

CONCLUSIONS OF THE ARCCHIP WORKSHOP A03

“Cultural Heritage in Urban Areas”

Prague/Liblice, June 2001

1. Introduction

The ARCCHIP workshop, organised by ITAM-ARCCHIP, “Cultural Heritage in Urban Areas” held in Prague during June 2001, brought together State-of-the-Art presentations from 17 European countries including 10 associated countries and 1 Mediterranean country. The purpose of the workshop was to identify opportunities for collaboration and research in the field of urbanism and management of historic cities and sites.

2. General conclusions

It was clear from the papers presented at the workshop, that integrated sustainability of cultural heritage in urban areas is an issue which is over very great relevance to each country, namely in their well conserved parts which are now under ever increasing development pressure. The participants presented and discussed experiences, problems, ideas and data in this field.

There some important common themes emerged:

- Sustainability of cultural heritage in urban areas calls for new definitions and tools for
 - values analysis and assessment, especially for recent architecture
 - monitoring of cultural heritage values in historic environment
 - maintaining intangible features of cultural heritage
 - managing changes.
- Continual, ecological and smart development of European urbanisation needs methodology and tools for
 - discovering potential of small historic cities and villages
 - safeguarding context between historic and newly developed areas as well as built and natural heritage.
- Management of historic cities requires improvements and harmonisation in
 - documentation methodology and systems
 - legislation support
 - co-operation of authorities
 - urban planning methodology and schemes
 - incentive measures
 - reasonable and profitable use policies
 - public awareness and involvement

- professional exchange of good as well as bad practice experience.
- Social and economic aspects of cultural heritage in historic cities, including tourism are to be involved in conservation and development strategies.
- More attention should be paid to the Art in relation to cities and landscape, to perception and evaluation of historic environment elements, to studies on public spaces, to possibilities of artistic enhancement of historic environment, e.g. by artistic lighting, as well as to reduction of possible “pollution” from advertisement, light etc.

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

3. Draft of deliverables

THEMATIC NETWORK on *Management of Assets and Genius of Historic Centres for their Sustainable Development and Enhancement*

“MagicNet”

There is a goal to facilitate a wise management – safeguarding and use - of cultural heritage in historic urban areas and centres – from rural elements to historic cities – as sustainable development assets through co-ordinated share of knowledge and other activities, which the established European Network will support, such as:

- Integrated strategies for protection, preservation, enhancement and use of cultural heritage, namely endangered or decaying,
- Development of instruments for assessing risk factors and managing critical situations,
- Maintenance, creative redesign and smart development of urban ensembles,
- Increasing contribution of urban and spatial development policy to cultural heritage for future generations,
- Integrated urban development strategies sensitive to economical, social and functional aspects,
- Better co-ordination of policies affecting cultural heritage, namely historic centres,
- Securing major access to knowledge and information on urban heritage issues.

4. PROJECT PRE-PROPOSALS

The A03 Workshop participants negotiated and declared their good will to join as participants or end users consortia of project proposals being prepared by:

- ❖ University of Liege – on lighting of cultural heritage
- ❖ School of Architecture Languedoc-Roussillon – on place writings (Art in urban areas)