Landscapes
Territories
Infrastructures

Managing Change?

The historic urban landscape approach

25 & 26 November 2013
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World Heritage Center UNESCO
- UNESCO: Standard-Setting Instruments: recommendations declarations conventions

- Issues and Challenges

- Recommendations on Landscapes

- Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape

- Next steps? Culture and development
UNESCO
Specialized UN Agency
Created 16 November 1945
195 members

UNESCO’s standard-setting action
Conventions Recommendations Declarations
Fostering multidisciplinary exchange and mobilizing international opinion.

Projects and campaigns
Issues and challenges
Growing global change
Unsustainable economic development
19th/20th century boom
21st century growth cycle
Managing change???

Bridges and roads
Dams and power plants
Mining
Urban sprawl
Tokyo
Japan
Nihonbashi bridge
landmark
Shuto expressway
1964

Modernité vs Conservation?

Context?

Integrity?
Paris

Housing
Slum reduction
Urban sprawl
New low rise densification

Roads
Pro car culture
Changed to less cars

For who? Who are the players?
Infrastructure: threat or heritage?
UNESCO was the first UN agency to deal with landscape at a global scale

1962 Recomendation concerning the safeguarding of the Beauty and Character of Landscapes and Sites
1972 Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage + Cultural landscapes category (1992)
2003 Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage
2005 Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

Programs: Man and Biosphere (MAB) & Small Islands in Development (SIDS)
+ UN years
Context: an important body of recommendation, charters, conventions and international conferences

- 1962 Recommandation concerning the safeguarding of the Beauty and Character of Landscapes and Sites
- 1964 ICOMOS Venise Charter
- 1968 Recommandation concernant la préservation des biens culturels mis en péril par les travaux publics ou privés
- 1971 Conventions on Wetlands of Intl’ Importance especially as Waterfront Habitat (Ramsar)
- 1972 Recommandation concernant la protection sur le plan national du patrimoine cultuel et naturel
- 1976 Recommandation concernant la sauvegarde des ensembles historiques... (Nairobi)
- 1982 ICOMOS IFLA International Charter for Historic Gardens (Florence Charter)
- 1987 ICOMOS Washington Charter for the conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas Washington
- 1998 Conférence intl’ Stockholm politique culturelles & développement
- 2000 European Landscape Convention Florence
- 2005 XI’an Declaration on the Conservation of the Setting of Heritage structures Sites and Areas
- 2005 Memorandum de Vienne
- 2005 Convention de Faro
- Déclarations et conventions sur la biodiversités
- Sommets internationaux (1992 Rio & Rio + 20)
World Heritage Convention 1972

962 properties
Listed in 2012
+ 240 cities
+ 350 properties in an urban context

Conservation issues related to cities

Need for new tools
State of conservation issues
Vienna, Austria
Vienna Memorandum 2005
Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape
adopted 10 novembre 2011
by UNESCO’s General Conference

- It is the first such instrument on the historic environment issued by UNESCO in 35 years
- It will not replace existing doctrines or conservation approaches;
- It is an additional tool to integrate policies and practices of conservation of the built environment into the wider goals of urban development in respect of the inherited values and traditions of different cultural contexts;
- It is a “soft-law” to be implemented by Member States on a voluntary basis.

and other texts published in 2011

• La Valetta principles ICOMOS (2011)
• Paris Declaration on heritage as vector for development ICOMOS General Assembly (2011)
Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape initiative

Towards an integrated approach

It is not a new heritage category

It’s not an incentive to promote “façadisme”

Considers layering: landscapes = territory

Considers cultural diversity, intangible heritage, role and traditions of indigenous people and communities
8. The historic urban landscape is the urban area understood as the result of a historic layering of cultural and natural values and attributes, extending beyond the notion of “historic centre” or “ensemble” to include the broader urban context and its geographical setting.
**Definition**

10. This definition provides the basis for a comprehensive and integrated approach for the identification, assessment, conservation and management of historic urban landscapes within an overall sustainable development framework.

11. The historic urban landscape approach is aimed at preserving the quality of the human environment, enhancing the productive and sustainable use of urban spaces, while recognizing their dynamic character, and promoting social and functional diversity. It integrates the goals of urban heritage conservation and those of social and economic development. It is rooted in a balanced and sustainable relationship between the urban and natural environment, between the needs of present and future generations and the legacy from the past.
Mainstreaming HUL

Action plan: 6 steps

1. Comprehensive Mapping of Assets (Natural, Cultural, Human)
2. Reach Consensus on Values to retain & carriers
3. Assess Vulnerability to Socio-Economic stresses & climate change
4. Develop a Vision on City Development
5. Prioritize Policies and Actions for Conservation & Development
6. Establish Partnerships and Management Frameworks
Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape

The UNESCO General Conference recommended that Member States take the appropriate steps to:

- adapt this new instrument to their specific contexts;
- disseminate it widely across their national territories;
- facilitate implementation through formulation and adoption of supporting policies;
- monitor its impact on the conservation and management of historic cities.
Next Steps
Advocating the link between culture and development

Ambrogio Lorenzetti, Buon Governo, Siena (circa 1338)
Economic values

Heritage values

Social values

Environmental values

What role

Urban development

Landscape approach

Modernity vs Conservation?