

CZ-CULTURE

ANNUAL PROGRAMME REPORT 2019: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Programme Culture supports revitalization of the Czech cultural heritage and cultural and creative activities enhancing regional development and social inclusion.

The programme was approved on 30 January 2019, signature of the Programme Agreement followed on 20 February 2019. The programme is in its initial, mostly administrative and preparation phase, thus, no projects have been realized so far and no specific results regarding the outcomes and outputs including bilateral results or monitoring could be provided in this report. The Programme Operator launched three open calls for proposals in the areas: *Capacity Building of Umbrella Associations, Networks and Platforms; Art and Cultural Criticism* and *Contemporary Arts* on 26 November 2019. The open call in the supported area *Revitalization of movable and immovable cultural heritage* was announced on 10 December 2019. Based on the enormous interest in the previous period 2009-2014 for the cultural projects, significant interest is also expected in this programme period.

Museum of Romani Culture as a Project Promoter is preparing the proposal for the pre-defined project “Building of a memorial to the victims of the Roma holocaust in Lety – Písek Museum of Romani Culture” addressing the cultural heritage of Roma with an ongoing landscape-architectural competition for the design of the new memorial.

In order to raise awareness about the Czech Culture Programme among Norwegian cultural and artistic operators, the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic organized an information seminar in cooperation with the Arts Council Norway, the Arts and Theatre Institute and the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic in Oslo in February 2019. The match-making seminar in the area of cultural heritage organized by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic in cooperation with the Norwegian Directorate for Cultural heritage took place in Prague on 27 May 2019. The launch conference introducing opportunities in financing cultural projects and a ceremonial opening of the Programme Culture was held in Prague on 28 May 2019 for more than 170 cultural operators from the Czech Republic, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. Activities regarding the communication and publicity rely on the social media and continuous update of the programme website www.eegrants.cz/culture.

In order to encourage and promote bilateral relations, the Programme Operator in cooperation with the National Focal Point created a shared partner database that gathers partner requests from the Czech Republic and donor states from all programme areas supported in the Czech Republic and promotes synergies in projects.

Lessons learned from the programme development were taken into account. Particularly the stakeholder consultations proved to be very beneficial and helped when setting up the open calls for new supported areas.

The overall risk of the programme has not changed.