



# NEWSLETTER THE MEDNETA NEWS AUGUST 2015

Let's improve the cross-border cooperation among ACDs in the Mediterranean basin.



**NTUA**



Association de Sauvegarde de la Médina de Tunis



## EDITORIAL



Dear readers of MEDNETA Newsletter, I am proud to present you our Newsletter. MEDNETA Project is achieving all the goals have been set and on this occasion I would like to express publicly my gladness. Getting closer to the end of the project I feel that MEDNETA main objective of enhancing a cross-cultural dialogue about ACDs is becoming tangible. Nowadays, the pilot ACDs products are being designed and being produced and in November will be presented in MEDNETA Exhibition in Beirut. Moreover, MEDNETA conference in Athens is being prepared and will be held in Athens in December 2015.

In June 17th all partners we had the opportunity to meet each other under the Steering Committee Meeting in Florence. We scheduled the future activities and we tried figure out the difficulties and problems encountered. However, we are all ensured the successful completion of the responsibilities we undertook.

Nevertheless, among our many and complex activities we received an excellent evaluation by the JTS of ENPI CBC MED. Renatto Botti, our Project Officer, shared with us the results of the MEDNETA's operational review: that was excellent (Score 3.6/4)! "By supporting the creativity and cooperation in ACDs the project is injecting new insights and drivers to regenerate local communities, fostering their identities and creating a better urban liveliness. The rationale of the project is very promising and the impact on the six different



Mediterranean's cities well spread around ENPI CBC area is already detectable even at this stage. **The project is showing that culture and creativity really matter when it comes at developing local economies.**", as Mr. Botti stressed.

This is a valuable recognition of the efforts we have made throughout this period and gives us great strength and optimism for the future.

During these strange times we are passing through, I am sure that goal-setting, dedication and optimism can lead us to safe harbors. And fortunately around Mediterranean there are plenty of them!

I wish you good browsing on our new newsletter and stay tuned for all that is following by our [website](#) and our [Facebook Page](#).

Kind Regards,

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## “MEDNETA STEERING COMMITTEE”

In the middle of June, 3rd Steering Committee was held in Florence. All partners gathered together at Superior Institute of Artistic Industries – ISIA. The 3rd Steering Committee was dedicated in the evaluation of the third semester results. Moreover, all Partners had the opportunity to discuss about MED-Forum, the Pilot Products and Implementation Schemes, the ACDs Lab Network and the Capitalization Activities. Of course, the discussion was occupied with management and financial matters.

In particular, in the last 6 months period there have been several interesting and encouraging for the continuation events:

- WP1 “Management and Coordination”. What is important to highlight is that NTUA managed to finalize the full package of the Interim Report, accomplished on time and all the relevant integrations.
- WP2 “Communication”. The Main Events that have been carried out are 6 Open Workshops in Athens, Valencia, Tunis, Beirut, Hebron and Florence and 3 Training Programs in Tunis, Beirut and Hebron.
- WP3 “Capitalization”. ASM prepared methodology guidelines for the planning of this WP, GAIA has started the preparation of the MEDNETA Observatory and NTUA has started the preparation of the MEDNETA Web- GIS Platform.
- WP5 “Pilot Urban Intervention”. 6 Open Workshops/Pilot urban interventions have been organized in Athens, Valencia, Tunis, Beirut, Hebron and Florence and 6 Reports describing and assessing the implementation of the Open Workshops have been completed.
- WP6 “MED Forum”. The Med Forum has almost set up by BZU assisted by Gaia-h, 3 Training Program have been organized in Tunis, Beirut and Hebron and 3 Reports describing and assessing the implementation of the Training Program have been completed.
- WP7 “Pilot Products and Implementation Schemes”. The creation of pilot design products is in progress. Local ACDs invited to cooperate for the preparation of pilot design products. The partners of each city together with GAIA-heritage and CRESM have chosen 12 craftsmen and designers during their visits on location.
- WP8 “ACDs Lab network”. The setting up of the ACDs Lab Network and the organization of the MEDNETA Exhibition are in progress. A proposal and a program of work for the MEDNETA Exhibition have been prepared by GAIA.

For more detailed information you could see [here](#).





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## “ACDs PILOT PRODUCTS & MEDNETA EXHIBITION”

This exhibition will bring together pilot products, and their stories, created between artists, craftsmen and designers (ACDs) of the partner cities: Athens, Florence/Palermo, Hebron, Tunis, Valencia, and Beirut. The aim of the exhibition is to demonstrate and present the value of cooperation between artists, designers and craftsmen from the different participating cities.

In doing so, it is expected that the exhibition will positively impact the ACDs in each city by facilitating multicultural and/or multidisciplinary collaboration opportunities among them and promoting them across the Mediterranean, as well as increasing their market value.

Today, one cannot forget the tragic events that rock the shores of the Mediterranean or the increasing death toll of migrants trying to escape from violence and poverty. In implementing the MEDNETA project and preparing for its final exhibition, there is a moral duty to contribute – even though with minimal resources – to improving employment opportunities and increasing income for the concerned population of partner cities.

This could be done by stimulating more co-production between artists, designers and craftsmen of cities, devising more adapted products to the needs of today's markets, as an outcome of cultural interaction and continuity of the involved MEDNETA communities and through better communication and marketing. To link the different partner cities and ensure a common inspiration for all participants to follow, a common thread will bring together the exhibition: the Mediterranean - the geographical link between the ACDs. Each of the artists, craftsmen and designers will bring their own reading of the region. MEDNETA's final exhibition will be centered on the dialogue between these ACDs throughout the process of pilot co-productions.

For more information about Pilot Products see [here](#) and about Rotating Exhibition [here](#).

