Sciences Po

Local participatory development and ecological transition in artistic & cultural alternative places

Tommaso Vitale

February 4th, 2025



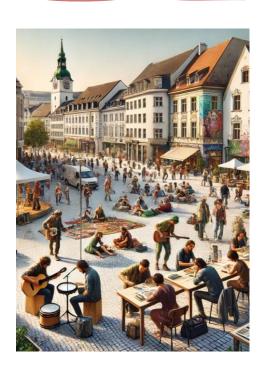
Public Policies and Artistic/Cultural Alternative Places

- Public policies play a crucial role in governing Artistic/Cultural Alternative Places. They can either foster inclusivity and sustainability or lead to privatization and degradation.
- Key Factors Encouraging Artistic/Cultural Alternative Places:
- Collaborative governance models
- Regulatory flexibility
- Preventing commercialization
- Institutional support for community initiatives
- Long Term Contracts
- - A boundle of property rights
- Recognizing cultural and social plurality
- Key Factors Hindering Artistic/Cultural Alternative Places Management:
- Privatization and commercialization
- Excessive regulation and bureaucracy
- Underfunding and neglect
- Overemphasis on security and surveillance



Sustainable Practices in Alternative Cultural and Artistic Spaces

- Public policies can support cultural and artistic spaces in adopting sustainable practices and contributing to ecological transition.
- Encouraging Eco-Sustainability:
- · Funding for green infrastructure
- Circular economy strategies
- Sustainable mobility policies
- Regulations for eco-friendly events
- - Integration of environmental education
- Facilitating Ecological Transition:
- Institutional support for green cultural networks
- Adaptive governance models
- Incentivizing social enterprises and co-management
- Promoting research and innovation in green arts
- - Natural Parks play a major role. Nature in the city



Challenges and Opportunities in Artistic/Cultural Alternative Places Governance

- Artistic/Cultural Alternative Placesgovernance requires balancing accessibility, social cohesion, and sustainability.
- Challenges:
- Managing conflicts and negotiations
- Ensuring equitable access for all groups
- Preventing overuse and degradation
- Addressing governance failures
- Opportunities:
- Strengthening community engagement
- - Enhancing local resilience through shared governance
- - Encouraging innovative programs of climate adaptation
- Supporting cultural diversity and sustainability



Basic dimensions in local participatory development and ecological transition in artistic & cultural alternative places

- We can especially stress three dimensions, preferably occurring in interaction with each other:
- satisfaction of human needs that are not currently satisfied, either because.notyet. or because.no longer. perceived as important by either the market or the state (content/product dimension). The stress will be on the satisfaction of alienated basic needs, although it is admitted that these may vary among societies and communities;
- changes in social relations, especially with regard to governance, that enable the above satisfaction, but also increase the level of participation of all but especially deprived groups in society (process dimension);
- increase in the collective capability to mitigate and adapt to climate change (innovation dimension).



10/02/2025 5

Why? In reaction to?

- Reaction to deprivation, alienation and exploitation: poverty in inner cities; poor housing; unemployment; negative effects of property-led regeneration; human, social and physical decay of neighbourhoods; against capitalist exploitation in factories; against the functional doctrine and the urbanism of the "fait accompli".
- Reaction to failing systems and institutions: failing banking system and social support programmes, decline of social and cultural services, privatisation of public space and commodification of leisure; in reaction against the institutional dominance of local political headquarters and parties; against the sacking of the "Lebensraum' of the inhabitants; in reaction to complex (local?) government structure; legitimisation crisis of social democracy.
- Reaction to crisis in morale, local identity, culture: decline in community spirit, —set up by a group of local people who refused to be labelled a "problem' and decided to become part of the solution"; for the "right of the city' and the "reconstruction of the city' for the people living in it.
- Definition of new needs: recognition of rights of selfdetermination and self-reliance of people with social and mental problems; creating sphere of dialogue between different users of the city; the city as a laboratory of experiences and encounters; institutional innovation for the bundling and timing of resources; alternative approach to culture and artisitic production.



10/02/2025 6

Empowerment for Biodiversity in Alternative Cultural Places

- Politicise local communities: communities against oppressive (local) State: fight budget cutbacks, action to maintain local services; fight political monopoly of "city fathers"; movements against conservative party politics and machines; movements against real estate owners and developers, capitalist investment and disinvestment; struggle for the control of the local economy; lobbying for democratic planning procedures.
- Personal emancipation: work for all abilities and interests, generation of hope through selfdevelopment and community support; initiatives to support children (education, arts, sports ...) and mothers (listening, tutorship, consulting on practical issues, micro Kindergartens).
- Identity building: through social enterprise and art projects mobilising the community.
- Community building: gaining public consensus for alternative model of a civic social centre.



10/02/2025

Policy Analysis for local participatory development and ecological transition in artistic & cultural alternative places

TERRITORY, POPULATION and DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING	territorial dimensions: neighbourhood, district, quarter, urban configuration with focus on particular neighbourhoods; - population: composition, evolution, - administrative status - form of administration (neighbourhood council, mayor, network structure,) main planning and policy tools that intervene in neighbourhood – geographical map, 4 characteristic pictures (all digitalized)
RESOURCES	human resources - organizational resources - financial resources - political (governance) resources - cultural and artistic resources - constraints
GOVERNANCE	relations of governance (stressing non state, non market), governance capability, governance of innovative initiatives - interaction between spontaneous and formal organization, relation between bottom-up and top-down modes of organization - solidarity building networks, mediating institution
CULTURE and IDENTITY	role of culture and identity in fostering neighbourhood and community communication - variety of identities, ideologies, political coulours playing a role in neighbourhood socialization processes
REGULATION	tensions between State/Market Civil Society - constraints on civil society iniatives - democratic control on citizens' initiatives - impact of local institutional histories and cultures can be empowering as well as disempowering - budget constraints; norms set by market competition - marketization of social economy initiatives

10/02/2025 8