



ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ ΝΙΑΡΧΟΣ
STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC) is the Stavros Niarchos Foundation's (SNF) largest grant, and we are very happy with its impact on the people of Greece and others, as it has steadily evolved into a leading international destination.

The idea for the SNFCC, a truly 'triple' project since it includes the new home for the National Library of Greece (NLG), and for the Greek National Opera (GNO), and just as important, a new open and truly public green space accessible to all, was born before the crisis. During the crisis, many questioned our decision to go ahead with such an ambitious project, which made us even more passionate about it, since we firmly believed that this project would provide hope for the future at a time when everything around us looked bleak.

This project provided valuable jobs during the crisis, and became a successful example of the impact of hard work, on-going determination and passion, and proper, professional, healthy, and transparent collaborations—among many disciplines, across local and international lines, and as importantly, between the private and public sectors. The notion of public-private partnerships continues to be part of a global conversation. The SNFCC is one of the most successful manifestations of such a partnership, while redefining at the same time the concept of public space within a Greek context. What kept everyone going forward, in the best possible way, was a common vision, that of providing a state-of-the-art cultural center to the people, that was truly made for the people. Governments come and go, but the SNFCC is an asset belonging to people of all ages and backgrounds, for them to enjoy day in and day out. It belongs to its visitors.

The role of each government in relation to the SNFCC is one of fiduciary responsibility to ensure that it operates properly and efficiently. For our part, to the best of our ability, and always within our capabilities, we will provide ongoing support to ensure it remains an ever-evolving asset/project for the continuous enjoyment of society-at-large. The recent addition of the Fountains and the enclosed Dome is another example of what healthy and effective ongoing collaborations can mean for the SNFCC's continuous evolution as a modern, attractive, beautiful venue. Our experience up to now, having collaborated with several governments, is a very positive one. Everyone has acted in the best possible way to ensure the success of the SNFCC.

Moreover, we are very happy to see both the National Library, and especially the National Opera truly thriving in their new homes, stepping into a new and even more extroverted era. On we go, then, with the Health Initiative, budgeted at over \$450 million, becoming our new focus. We are doing our best to provide much-needed support to our country's public health infrastructure, hoping that the same recipe that made the SNFCC so successful can also help make the Health Initiative equally successful for the people of Greece.