

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

E-VILLAGE PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR INTERREG III B CADSES PROGRAMME

<u>Acronym:</u>	E-VILLAGE
<u>Project Title:</u>	Regeneration of medieval villages in a knowledge based society.
<u>Framework:</u>	EU Community Initiative Programme for Transnational Cooperation in Spatial Development.
<u>Programme:</u>	CADSES
<u>Priority:</u>	3 – Promotion and management of landscape, natural and cultural heritage.
<u>Measure:</u>	3.1 – Protecting and developing cultural heritage.
<u>Expected Financial Requirement:</u>	€ 3 million.
<u>Project Duration:</u>	The project will be completed within 24 months.
<u>Expected Closing Date:</u>	September/October 2005.
<u>Lead Partner:</u>	Sorella Natura Foundation Assisi – Italy
<u>Project Contact Points:</u>	BICO S.r.l. (Italy) http://www.bicogroup.com Dr. Luca Lo Giudice (EU Regional Development Adviser) e-mail: luca.logiudice@bicogroup.191.it Dr. Flavio Argentesi (Science Adviser) Mobile: +39 340 4089100 e-mail: flavio.argentesi@bicogroup.com

Background:

The INTERREG III B CADSES programme is part of the European Community Initiative INTERREG III Framework.

The EU Community Initiatives are an important component of the European Regional Development Policy.

The INTERREG III B Framework requires transnational co-operation to ensure a balanced and sustainable development of the EU areas sharing common needs.

CADSES is the acronym for the Central Adriatic Danubian and Southeastern European Space.

The programme is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and cover the period 2000-2006.

The programme is implemented through a sequence of calls for proposals with a fixed deadline. The next call is expected by July 2005 with a deadline by September/October 2005.

More information are available on the CADSES Web Portal (<http://www.cadses.net>).

Aims:

The E-Village project proposal aims to the valorisation of an extraordinary cultural heritage, the medieval villages of CADSES region, by means of an economic and social regeneration based on the integration of the information society models and technologies with a conservative recovery of existing infrastructures.

The objective of the project is the development of few pilots of regenerated medieval villages, called "Metaborgo" representative of this reality in the CADSES region.

"Metaborgo" will be a medieval village that, in addition to remain an integral part of European heritage, will acquire an active role in the contemporary world becoming part of the emerging knowledge society.

The "Metaborgo" will assume a complex technological organization and it will integrate in the global economy.

Project Activities:

The project is based on two principal activities:

- First activity – Study.
The study of selected realities to investigate medieval villages decline (economic and social decadence and marginality) and possible actions for their regeneration (tourist development, opportunities rising from communicating and operating in worldwide by internet).

In this phase, two studies will be executed: one in Assisi (Italy), and the other in a different part of CADSES region with preference for Central Europe.

- Second activity – Project Pilot.
Definition of a business model and of a technology platform in order to implement the envisaged pilots.

In this phase, it is foresees the design and implementation of a pilot for a medieval village nearby in Assisi in central Italy.

In particular, this regeneration will be based on an architectural and technological recovery of two different parts of the village:

- ✓ a medieval building for touring and cultural reception;
- ✓ the sacristy of Santa Croce Church, built in XIII century.

These two buildings will be bound by the implementation of specific telecommunication network and by a number of communication and knowledge management services.

Interested areas:

The E-Village project intends to involve some medieval villages (and infrastructures) in Italy and in other countries of the CADSES region, like Slovenia, Austria, Germany, Poland, Romania, Greece, Hungary and Bulgaria.

E-Village Consortium:

At the moment, the E-Village transnational consortium¹ includes the following partners:

- Fondazione Sorella Natura (Coordinator) – Italy
- Regione Umbria – Italy
- Comune di Assisi – Italy
- Ministero dell’Innovazione Tecnologica – Italy
- Convento dei frati francescani di Assisi – Italy
- Prokom Software SA – Poland
- Polish Consortium of Regional Development – Poland
- Municipality of Sanok – Poland
- Municipality of Philippi – Greece
- Trek Consulting SA - Greece
- University of Vienna – Austria

¹ To be confirmed.