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# Agia Marina Church



## PROJECT OVERVIEW

*Start date: July 2016*

*End date: December 2016*

*Type of intervention: Conservation works*

*Estimated total cost: 160,000 Euro*

Agia Marina Church is situated in the Nicosia District. The old church is in the middle of the village and there is no evidence of its exact date of construction.

The scope of this project is the conservation/renovation of the Church. Conservation works focused on:

- a) Total conservation of the building;
- b) Removal of all later additions applied on the original monument;
- c) Provision of proper drainage and protection of the foundation.

In particular, the church benefited from the following conservation interventions:

- General cleaning of the building;
- Careful removal of tiles and cement additions on the roof of the building;
- Conservation and structural interventions to the walls;
- Cleaning and repairing of existing roof eaves and completion of missing parts at south façade;
- Conservation of belfry and relocation of existing bell;
- Cleaning of the surface of the stonewall; removal of cement plaster from all areas of the wall so as to reveal its original stone surface;
- Provision of new wooden doors and windows and traditional stone flooring inside the church;
- Construction of new drainage canal and sloping of the surrounding area for water control purposes;
- Completion of the existing perimeter wall and provision of a metal gate;
- Construction of a stone path leading to the Church main entrance.

The overall cost of the project was approx. 160,000.00 Euro fully funded by the European Union.

This is a collaborative work and an effort between United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Technical Committee for Cultural Heritage of Cyprus and local and international architects, engineers, conservators and researchers. **Support to the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage is a cornerstone of the European Union's support to reconciliation and confidence building measures through the Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community.**

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**More resources:** [www.cy.undp.org](http://www.cy.undp.org)

**The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage** - The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage works in line with the mutually agreed mechanism for the preservation of the island's common heritage. In 2009 the Advisory Board was set up by a decision of the two leaders as the executive body of the Committee. The aim of the Board is to protect, preserve and facilitate the preservation, physical protection and restoration (including research, study and survey) of the immovable cultural heritage of Cyprus. This mechanism allows for the practical aspects of preservation to be considered in a non-political manner so that practical measures can be taken to improve the situation on the ground.

**United Nations Development Programme – Partnership for the Future (UNDP-PFF)** - The Agreement on the establishment of the Advisory Board for the Preservation, Physical Protection and Restoration of the Immovable Cultural Heritage of Cyprus recognizes a special role to **UNDP in Cyprus** as a **politically accepted implementation body** by both communities. For this reason, UNDP-PFF was requested by the European Commission to become the lead coordinator under which the project would be implemented fostering dialogue, cooperation and confidence building between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.

**European Union** - Since 2012 approximately **€11.7 Million** have been provided by the European Union through the Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community to implement the priorities of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage for the preservation of the island-wide cultural heritage in Cyprus. **The European Union** is the largest contributor to the work of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in Cyprus. For more information on the Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community click [here](#): or visit the [EU Infopoint](#) on Facebook.