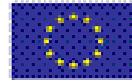




Το Πρόγραμμα συγχρηματοδοτείται  
από την Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση (ΕΤΠΑ)  
και από Εθνικούς Πόρους  
της Ελλάδας και της Κύπρου



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ



ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗ ΕΝΩΣΗ



ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ

## PRESS RELEASE

The Ministry of Communications and Works, Department of Antiquities, announces that throughout 2012 the implementation of the activities of the project entitled “EUMATHIOS PHILOKALES, Promotion of Selected Middle Byzantine Monuments of Crete and Cyprus, using innovative methods” continued. The project is co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund via the Cross-Border Cooperation Programme Greece-Cyprus 2007-2013.

In 2011 the excavation of both monuments’ surrounding areas, i.e. Church of Agia Marina Kandou (3.3) and Church of Panagia Kofinou (3.4), was completed and in 2012 the excavation field notes along with the finds catalogues were handed in. In addition, the architectural remains that were uncovered were recorded in detail and their architectural plans have already been used by the project’s researchers for the completion of the landscaping proposals.

The restoration of the Church of Agia Marina Kandou is almost completed, although the final application of a sealant on its roofs will occur in the spring of 2013. Therefore, all the church’s vertical elements have been restored successfully, as well as the apse’s conch and the arches’ openings. This allowed for the project’s initial methods to be altered and traditional methods to be applied, i.e. restoring the segmental semi-cylindrical domes of the eastern and western side with stone masonry. New evidence was revealed during the restoration of the dome, which turns out to have been without a cylindrical drum. Consequently, it was decided to continue the monument’s restoration with a saucer dome support also constructed with stone masonry, instead of a dome with a drum.

Close contact and the exchange of information with the corresponding team in Crete were of utmost importance at this stage.

In addition, conservation works on the dependency ruins have been completed and the competition’s paperwork has been prepared. The competition will be announced for tenders in 2013 (supporting wall, points of access, enclosure, praying stand etc). Also, the provisions for the electrical supply have been installed.

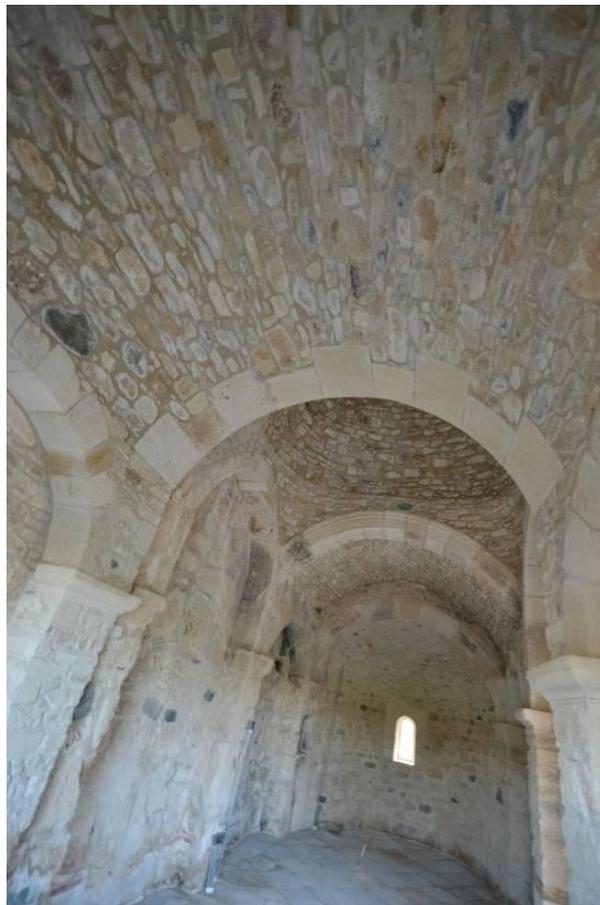
At the Church of Panagia Kofinou the restoration of the building's masonry has been completed (replacement of stones, removal of old grouting and application of new grouting on the exterior, cleaning, grouting and plastering of interior surfaces), the church's floor has been cleaned/excavated, the foundations have been treated against humidity, drainage works occurred and finds were reburied and covered with a new floor. New lintels were made for the two doors. Grouting was injected into the masonry with specially prescribed material, following extensive testing. This process yielded extremely valuable results and useful knowledge concerning such issues. This know-how is now also applied for other projects led by the Department of Antiquities.

At the same time, works related to the stabilisation and the cleaning of the surviving wall paintings are ongoing.

A total sum of 298.464,87 euros has so far been absorbed for the works on both monuments.



Kandou, Agia Marina: The restored church from NW



Kandou, Agia Marina: interior View



Kofinou, Panagia: The completion of the church walls conservation.  
View from NW



Kofinou, Panagia: Completion of plastering the interior wall surfaces