

buttons used formerly according to the traditional dressing habits.

The present project for the restoration of the Benedek Manor House is designed to bring this important cultural and touristic site back to an acceptable standard of presentation, whereby the house will once again regain its attractiveness, dignity, architectural legibility and visual power – important aspects that have suffered considerable loss over the past decades.

The investment is justified also by the activity of the foundation, which plays an important part in the socio-cultural life not only in the municipality but at micro-regional level as well. According to the statistics of the last three years, the number of visitors or participants increased as follows:

- 2011: a total number of 2722 visitors
- 2012: a total number of 2930 visitors
- 2013: a total number of 3245 visitors.

The Foundation also collaborates with numerous NGOs from the micro-region, cultural institutions (Cultural Center Gheorgheni, Tarisznyás Márton Museum), being relevant its

relationship with the Pro Gheorgheni Tourism Association as well.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

• General objectives:

- Contribution to regional development through the preservation of built cultural heritage and the promotion of knowledge and appreciation of the heritage among local community.

• Specific objectives:

- Preserving the local cultural heritage and reusing it as an instrument for local economic, social and tourism development;
- Development of communities by improving their tourist and investment attractiveness through the conservation, restoration and valorization of cultural heritage;
- Building technical capacities and raising awareness in the field of cultural heritage preservation for locals, cultural institutions, NGO's, architects, contractors;
- Promoting cultural diversity.



PROJECT TARGET GROUPS

- **Direct target groups:**
 - inhabitants of the city, 18000 people
 - tourists
 - local administration
 - specialists in the cultural fields - 20 persons
 - historical interest groups, historical craftsmen: 10 organizations

- **Indirect target groups:**
 - local and regional entrepreneurs
 - inhabitants of the micro region - 40000 people

The planning phase has come to an end during this month; henceforth the project arrived at the procedure of public procurement. All of the instruments and tools used by the foundation have been moved from the manor house, so the building is ready for the actual recovery.

The permanent collections which could have been visited in the house will be open to the public only after the end of the restoration works, the events and programs of the foundation will take place in other locations until the end of the project.

Project financed by a grant offered by Island, Liechtenstein and Norway, programme nr. PA16/RO12 "Conservation and revitalization of cultural and natural heritage" SEE 2009-2014

