

Conclusions of the ARCCHIP Workshop A02

“Cultural Heritage in Local and Regional Social and Economic Stability”

Prague/Liblice, May 2001

1. Introduction

The ARCCHIP workshop, organised by ITAM-ARCCHIP, “Cultural Heritage in Local and Regional Social and Economic Stability” held in Prague during May 2001, brought together participants from 13 European countries including 5 associated countries. The purpose of the workshop was to identify opportunities for collaboration and research in the field of use of cultural heritage for local and regional social and economic stability.

2. General conclusions

It was clear from the papers presented at the workshop, that social and economic issues are in the focus of attention of each country. Nevertheless, there is a lack of scientific background for reasonable use of cultural and natural heritage as well as little knowledge of revitalisation possibilities offered by combination of traditional skills and a smart management.

There some important common themes emerged:

- Use of cultural and natural resources for the benefit of communities.
- Alternative models to mass tourism promoting public awareness of the diversity of European cultures.
- Accessibility of cultural heritage in e-society and for disabled.
- Increasing role of education and training, especially in traditional skills.
- Alternative models to construction and restoration processes, creation of cross-sector networks.
- Assessment of new architecture in urban setting.
- Evaluation of management techniques, qualitative and quantitative assessment methods.

Strategies must be developed for research, management, partnership and networks.

3. Draft of deliverables

THEMATIC NETWORK on **H**eritage for **E**conomic and **S**ocial Stability and International Adhesion

HESTIA

Will promote best practice dissemination and benchmarking of programmes based on regional or micro-regional traditions, resources and technologies, in order to ensure economic and social stability and sustainability of European historic environment.

Programme will be concentrated on support of development of educational facilities oriented to cultural and natural heritage issues, of development of local SMEs using local

resources, skills and traditions oriented to production of “local products”, of development of technical and tourism infrastructure and development of housing technologies and policies exploiting built cultural heritage and traditions.