

Table 1. Extreme cases of the state of conservation of the site.

State of conservation	Values	Integrity	Authenticity
1. Perfect conservation	1	1	1
2. No-conservation	0	X	X
3. No-conservation	X	0	X
4. No-conservation	X	X	0

Legend: X is equal to any figure larger than 0 (nil) and smaller than 1 (one).

The theory of conservation does not provide arguments to define the structure of the function $f(I_{sig}, I_{int}, I_{aut})$. However, Table 1 suggests that the best structure is the multiplication of the KPIs. So, the basic structure of the Isc is:

$$I_{sc} = I_{sig} \cdot I_{int} \cdot I_{aut} \tag{1}$$

The values of the KPIs are assembled from the ‘opinions and judgments’ made by the main stakeholders of the site. This information is gathered by the application of questionnaires or checklists that allows comparison of the current state of conservation of the site with that registered in the baseline survey report and the statement of significance. The information registered is the value given by stakeholders to the change in the significance, the integrity and the authenticity of the site during the period of monitoring.

The KPIs are calculated taking into account the evaluations made by six different social groups of people: specialists (local and external), residents (long-standing and new), cultural reference groups, and visitors. This means that each KPI results from the summation of group opinions:

$$I_{sig} = \alpha_1 I_{sig}^{Lesp} + \beta_1 I_{sig}^{Xesp} + \gamma_1 I_{sig}^{Lres} + \delta_1 I_{sig}^{Nres} + \epsilon_1 I_{sig}^{Rgru} + \zeta_1 I_{sig}^{Vis} \tag{2}$$

$$I_{int} = \alpha_2 I_{int}^{Lesp} + \beta_2 I_{int}^{Xesp} + \gamma_2 I_{int}^{Lres} + \delta_2 I_{int}^{Nres} + \epsilon_2 I_{int}^{Rgru} + \zeta_2 I_{int}^{Vis} \tag{3}$$

$$I_{aut} = \alpha_3 I_{aut}^{Lesp} + \beta_3 I_{aut}^{Xesp} + \gamma_3 I_{aut}^{Lres} + \delta_3 I_{aut}^{Nres} + \epsilon_3 I_{aut}^{Rgru} + \zeta_3 I_{aut}^{Vis} \tag{4}$$

Where:

$$\alpha_i + \beta_i + \gamma_i + \delta_i + \epsilon_i + \zeta_i = 1 \tag{5}$$

The parameters α , β , γ , δ , ϵ and ζ are weights given to the opinions of the stakeholder. For each KPI, the summation of the parameters is equal to 1 (one). It is questionable if all KPI indicators should be assessed by all social groups involved in the process.

The Delphi Panel (DP) technique was used to estimate the weights of the KPIs. To determine the size and composition of the panel, an analysis was made of the distribution of World Heritage Urban Sites (WHUS) in the regions of the world covered by UNESCO. Thirty-four experts accepted the invitation to participate in the DP. They were chosen from among conservation professionals and academics. Table 2 summarizes the structure of the panel of experts. The experts were based in nineteen different countries, and thus the diversity of