be updated and broadened thanks to the introduction of a participatory methodology. Also the restoring activities were identified taking in consideration previous initiatives in this field: at the present, only the Church of St. Gjorgi in Leshok was rehabilitated with the contribution of the European Commission; any intervention at the present is planned for the rehabilitation of religious objects in Bitola and Tetovo.

1.1.3. The target groups and final beneficiaries, their needs and constraints

Description of each of the target groups and final beneficiaries, including selection criteria.

The action will directly involve as **Target Groups**: 12 experts of the Macedonian National Conservation Centre (2 conservators, 2 painters for icons, 2 chemical technicians, 2 technicians for wood, 2 architects, 2 planners). 25 local citizens of Tetovo and 25 local citizens of Bitola, representatives of the school system, social and cultural services, private sector, youth and ecologist associations, as member of the Local Civic Committees established and supported by the project; 6 public administrators of the municipalities of Tetovo, Bitola and of the Ministry of Culture; 12 reference teachers of the local secondary schools; 500 students of the secondary schools of Tetovo (Kiril Pejcinovik; Nikola Stejn; Mosa Pijade; Goce Stojcevski; Septemvri) and 500 of the secondary schools of Bitola (Jovan Kalauzi, Gorgi Naumov, Josip Broz Tito, Jane Sandanski, Taki Daskalo, Kuzman Sapkarev, Secondary musical school). The **selection criteria** will take in account the gender balance; the Civic Committees will see the participation of elders, adults and youths, considering the cross-generational character of cultural heritage education. The Committees members will be selected according to a voluntary basis and respecting the full representation of the minority groups living in the territory. The reference teachers will be selected among the group of teachers participating to the training activities of the project "Citizens of Macedonia"; the staff of the public institution will be selected on the basis of the competences and role in the organizations, favouring young experts. The **Final beneficiaries** will be approximately **200.000 citizens** of Macedonia, living in Tetovo (ca. 104.000) and Bitola (c.a. 96.000).

The needs and constraints of each of the target groups and final beneficiaries.

The **professionals/administrators** employed in the sector of restoration, conservation and management of cultural heritage, need to **raise the awareness** on the importance to link their work to socio-economic development policies: the cultural heritage of the country needs to be revitalised, promoted and communicated. **The technicians lack of the necessary technical equipments and of skills and resources** to directly intervene in the restoring activities. The **communities living in the target areas** don't have tools to actively participate to the cultural heritage promotion and they are not willing to support the restore of the religious objects considered symbol of other religious groups. The **students and teachers of the secondary schools** are not aware of the damaged and abandoned cultural heritage existing in the area.

The relevance of the proposal to the needs and constraints of the target groups and final beneficiaries.

The young experts of NKC, taking part to the training activities and with the technical assistance of foreign experts, will enhance their skills and capacities to plan and execute the restoring intervention; they will have the support of the community that will be involved in participatory mapping and planning activities through the creation of civic committees: the civil society will be empowered to participate to design the future of cultural heritage protection. The civic committees will be sustained and supported thanks to the capacity building and education activities. The local administrators will be supported in the decision making process in the cultural field. The students and teachers of the secondary schools, will raise the awareness on Cultural Heritage Education; based on the Italian experience of "*Schools adopt monuments*", they will take part to a project based on a recognition of the centrality of the school in the cultural and behavioural education of the population and considers the young generation to be the special starting-point for the development of a new awareness of the cultural heritage. At the end of the process, the final beneficiaries will access to two cultural heritage sites having a new revitalised function and an "intercultural" significance.

The participatory process ensuring participation of target groups and final beneficiaries.

The application of a **Community/Participatory Planning** methodology in the process of restoring and revitalizing the selected churches and mosques in the target areas will ensure the participation of the target groups and final beneficiaries. To enhance the level of participation (and ownership) of the local

communities in cultural heritage safeguarding and promotion is the priority strategy of the action. This methodology will consist in the constitution of two **Local Civic Committees (LCCs)** who will be responsible to actively and responsibly participate to map the causes and reasons leading to the religious objects' destruction, to identify possible new social and cultural uses for this sites connected with the territorial fabric and to support the local experts and operators in the restoring activities, raising the awareness of the territorial community. Moreover, the LCCs in each target location will support the reconciliation process with the representatives of the community directly affected by the damage, indentifying themselves with the damaged religious sites. The participatory process will be ensure also by the international best practices introduced in the country, and mainly the Italian experience of the programme "**Schools adopt monument**", started in Italy in 1992.

1.1.4. Particular added-value elements:

The proposed activities involving the local communities, will be based on a innovative didactical methodology introduced by the pedagogical staff of the project "*Citizens of Macedonia*", focused the attention on Cultural Heritage Education as an essential component of "*Citizenship Education*". The methodology was inspired to the Council of Europe guidelines and on European countries' best practices collected in the Manual for Teachers "*Heritage in the classroom*" (a publication of HERitage EDUCation).The project will give particular consideration to cross cutting issues; in particular: gender equality will be addressed by empowering women and girls as active (leaders) members of the local comities; their involvement will be effective in facilitate a "peace-building" process; the issue of minority rights is fundamental for the Macedonian society; the LLCs will see the representation of all the minority groups living in the target areas; the environmental issues will have a particular place: the cultural heritage is considered as part of a wider environmental heritage to be protected and safeguarded; the participation of ecologist groups in the LLCs will support to address these issues.

intercultural community planning in the field of cultural heritage protection and promotion (**Result C**): **C.1**: Final evaluation of the whole process; **C.2 Publication of guidelines** for “*Pathways for participatory restoration in an intercultural framework*”; **C.3** Implementation of an **awareness campaign** “Schools adopting monuments”.

The broad timeframe for the action: The action will last 30 months; the authorizations necessary to start the restoring activities will be achieved thanks to the technical competences of the NKC.

4. LIST OF THE RECRUITED LOCAL STAFF FOR BUDGET

Name	Profession	Function	Country of Nationality	On the board since
Ms Tatjana Dzaleva	Teaching assistant at Goce Delcev University – Stip, Macedonia	Evaluator of the budget and Lecturer	R. Macedonia	2011-2014

5. CHECKLIST FOR CONCEPT NOTE

< EUROPEAID/131266/C/ACT/MULTI + PREPARATORY ACTIONS FOR PRESERVING AND RESTORING CULTURAL HERITAGE IN CONFLICT AREAS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS FOR THE YEAR 2010 + BUDGET LINE 22.0209 >

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA	To be filled in by the applicant
Name of the Applicant	Cooperazione Internazionale Sud Sud (CISS)
EuropeAid ID number	IT-2007-DOM-2711209457
Nationality⁸/Country⁹ and date of registration	Italian/Italy allowed by the Italian Ministry of FF.AA on December, 6th, 1989 (law 49/87)
Legal Entity File number¹⁰	6000063459
Legal status¹¹	NGO
Partner 1	Name/EuropeAid ID number: Republic of Macedonia National Conservation Centre Nationality/Country of registration: Macedonian, FYRoM - Skopje Legal status: Public Institution (under the Ministry of Culture)
Partner 2	Name/EuropeAid ID number: Nationality/Country of registration: Legal status:
NB: Add as many rows as partners	

8 For individuals

9 For organisations

10 If the applicant has already signed a contract with the European Commission

11 E.g. non profit making, governmental body, international organisation...

BEFORE SENDING YOUR CONCEPT NOTE, PLEASE CHECK THAT EACH OF THE FOLLOWING POINTS IS COMPLETE AND RESPECTS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA :	To be filled in by the applicant	
Title of the Proposal: <i>“Restore our past to build the future”. Preparatory actions of participatory and intercultural requalification of civil war- damaged mosques and churches in FYRoM.</i>	Yes	No
PART 1 (ADMINISTRATIVE)		
1. The instructions for concept note, published for this call for proposals, have been followed	X	
2. The Declaration by the applicant has been filled in and has been signed	X	
3. The proposal is typed and is <in English, French, Portuguese or in Spanish> Where more than one language is allowed, the proposal is drafted in the language most commonly used by the target population in the country in which the action takes place.	X	
4. One original and <5 copy(ies)> are included	X	
5. An electronic version of the concept note (CD-Rom) is enclosed	X	
PART 2 (ELIGIBILITY)		
6. The action will be implemented in an eligible country(ies)	X	
7. The duration of the action is between <X months> and <36 months> (the minimum and maximum allowed)	X	
8. The requested contribution is between <100.000 EURO > and <300.000 EURO > (the minimum and maximum allowed)	X	
9. The requested contribution is between <50%> and <90%> of the estimated total eligible costs (minimum and maximum percentage allowed)	X	
[10. If applicable, the requested contribution is between <X %> and <X %> of the estimated total accepted costs (minimum and maximum percentage allowed)]	X	
11. The present Checklist and the Declaration by the applicant are filled in and sent with the Concept Note	X	