ACADEMIA DANUBIANA

Association for promoting sustainable development and supporting an ecologisation process in the Danube region

Werner Kvarda Institute of Soil Science University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences

Vienna

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Promoting self-reliant and self-organizing communities and multi-functional land-use systems
 Enforcing eco-efficiency to maximize the economic productivity of natural resource use Supporting transdisciplinarity as a new form of learning and problem solving among different parts of society and academia in order to meet complex challenges of society
 Fostering sustainable development and Ecologisation in the Danube region

BRIDGE Lifeline Danube

INTERREG IIC project

- Communication network of cities along the Danube
- Landscape without borders
 - How to develop a multifunctional and integrated land utilisation

Ecological design in the solar age

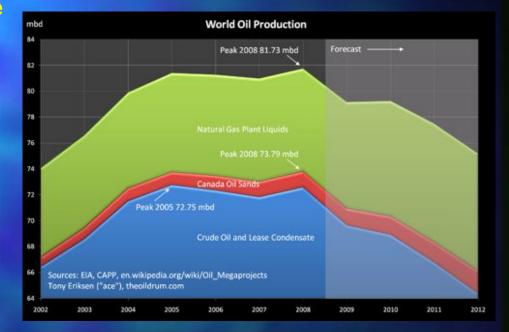
- How to minimize destructive impacts on environment by integrating with living processes
- Access to the river
 - Sustainable cross border traffic
 - Hot spots in the cities Open space concept in Vienna (Hugo Potyka)
 - Bike path-net in the Danube region



CORE PROBLEMS

Peak Oil

- Since the 60s and 70s people became aware of fossil and nuclear disadvantages
- Climate Change
 - We have to decarbonize our economies wholesale
 - Soil and Land Use
 - Space is an asset that is extremely limited
- Solar world economy
 - We have to initiate equal chances for everybody within ecologisation measures



CULTURE OF THE PROJECT

The European dream

Europe has become a giant freewheeling experimental laboratory for rethinking human conditions and reconfiguring human institutions in the global era. (J.Rifkin, 2004)

Sokrates Erasmus Intensive programmes

IP-SOIL Responsible use of soil and land and Spatial Development

Erasmus Academic Network

 ELL-SAT European Lifelong Learning on Solium, Acqua et Terra



SOCIAL FIELD

Transnational and transdisciplinary cooperation

- How trust can be built
- <u>Social phenomena</u> occuring during the process
- Scientific facts are the products of many actions
 Generating a unique kind of social capital
- Generic skills
 - We need generic skills also such as leadership, community engagement, project management, partnership, working and effective communication



ECOLOGISATION

- Condensed to one sentence, ecologisation means shaping our interaction with the environment in an intellectual, material, spatial, social and emotional sense to achieve a lasting sustainable quality of living for all (POSCH, 1997)
 - Regional metabolism
 - Examining the flows of resources. Energy and waste, to the scale of a region

Multifunctional land use

 Means to substitute the zoning principle of physical separation with a mix of patterns



DANUBE THE 'LEARNING REGION'

The learning region concept

- Create awareness among stakeholders in the region for sustainable land use
- Cross border governance
 - Set up of incentives, norms and organisations to coordinate policy



DANUBE STRATEGY

The Academia Danubiana is mentioned in the Danube strategy as an example of a project. "To implement the strategy for soil protection" - Responsible, multifunctional use of land and soil and interlinkages to the regional development, as well as new governance tools and the "learning region" concept would be developed. The project should link to the work already undertaken by the

Academia Danubiana in this field.



PARTNERS

- University of Forestry, Sofia www.elasa.org/bulgaria
- University of Belgrade
- St. Isztvan University, Budapest <u>www.gis.kee.hu</u>
- St. Stephen University, Gödöllö <u>www.ktg.gau.hu</u>
- UNESCO chair Banska Stiavnica http://alpha.tuzvo.sk/unchair
- Slovak Technical University, Bratislava www.svf.stuba.sk
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