



Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed
Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en
Wetenschap



Exploring Faro Opportunities

Anna Lindh
Foundation
EUROMED



to drive transformation in cultural heritage policy

<https://faro.cultureelerfgoed.nl/welcome>



A Journey from Vision to Application



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A Journey from Vision to Application

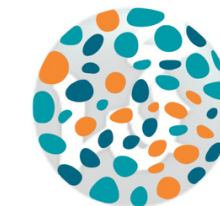


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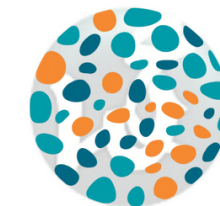


"Why do we preserve heritage?

For whom?

How is everyone involved?"



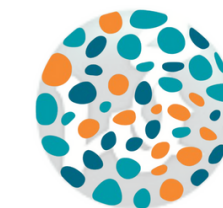


Introduction

From Theory to Practice

- Now that we understand that communities themselves have the right to **define, preserve, and share their own heritage** — as emphasized by the Faro Convention — we want to present a real-world initiative that builds directly on these principles.
- Our project explores how migrant and religious minority communities can safeguard their archives, stories, and identities — through academic collaboration and oral history collection.





What is the Faro Convention?

*The value of cultural heritage lies
in its significance to society*



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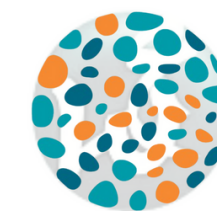


Overhandiging Uitvoeringsagenda Faro, december 2022

<https://faro.cultureelerfgoed.nl/welcome>



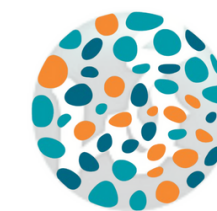
Faro Convention



The Faro Convention, officially called the Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (signed in Faro, Portugal, in 2005), is a treaty that redefines how we think about cultural heritage.

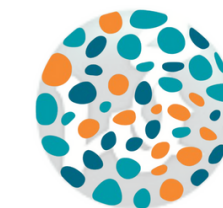


Faro Convention



- **Focuses on the value of heritage for society.**
- **Puts people at the center:** heritage exists because we give it meaning.
- **Emphasizes**
 - **rights** (Links cultural heritage to human rights & democracy)
 - **access** (community well-being)
 - **participation,**
 - **and shared responsibility.**





Participation

Inclusion

Shared Responsibility





Example: 'Verborgen Verhalen' (Hidden Stories)

Location: Netherlands (Gelderland, Zuid-Holland, Zeeland)

Partners: Knooppunt Oral History 'Sprekende Geschiedenis', Stichting OPEN, Netwerk Digitaal Erfgoed (NDE)

This project received funding through the FARO Uitvoeringsprogramma in 2025

Key Principles of the Faro Convention Applied:

1. Community-Centered Heritage

- Documenting personal oral histories, valuing people's experiences as heritage.

2. Participation & Shared Responsibility

- Engaging local communities in preserving and shaping their stories.

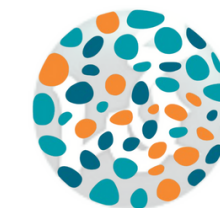
3. Accessibility & Sustainability

- Ensuring stories are preserved and accessible through digital platforms for future generations.

Impact:

- Highlights oral history as heritage, contributing to social cohesion and intergenerational dialogue.



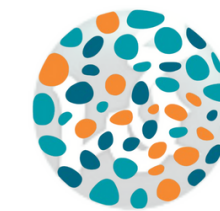


Uitvoeringsagenda Faro

Implementation Agenda Faro

- 16 thematic goals
 - Promoting co-creation, oral history, societal linkages
 - Support for pilot projects and systemic innovation





Uitvoeringsagenda Faro Implementation Agenda Faro

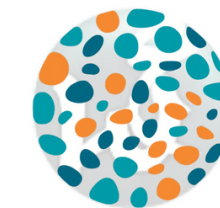
Goal: Make the organization and operation of heritage care more aligned with the Faro principles:

- Does the initiative align with the Faro philosophy?
- Systemic change!!,



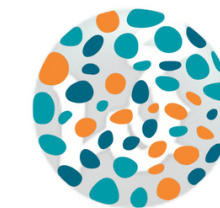
where the system world and the lived world intersect





16 Thematic Goals

1. Broad participation
2. Open approach to different concepts of heritage
3. Heritage at the heart of society
4. Plurality and inclusiveness



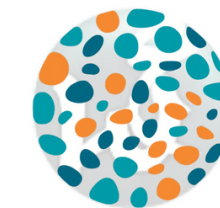
16 Thematic Goals

4. Participatory valuation

5. Heritage as a resource in social welfare

6. Oral history as independent heritage

7. Heritage awareness and education



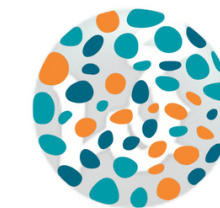
16 Thematic Goals

9. Support for heritage participation

10. Training, methodologies, and practices

11. Funding for heritage initiatives

12. Digital accessibility and innovation



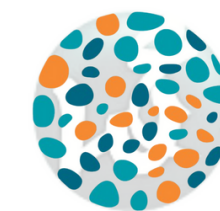
16 Thematic Goals

13. Heritage in public spaces

14. Heritage and climate adaptation

15. International collaboration and exchange

**16. Caribbean Netherlands and other
heritage practices**



Emphasised Themes

Broad Participation

How can cultural heritage align with agendas and programs in the social domain?

Digital Accessibility and Innovation

How can we create better conditions for heritage communities to contribute to digital heritage?

Training, Methodologies, and Practices

Participation practices as a learning environment for education

Archives

Stimulating changing role perceptions in the archive sector: from gatekeeper to mediator

International Collaboration and Exchange

Using European shared heritage to promote democracy (unity in diversity)

Methods and Guidance

Adopting, developing, and advancing methods and practices, even from outside the heritage field

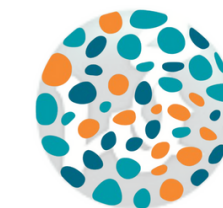




Relevance of Oral History

- Cultural heritage institutions often receive requests from local and regional oral history initiatives for support in preserving, registering, and presenting their interviews.
- Oral history and Digital Heritage are two key themes in the Faro-Implementation Agenda
- Oral history interviews are a great way to collect and share diverse stories and perspectives on both tangible and intangible heritage.
- Oral history is both a participatory method and a source of unique heritage stories, offering valuable historical insights when properly preserved and accessed.





Past Initiatives using Oral History



The "Hidden Stories" project, submitted with Stichting OPEN and Network Digital Heritage, seeks to establish support for local and regional oral history initiatives, helping them transcribe, preserve, and present interviews with minimal assistance. You can provide feedback on this proposal on the FARO bulletin board





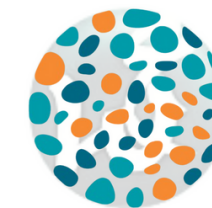
Past Initiatives using Oral History



The project's goal is to collaborate with key stakeholders in oral history, digitization, and heritage to create a practical provincial support structure. This structure will empower local and regional oral history initiatives to independently preserve, register, and present their interview collections with minimal support.



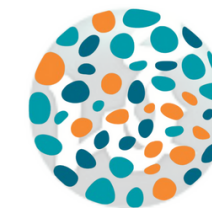
CRITERIA for Faro Subsidy



*Faro is a game changer that transforms
our perspective on cultural heritage.*

- ✓ Alignment with Faro values and themes
- ⚙️ Structural impact on heritage care
- 🤝 Collaboration and partnerships
- 💡 Knowledge sharing and dissemination
- 📅 Realistic planning and budgeting
- 💰 Cofinancing and sustainability
- 🙌 Volunteer and community participation
- 🌍 Response to societal challenges

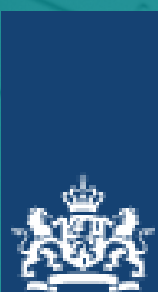
Assessment Criteria:



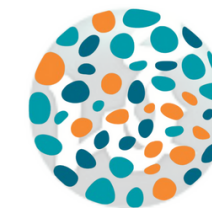
The Extent to Which...

CRITERIA for Faro Subsidy

1. The initiative aligns with the Faro Implementation Agenda (core values and ambitions).
2. The initiative brings about structural change in heritage policy or in the functioning of heritage care in the Netherlands.
3. The initiative contributes to knowledge sharing.
4. Collaboration occurs with other stakeholders.



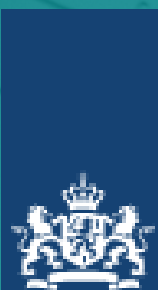
Assessment Criteria:

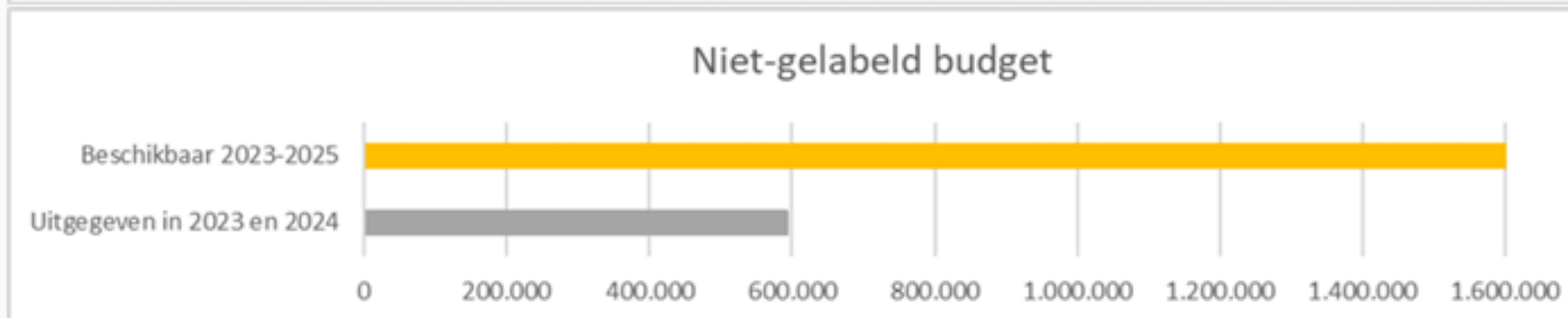
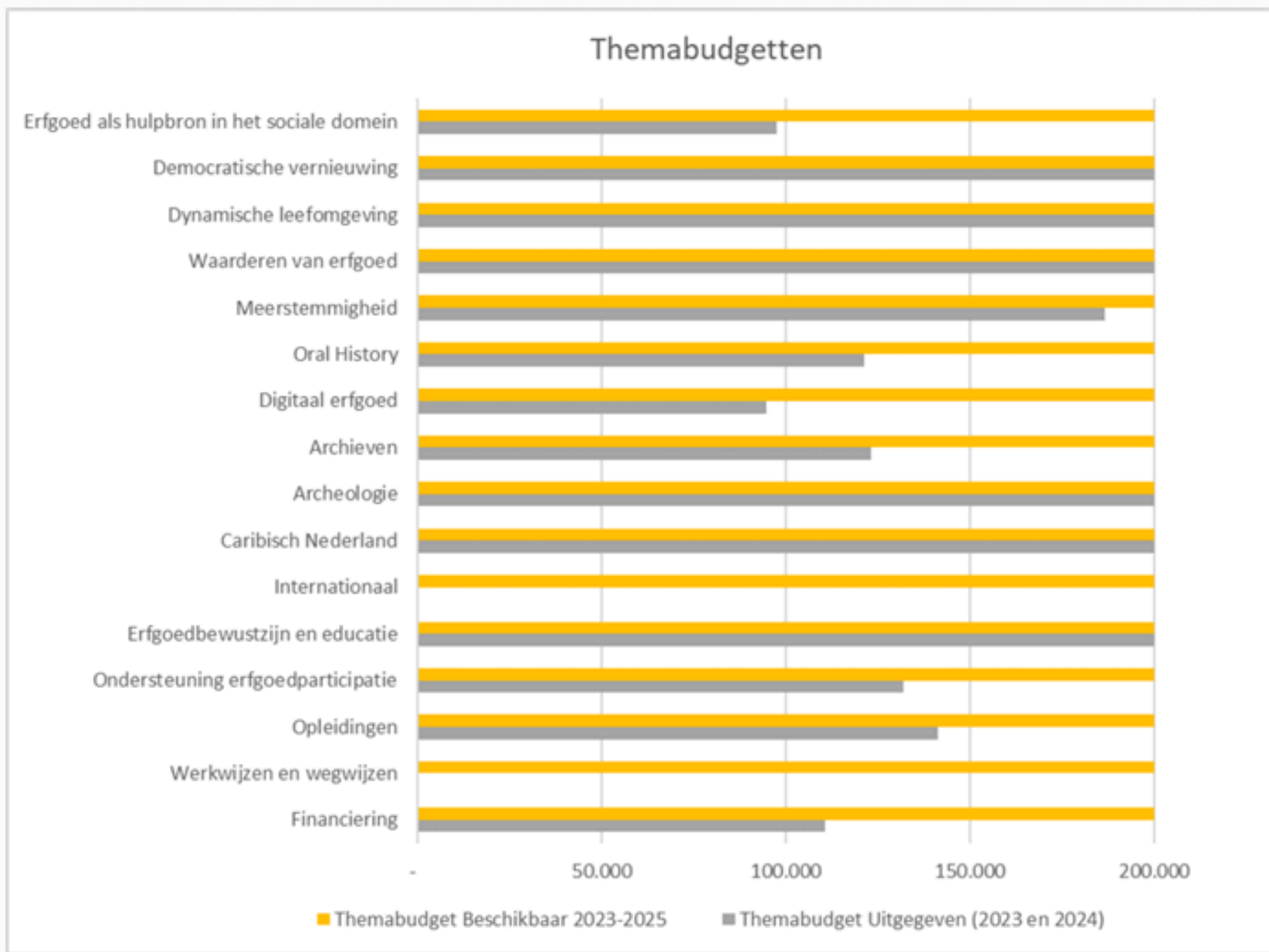


The Extent to Which...

CRITERIA for Faro Subsidy

- 5. Co-financing has been sought for the initiative.
- 6. Volunteers are involved in the initiative.
- 7. The initiative addresses current developments and societal issues.





Budget

Beschikbaar budget: 4,8 miljoen

Drie rondes

2023: 1,3 miljoen

2024: 1,5 miljoen

2025: 2 miljoen

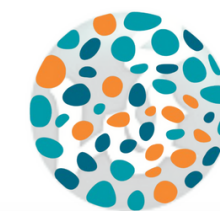
Voor alle 16 thema's gereserveerd budget 200.000 + 1,6 miljoen niet-gelabeld budget



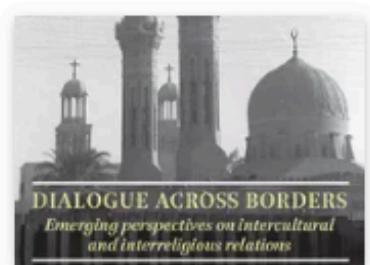
How We Got Involved

- Vision of Bishop Polycarpus for a library/archive at the monastery
- Meeting at IVOC, Anneloes van Kuijk referencing potential Faro funding
- Prof. Sanchez Summerer, Groningen University – accepting 50 years of archival material Kees Hulsman, PhD study on those data
- Prof. Herman Teule: Documentation of oral history is an urgent matter since the many members of the first generation are no longer with us.
- Drive to preserve migrant and cultural heritage





BRILL

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Dialogue across Borders: Emerging Perspectives on Intercultural and Interreligious Relations

Editor-in-Chief: [Matthew Anderson](#)

For decades, global media discourse has tended to highlight controversial and often negative perspectives on the Middle East and North Africa by focusing on extremism and conflict. Without denying these significant challenges, *Dialogue across Bor*

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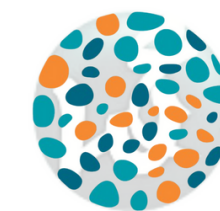
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Feedback



Timeline of Involvement

April 2024

Visit to Mikado Library
(Aachen)

October 2024

IVOC Event
→
Introduction to Faro

January 2025

Participation practices as
a learning environment
for education

March 2025

Archive transfer to
Groningen

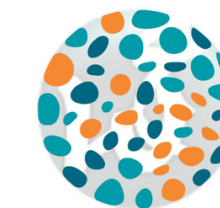
March 2025

Oral History Networking
Event (VU, NWO,
Spreekende Geschiedenis)

April 2025

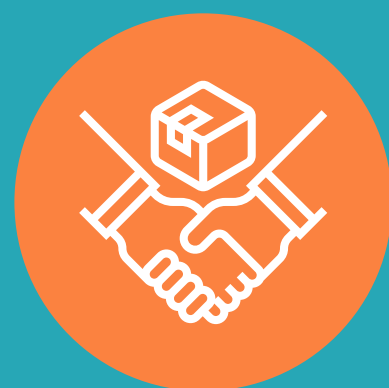
ALF
National Network Event





Project Plan

Making a difference today for a better tomorrow



April 28: start partnering with Syrian, Coptic Orthodox and other communities, IvOC and others



Finalize and submit the comprehensive project proposal for funding, detailing the collaboration with communities and use of the Dialogue Across Borders database.



Integrate digital platform that facilitates the preservation, transcription, and presentation of oral histories, incorporating tools from Dialogue Across Borders for global access.



Launch the project with training sessions and workshops, empowering communities to preserve oral histories and link them to the Dialogue Across Borders platform.

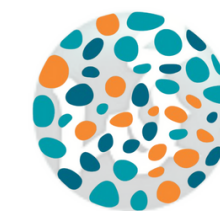




Estimated Budgets for Past Initiatives:

Project Title	Organization	Location	Total	Faro Funding	Description
Developing a Digital Platform to Promote Engagement in Saba’s Heritage	Sea & Learn Foundation (SLF)	Saba, Caribbean Netherlands	€85,703	€64,783	A digital platform featuring community-curated storyboards highlighting Saba’s cultural heritage with audio recordings and interactive walking tours to promote engagement.
The Niteshop Burger Traineeship	Concrete Blossom	The Netherlands	€511,000	€55,000	A work-learn trajectory focusing on societal challenges and developing civic initiatives with an emphasis on sustainability and community engagement.
Poelenburg Peldersveld: Buurtdragers en Buurtmakers	Municipality of Zaanstad	Zaanstad, The Netherlands	€86,225	€41,125	Focuses on the renewal of post-war neighborhoods through community building, addressing poverty, education, and housing issues.
Revision of Draft Cultural Policy Plan 2023–2030	Public Entity Saba and Saba Heritage Center	Saba, Caribbean Netherlands	\$202,900 (USD)	€59,058	Collaborative development of a cultural policy plan reflecting the cultural ambitions and needs of Saba's diverse population.





Conclusion

Concrete goals we want to achieve with this project:

- Specific actions to drive systemic change in heritage care.
- Partnerships and funding structures needed for success.
- Our focus: making the Faro principles tangible through community-driven heritage preservation.
- A clear, actionable plan is essential for moving forward.



ANNA LINDH FOUNDATION NL

Contact

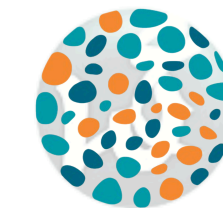
*Kindly contact us if you have
any questions*



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Location



the Hague Humanity Hub

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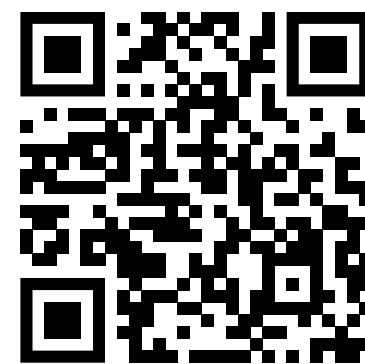
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Inspiring
Knowledge

Driving
Action

Uniting
Cultures

Our Story

The Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) was founded in 2005 and based in Alexandria, Egypt. ALF connects civil society, institutions, and governments across over 40 countries in Europe and the MENA region. Born from the Barcelona Process, ALF fosters peace, mutual understanding, and cooperation through intercultural dialogue.

Connecting Across Borders

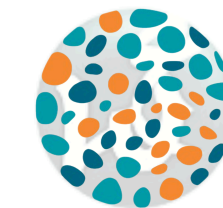
The Anna Lindh Foundation supports cross-cultural collaboration through international programs, small grants, and exchange initiatives, coordinated from its headquarters in Alexandria, Egypt.

In the Netherlands, the ALF Network includes over 50 civil society organizations. Since the summer of 2024, the Arab-West Foundation coordinates the Dutch network.

Membership is FREE and open to organizations that align with the mission and vision of the Anna Lindh Foundation.



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Thank You

For your attention!

By Romana Moussa

| Co-Head | Anna Lindh Foundation NL

| International Networkcoordinator | Arab-West Foundation |

