

FUToURISM Conference 28-30 November 2007

Integrated and sustainable development of tourism, handicraft, health and heritage

Between the 28th and 30th November 2007, the Fondazzjoni Wirt Artna hosted the FUToURISM Project Conference at the Radisson SAS Bay Point Resort, St Julian's. The FUToURISM project is an INTERREG IIIC funded project aiming to contribute to the development and the sustainable organization of the tourist potentially under exploited regions. The project is partly financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) through the Interreg III Community Initiative, which forms part of the Structural Funds Programme for Malta (2004-2006).



The first day was dedicated to an internal steering committee meeting, where the partners discussed in detail the progress of the project and the main project commitments to be tackled until the end of the project. On the same day, a group of project partners visited Gozo where they held meetings with potential local stakeholders.



A full day conference took place on the 29th November. Members of the Maltese Public attended the conference and presentations included both local and foreign speakers. The Minister for Tourism and Culture, Hon. Frances Zammit Dimech opened the conference. The lead partner introduced the project to the attendees and explained briefly each mini project, whilst a more detailed presentation from each partner followed.

The last day of the conference consisted of study visits to the local cultural attractions including a visit to the Saluting Battery at the Upper Barrakka Gardens in Valletta where the delegates experienced the Noon-Day Gun. The beautiful weather permitted that a traditional dghajsa transports the delegates from the Valletta Waterfront to Vittoriosa. The delegates also visited Fort Rinella in Kalkara.



The overall outcome of the conference was very fruitful and the results will be published in a brochure at the end of the project.

