

## The aim of the Project

The Project aims to strengthen the established bilateral links for long term co-operation between University of Agriculture in Kraków (Poland) and Uni Environment (Norway) through scientific knowledge exchange, covering the area of the restoration and protection of waterbodies and landscapes of mountain and highland river valleys. The aim of the project is to discuss instruments concerning the shaping of cultural landscapes of mountain and highland river valleys at the interdisciplinary level. Invited specialists, competent in various disciplines, will present and discuss transformation and conservation of cultural wealth within river valley reaches. Attention will be paid to the possibilities of improvement of water retention capacity, anti-erosion soil protection, land-use change and flood hazard reduction. A further aim of the project is to discuss the conservation possibilities of the cultural landscape of the Raba River valley, between the water reservoir in Dobczyce and Gdów. The knowledge and experience gained by this exchange is of a great importance for participants from Poland, in the light of the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive and European Landscape Convention.

## Cultural Landscape of mountain and highland river valleys

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## Expected outputs

The most important output of the work is to prepare the bases for a near future conservation project of the Raba River valley (between the water reservoir in Dobczyce and Gdów) which will be in line with the cultural landscape holistic philosophy. This is of main importance for the future of the mentioned reach of the Raba River and further it might constitute a scientific and practical knowledge manual on restoration and protection of waterbodies within river valleys.

An immediate project result will be the establishment of a Polish-Norwegian research network on highland and mountain river valley restoration, conservation and planning. During project implementation a monograph will be published and an internet database will be established, both presenting the state of the art, challenges and best management and restoration practices in these fields of cultural landscape research with the special attention in Norway and Poland.

Another important result of the bilateral project will be further scientific development of Norwegian and Polish institutions, including collective preparation of the EU research projects concerning cultural shaping of chosen river valleys in project partners' countries. Partners from relevant international research institutions will be invited to cooperate.