



HERO

HERITAGE ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION
FOR INCLUSION OPPORTUNITIES



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

AIM & BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

HERO PROJECT IS THE RESULT OF A TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION BETWEEN POUR LA SOLIDARITÉ (BELGIUM), DRAGODID (CROATIA), BOULOUKI (GREECE), BAO FORMATION (FRANCE) AND ACTA VISTA (FRANCE, LEAD MANAGER), FUNDED BY ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME FOR THE TIME PERIOD DECEMBER 2021 - SEPTEMBER 2024.



The project aims to improve training of instructors in the field of built heritage restoration, and is dedicated to the inclusion of vulnerable people and the implementation of environmental sustainable practices.

HERO project aspires to map innovative European initiatives working on this unique combination of heritage, training and environmental aspects; to propose educational material on inclusion and the environment for trainers; and ultimately to promote new solutions through a practical guide for policy makers.

SHARED CHALLENGES

- The deterioration of national heritage and the increasing loss of traditional restoration skills in a number of European countries;
- A major environmental crisis that calls into question our relationship with buildings and the preservation of our environment;
- An increasing unemployment rate, notably in the wake of the Covid-19 health crisis, that reached 7.3% in the European Union in March 2021 (Eurostat).

In this context, restoration of heritage sites enables us to safeguard our shared heritage, to offer training and employment opportunities for people in need and to promote the adoption of eco-friendly techniques.



A TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION OF ACTORS COMMITTED TO THE ALLIANCE OF HERITAGE, INCLUSION & ENVIRONMENT

By combining heritage, inclusion and environmental aspects through training, HERO intends to enhance the skills of vocational training instructors in the built heritage sector, on the one hand in regards to more inclusive training practices, aimed at people who are furthest from employment; on the other hand concerning different approaches: a more eco-friendly restoration and the preservation of our traditional building techniques.

To achieve these objectives, a number of activities and events will be organized, within the framework of this cooperation, in France, Greece, Croatia and Belgium, such as the creation of pedagogical material in close collaboration with trainers, learning and training activities for trainers, testing the new material with trainees from economically and socially disadvantaged backgrounds, and events for the general public in order to promote and increase visibility of the project and its achievements.



Publications will be produced to ensure widespread dissemination and reach similar structures throughout Europe and to raise awareness among stakeholders, including policy makers:

- A booklet identifying existing organisations in Europe, combining social inclusion and heritage restoration (*July 2022*)
- A pedagogical toolkit on adapting the pedagogy of trainers to the training and upskilling of people on the edge of the labour and training market; (*January 2023*)
- A pedagogical toolkit on the inclusion of environmentally friendly practices in the work of trainers, (*May 2023*)
- An official report to raise awareness and share learning outcomes with other training structures and organisations in Europe and with policy makers at local, regional and European level (*September 2024*)



PARTNERS OF HERO PROJECT



ACTA VISTA

ACTA VISTA supports people in situations of economic and social insecurity, in order to restore their confidence and develop their professional future. It uses the restoration of historical heritage as a source of employment and the transmission of know-how. Our work sites are veritable open-air schools. We apply teamwork and the strength of the collective to achieve excellence, which is a source of pride and a real incentive for involvement.

Our action thus makes it possible to combine employment, training leading to qualifications and the valorisation of built heritage, in order to support the inclusion of the largest possible number of people.



BAO FORMATION

Specialising in eco-construction and heritage, BAO Formation is developing its skills and its training programmes to meet the needs of everyone involved in the restoration / construction of built heritage. From traditional techniques to innovative materials,

BAO Formation is in constant contact with professionals to build together sustainable buildings and jobs of tomorrow. Basing its teaching on learning by doing,

BAO Formation's main mission is to enable jobseekers and people who are no longer in employment to acquire the skills they need to realise their professional career plans.



DRAGODID

Association 4 GRADA DRAGODID (short: Dragodid) is an education, training and awareness raising civil society organisation, whose work is focused on vernacular architecture, specifically dry-stone techniques in Croatia and the Eastern Adriatic area.

Dragodid is based on the recognition that dry-stone masonry techniques are practical, culturally important and sustainable, as well as a part of the region's intangible heritage which is immensely important for future generations: they produce usable and aesthetic structures from locally available materials. Dragodid strongly believes that dry-stone know-how contributes to the creation of a collective identity associated with the element at local and regional level, generating synergies and common bonds.



BOULOUKI

Itinerant Workshop on Traditional Building Techniques, with the trade name “Boulouki”, is a Civil Non-Profit Organization established in 2018 in Athens, Greece.

Boulouki means “gaggle”, traveling group, a name evoking the tradition of traveling companies of stone masons and craftsmen.

Boulouki is an interdisciplinary research collaborative, whose work is focused on the study of traditional building techniques and materials. Its aim is to trace craftspeople and document the historical knowledge; to study and to further disseminate it through workshops and actual building projects which are organized in collaboration with local communities.

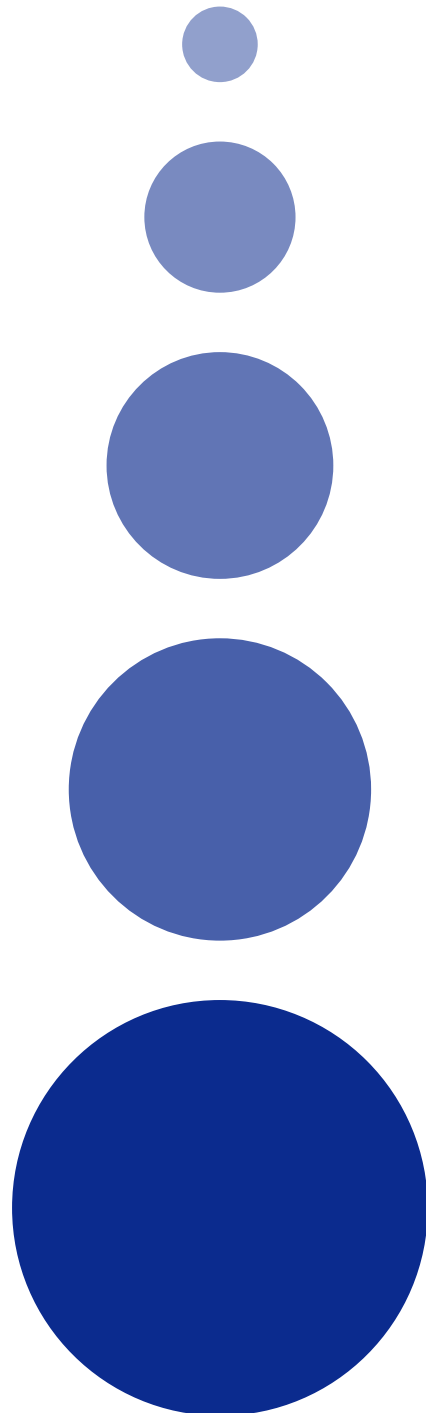


POUR LA SOLIDARITÉ

POUR LA SOLIDARITÉ – PLS is an independent European think & do tank committed to promoting solidarity and sustainability in Europe. PLS brings its expertise in research, consulting, coordination of European projects and event organisation to companies, public authorities and the civil society.

PLS keeps its stakeholders informed about developments at the European level by providing various resources (official texts, best practices, stakeholders and news) notably through its four European observatories: on Social Economy, on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Diversity, on Transition and on Citizen Participation.

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