The cultural heritage of Europe is constantly under threat from natural and man-made hazards as well as anthropogenic effects, as well as extreme climate change events. The creation of activities that will address the understanding and revival of economic patterns, social structures, religious and cultural life is fundamental following a disaster of this magnitude. It is necessary to establish an educational program that encourages students, teachers, local authorities, planners, and the general public to participate in complex participatory reconstruction of destroyed urban structures. Through the project ComPaRe, new methods of data collection and teaching will be developed to maintain historical heritage and promote European common values such as sustainability, inclusion, and citizen participation.

In central Italy, a series of severe earthquakes caused massive damage to historic cities between August 2016 and January 2017. During the 2016 earthquake in Accumoli, large portions of the historic city center were destroyed, including the Torre Civica and Palazzo del Guasto, which dates back to the 13th century. For the project ComPaRe, Accumoli has been selected as a case study, to generate transnational awareness of a problem, to examine the past-present-future together, and, above all, to work on solutions as an international community using crowd-sourced data. Accumoli case study results will be reflected in guidelines for civic engagement and heritage protection. “Scuola di Ricostruzione di Accumoli” is the infrastructural basis for the ComPaRe project, equipped with modern teleomatic devices, three seminar rooms, an auditorium and much more. Accumoli municipality opened it for study, research, and public events. It serves as a meeting place for the local population and authorities.

The Project

The project seeks to develop, optimize and test teaching methods, didactic concepts and instruments for dealing with real, complex tasks in rebuilding historic city centers that have been destroyed by nature or humans. This project focuses not only on the reconstruction of the physical city structure, but also on the economic, social, and cultural aspects. The process encourages critical thinking about factors that influence cities’ resilience as well as intercultural competences. In collaboration with the partner institutions, a transdisciplinary teaching and research program will be developed to reconstitute the destroyed urban structures holistically. The project aims to develop and implement study programs for rebuilding destroyed historical centers and a manual for designing such programs. Additionally, the project is intended to facilitate sustainable development, inclusion, and citizen participation in Europe along with the preservation of historical heritage.

In line with the objectives of the study, it is intended to serve as a manual for the implementation of study programmes in the fields of the reconstruction of destroyed urban structures.

Expected Results

As a result of this project, the knowledge basis for trans disciplinary education in the holistic reconstruction of destroyed urban structures will be established. Furthermore, a complex participatory reconstruction programme for destroyed urban structures will be designed and tested.

Activities

Three annual Transnational Project Meetings will be held to discuss the progress of the project. 2 short-term joint staff training events, 2 intensive programmes for teaching staff, and 2 intensive programmes for higher education learners will take place as part of the Learning, Teaching, Training Activities. It is planned to present the results of the pilot testing and conduct a closing as Multiplier Events.

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