



# Carmelite (St Mary of Carmel) Church in Famagusta

## This is a project of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage



### PROJECT OVERVIEW

*Study Start Date: May 2017*

*End Date: May 2018*

*Type of proposed intervention: Conservation works*

This Carmelite church was part of a monastic complex dedicated to the Virgin Mary, built between 1324 and 1366 and painted sometime between the 14th and 15th Centuries. It is a beautiful and simple building consisting of a single nave with three bays and a semi hexagonal apse.

Located in the walled city of Famagusta, adjacent the Martinengo Bastion, St. Anne Church forms part of the so-called “Martinengo Cluster”. Clusters are critical mass areas of monuments identified by the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in the Famagusta, Paphos and Karpasia/Karpaz regions, to promote the economic growth and territorial development of these areas.

‘Survey, Investigations, Assessment and Project Design’ studies for these four monuments were completed in June 2016.

Conservation works to this monument will include:

- **External works:** Rainwater management inside and around the structure.
- **Roof above Women’s gallery:** Removal of any plants from the roof, cleaning of the spouts and installation of new gutters, repairing of cracks and introduction of new proper elastic waterproofing system, general deep pointing.
- **External walls:** Consolidation of the historical plaster, rebuilding of a part of the south façade and buttress to reinforce the whole structure, treatment of the surfaces where organic growth is present by using appropriate biocide/herbicide, pointing of mortar with appropriate material, stabilization of loose masonry and stones, replacement of decayed/deteriorated and heavily damaged stones, stitching of heavily cracked areas and provision of additional new stones to bind the surfaces and complete missing parts, building of the missing stone wall surface in order to protect the wall from disintegration and collapse, injection to the lower parts of the walls to create a barrier to humidity and rising damp.
- **Internal works:** protection of historical frescoes, fixing of all cracks, addition of new stones to missing parts, general pointing of all surface area, installation of a new door at the opening of the women’s gallery to control access, installation of frameless glass panes to the 3 window openings of the women’s gallery.
- **Wall paintings and original plaster:** stabilisation work.

Conservation works are planned to be completed by May 2018.

The project is fully funded by the European Union and implemented by the UNDP in partnership with the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

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More information on on-going projects of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage can be found here: <http://www.cy.undp.org/content/cyprus/en/home/operations/projects/partnershipforthefuture/support-to-cultural-heritage-monuments-of-great-importance-for-c.html>

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#### European Union

Since 2012 approximately **€14.7 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 visit the following:**

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/overview-funding-programmes/aid-programme-turkish-cypriot-community\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/overview-funding-programmes/aid-programme-turkish-cypriot-community_en)  
[EU Infopoint on Facebook](#) - <http://www.abbilgi.eu/en> - <http://www.abbilgi.eu/tr/>

#### 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

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 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.

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