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The national Gis system for the cultural heritage

Giovanni Biallo

The first Gis developments within the MiBac go back to 1987-1990 with the 'Giacimenti culturali' (Cultural seams) projects. Most of today's data base systems in MiBac derive from those first projects. The 'Istituto centrale per il restauro' had developed during the nineties an Information system called 'Carta del rischio del patrimonio culturale' (The Cultural heritage risk map), where more than 57,000 cultural heritages and 3,318 museums have been filed. Throughout the elaboration of different models for different types of indicators, fifteen levels of danger have been identified from a spatial perspective, then divided in three thematic areas: static/structural, natural environment/air, anthropic. Between 2002 and 2005 all the protection acts on the architectural and archaeological heritage were added and georeferenced in the database. In 2006 a new project has started, with the aim for integrating 4,000 files on vulnerability risk from Calabria and Sicilia, together with the mapping of the seismic vulnerabilities. This database is published on the Internet at www.cartadelrischio.it, but its access is reserved. The 'Direzione generale per i beni architettonici e paesaggistici' inherited from 'Giacimenti culturali' the database called Atlas, containing the georeferenced Italian landscape binds. The system is in constant evolution and presently, throughout a data exchange project, they are cross-verifying the its data with Regional administration data. This system is publicly accessible at the following address: www.bap.beniculturali.it/sita

p, although some reserved data has limited access. In 2006 there has been the integration of Sitap with 'Beni tutelati', a database with a few thousands records on public property architectural heritages, whose cultural interest is presently under evaluation. The 'Direzione generale per l'archeologia' had started the development of the so called 'Integrated Gis for Archaeology' in 2002 through the acquisition of data from the Ministero and particularly from Sitap. Using this data different activities were started with the aim of increasing archaeological information. At present the system is not publicly accessible. It is esteemed that during the past years the 'Istituto centrale per il catalogo e la documentazione' (Icdd) and the local superintendences collected 2,000,000 catalogue files on cultural heritages. In the years from 2001 to 2005 the Sigec (Sistema informativo del catalogo) had been developed. For the year 2007 the project for the development of the Sigec web is on schedule and foresees the reorganization of the Sigec architecture in a web context. In the year 2005 another big project started, ArtPast, whose aim is to collect, inside a database (Icdd standard compliant), all the paper files on the goods owned by the superintendences of southern Italy regions. This data will then flow into the Sigec. The second Gis of Icdd, called 'Atlante dei centri storici' (Atlas of the historical centres), has been developed from the fusion of two national databases derived from the operation 'Giacimenti culturali'. This spatial database contains the synthetic files of 22,698 historical centres. 1,172 of these have been enriched by the Ipce files, developed in the sixties, here

completely rasterized together with the planimetries, photographs and detailed descriptions. The system is publicly accessible throughout the following Icdd web site: www.bap.beniculturali.it/sita p).

The public cultural heritages filed in the MiBac are referred to the whole of Italy. Throughout the MiBac system basic information can be accessed for 1,510 between museums, archaeological areas, archives, libraries and theatres; 1,124 of which state owned. Recently the MiBac has taken on charge another cultural database, called 'Siti privati', relative to private monuments, parks and archaeological areas in southern Italy. This database contains information on the public fruition of the sites, with detailed information. The project 'Itinerari culturali' (Cultural itineraries) has started in July 2005 and it is now in the phase of integration with the 'Portale della cultura' (Portal of culture). This Gis contains information on the cultural heritages of tourist interest plus a number of thematic itineraries. The cultural heritages information acquired by the MiBac system has here been the normalised, classified in relation to the tourist interest and then connected to the information on the populated centres (where these existed). The querying interface accesses an interactive geographic atlas. Other databases of relevant interest are: the one on 'Porti e approdi' (harbours and shores), containing 360 sites and 900 encloses; the one on 'Piazze storiche d'Italia meridionale e insulare' (The historical squares of southern Italy and islands), containing information on 168 squares with more than 4,000 vector drawings and 10,000 images, texts and audio-texts; the 'Fototeca

nazionale e cartoline storiche (Fototeca-Icdd)' (National historical photographic and postcard archive); data and images from the 'Istituto nazionale per la grafica' (National graphical institute), with more than 50,000 records. The ongoing project 'CulturaOnLine', to be completed by the end of 2007, aims to build a integrated and on-line consultation system for the geographic databases owned by MiBac, providing the administration, the researches and the general public with an efficient instrument for a better knowledge of the cultural heritage. This is being developed throughout the construction (and constant update) of a metadata database, that recollects the essential descriptive and geographic information of all objects present in the many different databases. This metadata contains also the alphanumeric and geographic relations that connect the different records.