

SPATIAL FIXES AND FLOWS, DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL/GLOBAL NEXUS: A CONTRIBUTION TO THE LANDSCAPE RESEARCH AGENDA

Zoran Roca

CEGED – Centre for Geographical and Development Studies
Universidade Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologias, Lisbon, Portugal
zoran.roca@ulusofona.pt

Maria de Nazaré Oliveira Roca

e-GEO – Centre for Geographical and Regional Planning Studies
Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal
mn.roca@fesh.unl.pt

Introduction

The uniqueness of every place and region reflects the availability and conditionality of local and global material and immaterial assets, systems and networks, such as natural cycles and social systems, natural and human resources, physical and social capital, modes of production, distribution and consumption, information and communication streams, etc. Natural and social assets, systems and networks are distinguishable as spatial fixes and spatial flows, the former ones being “literally fixed in and on the land in some physical form for a relatively long period of time” and/or “rendered geographically immobile” (Harvey, 2003:15, in Arrighi, 2003:3),¹ and the latter ones being physically detached, mobile and/or fluid, horizontally and vertically flexible (Santos, 1994).² Changes in spatial fixes and flows, provoked by prevailing local and global “hegemonic and counter-hegemonic” agents (Harner, 2001) and forces of “friendly and hostile Nature” (Santos, 1994), are reflected in constant (re/de)generation of the uniqueness of places and regions that are, ultimately, recognizable by their traditional, modern and/or hybrid territorial identities (Haesbaert, 1999).

Landscapes are pivotal for the recognition of territorial identities. Natural and cultural landscape qualities are basic ingredients of cartographic and other visual records of places and regions and serve as a basis for territorial diagnoses. Landscape features can determine our “sense of place” (Massey, 1995; Rose, 1995), or our territorialized reckoning and emotions, given that “according to geographer Pierce Lewis, ‘the cultural landscape is our unwitting autobiography’, because it reflects in tangible form our tastes, values, aspirations and fears” (Rubinstein 1999, 23). By providing support to the spatial fixes and by integrating them with spatial flows, landscapes are both the custodians and witnesses of the local/global (re)production and/or consumption of material and immaterial territorial identities. Last but not least, natural and cultural landscape qualities can warn us about threats to, and advise us about opportunities for the (re)affirmation of biophysical, sociocultural, socioeconomic and other identity features of places and regions. In sum, “the landscape is the medium through which place identity is constructed... (and) ...is both representation (an ideal that imparts meaning) and materiality (the reality of lived conditions) (Mitchell, 1991a)” (Harner, 2001: 660).

Unique landscape-related and other territorial identity features are vanishing as places and regions increasingly become environmentally, economically and culturally affected by “deterritorialisation” and “multiterritoriality” (Barel, 1986), “reterritorialisation” (Haesebaert, 1997) and “glocalization” (Benko, 2000), as well as by the “annihilation of space by time” (Harvey, 2002) or even by the “end of territories” (Badie, 1995). Nevertheless, in spite of, or as a reaction to, the homogenizing effects of globalisation, marked by the growing

¹ For a critical assessment of Harvey’s perspective on “spatial fixes”, see: Jessop, 2004.

² For a comprehensive discussion on “spatial fluxes”, see: Haesbaert, 1997.

asymmetries between the local and the global at the expense of the local, the territorial identities of many places and regions are still extremely important as immediate sources of comfort, self-recognition, self-esteem and hope for a better future not just to social groups and/or economic and other agents who never entered or already lost the local/global battle (Castells, 2003, 74) but especially to those who believe that a global integration, recognition and/or valorisation of local natural and social uniqueness is indeed necessary and desirable (Albino, 1997).

The issue of changing landscapes as part of territorial identity and sustainability concerns in the present era of the globalisation of economy and culture has gained momentum over the last decade on the development research and policy agendas,³ especially when addressing the peripheral, lagging and rural areas of Europe.⁴ In Portugal, for instance, there has hardly been a regional and local development policy, programme or project that would not argue how every loss in territorial identity, such as landscape degradation, depopulation and lagging traditional economy, is a consequence of the weakening position, marginalisation and/or exclusion of places and regions from global assets, systems and networks.⁵ Moreover, it has been reiterated that lagging regions need to combat negative and make efforts to attract positive effects of globalisation, with special attention to the protection, strengthening and reaffirmation of territorial identities in order to contribute to the competitiveness of the local/regional economy and culture on the globalized market of goods, services and ideas.

However, the pro-identity rhetoric in Portugal has not been matched with practice: degradation and destruction of natural and cultural landscapes and other territorial identity features have taken place far more frequently and at a much larger scale than their effective protection and/or enhancement. The conflicting territorial claims and asymmetrical power-relations between the private and public spheres, small and big producers and consumers, local and global agents of environmental, social, economic and cultural change have indeed seriously undermined prospects for sustainable development at local and regional levels. The occasionally emerging local and regional “success-stories”, however important they might be, are virtually negligible in relation to local and global, physical, economic, cultural and other obstacles on the road to achieving the sustainability ideal. Quite symptomatically, the Portuguese vocabulary has been enriched by the word *descaracterização* that perfectly defines what has become notorious with natural and cultural landscapes in many parts of the country: the loss, defeat, abuse, waste, disregard, etc. of the authentic, typical, unique, recognisable, etc. identity features of places and regions (Roca, 2004).

It is argued in this paper that the gap between the pro-identity rhetoric and practice reflects the lack of an adequate conceptual and methodological framework for the translation of landscape-related and other territorial identity concerns into development policies and their instruments. This limitation could be overcome, it is argued, if the complex, ambiguous and subjective concept of territorial identity was operationalized, that is, transformed into what it

³ The relevance of diversity and autonomy of regional and local development in the context of globalisation has been strongly voiced across social sciences since the nineties. See, for example: Agnew, 2000; Haartsen et al., 2000; Massey and Jets, 1995; Amin and Thrift, 1994; Hadjimikalis 1994; Massey, 1991.

⁴ In relation to the peripheral and lagging regions of the EU, one of major arguments has been that an increased competitiveness of localities and regions on the globalized market of goods, services and ideas, can be decisive for achieving sustainable "local development engineering" (Cosgrove, 1998; Commission européenne, 1994).

⁵ Most rural areas in Portugal have suffered from the declining of small-scale agriculture, under-utilisation or abandonment of cultivable land; lacking investments in economic and social infrastructure and services and, especially, in productive activities, as well as from the continuous weakening of demographic vitality and depletion of endogenous human resources, often referred to as "human desertification" All this has been accompanied by fading cultural traditions and adoption of new identities. (Animar, 2001, 1998; Barreto, 2000; Roca, 1998; Cavaco, 1992).

is not now: an analytical category, equipped with instruments for the recording, assessment and monitoring of the consumption and (re)production of the existing and emerging local and global spatial fixes and flows that are reflected in the uniqueness of places and regions.

In this context, the objective of this paper is twofold: (i) to highlight and discuss salient issues that may explain the gap between the pro-identity discourse and anti-identity reality, and (ii) to propose a conceptual and methodological framework for the study of the relationships between landscapes-related and other changes in spatial fixes and flows (i.e., material and immaterial assets, systems and networks) on one side and, on the other, globally conditioned local and regional development.

The pro-identity rhetoric and development: a conceptual-methodological controversy

Why is there such a gap between the pro-identity rhetoric and the reality of local/global asymmetries in the (re)production and consumption of spatial fixes and flows, and, ultimately of territorial identity features? The reasons are many, but attention needs to be paid to at least the following two: first, the diversity of meanings that are attributable to the notion of territorial identity and, consequently, the ambiguity of interpretations about its significance for local/regional development; second, the prevalence of top-down approaches to local/regional development and, consequently, lack of awareness about the role of development stakeholders in (re/de)generating territorial identities.

Ambiguous understandings

The diversity of meanings attributable to the notion of territorial identity is very broad, ranging from generic references about local “uniqueness”, “singularity”, “specificity” and/or “authenticity” of local/regional material and immaterial assets, systems and networks,⁶ to the more refined suggestions about “traditional and modern”, “extroverted and introverted”, “networked and isolated” places and regions that are endowed, or not, with “capacities and potentials” and “comparative (dis)advantages” for gaining and/or loosing from local/global interdependencies. Nonetheless, in spite of such a miscellany of possible meanings, the affirmation of territorial identity has been brought to the pedestal of a panacea for promoting local/regional development sustainability in the era of the globalized economy and culture.

In Portugal, the pro-identity rhetoric has a very prominent place in the preamble of the National Regional Development Plan 2000-2006 with the argument that "harmony between modernity and tradition means, both territorially and geostrategically, combining the generalised cosmopolitan living patterns with the valorisation of collective identity" (MP, 1999, Chapter III: 10), which corresponds to the general philosophy behind the EU development policy for the lagging countries and regions, especially in rural areas. For instance, the objectives of the EU Initiative LEADER II, enthusiastically promoted in rural Portugal in the nineties, were mainly based on the idea of valorising “local territorial potentials” and the “richness of local and regional heritage” and, in order to be eligible for the EU financial support, all local development initiatives had to incorporate "awareness-creation among the population about territorial identity and prosperity" (DGDR, 1997: 218-219). Along the same lines, the First European Conference on Local Development and Social Cohesion, held in Serpa, Portugal, in 1995 adopted a Final Declaration which emphasized that "the valorisation of local cultural identity and environmental protection should become useful instruments in creating new activities, generating employment and retaining and attracting

⁶ In academic and public discourse, the “identity” of places and regions is frequently and *a priori* associated with the socio-cultural sphere, less frequently with dominant natural resources and environmental qualities, rarely with local economy and politics and virtually never in a comprehensive manner, i.e., embracing all spheres and sectors of life. Rose (1995) gave an important contribution to the clarification of the complexities inherent to the interpretation of the concept of territorial identity.

people" (CEDLCS, 1995: 4). Likewise, at the Portuguese National Assemblies and Fairs of Local and Regional Development Agencies, held in Amarante in 1998 and in Tavira in 2001, strong quests were made in favour of the "valorisation of cultural identity", "building local self-esteem", "strengthening local diversity", "encouraging community feeling", "mobilising active local citizenship" and "enabling decentralised development" (Animar, 1998), as well as calls for "reaffirmation of local identities in all of its dimensions" in order to "combat exclusion and massification generated by globalisation" (Animar, 2001).

However, when territorial identity features are complex mixes of old and new fixes and flows, and they are not clear in factual and verifiable terms, how can development policy makers and other agents of socio-economic change determine exactly which identity feature needs to be "strengthened", "preserved", "diversified", or even made "more competitive", so that it becomes developmentally relevant? Which quantiquitative references (benchmarks) should be used to monitor and evaluate, for example, changes in natural and cultural landscapes and other material and immaterial identity features in order to distinguish, compare or predict "desirable" from "unwanted" ones in relation to local/regional development objectives? And, even if the nature of local development issues at stake and the needs for (un)modified territorial identity were identified, who should be the legitimate "guardians" of identity features, that is, which institutions or individuals are capable and, above all, entitled to cope with the (un)favourable forces of globalisation locally?

These questions are in the core of the conceptual-methodological constraints to bridging the gap between pro-identity rhetoric and reality. Difficulty in answering such questions is best evidenced by the fact that the pro-identity arguments and claims remain, as a rule, confined to the introductory statements and are not present in the operative sections of development strategies, plans, programmes and projects.

In short, the need to care for and to promote identity has been accepted as a *conditio sine qua non* for sustainable development of the Portuguese economy and society, or, as Albino suggests, "local identity must be operationalized into a development resource. The strategy of local development should be based on the appreciation of ancestral typicality as a means of encouraging further evolution of new local innovations" (1997: 113). The true challenge is, therefore, to find ways and means for functional (i.e., in practical and not only conceptual terms) integration of territorial identity-related concerns in local/regional development options and initiatives.

Macroscopic underestimations

Regarding the controversy of the pro-identity rhetoric and local/regional development within the global-local nexus, two conceptual and analytical limitations need to be highlighted. First, the macroscopic, top-down perspective has prevailed in the interpretations of locally experienced conditions and consequences of globalisation, while there has been too little insight from the grassroots level, i.e., from the perspective of the qualities of the local natural environment, economies, cultures, etc. Though "commentators seem sure that there is a 'dialectic' between the global and local, that in some sense what counts as the local has been transformed by globalisation" (Massey 1991, in Amin and Thrift, 1994:1), most usually empirical evidence has not been sought at territorial levels lower than a single or groups of countries (e.g., the success-stories of Ireland and of the "Asian Tigers", or failure-stories of Argentina and almost entire Sub-Saharan Africa) on the basis of top-down approaches, based on national and international aggregate data and secondary sources of information.

Understandings based on the collection of grassroots-level primary data on impacts of globalisation at intra-country, regional and local territorial levels, have been lacking.⁷

The second limitation largely stems from the first one and has to do with the “underestimation at present of the literature on the local-global nexus in terms of the role of people and their organisations as social agents affecting change” (Hadjimichalis, 1994: 249). Too little effort has been made to divert from a tendency to interpret economic growth and changes in social, cultural, political and other spheres of life primarily from the perspective of systems and institutions, and to ignore the fact that every institutional setting is being run and/or used by individual stakeholders and that, consequently, all perceptions, interpretations and activities affecting territorial identity are necessarily subjective. However, it must be borne in mind that development objectives and means to achieve them are also highly subjective and, above all, that “development is more than economic growth: it is the realization of the full potential of a place’s resources, the most important of which are its people. For people to achieve their fullest potential, they must recognize who they are and envision possibilities for the future. They must have a strong identity with their community and with place” (Harner, 2001: 678). In this context, more light needs to be brought to the issue of “whose identity or identities are we talking about, and who determines the regional identity of an area” (Groote et al., 2000: 2).

To corroborate this discussion, it is worth pointing to the main findings of an exploratory research on individuals’ understanding of territorial identity and globally conditioned development in rural Portugal (Roca, 2004).⁸ First, it was confirmed that landscape features are ranked highest on the scale of territorial identity priority concerns amongst local development activists (LDAs). In fact, changing landscape features are central, both explicitly and implicitly, in LDAs’ assessment of local development capacities and potentials, the desirable and adverse local effects of globalized economy and culture, as well as of the role of local and global development stakeholders.

Not surprisingly, the LDAs unanimously supported the common pro-identity rhetoric, but disagreed on specific, more tangible and subtle topics and dilemmas, such as whether local factors, and not only global, cause and perpetrate negative territorial identity features and underdevelopment, or whether to accept the trade-offs between modernisation and tradition, at the expense of the latter, in the name of social and economic progress. It should be also stressed that most LDAs were very critical towards their local communities, pointing especially to the strong presence of negative identity features such as degradation of natural and cultural landscapes, low self-esteem, conservatism, lack of entrepreneurship, low educational attainment and *assistencialismo* (spirit of dependence from an authority), among local population, i.e., symptoms of deep-rooted socio-economic passivity and stagnation.

Furthermore, it seems that ‘globalisation’ has not yet significantly contributed to local identities in rural Portugal, that is, according to the LDAs, the traditional local ‘fixes’ and ‘horizontalities’ related to cultural values, lifestyles, social institutions and economic structure, still dominate over recently emerging identity components synonymous to global

⁷ True, geographers, sociologists, industrial economists and business analysts, political scientists and others have explored effects of globalisation on local cultural identities, local business strategies, local industrial agglomerations, local political struggles, etc. (Amin and Thrift, 1994), but such contributions tend to cover only sporadic and isolated cases (mostly “success-stories”), rely on secondary sources of information and remain confined to monodisciplinary interpretations. For a critical discussion of conceptual-methodological issues related to sociospatial embeddedness of economic action in industrial firms and their business and of , shifting identities of economic actors and the role of context in exploring economic behaviour, see: Yeung, 2003.

⁸ A nation-wide survey, carried out in 2001/02, addressed a representative sample of 65 senior professionals in local and regional development associations, cooperatives and agencies, experienced in carrying out diagnostic studies of development issues, as well as in designing and implementing development initiatives (Roca, 2004).

flows and verticalities, such as the spirit of consumerism, presence of international and “alternative” tourists and diversification of the leisure industry, rurbanization, influx of external professionals and temporary residents. Likewise, the weak presence of components such as commercial agriculture, external investments, modern industrial technology and big firms show that “networked regions” and local “embeddedness” of globalized economic agents (Todtling, 1994) are still not a reality in rural Portugal. More, the LDAs' assertion that telematics is not yet notable as an identity component of rural Portugal corroborates similar findings from other peripheral countries and regions (Ilbery et al., 1995).

The survey also revealed that all of the most strongly present identity components related to cultural traditions, human resources and the structure of the economy seem to have been more negatively than positively affected by globalisation. In fact, LDAs pointed to the imminent loss of certain features that are commonly considered as ‘uniquely Portuguese’, thus representing potentially competitive local development assets, such as the traditional cultural landscape, traditional events and habits and collective memory. On the other, more reassuring side, some moderately present local identity components - such as rare oases of preserved cultural landscapes, commercialisation of agriculture, external marketing of local products, international tourism and local cultural production, as well as, potentially linked to all these identity features, the increased creation of new employment opportunities - seem to be much more positively than negatively associated with impacts of globalisation. Furthermore, weakly present but desirable, dynamic, innovative and/or potentially competitive identity components, such as environmental conscientiousness, people's self-esteem and entrepreneurial spirit, professional qualification, modernisation of agriculture, and external investments also seem to be much more positively than negatively associated with globalisation.

Finally, LDAs' opinions were divided on the real prospects for the affirmation of territorial identities as a means of increasing the competitiveness of local/regional culture and economy. Approximately one half of LDAs had quite sceptical attitude (mostly due to the lack of human resources, technical guidelines and administrative legal, financial and other incentives), while the other half expressed enthusiasm about grasping with identity features that have been negatively affected by globalisation, as well as about strengthening neglected desirable identity features, especially the recuperation and preservation of cultural landscapes, the promotion of the external image of the territory and external demand for local products, preventing the exodus of the youth and attracting new residents, encouraging the adoption of telematics, favouring organic farming and preventing the degradation of natural resources especially forests and soils. In a way, this is in line with the expectation that ‘territorial mobilisation’ should emerge in defence of local priorities against globalisation (Hadjimichalis, 1994).

In sum, these findings pointed to the relevance of territorial identity as a development resource and confirmed the conceptual-methodological controversy in bridging the gap between the pro-identity rhetoric and the globally conditioned development reality. The (re)affirmation of territorial identity calls for its effective integration in development policies and interventions. To make this possible, more profound, empirically confirmed and policy relevant grounds for the understanding of “the continued salience of places as settings for social and economic existence, and for forging identities, struggles, and strategies of both a local and global nature” (Amin and Thrift 1994: 9) need to be laid down, or, in other words, territorial identity should be operationalized. To this end the territorial identity conceptual construct needs to become an analytical category.

The IDENTERRA model

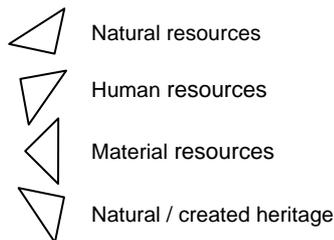
The challenge of transforming territorial identity* into an analytical category is two-fold: first a conceptual-methodological model for the study of identity of places and regions* as a development* issue needs to be designed, and, second, methods and tools for recording and assessing empirical evidence of changing identity features in the context of power relations among development stakeholders* need to be devised.⁹ An attempt in this direction is the IDENTERRA conceptual-methodological model for the study of territorial identity and sustainable development*.¹⁰ According to this model, the first step to be taken is the disaggregation of the three key concepts - “territorial identity”, “development stakeholders” and “local/global nexus”- by decomposing them into discernible and measurable dimensions and components. The next step is the functional integration of the top-down and bottom-up approaches to development based on complementarities between macroscopic (“desk”) and grassroots (“field”) research methods and tools. The basics of the IDENTERRA model for transforming territorial identify into an analytical category, including working definitions of the terminology promoted by the model, are outlined below.

Disaggregating “territorial identity”

“Territorial identity” is understood as a set of spatial fixes* and flows* that characterize a territorial unit such as a place, or a region.

SPATIAL FIXES

Territorially materialized, rooted, anchored



LANDSCAPE

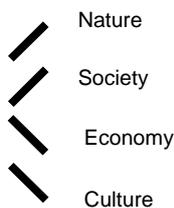


TERRITORIAL IDENTITY



SPATIAL FLOWS

Territorialized movements, networks, systems



LIFESTYLE



⁹ For working definitions of the terms marked with (*) see the Glossary, after References.

¹⁰ This model has been developed at the CEGED – Canter for Geographic and Development Studies of the Universidade Lusófona, Lisbon, in the framework of a research project entitled “IDENTERRA – Territorial Identity in Regional and Local Development: the Oeste Region of Portugal”, with the following objectives: first, to create a conceptual-methodological framework for providing empirical evidence about the role of local and global development stakeholders in producing and consuming territorial identity and, second, to test this framework in the Oeste Region, located NW of the Lisbon Metropolitan Area, where the global competitiveness of local environment, economy and culture, as well as the pro-identity rhetoric have been placed high on local development agendas (<http://ceged.ulusofona>).

Spatial fixes in a given territory* are made of natural*, human* and material* resources and of natural* and created* heritage. Sets of spatial fixes constitute natural (primary or modified, preserved or degraded, etc.) and/or cultural (agricultural, industrial, rural, urban, mixed, etc) landscapes*.

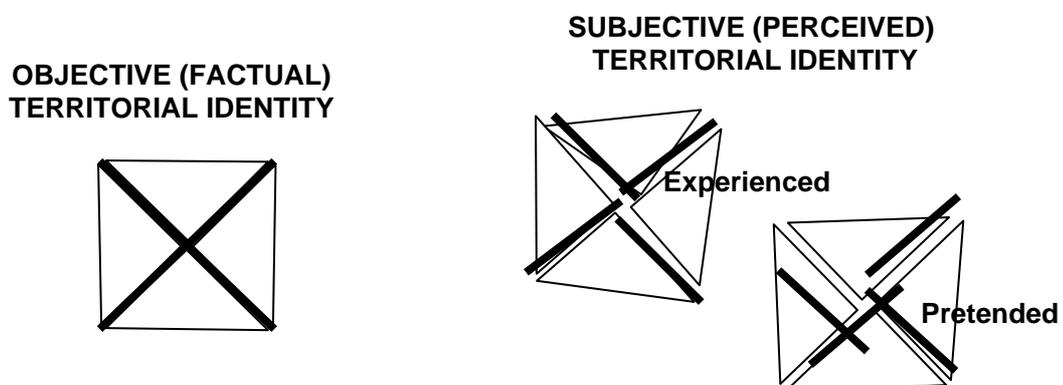
Spatial flows consist of natural (bio-geo-physical) and social relationships and movements (activities and interactions) within and/or outside of horizontal (territorial) and vertical (functional) networks and systems that determine the functioning of the natural environment on one side and, on the other, of the economy*, culture* and social capital* of places and regions. Sets of spatial flows are reflected in people’s lifestyles* in these territories.

Claiming that territorial identity features are mirrored in landscapes and lifestyles is only partially true. Another important dimension of territorial identity is its image. “Landscape is both the representation and reality, both symbol and form, both image and actual lived conditions. The representation of landscape – the ideal that seeks to naturalize power relations – confronts the reality of the material world in specific place.” (Harner, 2001: 663). The same landscape- and lifestyle-identity features have different meanings to different people, and their changes reflect the diversity of their representations and prevailing relations among their consumers and (re)producers, both local and global ones. Consequently, the IDENTERRA model proposes that two basic dimensions of territorial identity should be distinguished in development research, policies and interventions:

- the objective, or factual, undisputable and/or certifiable identity, and
- the subjective, or perceived, interpreted and/or imagined identity.

The objective territorial identity is made of visible and hidden (implied, buried, etc.) spatial fixes and flows, both material and immaterial. They are all recordable and verifiable through hard data and images of natural and cultural landscape features, including recordings of geo-symbols*, metonymic symbols* and mnemonic signs* in the case of fixes, and, in the case of flows, of bio-geo-physical, socio-economic, cultural, technological, political and other activities and flows that define people’s lifestyles.

The subjective territorial identity can be studied from the point of view of two basic sets of spatial fixes and flows: first, those that are experienced and, second, those that are pretended (in the mind). Furthermore, the experienced and pretended fixes and flows of the subjective territorial identity can be assessed from the point of view of differences in the sense of place and power-relations among different development stakeholders (Haesbaert 1997; Haartsen at al., 2000a; Harner, 2001). In this context, the IDENTERRA model places an emphasis on distinguishing between the experienced (practiced, lived) and the pretended (claimed, argued) subjective territorial identity.



Disaggregating “development stakeholders”

As gainers or losers from a particular development initiative or activity (development strategy, policy, programme, project, intervention) a wide range of actual and potential individual and institutional stakeholders, such as suggested below (listed alphabetically) need to be identified and addressed.

Individual stakeholders:

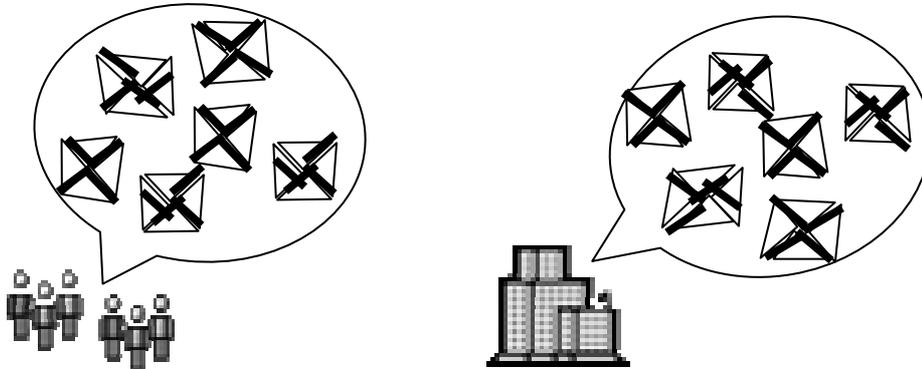
- artists (folk and pop);
- civil society activists (environmental protection, human rights, etc.);
- development activists (by type and experience);
- employees (by sectors of activity and qualification);
- entrepreneurs (by sectors of economic activity and size);
- journalists (local/regional mass media);
- land-owners (by size and land-use);
- new residents (national and foreign);
- political leaders;
- pupils and students;
- religious leaders;
- residents working in another territory;
- retailers (big, medium, small);
- retirees;
- return migrants (by origin);
- teachers and professors (by area of specialty);
- small industrial producers (by type and technology);
- subsistence farmers (by type and technology)
- tourists (national and foreign);
- unemployed;
- other individual stakeholders.

Institutional stakeholders:

- cultural institutions (museums, theatres, libraries, etc.)
- educational institutions (schools, universities, etc.);
- enterprises (by sectors of economic activity and size);
- financial institutions;
- governmental institutions (local, regional, national);
- information - communication enterprises
- international institutions;
- local/regional development agencies;
- mass media establishments;
- modern civic associations;
- producers’ associations and cooperatives (by sectors of activity and size);
- religious institutions;
- retail companies;
- tourism and leisure industry firms;
- traditional civic associations;
- transport companies;
- other institutional stakeholders.

The IDENTERRA model promotes the development of typologies of individual and institutional stakeholders on the basis of their knowledge, attitudes and practice (K-A.P.) with regard to landscape- and lifestyle-related objective and subjective identity features.

INDIVIDUAL AND INSTITUTIONAL STAKEHOLDERS' KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PRACTICE REGARDING TERRITORIAL IDENTITY



The KAP-related analyses should bring about distinctions among stakeholders in terms of their “sense of place” and active relation to landscapes and lifestyles in a given territory. For example, they could be identified as concerned or unaware, consuming or producing, protecting or destructing, conserving or innovating landscape- and lifestyle-related territorial identity features.

Furthermore, stakeholders need to be stratified according to several spatial and temporal criteria, such as outlined below.

Stakeholders by time of presence in a given territory:

- “old” vs. “new”;¹¹
- permanent vs. temporary;
- disappeared vs. emerging.

Stakeholders by geographical area of origin:

- endogenous (local and regional);
- exogenous (national, international);
- mixed.

Stakeholders by geographical scope of operation

- local;
- regional;
- national;
- international;
- mixed.

Yet another distinction among the stakeholders need to be made in terms of development actors* and agents*. Development actors are all stakeholders who directly or indirectly

¹¹ Great care must be given to the establishment of adequate time-frames in accordance with the requirements of the studied issues, availability of data, analytical methods and selected instruments. The most important time bench-marks used in the IDENTERRA model are Population and other Censuses, major political events (e.g., the fall of fascism with the “Revolution of Carnations” in 1974 and the joining of the EU in 1986), periods of implementation of national and EU economic policies, programmes and initiatives (e.g., local/regional development, social development, environmental protection, or decentralization) and years of the implementation of crucial development projects (e.g. inauguration of a freeway, opening/closing of industries, or universities, etc.).

contribute to the improvement of the quality of life in a given territory. The stakeholders that produce diagnoses, prioritise and work on solutions to concrete development issues by valorising local/regional potentials in harmony with global forces and whose role in the valorisation of territorial identity may be decisive, should be regarded as agents of development processes (Roca 1998).

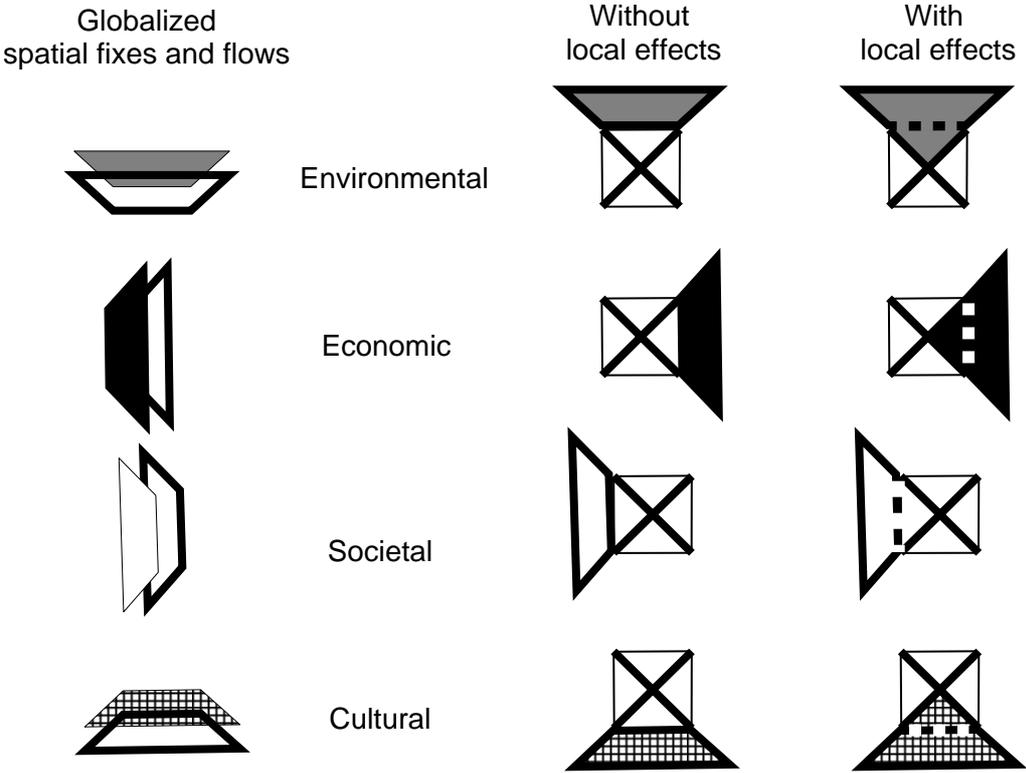
Disaggregating globalisation* and “local/global nexus”

The IDENTERRA model is intended for the study of why and how “competing groups continually contest the dominant morphology and symbolism, thereby reshaping the social and physical space” (Harper 2001, 663), or in other words the role of development stakeholders in relation to social, economic, cultural, and other processes that have impacts on landscapes and lifestyles, such as, for example:

- artificialization and destruction of nature;
- "glocalization" and “deterritorialization” of economic activities;
- "glocalization" and “deterritorialization” of culture;
- spatial and social mobility of human capital (migration and circulation);
- technological innovations in production, information and communication, etc.;
- urbanization, counter-urbanization ("rurbanization") and periurbanization;
- cosmopolitization, detraditionalization, fundamentalization of lifestyles;
- globalisation “from above" and “from below”;
- other processes that occur within the local/global nexus.

The local/global nexus is disaggregated, first, into several major globally conditioned fixes and flows, such as environmental, economic, societal and cultural resources, systems, and networks, and, second, into detectable and measurable effects of globalisation on landscapes and lifestyles (in terms of both objective and subjective identity features).

LOCAL/GLOBAL NEXUS AND TERRITORIAL IDENTITY



Globalisation effects on the local natural environment:

- destruction *versus* conservation of natural resources and landscapes;
- degradation *versus* recovery of natural resources and landscapes;
- *descaracterização* *versus* revalorisation of natural resources and/or landscapes;
- conflicts *versus* synergies between the economy and natural resources management;
- lack *versus* increase of the competitiveness of natural resources and landscapes;
- other.

Globalisation effects on the local society:

- social innovation *versus* stagnation;
- segregation/marginalisation/exclusion *versus* cohesion/integration/inclusion;
- lack *versus* promotion of knowledge/qualifications;
- spirit of dependency *versus* entrepreneurial spirit;
- population aging *versus* rejuvenation;
- consumerism *versus* environmental conscience;
- social crises *versus* synergies ;
- other.

Globalisation effects on the local economy:

- stagnation *versus* growth;
- traditional *versus* modern means of production;
- lack *versus* diversification of activities and products;
- lack *versus* adoption of innovations and entrepreneurship;
- lack *versus* access to external markets;
- lack *versus* access to external investments;
- external dependence *versus* self-sufficiency;
- other.

Globalisation effects on the local culture

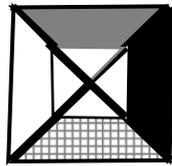
- *descaracterização* *versus* preservation and/or recuperation of urban, rural and other cultural landscapes;
- homogenisation and standardization *versus* diversification and revitalization;
- xenophobia *versus* multiculturalism;
- traditionalism *versus* modernism;
- localism *versus* cosmopolitanism;
- imitation *versus* creativity;
- isolation *versus* networking in cultural diasporas;
- other.

Besides the aforementioned effects of globalisation on local natural environment, economy, society and culture, the IDENTERRA model is open to the study of other processes that mark the local/global nexus. For example, in the Portuguese context, it is important to explore globalisation effects on local politics and governance, such as: centralization *versus* decentralization; authoritarianism *versus* participation; isolation *versus* inter and intra-regional integration; dependence *versus* independence on external financing; individualism *versus* civil society building; spirit of dependency *versus* local and regional empowerment.

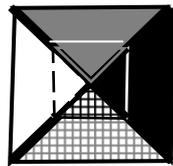
Theoretically, the globalization could have no effects on any aspect of territorial identity (this reflecting a total isolation of such places or regions from the rest of the world) on one side and, on the other, all territorial identity features could be totally absorbed (eliminated) by the homogenising affects in all areas of globalization. The IDENTERRA model envisages

identifying the role of individual and institutional stakeholders in isolating and/or integrating places and regions in terms of environmental, economic, societal, cultural and other fixes and fluxes within the local/global nexus and identify effects of such processes on local landscapes and lifestyles.

FROM ISOLATION TO INTEGRATION WITHIN THE LOCAL / GLOBAL NEXUS



Territorial identity isolated
from globalisation processes



Territorial identity integrated
in globalization processes

Disaggregating the “global/local nexus” should facilitate the recognition and assessment of traditional versus modern (or, “post” and “neo” modern) landscape- and lifestyle-related identity features, that is, on the scale from remaining pockets of endogenously controlled economic and cultural territorial identity features to the recently emerging and increasingly overlapping territorial identity features integrated in globalized economic and cultural hierarchies (Haesbaert, 1997: 42).

Integrating macroscopic and grassroots methods

The IDENTERRA model aims, essentially, at promoting a better understanding of development issues marked by a multitude of cross-cuttings between endogenous and exogenous, local and global, individual and collective, natural and social, economic and cultural, etc. Therefore, research on such complex issues must face the challenge of selecting, testing and adapting the existing analytical methods and instruments and of creating new ones, as well as detecting and/or creating complementarities in their use.¹² It is presumed that this will help placing a balanced importance on the following methodological approaches:

- the “top-down” approach, based on indirect, macroscopic and/or remote sensing methods, realized as desk-studies of secondary sources of data and images,¹³ and
- the “bottom-up” approach, based on direct, participatory and grassroots methods, realized through field-studies of primary sources of data and images, collected *in situ* and *ad hoc*.¹⁴

¹² An interdisciplinary team of researchers is required, composed of specialists such as physical and human geographers, natural and cultural landscape analysts, socio-economists, cultural anthropologists, architects and urban planners, as well as specialists in the application of geographical information technologies.

¹³ These include a wide range of data such as, for example, those from satellite images, aerial photographs and thematic cartography related to fixes of the objective territorial identity, as well as those from national and international statistics related to both fixes e flows of the objective territorial identity. Data collected from public opinion polls and surveys (by phone or mail) related to fixes and flows of the subjective (both, experienced and pretended) territorial identity, can also be considered as part of the macroscopic approach.

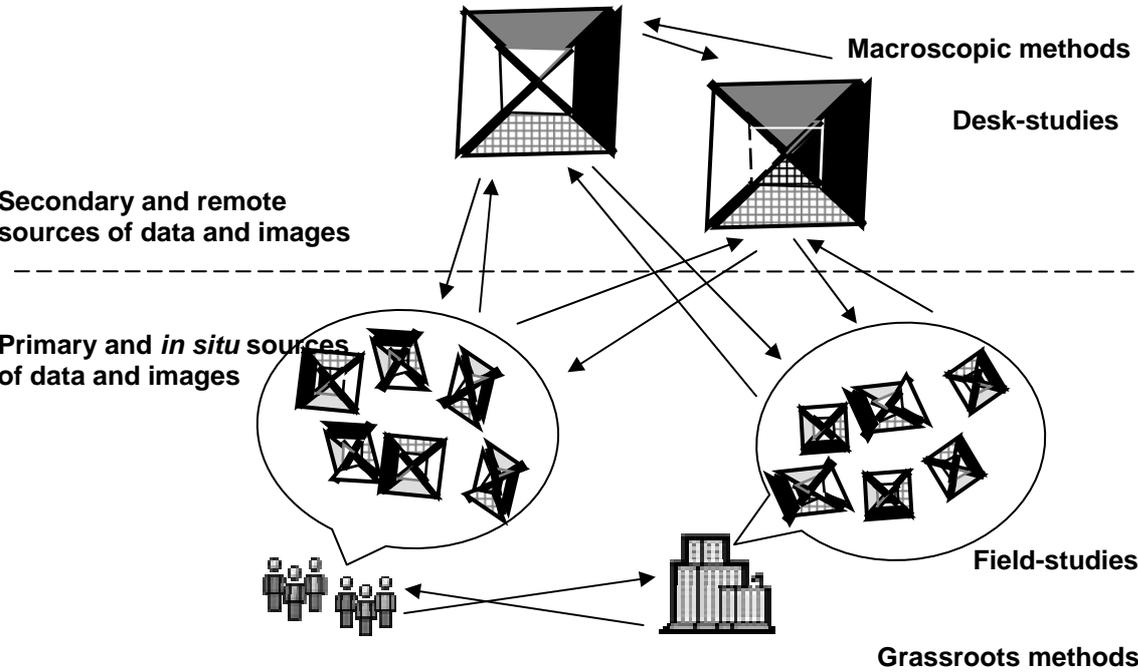
¹⁴ Such information can be obtained directly from different development stakeholders by means of KAP-interviews, focus group discussions and other participatory methods. Also, photographic and audiovisual records can be collected in the field, as well as other primary data and information through direct observation methods,

As part of the top-down approach, diagnostic studies of changing objective identity features materialized in natural and cultural landscapes and lifestyles will be elaborated in order to

- explore the scope and intensity of changes in local spatial fixes (natural, human and material resources and heritage) and flows (bio-geo-physical, and socio-economic systems and networks) and their linkages with global physical and human conditions, and
- identify probable development stakeholders (local and global, old and new, consumers and producers, etc.) and their power-relations.¹⁵

The bottom-up approach should be applied mostly to assess the subjective identity features on the basis of field-surveys of the stakeholders' KAP in relation to the objective spatial fixes and flows (landscapes and lifestyles) and to their relations with other stakeholders. The KAP case-studies, both exploratory and in-depth, and comparative analyses should be carried out at different territorial levels (i.e., local community, municipal or inter-municipal) and functional contexts (social, economic, cultural, environmental systems and networks).¹⁶

INTEGRATION OF "TOP-DOWN" AND "BOTTOM-UP" APPROACHES



The integration of top-down and bottom-up approaches, methods and instruments should enable the detecting and assessment of existing and potential conflicts and synergies (e.g., rural-urban, entrepreneurial-social, or economic-environmental) among local and global

drawings, mapping, gathering of "informal documentation", such as unpublished technical reports, local monographic and diagnostic studies, carrying out discourse analyses based on public speeches and policy statements, local written and oral literature, folk and pop-culture products, etc.

¹⁵ The macroscopic identification should be confirmed and/or complemented by in-depth studies of local and regional stakeholders by means of grassroots methods.

¹⁶ The KAP surveys are precious in detecting complementarities and disparities between cognitive and behavioural spheres among specific stakeholders, as well as in comparative analyses between different stakeholders, both individual and institutional ones. Development policy relevant analyses of specific landscape and lifestyle issues can also be made by contrasting the results obtained from KAP surveys on these issues with objective, factual data on the same issues obtainable from secondary sources of information.

development stakeholders in consuming and (re)producing landscape- and lifestyle-related territorial identity features. This cross-cutting of macroscopic and grassroots sources of data should shed a greater light about how exactly “landscapes become materialized discourse of different social interests (Schein, 1997) so they are always a compromise” (Harner, 2001: 663) as well as about whether, how and, above all, by whom the "recreation of local identities in all of its dimensions" in order to "combat exclusion and massification generated by globalisation" (Animar, 2001) can be achieved.

Operationalizing identity/development concerns: topophilia* and territorial attractiveness

The potential relevance of the IDENTERRA model is in the possibility of operationalizing the concept of territorial identity in policies of territorial development*. For example, search for empirical evidence of changing landscape- and lifestyle-related territorial identity features can reveal different levels of topophilia, “the emotional link between a person and a place or physical environment” (Tuan, 1982. p. 149 in Haesbaert 1997, 37), that is, the sense of territorial belonging to a place or region of residence, work and/or leisure. Certain types of topophilia can be strategically important in encouraging/discouraging cohesion/divergence among the existing and potential endogenous and exogenous forces (e.g. real estate investors, transnational entrepreneurs, etc.) in the economic valorisation of elements of natural and cultural heritage.

Having in mind that places and regions are the real and immediate space of life to many people and activities of many institutions, development policies that aim to promote the (re)affirmation of local and regional identities should reinforce topophilia among development stakeholders, both individual and institutional ones, as a means of making them locally responsible for

- the promotion of environmental and sociocultural conscientiousness;
- the protection of heritage materialized in natural and cultural landscapes;
- the encouragement of constructive social relations and community spirit; and
- strengthening of self-esteem and the feeling of economic and cultural security.

Local and regional development agents can actively promote topophilia on the basis of the empirically verified knowledge and understanding of how people define and interpret the space of their residence, activity and/or leisure, how they identify themselves with that space, how would they like to change it, etc. On the basis of this knowledge, governments, schools, associations and other agents worried about the global effects on local nature, economy and culture could develop norms, incentives and activities at local and regional levels that would lay grounds for

- the democratisation of the protection/affirmation of natural and cultural landscapes;
- the integrated management of development interventions in natural and cultural landscapes;
- the geo-referencing of alterations in natural and cultural landscapes induced by local and global factors; and
- the institutional and human resource capacity building for the (re)valorisation of natural and cultural landscapes.

There is all reason to believe that besides favourable effects from the point of view of the cohesion among local and regional forces, a strong topophilia amongst individual and institutional development stakeholders could favour compatibilities with globalized forces in the process of (re)valorisation of territorial identities. Given that topophilia mirrors very well the level of people’s satisfaction with natural, social, economic, cultural, political and other parameters of the well-being in a territory, ultimately, a stronger sense of territorial belonging should be complementary to the strengthening of the attractiveness of places and regions.

In fact, the assessment of “place attractiveness”¹⁷ can be another useful outcome of the IDENTERRA model. The understanding and promotion of place attractiveness could be very important in local and regional development planning, programming and project formulation particularly in lagging, peripheral and/or rural areas that struggle for the fixation of economic activities and social innovation based on the sustainability of the human resources base (Roca, 2000: 2004). Territorial development strategies based on innovations in the spheres of the production, exchange and consumption of goods, services and ideas should stimulate the capacity of places and regions to strengthen the sustainability of their human resource bases (human capital development), with an emphasis on attracting or retaining professionals (Weiss, 1995; Laroche, 2001: 5; OECD, 2001). The capacity to satisfy increasingly sophisticated criteria about quality of life that tend to favour local authenticity and reject globalized homogeneity, will depend on the “magnetism” of a given territory in terms of, for example: natural attractiveness (open spaces, clean air and water, accessible green areas, coastal lakesides and riversides, leisure time opportunities, etc.); structural attractiveness (quality housing, good education and health services, small-scale commerce, typical restaurants, cultural diversity, community spaces, etc); social attractiveness (strong local political leadership, effectiveness of governmental and third sector institutions, atmosphere of social peace, cooperation and security, etc); and economic attractiveness (good employment opportunities and career perspectives, availability of financial capital, incentives favouring entrepreneurial spirit and social innovation, etc) (NMF, 2003: 18-19)

Economic, social, cultural and political leaders and other local and regional development agents, including those responsible for spatial planning and management, could make use of the IDENTERRA model for exploring contrasts between objective and subjective landscape- and lifestyle-related territorial identity features in order to assess: quality-of-life criteria and detect levels of satisfaction of professionals as actual and potential residents; existing natural, structural, social and economic elements and factors of territorial attractiveness that need maintenance and sustainability; disappearing elements and factors of territorial attractiveness, evaluate their relevance, both current and eventual, that need reaffirmation; potentials, both endogenous and exogenous, for introducing elements and factors of territorial attractiveness and stimulate their constitution.

Conclusion

The operationalisation of the concept of territorial identity may lay grounds for strengthening the existing and exploring new synergies between landscape studies and territorial development issues. The bridging of the gap between the pro-identity rhetoric and development practice is hardly possible without the comprehensive understanding of changing landscape features and, *vice versa*, changing landscapes can gain social relevance when studied and interpreted from the perspective of changing spatial fixes and flows that determine the territorial identity/development interface. To this end, a radical alteration of the conceptual-methodological paradigm that presently dominates territorial identity and development studies is necessary: the top-down and macroscopic research methods, instruments and data sources need to be complemented by and functionally integrated with those that belong to the equally important grassroots and bottom-up approach. In turn, this allows paying due attention to the identification and assessment of power-relations among the development stakeholders (local and global, old and new, etc.), which is pivotal in studies of the (re/de)generation of territorial identities materialized in landscapes. In other words, landscape studies could be extended towards elements and factors of change in the objective (factual, undisputable, certifiable) dimension of territorial identity.

¹⁷ For a comprehensive, empirically founded discussion on “place attractiveness”, see: NMF, 2003.

Landscape studies are also essential in identifying and assessing the subjective (perceived, interpreted, imagined) dimension of territorial identity. Both the experienced and pretended subjective territorial identity features mirror the development stakeholders' sense of place and territorial belonging, mostly based on landscape qualities. Divergent or harmonious power-relations among stakeholders as (de/re)generators of territorial identities require field-level empirical records of their knowledge, attitudes and practice (KAP) in relation to the natural and/or cultural landscape features. By confronting information obtained from KAP surveys, as well as from other participatory methods for screening the subjective dimension of territorial identity against the information on the same features that constitute the objective dimension of identity, strategically important indications can be obtained about (im)possibilities for reconciling the globalized economy and culture with local/regional development needs and potentials.

It is worth stressing that the integration of territorial identity and development studies based on combination of top-down and bottom-up approaches could represent an added value to both the theoretical and applied landscape research agendas. On one side, it could provide a new, empirical and trans-disciplinary interpretation about "landscapes as parts of hegemonic culture" (Cosgrove, 1983), about "globalized flows and reterritorialization" (Haesbaert, 1997), about "coherent identity and equilibrium between landscape reality and representation" (Harner, 2001), about distinctions between regions "on" and "of the mind" (Agnew, 1999), about "shifting identities of economic actors" (Yeung, 2003), or about "the construction of local identities when the world is too big to be controlled and social actors make it return to graspable size" (Castells, 2003). On the other, practical side, landscape studies related to territorial identity, as a development resource could prove essential in planning and implementing programmes and projects aimed at strengthening topophilia, increasing territorial attractiveness and promoting other identity-based, strategically important components of globally competitive local and regional development.

References

- Agnew, J. (1999) Regions on the Mind does not Equal Regions of the Mind. *Progress in Human Geography*, 23 (1). pp.101-110.
- Agnew, J. (2000) From the Political Economy of Regions to Regional Political Economy. *Progress in Human Geography*, 24 (1). pp. 101-110.
- Albino, C. (1997) *Desenvolver Desenvolvendo - Práticas e Pistas para o Desenvolvimento Local no Alentejo*. Messejana: ESDIME C.R.L.
- Amin, A. and Thrift, N. (1994) Living in the Global. In Amin, A., Thrift, N. (eds.) *Globalisation, Institutions and Regional Development in Europe*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp.1-22.
- Animar (1998) *Declaração de Amarante: Desenvolvimento local - uma Oportunidade de Futuro*. Amarante: Animar/Manifesta '98.
- Animar (2001) *Declaração de Tavira*. Tavira/Faro: Animar/Manifesta 2001/In Loco.
- Arrighi, G. (2003) *Spatial and Other "Fixes" of Historical Capitalism*. At <http://www.irows.ucr.edu/conferences/globgis/papers/Arrighi.htm>
- Badie, B. (1995) *La fin des territoires*. Paris: Fayard,
- Barel, Y. (1986) Le social et ses territoires. In: Auriac E.; Brunet, R. (Coord.). *Espaces, jeux et enjeux*. Paris: Fayard-Diderot.
- Barreto, A. (2000) *A Situação Social em Portugal, 1960-1999*. Lisboa: ICS.

- Benko, G (2000) La recomposition des espaces. *Agir - Revue général de stratégie*. Nº.5, pp.11-18.
- Castells, M. (2003) *O Poder da Identidade*. Lisboa: Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian
- Cavaco, C. (1994) *Do despovoamento rural ao desenvolvimento local*. Lisboa: Direcção Geral do Desenvolvimento Rural
- CEDLCS (1995) *Declaração de Serpa*. Serpa: Conferência Europeia sobre Desenvolvimento Local e Coesão Social.
- Commission européenne (1994) *Valeur ajoutée et ingénierie du développement local*. Luxemburg: Office des publications officielles des communautés européennes.
- Cosgrove, D. E. (1983) Towards a Radical Cultural Geography: Problems of Theory. *Antipode* 15. pp.1-11.
- Cosgrove, D. E. (1998) Cultural Landscapes. In Unwin, T. (ed.) *A European Geography*. Harlow: Addison Wesley Longman Ltd. pp.65-81.
- DGDR (1997) *Novas Políticas Europeias e Desenvolvimento Rural em Portugal*. Lisbon: Direcção Geral de Desenvolvimento Rural (DGDR)
- Groote, P.; Huigen, P.P.P; Haartsen, T. (2000) Claiming Rural Identities. In: Haartsen et al. *Claiming Rural Identities*. Assen: Van Gorcum, pp.1-7.
- Haartsen, T., Groote, P., Huigen, P.P.P. (2000) *Claiming Rural Identities*. Assen: Van Gorcum.
- Haartsen, T., Groote, P., Huigen, P.P.P. (2000a) Whose Nature? Ownership and Representations of Nature in the Netherlands. Conference CURE 3, *Cultural Uniqueness and Regional Economy*, Leeuwarden, Nov. 2000.
- Hadjimichalis, C. (1994) Global-Local Conflicts: Examples from Southern Europe. In Amin, A. and Thrift, N. (eds.) *Globalisation, Institutions and Regional Development in Europe*. Oxford University Press. pp. 237-256.
- Haesbaert, R. (1997). Dês-territorialização e Identidade: a Rede “Gaúcha” no Nordeste. Niteroi: Editora da Universidade Federal Fluminense.
- Harner, John (2001) Place Identity and Copper Mining in Sonora, Mexico. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 91 (4), pp. 660-680.
- Harvey, D. (2003) *The New Imperialism*. Oxford. Oxford University Press.
- Ilbery, B.; Clark, D.; Berkeley, N.;Goldman, I. (1995) Telematics and Rural Development: Evidence from a Survey of Small Businesses in the European Union. *European Urban and Regional Studies*, Nº. 2., pp. 55-67.
- Jessop, B. (2004) Spatial Fixes, Temporal Fixes and Spatio-Temporal Fixes. Department of Sociology, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YL, UK at http://www.comp.lancs.ac.uk/sociology/papers/jessop_spatio-temporal-fixes.pfd.
- Laroche, M.; Mérette, M.; Ruggeri, G.C. (2001) *On the Concept and Dimension of Human Capital in a Knowledge-Based Economy Context*. At http://collection.nlc-bnc.ca/100/2000/301/finance/working_papero-ef/1998/1998-01/98-ole.pdf
- Massey, D. (1991) *A Global Sense of Place*. Open University, D103 Block6. *The Making of the Regions*, pp.12-51, Milton Keynes, Open University Press.
- Massey, D. (1995) Imagining the World. In Allen J. and Massey, D. (eds.) *Geographical Worlds*, Oxford: Oxford University Press/The Open University.

- Massey, D. and Jess, P. (eds.) (1995) *A Place in the World? Places, Cultures and Globalisation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press/The Open University.
- Mitchell, D.(1991) *The Lie of the Land: Migrant Workers and the California Landscape*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- MP (1999) *Plano de Desenvolvimento Regional 2000-2006*. Lisbon: Ministério do Planeamento (MP).
- NMF (2003) *Quality of Place in Rural Minnesota*. In *Developing Community Assets - 2003 Annual Report to the Community*. The Northwest Minnesota Foundation (NMF). At http://www.nwmf.org/QofP_full1.pdf.
- OECD (2001) *The Well-Being of Nations: the Role of Human and Social Capital*, Paris: OECD
- Roca, M.N.O. (2000) *EU Policies and Development Stakeholders at the Local Level: The Case of the Lima Valley, Northern Portugal*. *Conference "European Rural Policy at the Crossroads"*. Aberdeen: Arkleton Centre for Rural Development, Univ. of Aberdeen. At <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/arkleton/conf2000/papers/roca-m.doc>.
- Roca, M.N.O. (2004) *The New European Frontiers and Human Capital*. *4th Annual Conference "New Frontiers for Europe"*, Viessman Research Centre on Modern Europe and the School of Economics of the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisbon, May 31 – June 1, 2004, pp.19.
- Roca, Z. (1998) *Positive Experiences in Increasing the Involvement of Young Men and Women in Rural Development in Portugal*. In *Youth and Rural Development in Europe: Policy Issues and Responses*. Rome: FAO, pp. 39-61.
- Roca, Z. (2004) "Affirmation of Regional Identity between Rhetoric and Reality: Evidence from Portugal". In: *Outstanding Regions – Exploring Quality in a Competitive World*, Leeuwarden: Fryskje Akademy, pp. 24-49 (in print).
- Rose, G. (1995) *Place and Identity: A Sense of Place*. In Massey, Doreen and Jess, Pat (eds.) *A Place in the World? Places, Cultures and Globalisation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press/The Open University. pp. 87-132
- Rubenstein, J. M. (1996) *An Introduction to Human Geography*. Upper Sadler River, N.J.: Prentice Hall.
- Santos, M. *et al* (ed.) (1994) *Território, Globalização e Fragmentação*. São Paulo: Editora Hucitec
- Schein R (1997) *The Place of Landscape: A Conceptual framework for an American Scene*. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 87 (4). pp. 660-80
- Todtling, F. (1994) *The Uneven Landscape of Innovation Poles: Local Embeddedness and Global Networks*. In Amin, A. and Thrift, N. (eds) (1994) *Globalisation, Institutions and Regional Development in Europe*. Oxford: Oxford University Press/The Open University, pp. 68-90.
- Tuan, Y.F. (1983) *Espaço & Lugar: a Perspectiva da Experiência*. São Paulo: Dife
- Weiss, A. (1995) *Human Capital vs. Signalling Explanations of Wages*. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 9 (4). pp. 133-154.
- Yeung, H.W. (2003) *Practicing New Economic Geographies: A Methodological Examination*. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 93 (2). pp. 442-462.

GLOSSARY

Working definitions of key terms used in the IDENTERRA model

Culture

The system of production, exchange and expression of meanings shared by persons that are part of a same community (from local to global) that is used to help them to interpret the world and make a sense out of it.

Development

Process of social, economic, cultural, political, environmental and other changes that result in the improvement of the quality of life of a territory.

Development actors

Development stakeholders who contribute, directly or indirectly, to the improvement of the quality of life of a territory.

Development agents

Development stakeholders who are committed to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of a community on the basis of qualified knowledge (diagnoses) of development issues and problems.

Development stakeholders

All individuals or groups of people and institutions that stand to gain or lose, directly or indirectly, given a particular development course or activity.

Economy

Social order which rests on the production, exchange and distribution of tangible goods and services.

Geo-symbols

Forms, processes and contexts (past and present) such as soils, mountains, rivers, forests, crops, bridges, roads, buildings, human settlements, etc. that constitute landscapes.

Globalisation

Accelerated decrease of geographical obstacles to social, economic, cultural, political and environmental processes and growing interdependence, at the world level, of tendencies, problems, lifestyles and decisions.

Human resources (also, human capital)

The totality of biological, social, cultural, economic, structural and dynamic characteristics of the population that results from investments in people's health, education, training, and culture and that can be valorised, wasted or serve as a potential for socio-economic development.

Landscape

Set of visually detectable natural and created spatial fixes and flows that mark a geographical space (territory).

Lifestyle

Pattern of use of natural, human and material resources determined by the economy, culture and social capital at all levels (individual, family, community and nation).

Material resources (also, physical capital)

The totality of constructions and other objects that constitute human settlements, economic and social equipment and infrastructure, communications, monuments, etc.

Metonymic symbols

The semiotic, toponymic, linguistic and/or artistic translations of past and present forms, processes and contexts imprinted/implanted in a territory.

Mnemonic signs

Historical processes and contexts, such as old bridges and roads, remnants of abandoned social and economic activities, cultural and constructed heritage, etc., imprinted/implanted in a territory.

Created heritage

All goods provided by humans (modified natural goods, constructions, artefacts, etc.) whose importance is recognized by the people of a given territory (place, region, country, continent) and/or by Humanity.

Natural heritage

All goods provided by nature (soil, water, flora, fauna, etc.) whose importance is recognized by the people of a given territory (place, region, country, continent) and/or by Humanity.

Natural resources (also, natural capital)

The totality of renewable and finite natural goods which people consider and/or use as valuable for development.

Regions

Geographical spaces (territories) that are formally (by distribution), functionally (by centrality) or vernacularly (by perception) distinguished from other geographical spaces (neighbouring or distant) by their bio-geo-physical, social, economic, cultural, political or administrative (boundaries) features.

Social capital

The totality of values, rules and institutions determined by social relations at all levels (individual, family, community and nation).

Spatial fixes

The natural, human and material resources and heritage anchored (rooted) and materialized permanently or temporarily in a given territory.

Spatial flows

The natural (bio-geo-physical) and social relationships and movements (activities and interactions) within and/or outside of horizontal (territorial) and vertical (functional) networks and systems that determine the functioning of the natural environment on one side and, on the other, of the economy, culture and social capital in a given territory and among territories.

Sustainable development

Development based on harmony and/or reconciliation of needs, interests and power relations between Nature and Humanity and among individuals and societies at all spatial-temporal and functional levels.

Territorial development

The valorisation of spatial fixes and flows that result in higher levels of living conditions in a territory.

Territorial identity

A set of spatial fixes and flows that characterize a territorial unit; also, territorial uniqueness in terms of landscapes and lifestyles.

Territory

A unit of geographical space that is valorised and/or controlled by its occupants, or by those who define it.

Topophilia (also, sense of territorial belonging)

Emotional and spiritual relations established between people, landscapes and lifestyles on a given geographical space.