



Mingei

Representation and Preservation of Heritage Crafts

31 December 2018

PILOTS

Mingei Project Started!

On the 1st of December 2018, the Mingei project has officially started! The full title of the project is "Representation and Preservation of Heritage Crafts".

Project Mission

Mingei explores the possibilities of representing and making accessible both tangible and intangible aspects of craft as Cultural Heritage. **Heritage Crafts** involve craft artefacts, materials, and tools and encompass craftsmanship as a form of Intangible **Cultural Heritage**. Intangible Heritage Crafts dimensions include dexterity, know-how, and skilled use of tools, as well as tradition and identity of the communities in which they are, or were, practiced. Heritage Crafts are part of the history and have impact upon the economy of the areas in which they flourish. The significance and urgency of the preservation of Heritage Crafts is underscored, as several are threatened with extinction.

Despite their **cultural significance** efforts for Heritage Crafts representation and preservation are scattered geographically and thematically. Mingei will provide means to establish representations based on digital assets, semantics, existing literature and repositories, as well as mature digitisation and representation technologies. These representations will capture and preserve **tangible** and **intangible** dimensions of Heritage Crafts.

Central to craftsmanship is **skill** and its **transmission** from master to apprentice. Mingei will capture the motion and tool usage of

Heritage Crafts practitioners, from **Living Human Treasures** and archive documentaries, in order to preserve and illustrate skill and tool manipulation.

The represented knowledge will be availed through compelling **experiential presentations**, using storytelling and educational applications and based on AR and MR and the Internet.

Engaging cultural experiences have positive impact on **interest growth** and **tourism**, which support Heritage Crafts **communities** and **institutions** and foster their sustainability and preservation.

The consortium brings together complementary expertise and content. **Pilot themes** exhibit richness in **tangible** and **intangible** dimensions and are directly related to **European history**.

Project Partners

The project has a 3-year duration and has received funding from the **European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme**. The consortium consists of 9 distinguished members from 6 countries (**Greece, France, Italy, Switzerland, Netherlands, Germany**), bringing together the multifaceted necessary expertise required for the project, complementing each other, representing the stakeholders in the world of innovative science, and reflecting the geographical, cultural and socioeconomic diversity of Europe.

Glass



Silk (image, courtesy of Haus der Seidenkultur)



Mastic (image, courtesy of Piraeus Bank Group Cultural Foundation)



Kick-off meeting

The Mingei project kick-off meeting (11-13 Dec 2018) was hosted by the **Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas** in Heraklion, Crete.

During the first two days, the scientific and technical objectives of the project were presented together with partners and WPs presentations.

On the third day a **CO-CREATION** workshop was conducted in order to establish the values of the consortium and together start designing innovative craft experiences.



THE MINGEI TEAM



CO-CREATION WORKSHOP



Visit at the village of Anogia

At the village of **Anogia** textile art is the epitome of women's creation and the main occupation of women at home, until today. In this village, textile art constitutes the connecting link between tangible Cultural Heritage (designs, and its immaterial forms) and intangible Cultural Heritage, expressed through inherited traditions and practices that accompany it.

Through a **visit** at Anogia, Mingei partners had the opportunity to discuss with the Municipality of Anogia culture advisor Mrs. Rita Soulatou, about the texture and the looms

that are in operation in the village, as well as to watch demonstrations of weavers on their work.



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