



CULTURAL HERITAGE IN ACTION

Sharing solutions in European cities and regions

DEEP DIVING SESSION FOCUSED ON CANTABRIA

FROM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

28 November 2022, 14.00-15.30 CET

OBJECTIVES OF THE SESSION

1. To further reflect on the topics of cultural heritage management, regional development and community involvement in rural areas.
2. To explore concrete projects carried out by other European cities and regions which, as Cantabria, are aiming for territorial cohesion through cultural heritage.
3. To address specific challenges encountered in the implementation of such projects and collectively find solutions.
4. To extract transferable lessons that can be used in other European contexts.

KICK STARTING: THE LIÉBANA CENTRE OF STUDIES

Cantabria is a small rural Spanish region with widely dispersed municipalities. It suffers from dramatic depopulation, with many inhabitants at risk of exclusion because of the digital divide or geographic isolation. Due to this, [the Liébana Centre of Studies](#) was founded by the Regional Government to offer cultural, artistic and educational activities to over 6,000 inhabitants at risk of exclusion. Located in a thousand-year-old church, Liébana is a public-private initiative that has improved the local awareness of the value of the regional religious heritage. The process has included a fourfold strategic dimension which has considered a research dimension, acquisition and protection of infrastructure, an approach to business development and a marketing concept linked to tourism.

DRAFT AGENDA OF THE SESSION

- 14.00 *Welcome and introduction:* objectives of this workshop, Cultural Heritage in Action, and the peer learning programme – Clémentine Daubeuf, Eurocities
Introduction of programme, house-keeping rules



Brief presentation on the lessons learnt and identified challenges from the visit in Cantabria – Philippe Kern, KEA

14.10 *Presentation of Cantabria challenges with Pilar Bahamonde and Javier Cantera, moderated by Philippe Kern*

- managing heritage sites: challenges of the monastery
- heritage at regional scale: challenges of connecting sites and actors in a broader regional perspective
- community involvement: lessons learnt in community engagement

Q&A focus on transferability (10 minutes)

14.30 *Presentation of good practices moderated by Levente Polyak*

Good practice #1: Public Institution Fortress of Cultural Šibenik, Croatia – Andrija Nakić (10 minutes)

Q&A focus on reuse, management and financing of cultural heritage sites, combination of different funding sources (10 minutes)

Good practice #2: Alentejo Regional Development Agency, Portugal “Cante Alentejano ‘Alentejo way of singing’” – Anabela Caeiro (10 minutes)

Q&A focus on regional scale, rural areas, community engagement (10 minutes)

15.10 *Group reflection moderated by José Hernandez and Levente Polyak (15 minutes)*

Reflection on the challenges related to the themes: heritage management, regional development, community involvement.

15.25 *Wrap-up and closing remarks – Francesca Pozzebon, ERRIN*

Next steps for Cultural Heritage in Action – Clémentine Daubeuf, Eurocities.

15.30 End of the meeting