





KICK-OFF MEETING OF THE RESTART PROJECT

The kick-off meeting of the **RESTART** project - 'REvitalisation tools to boost post-mining areas through SusTAinable cultural heRitage &Tourism' - was held online on **21 March**. Three partners from European countries – **AGH University of Science and Technology** (**Poland**), **Espacio Tormaleo** (**Spain**) and **National Technical University of Athens** (**Greece**), presented the main objectives of the project and the characteristics of the post-mining areas that will be the subject of sustainable cultural tourism activities.

RESTART is a small European cooperation project in the framework of the **Creative Europe 2022** programme. The main objectives of the project were to create a platform for **collaboration between European post-mining areas**. The aim of the international cooperation is to support the development and implementation of **sustainable cultural tourism** activities and tools that can contribute to enhancing the potential of post-mining areas on their road to recovery and revitalisation. The project will take initiatives to develop cultural activities and innovative ideas through the organisation of exhibitions, performances, Ideathon and other cultural and natural heritage activities and events with economic, social and environmental impact at the local level.

The team from Poland presented the area of **Krzemionki Podgórskie** due to its wealth of historical and cultural values and the impact of limestone mining on the development of Krakow. This area has a great potential for development, that could encourage sustainable tourism, raise awareness, and promote cultural heritage among the local community.

Partners from Spain presented their post-mining area of **Tormaleo in Asturias**. The closure of mines as a result of the energy transition has led to extreme depopulation in this region. The project aims to promote and support high natural value and industrial heritage in order to increase the attractiveness of the area.

Representatives of the Greek team presented the area of the Lavrio municipality, which is the most important mining and metallurgical centre in Greece. The creation of the **Lavrion Technological Cultural Park** has increased the tourist value of the area. In addition, the presence of ancient and modern mines that have not yet been restored represents a potential for regeneration and development of the region.

The RESTART project will run until 2026. During this time, the partner countries will pursue their intended objectives and engage stakeholders in dialogue to create the basis for implementation of sustainability practices in cultural heritage & sustainable cultural tourism.

#sustainableculturaltourism #cooperation #postminingareas















