

Agenda 2030 compass for industrial heritage.

How do we address environmental consequences in history and industrial heritage from a different perspective?

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Abstract

In the session "*Reinterpreting industrial heritage from a global perspective*" the questions "*Who benefits from industrialization, and who suffers its social and environmental consequences? And how does this reflect on the global and regional scales at the same time, affecting people and local environments in the global South and North alike?*" are put to us. These are some of the questions that the **Agenda 2030 compass** is dealing with today on a global scale. The Agenda 2030 Compass is a strategic decision-support tool grounded in the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). The Agenda 2030 Compass shows promise as a way of assessing the potential value to a sustainable future of strategic decisions. It was developed and tested as part of an ongoing collaboration between SEI, Jernkontoret (the Swedish Steel Producers' Association) and Swedish steel producers.

The aim of this paper is to present a new tool for assessment of the societal values of industrial products and processes. I will argue that this tool developed within the steel industry, also can be used analysing and further developing our industrial heritage. Transition towards greater sustainability is indeed one of our most important challenges today and the field of industrial heritage can contribute to it. The task entails a great deal of work however, to develop our approach to and our understanding of industrial heritage. The matters of, who benefits from industrialization, and who suffers its social and environmental consequences, are complicated and to be able to address them we need new tools and methods.

At this point a prototype for the Agenda 2030 compass has been used to test assessing the potential societal value of a new product or production process. The compass is a workshop-based methodology for structured assessment of a certain invention or technology. The potential direct impacts across all the strategic Goals, and a tool for analysing how the direct impacts may generate indirect impacts within all the Goals, taking into account country and policy related differences.

The compass is not intended to provide straight-up answers about what course of action should be taken or should have been taken. Nor will it ever be final, as the relationships between different goals will evolve with development over time. However, based on best available knowledge at a certain time, it will help in the assessment of different courses of action by placing the complexity of multiple interactions in a tool that supports crucial teamwork among people with diverse backgrounds, and by pointing to areas where further analysis is needed. If the aim is to explore conceptual and methodological approaches that enable us to understand that we are all part of the same global system the Agenda 2030 compass is a method that could help us see, identify and talk about the complex global system and the environmental effects that the industrial heritage has had on our history.

The Agenda 2030 compass creates possibilities for awareness of new problems, questions and views. Working with the Agenda 2030 Compass a model for discussing the industrial heritage in a global setting can be used and with a possibility to address the past, present and future in local, regional and global settings.