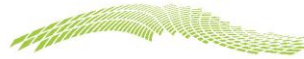




Municipality of Central Corfu &
Diapontian Islands



APPRODI



ANCIENT ADRION PORTS City Network

*Adriatic cities together to promote the sustainable valorisation and preservation
of natural and cultural heritage in the ADRION area*

Memorandum of Understanding

between

City of Dubrovnik

City of Ortona

City of Durres

City of Corfu

and

other interested cities from the ADRION region

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) sets for the terms and understanding between the City of Dubrovnik, City of Ortona, City of Durres, City of Corfu, and other interested partners to establish the ANCIENT ADRION PORTS City Network.



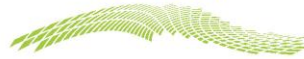
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I. Background

This memorandum of understanding has been developed as part of the EU project APPRODI - *From Ancient Maritime Routes to Eco-touristic Destinations* which is co-funded by the Interreg V-B Adriatic-Ionian Programme 2014 - 2020.

Its main objective is to promote and valorize cultural heritage in the ADRIAN area by enhancing management and promotion of ancient harbor sites as in- and off-season destinations for transnational ecotourism, as well as by improving the involvement of local communities. Indeed, ancient harbor sites have a high but unused potential for economic growth as ecotourism destinations. This potential can be exploited in a more effective way through a joint networking of local authorities involved in the management of cultural heritage.

Hence, a new network is being created, called **ANCIENT ADRIAN PORTS City Network** – *Adriatic Cities together to promote the sustainable valorization and preservation of natural and cultural heritage in the ADRIAN area*. The cities involved in the network will promote their role as Ancient Mediterranean Ports and their engagement in the conservation and valorization of ancient maritime cultural heritage.

II. Purpose

The purpose of this MoU is to identify roles and activities of partner cities as they enter the network called **ANCIENT ADRIAN PORTS City Network**.

The Network will strengthen the relations among the cities characterized by the historical importance of their harbors, in the fields of culture, education, economy and technology, by increasing the knowledge on ancient Mediterranean ports and creating a consolidated community involved in their eco-touristic promotion.

This MoU is therefore intended to support the following activities in order to enhance the impact of the APPRODI project on raising awareness on the role of cities in the conservation and valorization of ancient maritime cultural heritage:

- networking between the representatives of local communities, interested in the promotion of ancient harbours;
- enhancing the historical and archaeological research on ancient harbors;



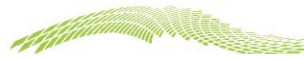
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- enhancing the production of promotional materials on the history of each ancient harbour site;
- organizing public events targeted to dissemination of knowledge on ancient harbours;
- stimulating the dialogue between the stakeholders in the field of culture, education, economy and technology, on the sustainable use of ancient harbor sites as eco-touristic destinations.

Any such activity can be promoted on the Attractive Ancient harbors' web-portal so to provide visibility to the city.

III. Network identity

Adriatic and Ionian cities which are part of this Network are territories characterized for having been in the past landing places of ancient maritime commercial routes ("*APPRODI*"). Additionally, they share the following common challenges:

- Insufficient perception of tourists' interest in visiting attractive ancient harbor sites
- Fragmented and mistuned sectoral approaches in managing ancient harbors assets
- Weak knowledge of ancient harbors tourist attractions among potential visitors
- Low interest of commercial operators in including ancient harbors sites in their offers

The above criteria are the pre-requisite to enter the network and create a common identity between the cities.

IV. Roles

The City of Ortona is the Network coordinator for the first year. Each year a new network coordinator must be appointed among the cities which are members of the Network. The rotation of the coordinating city will permit to share institutional commitments between all the adherents.

V. Activities foreseen by this MoU

The Network Coordinator shall undertake the following activities:



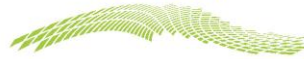
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- give permission to use the APPRODI logo to make visible the Ancient Adrion Ports City Network;
- publish interesting and related news on the Attractive Ancient Harbors web-portal;
- sustain the ANCIENT ADRION PORTS CITY Network through awareness raising actions on cities roles in the promotion of eco-touristic (minor) destinations;
- organize a workshop for member cities in combination with the APPRODI Final Conference;
- share the APPRODI project results, and especially the joint strategic action plan for boosting transnational ecotourism in the ADRION area, with all partner cities;
- promote and facilitate the accession of other cities to the Network;
- organize thematic events, ensuring participation within the cooperation area and also outside of it.

Activity of each partner of the Network shall be guided with the following principles:

- inclusion of interested sailors, historians or archaeologists of underwater archaeology, multimedia, environment related organizations into activities aimed at valorizing and promoting cultural and natural heritage linked to ancient harbors;
- promotion of Network's visibility through related activities;
- connection with local stakeholders regarding the education, information and consciousness of the development and promotion of eco-touristic destinations, taking into consideration all existing initiatives and networks throughout the Adriatic and Ionian Sea Basins;
- participation in related thematic events.

VI. Funding

None of the provisions of this MoU shall be deemed or construed to constitute or imply any commitment or obligation of funding. Hence, no financial contribution will be required to adherents making the ANCIENT ADRION PORTS City Network self-sustainable.

VII. Duration

This MOU is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of authorized officials from member cities. This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the authorized officials



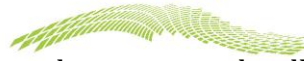
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from the member cities and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the partners by mutual consent.
In any case, it must last at least five years after APPRODI project closure.

Place: Corfu Date: 2nd of July 2021

Signature: _____

Name of the Authorised Representative, Function

Stamp:



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