



ALAS CO-OPERATION CHARTER

The partners convened in Lesvos, Greece, agree to carry out the necessary actions to accomplish the objectives included in the ALAS proposal, which was approved by the European Commission in December 1999 .

These actions are:

- Active networking: joint management and joint measures; exchange of experience and know-how on the different project items through workshops, documents, mutual consulting, internet, study visits, assistance and secondment etc.; promoting the marketing of traditionally produced salt and the development importance of traditional salt production.
- Formulation of a detailed work plan and working methods for the entire project; feasibility check of measures and methods for the whole project and in the individual partner areas; ex-ante evaluation; adjustments resulting from the feasibility check.
- Development of specific local concepts of using traditional salt production to maintain jobs and to create new ones; of re-establishing and upgrading this production and the sites used for it; and of using cultural and natural heritage as an important factor of regional development.
- Compilation of information on the present economic situation of salt-works (prices, markets and other economic aspects).
- Preparing guidelines for the drafting and implementation of (ecological) management plans of salt-works and salt marshes, and assistance to such drafting and implementation in the partner areas concerned.
- Preparing guidelines for the drafting of construction/restoration and operation plans for traditional salt-works, and assistance to such drafting in the partner areas concerned.
- Pilot projects of re-establishing/upgrading traditional salt-works and compiling the experience resulting from them.
- Experimental operation and monitoring of re-established/upgraded traditional salt-works with the aim of optimising them, and compiling the experience resulting from this activity .

- Preparing guidelines, syllabuses and material for training and related measures to create a sufficient number of qualified salters; implementation of such measures and providing assistance to them, including monitoring and adaptation.
- Development of common ideas and support to efforts of setting-up co-operative structures of private locals operating traditional salt-works and of consolidating these structures.
- Preparation, launching and running of marketing and related measures to sell the traditionally produced salt as a high-quality product.
- Compilation of knowledge on traditional salt production and related cultural heritage.
- Cooperation on and mutual support for establishing/improving salt-museums as a "mu!tiplicateur" for raising the awareness on the importance of cultural heritage as a factor of regional development, and compiling the experience resulting from these activities.
- Experimenting small infrastructure, facilities and other offers (e.g. guided tours) to use the cultural and natural heritage, in particular traditional salt production and its sites, for additional quality tourism, and compiling the experience resulting from these activities.
- Preparation, production and distribution of specific and general information material as well as preparation and organisation of information events, for disseminating the objectives, information on the activities undertaken and their results to relevant local players and interested other parties.
- Additional measures raising the awareness of the public, business, and civil societies of the importance of cultural heritage for development; preparing the local and regional public, associative and private players for the future, in terms of structural and regional development, environment policy and cooperation with partners in other countries,

and will be undertaken with the close co-operation of the four principal partners. These will also seek to insure a full participation of the associate partners.

The principal partners further agreed to implement the interregional tasks in close cooperation and to distribute responsibilities among them in order to increase efficiency in these accomplishments, as referred in the minutes of the Project Management Committee meeting of 29 March 2001.

In this same meeting, the partners also agreed in the general organization of the project implementation. The organization and the distribution of responsibilities will be reviewed regularly.