Mediterranean traditional architecture. The reasons for its rehabilitation and maintenance.

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Mediterranean space
The value and the use of this heritage
Architectural typologies
Materials and building techniques
Transformation process and the future

Mediterranean area

• Geographical diversity
• Seasonal landscapes
• A circulated space
• Common land, common sights
During colonial times

Mediterranean region today
Traditional architecture

• Traditional, vernacular, ordinary, anonymous, pre-industrial, without architects…
• Simple, adapted to its environment, answering needs, according to cultural reference…
• Build with basic and local materials
• Obviously reflecting a common imaginative Mediterranean world
A domesticated land

- A land of cities networking territories
- An intensive use of territory for production purpose
- A range of others buildings, answers to fit the necessities
- A net of roads that weave and structure territories
- A vast diversity of landscapes
Living in community

• Social organizations in urban or rural communities
• Compact urban fabric with streets, piazzas and public spaces
• The urban area is fed and provided by trades, religions, feasts and holidays, politics…
• A sustainable model, self-sufficient and ecologically profitable
Multiple places and ways of living

• Outside
• Interior versus exterior,
• Air and light filtered,
• Transition spaces
• Green architecture
Architectural typologies

- Elementary house
- Patio house
- High houses
- Scattered settlements

Elementary houses
Patio houses
High houses
Scattered settlements
Building arts
local materials and traditional techniques
Building arts
local materials and traditional techniques

- Floors
- Cupolas
- Vaults
- Timber frames
- Roofs
- Stone walls
- Earth walls
- Wood structures and facings
- Light houses
- Rendering and lime washes
- Know-how
Time works on architecture

- Living architecture
- Evolving architecture
- Ongoing transformation
- Abandoned and ruined
- As a museum
- picturesque
- Architecture for a cultural tourism
- Rehabilitated architecture
- Re-interpreted architecture
Looking at the future

Traditional architecture can be:

- A driving force for social and economic development
- A solution for housing problems
- A development tool for cultural tourism
- A resource for inter mediterranean culture

As a result of its rehabilitation and revitalization

Transformation process endangered heritage
Today we have

• A network of experts of traditional mediterranean architecture
• Exhibitions, to raise awarness on a heritage present but often forgotten
• On the Web, database on typologies, building materials and techniques and a selection of significant sites
• A book, synthesis on this architecture, its evolution and future
• Another book, a Manual of Rehabilitation and maintenance