

Stocktaking Report: Building the capacity of heritage communities to build socio-cultural space for creativity, learning, participation and inclusion.

SUMMARY

This report details the quantitative and qualitative research and stocktaking phase of the People Places Stories (PPS) Erasmus + Strategic Partnership, which focuses on the capacity of heritage communities to build socio-cultural space for creativity, learning, participation and inclusion. The project aims to increase civil society's capacity to exploit heritage as an environment and resource for sustainable development.

As such, it provides the setting for the development of a new methodology for Heritage Community (HC) capacity building. It informs HC development guidelines which are transferrable to other educational and community settings. It is the basis of PPS project, informing the task of refining a set of community-related competences developed in the Delphi project (Development of CPD for Heritage Interpretation Staff to facilitate lifelong learning and social inclusion), for strengthening the capacity of a HC (Output 2). The report, guidelines and CF will then be used to create a CPD course (Output 3) hosted by project partners, Blinc, on their widely used learning platform allowing the PPS course can be delivered through a blended learning format (Output 4).



This report has the potential to create a high impact for provision of training for new audiences and is of interest to a wide range of adult learning providers. The internet and social media offer a relatively high number of heritage project descriptions but hardly any of them are based on a 'sharing and learning' template offering systematic and useful info about needs, goals, target groups, and impact. This report, and its online repository, will provide quality criteria and breakdown of the different tasks HC's regularly undertake. The repository will be hosted on the project website.

The main findings of the report are that there is a low awareness of the CoE's latest Heritage Convention. Faro-competence based training has a huge potential, allowing facilitators to run heritage projects that have a positive social impact. Harder skills such as project management, strategic fundraising, finance, social and economic evaluation, as well as softer transversal skills (public engagement, storytelling, communication, digital) are among the competences that are considered most useful and needed by the respondents. Training that exists in these areas is patchy across Europe, can be too generic, or not specifically related or marketed to heritage practitioners, leading to low motivation for both trainers and trainees.



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