

Springer Book Series:

RESILIENT CITIES: Re-thinking Urban Transformation BOOK 4[BK4]

TITLE

CONTRIBUTION OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE TO URBAN RESILIENCE

KEY WORDS

Intangible cultural heritage, UNESCO, traditional knowledge, appropriate technologies, urban resilience, natural resources vernacular architecture,

SCOPE

In recent decades the term 'cultural heritage' has changed meaning considerably. The importance of intangible cultural heritage is not the cultural manifestation itself, but rather the wealth of knowledge and skills that is transmitted through and from one generation to the next. The social and economic value of this transmission of knowledge is relevant for minority groups and for mainstream social groups within a Country, and is as paramount importance for developing nations as well as for developed ones.

Intangible cultural heritage is a community-based concept, and must be recognized as such by the communities, groups or individuals that recreate, maintain and transmit it – without their recognition, nobody can decide for them that a given expression or practice is their heritage. The heritage contributes to social cohesion, encouraging a sense of identity and responsibility which helps individuals to feel part of one or different communities and to feel part of a society. Without any doubt, the intangible cultural heritage is essential to determine the adaptation capacity of any city and community to changes, and therefore it is critical to increase their resilience.

We invite researchers from a wide-range of disciplines, as well as practitioners and people involved in its safeguarding to **show the potential of intangible cultural heritage and traditional knowledge to increase the urban adaptation capacity and community resilience**. This perspective is not only based on inherited traditions from the past, that have been transmitted from one generation to another, but also contemporary urban/rural practices that have evolved in response to the environmental changes. Intangible cultural heritage contributes by giving us a sense of identity and continuity, providing a link from our past, through the present, and into our future.

The book also will focus in the **relation of intangible heritage with technology, exploring the world of appropriate practices**. However, intangible cultural heritage can contribute with ideas beyond technologies, in areas such as social organization and cohesion, which can contribute to the resilience of a society.

TOPICS

ID	TOPICS	DESCRIPTION
T1	Intangible Cultural Heritage and sustainable development.	<p>The UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) stresses the contribution of this heritage to sustainable development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduction to the concept ICH and its definition. ▪ Relation of ICH to sustainable development ▪ Practical approaches and experiences of Intangible Cultural Heritage ICH in relation with sustainable development.
T2	Intangible cultural heritage related to urban adaptation capacity and resilience.	<p>Intangible cultural heritage understood as a holistic system includes knowledge and practices reflecting the adaptation of societies to the environment, that can contribute to increase resilience in front of natural disasters. New scenarios for human adaptation from the political economy, will require the use of all their cultural background.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Differential elements of ICH in social, economic, environmental, religious and cosmological or political, among others issues. ▪ ICH linked to conservation, environmental governance and biodiversity issues. ▪ Social and organizational aspects of ICH and their contribution to resilience. ▪ Knowledge and practices reflecting the adaptation of societies to the environment that can contribute to increase resilience when facing natural disasters or with changing ecological systems.
T3	Appropriate Technologies	<p>Relation of intangible heritage with technology, exploring the world of appropriate practices or technologies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Appropriate technologies vs smart cities. ▪ Technologies for developing countries and for developed ones. ▪ Technological aspects of ICH: appropriate technologies and practices for improving community urban & regional resilience.
T4	Intangible cultural heritage linked to territory and natural resources (water, food, forests...)	<p>Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the environment. The cultural approach is essential to ensure the viability of any improvement to be introduced.</p> <p>Relation between urban environments and sustainable forest management / agricultural practices, from different indigenous cultures provided food, game meat, medicinal plants, wood fuel, and medicine and wood for houses, but at the same time have been instrumental in safeguarding biodiversity.</p>
T5	Intangible cultural heritage linked to housing.	<p>Traditional knowledge linked to house building or other structures is adapted to the available resources and to local climate and natural conditions, thus conferring a stronger resilience to the society. The traditional houses made with natural resources from the region (rock, earth and wood) are well adapted for a bioclimatic logic and risk management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community experiences and technical solutions related to housing and sustainable construction ▪ Use of appropriate technologies for housing.

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