

WHV – El Patrimoni mundial andorrà en mans dels Joves / Andorra World Heritage in Young Hands

Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley, Andorra

PROJECT DATES

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (2004)

19 August - 31 August 2024

THE SITE - The cultural landscape of Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley offers a microcosmic perspective of the way people have harvested the resources of the high Pyrenees over millennia. Its dramatic glacial landscapes of craggy cliffs and glaciers, with high open pastures and steep wooded valleys, covers an area of 4,247 ha, 9% of the total area of the principality. It reflects past changes in climate, economic fortune and social systems, as well as the persistence of pastoralism and a strong mountain culture, notably the survival of a communal land-ownership system dating back to the 13th century. The site features houses, notably summer settlements, terraced fields, stone tracks and evidence of iron smelting.

OBJECTIVES - The project aims at raising awareness among people of different age groups and public and private stakeholders about the cultural and natural wealth of the Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley site and its vulnerability to the effects of climate change. The programme also continues the action already undertaken in 2023 to highlight quality restorations that are representative of old buildings, using materials, traditional techniques and local know-how.

ACTIVITIES - Volunteers will participate in the elaboration of video clips on the most significant places of the site and on the places most vulnerable to climate change. They will also take part in the restoration of the Forge site with the local archaeologists and dry-stone technicians. The project will allow volunteers to understand the natural factors and human activities that have contributed to the evolution of the valley's landscape, learning how to cooperate and work as a team, how to highlight quality restorations, and how to make the most of materials, traditional techniques and local know-how.

PARTNERS - Ministry of Culture; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Comissió de gestió de la Vall del Madriu-Perafita-Claror (VMPC), Comissió nacional andorrana per la UNESCO (CNAU); Velles cases Andorranes, Forces Elèctriques d'Andorra.

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