

urbanistica

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vallare lo sviluppo urbano longitudinale continuo (coupures), portando dunque l'attenzione sul tema della tutela della dimensione trasversale della costa (peraltro presente anche nel concetto di "aménagement en profondeur"); la legge spagnola, invece è improntata ad una visione dell'urbanizzazione essenzialmente longitudinale (strutturazione dell'area di costa secondo le diverse aree di servidumbre parallele al litorale), che non viene messa in discussione, ma rispetto a cui il testo si limita a normarne l'avanzata verso la linea di riva.

15 [Http://noticias.lainformacion.com/catastrofes-y-accidentes/accidentes-maritimos/ecologistas-tachande-locura-la-reforma-de-la-ley-de-costas-y-critican-la-privatizacion-del-litoral_kvxDi2Li22nqX5rGUSlJj3/](http://noticias.lainformacion.com/catastrofes-y-accidentes/accidentes-maritimos/ecologistas-tachande-locura-la-reforma-de-la-ley-de-costas-y-critican-la-privatizacion-del-litoral_kvxDi2Li22nqX5rGUSlJj3/).

16 Qui basti ricordare la stretta correlazione tra paesaggio e perseguimento di obiettivi di sviluppo sostenibile: "(...) The fact is that by taking care of the landscape we simultaneously promote communal well-being, safeguard the environment and protect economic activity. All four ingredients of sustainable development (social, ecological, economic and cultural improvement) are thus involved here" (CoE, 2006, Landscape and sustainable development. Challenges of the European Landscape Convention, p. 11, p. 17).

17 In relazione alla presenza di un governo speciale e di una struttura gestionale ad hoc, all'esistenza di piani di gestione specifici, alla disponibilità di finanziamenti e, in alcuni casi, ad un'esperienza consolidata negli anni.

18 Meno in Spagna e soprattutto in Italia, dove le politiche di conservazione e sviluppo sono raramente integrate in modo efficace, a causa della divisione tra Piano del Parco e Piano Pluriennale di Sviluppo Socio-economico, raramente redatti contestualmente, come invece previsto dalla legge (L 426/1998).

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Urban Greening Management in the Framework of Smart City Development

CRISTINA SALMERI AND SALVATORE CARTARRASA

Introduction

The quality of green areas, parks and gardens in a city is somehow a measure of civilization and urban

evolution.

Gardens and green spaces, especially when open to the public, are important resources in the sustainable development and contribute to improve the quality of life in urban and suburban areas in many ways, since they provide wide range of benefits, at once integrating social, cultural, environmental and economic values.

High-quality urban green spaces in urban areas can reflect and promote the identity and culture of a local community. Every element of the green space design contributes to its identity. Plant collections, materials, furniture, railings, paving and artistic features are all important in marking and revealing the distinctiveness of the green area, and of a city and their inhabitants, as a consequence (Guglielmo et al. 2006, 2014). Gardens and parks, especially the historical ones, are often key elements of cultural heritage, treated as monuments since reflecting local history, customs, and traditions, and including valued artistic and natural features (see Law Decree no. 1089 and 1497/1939; no. 490/1999). In addition to the usual community functions, like citizen recreation, welfare, gathering, and ecological education, gardens and green spaces also provide many so-called ecosystem services, such as pollutant mitigation, noise reduction, microclimate improvement, biodiversity enhancement and conservation, landscape connectivity.

Whilst these multiple functions of urban green spaces are widely known (Chiesura 2003; Baycan-Levent & Nijkamp 2005; Young 2010; Haq 2011; Tian et al. 2013), this knowledge does not appear to be well integrated into planning, design and management processes; actually, consistent approaches to the valuation of urban green space that effectively support greening policies are often poor or absent (Jim 2004; Maruani & Amit-Cohen 2007; James et al. 2009; Kabish & Haase 2012).

Background

Urban gardens and related issues still arouse minor interest, mostly in the southern Mediterranean cities, where integration between management needs and socio-ecological benefits of gardens within environmental policies and local development strategies is often very limited. Comparing the "green performance" of European cities in terms of green space conditions, priorities in decision making and planning, and management ability, the indicators from northern European cities showed higher scores than those from eastern and southern cities (CABE 2006).

Green spaces in the public domain of S Mediterranean areas, managed by municipal authorities, government bodies or educational institutions, often suffer from the lack of financial support and of integrated management planning; thus they are intended as a cost to society rather than a resource. At the same time, both historical or botanical gardens and other public green areas have opposite missions that range from conservation and scientific aims to civic amenity and recreation, so requiring different approaches in their

management policy.

Actually, one of the main reasons for the deterioration in the quality of urban green space is the decline in public green space budgets, traditionally their main source of finance. Finding capital funding for the management and maintenance of green space remains a critical problem today (Fratini & Marone 2011). In case of financial constraints, which adversely affect the economic growth in many Mediterranean cities, green spaces are often more attractive for budget cuts than other services, because in the short terms the effects of reducing the green space budget are often less noticeable than the effects of reducing the budgets for other public services. For these reasons, the urban green sector is increasingly suffering from a critical lack of management, exhibition and promotion skills, also due to ageing workforce and shortage of horticultural expertise.

Moreover, the poor condition of green areas is frequently a major barrier to their use by the public, which conflicts with their purposes and functions in the urban life quality assessment and negatively affects people's awareness and involvement.

Although financial pressures are one of the main reasons for the decline in quality of green spaces, other factors are responsible, too. In many cases, key contributors to the decline were a lack of political commitment to green spaces and a lack of modern management skills in park and garden staffs. Local authorities did not have a strategy for green space development; they rarely have adequate databases of information about green space provision from which they can make appropriately informed management and funding decisions. In Italy, although the urban green spaces have overall increased by about 1% in the last year (ISTAT 2014), cities with a good quality urban green stay under 30% in the central and southern areas of the country. The situation further gets worse considering the application of management and planning instruments, such as the "urban green plan" (under 15.5%) or the "green regulatory rules" (just 42.2%): in the main southern cities the first one is virtually absent, and almost negligible the second one. Conversely, 66.4% of main cities made its "green inventory", which represents the most widely used management tool, as required by the Law no. 10/2013 too.

This lack of information and planning has undermined the ability of managers and politicians to argue the case for greater investment in green spaces. It also leaves local authorities unable to track declining rate or identify what actions and resources are required to stop decline. Sometimes new green space development or green restoration of abandoned areas are politically preferred rather than preserving the existing spaces, which stretches already reduced budgets, contributing to a further reduction in maintenance standards and a subsequent deterioration of green quality.

It is undoubted that urban green spaces are under strong and permanent pressure and therefore it is

of strategic importance to create an analytical and taxonomic framework for mapping out relevance and quality of green spaces in cities. Public and private decision-makers need proper information about the true value of urban nature for assessing advantages and disadvantages which local policies may lead to this urban heritage.

The challenge must be to ensure the long-term sustainability of urban green spaces across the country. To achieve this goal, garden operators and managers need to become aware of garden strength and weakness, and of management priorities in order to better plan and organize their efforts.

Hence, it is priority to define key criteria based on the multi-dimensional structure and function of urban green infrastructures. These criteria basically need to develop integrated tools for assessing/monitoring the state and sustainability of urban green spaces in order to identify the best management actions improving the maintenance and development of urban green areas.

Urban green management tools

The multiple functions of urban green spaces clearly show what a complex and multidimensional structure they have in relation with the environmental and socio-economical context. Thus, a comparative analysis of urban green spaces in different cities needs appropriate multidimensional evaluation tools taking in consideration all intrinsic and dynamic features of local communities. Over recent decades, a wide range of multi-criteria methods has been developed. These methods have become useful tools for helping decision makers to master actions involving both green infrastructure management and urban sustainability, also taking into account climate change impacts and adaptation in towns (URGE 2004; Baycan-Levent & Nijkamp 2005b; Baycan-Levent et al. 2009; GRaBS 2011).

The Italian territorial context shows specific requirements and constraints, depending on its diverse landscape, history, aesthetic and cultural aspects, arts, and biodiversity, which need to be considered in a comprehensive way through dedicated models (Sanesi & Laforteza 2002).

Due to the peculiar landscape evolution, past and present land use, extreme climate trends, and very variable environmental and socio-economic settings, the Mediterranean countries markedly reflect these requirements. Planning and managing urban green spaces, especially in the South Mediterranean cities, should take in account the territory uniqueness, not forgetting that the knowledge of plant biological cycles and ecological requirements are basically needed to long maintain qualitative standards.

In order to assess the current status of a green space and provide managers and competent authorities for measurable paths along which planning and management actions should be oriented, a first evaluation tool for the sustainability of Mediterranean gardens and green spaces has been developed (Salmeri et al. 2014), with the support of GARDMED - The Network

of Mediterranean Gardens (a project implemented within EU funds ERDF Operative Programme Italy-Malta 2007-2013). It has been practically tested and applied to different urban green infrastructures (public green spaces, botanic gardens and private historic gardens) both in Sicily and Malta.

This tool is based on a urban green Sustainability Assessment Framework including assessments for more than 100 different criteria dealing with six dimensions of sustainability for single green space:

- 1) garden product - indicators for plant diversity and relevance, gardening practices and procedures, management staff, security and safety processes, both for visitors and operators, garden interpretation (i. e. plant survey and check-list, leaflets and guide, panels, ITC, etc.);
- 2) enterprise/culture management - indicators especially referred to culture management policies, curatorship and infrastructure management; regulatory and governance processes; HR processes;
- 3) community - indicators for stakeholder identification-involvement, and social impact assessment;
- 4) visitors - indicators for customer satisfaction, oriented product/service development, visitor programs and participation;
- 5) public awareness - indicators for tracking and marketing activities, communication tools, advertising and public relations;
- 6) financial skills - indicators for financial management, fund raising and investments.

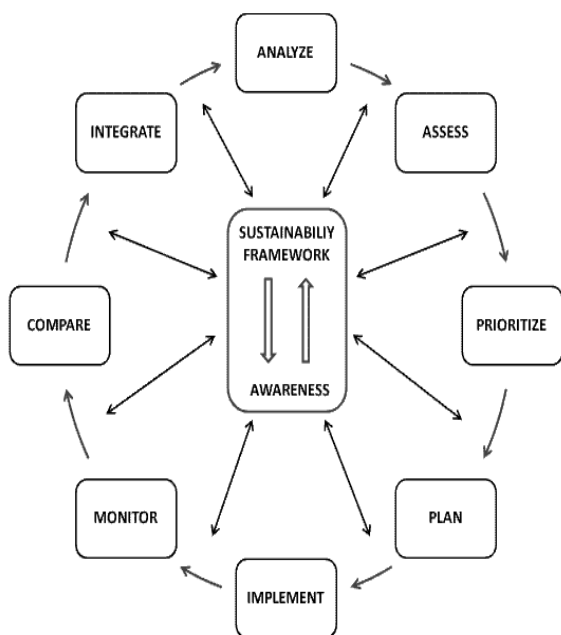
Within each sustainability dimension, indicators provides for three levels of achievement, ranging from the basic level to the advanced one and, then, the reference one. Scoring against the criteria has been binary coded, with 'o' to indicate lacking or in progress and '1' to indicate fully achieved. However, scores are weighted with reference to the different types of gardens and green spaces having, in many cases, very different sustainability goals. For instance, the rate of the three levels of achievement for the "garden product" or "enterprise/culture management" sustainability changes a lot when considering a botanic garden rather than a green recreational area or a tree path. Lastly, scores for each criterion and each dimension provide a Green Sustainability Index (GSI)¹ that indicates the overall sustainability rating of the specific green space.

The current status is checked and visualized using both a scoring table and a spider graph, which clearly target required actions to achieve higher levels and monitor progresses in the medium to long term. Note that public awareness, stakeholder involvement, community participation are focal points to set up and calibrate the assessment tool through the time, allowing urban green space sustainability in the long term (Fig. 1).

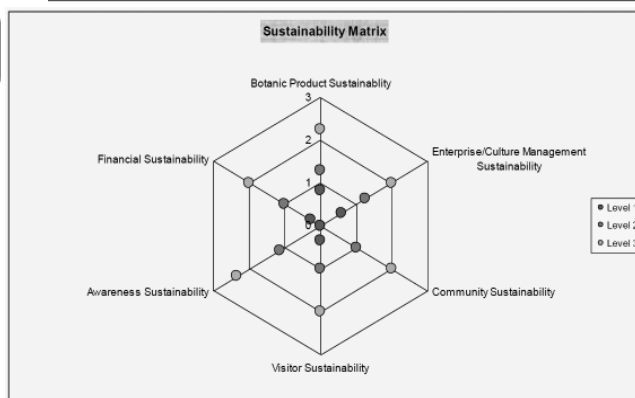
Conclusions

Future development of this tool is expected in: 1) implementing Sustainability Assessment Framework and related information on a Geographical Infor-

Figure 1 - The Sustainability Assessment Framework: urban green space management wheel and GSI matrix



Garden Name	Level-1	Level-2	Level-3	GSI
Botanic Product Sustainability	1.00	1.90	2.50	83%
Enterprise/Culture Management Sustainability	0.83	1.50	2.75	71%
Community Sustainability	0.00	1.00	2.00	0%
Visitor Sustainability	0.00	1.00	2.00	0%
Awareness Sustainability	0.00	1.00	2.00	0%
Financial Sustainability	0.00	1.00	2.00	0%
	44%	31%	28%	35%



mation System (GIS) oriented to the management of urban green spaces throughout the whole city; 2) improving the quantitative indicators, with a special attention to the silvicultural approach for each plant samples (growing features, conservation status, ecological role); 3) enhancing the dynamic system of weighted scoring by increasing or refining the rating ranges.

Given that in southern Italian cities the urban green management instruments are scarcely adopted, while it is well known that using accurate urban green indicators is crucial to support decision-making and urban environmental policies, practical integrated tools, such as our Sustainability Assessment Framework and GSI, should be considered and included within the expected urban green management rules (i.e. green action plan). Actually, indicator systems for urban green resources provide a ready-to-use approach, wide information, high-quality assessment and monitoring, and clear understanding of present and future environmental and socio-economic benefits which may result from the general awareness and eco-sustainable actions properly applied to the urban green management.

Notes

1 Adapted from "The Gardmed Garden Sustainability Manual", Output of the Gardmed Project, www.gardmedproject.org

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Il paesaggio agrario come bene da tutelare e risorsa economica

Il museo del territorio e le politiche di crescita legate al luogo

SARA MARIA SERAFINI

Il paesaggio agrario, una risorsa sconosciuta in abbandono

Il paesaggio è presenza quotidiana e concreta attorno

a noi, ma anche immateriale e interiore, rassicurante oppure inquietante, sedimentazione di un passato in cui le forze della natura hanno intrecciato la loro azione all'operosità dell'uomo. Paesaggio è proiezione ideale di luoghi della fantasia rielaborati nel ricordo, è patrimonio culturale di grande suggestione e preziosa risorsa da difendere con saggezza.

Ogni qual volta si tenta di dare una definizione esaustiva del concetto di paesaggio, proprio a causa della dimensione sfuggente del fenomeno, si ricade nel classico binomio: raffigurazione ideale – concretezza materiale.

Partendo dal presupposto che con il termine paesaggio agrario s'intende quel particolare paesaggio dei campi, sia che si tratti di impianti agrari semplici che complessi, oggi è meccanismo necessario connettere le politiche agricole con le politiche territoriali, al fine di sensibilizzare le popolazioni e lo Stato sulla questione della tutela del paesaggio, a cui è connesso inevitabilmente quello agrario, creando alternative di valorizzazione e fruizione che meglio si adattano a questi tempi moderni.

La volontà di recuperare il paesaggio e di valorizzarlo, è affermazione di un'identità culturale che esprime, in stretta relazione con le tematiche naturalistiche ed ecologiche, il valore complessivo del territorio.

Oggi, il paesaggio agrario è seriamente compromesso, in particolare in Italia solo il 10% del territorio agricolo viene utilizzato, mentre la restante parte soffre dei tipici fenomeni d'erosione, causati dal classico urban-sprawl, dovuto al fenomeno dell'urbanizzazione che ha svuotato le campagne in favore del sogno di prosperità economica legato ai nuovi processi di industrializzazione che hanno interessato quasi tutte le nazioni negli anni della ricostruzione, e dal semplice abbandono, dovuto a molteplici condizioni sfavorevoli, tutte in qualche modo collegate all'economia.

Analizzando il paesaggio italiano nello specifico, si scopre con grande sorpresa, che l'attività apparentemente più produttiva, quella del vino, ricopre appena un 4% del territorio agricolo utilizzato, mentre la produzione più ampia si riscontra in alcune tipologie di coltivazioni che sono comunque legate ad altre attività o settori produttivi, consideriamo ad esempio i campi utilizzati per il seminativo (quasi il 43,5%) legati alla produzione dei cereali e quindi dei prodotti di uso comune quali pane o pasta, o ancora ai prati permanenti e i pascoli (22%) che servono alle attività tipiche della zootecnia.

Accanto a queste problematiche, che riguardano nello specifico il poco utilizzo del suolo da parte dell'agricoltura e le attività di maggiore e minore interesse, si deve porre l'attenzione anche su tutte quelle tematiche che da anni affliggono il paesaggio agrario, e che nel tempo stanno trovando sempre più ampia diffusione:

1. territori agricoli abbandonati (causati come abbiamo visto da fenomeni di cambiamento sociale), incolti, a rischio frane;
2. monumenti e testimonianze storiche dell'agricoltu-