The CHeLabS System: The Platform

Luca Pitolli
Paola Calicchia
Paolo Salonia
Today the foundation of the CHeLabS system is set by means of a web based platform, where the wide CH community is invited to participate to an interactive survey, that aims at collecting and correlating the knowledge needs with the competencies and tools from all the other participants.

The fundamental elements are: the community, the survey, the interactive map.
The Survey is structured in different patterns for six groups of participants.

The potential participants to the survey come from all the public and private organizations, and are the experts that operate in the cultural heritage domain, as well as the citizens without any specific expertise in the field.

**SIX PROFILES:**

1. TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATIONS, OWNERS, SUPERINTENDENCE;
2. CONSERVATION OPERATORS, HERITAGE SCIENTISTS;
3. TECHNOLOGIES OPERATORS;
4. SCHOOLS, HIGH EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, UNIVERSITIES, RESEARCH INSTITUTES;
5. FUNDING AGENCIES;
6. CITIZENS.
The questionnaires are composed of a section dedicated to specific the profile information, and another section dedicated to the acquisition of common indications related to the needs for knowledge enhancements and for technological advancements.

NEEDS FOR:
- KNOWLEDGE ENHANCEMENTS
- TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS

The information regarding these needs are transferred to the interactive map, and linked to the heritage sites suggested by the participants, in order to become visible to the whole community.
Since this initial phase the CHeLabS map represents that shared space facilitating the connectivity among the users community.

The participants can operate on the interactive map, and manifest their interest for a heritage site, considered particularly significant for fostering the research. As described above, some information are directly transferred into the map as a contextualization of what is expressed in the questionnaires.

Starting from essentially practical aspects, the participants can virtually meet in a heritage site, share information and exchange ideas, being involved in a creative discussion.
The participants add information to the information sheet of the sites, according to the specificities of these last.

The experts can contribute adding specialist content in a discussion forum, choosing to briefly express ideas on *problems and critical issues*, or on *solutions and opportunities*.

The citizens can submit to the experts useful information on the *value of heritage*, on the *sense of belonging*, and *new ideas* on the experiences they expect in the cultural places.
The CHeLabS is intended to become a sort of distributed laboratory, attracting competencies and generating excellence, built on the Open Access and Sharing culture.

The effectiveness of the CHeLabS model does not depend on the state of the art technologies that, in a specific period of time, are available on the sites. In this way the implementation of the system is continuously renewed with innovative technologies. The adoption of the open access policy on the sites, combined with accessible advanced technologies and data sharing, amplifies and accelerates the knowledge creation process.

The added value of the CHeLabS approach consists in building the proper context that naturally attracts the major experts who face the challenging issues. This triggers innovation processes in the long-term and the achievement of new solutions to still open problems, not necessarily predictable and planned in the implementation phase. This aspect recalls the well known experience of all the large-scale facilities that, in few decades, have strengthen the growth in many research fields.

Today, the bottom-up character of the participated survey is inspired by these same principles, inviting the heritage science community together with the citizens to configure a new scenario that will guide the CHeLabS system in its future operating phase.
SIMPLIFICATION, SHARING, HARMONIZATION, OPEN ACCESS, INNOVATION, CENTRALITY OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

A PLACE FOR SHARING

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