

Urban best practices and comparative case studies




Double integration of research programmes

Horizontal Integration (Inter-disciplinarity) • Vertical Integration (from theory to practice)



EC FP5 The City of Tomorrow and Cultural Heritage

Cultural Heritage • Double integration in evaluation procedure • Programme closed



Comparative case studies in a double integration perspective

Link different disciplines • Closely related to practice and dissemination • European wide



What is the ontology of cases ?

Normative (best practices) or descriptive • Transposition and comparability of cases (languages, cultures and institutions) • Validation procedures • Four research projects

The APPEAR research project




Enhancement of archaeological sites located in an urban setting



Existing practices rather than best practices

Clinical approach of cases • Diversity of issues (ontology) • Some of them analysed by the entire consortium



Legitimacy of some cases

Intrinsic quality of cases • Especially in the archaeological domain • Enhancing a badly excavated / interpreted site ? • No ex post evaluation of archaeological works



Definition of an enhanced site: the case of the Rose Theater

History of the Rose • Exemplary in what to avoid (PPG 16) • Considered as a "non site" by the Evaluation Committee • Especially in the south of Europe where a long tradition of visits • Difficulty of the clinical approach

The SUIT research project

Integrated management of urban heritage

Subsidiarity principle • Cultural exception • Environmental Impact Assessment of projects developed in historical urban areas • Common ontology for addressing decision-making process

Case studies emerged during the research process

Valorise results of research & Communication between researchers • Clinical approach • Understanding and explanation of the EIA procedure in the different Member States • ERole of EIA in the process

Cultural heritage not taken into consideration in EIA

Confirmed during research • No good examples • Guillemins Case study in Liege • Limit the number of cases to be considered ?

Evaluation of the comparative framework ?

Should we distinguish between ontology used in research methodology and reference framework ? • Develop a research framework distinct from the framework to evaluate ?

The PICTURE research project

Management of cultural tourism in small- and medium-sized cities

Good practices included in the research proposal

Communication and valorisation of research results • Comparative framework (ontology) based on Strategic Planning principles • Never discussed even though business-oriented • May have been considered as a real stake

Belfast: a failure as Best Practice

European Capital of Culture • Belfast participated • Not selected even though presented as a clear privileged • Positive outcomes in terms of partnerships highlighted by the project • Local governance as made of successes and failures

Two distinct ontologies: Methodology and Reference framework

Allow the evaluation of the framework • Not usual in urban best practices as highlighted by SUD literature • Consider failures as best practices

The SUT Governance research project

Local partnerships (public private) in the view of fostering sustainable urban tourism

Clearly dedicated to Best Practices

Normative status • Partnership considered as key to SUT • Evaluation based on this aspect

Legitimacy of some cases

In-depth case studies • One of the best practices is the city of Gmunden • PPP with German and Austrian televisions for using a castle • Give a positive image of the city • Double the number of visitors • Best practice in terms of partnership but sustainability ?

Benchmarking

Self-answered questionnaire • Raise the issue of the understanding of terms • Example Lyon (3.258.611 visitors) Cologne (50.000.000 visitors) • Mostly procedural questions (agenda 21, sustainable urban development plan)

Conclusions



Best practices require reference framework and evaluation ontologies

What will be studied and how ? • These ontologies should not be aligned • Share vocabulary and understanding




Intermediate between valorisation results and empirical research

Good for communicating and building networks • Cross-cultural studies • Normative value ?



From practice to ontologies

Mose case studies are single projects • No local learning • Except in some cases with multiple projects • Develop local knowledge • Can be structured through ontologies



To go further in this direction...

Address projects of the 5th FP • The City of Tomorrow and Cultural Heritage • 160 projects • Analyse how and why case studies have been realized • Develop an ontology of case studies