



Vital Landscape Project in Hungary

Valorisation and Sustainable Development of Cultural Landscapes
using Innovative Participation and Visualisation Techniques

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Department of Landscape Planning and Regional Development

Vital Landscape Kick Off Conference
Magdeburg, 2010. 05. 19-21.



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Outline

- About the Corvinus University, Faculty, Department
- Previous Related Projects
- Our Goals and Objectives in Vital Landscape
- Our Partnership in the project
- Tasks in WP1 – Project Management and Coordination
- Tasks in WP2 – Communication, Knowledge management and Dissemination
- Tasks in WP3 – Innovative Participation and Visualization Techniques
- Tasks in WP4 – Exemplary realisation of Pilot projects
- Tasks in WP5 – Generalisation, Education, Exchange of know-how

Corvinus University of Budapest (www.uni-corvinus.hu)

- One of the 7 significant institution in Hungarian higher education.
- The only university where landscape architecture is taught and the largest uni in economic sciences
- Around 8 thousand students and 2 thousand employees
- The traditions go back to one and a half centuries.
- As a result of an integration process in 2000 and in 2003 the Budapest University of Economic Sciences the College of Public Administration and the University of Horticulture and Food Industry became one university.

Main divisions and faculties

Pest Campus

Faculty of Business Administration

Faculty of Economics

Faculty of Social Sciences

Buda Campus

Faculty of Public Administration

Faculty of Food Science

Faculty of Horticultural Science

Faculty of Landscape Architecture



Faculty of Landscape Architecture

Mission: to provide graduate and postgraduate (PhD) studies in landscape architecture.

Students pursue one of the three specialties:

- garden and open space design,
- landscape protection and reclamation
- landscape and regional planning.



School was established in 1853
Faculty established in 1992

- The Faculty's research covers a diverse range of landscape architecture and urban study themes.
- Faculty number 35-40 , and 800 students on two BSc, two MSc and on one PhD program
- It carries out research projects by direct commission as well as through competitions.
- The research topics cover landscape architecture's whole field of interest, ranging from historical research related to works of art to research in land ecology and land shaping history.
- Out of the several specific activities related to research in landscape architecture, it is worth highlighting the Archives of Historical Gardens, which has been developed and improved continuously for more than a decade.
- The application of geographic information system (GIS) tools in landscape planning and landscape assessment, moreover the groups of research (harmonisation, landscape convention) in connection with Hungary's accession to the EU are of similar importance.

Department of Landscape Planning and Regional Development

Mission: to educate landscape architects for planning and development.

The research and **educational infrastructure** includes department laboratories and well equipped computer rooms (with CAD, GIS visualisation softwares).

Due to the interdisciplinary nature of the education **external experts** are also regularly employed for both educational and research & planning activities.

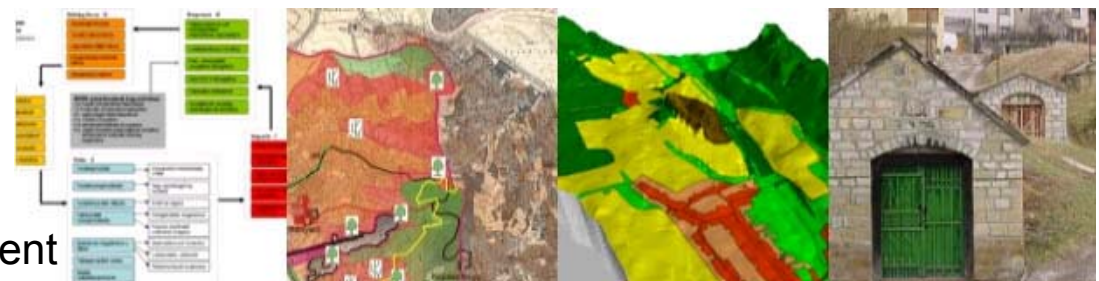
The department carries out various **landscape planning research** and **regional development activities** (Landscape chapter in National Regional Plan, Environmental Impacts Studies, Strategic Environmental Assessments, carrying capacity studies).

Research topics cover the whole spectrum of **landscape planning and geographic information system application**. The department performs a whole range of activities from **touristic** and **recreational** developments to large-scale methodological research in the field of landscape planning and regional development.

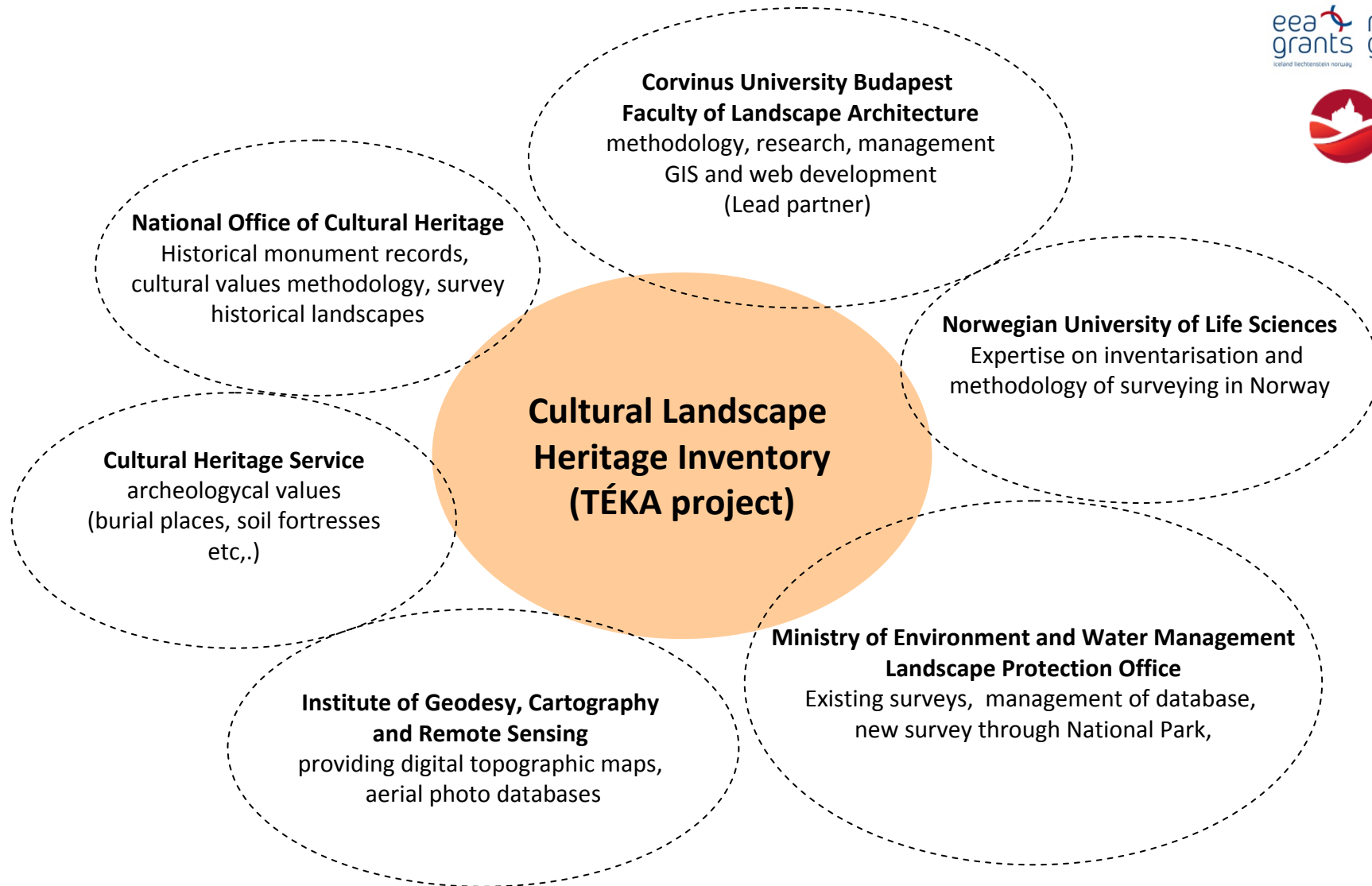
Faculty staff: 1 professor, 2 associate professors, teaching assistants, research assistants 2 administrative person and 2 PhD students,

Research areas of the Department

- Landscape planning
- Cultural landscape inventarisation
- Landscape indicators and landscape metrics
- Sustainability and impact assesement
- Visualistion, GIS, remote sensing



Cultural Landscape Heritage Inventory (TÉKA)...



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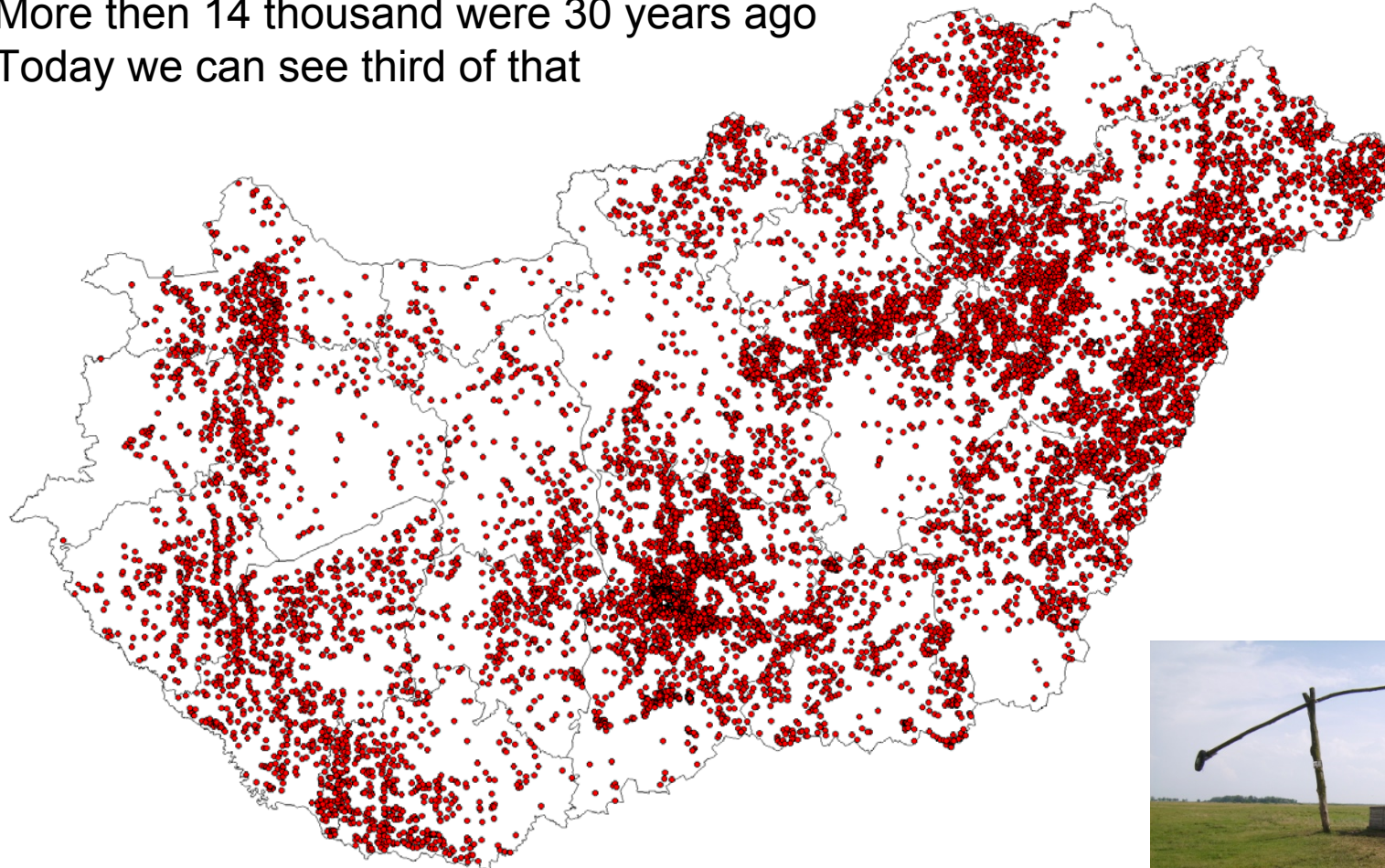
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Examples: Identification of „crane wells” as cultural landscape elements

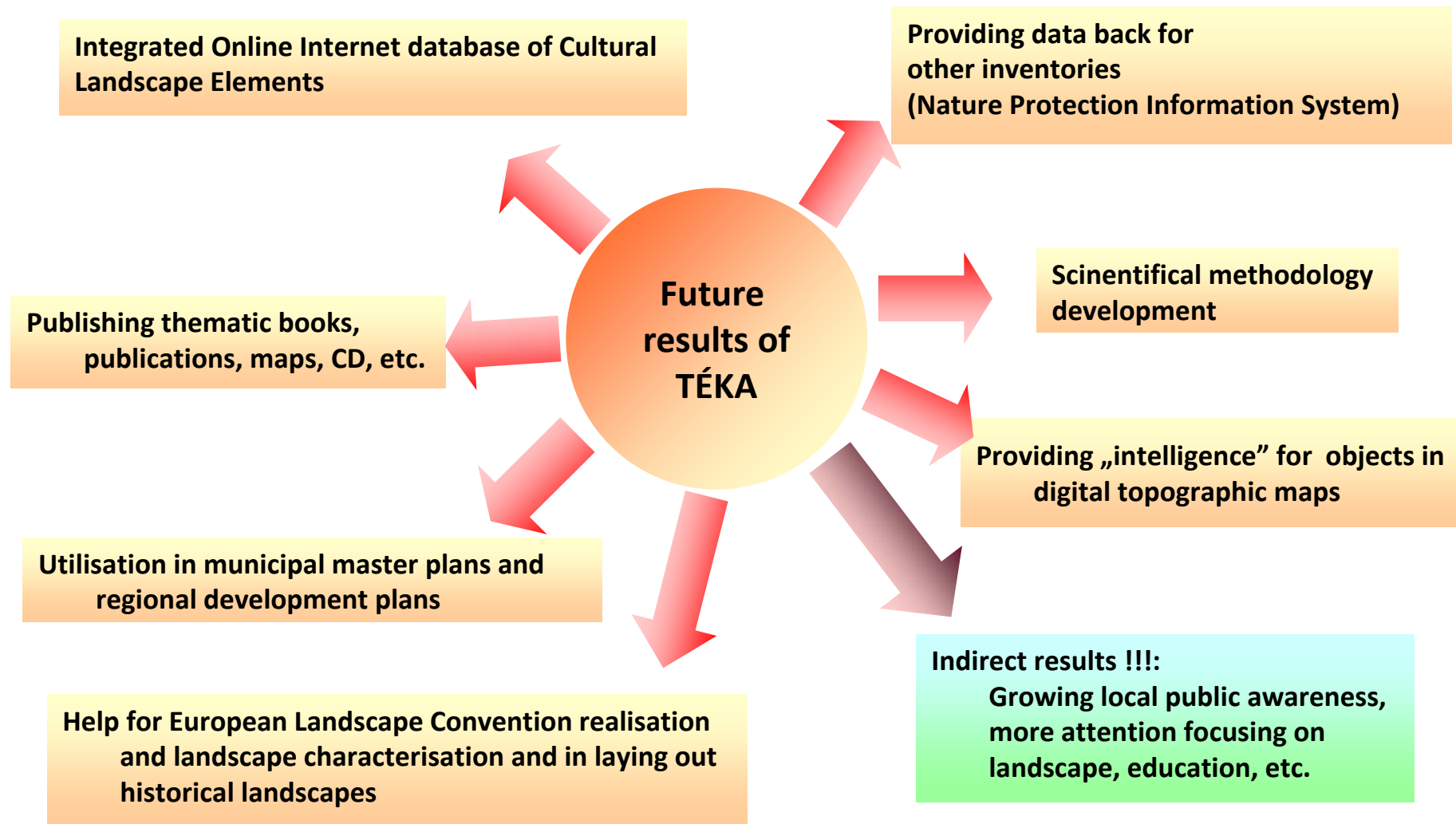
More than 14 thousand were 30 years ago
Today we can see third of that



According to the CAP principles maintaining the crane wells can be supported in Hungary

Cultural Landscape Heritage Inventory (TÉKA)...

Cultural landscape heritage inventarization and mapping in Hungary



Our Aims and Objectives in Vital Landscape project

- To manage, maintain and sustain common **development of vital landscapes in Central Europe**. To **transmit the experiences of** partners to Hungary and our **results** to the partners.
- To develop and apply the best available digital **landscape management techniques and tools** (landscape database, Internet based cadastre, knowledge database, expert systems, visualisation tools etc.) for landscape management.
- To successfully manage the **interactive and iterative process of Nature Park establishment and accreditation in Nagyberek region**, where the **stakeholders** (decision makers, inhabitants, land owners and farmers, landscape planners, tourists, nature protection authority etc.) do express their **interests** and make **trade-off** to find reach their goals in the area.
- To run a Pilot project of **complex landscape management in Nagyberek region** within the aims listed above and according to the facts and objectives as follows:

Objectives of Vital Landscape in Nagyberek region

Pilot project of **complex landscape management in Nagyberek** objectives as follows:

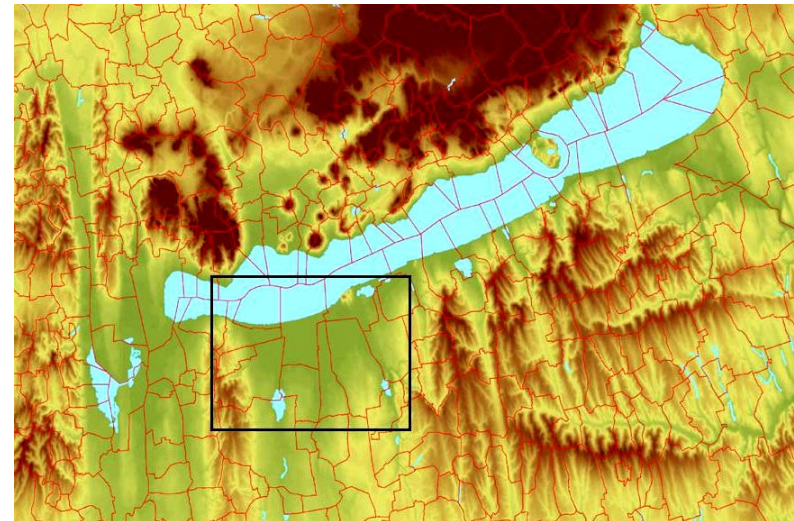
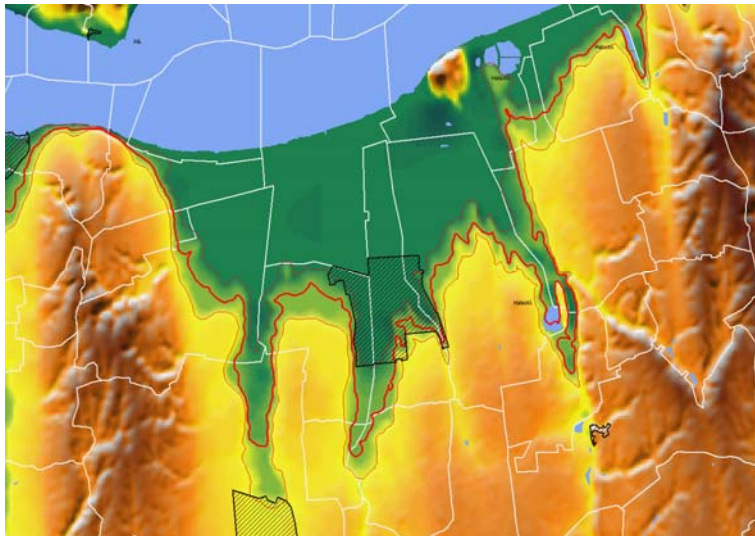
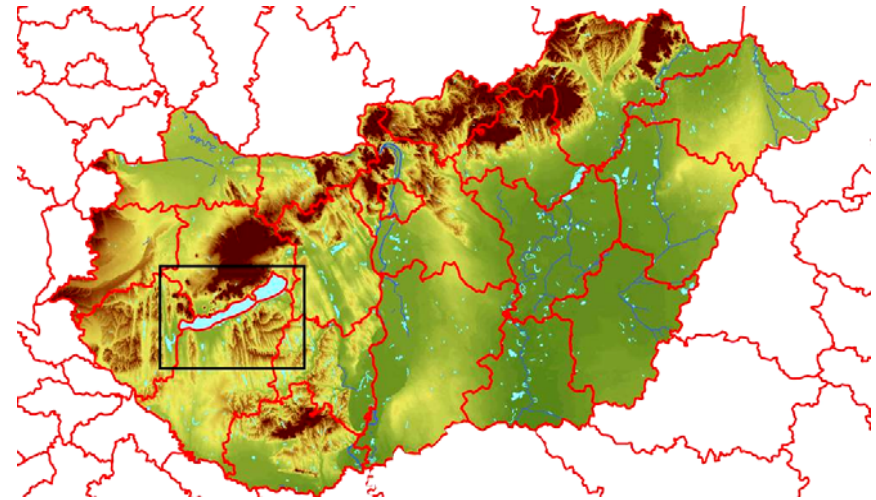
- **Cultural heritage protection:** protection of the local cultural landscape of Nagyberek, assess, save, restore and manage the cultural values.
- **Nature protection:** protection of habitats, species and landscape scenery
- **Environmental protection:** minimisation of the harmful effects (M7 highway)
- **Rural development:** support of socio-economic development, involving local initiatives,
- **Forest management, agronomic and water management:** support of management in agro-environmental schemes, irrigation, traditional, nature friendly management techniques, ecological production.
- **Handicraft:** preservation of local handicraft, embroidery professions
- **Local industry development:** application of environment friendly techniques, development of knowledge based business activities
- **Soft tourism:** support of eco-tourism, environment friendly tourism, recreational tourism, development of touristic infrastructure
- **Regional development:** rehabilitation of villages as living spaces
- **Environmental education**
- **Cooperation:** stakeholder involvements, public participation techniques supporting cooperation for the sake of Nagyberek.

Pilot Project in Nagyberek...

Near the Lake Balaton.

The word „Nagyberek” means ”Large swampy bay”

In spite of almost 200 years of landscape transformation the area still plays an important part in the ecological system of the lake.



Some slides about the region...

Nature2000
swampy areas



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Some slides about the region...



Small scale
vineyards with
traditional
cultivating
techniques and
grape varieties

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Some slides about the region...



Vine cellar with building

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Some slides about the region...



Villages with decreasing, aged population, and with high unemployment rate

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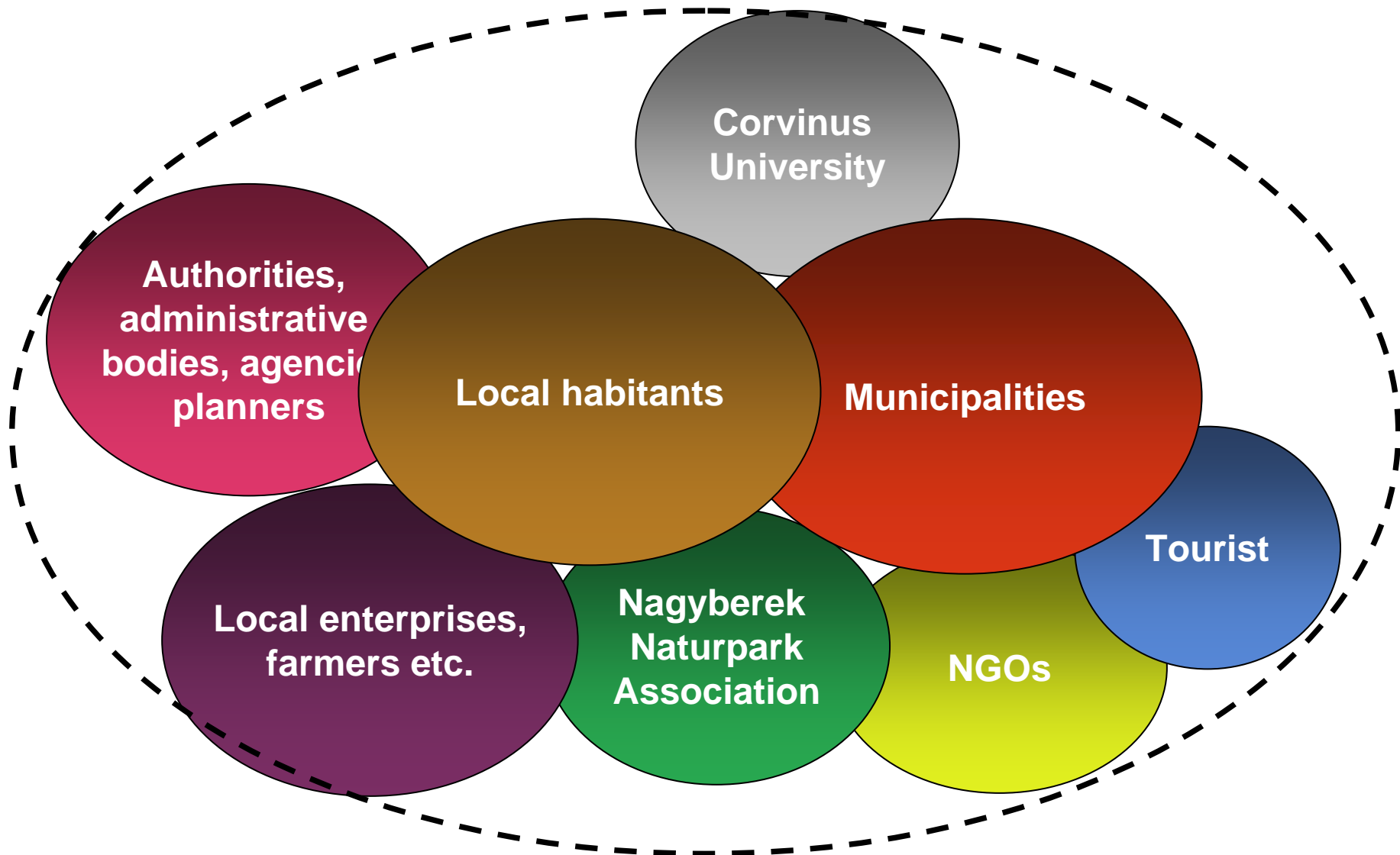


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Most important: partnership building ...



Project Management and Coordination (WP1) ...

- Participation on meetings.
- Preparation of presentations, documentations, reports, certificates.
- Contribution to timetable, workplan, handbook generation.
- Organization of a half-year meeting in Hungary in May 2012

Work already started:

- 1 persons is responsible for the financial and management leadership
- 3 persons share on the regular financial and management administration
- Project financial account is going to be opened in two weeks
- E-mail address (vital_landscapes@uni-corvinus.hu)
- Negotiations about contracts with project management and external experts
- Participation at the opening information day of the national contact point (VÁTI Kht)
- Key actor network establishment started (monthly meetings)
- Local project management CMS website is working



László Kollányi



Sándor Jombach



Gabriella Pusker



Boglárka Alpár

Communication, Knowledge management and Dissemination (WP2)

To communicate and disseminate the project process and results through media and stakeholders.

- Preparation of media contact list and **media database**
- Contribution to web-site and sub-web-site development
- Preparation of newsletters, brochures and catalogues etc.
- Participation on media and public information events
- Organisation of **press releases**, and **TV broadcasts**
- Organization of **press journey** (to the pilot project area – integrative landscape management)

Work already started:

- 1 persons work on communication and 2 on dissemination
- First preparatory meeting of a media event (press release and local TV broadcasts)
- Second preparatory meeting is scheduled to be on the 11th of June locally with stakeholders
- Project opening media event: 25th of June 2010



Boglárka Alpár



László Kollányi



Sándor Jombach

Innovative Participation and Visualization Techniques (WP3)...

Actions:

- Participation in scientific workgroup to prepare the guidance on participatory processes
- Contribution to the joint definition of „landscape quality objectives”
- Collection of good practice and evaluation of previous projects
- Preparation of **e-manual for NGO-s**
- Preparation of **GIS-based Decision Support System, Visualisation tool.**
- Contribution to the preparation of a **summarizing handbook of innovative tools** and of a **final report on best practice** description

Work already started:

- Previous projects (Historic Garden Database, Landmark Inventory) done or finishing in few months
- Database collection (topographic maps, historical maps etc.)
- Visualisation best available software review started
- Expert softwares review



Erős Balázs



József Molnár



László Kollányi



Sándor Jombach

Exemplary realisation of Pilot projects (WP4) ...

Nature Park establishment and complex landscape development process

Actions:

- Participation in trans-national work group
- Pilot project (adaptation of Decision Support System and Visualizations for the Pilot area)
- **Evaluation workshops** for project partners
- Holding **regional workshops**
- Preparation of **best practice handbook**



Balázs Szabó



Zsuzsanna Mikházi

Work already started:

- Meeting with representative of Nagyberek Nature Park Association
- Local stakeholder list start to collect
- Database collection start
- Cultural heritage inventarisation starts
- Base Plan of Nagyberek Nature Park started



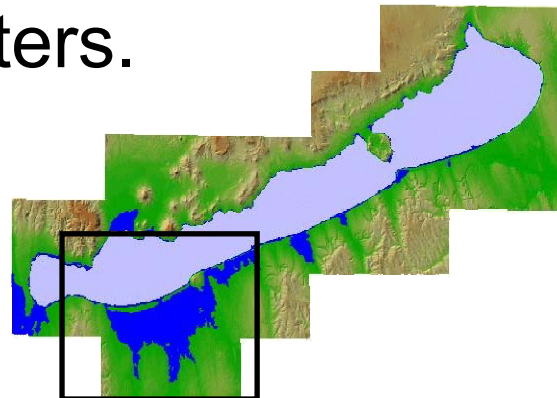
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History of Nagyberek Cultural Landscape

- First half of the **19th century**: **demand** for economic and regional development
- Plans: to drain and **utilize the swamp**, partly implemented.
- Canal Sió: **regulation of Lake Balaton's water level**, result: decrease of the average water depth by two meters.



Channel system

- Channel system was constructed that **drained the water** from the lowlands
- **Pump** lifted the water to the lake.
- Agricultural plans were implemented, the soil and the hydro-geological conditions were **unsuitable for intensive agriculture.**



Extensive management

- Experiment-based management by the State Farm of Balatonnagyberek (2nd half of 20th century)
- More successful: wildlife management, hunting and tourism related to the wildlife (around 1990)
- Worse and worse environmental conditions.
- The channel system, in its bad state of repair, was unable to work according to its original function

Future development?

- Not any Landscape Rehabilitation Plan for Nagyberék yet.
- Some of its territorial units are members of Natura 2000 ecological network.
- Construction of the M7 highway (2006). It crosses and separates Nagyberék into two parts
- No information about the environmental influences affected the landscape and about the additional processes caused by the investment in Nagyberék

Generalisation, Education, Exchange of know-how (WP5) ...

WP5 Actions:

- Establishment of regional stakeholder network.
- Organizing trans-national study tour.
- Preparation of curriculum (training package).
- Pilot region workshop
- Regional final conference
- Preparation final publication

Work already started:

- Internap web-site created for workflow and output utilisation
- Stakeholder list and analysis (regarding inhabitants, NGOs, decision-makers, planners etc.)



Zsolt Szilvácsku



Krisztina Filepné Kovács



László Kollányi



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Thank you!

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