

## Welcome!

The VAL.oR project - “Tacit knowledge emerging for a sustainable valorisation of the cultural heritage in rural and peripheral communities” – is in its second year and the project team are working to develop the key project outputs and to animate local festivals and community groups to get involved in the project.



## Our work to date

The VAL.oR project began with a detailed research process where partners consulted with local communities to discover the existing skills and tacit knowledge available in our local communities and to identify gaps in skills and expertise. Based on the findings from this research, project partners collaborated to design the key educational materials that will be used to support local communities to plan successful and sustainable measures to preserve their tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

So far, the project team has collaborated to develop a 12-module curriculum for festival organisers and cultural event managers and the mentoring framework for volunteers has been developed. In addition, partner organisations have conducted research into the mechanisms and structures in their countries for the Recognition of Prior Learning. These national standards were combined and collated by researchers from the Burgas Free University, who have developed a user-friendly step-by-step guide for the validation of prior learning. The aim of this Guide is to help experienced volunteers who may not have completed any formal training in cultural festival and event management, to have the skills that they have developed through their volunteering activities recognised and validated.

## Online Resources

If you are interested to know more about the project and its further developments, please, visit the project website

<https://www.culturalfestivals.eu/>

And follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/culturalfestivals.eu/>



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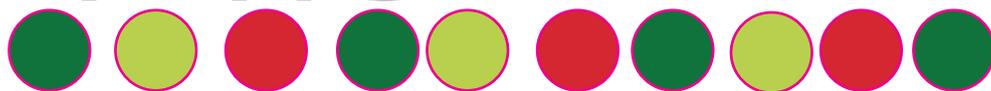


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## Partners visit Ireland

Project partners made the trip to Trim, Ireland in November 2018 to plan the next phase of the project. At this meeting, partners discussed the current state of all project outputs and planned their work in finalizing the curriculum for cultural festival and event managers and the step-by-step guide. Representatives from the Municipality of Lousada also presented an update on the mentoring programme and showed all partners the mentoring framework they have prepared.

Partners also worked in their national teams to identify who potential mentors and mentees might be in each of our countries. This meeting helped partners to take stock of the work they have completed so far, and to plan for the next stage which will focus on working with local communities to build the skills of local festival organisers and to retain the tacit knowledge that exists in these volunteer-led initiatives.



## Next Steps

In the next phase of the project, partner organisations will translate all educational materials and these will be presented online through the bespoke e-learning platform developed by our technical partner, Innoventum. Additionally, partners will continue to work with local communities to test and deliver the training programmes, to implement the mentoring programme and to support experienced volunteers to use the step-by-step guide to have their skills recognised. Partners are also working to identify and profile case study examples from each of our countries. These case studies will present the stories behind local cultural festivals and the volunteers who manage the tangible and intangible cultural heritage in each of our participating countries.

The case studies will show best practices by profiling successful festivals that have been running for years; as well as showing how some festivals are only beginning and how failing festivals and events can re-invent themselves. All of these case study examples will be presented online through the 'online observatory' that you will be able to access through our e-learning portal.

## How to get connected with VALOR...

If you would like to join the stakeholder forum in your local area, please contact the partner in your home country.

Follow us on Facebook or send a message and the local partner will be in touch

<https://www.facebook.com/culturalfestivals.eu/>

If you would like more information about the project log on to our project website <https://culturalfestivals.eu/>



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