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## BSB831 / HERIPRENEURSHIP

**WORK PACKAGE: T1**

**WORK PACKAGE TITLE:** DESIGNING A COMMON FRAMEWORK TO JOINTLY MANAGE AND COMMUNICATE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF UNESCO HERITAGE IN THE CROSS-BORDER AREA

**ACTIVITY CODE:** A.T1.2

**ACTIVITY TITLE:** Building the Heritage Experience Inventory at UNESCO designated Areas in the Black Sea Basin

**DELIVERABLE CODE:** D.T1.2.2

**DELIVERABLE TITLE:** STATEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

D.T1.2.2 Statements of significance

**COUNTRY: BULGARIA**

Name of the Asset: Fishing as tradition



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## CONTENTS

CONTENTS.....	2
CONTRIBUTOR .....	4
RECORD SHEET 01: Fishing routine .....	5
SECTION 1: ASSET ID.....	5
Name - Fishing routine .....	5
Category .....	5
Unit of Recording.....	5
Subcategory .....	5
Website: <a href="http://nesebarinfo.com/culture.php">http://nesebarinfo.com/culture.php</a> .....	6
Location .....	6
Ownership .....	6
Gallery .....	7
Landscape Elements .....	10
Dating/ Period and Functions .....	17
Description (history, features etc.):.....	19
Person and Event History.....	30
SECTION 2: SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT .....	33
Designations.....	33
NATIONAL .....	33
UNESCO .....	35
Statement of Significance.....	35
References .....	38

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## CONTRIBUTOR

### BORYANA ZANGOVA

Mrs. Boryana Zangova has a vast experience on projects relate to culture heritage promotion and recognition as during the last sight she has been extensively involved in similar activities and actions. Moreover, Mrs. Zangova has been working on projects development and implementation for more than fifteen years and thus she is aware of the process and procedures for deliverables and outputs presentations. Mrs. Boryana Zangova has a master degree in science in law and several diplomas, certificates from attending specialized training courses

**PROJECT AFFILIATION:** UBBSLA Project & Programme Assistant

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## RECORD SHEET 01: Fishing routine

### SECTION 1: ASSET ID

Name - Fishing routine

Category

Unit of Recording

- NATURAL HERITAGE       MAN-MADE HERITAGE  
 INTANGIBLE HERITAGE

Select unit of recording

Intangible Item

Subcategory

Intangible cultural heritage

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Website: <http://nesebarinfo.com/culture.php>

## Location

Country: Bulgaria

Region: Burgas

Locality (town, village): Nessebar

Address (street, number):

Geographic location (coordinates, altitude, relief, waters): 42.65843, 27.73225

## Ownership

Fishing is realized by every volunteer, adventurer, a person willing to explore habits and customs as well as for commercial purpose. Commercial activities are ordinary managed by private business as there are many small companies dealing with that. The private fishermen are united in informally organized entities, associations and/or NGOs as well as small enterprises.

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## Gallery



Common Neighbourhood



IS.

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Source: e-source

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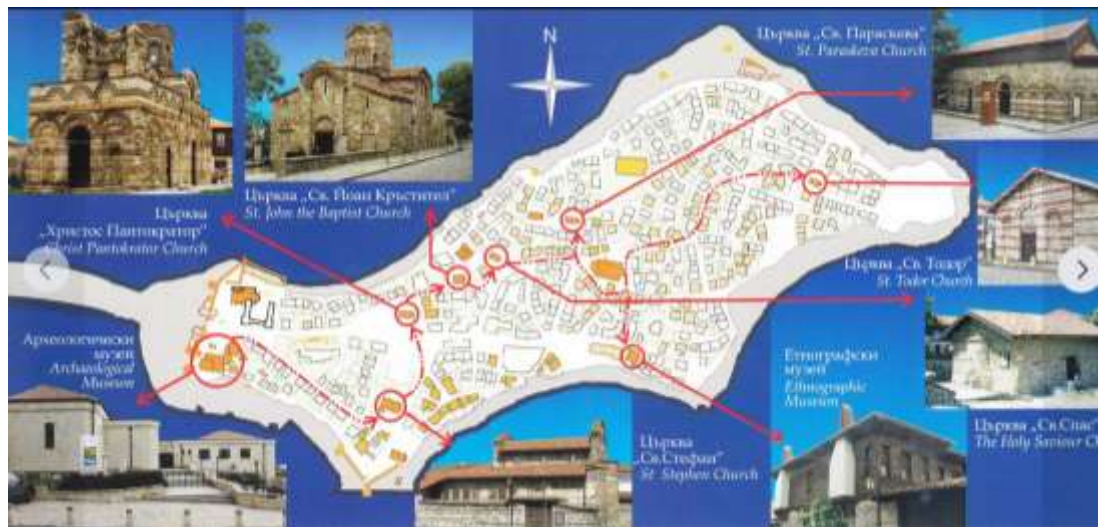
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## Landscape Elements

(Buildings, streetscape; heritage, farming, vegetation, fauna, waters, etc):

The old town of Nessebar is situated on a beautiful peninsula in the central part of the Eastern Bulgarian Black Sea region. It is a charming little town and for the time of existence it has to turn to be a strategic forefront, an important sea port, a place for defence and a shelter for many civilizations.

The peninsula is surrounded by the Black Sea waters which provide the variety of fish and fish flora species here. There are also fauna species represented on the land presupposed by the sea influence and climate conditions.



The streets are of narrow cobbled stones linking the sea and the top of the land. The typical Renaissance houses from the medieval and the late 18<sup>th</sup>



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century are preserved with the narrow gates and tiny windows leading to the heritage of life. Small grape yards are still visible in many private gardens and blink a splash of color.

During the active tourist season, from May to October lot of activities are offered to the guests: boat cruises, water walks, fishing entertainments, cousine advertisements and festivities, etc.



During the eras of cultural existence, Nessebar was considered as a starting idea for many European civilizations. It was originated as a Thracian settlement and became a Greek colony at the beginning of the 6th century BC. The life in the peninsular inherits the variety of iconic features complementing the merits of inventing the money vision thus changing the monetary concept around the world.

Nessebar was part of the Delian League, an alliance of ancient Greek states and an important trading city. During the following centuries the passing

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cultures and livelihoods saved this pivotal place into a strategic connection within the time and humans. Nowadays remains from these eras can be still recognized by the building architecture from the Middle Ages and the Byzantine period.

The emergence and evolution of trade using the monetary system made Nessebar famous for this invention supposed to be one of the key elements of the city’s development.

The idea of using money didn’t exist until 6<sup>th</sup> century BC when the trade exchange was executed using only goods. There were no traces of coins prior to that time and Nessebar was one of the first places in the world to start making coins due its strategic location and trading relations. In the 5<sup>th</sup> century, bronze and silver coins started to be minted here and around 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC gold coins were minted.

The maze of cobblestone streets encourages aimless wandering through the historic city, contained within a small rocky peninsula jutting out into the Black Sea. Once entering the narrow gate in the ancient fortress wall a remarkable neighbourhood with memories are discovered. The trading atmosphere lives on with street vendors selling art and handicrafts throughout the town. The city is proud of its ancient history and holds on to its cultural traditions, hosting an impressive line up of festivals and events throughout the year.

Wooden houses built in the 19th century are typical of the Black Sea architecture of the period and are visible in every corner on the peninsula.

### *The Ancient City of Nessebar*

It is supposed that Nessebar lies on a rocky peninsula of more than 3 000 years of existence. The first Thracian settlement was known as Menebria. The

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remains from the Hellenistic period include the acropolis, a temple of Apollo, an agora and a wall from the Thracian fortifications. Among the other monuments are the Old Mitropolia Basilica and the Fortress dated from the Middle Ages, when this was one of the most important Byzantine towns on the west coast of the Black Sea.

### *Exceptional architectural styles*

The Ancient city of Nessebar is a unique example of a synthesis of the centuries-old human activities in the sphere of culture. The different stages of development of its residential vernacular architecture reflect the stages of development of the architectural style on the Balkans and in the entire East Mediterranean region. The urban structure contains elements from the second millennium BC, from the Ancient Times and the Medieval period.

The medieval religious architecture, modified by the imposition of the traditional Byzantine forms, illustrates ornamental ceramics art, the characteristic painted decoration for this age.

Many civilizations left their tangible traces in Nessebar: among them can be recognized archaeological structures from the Second millennium BC, a Greek Black Sea colony with surviving remains of fortifications, a Hellenistic villa and religious buildings from the Antiquity, preserved churches (some of them partially or only parts of archaeological structures preserved) from the Middle Ages. Nessebar was also a frontier city on numerous occasions among them acting as remarkable spiritual centre of Christianity for thousands of years. Today it is a developing and vibrant urban organism waving a historical importance for the region development.

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The landscape in Nessebar reveals an architectural ensemble with preserved Bulgarian Renaissance structures linked with the continent by a long narrow stretch of land. Its nature and existence is a result of synthesis of long-term human activity during significant historic periods - an urban structure with elements from 2nd millennium BC, classical antiquity, and the Middle Ages. The signs of medieval religious architecture with rich plastic and polychrome decoration are placed on the facades of ceramic ornaments. The different stages in the development of the characteristic residential vernacular architecture testify the architecture mastery of the Balkans and the East Mediterranean region. The vernacular architecture of the urban ensemble, dominated by medieval churches and archaeology, together with the unique coastal relief, combine to produce an urban fabric of the high quality.

### *Protection and conservation*

Since 1986 some illegal interventions have been carried out on the architectural creatures and some new buildings executed in violation of the Cultural Heritage Law. Despite that, the main elements have generally remained unchanged.

Conservation and stabilization works have only been carried out on the Medieval Churches, and all the investigated archaeological sites are exposed and preserved. Some Medieval Churches now require repair.

Activities for emergency stabilization of the peninsula shoreline have also been made in violation of the Law on Monuments and Museums.

All these changes may have caused negative influences and threaten the extraordinary coherence of the urban fabric and the overall visual integrity of the property.

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Nessebar - Middle ages (9 - 14 c.). View from the west to the medieval town of Nessebar



Nessebar - Ottoman period (15 - 18 c.). The konak at the city gates of Nessebar



Nessebar - National Revival (18 - 19 c.). Part of the silhouette of the south coast with its National Revival houses

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Nesebar - Third Bulgarian state (1878 - 1945). View from the west, beginning of 20 c., 1910



Nesebar - People's Republic of Bulgaria (1946 - 1989). View from the west to the new archaeological museum (under construction)



Authentic urban fabric. Archive photo

Source: <https://pou-nesebar.org/en/galleries/>

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## Dating/ Period and Functions

The oldest name of the Black Sea is known as Pontos Evxinos and has Iranian etymological origin - from the word Axsæba (dark, black). That is the reason the sea to be considered as not hospitable water since antiquity. However, for the people who live along the shores, it is a source of livelihood - mostly through fishing. Its role in the social life along the Black Sea basin is enormous and this has been reflected even in the cultural life as well.

Fishing is recognized since the Byzantine time when Nessebar was a small village. At that time, known as Melsambria, fishing was done only with small fishing vessels which were used also for shipping activities. The numerous stone anchors discovered near the two harbors of the ancient settlement evidence these actions. Other objects found from this period are household utensils and vessels with relief ornaments. Among the unique artifacts in the museum are the discovered extremely important inscription-decree in honor of the Thracian chief Sadala, dated from the 3rd century BC. and giving rich information about the relations of the Greek polis with the neighboring Thracians.



Traditional functions - Nessebar fishermen and their families with the fish catch

Source: <https://pou-nesebar.org/en/galleries/>

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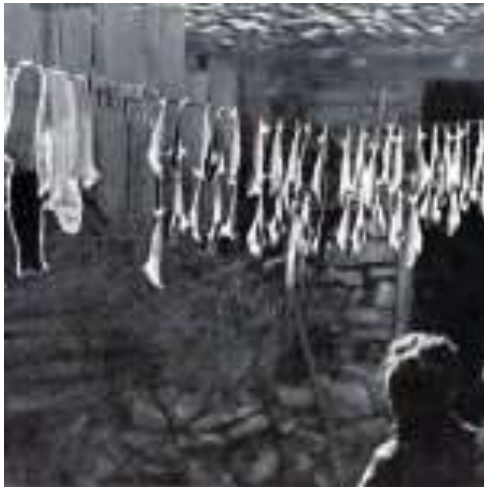


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Traditional functions – drying of fish

Source: <https://pou-nesebar.org/en/galleries/>



Traditional functions – fishing, Source: <https://pou-nesebar.org/en/galleries/>

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Traditional functions - fishermen knit fishnets. Photo 1920 - 1930,  
Source: <https://pou-nesebar.org/en/galleries/>

### Description (history, features etc.):

There are two ports in Nessebar and they are located at the beginning of the peninsula. These are the Port of Nessebar and the fishing port on the south side, where passenger ships and private boats dock, and the fishing port on the north side. Fishing is one of the main and oldest livelihoods of the people of Nessebar. There are a variety of rituals, beliefs, customs and rituals related to fishing and shipping, some of which are partially preserved to this day. Here are some of them:

### *Customs of fishing during the first catch*

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Source:

[https://burgaslakes.com/%d0%bf%d1%80%d0%be%d0%bb%d0%b5%d1%82%d0%bd%d0%b8%d1%82%d0%b5-%d0%b4%d0%b0%d0%bb%d1%8f%d0%bd%d0%b8-%d0%b2%d0%b5%d1%87%d0%b5-%d1%81%d0%b0-%d0%bf%d0%be%d1%81%d1%82%d0%b0%d0%b2%d0%b5%d0%bd%d0%b8/#lightbox\[gallery\\_image\\_1\]/33](https://burgaslakes.com/%d0%bf%d1%80%d0%be%d0%bb%d0%b5%d1%82%d0%bd%d0%b8%d1%82%d0%b5-%d0%b4%d0%b0%d0%bb%d1%8f%d0%bd%d0%b8-%d0%b2%d0%b5%d1%87%d0%b5-%d1%81%d0%b0-%d0%bf%d0%be%d1%81%d1%82%d0%b0%d0%b2%d0%b5%d0%bd%d0%b8/#lightbox[gallery_image_1]/33)

First catch - on the launching day of the fishing season, fishermen go to their boats. If the weather is not good, they do not return to their homes, but stay on the beach until the sea waves calm down. The season opens with a holy water ritual, which takes place on the pier where the fishing boats are. The priest sprinkles all with holy water, each takes a part of it in a bottle and sprinkles his boat and nets. It is believed that the first who does so, will have the biggest catch of the season. Part of the holy water is left in front of the home icon of St. Nicholas, the patron saint of fishermen.

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Another practice is for the captain to cut off the head of the first fish caught crosswise and smear the foreheads of the people on the boat with blood. This custom is spread mostly on the southern Bulgarian Black Sea coast - Sozopol, Tsarevo, Ahtopol. The fisherman rubs his beard with the first fish caught with a fishing rod and calls a wish for a good season (this is usually done in the villages in Varvara, Sinemorets). With the first catch a typical sacrifice dish is made, which is spread to everyone in the village, and the eaten heads are collected and thrown into a fire or hearth, again called a successful season. If fishermen hunt at someone else's expense (they are hired by someone), then a few more are tied to the first fish with a blood-cut head and the whole sheaf is given to the head, for which the crew receives a gift.



Source:

<https://burgaslakes.com/%d0%bf%d1%80%d0%be%d0%bb%d0%b5%d1%82%d0%bd%d0%b8%d1%82%d0%b5-%d0%b4%d0%b0%d0%bb%d1%8f%d0%bd%d0%b8-%d0%b2%d0%b5%d1%87%d0%b5-%d1%81%d0%b0->

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### ***Fishing rituals against lack of catch***

When fishing is not going well, rituals are performed to improve the catch - an old woman or a widow who is no longer reunited with a man, goes at night to secretly take soil from a typical area, wraps it in a towel and gives it to the captain to throw into the sea as he goes out in his boat, hiding from the other fishermen. This ritual is widespread in the Sozopol south of Nessebar. It is also common practice for a fisherman who does not have a good catch to steal bread, salt, oil or cork from the nets of another fisherman who has caught a lot of fish. In some villages, the wife of the lame fisherman kneads a sweet pie smeared with honey, called "Fanaropita", which she secretly carries in the boat and hides well. It is dedicated to St. Fanurius, who showed people where the fish were hiding. The pie is taken out only when the boat is already on the high seas to be eaten by the whole crew. It is also possible for the unlucky captain to bring in a pie kneaded by his wife and eat it secretly from the others, breaking a piece of it every day. This is done again the fish to come up and start entering into the nets.

### ***Fishing rituals against low catch***

In the case of a very low catch, a piece of cloth is cut from the dress of a baby born woman (who has given birth until the 40th day), and it is tied to the nets, "so that the devil cracks" and chases the fish. A thread can also be cut from a pregnant woman's garment, but without her understanding, and worn when entering the sea. When the catch stopped abruptly and unexpectedly, all

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fishermen should take a large icon from the church and immerse it three times in the sea with the words "Christ takes out the fish".

### ***Rituals of fishing against sea storms***



Source: <https://www.tsarevo.info/kultura/ribarski-obichai-i-obrednite-praktiki/>

Practices for taming sea storms are also widespread. When the weather deteriorates sharply, fishermen have to submerge the icon of St. Nicholas. They also promise that when they go ashore they will light a candle in front of his image in the church. The captains of large sailing ships promise the saint gifts, and some even build or repair his temples and chapels. Women also have a big role in taming the storms - they can throw wheat against the waves (on St. Nicholas Day), leave the first painted Easter egg on the shore, throw flowers into the sea collected in last September, and pray in front of icons of saints. It is common to take a metal vessel out of the house, which is used for cooking on

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fire, and to rotate it in specific circles, being very careful not to tilt, because then the men's boats can turn into the sea.

Fishing nets for the new season start to be knitted only on Monday, and Tuesday is considered a very bad day. The nets should not be crossed over by no body - neither when knitting, nor when repairing or drying. When enter the sea, they are tolled in the boat by a lucky man - who has a good catch, many children, a good family and a good nature. A bunch of basil (preserved from the Day of Cross) is also tied to the nets.



[https://burgaslakes.com/%d0%bf%d1%80%d0%be%d0%bb%d0%b5%d1%82%d0%bd%d0%b8%d1%82%d0%b5-%d0%b4%d0%b0%d0%bb%d1%8f%d0%bd%d0%b8-%d0%b2%d0%b5%d1%87%d0%b5-%d1%81%d0%b0-%d0%bf%d0%be%d1%81%d1%82%d0%b0%d0%b2%d0%b5%d0%bd%d0%b8/#lightbox\[gallery\\_image\\_1\]/33](https://burgaslakes.com/%d0%bf%d1%80%d0%be%d0%bb%d0%b5%d1%82%d0%bd%d0%b8%d1%82%d0%b5-%d0%b4%d0%b0%d0%bb%d1%8f%d0%bd%d0%b8-%d0%b2%d0%b5%d1%87%d0%b5-%d1%81%d0%b0-%d0%bf%d0%be%d1%81%d1%82%d0%b0%d0%b2%d0%b5%d0%bd%d0%b8/#lightbox[gallery_image_1]/33)

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### *Rituals in construction and consecration of new boat*

There are rituals in the construction and consecration of a new boat. During construction, a golden coin is placed in the kimple, and the only owner should know its place. In front of the carina a black rooster is slaughtered, whose blood must cover the beam well and color it. A cross is carved at the place where he was slaughtered. An icon of St. Nicholas is often built in the bow of the vessel. At the consecration, a bottle of wine is broken in the bow of the boat or an animal is slaughtered and with its blood the whole trough is sprayed. It is believed that the shadow of the animal remains in the boat, and fishermen could hear its voice and predict. If it is a sound like a rooster, the weather the next day will be nice. If it is a simple squeak, it portends bad weather. The meat of the slaughtered animal is sacrificed and eaten by all.

### *Good and bad signs*



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There are many good and bad signs. Some night dreams are good signs (such as drinking wine in your sleep), meeting a person (with full hands, full dishes, or a full car), hearing noises or sounds (crickets). It is good if a beautiful woman steps on the nets. It is considered a bad accident if on the way to the boat the fisherman meets a woman, a black cat or a priest. In this case, he does not enter the sea on the same day. If a water snake is caught with the nets, the fisherman will no longer hunt in the same place until the end of the season. It is also bad if the fisherman finds a forgotten and smelly fish in his boat. If there is death in the family during the year, it is considered a sign of failure throughout the season.



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### ***Fishing prohibitions***



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There are also many prohibitions that people must abide by. For example, a man should not go fishing on Tuesdays and Fridays. The path of a man who has gone to his boat should not be crossed by others, so in the morning the women do not leave their houses until all the men have entered the sea. Until the fishermen return, nothing should be taken out of the house. A man whose wife is pregnant or has a new born, is not allowed in the boat. Such a fisherman goes out alone. New born woman does not enter fishermen's houses during the season. In a fishing boat one can not play with a mouth and can not sing, does not exchange bread, salt or soap with other boats or between families. After sunset, vinegar should not be given between the houses. The first fish should not be sold, but sacrificed. The tail of the first fish is not cut and not given to a pregnant woman.

The rites are performed throughout the season, and during the year various holidays are celebrated - the day of St. Vasilis, Jordan's Day, Kukerovden, Trifonovden, Midsummer's Day, St. Dimitrius Day, Holy Cross Day and St. Nicholas Day.

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## Person and Event History

In March 2021, the construction and installation works on the modernization of the Fishing Port “Northern Port - Nessebar” started and the foreseen investment is about 9 mln. BGN. The activities are implemented within the Project “Rehabilitation, reconstruction and modernization of the fishing port North Buna - Nessebar”, under the Maritime and Fisheries Program. The

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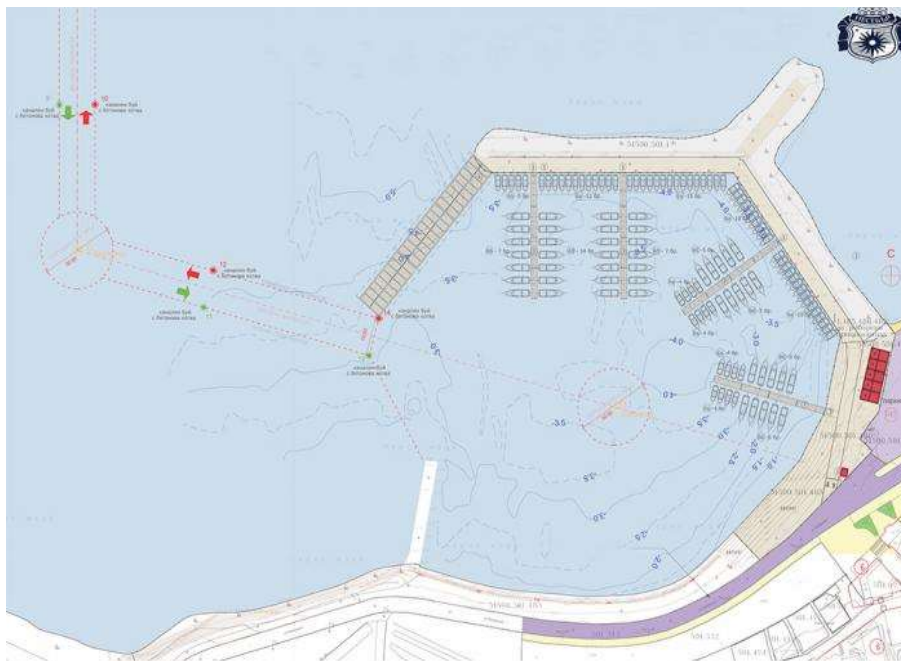
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implementation activities envisage the optimization of the capacity of the existing port, ensuring the improvement of conditions for catching, landing and first sale of fresh fish.

The port will have an expanded capacity - from 30 to 121 berths for vessels. 73 out of them will be 6.5 m long and the remaining 48 will be 10.5 m long. It will be protected by a modern breakwater with four floating pontoons, equipped with electrical, water and lighting point, constructed as internal small ports. The port will be also equipped with special ice generators and there will be a separate place for fish trade. The floating pontoons serve as breakwaters which do not affect the sea bottom, since the installation of any facilities in the water is strictly prohibited.

The investment will create a protected area for safe mooring of fishing boats and vessels, thus providing adequate conditions for fishing.



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*Project of the new fishing port*

Source: <https://www.flagman.bg/article/237377>

The start was also designated by the mayor of Nessebar municipality, Mr. Nikolai Dimitrov who said that: “Fishing is one of the major and oldest traditions of people living in Nessebar”.

The modernization of the port will be carried out under constant archaeological supervision and care for the cultural and historical heritage of Nessebar. For the purpose Nessebar municipality has signed a contract with the Center for Underwater Archeology /A State Cultural Institute at the Ministry of Culture/, pursuant to which along with the launch of the project of modernizing the existing port, preliminary archaeological rescue excavations area starting for identification of the underwater anchors for floating facilities and together with a rescue archaeological research - observation during the implementation of construction and repair works. The underwater archeological observation will continue until the final implementation of the project, the aim being to protect and prevent damages to the town.

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## SECTION 2: SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

### Designations

Fishing is widely operating in the old town of Nessebar in its two main ports: the North port and the South port as it belongs to the daily routine the locals have protected and saved for livelihood, economic survival and social interactions.

### NATIONAL

In 1956 Nessebar was declared “a museum town, an archaeological, and architectural reserve.”

As a UNESCO heritage site, it is governed by several laws and regulations so to protect the territory. The management is implemented by virtue of:

- 1) Cultural Heritage Law (Official Gazette No.19 of 2009) and subdelegated legislation. This law regulates the research, studying, protection and promotion of the immovable cultural heritage in Bulgaria, and the development of Conservation and Management plans for its inscribed World Heritage List of immovable cultural properties.
- 2) Ordinance No.8 of the Culture Committee and the Committee on Architecture and Public Works of the architectural historical reserves Sozopol and Nessebar /SG 9/1981; covers the issues of general and detailed spatial planning; projects; carrying out conservation and restoration works; and new building. It also determines the borders and contact zones of the site, the main principles involved, and sets out the rules for protection and implementation.

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3) Directive Plan, developed by the National Institute for Monuments of Culture /in 2009 renamed as National Institute for Immovable Cultural Heritage/. It is a Concept paper on the preservation and development of the cultural-historic heritage of Nessebar. The Plan offers an integrated professional analysis and prognosis of urban development over a wide range of activities. Ostensibly contributing to the protection, promotion and sustainable development of the property, the document, unfortunately, does not fully reflect current conditions, and requires up-dating.

4) The current Construction and regulatory plan of the Ancient city of Nessebar, adopted in 1981, and the preliminary construction and regulatory plan (adopted on 30.07.1991 by the Ministry of construction and urban planning) regulates land use, types of building, parks and gardens etc.

5) The Spatial Planning Act - (Official Gazette, No. 1 of 2001 with amendments) and subdelegated legislation relates to spatial and urban planning, investment projects and buildings in Bulgaria. It also determines particular territorial and spatial protection, and the territories of cultural heritage.

In order to provide adequate response to the threats from unauthorized development, pressure from tourism and new uses, there is a need to put in place an overall Management Plan for the property that provides a collaborative framework for all stakeholders.

The effective management of the old town is also stated in the following municipal documents, adopted by the municipal government:

6) Programme for sustainable tourism development in Nessebar municipality (2018-2024). The Programme is developed in accordance with the obligations of the Mayor to develop a programme for tourism development following the

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provisions of the Regional Strategy for Development, the Marketing Strategy of the Tourist region and the local tourist resources and needs.

7) Development Plan of Nessebar Municipality - it is a strategic document adopted by the Municipal Council with the general aim to achieve stable rate of economic growth and high environmental balance at municipal level.

## UNESCO

Because of its unique historic value and natural location, Nessebar was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1983 at the 7<sup>th</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> of December 1983 in Florence, Italy.

Following the provisions of UNESCO rules and the recommendations of ICOMOS (2010) for conservation of monuments and sites, A management plan has been developed for Nessebar. It is entitled as Master Plan “The ancient town of Nesebar” and developed by the National Institute for immovable cultural heritage in 2011 following the provisions of the Law on cultural heritage. The Master Plan is a strategic document including technical and the administrative provisions with regards to development of infrastructure, business, social activities, etc. on the territory of the old town. The plan is in force since 2012.

## Statement of Significance

The oldest name of the Black Sea is known as Pontos Evxinos and comes from the Persian word Axsaeba (dark, black). That is the reason the Black Sea region to be considered as not hospitable one. However, for the people along the

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shores the Black Sea is a source of living, mainly through fishing. Fishing is old as people live here and is a living power for their cultural development. The fishing craft has been developing and keeping along with the living traditions and habits: construction and maintenance of fishing boats; invent and construction of tools and instruments for fishing; knitting of fishing nets; culinary skills and habits of cuisine evolution, fish storage and conservation; sailing and selling abilities. Fishing rituals are still performing for celebration of the first rate of a fishing boat, the first catch; pray for a catch and for a big catch; use of practices for taming sea storms.

In addition to the modernization of the Severna Buna - Nessebar Fishery Port, a separate fish market has been established: 15 stands have been set up - tables, a packaging warehouse, a catch control room and two refrigerators. The activities were realized under the Project "Rehabilitation/Reconstruction and Modernization of the Severna Buna - Nessebar Fishery Port".

Only the local fishermen and those who have the necessary documents for sailing and fishing activities can benefit from the new marinas facilities. Anyone wishing to buy fresh fish can do so every morning on the spot, from the fish market. The fish is stored in flake ice so that it can be stored longer and people can freely shop for fresh Black Sea fish.

"Fishing is one of the main and oldest livelihoods of people in Nessebar. With the modernization of the fishing port, we are helping them by creating conditions for safe mooring of boats and ships and adequate conditions for carrying out fishing activities", the mayor of Nessebar Mr. Nikolay Dimitrov stated at the opening of the Project.

Fishing is more often used as a tourist attraction and service offered to the tourists and guests of the town. There are many events, festivities and cultural

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activities associated with the ancient craft and the sea in Nessebar such as: The National Fish Festival "Autumn landscapes", the International contest "I love Black Sea" organized on occasion of the International Day of Black Sea, the International Art Festival "Stars constellation in Nessebar", etc. These are part of the municipal programme agenda for entertainment and promotion of Nessebar. Among the tourist events are also the "Meeting of the fishermen" in Ravda, festival "Ravda - the sea, the fishes and the fishermen", development of open fish museum "The sea around Ravda" in which tourists and guests of Nessebar take part and enjoy. Specific places for fish feeding have been established to attract tourists and support the culinary tourism.

Fishing has turned to be one of the main sectors of the maritime economy in Bulgaria due to its excellent location on the Eastern coast and the variety of species in the Black Sea basin.

This living traditional industry is also kept by the young generations as the fish lovers seeking to protect and save fishing as a main activity all year round.

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