NET-HERITAGE
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WP 1

Systematic Exchange of Information and Best Practices Concerning the Management of Running RTD Programmes on the Protection of Tangible Cultural Heritage (Information exchange)

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Major Goal of WP 1

To provide the necessary information for coordination of the national RTD programmes of the European countries and to support the European RTD Programmes in the field of research on tangible cultural heritage

Objectives of WP1

- To establish a comprehensive information structure on the current management, financing procedures, and evaluation criteria of the running Research Programmes applied to the Protection of TCH across Europe.

- To map best practice in the strategic management of research in this specific sector.

- To assess the strengths and weaknesses in the management of national/regional programmes within the context of the overall European partnership.

- To assess the partners' capacity and management practices in the European and other international programmes

- To disseminate information widely through the NET-HERITAGE Observatory (WP2)

Tasks of WP1

- **Task 1.1** Developing an information system that will map strategies, research programmes and research institutions in the field of TCH protection . [Task Leader: Belgian Federal Science Policy, Belgium]

- **Task 1.2** Identifying best practice and centers of excellence, organizing a pool of experts, appointed by the governments and national research centers. [Task Leader: Ministry of Culture and Communication, France]

- **Task 1.3** Benchmarking activities in order to implement the common approaches. [Task Leader: Archaeological Heritage

- Agency of Iceland, Iceland]

- **Task 1.4** Mapping the partners' participation in bilateral, European and International Programmes, in terms of coordination and cooperation. [Task Leader:MESY, Bulgaria]

Deliverables of WP1

- D 1.1 Inventory of the key national RTD programme elements on the Protection of Tangible Cultural Heritage (Management, Financing, Evaluation).

- D 1.2 Assessment report of current national RTD Programmes and synergies between the programmes of the Partners in terms of management, financial issues and evaluation procedures

- D 1.3 Recommendations on common approaches.

- D 1.4 Assessment report on participation in European and International Programmes, in terms of coordination and cooperation.

Overview of Task 1.1

1. Questionnaire development on TCH research programmes (all WP1 members) – Spring 2009

2. 15 July 2009 questionnaire filled in – valuable information but missing elements and imprecision

3. Sofia meeting in October 2010– presentation of preliminary results

4. Inventory sent to the Commission on the 15th of January 2010

Task 1.1. Conclusions

- 41 **funding instruments** in the field of preservation/protection of their cultural heritage

- 13 key **research programmes** most of which are still running

- The programmes have **more similarities than differences in the management:**

  - The scope is similar

  - Most of them commission research projects by organizing open calls regularly which is a good basis for cooperation

  - Evaluation procedures rely in almost all cases on independent peer review and a steering committee making the final decision

Task 1.1 Conclusions (2)

- **Evaluation criteria** place scientific excellence at the center of concern

- **Application procedures** are standardized and formalized. In most of partners 'countries applicants have to translate their application also in English (for external evaluation purposes)

- **Eligibility criteria for the applicants** are also similar but do not really allow the international cooperation between scientists

- **Control procedures** of the ongoing projects by the programme management are comparable - annual reports, final report

- **Budgets** allocated to research in TCH seem rather limited even though some countries are putting a special emphasis on the topic

Task 1.1 Conclusions (3)

The interaction between national institutions governing cultural heritage and research has to be reinforced

Research on TCH in Partner countries is managed in a variety of ways:

-   The sector of cultural heritage preservation and restoration is governed mainly by national strategies implemented by the Ministries of Culture

-   The world of science is governed by Ministries of Science, Research Councils or Research Funds

Overview of Task 1.2

- The identification of **best practices** in terms of management, financial issues and evaluation procedures based on the information received

- The identification of Centres of Excellence

- Organisation of a pool of experts directly appointed by the governments and national research centres

Overview of the Task 1.2

A ***Programme*** *is a process of delivery with defined outcomes. A programme comprises a number of research projects, all of which contribute to the same overall direction, which applies to the protection of cultural tangible heritage. Such programmes are open for all eligible institutions within a country and have definite rules for the submission, handling and scientific assessment of proposals and for the management of projects.*

"Programme" was defined as a general funding scheme or as a general envelope dedicated to regularly sustain research centres in order to take into account the diversity of TCH research funding schemes in Europe.

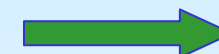# Definition of best practice for research applied to the protection of TCH

Best practice is defined as a practice that achieves scientific excellence taking into consideration the utilitarian/scientific aim of the programme.

- It's a process that permits to establish criteria of "well doing" to improve the effectiveness.

- It has to be estimated on the basis of practices in relation to the objectives and aims that are set up.

- A common point of view has to be defined at European level

Table of objectives for TCH research:

A. Research coordination	1. Implement/reinforce the structures coordination different academic disciplines. countries and other fields of research (environmental technologies e.g)
	2. Improve the development of THC research on demand and grant new exploration on short and long time
B. Partnership between research units and other actors	3. Implement effective actions with the target of stimulating exploitation of results
	4. Underpin cooperation between research and other stakeholders. cultural institutions. private organizations and representatives working in the TC field
C. Funding/politics	5. Solve problems of insufficient and scattered funding
	6. Implementation of a specific and dedicated politic
D. Evaluation	7. Implementing evaluation structures This evaluation has to be done by peers and by other stakeholders
	8. Identifying centres of excellence
E. Diffusion	9. Strengthening the diffusion of research results concerning TCH

These 9 objectives distributed into

5 pools facilitated the work of linking identified best practices to one or several of these objectives

The best practices were identified in two ways:

● **When they correspond to 9 agreed objectives**

The analysis tried to find out which practice is the closest to objectives.

● **When a shared practice is clearly identified**

If most of the countries act similarly the analysis tries to identify the reason of this shared practice on the basis of the defined objectives and aims.

Results in terms of identified best practices

52 best practices in three main area

<u>General politic and organisational framework:</u> (5 topics - 7 best practices)

Example: Existence of national strategy on TCH research as part of the national research strategy based on broad consultations among all the stakeholders; Constant update of the strategy, development of programmes and annual plans for its implementation

<u>Global European funding schemes profile</u> (6 topics - 10 best practices)

Promote and sustain regularly granted research institutions within the TCH research field; Define and implement programmes with calls for TCH research; Promote concentration of and coordination between of programmes to permit the efficiency and the excellence

<u>Management of programmes with calls</u> (16 topics - 35 best practices)

Example: Having a clear amount of funding predefined in the general strategy for the TCH research could be a best practice to reinforce the protection of TCH.

Pool of Experts

The creation of a group of experts was defined as a topic of the task 1.2 by the DOW as follows:

Organising a pool of experts, directly appointed by the governments and national research centres of the member states

● **A request was sent to all the partners of the consortium Net-Heritage for the designation of their experts.**

● **National experts nominated by partners. They have direct experience in TCH research and also in know-how on best practices.**

➡ **11 countries had appointed one expert or several experts, so that this pool of expert is finally constituted of 16 members**

➡ **An expert meeting was organized in Paris on the 19th February 2010**

Task 1.3 Benchmarking

- „Benchmarking is the process of determining who is the very best, who sets the standard, and what that standard is."

- Process benchmarking which entails a qualitative approach was used. The aim was to illustrate similarities and differences between partner states, programmes and funding schemes.

- The work was based on deliverable 1.2 *Best practice* as well as information from deliverable 1.1 *Inventory*.

- Each best practice was analyzed and **Recommendations on common approaches** were developed

Task 1.4. Assessment of Bilateral, European and International Programme Participation

Revision and summary of the following documents:

1. D 1.1 Inventory of the key national strategies and research programmes applied to the protection of tangible cultural heritage

2. Part E of the Questionnaire on state-of-the art of national and international research strategies, programmes and projects applied to the protection of tangible cultural heritage.

3. Documents of the EU and International Organisations

Bilateral Cooperation

- There are no bilateral governmental programmes of NET-HERITAGE project partners that focus exclusively on the protection of tangible cultural heritage

- The bilateral cooperation in the field is part of the broader scientific and cultural cooperation of the partners

- In some cases cultural heritage is a major priority of the bilateral agreements.

- NET-Heritage partners have a large number of bilateral agreements among themselves, with other EU countries and non-EU member states.

Bilateral Cooperation

Activities included in the bilateral programmes

- Direct contacts between museums, galleries and institutions which deal with research and protection of historical (archaeological sites and monuments, urban areas, architectural wholes and monuments) and art monuments;

- Exchange of information on the complications in preserving and restoring cultural monuments like cooperation in restoration of cultural and historic monuments;

- Exchange of experts and documents

Bilateral Cooperation (2)

Implementation of the bilateral programmes

- Bilateral cooperation is jointly coordinated by the national agencies. In some cases the lead-agency role alternates on a yearly basis between the two participating Councils

- Bilateral programmes are implemented by project calls which are announced mostly once annually or have an open deadline

- In some cases the partners use the evaluation procedures and criteria of one of the institutions

- The projects are selected either nationally or national selection is followed by common ranking by the joint commission or committee.

- The criteria for project selection are well-defined research projects of the highest quality and standards that will lead to significant advances in creativity, the research experience of the teams, the appropriateness of the proposed methodology, the scope of co-operation, etc.

Bilateral Cooperation (3)

Funding mechanism of the bilateral programmes

Each partner covers the eligible project cost of the activities performed by the national researchers or organisations

NET-HERITAGE partners have similar instruments for bilateral projects in science, education and culture with countries non-members of the EU For example France has such cooperation with South Africa (GDRI Science, Technologies, and Rock Art: bilateral France/ South African, international network on Rock Art studies), with Korea (STAR - Old papers preservation), with the United-States (PICS (CNRS) with the National Gallery of Art (Washington-USA) (2008-2010): Tidelines at the Wet/dry interface in paper)

European Programmes

NET-HERITAGE project partners cooperate in:

•Framework programmes of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities

•COST and EUREKA programmes

•Cross-border and transnational programmes

•Cooperation with the European economic area

The cooperation follows the mechanism of submitting and implementing projects according to the uniform programme regulations.

Framework programmes

- In FP7 NET-Heritage project partners cooperated in cultural heritage research in a variety of projects for research and thematic networks that differ by research area, number of participants, and funding.

Framework programmes – Examples (2)

- *MUSECORR*: 226539, FP7-ENV-2008-1 Protection of cultural heritage by real-time corrosion monitoring. 7 partners from 5 countries

- *POPART*: Strategy for the preservation of plastic artifacts in museum collections. Eleven participants from EU member states form the consortium.

- *CHARISMA*: development of EU-ARTECH with 21 European partners. Carried out in the FP7 Capacities Specific Programme "Research Infrastructures". The project provides transnational access to most advanced scientific instrumentations and knowledge allowing scientists, conservators-restorers and curators to enhance their research at the field forefront.

- *3D-COFORM* aims at establishing 3D documentation as an affordable, practical and effective mechanism for long term documentation of tangible cultural heritage.

FP Joint Programmes

- Many of the NET HERITGE project partners are involved in the ERA-NET Plus action HERA (Humanities in the European Research Area). A partnership between 21 Humanities Research Councils across Europe and the European Science Foundation (ESF), with the objective of firmly establishing the humanities in the European Research Area.

- The most significant achievement of HERA has been the launch of its first Joint Research Programme (HERA JRP) in 2009 and through the common pot funding mechanism 19 transnational humanities research projects under two research themes "Cultural Dynamics: Inheritance and Identity" and "Humanities as a Source of Creativity and Innovation" are funded

COST and EUREKA

- The research into cultural heritage is not a major priority in COST programme. The Cultural Heritage Interest Group maintains various networks, such as:

- D42 Chemical Interactions between Cultural Artefacts and Indoor Environment (EnviArt)"

- MPNS Action IE0601 Wood Science for Conservation of Cultural Heritage (WoodCultHer) Another

- COST action on the understanding of pre-industrial structures in rural and mining landscapes

- COST programme have supported also conferences on cultural heritage.

- EUREKA - umbrella E!3790 EurekaBuild was launched on the initiative of the European Construction Technology Platform (ECTP) as follow-up to EUROCARE2000 (Europe's cultural heritage and building stock).

International Programmes

- NET-HERITAGE project partners cooperate in tangible cultural heritage by participation in the activities of the international organisations UNESCO, ICCROM, ICOMOS, Council of Europe and EUROPA NOSTRA.

Multilateral cooperation with China

- Coordination of Research between Europe and China (CO-REACH). Cultural heritage is one of the five themes supported by the Social Science Programme.

- Three NET-HERITAGE project members from the UK, France and Germany participate in the collaboration. Researchers may apply for one or several of the following funding modes or a combination of them. Projects can include:

  - Exchange research visits by European and Chinese scientists between Europe and China (funding of mobility)

  - Workshops, Seminar Series and /or Summer Schools

  - Research costs including minor fieldwork, data sets, consumables, small equipment, training for junior researchers; and in some cases personnel costs.

Multilateral cooperation with China

- Each participating country in the CO-REACH Social Science Call decides how many projects it will fund.

- The final number of available grants depends upon the scientific quality of applications and the availability of funding.

- All applicants must meet their respective national eligibility requirements.

- Each country is responsible for covering eligible project costs of their national researchers.

Task 1.4. Conclusions

- Bilateral and multilateral programmes in which NET-HERITAGE partners participate provide opportunities for cooperation in research on tangible cultural heritage.

- Cooperation in the field is implemented mainly through the multilateral projects within the framework programmes for research, technological development and demonstration activities.

- Prioritization of the research field in FP8 will be important for the sustainability of the achieved results and future achievements.

Thank you!