

◆ EU POLICY

Report concerning the activity of our department for the year 2009 (English version).

Regarding the EU Policy, 2009 will be a particularly important and intense year inasmuch as structure will have to follow and manage the planning phase of the Regional Operative Programme - European Fund for the Regional Development (POR FESR) 2007-2013 Marche Region. This year, it has realized by the notification issue on the Axis V – Development of territories, which has the Public Beings as beneficiaries of the financing interventions.

We remember that, within the “Regional Strategic Document” approved by the Regional Council at the beginning of 2007, the Region had recognized the role of co-ordination, on behalf of the same Provincial Administrations, by the procedures of the “Provincial Conference of the Local Authorities” foreseen by the Regional Law no. 46/92 (Regional Planning).

Therefore, the Province has started up and has currently in progress a series of agreement procedures about the projects to propose according to a global strategic vision of the territory with the scientific support of the Architecture University in Camerino. This has involved and will involve a series of meetings with the Municipalities, which will conclude by the presentation of the financing requests whose deadline is fixed by 25th February 2009.

We have presented several projects of different EU notifications which have taken to the pre-selection of two initiatives: as Lead Partner and as partner only.

The activities of the **UE Policy Department** can be referred to the following macro-voices:

ACTIVITY OF INFORMATION AND CONSTANT MONITORING OF THE EU OPPORTUNITIES

It realizes through the services put into action within the Europe Office, and support to specialized networks as follows:

- a. **The Local Decentralized Point EURODESK** (European net active in 27 Countries and in Italy it is present in about 100 resorts) holds an information and guidance service for promotion and dissemination of EU initiatives in the youth sector.
- b. **EURES**. It is an European information net about employment which works like a cross-national employment agency: it has the task to make meet supply and demand come from one of 27 participating Countries.
- c. **Front Office for Companies**. Guidance Service to companies through the dissemination of information about easy financings for PMI (small and medium-sized companies) particularly addressed to youth and women.
- d. **The “Europe Office” on line**. It deals with a *front office on line* service specialized in dissemination of information concerning the EU financings and notifications. It is addressed to Local Authorities and companies.
- e. **Support to the Association Tecla**. TECLA is an association of Local Authorities, Regions and other beings with public goals, founded in 1993. It has operative offices in Rome and Brussels, and a net of national and international relationships and contacts. It keeps particular attention to the territories in the European East and Mediterranean basin which are strategic in order to assure efficacy to co-operation foreseen by the future programmes of neighbourhood and proximity of the EU.

- f. **Support to the Association Adriatic Ionic Arc.** The Ascoli Piceno Province is part of the 13 Provinces of the Centre-Mediterranean Adriatic Sea. By respecting the values, objectives and fundamental rights promoted and protected by the EU, and through the joint action of its members, it achieves the definition and implementation of an integrated strategy of planning and development in the interested territories. This entails a pluralism of economic, social and cultural subjects, even in order to promote cohesion and struggle against the fragmentation in the context of the Mediterranean Europe integration.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

(Participation in EU notifications, administrative management, activities of statement and development of the project actions)

Projects under assessment

1. Meddune (Lead Partner: Ascoli Piceno Province € 259.000,00)

Protection and reclamation of habitats and coastal dunes. Studying, sharing, elaborating and applying common (legal, technical, social) strategies in order to protect, improve and recreate the coastal habitat of dunes threatened not only for his landscape value, but as coastal defence too for facing the effects of the climatic changes (e.g. increase of the sea level).

Partners: Ascoli Piceno Province (Lead Partner), Rome Province, Venezia Province, ENEA, VENETO AGRICOLTURA, Ministerio de MEDIO AMBIENTE, Ajuntamiento de Valencia, RDF – Region of Thessaly, Region of Peloponnese, GEORAMA.

2. Eco-Mounts (Lead Partner: Prefectural Authority of Trikala - Greece). Ascoli Piceno Province € 251.326,00

The main scope of the Project "Eco-Mounts" is to encourage, by means pilot experimentations, a common efficient eco-tourism planning at European level, for the development of environmentally sensitive mountainous areas into sustainable and financially self-sustaining ecotourism destinations. This objective will be pursued, at trans-national level, by analysing the application modes of eco-tourism forms which reduce "conflicts". All this even through transfer of good practises, education, awareness, promotion at local and European level of "groups of actors having mutual interests", sustainable development planning, pilot experimentations, evaluation and dissemination of results.

Partners: Prefectural Authority of Trikala – Greece (Lead Partner), Union of Local Authorities of the Prefecture of Magnesia – Greece, Municipal Enterprise for the Development of Lyrkeia – Greece, National Agricultural Research Foundation (NAGREF) – Greece, Languedoc Region – Roussillon – France, Regional Development Centre Koper – Slovenia, Troodos Regional Tourism Body – Cyprus, Ascoli Piceno Province – Italy, Macerata Province – Italy, City Council of Andujar – Spain.

3. PROUHD: Protect our unique cultural heritage monuments from natural risks and disasters.

The general objective of the project PROUHD is to face the natural risks for the unique cultural heritage monuments and their impact on the local economies and societies.

Its under-objectives are (approximately): (1) to collect, to catalogue, to document and to optimize all the aspects of the existing emergency plans and the procedures in order to face the natural risks for monuments for creating new plans where they are absent. (2) To register and to present the state of the natural risks and availability of the monumental patrimony resources. (3) To analyse the possible causes which provoked disasters in the past, by creating a complete list

of all the connected conditions. (4) To develop training programmes in order to educate the people who work and live over there, teachers volunteers, experts and civil protection employees, such as other operative workforce, in limiting the natural risks for the cultural monumental patrimony applying measures for the economic and social impact reduction. (5) To develop pilot analyses about the natural risks and information system management in the selected areas of the monumental patrimony. (6) To develop an integrated operative context by linking the cultural monumental patrimony protection to the sustainable economic development and social cohesion of the areas which host it. (7) To create results which will allow to the regional, national and European administrations to detect the measures for the cultural heritage protection from disasters in their Development Programmes (Operative Regional Programme), even after their beginning. The deficit in the protection field of monuments from disasters is such because of the different expensed funds without creating an unified context which **allowed** the elaboration and implementation of a coherent, solid, effective and efficient policy at regional, national and European level.

ACTIVITY OF THE EUROPEAN CULTURE DISSEMINATION

EUROPE DAY. It deals with an initiative which will reach in 2009 its 9th edition; it aims to the awareness and dissemination of the knowledge of the European themes among the young generations.

Every year, it is held on 9th May and involves on average 1000-1100 students and teachers of School Institutes of every order and degree present in the provincial territory.

TRAINING ACTIVITY AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

We foresee the organization of training courses concerning subjects of an European nature mainly addressed to the administrators, managers and officers of this Administration, of the Municipalities and schools.

The training actions are characterized by a strong practical and operative content, and are organized even on the basis of the requirements of the administrators. Moreover, such initiatives have the scope to supply methodologies, contacts and tools which allow to learn organization, policy, laws and financing programmes of the European Union, as well as the analysis and the subsequent use of the best EU means for reaching strategic objectives of the Local Authorities.

◆ INTERNATIONALIZATION

For the year 2009 too, we foresee the signature of the Agreement Protocol with Piceno Promozione (Promotion of the Ascoli Piceno territory), a Special Company of the Commerce Chamber in Ascoli Piceno, in order to carry out the internationalization projects.

The actions planned for 2009 foresee a further development of the relationships with the association ROC-NY. With it, in collaboration with the Special Company of the Commerce Chamber Piceno Promozione and the Agriculture Department, we foresee to organize an event in New York or Madison. On this occasion, the Piceno biological products will be presented under the aegis of a "Mark of the BioPiceno" already achieved by the Agriculture Department. This event will represent

the starting up of the economic importation relationships between the Piceno producers and the U.S.A. importers.

We will work so that there are the conditions for the biological companies of the short distribution chain interested in starting up the exportation toward the U.S.A.

Concerning the Venezuela, we will carry out the action promoted by the Association “Marchigiani in Venezuela” (Marche people in Venezuela) which aims to give health insurance cover to poorer people.