

CHIC-Summary

Andreas Lehne, Austria

CHIC Cultural Heritage Identity Card System

CHIC is an EU-Project, initiated by the University of Lubljana, which signed a contract with the European Commission to develop **tools for monitoring immovable objects**. The project, financed by the 7th framework program, started in October 2009 and will run until October 2012. The EU-CHIC project consortium consists of 12 partners from 11 countries: Slovenia, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Poland and Spain. An advisory network has already been established, representing a broad range of interested administrative and public bodies that are responsible for or involved in cultural heritage preservation. The whole project will be coordinated by the advisory committee. It consists of five members, Chairperson is Mr Jacques Akerboom, Managing Director of Monumentenwacht, Nord Brabant, Netherland

Work plan:

- 1)Review and document current methodologies and tools for data collection and assessment
- 2 Develop criteria and indicators for risk assessment.
- 3) Develop guidelines for the future improvements of methods and tools for the collection and storage of data required for the evaluation of changes to heritage assets over time.
- 4) Consolidate recommendations and strategies, adjusted to the particular needs and heritage preservation strategies of the various European Countries

In a manner similar to that implemented by the „Monumentenwacht“ organisation in the Netherlands and Flanders Region (Belgium) it is a significant aim of the EU-CHIC Project to stimulate and assist in the creation of new initiatives for the regular monitoring and inspection of historic buildings and monuments.

Who will benefit from CHIC ?

The individual building: Less accidents through better prevention mechanisms. Better maintenance will mean repairs done in time will prevent the losses inevitably linked to big scale reconstruction projects.

The responsible governmental institutions, because buildings can be preserved appropriately at a lower cost. There will be better data for benchmarking and better information to monitor if funds go to the buildings truly deserving investment. Reporting to the politicians will likely be more successful because of the increased quality of data.

The relevant international organisations: As more and better comparable data will be available it will be easy to identify best practice examples and it will also be easier to check the efficiency of the different legislative-systems.