



Abstracts

Jean - Designing and conducting territorial prospective: evidence from two case studies in the Mediterranean

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Body

From a research project that aimed at assessing the sustainability of urban agriculture in the South and North of the Mediterranean basin, different territorial prospective workshops were conducted in 5 urban regions. These initiatives developed a « systematic, participatory, future intelligence gathering and vision-building process aimed at present day decision-making ». Workshops gathered local stakeholders and researchers in order to build-up an integrated vision of the future of urban agriculture through locally held and research produced knowledge. Firstly, the participants make a territorial diagnosis, then proceed to the design of scenarios and finally formulate actions to be taken to achieve future development. The originality of this previously applied method relies on (i) the analysis of various spatial data related to the territory and (ii) on the participatory design of original spatial data by the participants. Adjustments are made to every case study, regarding specific constraints and needs: available time, size and composition of the group, stakeholders' demand and objectives, cultural factors, etc. The paper presents and compares the prospective objectives and methods that have been designed and conducted in Meknes (Morocco) and Pisa (Italy). The results from the workshops raise interesting insights on: (1) the complex positioning of the participants in the building of a shared vision, (2) the interest and the difficulty to observe and to map the future from a spatial perspective, (3) the involvement of these workshops on public action. Finally, the contribution of territorial prospective in action-oriented geographic research is discussed.

Sessions

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