Meeting of the Horizon 2020 Expert Group on Cultural Heritage
17 September, 2014

Operational minutes

The main objectives of the meeting of the Horizon 2020 Expert Group on Cultural Heritage was to continue the in-depth discussion on future strategic priorities for cultural heritage research and innovation, to discuss the draft document prepared by the Rapporteur of the Group, Professor Simon Thurley based on the contributions of the members of the Expert Group and to plan the November workshop. The meeting was chaired by Mr Philippe Busquin.

Head of Unit Birgit de Boissezon referred to the objective of having by the end of 2014 the Group's report with policy agenda and corresponding roadmap of actions for 2015-2020, starting from an organising principle in order to develop a 'story' that will generate excitement for this area of research and innovation. A long discussion on potential priorities and possible regrouping or reprioritization of themes followed.

In the morning session, guest speakers proposed by the Members of the Expert Group made the following presentations on digital culture, heritage as a common good, PPP in historic cities and adaptive re use:

- Numediart: Links between research in the domain of digital art and scientific, economic and cultural development – Creative Technology at the University of Mons - Prof. Thierry Dutoit, Université de Mons, Belgium
- Heritage Commons: Towards a participative heritage governance in the third millennium – Ms Giuliana De Francesco, Ministry for Cultural Heritage, Cultural Activities and Tourism, Italy, organiser of the IT Presidency Conference with the same title
- Binnenstadservice – a social company in a highly competitive market – Mr Max Prudon, Binnenstadservice, The Netherlands
- Transformation – Reinvention and Reuse – Mr Jonathan Falkingham MBE, Urban Splash, United Kingdom

In the afternoon session, it was decided to focus on the promotion of innovative use of cultural heritage for economic growth and jobs, social cohesion and environmental stability as the main objective with three actionable components:
1. Innovative finance, investment, governance and business models to enable cultural heritage to be a successful production factor.
2. Innovative use of cultural heritage to encourage integration, inclusiveness, cohesion, and participation.
3. Innovative and sustainable combined (re)use for cultural and natural heritage.

The objectives and the organisation of the stakeholders' workshop planned for November 27 was also discussed. The workshop will serve as a test bed for the ideas of the Expert Group where additional experts and stakeholders from the research, public and private sectors may provide comments and input and thus help consolidate the final report. Following a plenary session, three parallel panels moderated by members of the Expert Group are foreseen according to the three objectives identified:
Panel 1:
Moderator: Elisabetta Lazzaro, Rapporteurs: Prof. Christer Gustafsson, Dr Guy Claußne
Panel 2:
Moderator: Dr Astrid Brandt-Grau, Rapporteurs: Mr Brian Smith, Dr Jana Kolar,
Panel 3:
Moderator: Professor Theo Spek, Rapporteurs: Prof. Simon Thurley, Prof. Fani Mallouchou-Tufano

It was agreed that the draft paper of the Expert Group be presented by Expert Group members while external speakers will be invited as discussants.

AOB:
Information on EU funded research in cultural heritage under FP5, FP6, FP7 is included in the following link, under Publications, while hard copies were distributed to the members of the Expert Groups in previous meetings: http://ec.europa.eu/research/environment/index_en.cfm?pg=cultural

Conclusions / Action Points:
1. The concrete task for the Expert Group until the Workshop is to prepare a draft paper that will be distributed to the participants of the November Workshop before the event to serve as discussion paper.

2. All Expert Group members are to provide input (including actions and examples of impact) in writing to the Rapporteur, Professor Simon Thurley by October 8 (putting in copy all the Expert Group members and the functional mailbox RTD-ENV-H2020-CH-EXPERT-GROUP@ec.europa.eu).

3. Professor Simon Thurley will provide a consolidated draft text and circulate to the members of the Expert Group for comments and further input before the workshop in a timely manner so that the Commission can circulate the paper to the participants on November 17 at the very latest.

4. Expert Group members to provide by September 26, names and contact details of possible participants and discussants for the Workshop in November 27.

5. Next meeting on November 27: workshop between 10:00 to 15:45 followed by the H2020 Expert Group meeting from 16:00 to 19:00.