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Lim Hooi Siang from UN Habitat during his presentation on "Principles and Practice" of treatment of cultural heritage in different countries



A moment from the seminar

CHWB and UN HABITAT organize seminar "Treatment of Historic Zones in spatial planning"

4 July

CHWB and UN HABITAT organized a joint seminar "Treatment of Historic Zones in spatial planning", which was held on 4th of July in Kulla e Mazrekajve, Dranoc, Decan. CHWB and UN HABITAT, which just commenced the Programme for Support of Municipal Spatial Planning in order to assist in improving the life standard in towns, held the seminar with the aim of identifying issues and problems that authorities face in implementing Preservation and Development Plans (PDP) in accordance with corresponding laws. Representatives from Ministry of Spatial Planning, Institutes for Protection of Monuments, Municipalities of Decan, Istog, Prizren, Peja and Gjakova and UN Habitat from Peja attended the seminar. Three presentations were given in the first part of the seminar, followed by a discussion of participants regarding the field experience in integration of historic zones in urban and municipal spatial development plans and problems arising in such cases. Based on the positive results of this seminar, CHWB and UN HABITAT agreed to organize a whole set of seminars and workshops, with representatives of the relevant institutions, in order to discuss practical cases, such is Isniq, Dranoc, Decan and Prizren, and implementation of PDPs for them. The final aim of this initiative is to compile a set of guidelines that would ease the implementation of legal procedures regarding inclusion of historic zones in spatial planning on level of municipalities and Kosovo, in accordance with prevailing law.

Gospodarska Kuca-Saraj in Velika Hoca inaugurated*5 July*

Inauguration of the restored Gospodarska Kuca - Saraj took place on 5th of July 2006, in the presence of representatives from international organizations, foreign liaison offices and local institutions that were involved in this project, including Giorgio Mamberto - Chief of Liaison Office of European Commission, Astrit Haracija - Minister of Culture of Kosovo, Per Arne Stroberg - CHwB Secretary General, representatives of Municipality of Rahovec and local community of Velika Hoca.

CHwB supported by the European Agency for Reconstruction (EAR) and Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) has restored Gospodarska Kuca-Saraj, a building in great need of restoration. This building dates back to the late 19th century or the beginning of the 20th century. It represents a beautiful example of vernacular architecture in this region. The process involved heritage experts, architects, beneficiaries and craftsmen of Velika Hoca that were trained throughout the project and now they are capable of doing similar projects within their own community.

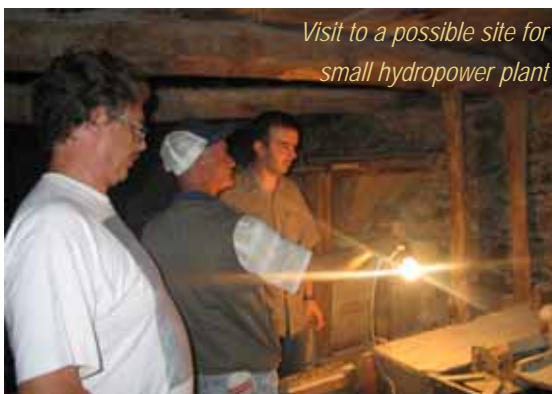
A new use for the building was decided together with the local community, which will contribute to the socio-economic development of the village. The new function is intended to both protect and revitalize the monument's values. It also intends to create a gathering point for people of Velika Hoca to develop their social activities and an educational center for youth, that will provide spaces for their activities such as different exhibitions, organizing different courses that will help them managing and gaining from their heritage.



CHwB Secretary General, Per Arne Stroberg, giving a speech during the inauguration ceremony



Chief of Liaison Office of European Commission, Giorgio Mamberto and Culture Minister of Kosovo, Astrit Haracija, cutting the ribbon of Saraj House in Velika Hoca

**CHwB organizes seminar with village communities on renewable energies***7 July*

A seminar with village communities on small-scale renewable energies was held on 7th of July in Kulla e Mazrekajve, Dranoc, Decan. Leading German expert on renewable energies, Dr. Eberhard Mueller, was invited to lecture in this seminar, which focused on small hydropower in Peja and Decan area and the possibilities of using Photovoltaic Systems as means of modern power supply to traditional Kullas. One

of the main conclusions of the seminar was that cultural heritage and conservation should be developed together with environmental conservation, where Renewable Energies play a crucial role. At the end of the seminar possible sites for small hydropower plant were visited. One place to reconstruct a waterwheel for power supply or to produce flour was found.





CHwB supports environmental awareness through a seminar on "Soft Tourism"

13 July

As a part of its continuing efforts to support environmental awareness, CHwB in close cooperation with Serge Doucette Ph.D. organized a seminar on "Soft Tourism", which was held on 13 July 2006. The Kulla of Dranoc proved to be a good meeting place for people from Prizren, Mitrovica, Peja, Decan, Velika Hoca and other regions, as it served as an example of how similar setups or private homes could be used for the "bed & breakfast" type of tourism, whose basic principles were presented during the seminar.

However, it was underlined that basic infrastructure and a clean environment are needed for development of Soft Tourism, in addition to providing services such as bread baking, juice production or guided tours. This seminar is only the first step towards undertaking larger initiatives for a tidier environment and training of tour guides for herbal aspects, wildlife, geology etc, as essentials for developing Soft Tourism.

"Jeta" NGO opens first handicraft shop in Decan

23 July

With dedicated work, "Jeta" NGO opened a shop for exhibition and sale of items crafted by its members, in the restored "Shabanaj's Mill" in centre of Decan. The NGO members have displayed even items made by their grandparents, 70 years ago, thus giving a timeline to evolution of crafting of traditional clothes and items. This is the first shop of its kind in Decan, and its necessity was proven by the great number of visitors during the opening day of the shop. On 22 of July, Peja Mayor, Mr. Ali Lajqi, visited the shop and expressed his satisfaction with the work that has been done, promising that a similar mill in Peja would be made available for exhibition of women's handicrafts.

CHwB trains IPM and MCYS staff on maintenance of its Inventory Database

18 August

Eleven candidates from the Institutes for Protection of Monuments IPMs and the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of Kosovo, have completed two weeks of training on the management and update of temporary Inventory Database. This training was a part of an agreement between CHwB and MCYS, aiming Institutional capacity building. Candidates have gained knowledge on maintaining and updating the digital Data Base for Inventory of Architectural and Archeological Heritage. Digital Data Base has been produced by CHwB during 2004/05 as a part of Dukagjini Brochure Project.

In the meantime, Ministry of Culture made a request to use the database for inventory records, which resulted in an Agreement that also requires expansion of database to include all 2700 buildings listed during the inventory, a project which will be completed in the end of October 2006.



MCYS and CHwB prepare for European Heritage Days 2006 in Kosovo

30 August

For the first time, this year, "EUROPEAN HERITAGE

DAYS 2006" (EHD), a joint action of CoE and EC, will be held in Kosovo under the patronage of Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, with CHwB as its main implementing partner. CHwB has maintained the tradition of organizing the EHD in Kosovo for the past three years, with various cultural activities. As part of EHD 2006, activities will be held in four locations throughout Kosovo.

Week 1 - 9 September 2006 in Cagllavica (Prishtina)

Week 2 - 16 and 17 September 2006 in Velika Hoca (Rahovec/Orahovac) and Mitrovica

Week 3 - 23 September 2006 in Isniq and Dranoc (Decan)

Week 4 - 30 September 2006, in Prizren.

For more information visit: <http://www.chwb.org/kosovo>