

NOME Ilaria Goio

ENTE DI APPARTENENZA Department of Economics, University of Trento

RUOLO Research assistant

AMBITO DISCIPLINARE Economia

E-MAIL ilaria.goio@unitn.it

NOME Geremia Gios

ENTE DI APPARTENENZA Department of Economics, University of Trento

RUOLO Full Professor of Environmental Economics

AMBITO DISCIPLINARE Costruzioni rurali e territorio agroforestale

E-MAIL geremia.gios@unitn.it

NOME Marco Avanzini

ENTE DI APPARTENENZA Trento Science Museum

E-MAIL marco.avanzini@mtsn.tn.it

TITOLO Landscape preservation: the point of view of experts and other stakeholders

Abstract

Recently, that idea that natural ecosystems and landscape fulfil many different functions by providing multiple benefits in terms of goods and services for human society has gained force. In fact, if in the past, natural capital produced goods and input to use in the production processes (wood, food, water, ...), now and in the future, natural capital will produce in addition to the goods also intangible services (recreational services, hydro-geological services, conservation services, ...). Clearly, this new role of ecosystems and landscape has modified actors interests and needs and has caused changes in their use and management. Consequently when policy-makers on both local and global scales establish management policies they need to know the values of the different functions performed by ecosystems and landscape. This type of valuation should help them sustainably manage the natural capital that is part of one specific territory.

The focus of our analysis is the landscape. According to the European Landscape Convention (Art. 1, www.coe.int), "the landscape is an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and the interaction of natural and/or human factors". This definition allows many different considerations and interpretations. In fact, the landscape: a) "provides a multitude of functions and is subject to many possible land uses" (Chee, 2004; DeFries et al., 2004; de Groot, 2006); b) "is influenced by the context in which it appears and "it is experienced by people as places that are more than a physical piece of land" (Bengston, 1994), c) "evolves continuously in a more or less chaotic way and reflects social and economic needs of a particular society at a given moment" (Antrop, 2006). As recent changes that are occurring to the landscape are seen as a threat to existing qualities and characteristics, its conservation should be both an aim in itself and a means to achieve sustainability.

In this framework, the main objective of this paper is to study the landscape preservation of some mountain areas located in Valli del Leno (south-east of Trentino, Italy), which represent a weak, vulnerable, unique and valuable territory, from different points of view (environmental, scenic, cultural ...). For this reason these areas need an institutional and non

generic approach calibrated on their specific and distinctive characteristics and their development is no longer just a problem for those who live in these areas but it is a matter that affects the whole society.

For the purpose just outlined, from one hand, we will analyze if there is a relationship between the experts' evaluations of the ten different scenarios, located as said in Valli del Leno, and the evaluation of the same scenarios given by other stakeholders. From the other hand, we will assess if there is a significant difference between the landscape evaluations made on-site by tourists, visitors or the local population, and those made when there is not any relation with it.

We should noted that, the potential and accuracy of involving local people in landscape management and planning is explicitly expressed in both the Convention on biodiversity (1991), the European landscape convention (Council of Europe, 2000) and the Aarhus convention (UNECE, 1998). In fact, participatory approaches have been applied to landscape management and planning in many areas (Hilts, 1997; Baker, 2000; Berkes et al., 1998; Buch and Hoverman, 2000; O'Riordan and Stoll-Kleemann, 2002; Selman, 2004). The fact that "local involvement has been staked out as a goal within nature conservation strategies and landscape policies indicates that there is a gap between the landscape management decision-making level and the local contexts within which biological and cultural heritage qualities are inevitably integral parts" (Stenseke, 2009).

The experts' scenarios evaluation was elaborated by the Trento Science Museum. The experts (about forty) have given to the ten chosen scenarios a global numerical value, partly expressed as percentage and partly as absolute value. This global value is the sum of the scientific value, the added value, the value referred to the usability, to the vulnerability and to the protection.