The programme of action “Sound and image: a heritage worth conserving” is part of an international move to preserve, restore and enhance the audiovisual heritage.

Developed by the Latin Union (LU) and supported by AECID, this programme is a key step in a lengthy process to enhance the tangible and intangible heritage that LU has been engaged in for some considerable time, by organizing training, competitions and meetings for professionals.

LU aims, by creating a cooperation network of professionals from eight of its Member States (Angola, Cape Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Philippines, Sao Tome and Principe and Senegal), to raise the awareness of institutions in these countries of the immense cultural value of audiovisual archives.

It is urgent to conserve heritage that is deteriorating, even in some cases disappearing. It is the memory of peoples that is at stake. Safeguarding this heritage is an investment for the future, a legacy to pass on to young generations: to understand the treasure inherent in the sounds and images of the past is to change the way we see the present and the future.
WHY?

To contribute to a realization of the importance of safeguarding and enhancing the audiovisual heritage;

To organize regional training sessions that will be important exchanges of technical knowledge between countries bound together by shared histories and cultures;

To provide those taking part in the training sessions with the information they need to use new methods of archiving, restoring and distributing audiovisual material;

To create a platform to consider the legal-legislative situation of copyright in the audiovisual field;

To encourage the putting into place of policy, legislation and substantial financial resources in connection with the preservation, restoration and enhancement of the film, television and radio memory, nationally and regionally.

HOW?

Identifying the situation of the audiovisual archives in the countries concerned:

- State of the audiovisual archives;
- Identification of training needs of the staff of the archive holdings (managers and technicians);
- Global assessment of national legislation on the audiovisual field, protection of the documentary heritage and copyright.

Organizing national and regional training on the following themes: enhancement of a television archives holding, enhancement of a radio archives holding, restoration of sound material.

Organizing an international meeting, the first in a series of meetings to enable international experts, jurists and legislators to discuss legal themes relating to audiovisual archives (copyright, laws on the audiovisual field, protection of the heritage, and so on).

WHO FOR?

Professionals linked to the safeguarding of the audiovisual heritage (restorers, curators, archivists, audio and video documentary-makers, producers, distributors, and so on);

Legislators, jurists and experts in copyright and audiovisual legislations;

Those in charge of the different national institutions relating to the culture, communication, information, heritage and cinema (national archives, film libraries, radio and television) of the Portuguese-speaking and French-speaking African States Members of the Latin Union and the Philippines.