



Issue No. 12 – April 2009

1. Introduction

Day trippers

Along the foot path grow white wood anemones, in between the thriving green of celandine with its shiny yellow flowers. In the grass under the apple trees yellow-white primrose on long stems. The small church of Saint George, Svätý Jur, bright white in the sun, with red roof, has tall gothic windows: 13th century. Next to it a wooden bell tower. We continue uphill through impossibly steep vineyards, typical for the Western Carpathian Mountains. Gradually forest starts dominating. Invisible, willow warbler and blackcap fill the transparent woodland on the slopes with sound. We climb whitish limestone rocks and tree roots until I get aware of a wall overhead between the trees, the same raw limestone. An extensive system of fully overgrown low walls is the only remains of the medieval borough Biely Kameň, White Rock. It was ruined thoroughly by the Ottomans in 17th century. Mikulaš tells me that the small town Svätý Jur has been built partly from the stones of the borough. While Moravian, Ottoman, Austrian and Hungarian rulers alternated, peace-loving German colonists have brought viticulture here: its fame reached Poland, Bohemia and beyond. But since the war there are no Germans anymore. The village was renamed Jur. The wine cellars closed.

Meanwhile times have changed. In the main street we descend on our return way, embroidery and pottery is displayed on trestles. Crowds of day trippers taste wines on the street. The wine cellars have been taken in use again. On an inner courtyard against the former city wall an old man presents us proudly his light white wine. His wife brings delicious pancakes with own strawberry jam.



These elderly will not keep up for long amidst the violence of tourist industry, hardly a quarter of an hour from Bratislava. Svätý Jur has become symbolic for new entrepreneurship. I am afraid it will barely help that George may be called Saint George again.

Bas Pedrolí

This is the 12th Newsletter of LANDSCAPE EUROPE, International Network of Expertise on Landscape. More information on LANDSCAPE EUROPE you can find on our website: www.landscape-europe.net. Please feel free to forward the newsletter to other interested people in the wide field of landscape science that seeks to integrate natural, social and economic research. If you do so, please ask them to mail (landscape.europe@wur.nl) their contact information. If you no longer wish to be on our distribution list, inform us as well.

On behalf of LANDSCAPE EUROPE:
Bas Pedrolí (Bas.Pedrolí@wur.nl)
secretary general

Dirk Wascher (Dirk.Wascher@wur.nl)
network coordinator

2. *LANDSCAPE EUROPE* membership

Membership

The following institutes are now members of LANDSCAPE EUROPE:

Full members:

- Alterra Wageningen UR
- Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (CEH)
- Cemagref
- Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO)
- Umweltforschungszentrum Leipzig-Halle (UFZ)
- Joint Research Centre (JRC)
- National Environmental Research Institute (NERI)

Associate members:

- Norwegian Forest and Landscape Institute
- University of Vienna, Institute of Ecology & Conservation Biology, (IECB)
- University Western Hungary (UWH) Institute of Environmental Sciences, Sopron
- University of Bucharest (UNIBUC)
- University of Tallinn (TLU)
- University of Salzburg (Z_GIS)
- Agricultural Economics Research Institute (LEI)
- University of the Aegean
- Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), Department for Habitat Management and Landscape Ecology
- University of Dortmund, Chair of Landscape Ecology and Landscape Planning (LLP)
- Leibniz Institute of Ecological and Regional Development (IOER)
- Charles University of Prague, Dept. of Physical Geography and Geoecology (KU)
- University of Udine, Dep. of Crop and Environmental Science (DISAA)

Executive Board

Current composition of the Executive Board:

- Alterra (NL): Bas Pedroli (secretary general)
- NERI (DK): Pia Frederiksen (treasurer)
- CEH (UK): Paul Scholefield
- UFZ (D): Christoph Görg
- Cemagref (F): Daniel Terrasson
- JRC (int): Maria Luisa Paracchini
- INC (B): Geert de Blust
- TLU (EE): Hannes Palang

Network Co-ordinator is Dirk Wascher (Wageningen, NL)

Website and Forum page

The website of LANDSCAPE EUROPE, www.landscape-europe.net, has updated information on conferences, publications and international vacancies. For more information please contact the webmaster (marion.bogers@wur.nl)

3. Network News

Board Meeting LANDSCAPE EUROPE 25 February 2009, Amsterdam

By Bas Pedrolí

The LANDSCAPE EUROPE board convened in the Beurs van Berlage in Amsterdam on Wednesday 25 February 2009. As the new representative of UFZ Christoph Görg was proposed. Also Cemagref is considering to propose a candidate to succeed Daniel Terrasson who wishes to withdraw because of changed function. It was decided to appoint Prof Marc Antrop as honorary president of LANDSCAPE EUROPE, for a term of two years. Provisions were made accordingly in the Regulations.

Main topic of the meeting was the development of joint project initiatives. It was decided that board members would alternate in taking the lead on specific initiatives, for which a (modest) financial support will be made available from the LANDSCAPE EUROPE budget. Also other network members might call upon this possibility. Pia Frederiksen (NERI) will pioneer this new procedure, possibly organising a workshop on landscape vulnerability, reference frames for landscape indicators, and landscape evaluation of agri-environmental schemes.

The new call of FP7 was discussed, where project opportunities can be expected for LANDSCAPE EUROPE. This is being taken up by the Network Office. Several other network activities were reported on and planned (see also other sections of this newsletter), and the meeting was concluded in very positive and active atmosphere.

New LE member: University of Udine, Department of Crop and Environmental Science

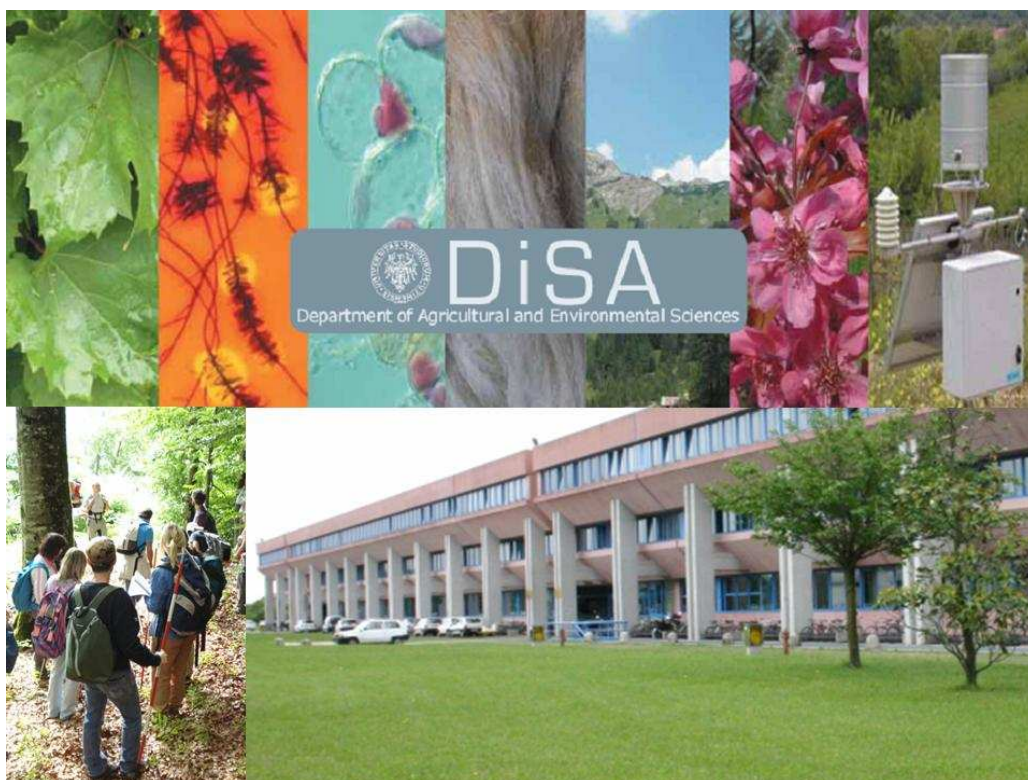
By Maurizia Sigura

The Department of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (DISA) is part of the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Udine (Italy). The department staff amounts to about 120 people (teaching staff, scientists, post-docs, PhD students, visiting scientists, technicians and administration staff). The Department develops its activity in the fields of agronomy, plant sciences, soil science, food and no-food annual crops, horticulture and viticulture, genetics and breeding, land use analysis, remote sensing and GIS application, rural and landscape engineering.

In particular, the research group working in the field of ecology applied to rural and nature management and planning is involved in studies and projects linked to:

- sustainable rural land use;
- effectiveness of Planning Instruments and Programmes and their Evaluation;
- evaluation of effects of agri-environmental measures on landscape and biodiversity;
- applied GIS technologies in landscape assessment and planning;
- participative planning instruments for rural land and protected areas;
- carbon balance of agricultural and forestry ecosystems;
- phyto-remediation and phyto-stabilization.

Our research approaches are interdisciplinary and focussed on landscape function assessment, analysis of trends and dynamics (pressures, drivers) and assessment of impacts of human activities on landscape. Research comprises activities on different spatial scales, ranging from local to national and international level.



Dr. Maurizia Sigura is researcher at the DISA and will be contact person for LANDSCAPE EUROPE (maurizia.sigura@uniud.it). For further information: <http://www.disa.uniud.it>

Honorary President of LANDSCAPE EUROPE: Marc Antrop

By Bas Pedroli

Prof Dr Marc Antrop (University of Ghent, Belgium) is one of the leading landscape researchers in Europe, propagating an explicit holistic landscape approach. Based on a solid geographical background he has developed innovative methodologies for landscape mapping, visualisation and interpretation, using GIS, remote sensing, as well as historical geography and perception. His concept of anchor places of historically recognisable landscape patterns to base landscape planning on, was leading for the Landscape ATLAS of Flanders.

We are very glad that Marc Antrop has agreed to support LANDSCAPE EUROPE with his valuable advice and facilitation.

Latest EUROScape2020 news: EEA visiting Alterra

By Dirk Wascher

After our inspiring Stresa event last year – putting landscape on the European Agenda – (see <http://landscape-europe.net/EuroscapeSeminar.html>), further contacts have been developed with among others the European Environment Agency. This has led to a visit of four staff members of the EEA unit Natural Systems and Vulnerability to Wageningen on 27 March 2009. Aim was to identify areas of potential synergy and to eventually define initiatives towards joint project initiatives. The meeting was opened by LANDSCAPE EUROPE's new honorary president with a solid presentation on visualisation techniques in landscape research, followed by short presentations of EEA topics of interest and a review of the EUROScape2020 process by Dirk Wascher.

It was noted that interest in the spatial dimension of natural resources, including e.g. 'territorial potential', visual tools and leisure is increasing in Europe, and also at the

European Commission. A fruitful dialogue developed between the participants of the meeting, identifying topics for further elaboration. Several actions have jointly been defined to develop the project ideas identified, where expertise of the wider LANDSCAPE EUROPE membership was explicitly included. LANDSCAPE EUROPE members will be kept informed.

European IALE Conference 2009, July 12- 16, 2009, Salzburg (Austria)

The organizing IALE regions Germany, Slovakia and Switzerland as well as Prof. em. Zev Naveh, the Honorary President of the Conference, invite all landscape ecologists, professionals and students interested in landscape ecology to take part in the conference.



The conference is dedicated to 70 years of Landscape Ecology in Europe and focused on “European Landscapes in Transformation - Challenges for Landscape Ecology and Management”.

Three well known keynote speakers of international reputation in landscape ecology will introduce our conference subjects: Dr. Maguelonne Dejeant-Pons, France, Prof. Dr. Almo Farina, Urbino, Italy and Prof. Dr. Thomas Elmquist, Stockholm, Sweden. Lecture series in the form of symposia will be completed through a number of thematic workshops.

Early Bird registration is possible until April 30, 2009.

Conference Field Trips and Post Conference Excursions

Two Conference Field Trips and Post Conference Excursions will be offered by the Organizing Committee and IALE Slovakia:

- 1) Field trip “Urban ecosystems and nature conservation in Linz - European Cultural Capital 2009”
- 2) Field trip “The National Park Berchtesgaden”
- 3) Post-conference Excursion to Slovakia (www.excursion.iale.sk)
- 4) Post-conference Excursion around Austria

Further information is available under: www.iale2009.eu

4. Contributions

New networks linked to the European Landscape Convention: RECEP-ENELC, UNISCAPE and CIVILSCAPE

By Bas Pedroli

The European Landscape Convention, an international treaty developed under the auspices of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, came into force in 2004. At this moment 30 European countries have ratified it, 21 of which are EU member states. To explicitly enhance the implementation of the Landscape Convention at non-governmental level, three networks have been launched in the past two years: **RECEP-ENELC** the Network of Local and Regional Authorities for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, **UNISCAPE** the Network of Universities for the European Landscape Convention, and **CIVILSCAPE** NGOs for the European Landscape Convention. They can be accessed through the internet portal www.eurolandscape.net.

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Bas Pedroli has been strongly engaged in the development of these networks and has accepted the position of Director of UNISCAPE, fostering synergy between LANDSCAPE EUROPE and UNISCAPE. UNISCAPE (uniting presently about 50 universities) concentrates more on the educational aspects and political impact related to the ELC, while LANDSCAPE EUROPE focuses on landscape research and the EU. This synergy has already made it possible to revive and update the www.ATLAS-EU.org website which was developed three years ago, but since then unfortunately remained unmanaged due to lack of resources.

Further, on the initiative of UNISCAPE an active coordination of European landscape MSc programmes is being promoted, focusing on interdisciplinary education in landscape protection, management and planning at postgraduate level in European Universities. Activities in this perspective could well be linked to conferences where LANDSCAPE EUROPE is involved.

New IOER Project on Natura 2000 and rural development in the German-Czech border region Green Network Ore Mountains

Dr. Markus Leibenath

The Leibniz Institute of Ecological and Regional Development (IOER) is lead partner in a new project on transboundary synergies between Natura 2000 sites and rural development in the Ore Mountains, a low mountain range between Saxony and Bohemia. The project is funded by the Saxon-Czech Objective 3 programme (sometimes called INTERREG IVA, although this is inaccurate).



The project aims at identifying and strengthening synergies between nature conservation and rural development with a special focus on the many Natura 2000 sites in the Ore Mountains. The project shall also contribute to improving the local visibility of the Natura 2000 network and to developing new products and services with regard to tourism and environmental education. Furthermore an enduring transboundary cooperation network shall be initiated.

Following a SWOT analysis strategies and detailed concepts shall be prepared in cooperation with local stakeholders. The project runs for three years until the end of 2011 and involves the J.-E.-Purkyne-University Ústí nad Labem and two regional landscape maintenance associations ('Landschaftspflegeverbände') from Saxony as additional partners.

For more information please visit the website: www.ioer.de/index.php?id=762&L=1

Contact: Leibniz Institute of Ecological and Regional Development, Dr. Markus Leibenath, M.Leibenath@ioer.de

The European Green Belt: Border.Wilderness.Future

By Christa Renetzedner

Linz, along with Vilnius, is the 2009 European Capital of Culture and as such is hosting a large variety of events throughout the year. One of them is the “The European Green Belt: Border.Wilderness.Future” exhibition at the Castle Museum in Linz. The exhibition is a joint project by the University of Vienna and the Upper Austria State Museums. Curator is Dr. Thomas Wrбка (University of Vienna). It will open at the same time as the new southern wing of the Castle Museum and will take place from 4 July 2009 to 8 January 2010.



“Yellow Daylily (Hemerocallis lilioasphodelus) – a preciousness of the Green Belt,” Copyright: Thomas Wrбка

“The European Green Belt: Border.Wilderness.Future” presents an international nature conservation project aimed at preserving the diverse landscapes along the former Iron Curtain and sustainably safeguarding their natural and cultural assets. Wilderness regions have been preserved in a strip extending over a length of 12,500 km across Europe as a sanctuary for wild animals such as bears, lynxes and wolves. They are embedded for the most part in variegated cultural landscapes.

Against the background of the cultural and economic aspects of this “involuntary wilderness”, the exhibition will show the biological and cultural diversity from sub-Arctic Lapland and the Baltic coast to the central European low mountain ranges and flood plains to the Black Sea coast and the Bulgarian-Turkish border. Diversity is the keyword, both in the scope of the project and the regions it traverses. The aspects covered range from delicacies of the far north such as reindeer meat and cloudberries to amber on the Baltic coast and the magnificent flora of the Balkan Mountains. Exhibits from the different regions allow visitors to discover the diversity of landscape, culture and natural habitats for themselves. Finally it will consider the possible future development of these border regions in the heart of Europe. An exhibition text book, film screenings and a workshop (in collaboration with the International Association of Landscape Ecology IALE 2009 in Salzburg) will round off the programme.



„Manifold structured landscape in the Stara Planina at the Serbian-Bulgarian Green Belt“ Copyright: Serbisches Naturschutzinstitut

Opening: 4 July 2009

Venue: Schlossmuseum Linz, Tummelplatz 10, 4010 Linz, www.schlossmuseum.at

Contact: thomas.wrbka@univie.ac.at (curator), katharina.zmelik@univie.ac.at (project assistant)

4. Recent Publications

- Fjellstad, W. and W. Dramstad (2008). *Use of Landscape Sciences for the Assessment of Environmental Security*. In: Petrosillo et al. (Eds). *Landscape monitoring as a tool in improving environmental security*. Springer Netherlands, pp. 131-141.
- Helming, K. Sieber, S., Wiggering, H., Wascher, D.M., Tabbush, P., Dilly, O. and Bach, H. (2007). *Sustainability Impact Assessment of Multifunctional Land Use*. In: Starret et al. (Eds). *Environmental Science and Technology 2006 (2)*. Proceedings from the Second International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology, held August 19-22, 2006 in Houston, Texas, USA; American Science Press, pp. 495-500
- Henle, K., Alard, D., Clitherow, J., Cobb, P., Firbank, L., Kull, T., McCracken, D., Moritz, R.F.A., Niemelä, J., Rebane, M., Wascher, D., Watt, A., and Young, J. (2007). *Identifying and managing the conflicts between agriculture and biodiversity conservation in Europe – A review*. *Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment*, 12 p; www.sciencedirect.com (available online).
- Kizos, T. and Th. Terkenli (2007). *Island Lifestyles in the Aegean Islands, Greece: Heaven In Summer, Hell In Winter?* In Palang, H., Sooväli, H., and Printsman A. (Eds.). *Seasonal Landscapes*, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, pp. 127-149.
- Nassauer, J.I. and Wascher, D.M. (2007). *The Globalized Landscape: Rural Landscape Change and Policy in the United States and European Union*. In: Westcoat, J.L. and Jonston, D.M. *Places of Power, Political Economies of Landscape Change*. pp 275-315.
- Palang H., A. Printsman, É. Konkoly Gyuró, M. Urbanc, E. Skowronek & W. Woloszyn (2006). *The Forgotten Rural Landscapes of Central and Eastern Europe*. *Landscape Ecology* 21 (3): 347–357.
- Palang, H., Sooväli, H., Printsman, A. (Eds., 2007). *Seasonal Landscapes*. Berlin: Springer-Verlag.
- Paracchini M.L., J.-E. Petersen, Y. Hoogeveen, C. Bamps, I. Burfield, C. van Swaay (2008). *High Nature Value Farmland in Europe - An estimate of the distribution patterns on the basis of land cover and biodiversity data*, Report EUR 23480 EN. 87 p.
- Pedroli, B. (2008): *Agricoltura e paesaggio: una tipica sfida di innovazione per l'Europa*. *Contesti* 2008 (1): 30-38.
- Pedroli, G.B.M., Th. Van Elsen & J.D. Van Mansvelt (2007): *Values of rural landscapes in Europe. Inspiration or by-product*. *NJAS – Wageningen Journal of Life Sciences* 54 (4): 431-447.
- Pedroli, B., A. van Doorn, G. de Blust, M.L. Paracchini, D. Wascher & F. Bunce (2007). *Europe's Living Landscapes. Essays exploring our identity in the countryside*. KNNV Publishing, Zeist / LANDSCAPE EUROPE, Wageningen.
- Wascher, D. & B. Pedroli (2008): *Blueprint for EUROSCAPE 2020. Reframing the future of the European landscape. – Policy visions and research support*. LANDSCAPE EUROPE, Wageningen. 48 p.

5. Outlook

Landscape - Great Idea!

Date: 29 April - 2 May 2009

Place: Vienna, Austria

Organisers: Institute of Landscape Architecture (ILA)

Further information: <http://x-larch.boku.ac.at/index.php/x-larch/greatidea09>

Sustainable Development 2009

Date: 13-15 May 2009

Place: Cypres

Organisers: Wessex Institute of Technology

Further information: www.wessex.ac.uk/09-conferences/sustainable-development-2009.html

Conference "Sustainable Development a challenge for European Research"

Date: 26–28 May 2009

Place: Brussels

Organisers: European Commission Research DG

Further information: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fmi/scic/09RTD4SD/Start.php>

First European Conference on Local Implementation of the European Landscape Convention

Date: 27 - 30 May 2009

Place: Nove Hradky, South Bohemia, Czech Republic

Organisers: Rozmberk Society

Further information: www.landscapeconventionconference.com

First International Conference on Landscape Economics

Date: 2-4 July 2009

Place: BOKU, Vienna, Austria

Organisers: European Consortium of Landscape Economics, BOKU and the French Cultural institute

Further information: marianne.penker@boku.ac.at

Geoinformatics Forum Conference 2009

Date: 7-10 July, 2009

Place: Salzburg, Austria

Further information: www.gi-forum.org

ENERegion - Summer School 2009 on "Regional Potentials for Renewable Energy Generation"

Date: 29 June- 10 July , 2009

Place: Salzburg, Austria

Further information: <http://www.zgis.at/summerschools>

GISLERS - Summer School 2009 on " Bridging GIS, Landscape Ecology and Remote Sensing "

Date: 3 - 14 July , 2009

Place: Salzburg, Austria

Further information: <http://www.zgis.at/summerschools>

European IALE Conference: European Landscapes in Transformation- Challenges for Landscape Ecology and Management

Date: 12-16 July 2009

Place: Salzburg, Austria

Organisers: IALE

Further information: www.iale2009.eu

ECLAS Conference 2009: Landscape & Ruins

Date: 23 -27 September 2009

Place: Genua, Italy

Organisers: ECLAS

Further information: <mailto:aghersi@arch.unige.it>

Landscape: Theory and Practice

15th International Symposium on Problems of Landscape Ecological Research

Date: 29 September - 2 October 2009

Place: Bratislava, Slovak Republic

Organisers: ILE SAS

Further information: www.uke.sav.sk

Landscape and driving forces Workshops on the European Landscape Convention

Date: 8-9 October 2009

Place: Malmo, Sweden

Organisers: Council of Europe

Further information:

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/conventions/Landscape/Default_en.asp

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