



# Agios Sergios and Vakos Church

This is a project of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage



## PROJECT OVERVIEW

*Start Date:* **September 2019**

*End Date:* **July 2020**

*Type of intervention:* **Conservation Works**

*Total cost:* **286,136 Euros**

Agios Sergios and Vakos is in the Famagusta District, located only two miles northwest of the Salamis Ruins. Agios Sergios means "Saint Sergius" in Greek. Its proximity to the ancient City of Salamis gives it additional significance. According to Homeric legend, Salamis was founded by archer Teucer from the Trojan War.

The church of Agios Sergios and Vakos is a twin church with two vaults from the Byzantine Period. A dome covers the southern part of the church and the western facade is enforced with stone flying buttresses. A concrete arched gallery has been added to the southern facade.

The bell tower, built in 1969, is separate from the church. There is an inscription on a stone block on the west side of the bell tower. The inscription dates the bell tower. The building is supported by pilasters and flying buttresses.

A "Survey, Investigations, Assessment and Project Design" study was completed in February 2018 under Phase V for the conservation project of Agios Sergios and Vakos Church.



After

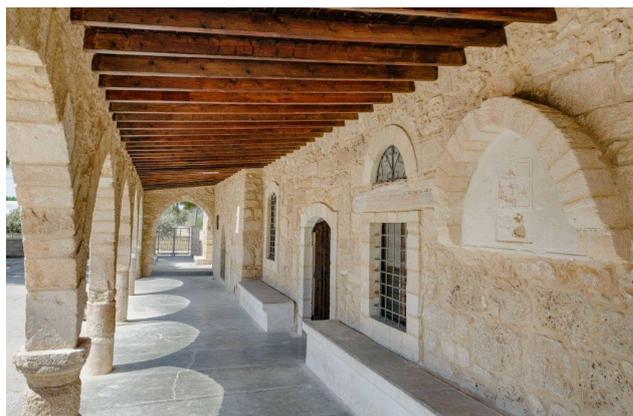
Main interventions for this site include:

- Arrangements to access site safely and to provide a temporary work barrier;
- Cleaning of the courtyard, interior of the church and the roof;
- Temporary supporting system to support the ceiling and buttresses;
- Temporary bird control measures;
- Collection and storage of the items with possible archaeological and/or architectural values;
- Gathering of fragments and repositioning them inside the church;
- Removal of inappropriate additions;
- Removal of vegetation and soft cleaning on the buttresses, internal and external walls;
- Removal of existing loose plaster;
- General cleaning of existing sand stones and other surfaces from dust, dirt, loose deposits and other stains;
- Consolidation of cracks and replacement of ashlar stones;
- Stabilization of structurally risky elements;
- Stabilization of historical plasters and internal walls;
- Re-plastering of external walls (portico);
- Roof repair works and provision of water insulation;
- Consolidation of decorative stones;
- Provision of windows and doors;
- Consolidation of north and south iconostasis;
- Floor repair works;
- Repair works on the bells and holy altar;
- External wall repair works;
- Provision of the drainage system around the perimeter of the church.



After

Since 2012 approximately €27 million has been invested by several donors, benefiting over 100 Cultural Heritage Sites across Cyprus to implement the priorities of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage for the preservation of the island-wide cultural heritage in Cyprus.



After

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The project is funded by the European Union and implemented by UNDP in partnership with the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage.

### **European Union**

Since 2012 approximately **€19.9 million of European Union funds** have been provided by the European Commission to implement the priorities of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage for the preservation of the island-wide cultural heritage in Cyprus. The European Union is the biggest supporter of the work of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in Cyprus.

The Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community, based on Council Regulation 389/2006, aims at facilitating the reunification of Cyprus by encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community, with particular emphasis on the economic integration of the island, on improving contacts between the two communities and with the EU, and on preparation for the EU body of laws (also referred to as *acquis communautaire*).

### **For more information please visit:**

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes/overview-funding-programmes/aid-programme-turkish-cypriot-community\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes/overview-funding-programmes/aid-programme-turkish-cypriot-community_en)

[EU Infopoint on Facebook - www.abbilgi.eu/en/](http://www.abbilgi.eu/en/) - [www.abbilgi.eu/tr/](http://www.abbilgi.eu/tr/)

### **The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage**

The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage works in line with the mutually agreed mechanism for the preservation of the island's common heritage. In 2009, the Advisory Board was set up by a decision of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage and approved by the two leaders as the consultative body of the Committee. The aim of the Board is to protect, preserve and facilitate the preservation, physical protection and restoration (including research, study and survey) of the immovable cultural heritage of Cyprus. This mechanism allows for the practical aspects of preservation to be considered in a non-political manner so that practical measures can be taken to improve the situation on the ground.

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### **United Nations Development Programme**

UNDP aims to contribute and support the peace-building process in Cyprus and to enhance cooperation between the Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriot by implementing a range of confidence building measures.

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**More resources:** [www.cy.undp.org](http://www.cy.undp.org)