

A framework for Resilient Cultural heritage

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It is acknowledged by International declarations and policy guidance documents that cultural heritage (CH) can contribute directly to many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including resilience and adaptation to climate change (SDG 13). CH can support climate change action as it conveys local knowledge that builds resilience for change through mitigation and adaptation (UNESCO, 2021). Moreover, the vulnerability of the built environment to climate change possesses inherent resilient properties that allow it to resist damage (Eid & El-adaway, 2017). The integration of policies and practices of CH conservation and management into the wider framework of sustainable urban development entails the application of an integrated landscape approach (UNESCO, 2011) that (i) responds to local cultural contexts and value systems, (ii) integrates distinct theoretical perspectives to address the complex layering of the various spatial, mental, and functional process-related dimensions of the landscape, and (iii) addresses policies and governance concerns at international and local levels (Ginzarly, Houbart, et al., 2019; Tress et al., 2001). Yet, the application of a landscape approach to CH conservation and management in the context of climate change is faced with different challenges.

First, while at the turn of the twenty-first century the concept of CH has extended from monuments and historic centers to cultural landscapes and cities as living heritage, assessment processes of heritage attributes and values have been slow to evolve and address the interdisciplinary nature of heritage (Déom & Valois, 2020) as much of the work of heritage experts have been based on an institutionalized typological categorization of heritage values (Ginzarly, Farah, et al., 2019; Fredheim & Khalaf, 2016). Second, in addition to the challenge of capturing different stakeholder groups' (e.g., experts, communities, visitors) perceptions of heritage value, there is a challenge around assessing the vulnerability of CH to climate change and integrating its vulnerability status into the broader context of sustainable urban development. This challenge is imposed by the lack of climate vulnerability assessment for diverse CH types (cultural, natural, intangible, exceptional, and everyday/ordinary), a lack of a framework that addresses landscapes rather than heritage sites in isolation (Cook et al., 2021).

To address the above-mentioned challenges, this presentation presents a landscape people-centered conceptual framework for resilient CH that is applicable at the city scale (i) to map how different stakeholder groups value heritage in the context of climate change, (ii) using data mining and social networks as a tool to engage communities and get access to information about heritage values, and (iii) assess the vulnerability of urban heritage and its associated values to climate change.

The conceptual framework is structured around four prominent themes consisting of different subthemes: (1) the city is a living heritage that encompasses the physical, mental, and digital heritage landscapes; (2) digitally mediated heritage practices provide new prospects for digitally-enabled forms of co-creation of collective heritage values; (3) longitudinal records on social media serve as a data source for the assessment of heritage values and their vulnerability to change over time (before, during, and after the climate hazard); and (4) online communities contribute to communities' disaster resilience.

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