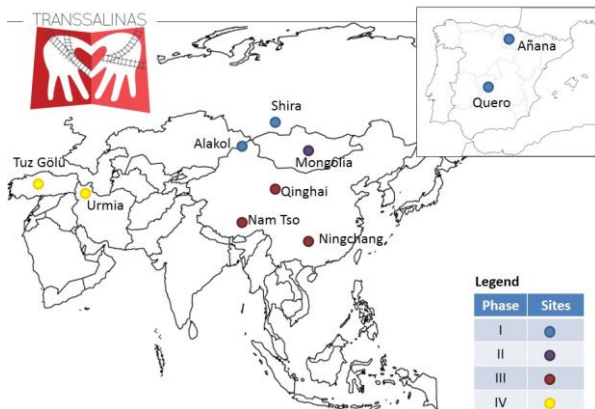


## What is TRANSSALINAS

The **Institute of Salt Heritage and Saltscapes (IPAISAL)** wants to go beyond traditional heritage conservation actions and is proud to present **TRANSSALINAS: Conservation of Iberian and Asian saltscapes through community art**. The project's motto is *emotions are the gate to conservation*, and will visit a number of salt lakes and salinas in Spain, Russia and Kazakhstan in its first phase. Saltscapes in Iberia and Central Asia share features and threats: they can be considered *islands of water in a sea of land*, surrounded by geographical nothingness and by human indifference and ignorance. They truly formed the hearts of their local communities, but these are feeling ever more detached from their traditional assets.



Phases of the TRANSSALINAS project

## Why community art for conservation

Community art is a very effective instrument to enhance the participation, awareness and motivation for action at local level, providing a more lasting result. Hence, TRANSSALINAS will stimulate the **participation** of the local community and cooperating institutions in all stages of the project and has **sustainability**, **integrity** and **authenticity** as its main values.

Despite the distances involved, the sites will be linked by railroad, symbolising the arteries that flow between both the real as the symbolic hearts (saltscapes). Trains -and their dwellers- will therefore become a main character in the art installation. Rail is also the most sustainable form of modern travel and it seems a logical choice within the context of TRANSSALINAS.

## What will TRANSSALINAS do

TRANSSALINAS will record sounds with a strong emotional value, both at the saltscapes (heartbeats of residents and visitors) as on the road (heartbeats of travellers, rhythm of the train itself). Based on the science of *cymatics*, the sounds will be transformed into vibrations, which will be shown in an ephemeral and effective visual art installation on the surface of the water. We expect that the impact of seeing their own hearts beat in the saline water will favour an emotional link between the local community and the site. This will eventually contribute to strengthen their feeling of belonging to the landscape and its values, and increase their will to protect them.

## What outcomes will there be

TRANSSALINAS also intends to share the experience with other interested people and sites. A **website**, a **blog**, a **book**, an **exhibit** and a **documentary** are among the expected outcomes of the project. The experience can also be replicated in other sites, upon agreement with local institutions. Contributions in cash or in kind will be adequately acknowledged and rewarded. Ask us how!

### Want to know more?

Follow TRANSSALINAS here:  
[www.ipaisal.org/transsalinas](http://www.ipaisal.org/transsalinas)  
[www.ipaisal.org/transsalinas/blog](http://www.ipaisal.org/transsalinas/blog)  
[www.facebook.com/salina.art](https://www.facebook.com/salina.art)  
and get in the mood here:  
<https://vimeo.com/82481472> (1')  
<https://vimeo.com/74631042> (5')

TRANSSALINAS is a cooperation effort between community artist **Marta Gil** (l.) and **IPAISAL**, under leadership of Katia Hueso (r.):

