



22 July 2013

## Press Release

**Subject: Announcing the launch of the **CULTUR** **EX**change **Platform** (CULTUR-EXP) project.**

The CULTUR<sup>e</sup> EXchange Platform (CULTUR-EXP) project is implemented under the European Union's Black Sea Basin Joint Operational Programme <http://www.blacksea-cbc.net>. The project started on 1 July 2013. It involves organisations from five countries: Georgia, Armenia, Greece, Bulgaria and Moldova. The project duration is 24 months, the EU funding is 295 KEUR.

The objective of the project is to facilitate the cross-border exchange of culture by providing an innovative, multi-lingual IT platform, based on available open source social platform solutions and adapted for culture producers (artists, directors or art, festival organizers), culture operators (museums, festivals, etc.) and other actors of the culture market. The platform will be an online tool, where all cultural professional and organisations in the Black Sea region will be able to advertise, discuss and organize cultural activities and events. The platform will also be an important source of information about the culture and related cultural events (artists, operators, events) for art lovers and culture consumers.

To fulfill this objective, the project aims to carry out seven Group of Activities:

- GA1 will provide analysis on the functional and non-functional requirements of the online platform.
- GA2 will select the appropriate existing open source software for the platform.
- GA3 once the open source software solution has been chosen, IT partners will modify and adapt it to the defined requirements. The platform will be implemented at RENAM data center and the proper content migration processes will start.
- GA4 is the preparation and migration of cultural content to the platform.
- GA5 this is maintaining the platform's operation.
- GA6 is promoting the platform and raising its visibility.
- GA7 is management and coordination of the Action.

The project is lead by:

- Georgian Research and Educational Networking Association (GRENA), Georgia  
<http://www.grena.ge/> Prof. Ramaz Kvatadze e-mail: [contact@grena.ge](mailto:contact@grena.ge),  
Tel.: +995 32 2250590

The project partners are:

- European Regional Framework for Co-operation (ERFC), Greece  
<http://www.erfc.gr/> Mr. Nikolas Petropoulos e-mail: [erfc@otenet.gr](mailto:erfc@otenet.gr)  
Tel.: + 30 693 6656204
- District Government of Burgas, Republic of Bulgaria  
<http://www.bsregion.org/> Ms. Borislava Yordanova e-mail:  
[cultur.exp@gmail.com](mailto:cultur.exp@gmail.com) Tel: +359 56 894149
- Armenian Monuments Awareness Project Cultural NGO (AMAP), Republic of Armenia  
<http://www.armenianmonuments.org/> Mr. Richard Ney e-mail:  
[info@armenianmonuments.org](mailto:info@armenianmonuments.org) Tel.: +374 10 532455
- Research and Educational Networking Association of Moldova (RENAM), Republic of Moldova  
<http://www.renam.md/> Dr. Petru Bogatencov e-mail:  
[cult-exp-md@lists.renam.md](mailto:cult-exp-md@lists.renam.md) Tel.: +373 22 739827

Interested cultural operators, festivals, museums, culture related sites, galleries, other relevant and independent artists interested to promote their culture work via Black Sea CULTURE-EXP platform are welcomed to enter in contact with the project partners.

Web-sites:

CULTUR-EXP project <http://www.cultur-exp.eu>

Black Sea Basin Joint Operational Programme <http://www.blacksea-cbc.net>

Contact:

CULTUR-EXP Project Management Office, e-mail: [contact@grena.ge](mailto:contact@grena.ge) Tel.: +995 32 2250590