



PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Today, the 10th of November 2017, a partnership agreement is signed to establish EFFORTS.

The intention to establish a European network of military heritage sites was first declared in Helsinki, Finland, on the 27th of October 2014.

In 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on the 31st of October 2016, to establish EFFORTS: the European Federation of FORTified Sites.

The mission of EFFORTS is to share expertise, promote cooperation and to emphasise the significance of fortified heritage as a continuing connection to our common European history and as a condition for social, economic and spatial development.

EFFORTS aims to maintain an on-going European network of fortified heritage sites to:

- Establish permanent and practical **partnerships** between scientific experts, policy makers, enterprises and practitioners
- Promote **accessibility** for citizens and meaningful **sustainable reuse** of fortified heritage Provide an international **exchange** of information and **research** expertise on re-use of fortified heritage
- Understand and promote the **regeneration** and **redevelopment** of fortified sites and their surrounding urban and rural landscape
- Highlight and raise the **profile** of fortified heritage - such as walled towns, fortresses, defensive lines
- Recognise the tangible and intangible **values** and social and economic **significance** of fortified heritage

EFFORTS general membership benefits

- **Resource e-library** of best practice materials, case studies, technical specs and toolkits
- **Periodical scan** of available **EU financial and funding programmes**
- **An exchange** knowledge on National funding
- A "**portal**" for other external opportunities to build partnerships
- **Forum** of potential **future project development** ideas
- **Annual** European Fortified Heritage Sites **Conference**
- Permanent **team of lobbyists** at the European level to influence on new policies and new policy agenda
- Production of specific **policy note recommendations** on fortified sites for regional, national and EU level policy papers to enhance a permanent legal framework
- European partner network for **developing marketing and tourism strategies**

EFFORTS individual membership benefits

- External **project partner matching** service
- Access to **identified financial support** on national and EU levels
- Up to three **expert-to-expert exchanges** (providing specialist technical knowhow on similar and /or visionary levels)
- Personalised **thematic best practice materials** (eg: accessibility / environmental impact / tourism / volunteerism / management / restoration / re use / finance)
- Personalised **knowledge, skills and training needs assessment** (to assist in developing capacity of members and improving membership services)
- Personalised **support to implement on-site projects**
- Increased city profile on European level through visibility on an online European map of fortified heritage members

EFFORTS membership

Membership of the EFFORTS network is open to all interested parties, whether from government organisations, NGOs or other organisations working within the field of fortified sites. We aim to interest representatives from all over Europe. All members agree with the statutes and internal rules.

EFFORTS membership fees

The annual membership fees are stated in the internal rules of EFFORTS and are annually reviewed by the Finance Committee.

EFFORTS legal entity

EFFORTS is a non-profit-making association as established under Belgian law. The ASBL - Association Sans But Lucratif (ASBL) will be registered in Brussels, Belgium.