

The role of urban legislation in the development of a tourism destination: a focus on the local community

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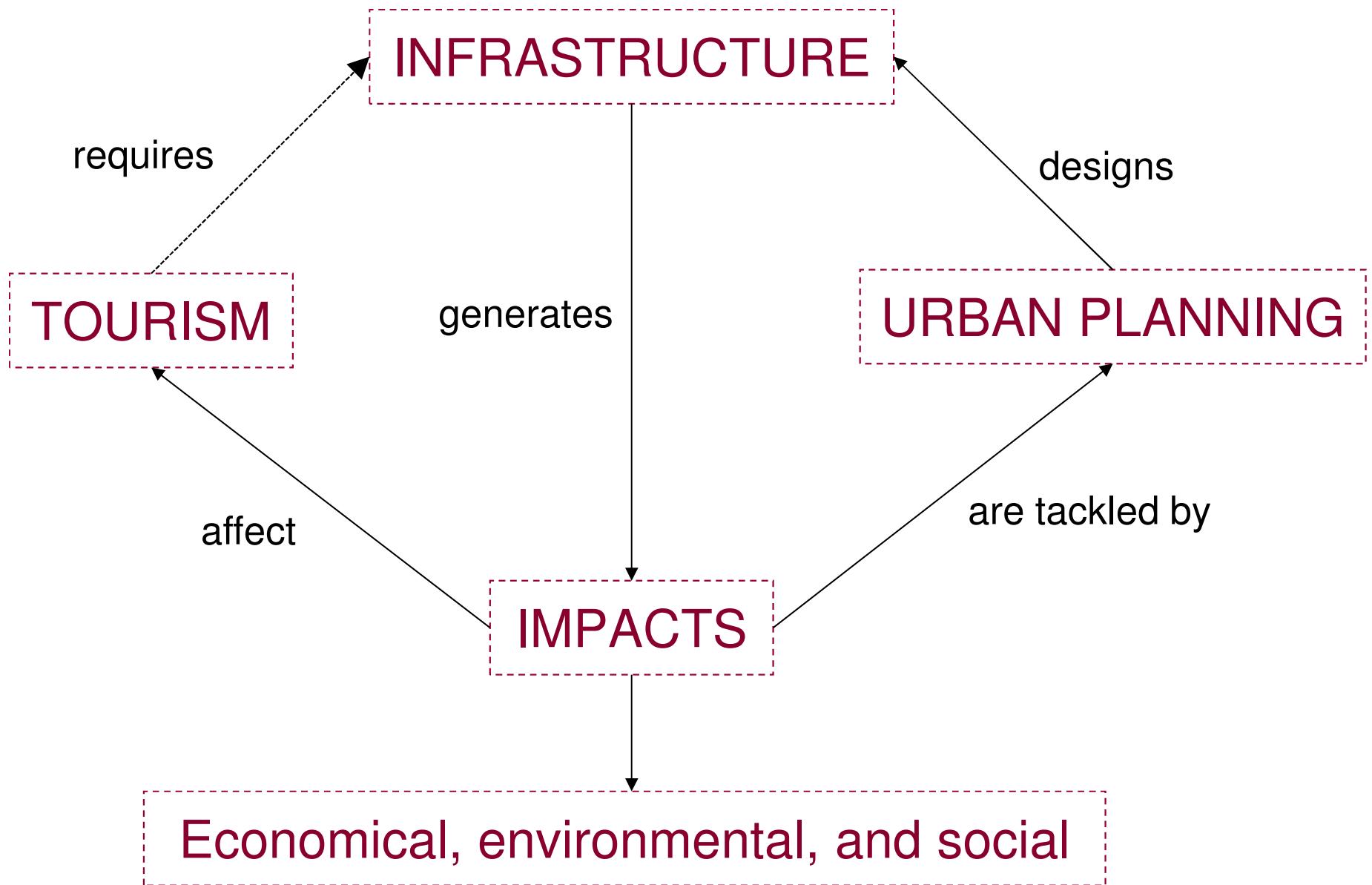


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Towns and cities as tourism destinations...

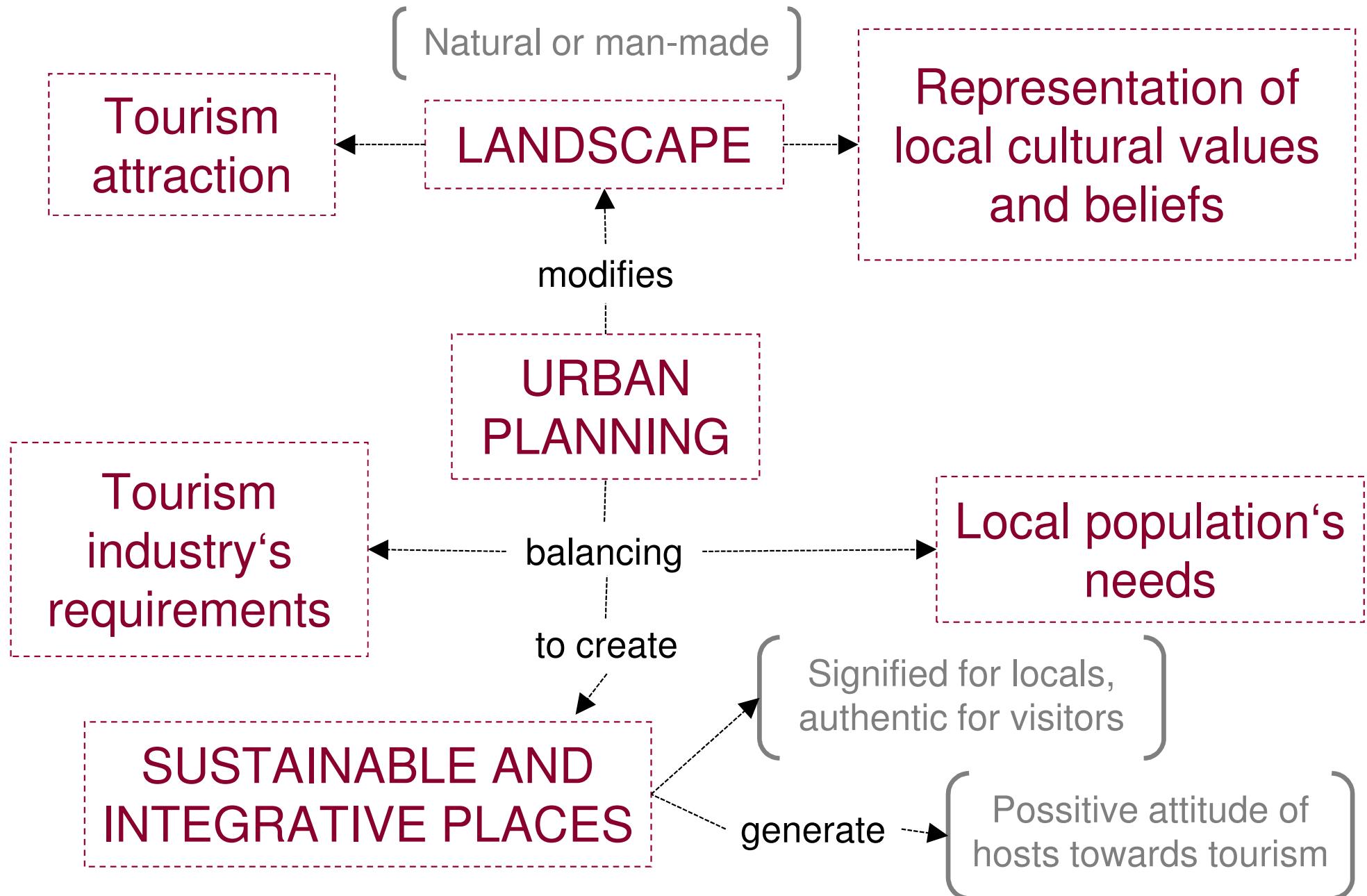


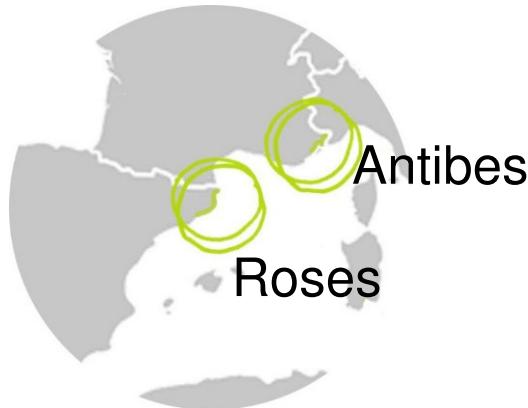
... and local inhabitants as hosting community



Research question:

“How does urban or territorial legislation condition the development of tourist destinations and the attitude of host communities towards tourism and vice versa?”





Constructivist paradigm

Ontology: relativism

Epistemology: subjectivity

Methodology:
hermeneutic-dialectic

Historical research
based on secondary data
(documentary research)

Methodology

Comparative study of two mature destinations
with important characteristics in common
that help isolating the legislative and cultural contexts for the research

1. Gathering historical information
 1. Tourism development
 2. Urban planning and legislation
 3. Social changes
2. Fitting the information into the coevolution and path dependence models

Evolutionary Economic Geography (EEG)

Field aimed at understanding the economic processes of a place, taking into account both its tangible and intangible assets (Jovanovic, 2009; Aoyama et al., 2011)

provides

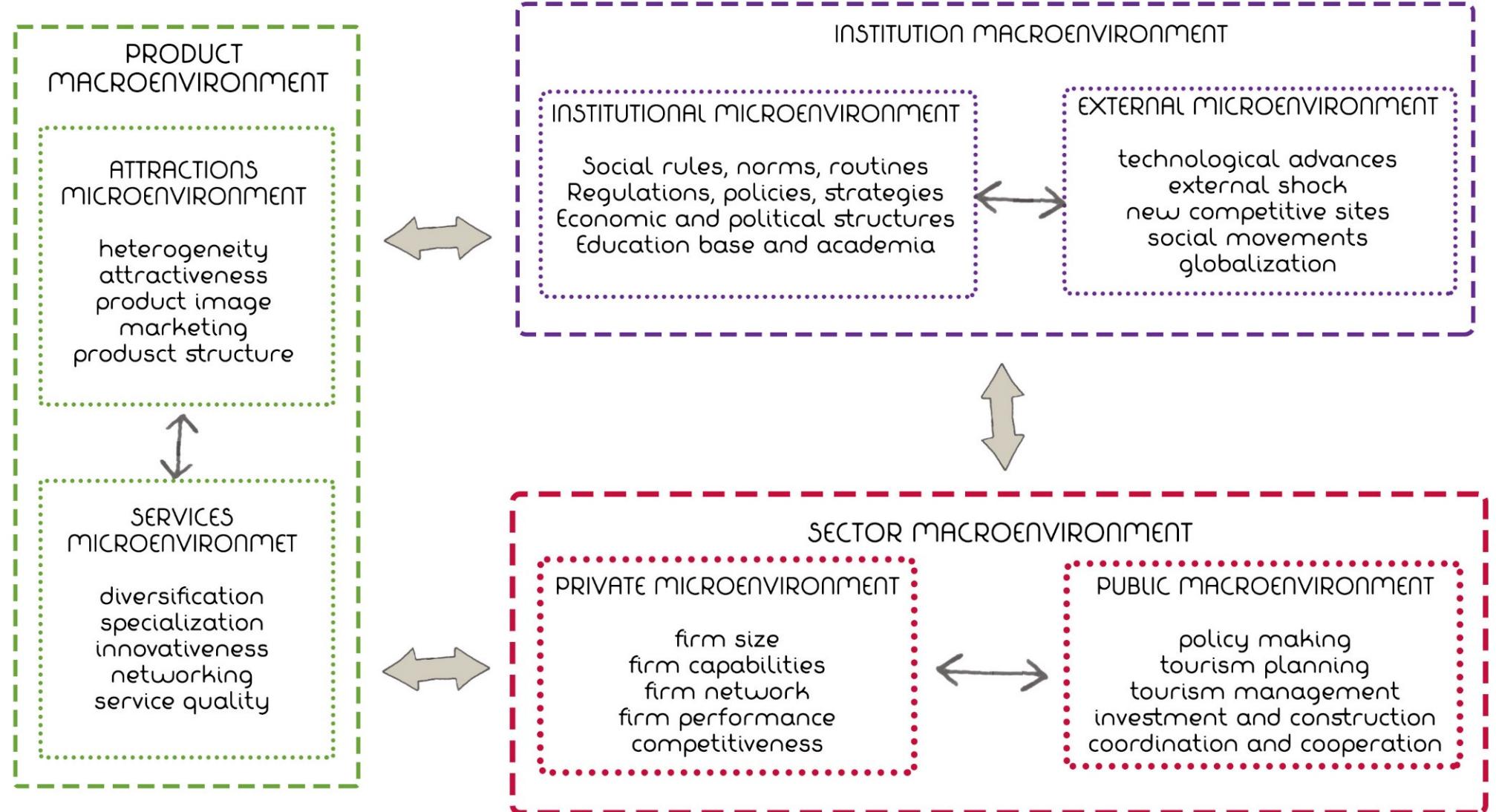
complex frameworks

Adequate to analyse tourism destination's evolution in time and space (Ma & Hassink, 2013)

Co-evolution

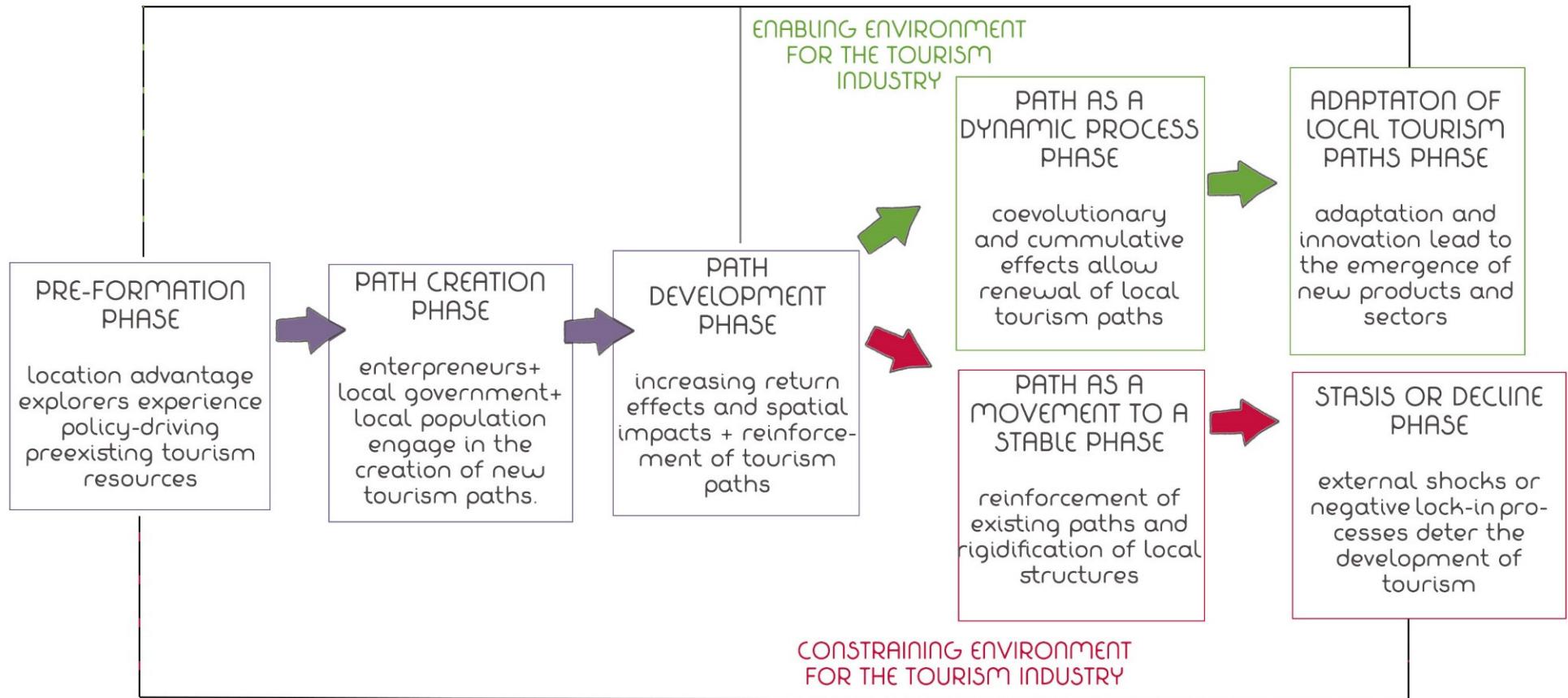
Path-dependence

Coevolution model



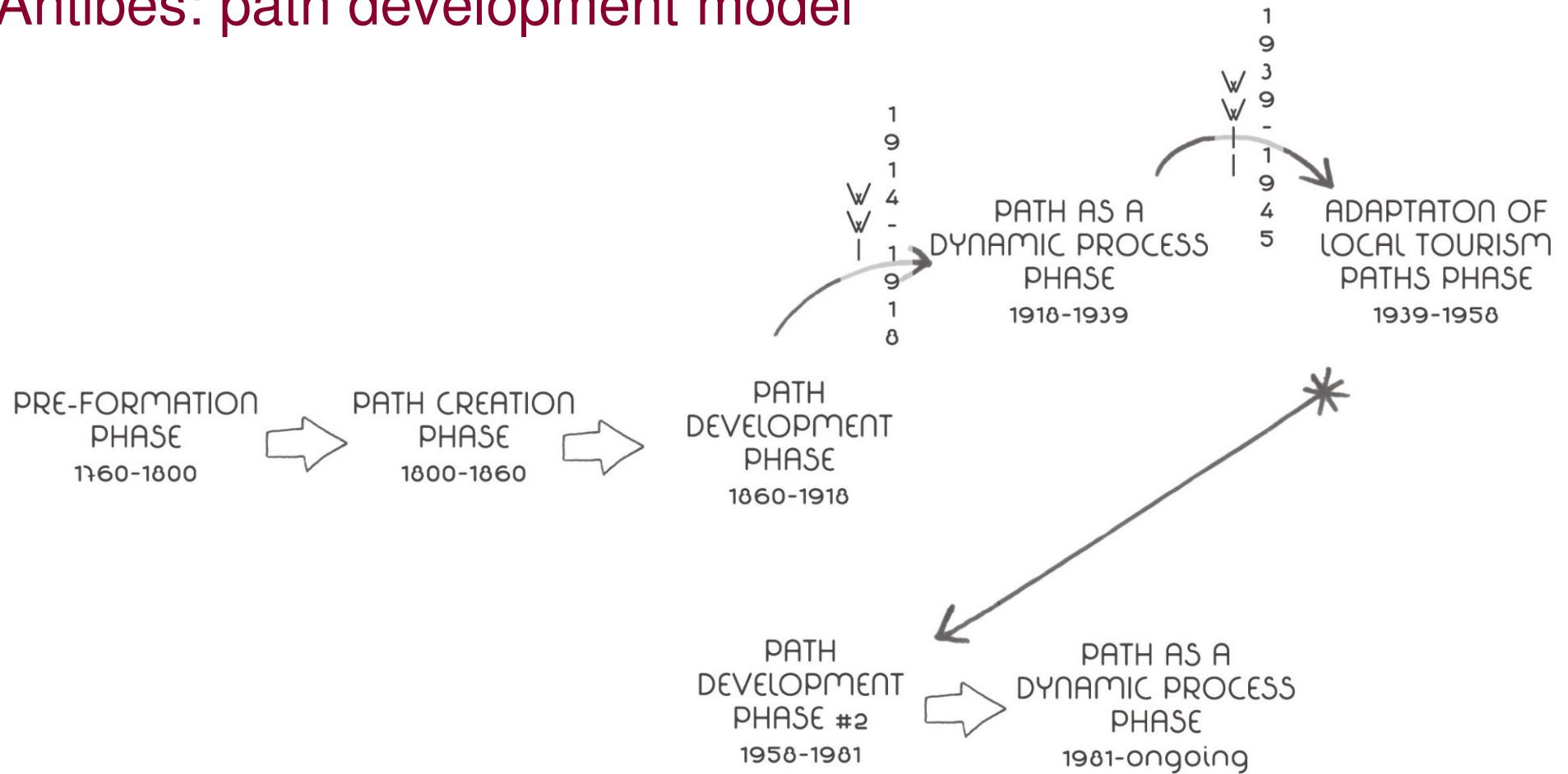
Based on Ma & Hassink (2013)

Path-dependence model



Based on Ma & Hassink (2013)

Antibes: path development model





1864



1936

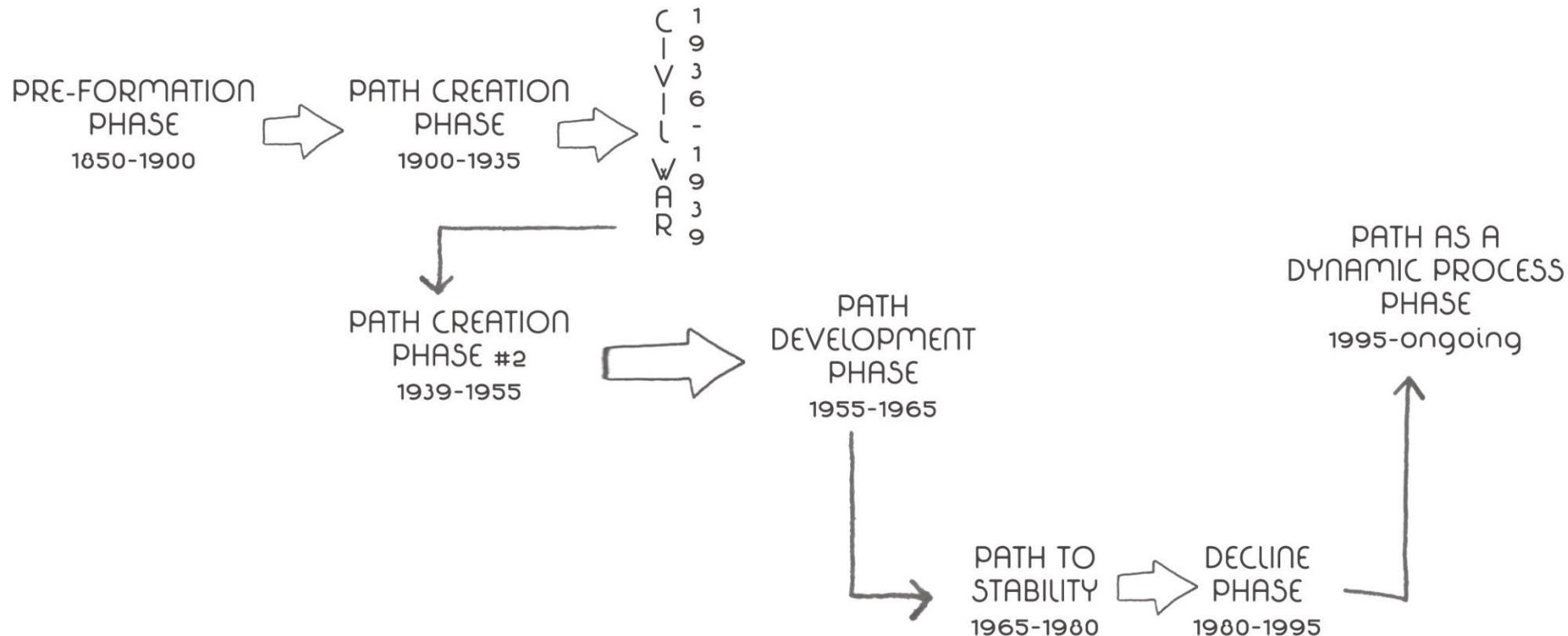


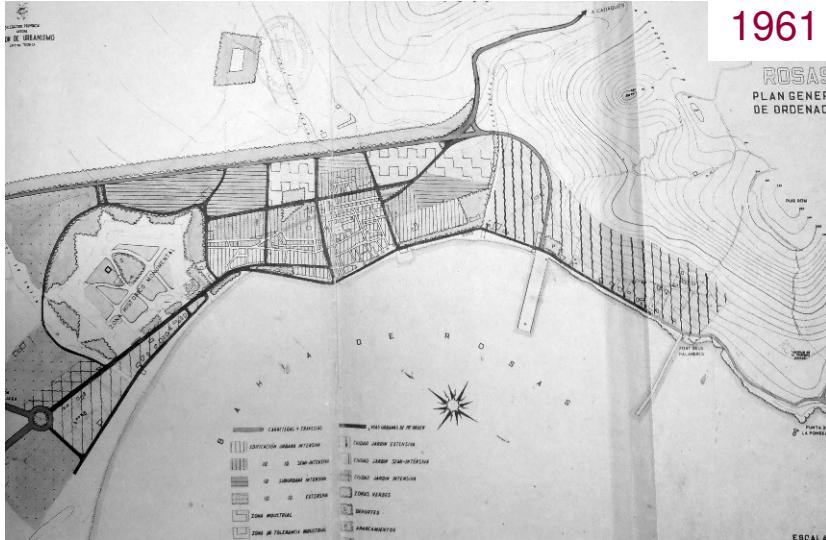
1960



2011

Roses path development model





Conclusion

- Tourism structures are defined during the development phase and are determinant for a destination's evolution, therefore, the context in which this process occurs is important.
- Overdevelopment and an inadequate implementation of tourism have important social impacts, as in the case of Roses, where local inhabitants felt no longer attached to their town due to its rapid transformation.
- Place attachment is not a static value and should be assessed periodically.
- Catalonia's Urbanism Act is a great improvement to engage citizenry in urban planning and decision-making, however, its results have proved to be modest in terms of participation.
- It is necessary to develop tools to gather information from people who do not have an informed opinion.

- This research compares two similar destinations in similar contexts, therefore it is not suitable for generalization.
- This research is focused on urban legislation and tourism, not taking into account other areas that may play a significant role in the development of the tourism industry.
- Further research is needed to create a reliable theory on how these two disciplines interact in different context, for instance:
 - in destinations where the industry started on the supply side
 - In destinations where the maturity stage has not been reached yet
 - In areas of political instability
 - In areas with strong governance policies

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Thank you for your attention!

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