

Introducing a Underground4value Taxonomy

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Developing a multi-disciplinary COST Action means a big effort of sharing different concepts and meanings for arriving to state a specific cross-fertilised group of definitions, which can better represent it. In our case, the underground has significance for at least three set of meanings, if we want exclude culture, politics, literature, and music. The first set is related to Heritage, the second to Geology, and the third to Planning. Without defining the context of study, it would be exceedingly difficult developing scientific approaches, methodologies, and outcomes. Therefore, some members of our network started proposing definitions, acronyms, and concepts in their presentations, papers, and articles. It is maybe time to open a common reflexion and fixing some common definitions.

The starting point is, obviously, our initial definition:

Underground Built Heritage (UBH): Three types of building activities, namely architectural, urban and landscape heritage beneath the surface of the earth, which the contemporary generation resolves have "cultural values" (U4V, 2019)

UBH is related to the following definitions:

Underground: *below the surface of the earth; below ground* (Cambridge Dict). Earth's surface is continuously evolving and is the result of the complex interactions between Earth's internal (endogenetic) and external (exogenetic) processes. Endogenetic and exogenetic interactions result in landforms and landscapes that are the product of numerous different processes, and thus are 'polygenetic' in origin (U. Kamp, L.A. Owen, in Treatise on Geomorphology, 2013) → what is over ground today could be underground tomorrow (archaeological sites)

Built Heritage: *archaeological, urban and architectural heritage* (UNESCO); *cultural buildings, historic landscapes and archaeological sites*: a quantitatively minor part of the built environment: that part which the contemporary generation resolves has "cultural values", and accordingly merits special protection from the chances of erosion, in order that it can be better enjoyed by the current generation, and passed on to the future (ICOMOS); *architectural, urban and landscape heritage*, which includes assets already listed for preservation, as well as the potential heritage that still awaits evaluation and recognition (Built Heritage, 2017) → **Built environment:** the collection of man-made structures and surfaces in the place (ICOMOS).

Built Heritage (or Cultural Built Heritage) is a sub-category of:

Cultural Heritage: *monuments* (architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science); *groups of buildings* (groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science); *sites* (works of man or the combined works of nature and man, and areas including archaeological sites which are of outstanding universal value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological point of view) (UNESCO, 1972).

Heritage: Heritage means any asset or group of assets, natural or cultural, tangible or intangible, that a community recognizes for its value as a witness to history and memory, while emphasizing the need to safeguard, to protect, to adopt, to promote and to disseminate such heritage (ICOMOS).

Important is also the need to separate tangible from intangible:

Tangible cultural heritage: physical artefacts produced, maintained and transmitted intergenerationally in a society. It includes artistic creations, built heritage such as buildings and monuments, and other physical or tangible products of human creativity that are invested with cultural significance in a society (UNESCO 2003).

Intangible cultural heritage: oral traditions and expressions, including language as a vehicle of the heritage; performing arts; social practices, rituals and festive events; knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe; traditional craftsmanship (UNESCO 2003). Intangible cultural heritage is: 1. Traditional, contemporary and living at the same time; 2. Inclusive: we may share expressions similar to those practised by others; 3. Representative: it thrives on its basis in communities and depends on those whose knowledge of traditions, skills and customs are passed on to the rest of the community, from generation to generation, or to other communities; 4. Community-based: heritage when it is recognized as such by the communities.

To be continued....