

EU-CHIC (Cultural Heritage Identity Card)

<http://www.eu-chic.eu/>

Project Summary

The aim of the EU CHIC project is to set-up a system of the »Cultural Heritage Identity Card« (CHIC), which will introduce a systematic collection and storage of data on immovable heritage objects across European and neighbouring countries. The main objective is to develop and test guidelines, needed for efficient compilation of data, pertinent to each monument under observation. The system of CHIC will support sustainable maintenance, preventive conservation and rehabilitation of historic sites and monuments. It will assist application of newly developed strategies, which are designed to evaluate efficiency and user-friendliness of the approach used for screening time-varying alteration of heritage buildings, caused by human interventions and environmental impacts. Partners of the project will promote and assist an introduction of the CHIC system in their countries and further facilitate its use in the neighbouring countries through their links with governmental authorities, responsible for their cultural heritage protection and preservation.

Development of the project will be achieved through activities of four core work packages, that will be supported by the coordinative and dissemination work packages.

- WP 1: Management of Project
- WP2: Current documentation methodologies
- WP3: Criteria and Indicators for Risk Assessment
- WP4: Methods and Tools
- WP5: Recommendations and Strategies
- WP6: Communication and Dissemination

The consortium consists of 12 partners from 11 countries, which are Slovenia, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Poland and Spain and coordinates activities at the national and international level. The Advisory Committee leads the Advisory Network, which assists the establishment and maintenance rapport with local authorities, responsible for safeguarding of CHIC and with other stakeholders in heritage protection.

The main intention of the EU CHIC project is to facilitate increase of knowledge on heritage building stock across Europe, to support development of sustainable maintenance, preservation and revitalization of historic sites and monuments through elaboration of guidelines for assessment and use of efficient and user-friendly systems for identification of parameters to characterize heritage building and their possible alterations during its entire lifetime, using the concept of Identity Card.

The Identity Card concept of the project is oriented to **heritage buildings and assets**. The project focuses on immovable heritage, as monuments, churches, museums, palaces, castles, historical sites etc., on industrial heritage and archaeological sites.. The intention of the project is thus not further development of an existing model, but rather evaluation of successful and promising models and tools and assistance to the development of pan-European standards.

The expected impact of the EU CHIC project is not only to show a significant cost benefit for cultural heritage owners and managers, by using common parameters, but also to increase level of professional education and vocational training in order to minimize harmful impact of ignorance, lack of knowledge and vandalism.