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# CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

## newsletter



Protecting Historical Landscapes to Strengthen Regional Identities and Local Economies  
INTERREG IIIB CADSES Neighbourhood Programme 2000 - 2006

### EDITORIAL

Dear project partners,  
dear friends of Cultural Landscapes,  
our second project year draws to a close.

Looking back at the year events there are several highlights standing out in particular regarding trans-regional knowledge-transfer.

Besides the two international workshops and excursions to Romania and Austria further expert meetings and conferences on special aspects of cultural landscape preservation and development took place and project partners were invited to take part and reported about the experiences within their region.

When we draw balance it can be said that the trans-regional network has grown successfully as a future base for the transfer of experiences and know-how on European level.

But furthermore concrete results of the CULTURAL LANDSCAPE project tasks in the regions were presented to the public as you can read in the **PROJECT ACTIVITIES**.

Dear readers, on behalf of the leadpartner we would like to wish you a happy and successful year 2008.

With best regards,  
Ulrike Jurrack

Typical elements of European Cultural Landscapes, examples from the Middle Saale Valley, Thuringia (DE)



1 vineyards



2 weir



3 castle

### PROJECT CALENDAR

#### Rural Christmas market in Reinstädt, Thuringia, DE

Three times a year more than thousand people find their way to the rural market in the little village Reinstädt which is located in a side valley of the Middle Saale Valley.

The annual Christmas market at the begin of December is particularly popular. This year the visitors had a big choice between arts-and-crafts products and regional food specialities. Under the theme "around the sausage" regional butcher presented high quality products and gave away their secrets what the delicious specialities are made of. Musicians cared about the good atmosphere.

Regional marketing is one of the fundamental approaches to organise these rural markets. To inform, to educate and to rise peoples awareness is part of the concept. These activities are supported by the Heritage Association Thuringia (PP5) as pilot project within the CULTURAL LANDSCAPE project.

#### Project Calendar

**5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2008 Final International Conference CULTURAL LANDSCAPE**  
in Krakow, Poland

**May 2008 Final presentation of the Regional development concept "Middle Saale Valley"**, Regional Planning Association (PP6), surrounding of Jena, Germany



Rural Christmas market in Thuringia, DE

### **Survey - Preservation - Education. Harmonising of cultural landscape cadastres started in Germany**

Against the background of their initiative for a federal standardization and the pooling of cultural landscape cadastres the German Association "Bund für Heimat und Umwelt" (BHU) invited in June 2007 to a workshop in Bergisch-Gladbach, DE. Here the participants presented and discussed different information systems for cultural landscape elements.

Among others the Heritage Association of Thuringia (PP5) introduced their work with the local experts and the "Cultural Landscape Wikipedia" (<http://www.kulturlandschaft.fh-erfurt.de>). This open access data source is being elaborated within the CULTURAL LANDSCAPE project.

Furthermore the KuLaDigNW a digital register of two regional authorities (<http://www.kuladignw.de/KuLaDigNW>) as well as KLEKS, the cultural landscape data bank of the University of Applied Sciences Neubrandenburg ([http://](http://www.kleks-online.de)

[www.kleks-online.de](http://www.kleks-online.de)) were presented as exemplary approaches to survey and register cultural landscapes and their elements.

At the meeting the experts pointed out the necessity to intensify the role of the local experts and required cultural landscape surveys to become more participative processes.

The German Federal Nature Protection Agency introduced types of landscape and guiding principles for landscapes with the intention to find a general basis of terms and definitions in the German cultural landscape research (<http://www.bfn.de/geoinfo/landschaften>).

### **German Heritage Associations co-operate**

All German Heritage Associations which are involved in the cultural landscape subject met in December 2007 in Köln with the intention to start a continually co-operation.

The University of Applied Sciences (PP4) and the Heritage Association Thuringia (PP5) took part and informed about the activities and the results of CULTURAL LANDSCAPE project.



Modern transport versus nature heritage - river Saale, DE

### **"German Forum Cultural Landscape" founded at the 21<sup>st</sup> of Sept. 2007 in Berlin**

"Our cultural landscape needs a strong lobby, because it is the basis of our life quality - as well in urban as in rural areas", says Dr. Herlind Gundelach, president of the initiating "Association Heimat and Environment in Germany" at the founding conference of the "German Forum Cultural Landscape".

Twenty associations and institutions which represent approx. 3,4 million members, came together to this formation event.

The forum is aiming for a better preservation and development of the cultural landscape by combining know-how and energy. Associations and foundations which take responsibility for the subject "cultural landscape" in Germany are invited to participate and to co-operate in the new German network.

### **„Middle Saale Valley“. Regional development concept in process**

At the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2007 the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the advisory council for the regional development concept "Middle Saale Valley - an important cultural landscape in Europe" took place in the town hall of the city of Jena. The concept is commissioned by the Regional Planning Association East-Thuringia (PP6) within the CULTURAL LANDSCAPE project.

Political representatives and regional stakeholders discussed the elaborated guiding principles as well as the proposals for concrete measurements to preserve and develop the cultural landscape of the Middle Saale Valley. The participants were impressed by the interim results presented by Wolfram Stock, the landscape architect.

For more information please see

[www.kulturlandschaft-mittleres-saaletal.de](http://www.kulturlandschaft-mittleres-saaletal.de).



Wolfram Stock is presenting the interim results

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Valley of Lafnitz**

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leading members of the Grazing Association

*About the Grazing Association Ramsar Site  
Valley of Lafnitz*

The river Lafnitz shall become exemplary in Europe. This describes the objective of the ambitious LIFE-Nature-project, which is being realised by the Grazing Association Ramsar Site Valley of Lafnitz in co-operation with regional and Hungarian partners:

The Lafnitz is already known for their high nature quality, because it stayed mostly unregulated. However many crossing structures are still preventing the vital migration of fishes and other water animals.

Nowadays these barriers are modified in a way that allows the fishes to pass. Along the regulated distances the riverbed will be partially rebuilt to create new habitats for plants and animals. Backwaters and feeding brooks are re-connected as it originally used to be.

The meadows in the valley of Lafnitz used to be mown twice a year to make hay. After the second cut cattles were driven onto the meadow to use it once again for grazing.

By doing so the farmers always used to preserve a valuable landscape in a sustainable way and the existence of the "Lafnitz meadows" did never seem to be endangered.

However when the labour-intensive way of using the meadows for additional grazing

stopped, the cattle stayed in the cowshed all-the-year. Cow farming on small family enterprises became unprofitable and was displaced by arable farming. Suddenly the Lafnitz meadows were dispensable and gradually used for corn production. Thus the river - as an irretrievable cultural landscape element - was in danger to disappear for ever.

The Grazing Association Ramsar Site Valley of Lafnitz was founded in 1997 with the intention to revitalise the traditional pasture management. Due to this commitment the meadows of the river banks are used for grazing again nowadays what serves both the flood protection and the public interest.

In 2000 a private entrepreneurship took over this "grown up" project of pasture management. The association however continues its work in the frame of nature protection projects in the valley of the river Lafnitz.

*Tasks and objectives within the project*

- knowledge-transfer on renaturation and re-use of a flood plain as grazing land including features like animal farming, regional direct marketing and the setting-up of eco-tourism,
- hosting an international meeting with excursion and exchange of know-how,
- inputs to the Best Practice compilation "Cultural Landscapes of the CADSES-area".



pasture management in the valley of the river Lafnitz

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