

Grampus Heritage and Training Ltd

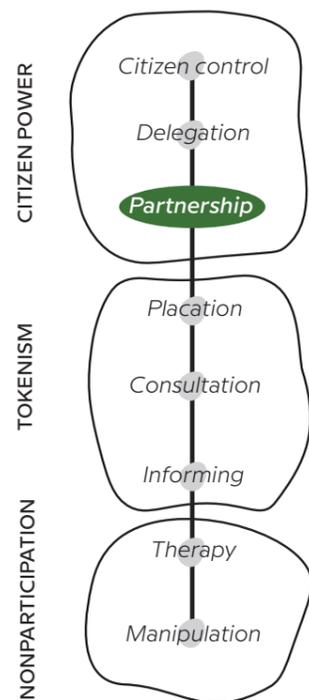


LOCATION
**Pano Lefkara,
Cyprus-Greece**

TIME PERIOD
Since 1995

THE PROJECT

The Grampus project is located in several places in the village of Pano Lefkara. The crux of the creative works undertaken is sustainability and the idea that rural life was closer to sustainability's principles. By engaging in the valorisation of knowledge from the glorious past of the village, Grampus aims to go beyond documenting and preserving this. The goal is to re-engage in these crafts to create meaningful employment and rural regeneration.



tourism board has worked a lot on agrotourism to develop the area. But above all, the **European fundings was decisive** because it shaped Grampus' work.

RESULT

The targeted impact is partly achieved as the **project is still ongoing**. Moreover, with the covid pandemic, the process of transferring knowledge decelerated but will be restarting soon. The main beneficiary of this creative work is the local community because through the activities combining traditional skills with young people, new examples of sustainable development have been created. This has provided a **pathway to employment for the young people in traditional craft**. Moreover the transnational dimension of the project has allowed influx of visitors as an economic benefit of the educational program. Overall, the creative works have been embraced by the local community as an attempt to revitalize rural communities forgotten by the central authorities.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SPACE

Pano Lefkara could be defined as a remote place by its **low population density** and the **poor transportation links**. But the remoteness of this settlement is characterized by subjective criteria like the exodus of the population, which resulted in the abandonment of many dwellings. The **village is dense** in its center and surrounded by open space. There are a couple of plazas and overall, there are **adequate public spaces** for the activities undertaken. However, due to the exodus and aging population, the public spaces have been **left empty**.

INITIATION AND ACTORS

The **project was initiated by Grampus Heritage and Training**, which is a not-for-profit organization passionate about culture, heritage and environment.

Its purpose is to **preserve disappearing skills across Europe and support rural communities**. The activities have been coordinated by the Cyprus Agrotourism company.

ROLE OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY & METHODS USED

The project consists of educational activities led by Grampus in the framework of Green Village partnership in cooperation with other European rural settlements. The local community is involved as the host of those who wish to participate in the local creative workshops. Their culture and their place is in the center of the creative process: **local community learn from their ancestors**. In addition, many local residents play the role of teacher for the education in archeology and crafts. The municipality has been very keen to support the process and the



Painting lessons
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Church with a cross bearing the 'lefkatiotika' lace patterns
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Overview of the village
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Pyrgos, Tinos, Greece

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more about
this project





Creative works in small and remote places: European best practices exploration

Link to the publication:
<http://www1.uirs.si/en-us/book/id/119>