

PRESS RELEASE
CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR
IN THE FRAME OF THE BALKAN MED/ MO.NA. – PROJECT
PRESS RELEASE

funded by the INTERREG V - Balkan -Mediterranean 2014-2020.

On Friday April 9th, 2021 between 10:00-14:00 took place the Cyprus International Webinar organized by the Society of Cypriot Studies with the cooperation of the Cyprus Department of Forests. After the welcome message by the Chairman of the Society of Cypriot Studies Dr Charalampos G. CHOTZAKOGLU followed the greetings by Prof. Natalia POULOU, Chairman of the Board of the European Centre of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments (EKBMM) in Thessaloniki, leader of the Balcan Med/ Mo.Na-project, the greetings by the Cyprus Commissioner of the Environment Klelia VASSILEIOU and the greetings by the Director of the Dpt. of Forests Charalampos ALEXANDROU.

The first session of the Cyprus Webinar was dedicated to the “Cultural Management”. Marios PELEKANOS, architect, engineer, Associate Professor of the Frederick University, Cyprus presented his paper under the title "The importance of the local materials in the evolution of a building type. The case of the timber-roofed Basilicas of Troodos". Dr George MICHAELIDES, a civil engineer specializing on water resources engineering and environmental management, Assistant Professor at the Frederick University, Cyprus presented the topic of the “Rainwater harvesting in Cyprus”. Chrysanthos PISSARIDES, architect-restorer, Chairman of the ICOMOS Cyprus talked in the “Old bridges of Troodos”. Dr Flora KARAGIANNI, Byzantinologist, Director of EKBMM presented the “Challenges and difficulties in managing the Byzantine (UNESCO) monuments of Thessaloniki”.

The second session of the Webinar was devoted to the “Common Protection Initiatives and Synergies” undertaken by the partners of the Mo.Na project. The Forest Officer of the Cyprus Dpt. of Forests Constantinos THEMISTOCLEOUS, presented the deliverable of his Department for “Restoration of the old path Kykkos – Panagia”. The archaeologists from the Cyclades Ephorate of the Greek Ministry of Culture, *Maya EFSTATHIOU*, *Chrisanthi SAKELLAKOU*, *Marina VOGKLI* gave insights of their deliverable in Thera under the title: “Natural and Cultural Management. Common protection initiatives: The so far practices in the island complex of Thera – Therasia”. Dr Eugenia GEROUSI, Director of the National Archives of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture talked on the "Hellenic Monuments in World Heritage List of Unesco.

Initiatives for the Protection of their Environment", while the architect Belin MOLLOV analyzed the situation in Bulgaria with his paper under the title: "A new approach to the cultural heritage of the 'ancient city of Nessebar' and measures for its preservation, use and management in synergy with the requirements of nature".

The third session under the title "Synergies" presented the deliverables to the Mo.Na project created by the Society of Cypriot Studies: the photographic exhibition presented by Dr Ioannis ELIADES, Byzantinologist, Vice-Chairman of the Society under the title: "Water and Monuments at the Troodos Forests" and the awarder short documentary film created under the direction of Petros MOUGIOS with the title: "ἐξ ὕδατος ψυχή/ the soul of water" (duration: 8'49"min)". The Mayor of the Turkish-occupied town of Kythrea expressed his gratitude for the preparation of the film, focused on the great spring of Kythrea that after the invasion of 1974 has been dried.

The Cyprus Commissioner for the Environment concluded the Webinar with her closing remarks, while the participants watched the short-documentary film. During the discussion, many interesting insights of the presentations were discussed.

The whole Cyprus International Webinar was uploaded in u-tube and is available to watch at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vU2wYRgVeVE>

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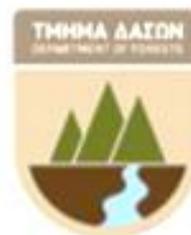
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