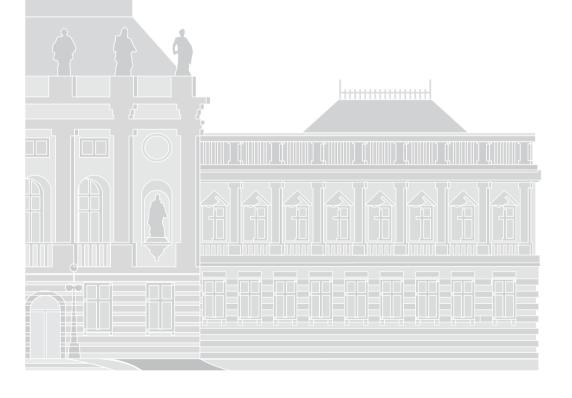


Managing territorial potentials in (post-)industrial landscapes.

Case study Styrian Ironroute (Austria)



Wolfgang Fischer
Jörn Harfst
Spa-**ce**.net
Lednice, Sept. 14th, 2016

(Post-)industrial landscapes are subject of often distinct characteristics and challenges, which demand specific approaches towards the future development of such regions. This following presentation will discuss these features along an Austrian case-study in regard to the management of such landscapes and the creation of new impulses in such regions.

(Post-)Industrial landscapes have been often shaped by long periods of industrial production often linked to resource extraction. The industries have not only shaped the productions sites themselves, but also have had a severe impact on settlement pattern, social infrastructure provisions and the mind-set of people (Wirth, Cernic-Mali, and Fischer 2012).

These patters also persist even when manufacturing cycles change, often entailing an abandonment of sites and or the complete closure of production. That leads on the one hand site to (sometimes extensive) brownfield development and deteriorating infrastructures due to outmigration and population loss, as well on the other site to a "museumification" of former sites of production serving as remnant of a bygone age.

The Institute of Geography at the University of Graz (AUT) has studied these processes in various regions across Europe also within the framework of EU-projects such as READY, ReSource and SHIFT-X. It has worked intensively with other research institutions to identify such potentials, as well as to discuss the framework conditions necessary.

In its latest ERDF funded project 'InduCult' (INTERREG CENTRAL, 2016-2019), it will deepen previous research approaches in order to focus on the use-value of industrial culture for the future development of (post-) industrial regions in central Europe. It thereby addresses the question of territorial potentials, which have been in the focus of European policy making, especially in regions lagging behind in their development (e.g. EU Ministers of Spatial Planning and Territorial Development 2011).

The contribution will focus on the Austrian case-study region of the Styrian Ironroute, a former heavy industry region in the Austria state of Styria. With the change of production patterns, the manufacturing industry has lost its dominant position in the region, leaving behind a specific social and physical landscape marked by industry.

It will be presented what the region has identified as territorial potentials and it intends to valorize them. Different strategic elements in (post-) industrial regions will be highlighted by discussing success factors and challenges in the management of such potentials. These elements include landscape assets, as well as mind-sets and other resources from the region.





SHIFT-X project is implemented through the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme co-financed by the ERDF.

" Industrial heritage, cultural resources of current industries and creative pioneers – utilizing Industrial Culture in Central Europe "

PP1: District of Zwickau/D Lead partner

PP2: Ifl, Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography/D

PP3: Municipality of Leoben/A

PP4: University of Graz/A

PP5: County association of LAGs of Karlovy Vary Region/CZ

PP6: Padova Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Craft and Agriculture/I

PP7: BSC, Business support centre ltd., Kranj/SLO

PP8: Sisak-Moslavina County/HR

PP9: Opolskie Centre for Economy Development /POL

PP10: Stebo Competence Centre Community Development/BE



SHIFT-X project is implemented through the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme co-financed by the ERDF.

With InduCult2.0, we want to revive the cultural spirit of long-standing industrial regions in Central Europe.

Industrial Culture is a young member of the European culture family: It reaches beyond heritage preservation and utilization by including contemporary or upcoming cultural and creative resources. In this sense, Industrial Culture is a dynamic concept interwoven with the ongoing transformations of industrial economy and society.

This cultural approach is especially suitable for regions mono-focussed on industrial production - a spatial type found throughout Central Europe. InduCult2.0 brings together such regions and applies there the outlined concept: The partners utilise the tangible and intangible cultural assets of their industrial past, present and future in a synergetic way for positioning their regions as attractive places for working, living and recreation. Together with local stakeholders, they rediscover and develop the positive elements of industrial communities. Specifically, the partnership intends to:

- promote and establish the idea of Industrial Culture in Central Europe;
- strengthen the distinct culture of industrial regions and utilise it as location factor;
- empower industrial regions by re-activating their pioneer spirit.





SHIFT-X project is implemented through the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme co-financed by the ERDF.







InduCult 2.0 - Scientific Workshop

"Conceptualising Industrial Culture"

10-11 October 2016, University of Graz, Austria

Role and characteristics

The cultural landscape presented is called "Styrian Ironroute".

It is located in the Austrian county of Styria.

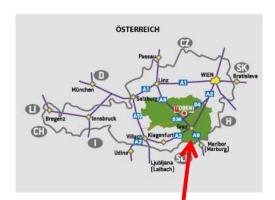
It is a mining and industrial region with long tradition and specific landscape influenced by nature and men made processes.

It is an alpine region and consists of 17 municipalities with app. 50.000 inhabitants.

The region is facing certain serious problems such as depopulation, economic up and downs, etc.

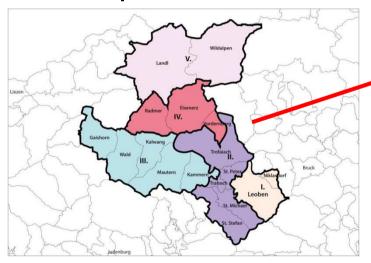
The most important landmark is the Styrian Iron Mountain, beside it is symbolic the "loaf of bread".

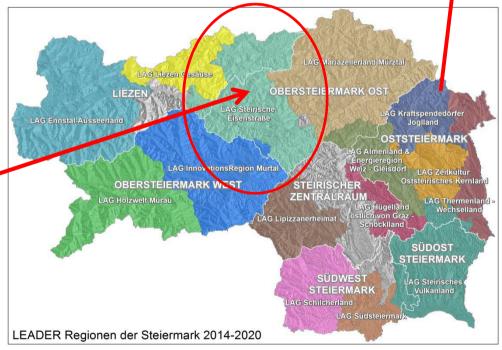




In order to solve such problems on one hand and to be prepared for the future development a

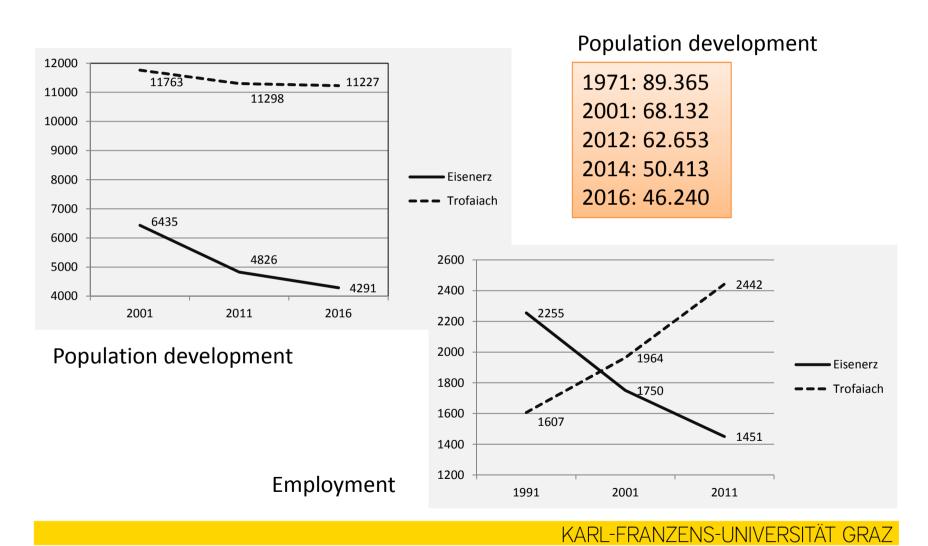
Leader region had been founded by 17 municipalities:







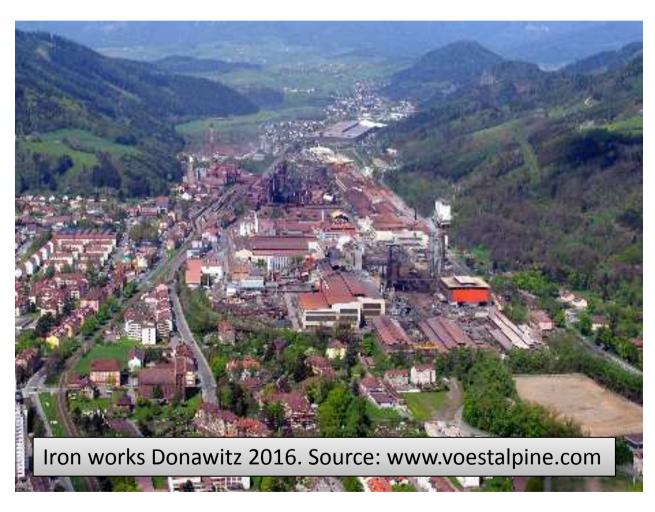
Population and employment



The historical landscape



The recent landscape





















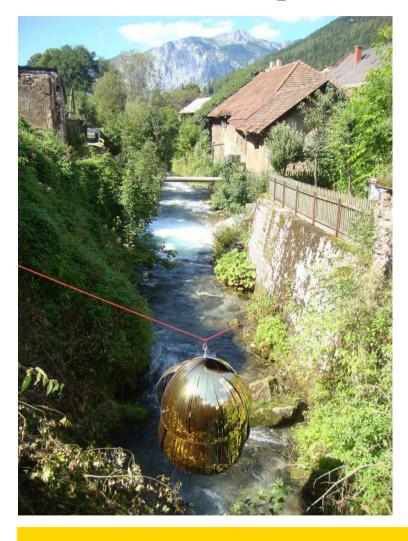














KARL-FRANZENS-UNIVERSITÄT GRAZ



1) Managment tools

- a) National laws and guidelines
- b) County laws and guidelines
- c) Regional development concepts
- d) Smaller regional development concepts
- e) Municipal development concept
- f) Municipal land utulization plans
- g) Municipal building plans
- h) Decission making processes influenced by different stakeholders and interests

2) LAG innovative approaches



3) The role of media



When home becomes cult!

3) The role of media



4) Role of volunteers

AKTIONSTAG

Almputz von der Seckauer Hochalm

Auf sieben steirischen Almen war großer Almputz angesagt – mit vielen freiwilligen Helfern: auf der Seckauer Hochz Hochwechselalm, Pussoralpe, Tyrnaueralm, Brunnkaralm Radmer, Ostereralm und Gumpenalm Großsölk.

















5) Association of museums

Styrian Ironroute has a variety of industrial and mining related heritages along 100 km.

Both iron ore mining and iron industry have a long tradition and are still in operation.

In 2004 the decission was made to link 12 museums along the Ironroute





The Concept

Linkage of very individually grown local museums with very specific themes.

- Goal:
 - Common concept for content, design and organisation.
- Idea behind:
 - Rising the attractiveness of the local museums embedde in a unique landscape
 - the amount of visitors by supporting the general touristic offer.
- Recent situation:
 - Bad marketing because of very low budget and attractivness.
- Important aspects:
 - Development of a marketable concept to increase the amount of visitors,
 - adjustment in regard to content and logistic between the museums involved and
 - efficent bundeling of measures for good communication.
- Synergies in regard to content along a thematic overall concept!

Historical Development



Expansion to 15 partner museums

2004 - 2008:

LEADER⁺ phases I and II.

2005:

List of goals and measures.

2004:

LEADER⁺ project kick-off.

Foundation of a 12 musuems' association.

2003:

Positive LEADER⁺ application assessment.

2001:

Need for action, evaluation of the museums of Styrian Iron Route. Development of a concept for a better success in future. SUCCESS

Theoretical Background

- The joining of the 15 museums to form an association can be equated with a **formation of networks** which can also **be found in companies** quite frequently.
- Likewise, certain phases are run through which, in the ideal case, lead to an **economic success**.
- Here, the concept of cooperation is a central point.
- Which advantages and disadvantages it can entail and the success factors that play a role for the desired goal to be achieved?

In principle, the term cooperation refers to any form of social collaborative work between individuals, groups and institutions (RISSBACHER, 2003; Boettcher, 1974).

The research work is based on human geographical methods, with a strong focus on the fields of economy, geography and social geography, especially on the regional actors related actioning.

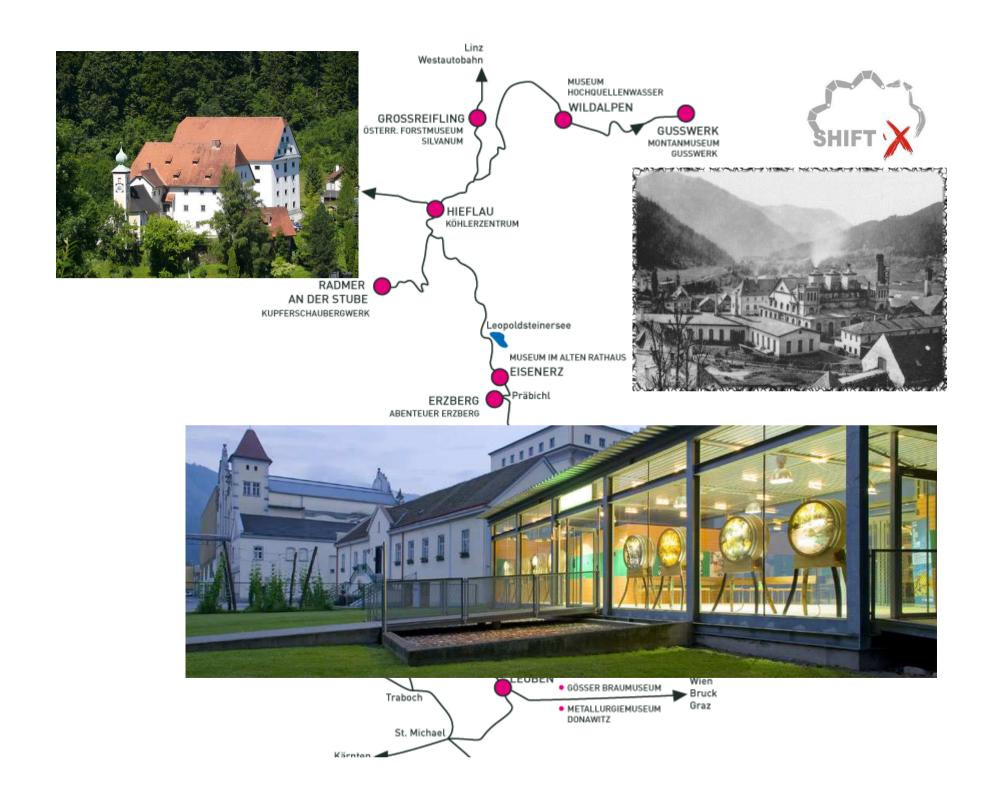
The starting point is the thesis that collective actioning (Mancur Olson, 1982) increases the efficiency in the operative field, such as promotion and marketing.

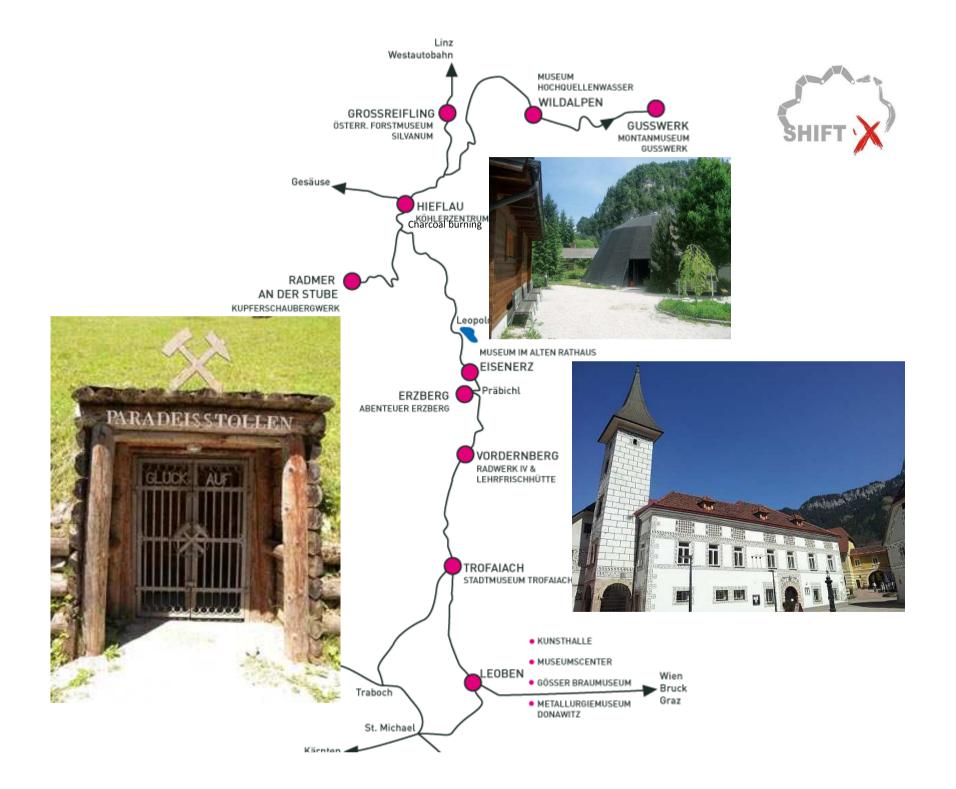
Theoretical Background

Figure 1 provides an overview of the conditions for successful cooperation and its advantages as well as possible disadvantages or difficulties of a network formation:

Conditions	Advantages	Disadvantages and Difficulties
(BECKER ET AL, 2011)	(BECKER ET AL, 2011)	(BMWA, 2003)
- mutual aims and expectations	- greater success of the own business objectives through strategic alliances	- longer / more complicated voting processes
- development of a network-carrying infrastructure	- necessary competencies and resources can be combined (staff and resource pooling)	- no exclusive use of the generated profits
- cooperation agreements, i.e. voting, planning and governance agreements, must be made (KILLICH, 2011, p.21)	- costs can be saved	 loss of motivation of the participants, if the identification with their own company is lost lack of communication
- trust between cooperation partners	- increased competitiveness, which the partners could not achieve on their own	- different interests and goals









Factors for Success

Association of museums

(15 museums)



Good cooperation Crowd-puller

Specialities under one roof

Strong shareholders

Linkage to the Styrian Iron Road

Very competent, enthusiastic CEO

Urgent need for action

Support by politicians

Perfect fundraising

Very good ideas for projects

Common, perfect marketing

Strong networks

Good media

Styrian Iron Road (17 municipalities)

Enthusiastic, competent actors

Success in project realization

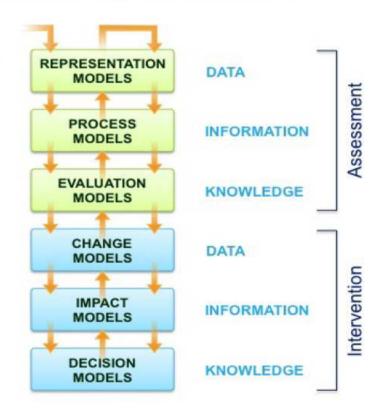
Long mining and industrial history

LEADER region

Management tool GEODESIGN

The geodesign framework - by Carl Steinitz

- 1 How should the landscape be described?
- 2 How does the landscape operate?
- 3 Is the landscape working well?
- 4 How might the landscape be altered?
- 5 What differences might the changes cause?
- 6 Should the landscape be changed?





Thank you very much!