## Two Historical Eco-cosmologies

- Ferrara, Italia, and Thua Thien Hué, Vietnam -

A Study on Protection Tools for World Heritage Cultural Sites with a Strong Ecological Component

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#### Abstract:

This paper works on the idea of the "historical eco-cosmology" as an inclusive regional type in which regional lifestyles and natural systems are connected to heritage. This type of site will require more complex and adapted preservation strategies that go beyond the existing official tools, such as buffer zones and a Management Plans, which seem to lack of a multi-layer perspective.

In this context this research focused on two different World Heritage sites: Ferrara in Italy and Hue in Vietnam. Ferrara is an example of the UNESCO recommended methodology best practice, with one of the biggest cores in Europe, including a series of renaissance architectural properties and their related drained farmland and water systems. Hue, despite having a similar physical structure, consisting of a rich regional diversity in symbiosis with Nguyen royal city and tombs<sup>2</sup>, has a narrow buffer and no Management Plan<sup>2</sup>.

At this point the research studied 1. The historical territory and the heritage site 2. The applied laws and management 3. Parallel strategies. Through direct involvement, official documents and a series of interviews with key persons, the research found that in the case of Ferrara, although the site matches the criteria from UNESCO and there is a connection between historical and natural management, the protection is carried out in a very fragmented way overlooking site boundaries. For Hue, despite the weak and old protection measures, eco-groups are slowly starting to work on rural bottom up projects that could link back communities to regional protection and management initiatives.

As a conclusion, the investigation recommends:

- -In the case of Ferrara: 1. Consensus of all the regional management groups including cooperatives and resources management groups 2. Create a platform to share expertise and development lines at governmental level 3. Province as an ideological leader and Comune of Ferrara as activity reference leader 4. Create local platforms for a stable contact with social/eco-groups and thus fill in the gap of urban and rural communities.
- -In the case of Hue: 1. Establish a permanent network of regional eco-groups 2. Create bonds and share vision between eco-groups and HMCC 3. Expand eco project sites to heritage areas and the idea of heritage to rural land 4. Advocate the eco-historical idea as a common source of development

The purpose should be always to share one common regional image and strategy while respecting the independency and different peculiarities of each local area.

## Keywords:

World Heritage, eco-region, cultural landscape, buffer zone, regional management

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<sup>\*</sup> This is an abstract peer-reviewed by the International Affairs Committee of the City Planning Institute of Japan for ISCP2014.

#### 1 PREFACE

## 1.1 Background and purpose-The problem:

In the last decades rapidly evolving urban planning trends have been calling for a more dynamic interdisciplinarity and broaden vision of the territory. Methodologies, as spatial planning, emphasize the importance of the integration of different layers and disciplines for the creation of sustainable and balanced areas. Thus, regions lose their borders and become macro-organisms.

The concept becomes particularly significant when applied to historical sites where the cultural layer gives cohesion to the whole system. UNESCO, assuming those concepts, has been insistently trying to lead the state parties to more inclusive and participatory policies. Currently still few clear results can be observed, and good examples are mostly adopted in recently registered sites. Due to the continuously growing preservation criteria, which are just wished and not compulsory measures, the official preservation tools: buffer zone and a Management Plan (MP from now on), seem to lag behind the new holistic and community based preservation approaches.

Nowadays, among the actual 759 World Heritage cultural sites a specially inclusive regional type, in which surrounding lifestyles and natural resources management have direct impact on the heritage object and the historical conception of the whole, can be found; an indivisible human-natural mechanism that this paper will call the "historical eco-cosmology".

"The system should aim to enhance the entire cultural heritage, in the perspective of actions qualification and integration of the resources, considering the whole territory as an entity, not only geographical but also historical, or as different sites that should be placed in an ensemble", states Raimondi already in 1997. Those ideas are not just contemporary though. The Renaissance link between the humanist man and the medium, and specially the worldwide known East-Asian feng-shui philosophy left its influence in urban structures that have survived until our days. Now this balanced visions, once forgotten by the planning sector, seem to come back to the front of the preservation issues.

Taking those ideas as a starting point, and using case study sites of Ferrara (Italy) and Hue (Vietnam), the goal of the research was on the one hand, to clarify the position of natural and human historical structures in the regional development strategies for old multi-spot WH sites and find new ways outside official protection that could fill in the management gaps. On the other hand, the purpose was to broaden the idea of heritage active protection, showing that, in these cases, it must start from an analysis of different structures at regional level and the consideration of the regional symbiosis as the center of preservation strategies.

In doing so, the purpose of the study was to build up a clear potential image of inclusive management scenario for eco historical preservation. This method could be then used as a model of adapted development by other similar WH sites that are growing nowadays.

### 1.2 Literature review

In global terms, the volume of literature concerning research on World Heritage regional preservation is quite vast. UNESCO and ICOMOS themselves, since the Operational Guidelines for site management in 2005 (then reviewed in 2008, 2012), are constantly publishing new documents on preservation strategies and compilations of good practices through their Publi-Papers, periodical magazine and diverse publications.

Many other researchers have also been approaching the heritage management topic in the last years. Trying to give recent examples we can refer to Leitao, who gives a collection of UNESCO tools (MP, Buffer) application examples focusing in their accuracy.

Other researchers address particular heritage preservation problems as can be community management of heritage, heritage as a generator of economic development, resiliency...

Concerning the two particular case study sites, Yamada presented an exhaustive description of the Italian WH management and a series of practical projects that could be applied to Hue.

Ferrara, has been a core of active research for a long time. The studies focused specially on urban historical patterns (Cesari), urban sustainable regeneration and development (Ceccarelli), cultural landscapes (Leder, Bellini, who researched among other topics on local character rural architecture and the connection with canals,) support studies for the creation of the UNESCO Management Plan (Badia). This exhaustive research helped create an accurate image of the historical territory and delimitated carefully the boundaries of the world heritage property while at the same time brought new awareness on the regional value to local institutions.

In the case of Hue, intensive research from Waseda University (Satoh, Furakawa) tried to define the connection between natural and historical structures. Starting from the study

of the citadel and its water-system, then moved to the tomb areas and their design principles, which connect them with the surrounding mountain and water units<sup>2</sup>. Finally, more recent studies try to focus on social aspects, as they prove the influence of neighboring villages on heritage preservation, as well as regional scale unitary vision drawn in their last workshop in 2013<sup>3</sup>. This research group has been continuously suggesting action guidelines practical preservation some and development issues (tomb systems preservation, landscape, green tourism, etc.).

At the same time, in depth action research was conducted through pilot rural development projects

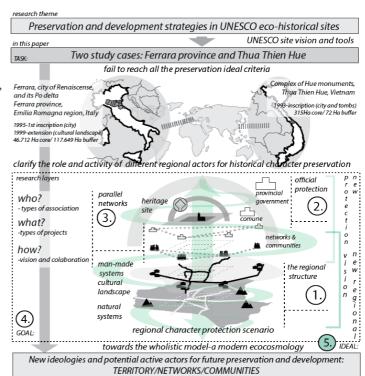


Figure 1: research flow

by the University of Agriculture in cooperation with Kyoto University (An, Ueru, Kobayashi). Other NPOs are also working in natural disaster prevention and community development, hence the volume of information is growing in the last ten years.

On the basis of this varied research and topics that influence directly on the regional character (figure 3), the input of this paper is to give a global vision of the diverse levels involved in the regional character protection, trying to look for gaps and potential relationships between actors that could materialize all those previous guidelines and preservation criteria in real systemized efforts. At that point, this global research tried to fill in some gaps between ideal recommendations, real problems of the management structures and community scale action.

## 1.3 Research Methodology (figure 1)

The analysis compares two areas with similar natural structures but different protection strategies and evolution. Both sites were registered as World Heritage in the 90s and now have to face adaptation to a new point of view and preservation criteria. Expecting that actual preservation methods required by UNESCO, even when correctly applied, are not able to reach active preservation of local character, this research tried to investigate further for alternative guardians of community activity and cultural landscape.

For that purpose, first an overview of the historical territory is given, then a review official actors and law for its preservation is exposed, and finally the scope of rural development bottom up complementary projects are presented.

Through direct involvement (03/2013 field work and Hué workshop), the analysis of official law and reports, and qualitative analysis of a series of

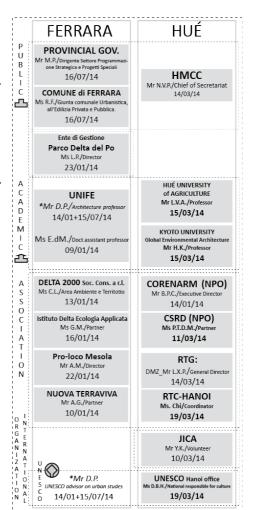


Figure 2: interview matrix



Figure 3: work topic diversity

interviews with key persons on heritage management and rural development (01,07/2014 Ferrara, 03/2014 Hué) - the historical eco-cosmology was delimited –protection systems analyzed -the potential actors were identified, their projects classified and located in the regional structure. Then, by comparison of the two cases, the lacks and potentials of each model will be pointed out looking for the creation of evolutional patterns and practical alternatives.

1) Interviews (figure 2) 2) Official documents (see references)

#### 1.4 Justification of the selected sites

In this context the research focused in two different sites. The site of Ferrara, an example of UNESCO recommended methodology best practice, with one of the biggest cores in Europe (46.712 Ha; buffer 117.649Ha) <sup>1</sup> including a series of renaissance architectural properties and their related drained farmland and water systems, is defined by skilled disconnected authorities and financial help from upper European spheres. Whith a similar physical structure, the research analyzes then the case Hue (315.47 Ha; buffer 71.93 Ha) <sup>1</sup>, which despite the regional diversity and symbiosis between Nguyen royal city and tombs and the regional natural environment<sup>2</sup>, has an old style narrow buffer and no MP<sup>1</sup>.

Both sites have a dispersed layout, with main heritage highlights disseminated on a vast territory along water systems and paddy fields, and both have also difficulties adapting and assimilating the new regional preservation requirements championed by UNESCO. Besides, because of their limited economical resources more creative ways for development should be brought up.

In consequence, understanding the achievements and gaps in Ferrara, with further expertise in preservation issues, could give new clues for development in Hue and similar sites.

## 1.5 The international point of view. UNESCO recommendations

Since 2005 UNESCO is requesting a MP and clear definition of the site boundaries to new inscriptions. However, being just recommendations and not mandatory to old sites, many properties still have meaningless boundaries and not updated regulations. Besides, even when well applied, these tools don't reach some layers addressed in the diverse publications such as participation, community development, cultural landscape...

ICCROM in their last program for 2014-15<sup>4</sup>, states the problem of a "growing demand for people centered approaches". They admit the "need for new approaches to enhance the link of heritage to sustainable development including a wide variety of non professionals".

Thus, the challenge now is to achieve the integration of the different layers in old management structures for a global preservation of the heritage values.

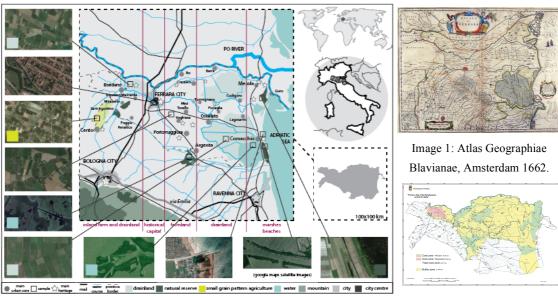


figure 4: Ferrara physical map

Image 2: WH site perimeter

## 1.6 Legend of terminologies

-Historical eco-cosmology: territory that involves in the original design conception a synergetic relationship between natural and man-made systems from a balanced regional development.

*-Eco-group:* NPO or association that works mainly on natural resources and local character protection by means of traditional resources and expertise.

*-Ecomuseum:* refers to a participatory model for management and conservation of natural and cultural resources, as the pioneer project developed in Battir (Palestine) promoted by UNESCO office in Ramallah.

- -Actors: institutions or groups involved in a project or for a common goal.
- -Comune: refers to an administrative unit similar to a municipality.

#### 2. A DUAL WORLD HERITAGE SITE:

"FERRARA, CITY OF RENAISSANCE, AND ITS PO DELTA" (figure 4)

## 2.1 The historical regional structure: the culture hub and the productive marsh

The territory that today belongs to Ferrara Province (about 2632km2) was an extensive marsh before the Dukes of Este started their massive engineering campaigns to drain land an create a dynamic system of canals and agricultural lands during the quattrocento and cinquecento. Their capital city, Ferrara, is considered to be the first 3 dimensionally planned cities in Europe<sup>5</sup>, human scale made and center of a flourishing cultural industry. Throughout the territory, the Este built also a series of Delizie, hunt shelters, as forest played a fundamental role in old times. Still other main regional activities were directly linked to the network of canals, which granted new drained land for rice and fruits agriculture and which were as well an important communication system linked to the big Po river, north limit of the province. In this way, this territory was subject to the correct function of the engineering water control systems and natural conditions. Besides, the fact that the region is a strong seismic area<sup>6</sup> makes water correct control be even more essential for regional balance.

Nowadays 4 realities can be found in the area. West to east: west commune (Cento, Bondeno...) with a special agricultural layout, disconnected from Ferrara by the N-S highway, Ferrara city with its cultural industry and careful agriculture, in contrast to petrochemicals plant, Agricultural lands linked to the new vast drainage systems, the Delta with the coast line and the strong presence of the Park. The province still preserves its agricultural character as a consequence of its positional isolation, which is being used in the past years as a unique appealing feature, as industry developed faster along the via Emilia. This apparent handicap allowed Ferrara to develop a new strategy of valorization of natural systems inside the cultural explanation of the territory.

## **2.2** The evolutional WH site and the partial legislation (figure 5)

The site of Ferrara, one of the biggest cultural sites in Europe, is a good example of required tools application. It has well defined boundaries composed of water systems, historical drained land agriculture and forests. Its management board gathers authorities from the three character areas included in the zoning (in 1995 just *Comune di Ferrara*) (see figure 5), and a MP

was already submitted in 2009.

Derived from urban shape protection policies originated already in the 70s and culminated in 1987 with the *Progetto Mura*, the *Comune di Ferrara*, an agricultural retracted province from Emilia Romagna region, started thus as a new way for progress, a plan to develop the cultural industry through a series of historical architecture re-use works and the preservation of the agricultural areas surrounding the city walls. The first inscription in the WH List in 1995 included already at that early time not only the historical city but also the green agricultural belt that was already inside the municipal preservation system; a pioneer vision compared to other inscriptions<sup>8</sup>. A Natural protected area in the zone of the Delta, Parco del Delta<sup>9</sup>, was already created in 1988. In 1999 an extension was made and the part of the park inside the province of Ferrara is included to the heritage site, as well as the system of canals and agriculture connecting both of them as a historical explanation of the renaissance drainage works; an even more unusual nomination. This action comes from a national will to link two strong character sites, urban and natural, that are connected by the historical structure, but have very diverse characteristics, which entails great difficulties for a combined management. Nevertheless, when UNESCO starts requiring the MP after 2005, the site of Ferrara was one of the first to take on the task. However, the MP is made as a compilation of already existent laws 10 coming from a strong zoning of the territory. Therefore, there is no law applied to the site specifically, but many regulations following administrative borders.

The area Parco is managed by its own instrument and is subject to the national parks protection, *Legge regionale 23 diciembre 2011 n 24*. It also includes urban plans redacted for diverse commune inside its aera (ex. *Piani di Stazione del Centro Sotrico di Comacchio*).

The Comune of Ferrara, has a very detailed regulations, PSC and RUE<sup>11</sup>, made by aware

technicians and real tools that the technicians are using for urban preservation. The classification of historical landscapes and special views has been carefully made but finishes within the administrative lines; there is no connection with the general regional landscape.

The rest of the land, the cultural landscape, is protected by the individual instruments of each commune.

In this plural context, the provincial Government has the role of regional coordinator and works with the PTCP<sup>12</sup>, already old and updated just in thematic parts as industry or commerce, but that doesn't address landscape preservation issues.

The MP turns to be then a list of

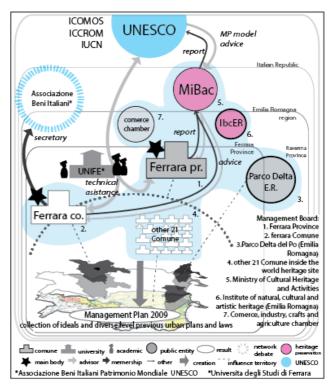


Figure 5: WH site management

strategic objectives and desired plans that each partner has to include in their legal instruments, but without any rule or material application. Besides that, there are no other periodical meetings or discussions about the site, and each group uses the site for its own development strategy. It depends then on each Comune's sensibility to defend their own territory against higher pressures, especially in rural land.

While the Italian Republic has long strong regulations for city centers and architectural heritage, in recent years the agricultural land is being threatened by strong renewable energy policies (corn for biomass, solar panels on agricultural land...), which come under "*Urgent Non-Derogable Works*" treatment, and that prevail on protection instruments of the MiBac (Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities). Those policies, even though they bring some apparent good, change the shape of the territory and affect the historical eco-development strategy if the *Comune* hasn't got the ability to control its development.

In consequence, for Italian municipal governments have the tutelage of heritage and there is no higher regional or national law that protects the historical territory, what complementary actions or strategies can be found outside the official management structure that could help keep the regional character and cohesion of a place?

## 2.3 Parallel strategies and dynamic actors (table 1)

In general a big zoning can be found. There are big groups for big areas and some small actions for the rest of the rural territory. The main activity of each group will be analyzed through their connections (figure 8) and some actions on the territory (figure 7) which, even if isolated, share the same spirit.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION COLLABORATION Ferrara city: local NGO academicians name Parco Delta Delta2000 Istituto Delta 💮 Pro-loco \*Citta de Nuova UNIFE \*Basso Cultura Terraviva Ecologia Applicats Profile spin-off company 1880s m ...., of researchers collective festivities 10 young 1994 NPO esity 2012-1983 Terraviva since 2011 1996 comso 1985of the Biology Dpt. man 2007aged by a of the UNIFE type of group public acad social promotion Fe. and Ra. developm APS NPO NPO? instituti ovinces and the agency+GAL for European funds the park. -call for projects: consultacy, res re-use of space for agriculture (waldorf) and urban guerrilla ar practical public/private -direct and small scale character as a action and low advisory, project bottom up and networki attraction for model for ocial a ng project -local level, bott support, fo creative cit European and Italian funds for main funds payed by client LEADER+ mihlic reuse of public reuse of public resource regional funds REG green areas anchitec public space use 93 public and 5 architects and perk comm resources and executive private (71%) partners from Fe. specialized in ad Ra. provinces ltural pro GAL (81,72%from in the regional and urban cont total). ferrara city: natural and rural small-mid size level, Delta level and some Ferrara and nural and urba (figure 7) romagnolo projects -rural markets and advice or urban product fairs -historical ager rojects and project design cultural pro development of the and sym turistic activity in urban space ocial activ public spaces in specially in the field of building refurbish fishing, aquaculture the territory cultural agmcu produts, order to build up landscapes, rural re-use for all social crafts work water quality, and local as unity activi project ideas odiversity Education 1.2 0-2

Table 1: project actor characteristics

APS: social promotion association; GAL: Gruppo di Azione Locale (loss) estion group); UNIFE: Universita degli Studi di Ferrara; Fo.: Ferrara; Ra.: Ravenna; \*mot interviewed

## 2.3.1 The provincial government<sup>14</sup>: looking for the connection thread

The institution, which is in charge of general province coordination, has an overall vision of the territory and culture as something inherent to each and every inhabitant. In that way, its protection is seen not as an imposition but a daily sensibility towards the entourage. For that reason criticizes strongly the actual fragmentation of the territory and underlines the importance of water systems management as an evident need that affects the territory equally.

However, the leading role of the Provincial Government is weak and the approved abolition of the Italian Provinces leaves the group with still unclear functions.

The objective for the moment will be to prepare a new Management Plan, until next UNESCO report date in 2020, and strengthen the governance of the site through small 2-3 year plans and legal tools committed to increase regional awareness. The main goal now is to fill in the gap of rural territory and to try to connect it with the general image of the Este agricultural drainage works. On that purpose, the Province is working with the help of eco-groups on small rural commune, cooperatives, *pro-loco* NPO groups throughout the Province.

The work is till slow and has no conclusive results. However, through workshop and manuals they are trying to address local farmers and producers in a way that they can understand the issues and insert them in everyday tasks.

In this context, the Province calls upon the *Comune di Ferrara* to be a regional leader and to share the vision and expertise with other more unskilled or small commune

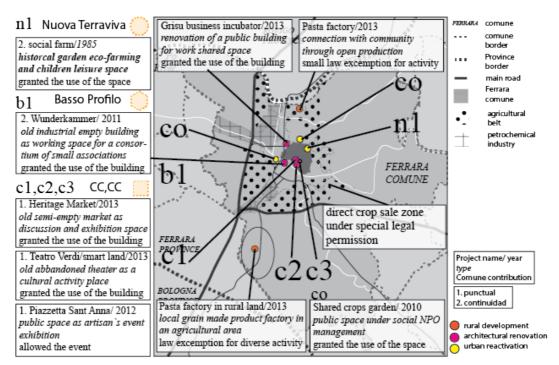


Figure 6: Ferrara creative city-land: projects

## 2.3.3 The commune of Ferrara: "creative city-creative land"

Since the first urban renovation plans in the 80s there has been a progressive integration of the idea of cultural landscape in the municipal strategy. Through an intensive analysis of the different character elements (ex. *Quadro cognoscitivo* in *Piano structturale*) the *Comune* is trying to follow strategies that help preserve those unique aspects. However, the concept

supported by the UNESCO nomination itself has not a strong impact on the development strategies.

Moreover, the detailed analysis remains just within the administrative borders of the commune, without any connection with the neighboring land, or any contribution of other commune in the same type of identification. Thus, bigger systems are not represented.

In the last years, after the strike of the economical crisis and the 2012 earthquake in Emilia Romagna, community initiatives groups perceptively and are growing. The Comune, in order to fight back the lack of funds and promote the link with people, is supporting approach the entrepreneurs some by special rural concessions. In areas permissions for special land use have been made in other to defend local high quality production from extensive agriculture. In urban areas on the other hand, grants for use and refurbishment of public buildings have been given to

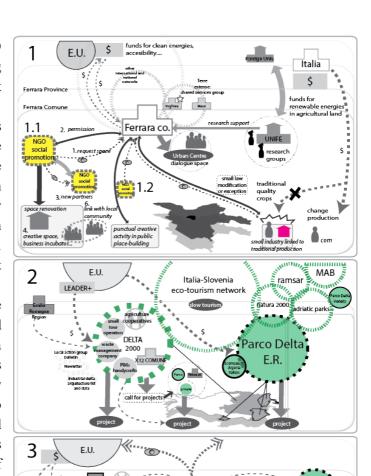


Figure 7: association relationships

→ memership → other → creation ← cooperation

university O public entity private entity network consortium

- difusion €

creative social groups (*Basso Profilo, Citta della Cultura*,...), which give a new use to empty facilities and boost the creation of new bonds between associations, local community and the *Comune*. This interest to approach locals was also made clear with the creation of a Urban Center, in 2012, and the creation of some urban instruments through debate with agricultural cooperatives in order to fit real requirements. All these efforts connect the *Comune* with locals and allow delegate some functions that would require public investments.

The gap of this creative system is in the link to the rest of the territory and its existence as a creative isolated core in the middle of the Province.

## 2.3.2 Parco Delta, a universe connected to Europe

The institution Parco del Delta (Emilia Romagna) is a public consortium that gathers commune in the littoral of the province (and Ravenna). Under its special natural and geographical conditions develops a very independent strategy. The condition of "natural park" of the area allows special connections and funds that connect them with similar areas in Europe

through many cooperation networks (ex. Adriatic parks).

The site has already the qualification Ramsar, besides the different WH perimeter and idea, and is also planning to get the MAB recognition. All those standards hide the historical concept between other priority development lines. Nonetheless, the group follows protective green polices and works also for rural development and integration of the communities inside it. It must be remarked their awareness on local water management systems as an essential part of their own territory, as can be remarked by the creation of a museum of the historical drainage systems, *Museo della Bonifica*.

#### 2.3.4 The role of the UNIFE (Universita degli Studi di Ferrara), a womb of ideas

Although the University doesn't get directly involved in planning issues as an institution, many of its academicians are working on research assistance projects for the Comune, as advisor, develop ideal projects through academic workshops or involve in many pioneer initiatives for urban reactivation in a private way. All this makes the presence of the University fundamental to extend the regional ideals and promote local dynamism.

## 2.3.6 Other groups

## Delta 2000, products linked to the land

This group focuses mainly in the promotion of local products (fairs, markets...) and rural development through traditional activity. The direct connection with European policies and network projects, and the economic resources make it an important instrument for rural areas. In contrast to its positive work is its limited area of action, the Eastern commune, and some steadiness as they follow very classical forms of product promotion.

## Istituto Delta, disperse creative initiatives

Istituto Delta works in the rural gap by fund raising strategy and creative solutions. This small private group shares the regional ideal with the Provincial Government and has the dynamism to create original projects for diverse sites.

The group works as connection or support for bigger groups as the Province and the Parco at community level, but also addresses directly small commune and creates new original products and networks (ex. PDO<sup>15</sup> garlic connected to the history of the Delizia de Belriguardo in Voghiera).

The problem they have to face is the limited action they can accomplish in such a big territory.

## 2.4 Gaps of the structure.

Although there is a general acceptation of the slow–green touristic and commercial strategy inserted in the historical frame, there is not a real development project shared by all the stakeholders. In consequence the UNESCO boundaries are often disregarded and don't have a practical meaning. The territory should then be object of a better identification of its unique features and a better sensibility, understood not just as eco-policies. There is also the need to think about whole systems (a clear example is the unified consortium for provincial drainage works, which was not created until 2009). One of the most remarkable problems is the gap in rural areas, which more unaware of their potentials show a mistaken competitiveness between them. This situation makes clear the need for stronger preservation regulations from Emilia Romagna and Italy, and more capacity to understand the risk and influence of the landscape of their policies, as well as a better identification of the roles of each stakeholder.

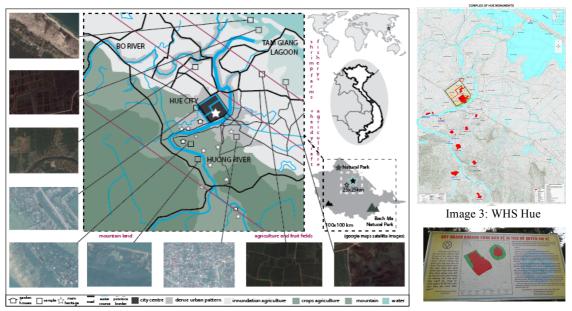


Figure 8: Hue physical map

Image 4: Royal arena and Voi Re Temple

#### 3. AN OPTIMIZED REGIONAL FENG-SHUI: "COMPLEX OF HUE MONUMENTS"

#### 3.1 The regional historical structure: a royal capital in an inexorable nature (figure 9)

Hue Province (Thừa Thiên-Huế in Vietnamese) is a vast region of around 5,062.6 km2 in Central Vietnam with very different geographical conditions. Integrated by the course of the Perfume river (Houng from now on) mountains to the west and south, fruits agriculture lands in the mid stream and rice and aquaculture towards the lagoon, on the east, compose a territory of predominant continuous rural patterns with a main core, the city.

The strategic place was once chosen by Nguyen kings to establish this new capital (from 1802-1945) designed by feng-shui principles that pointed this site as a special place for harmony. All along the course of the Houng, upstream, the kings constructed a series of tombs of remarkable scenic beauty. In a place with extreme climate, periodical floods, where natural systems prevail on any other man-made construction, the Nguyen's engineers managed to adapt Chinese design concepts to those special conditions. Thus, each and every tomb was designed to coexist with its surroundings. The design included mountain views and peripheral landscapes, water systems to control and store the floodwaters and surrounding paddy fields managed by local villagers that beneficiated from those reservoirs and indirectly help tombs preservation by their daily activity. In the lower stream, also the royal citadel, in a different scale, followed a similar idiosyncrasy. This influence becomes manifest again in traditional dwellings, the so called "garden houses", which can be found nowadays in areas close to the citadel like Kim Long, or rural settlements like Phuoc Tich, Thuy Bieu or Gia Long.

All this features make of Hue Province an intricate combination of an evident strong nature and delicately adapted man-made structures that have been preserved until today.

Nowadays the compound has to face diverse pressures that are threatening the historical symbiosis. On the one hand, consequences of fast development as rapid urbanization and increase of traffic, and massive tourism, which can be controlled by a change in strategy or regulations. But on the other hand, natural disaster as: deforestation, landslide, resource depletion, coastal erosion in lagoon areas, regular floods, etc. The last ones, being probably

increased by an inadequate exploitation of the regional resources, are one of the main issues against regional development. At this point, the government, instead of using non-invasive solutions or adapting the policies to the territorial conditions, has been reacting for the moment with the construction a series of hydropower dams, which change the course of the river affecting rural communities.

Furthermore, harsh living conditions and the lack of resources are gradually depopulating the rural areas, once base of the regional balance. As a result, the uniqueness of this rich territory is being gradually threatened.

# **3.2 A partial protection for great heritage** (figure 9)

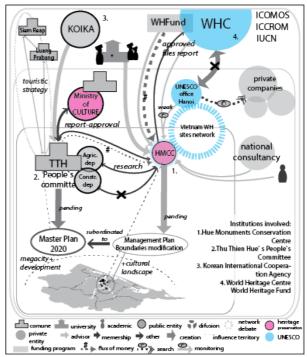


Figure 9: WH site management

The "Complex of hue monuments" is a clear example of application of old preservation criteria. The site is what UNESCO calls "a serial" nomination. It comprises a series of monuments disperse in the territory, each site composed barely of the architectural heritage and with a very narrow buffer zone. Other natural structures are not inside the nomination, which has not changed since 1993. The site, according to its registration dossier, is property of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and responsibility of the Department for Conservation of Historical Monuments and Museums of the Ministry of Culture, Information, and Sport, which

	PROJECT IMPLEME	INTATION				NETWORK
	local NGO		academicians		cooperation agency	eco-tourism network
name	CORENARM A	CSRD	Hué University of Agriculture and Forestry	*CSSH Hué Univ. of Sciences	лса 💮	RTG
getting started	2005, 7 people from the faculty of Agronomy, work experience	2008, 5 people	1994, start parcipatory approach (collaboration with IDIC Canada)	1995-Faculty of science (change to sociology dep.)	-	2010 spin off from RTC Hanoi
type of group	NPO	NGO	academic institution	NGO	Japanese Int. Coop. Agency	discussion group, forum
methodology	work at local level learn from locals two-way consultacy	work at local level learn from locals	bottom up collaboration with other universities	bottom up	bottom up	-periodical meetings -fair tour design
main funds	international fund-raising	international fund-raising	international project fund	international fund and self promotion	national budget from origin country	no cost
human resources/ members	-7 viotnamese permanent staff Master or PhD in Agronomy -5 part-time staff -english teacher -volunteers	-20 vietnamese permanent staff Master or PhD in Agronomy -visiting researchers -foreign management advisor	-professors and students	-professors and students -collaboration with foreign Universities	origin country staff: -experts -volumteers	-Tour operators: DMZ, Hue Tourist, Viotamorium-Hanoi, Que Huong Travel, Asin Travel Land, Eco Travel, Virtus Plup Service, -Hua Tourism College -NGO: CSRD, CSSH
main project location	lagoon and mountain sites	lagoon, mid, up stream Central Vietnam	Bo river: 3 sites- high, mid, low stream	lagoon area	heritage villages Thua Thien Hue	multiple site Thus Thien Hue
main practice	-community forest management, Nam Dong -climate change adaptation, Tam Giang lagoon	-calamity change adaptation, mangrove planting, Tam Giang lagoon -re-think hydropower, governance -dam impact	-traditional livelihood preservation and production diversifica- tion in tree spots, up-mid-low Bo river	-lagoon fishery re-development project, in collaboration with ICCO Netherlands	-CBET and community re-activation in national heritage areas: Phuoc Tic and Thanh Thoan	-periodical meeting on: eco-tour marketing, implementation fair profit sharing know how
topecs		●● ● ● □		•••	•	Ö
diagram type	1.1	1.1-1.2	2	2	3	4

Table 2: project actor characteristics

CORENARM: consultative and research centre on natural resource management; CSRD: centre for social development; CSSH: centre for social sciences and humanity; IICA: Japanese International Cooperation Agency, RTG: responsible tourism group; CBET: community based eco-tourism; RTC: responsible tourism club \*not interviewed

operates through the Culture and Information Service of the People's Committee of Thua Thien Hue Province and is managed by a specific body, the Hue Monuments Conservation Center (HMCC from now on). Still today it is under control of the National Law on Cultural Heritage from 2001, which considers scenic landscapes as national heritage and gives its identification the Provincial Government.

In the last years UNESCO and other international advisors have been insistently suggesting the HMCC to submit a Management Plan and to expand the boundaries in order to include the cultural landscape of character agriculture that connects the group. Now the institution is preparing a plan for the management of the actual sites and has evidenced the will to expand the perimeter to include some other monuments, cultural landscape and further mountain views. However, this institution has limited power against higher development pressures and its project will be subordinated to the new development Master Plan expected for 2020.

Due to the fact that local government is very interested on the protection of the architectural heritage, until now the protocol for buffer zones has been to forbid renovations and progressively relocate people (on the citadel rampants, "boat people"...) to the city suburbs creating some integration problems. Apart from the citadel itself, for other historical places as Kim Long, Bao Vinh, Phuc Tich, where many particular historical houses can be found, many renovation works have been carried out with foreign help.

At this point, the HMCC has to face alone its own lack of experience on regional action projects and its limited resources beyond UNESCO for public influence. Thus, which groups can help with the task of cultural landscape preservation?

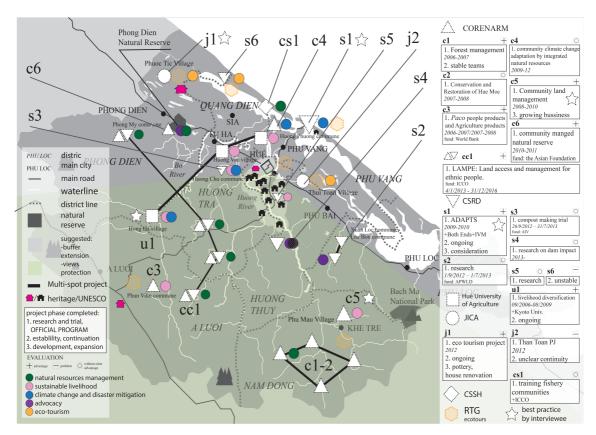


Figure 10: eco-projects in Thua Thien Hue

## **3.3 Parallel strategies and dynamic actors** (table 2)

Parallel actions in Hue province resume the scope of regional characters (figure 10) and try to involve local communities (figure 11) but still have weak connections and small impact on the global structure (figure 12).

## 3.3.1 The eco-groups (CORENARM, CSRD, University NPOs)

Natural protection and rural development groups start developing their activity after the big flood occurred in 1999. At that time the arrival of multiple international organizations allowed local awareness and therefore the creation of new young action groups. By their diverse projects these growing associations are covering the different characters all along the region, and are trying to give new tools

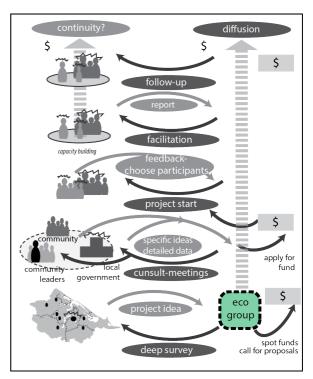


Figure 11: participatory project system

to local communities against natural disaster and towards a future development in the area.

This kind of institutions utilize participatory approaches and local expertise, which allows them find tailor made solutions for each specific problem. The deep research pre-project, the role of the group as simple moderator and facilitators of the projects, and long term monitoring of the results are obtaining good reactions from local communities, who get encouraged to continue their new business.

Withal the main problem that those groups have to face is the absence of meaningful resources and the great need for basic help to improve living conditions all along the region.

Relationship with local government agencies has proved to be satisfactory. However, there is still a lack of awareness in governmental offices that makes difficult a strong impact of the eco-projects on general conditions. Eco-groups try also to influence on general policies and build stronger national networks, which would allow them make impact on local governments.

## 3.3.2 The touristic network

The RTG (responsible tourism group) appears as to face the mass tourism problem in Hue. With the will to help local communities get a fair income from visitors and influence on governmental offices against tourism competitiveness and the destruction of local environments by mass tours.

However, each member of the group, mostly tour companies, has to fight itself for their own survival, and the discussion group is not working regularly.

## 3.3.3 The foreign associations

Foreign associations, as JICA and other NPOs, tend to find local groups for support of their project ideas or work as advisors of local governmental offices. Even though their bottom up approach and project ideas can have good impact on local communities, the temporality of their

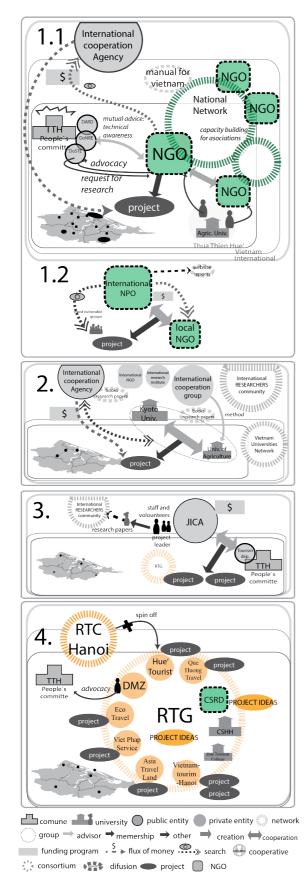


Figure 12: association relationships

projects and the lack at some point of local know-how make those many efforts very punctual actions.

## 3.4 Gaps of the structure.

The most evident characteristic of Hue region is the unavoidable connection with natural systems. This dependency cannot be solved with just engineering systems without loosing the regional potential. Very immediate and drastic solutions come from a bad analysis of the territory and doesn't cover real needs of local inhabitants.

The management of the WH site system is old and partial and there is a big gap in urban regulations, which cannot control aggressive development and modifications on the urban pattern. Besides that, while the management lie with the HMCC almost exclusively, the dialogue and advice with other departments is scarce.

Eco-groups are positively working on rural areas but their power is still low. Without higher support those projects risk to remain punctual efforts without a general improvement of the local living conditions. Furthermore, although they have a broad vision of the territory they tend to have a partial point of view (natural resources centered, tourism centered...) and mix with similar organizations limiting the potential interdisplinarity.

Finally, the connection between groups is not stable. The organizations tend to join national or international networks, but at regional scale there are not visible platforms.

### 4. Conclusion:

From the analysis of the diverse documents and interviews (table 3) a series of development aspirations where identified, classified and used to make future proposals as follows:

Table 3: vision of the diverse groups

	Provincial Gov.	Comune Ferrara	Parco Delta	Delta2000	Istituto Delta	UNIFE
trength/	education and awareness	delegate in community	broad vision of the	great collaboration	educational project for	all the historical urban
chievements	actions are growing slowly	asociations for architec-	territory, work beyond	between comune-D2000	rural gap	preservation plans
n the region	insert "heritage land"s idea in	ture, urban activitivation	administration (Ravenna)	same objective in the area	easy language for locals	focus on culture and gree
i die region	management tools and	promote creative initiative	active preservatin of		public-private projects	slow policies
	everyday local s life slowly	by small law exempion etc.	natural systems		rural networking	active role of Comune Fe.
weakness/	disconnection of urban	limited resources, funds	disconnection with the	operate from the bottom	province has limited	minimun impact of
	plans on the same land	local unawareness	rest of the region, coastal	slow	risources and work is slow	heritage site on regional
egional	mix of wills, need for a	institutional connection	area centered	now awared about the	difficulties for consensus	strategy
oroblems	strong regiona leader	between groups		ecoregion	and collaboration	strategy
	low power, weak law	between groups		no global provintial vision	between producers	
	"heritage land" as a real	"shared heritage"	attention from interna-	rural territory	change of role in agriculture	awareness of administra-
ootential/	value, can be used	support public participa-	tional programs, funds,	natural resources	land use influence on	tion on heriateg potentia
trategical	Improve governmental	tion paths	ideologically up to date	connexion rural-tourism	landscape and identity	branding
egional =	capacity	green culture	good diffusion	connexion rural-tourism	maketing linked to	creative role of communi
levelopment	cupacity	imprenditorial diffusion	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		landscape	creative lole of communi
egional	territory seen as a	water dependency	trying to get MAB recogni-	burocracy	network weariness	decreasing Comune and
hreats	resource without limit	lack of stronger provintial	tion, added boundaries	mass tourism	individual groups and	Governemnt intervention
an cuts	urban planners dont have		system, more complicated	disconnection with Ferrara	comune with same	capacity
		green energies national	governace	dualism	potentials but mistaken	
	city centered	policy	subject to European policy		competitivity	<u> </u>
	new sensibility	inclusive vision, mix layers	responsible management	better public-private	common development	no administrative limits
future	unitary management	territory promotion social	of unique natural resourc-	collaboration	strategy beyond burocracy	free idea flow
vision	combine individualities	activity		rural-tourism connection	and administrative limits	Tree idea flow
	+water governance	diverse realities synergy	es as a way for balanced	same development line	aware people in governmen	
			development			
erritorial	general low awareness on		nature, water, agriculture	linked to infrastructure	agricultural land	culture+agriculture
ision	cultural connection with	city+quality agriculture	territory depends strongly	many local diversities	water drainage	fragmented territory
	canal systems, water and	slow tourism: travel	on natural resources	production+tourism	procuction linked to land	
	land-use	throught the territory			diversity	
	too big site	heritage as support for	diverse qualifications:	unesco gave publicity to	now no use at local level	exceptional perimeter
eritage site	not an obligation but an	economic growth	Natura 2000, RAMSAR,	the whole region/no mark	just institutional level	reflects some intentions
ision	inherent feature	everyones good	WH use of the idea with	disconected to the	unique potential resource	but has no meaning in
- 11		, ,	an independent goal	farming territory	for rural development	urban plans
community	incentivate community	growing initiative, creative	connection with local	implication, ideas, request	farmers dont know about	research showed low
vision	through legal instruments		farmers and networking	growing awareness	the link of their work with	awareness of rural
151011	(eg. tax exemption for	comertial sector, good	for branding and educa-	small networking	local heritage	communities but it is
- 11	strategic land-use)	with agriculture and urban	tion	Smannetworking		difficult to meassure
	lack of common effort	connections inside the	international networks		role of technical assistan for	role of technical assistan
etworks and		comune with social groups	good collaboration with	good collaboration	bigger organizations	and research for institu-
collaboration	Comune di Ferrara as	disconnected for other	communities inside the			tions
Conaccoration	future regional leader	comune	Park		(Parco, Province)	
$\overline{}$		:	Taik			contact with UNESCO
l II	THUA THIEN HUE					
l II		CODENADA	conn	DTC	TT	TICA
name	HMCC	CORENARM	CSRD	RTG	Hué Univ. of Agr.	JICA
strength/	increasing awareness	growing awareness environ-	influence on policy makers	stablishment of the group	use local know how and	model implementation and
achievements	connections	ment and capacity of young	difusion, creation of links	will for dialogue and	just facilitate the project	difusion
acmevements	connections	very positive reaction of local	strong research before	sustainable and fair progress	positive local implication	new local production
l l		staff and authorities	project and suitability to the	awere communities		work with local tourism
			project and suitability to the place	awere communities	well developed approach	work with local tourism department
	small low power	staff and authorities	place		well developed approach	department
weakness/	small low power	staff and authorities  lack of human resources	place lack of funds	unstable: busy, changing	well developed approach resiliency still new concept	department quality of some tours is not
weakness/	dependence on stronger	staff and authorities  lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality	place	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear	well developed approach	department quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities
weakness/	dependence on stronger governmental departments	staff and authorities  lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future	place lack of funds	unstable: busy, changing	well developed approach resiliency still new concept	department  quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities limited market for products,
	dependence on stronger governmental departments shortage of money and	staff and authorities  lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future progress by locals	place lack of funds	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear	well developed approach resiliency still new concept	department quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities
weakness/ problems	dependence on stronger governmental departments shortage of money and resources	staff and authorities  lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future progress by locals small group	place lack of funds general unawareness	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear compromise	well developed approach resiliency still new concept limited funds	department  quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities limited market for products, bad comercial strategy
weakness/ problems	dependence on stronger governmental departments shortage of money and resources UNESCO insistence	lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future progress by locals small group growing awareness of	place lack of funds general unawareness the historical connection	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear compromise win strenght progresively	well developed approach resiliency still new concept limited funds project suitability	department  quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities limited market for products, bad comercial strategy  local crafts as a new
weakness/ problems	dependence on stronger governmental departments shortage of money and resources  UNESCO insistence new way	lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future progress by locals small group growing awareness of governmental institutions	lack of funds general unawareness the historical connection local customs as a	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear compromise win strenght progresively influence other groups	well developed approach resiliency still new concept limited funds project suitability diffusion	department quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities limited market for products bad comercial strategy local crafts as a new business
weakness/ problems	dependence on stronger governmental departments shortage of money and resources UNESCO insistence	lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future progress by locals small group growing awareness of governmental institutions protection of natural	lack of funds general unawareness the historical connection local customs as a resource	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear compromise win strenght progresively influence other groups contact with local govern-	well developed approach resiliency still new concept limited funds  project suitability diffusion international expertise	department  quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities limited market for products bad comercial strategy  local crafts as a new
weakness/ problems	dependence on stronger governmental departments shortage of money and resources  UNESCO insistence new way	lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future progress by locals small group growing awareness of governmental institutions	lack of funds general unawareness the historical connection local customs as a	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear compromise win strenght progresively influence other groups	well developed approach resiliency still new concept limited funds project suitability diffusion	department quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities limited market for products, bad comercial strategy local crafts as a new business
weakness/ problems potential/ strategical	dependence on stronger governmental departments shortage of money and resources UNESCO insistence new way other sites	lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future progress by locals small group growing awareness of governmental institutions protection of natural systems by local groups	lack of funds general unawareness  the historical connection local customs as a resource network	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear compromise win strenght progressively influence other groups contact with local government	well developed approach resiliency still new concept limited funds  project suitability diffusion international expertise sharing	department quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities limited market for products, bad comercial strategy local crafts as a new business eco-tourism
weakness/ problems	dependence on stronger governmental departments shortage of money and resources UNESCO insistence new way other sites urban and population	lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future progress by locals small group growing awareness of governmental institutions protection of natural systems by local groups fast development	lack of funds general unawareness  the historical connection local customs as a resource network natural disaster, climate	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear compromise win strenght progresively influence other groups contact with local government market competitivity and	well developed approach resiliency still new concept limited funds  project suitability diffusion international expertise sharing natural disaster	department quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities limited market for products, bad comercial strategy local crafts as a new business eco-tourism tourism competitivity
weakness/ problems potential/ strategical	dependence on stronger governmental departments shortage of money and resources  UNESCO insistence new way other sites  urban and population development	lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future progress by locals small group growing awareness of governmental institutions protection of natural systems by local groups	lack of funds general unawareness  the historical connection local customs as a resource network natural disaster, climate need for great support	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear compromise win strenght progresively influence other groups contact with local government market competitivity and cheaper offers	well developed approach resiliency still new concept limited funds  project suitability diffusion international expertise sharing ratural disaster great underdevelopment	department quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities limited market for products, bad comercial strategy local crafts as a new business eco-tourism tourism competitivity decrease of population in
weakness/ problems potential/ strategical	dependence on stronger governmental departments shortage of money and resources  UNESCO insistence new way other sites  urban and population development other groups lack of skills	lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future progress by locals small group growing awareness of governmental institutions protection of natural systems by local groups fast development	lack of funds general unawareness  the historical connection local customs as a resource network natural disaster, climate	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear compromise win strenght progresively influence other groups contact with local government market competitivity and cheaper offers general lack of awareness	well developed approach resiliency still new concept limited funds  project suitability diffusion international expertise sharing natural disaster great underdevelopment of rural areas	department quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities limited market for products, bad comercial strategy local crafts as a new business eco-tourism tourism competitivity decrease of population in rural areas
weakness/ problems potential/ strategical	dependence on stronger governmental departments shortage of money and resources  UNESCO insistence new way other sites  urban and population development	lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future progress by locals small group growing awareness of governmental institutions protection of natural systems by local groups fast development	lack of funds general unawareness  the historical connection local customs as a resource network natural disaster, climate need for great support	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear compromise win strenght progresively influence other groups contact with local government market competitivity and cheaper offers general lack of awareness and compromise outside	well developed approach resiliency still new concept limited funds  project suitability diffusion international expertise sharing natural disaster great underdevelopment of rural areas	department quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities limited market for products, bad comercial strategy local crafts as a new business eco-tourism tourism competitivity decrease of population in
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weakness/ problems potential/ strategical	dependence on stronger governmental departments shortage of money and resources  UNESCO insistence new way other sites  urban and population development other groups lack of skills mass tourism	lack of human resources lack of funds and temporality lack of confidence on future progress by locals small group growing awareness of governmental institutions protection of natural systems by local groups fast development natural resources depletion	lack of funds general unawareness  the historical connection local customs as a resource network natural disaster, climate need for great support unawareness	unstable: busy, changing members, not clear compromise win strenght progresively influence other groups contact with local government market competitivity and cheaper offers general lack of awareness and compromise outside the group	well developed approach resiliency still new concept limited funds  project suitability diffusion international expertise sharing natural disaster great underdevelopment of rural areas progressive loss of local character and know how	department quality of some tours is not satisfactory, few facilities limited market for products bad comercial strategy local crafts as a new business eco-tourism tourism competitivity decrease of population in rural areas aging population
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## 4.1 Next step for Ferrara, towards consensus (figure 13).

A correct interpretation of the territory would demand the design of individual plans structured by general systems instead of administrative limits and consequently, a <u>permanent dialogue</u> and consensus between stakeholders.

A <u>management platform</u> should be created and new groups, as the water management group *Consorcio della Bonifica* and cooperatives should join the strategic discussion.

This type of management would require first, a stronger and clearer governance from Provincial government to impose the same development line. The Province should become thus an idea-leader, which connects all the provincial layers, stimulates dialogue and builds consensus between stakeholders. Once the team understands and agrees on common practical key points, the Province would create the new MP to be followed by the rest of the provincial groups. Even if it is not possible to create a legal MP for the regional systems, the goal is to create common practical strategic lines and promote creativity and flexibility for new especific solutions to be developed by the individual municipalities. The ideas must be included as a practical reality, not just as a poetical complement.

The *Comune di Ferrara* too, has the potential to become the <u>application-action leader</u>, which shares its step forward vision, experience and tools with the rest of the group and promotes activity and dynamism in typically lazier groups. Itself the *Comune* can <u>consolidate</u> <u>support platforms for social groups and entrepreneurs</u> and systemize the experience of participated law as a normal practice.

In order to achieve this balance, the first step is would be education at all levels. From this first consensus, the role of eco-groups and UNIFE would be then to support the regional education with research and project ideas as they have been already doing. Also, eco-groups fill in the activity gaps in rural land and ease the work of local government. With their help, every commune, association and community must identify and keep its individuality integrated in a bigger vision. Then each one can create its own platforms to connect with local community, or new alliances based on the system-based regional vision.

This holistic idea of heritage must be given to citizens in a practical way, not as an award but a way of life. In that event, each Community works to find a strong historical identity, their origin and strategic position inside the whole, their contribution by their specific activity (wine, garlic, rice...) connected to historical origin with production and everyday activity.

The future for Ferrara would be thus, a unitary image composed of diverse identities that are connected at governmental level in favor of balanced development.

## 4.2 What can be understood from the example of Ferrara? (figure 16).

### -The cultural dependency on the territory:

In a territory strongly linked to its natural conditions water and agriculture are identified as the base of the local culture (ex. Drainage works museum) developing consequently a series of plans for preservation of local production and slow tourism through the discovery of the whole historical land (PDO, product fairs, degustation, thematic bike trails...)

#### -Site management-division of aware authorities

The sole nomination of such a big area is a great declaration of intentions and the theoretical Management Plan a good opportunity to characterize regional systems.

Even in such a case where there is no practical connection between the UNESCO site and the practical management, the success relies on the <u>awareness and creativity of all the stakeholders</u> and their ability to use creative solutions to put in value the territory with just a few resources.

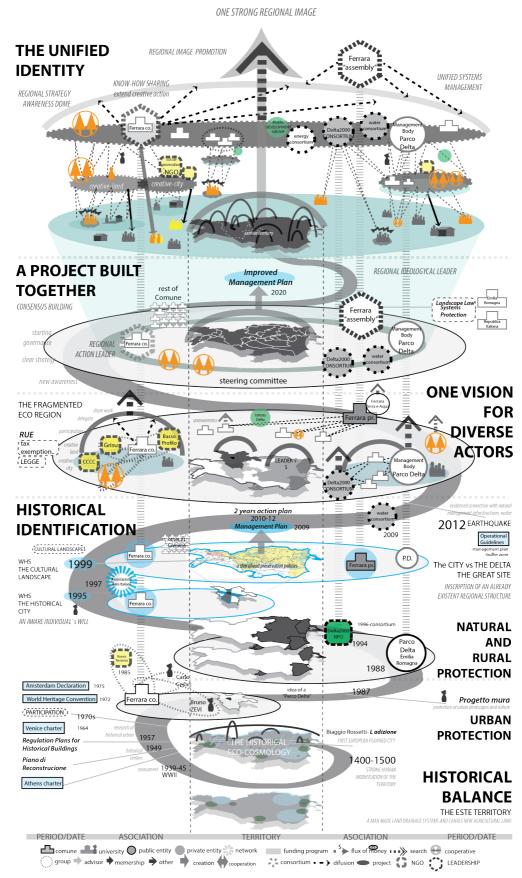


Figure 13: administrative evolution spiral diagram in Ferrara

Some of the ways used to delegate and approach community were:

1. Legal instruments (transparency see where it goes, tax exemption for an appropriate use of the land, resources.... Law modifications to promote new ways...) the upper law has to be flexible to admit those. 2. Workshop, pamphlet, community maps, book... 3. Support business and branding, creative activity linked to the regional idea...

#### -Eco groups as rural connectors

In the rural gap, the objective is to create a unique mixed-character land, which allows new economic development and adds value to the regional production (ex. Allows PDO, commercial strategies...). By means of connection with creative eco-groups that reach community level, such as cooperatives and local eco and social promotion groups, the government is trying to create diverse pilot projects to educate and encourage rural groups to use their unique resources.

## -The growing community

Local communities are still unaware of the potentials of higher scale vision for development. However, they are reacting positively to small projects and education, as they are eager to progress. Community, with its diverse ways to follow a strategy, can give <a href="https://human.cohesion">human.cohesion</a> to the whole regional image and economy giving at the same time, diverse local identities.

## 4.3 Hue, plural education for local actors. A possibility for future change.

Hue has a longer way to achieve the regional balance since there is a big gap in basic living conditions. However this adverse situation could be seen as an <u>opportunity for sustainable</u> <u>development.</u> The eco historical vision of the territory is directly connected to the regional management of natural resources, and consequently to natural disaster control and adaptation. At the same time, disaster is present and evident because it affects local people and economy periodically. At this point the eco-historical strategy must be seen as a <u>practical alternative</u> and not just a heritage preservation tool.

The creation of the Management Plan should be an opportunity to gather different groups and professionals (HMCC, different governmental departments, eco-groups, tourism groups...) and analyze in depth the historical regional character, the affecting factors and new preservation structures. This could be chance to make not just a preservation document that follows the UNESCO requirements and recommendations, but, a chance to share experiences and awareness and improve the capacity and interdisplinarity of each group. By doing so all of them could create a broad integrated vision of their own territory to be used as development strategy.

The number of eco-groups in the region is big and they are improving rapidly their awareness and capacity. Many of them have already some relation and are connected to bigger Vietnamese networks. However, the potential resides in their strength as a whole in the regional structure. Eco-groups could gather in a platform in order to share expertise, make stronger impact on governmental agencies, as well as develop common strategies for the rural land. A stable group could afterwards join HMCC for the preservation of some historical areas linked to natural systems (clean citadel canals, protect agriculture next to the tombs, help locals develop non-invasive forms of agriculture that help maintain the landscape next to heritage...). New sites as the Citadel, Kim Long and Thuy Bieu as historical cultural landscape areas, or Gia Long and Thiu Tri tomb surrounding villages, could be used as places for creative pilot projects. The goal here would be to teach community how to preserve heritage through new production or activity linked to the natural-cultural symbiosis.

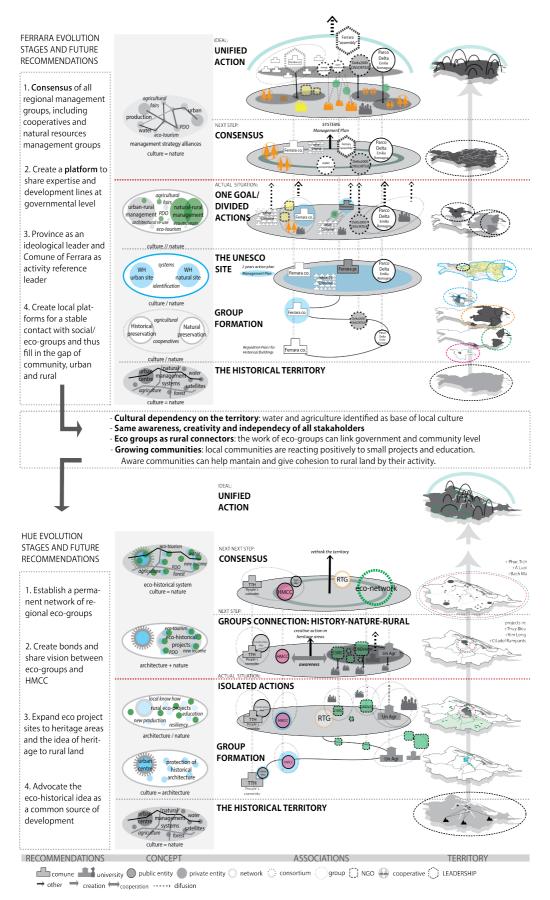


Figure 14: evolutional diagram Ferrara-Hue

Locals, that have proved to be eager for new ways to preserve their environment and improve their living conditions, could be thus given a new too for progress.

A <u>new economy</u> could be built on local peculiarities connected to the historical background, and locals, addressed in a practical way, could learn to take care of the near heritage as a part of the image of their new community business and as a common pride.

#### 5. COMMON CONCLUSIONS TOWARDS THE ECOMUSEUM

By this research it has been made clear that the <u>human factor</u> is one of the main determinants of the success of regional policies. The eco-regional project can never be carried out by a single top down system. The main point would be then general awareness, education and a strong will for dialogue.

The territory: The regional development strategy requires always an analysis in depth of all the regional systems, what means already a multidisciplinary approach. This analysis has to reach somehow all levels and as to be understood by all the levels and affected parts. Here comes, as said before, the factor of the education. The role of urban planners changes too, as the technicians cannot think about its own administrative area but about broader systems.

The site: The registered World Heritage site is just a part of a whole, not the whole. It must be integrated in the protection and be a main focus but the real protection must go beyond. The tools given by UNESCO are clearly insufficient is those cases. Although a detailed buffer reflects the preservation ideal, a specific MP plan of the area cannot be proposed, as there are many overlapping layers and administrative limits. Strategic lines and thematic agreed projects have to be assimilated inside the particular legal instruments of each counterpart and supported by at national level against other development trends that can affect its integrity.

<u>The management:</u> Upper level networks are required. At local governmental level a continuous dialogue between offices, experience sharing and mutual help; at National level stronger preservation laws.

Without higher support all these series of efforts have no big impact. Just very specific or strong character places can follow the method (Voghiera, Phuc Tich...) the rest cannot get big benefit without the overall vision.

A parallel network of eco-cultural groups, NPO, university, supports, takes some of the governance weights and connects the government with local communities as they have the expertise and resources for direct contact with people. They also bring project ideas and creativity to rigid official methods. As a response, the government should support and facilitate their work by establishing creative dialogue platforms, at commune level. Thus, those groups become a meeting point between people and governance.

<u>The community:</u> The user, the cooperatives, the community...they all must be reached with a special language and tools so that they can identify the eco-historical idea in their everyday tasks, that what they do has a connection with the system and they must defend with pride.

Both sites, Ferrara and Hue, can be proud of their natural structures preserved, by territorial isolation, until now, natural an agricultural character against development. All this effort brings a new card to play for everyone in the territory and keeps a cultural unity and identity for future generations.



Figure 15: parts of the modern eco-cosmology

## 6. Prospective of the research

Assuming that the point of view of the research might be partial, as just some iconic groups in a broad context have been analyzed, it is supposed though, that the methodology and ideology of this kind of associations will be similar in other minor groups. Thus, the management scenario would vary just in the volume of groups and projects.

The same criteria can be applied to other heritage regions, where the research could be continued in a similar way.

#### 7. Aknowledgements

The authors of this paper would like to thank all the interviewed groups for their kind cooperation.

A special thank to Waseda University for hosting the research and in particular to professor Shigeru Satoh, for his valuable help, and Naoaki Furukawa, for the support and advice throughout the research.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> by April 2014, <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/">http://whc.unesco.org/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> research from Waseda University proved that landscape played an important role in the architectural complex conception (mountain view, etc.) and the water system management by neighboring communities has direct impact on the heritage site.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "International Workshop on Comprehensive Strategy for Urban Design & Regional Planning to the Management Plan for Hue Heritage Site and The Sustainable Development of the Historical Eco-Museum in the Huong River Valley Region", N.Furukawa, H.Yamada, K.Kitani, (Date: 11/3-28/3.2013, Site: Hue Vietnam)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> ICCROM programme & budget 2014-2015, B4 Living Heritage, p21: (diversity, past-present, enhancement of the value of all cultural products, improve local quality life, heritage as perceived by people-away from rigid categorizations, people s voices, heritage-people, impact of globalization on living environments).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>The "Addition", planed by Biaggio Rosetti, can be considered a starting point of modern urbanism.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> A series of earthquakes of scale 6-5 Richter scale occurred in the area of Bologna in 2012

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> From Rimini to Piacenza crossing Bologna: *Strada Statale nº 9 - via Emilia*、South of Ferrara

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Promoted by the effort of C. Cesari, employed at the Comune, who had contact with UNESCO and new policies

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Includes also territories in the Province of Ravenna

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The relazione 1.1 al Piano di Gestione explains in detail all the diverse instruments

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Piano Strutturale Comunale, 2009 and Regolamento Urbano Edilizio, 2013

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Piano Territoriale di Coordinamento Provinciale, 1997

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Bondeno, even if inside the core zone (Diamantina), has no clear strategy for landscape preservation and allowed the construction of a very big biomass plant inside the heritage area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> In 2014 the Italian Provinces are decided to be "reduced" by the instrument: *Disegno di legge: "Disposizioni sulle Città metropolitane, sulle Province, sulle unioni e fusioni di Comuni"* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> "Three EU schemes known as PDO (protected designation of origin), PGI (protected geographical indication) and TSG (traditional speciality guaranteed) promote and protect names of quality agricultural products and foodstuffs." <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/quality/schemes/index\_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/quality/schemes/index\_en.htm</a>

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