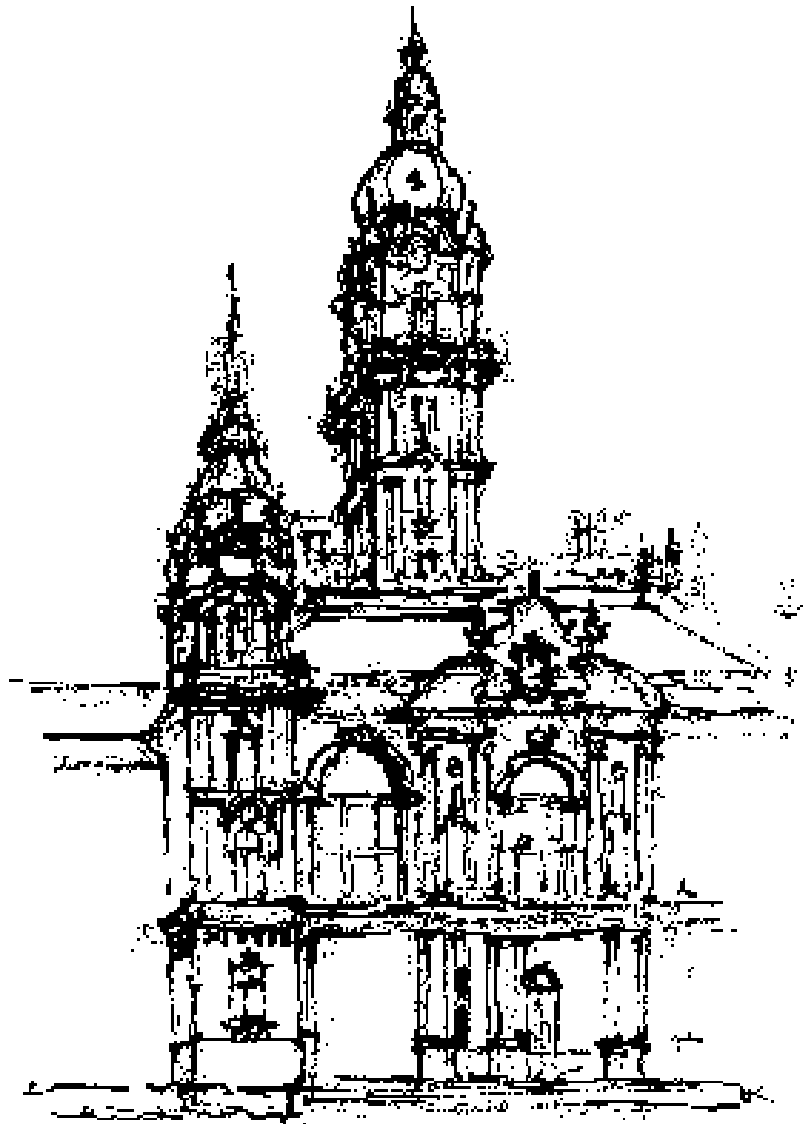


UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES VIENNA

"BRIDGE LIFELINE DANUBE"

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND OPEN SPACE DESIGN
A COMMUNICATION NETWORK OF THE CITIES ALONG THE
DANUBE



FINAL REPORT
ENGLISH VERSION
JULY 2001



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EUROPEAN UNION

FINAL REPORT OF “BRIDGE LIFELINE DANUBE“

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Wien, July 2001

THE PICTURE ON THE FRONT PAGE SHOWS THE TOWN HALL OF GYÖR IN HUNGARY. Drawing: W. Kvarda

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1 BASIC INFORMATION

1.1 INFORMATION ON THE APPLICATION

Acronym of the project: BRIDGE

Title:

LIFELINE DANUBE – Sustainable Development and Open Space Design and a cooperative planning network of cities along the Danube

Area of co-operation:

Major projects of co-operation along the Danube between Deggendorf and Budapest

Working language:

German, English (in several interregional working groups)

Principal partner No 1, name address (legal, financial, technical responsibility):

Legal responsibility:

Mrs. Thilde Lichtenauer-Kranich (till end of 2000) Dr. Maria Schmeiß (since 2001)

Financial and technical responsibility:

Mr. Mag. Markus Seidl (since 2001)

Office of the Upper Austrian Government)

Department for Spatial Planning and co-ordination of the EU-Regional Policy
Annagasse 2, A-4010 Linz

Tel.: 0043 732 7720 4820 e-mail: markus.seidl@ooe.gv.at

Member State of Principal Partner No 1:

Austria

ERDF information

- **Projectnumber:** 99.41
- **Project title:** BRIDGE-Lifeline Danube
- **National and Transnational Project Coordinator:** Office of the Upper Austrian Government), Department for Spatial Planning and co-ordination of the EU-Regional Policy
- Annagasse 2, 4011 Linz, Frau Dr. phil. Thilde Lichtenauer-Kranich (bis 2000) Dr. Maria Schmeiß (since 2001)
- **Project Administrator:** Planning Institute of the city of Linz (LPI) , Altstadt 10, 4020 Linz. SR Dipl.-Ing. Otmar Brunner
- **Projectmanagement:** University of Agricultural Sciences (BOKU) , Institute of open space design and landscape management (IFL) – Department of open space (Freiraum). Peter Jordanstraße 82, 1190 Wien; Univ. Prof. Werner Kvarda
- **Tender:** 15.02.99
Conferring of contract: 06.09.1999
Additional files to the contract: 14.05.99, 20.05.99, 07.07.99, 20.07.99
- **Project budget:** in EURO: ERDF-funds 72.500 PHARE 22.500
PUBLIC FUNDS 80.000 TOTAL: 175.000 EURO
- **Transnational Project partners :** Municipality of the City of Passau and Deggendorf, University Passau, Fachhochschule Deggendorf, City of Bratislava, House of Europe in Bratislava, Ministry of environmental affairs of Slovakia, Municipality of Budapest, Hungarian Academy of Science in

Győr, Budapest Agglomeration Development Council, University of Food Technology – Department of Landscape Planning;

- **National Project partners:** Vienna City Government, Municipal authority for environmental affairs (MA22) and Municipal authority for foreign affairs in Vienna (MD-IB), Surveyors office of the city of Krems and Economic Department from the city of Linz; Municipality of Ottensheim (since April 2000)
- **Project start:** 01.07.1999,
- **End of the project:** 31.07.2001;

ERDF INFORMATION - DEUTSCHLAND

- **Project number:** 99/11/D
- **Tender:** 15.02.1999
- Recommendation in the national committee: 29./30.04.1999
- Recommendation in the transnational committee: 17.06.1999
- Allocation costs of the German partial project: DM 56.719.-
- EFRE-funds: DM 28.359.- (1 EURO = 1,95583 DM)

Financial and technical Management:

Municipality of the City of Passau
City development and Citydesign department
Rathausplatz 2, D-94032 Passau
Frau Bene e-mail: gabriele.bene@passau.de
Tel.: 0049 – 851 – 396- 329

PHARE INFORMATION - UNGARN

- PHARE No: 99/15/H
- PHARE: Start date of contract: 01.01.2000
- PHARE: final date of contract: 11.2000

Financial sources:

Own resources	3.340,00 ECU	29%
Amount of PHARE contribution	6.660,00 ECU	57%
VAT component on PHARE support	1.700,00 ECU	14%
Total	11.700,00 ECU	100%

Financial Management (contact person, address, tel., fax, e-mail): Otto Balogh ,
Ministry of Agriculture and Regional Development – PHARE Regional Development
Programme Management Unit, Budapest, 1016 Gellerthegy u. 30-32 e-mail: ba-logh@pharecbc.hu

Technical Management (contact person, address, tel., fax, e-mail): Richard Ong-
jerth. Institution: Studio Metropolitana Urban Research Centre. H-1052 Budapest,
Varoshaz street 9-11 e-mail: metropolitana@mail.matav.hu

1.2 UPDATED CITY PARTNERSHIP - PARTICIPANTS

Last update: June 2001 Austria

Registration number 99.41/A, 99/11/D, 99/15/H	Acronym BRIDGE LIFELINE DANUBE	Measure A-E A
Project Title: Sustainable Development and Open Space Design in a co-operative planning network of cities along the Danube		
	Institution	Country registration no.
Project partner 1 Projektkoordinator Transnational, national	Amt der oberösterreichischen Landesregierung, Abt. Überörtliche Raumplanung Dr. Thilde Lichtenauer-Kranich bis Dez. 2000, ab 2001 Dr. Markus Seidl A- 4011 Linz Annagasse 2 Tel.: +43 732 7720 4826 e-mail: markus.seidl@ooe.gv.at	A
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Project partner 5	FHS Kunst und Design Linz Prof. Roland Gnaiger - bis Dez. 1999 A-4020 Linz, Hauptplatz 8 Tel. +43 732 7898 240	A
Project partner 6	Stadtgemeinde Krems, MA IV Stadtbauamt Dr. Wolfgang Krejs A-3500 Krems, Stadtgraben 13 Tel: 43 2732 72672 e-mail: w.krejs@online.edvg.co.at	A
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Project partner 8	Magistrat der Stadt Wien, MA 22 - Umwelt und Naturschutz D.I. Gordana Janak, Dipl.-Ing. Bruno Domany A-1010-Wien Ebendorferstraße 4 Tel: +431 4000 88291, e-mail: jan@m22.magwien.gv.at	A
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Project partner 10	TU Wien, Inst. für Verkehrsplanung und Verkehrstechnik Univ. Prof. Dr. Hermann Knoflachner (ab 2000 Thomas Macoun) A-1040 Wien Gußhausstraße 30	A

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Project partner 13	Universität für Bodenkultur, Institut für Freiraumgestaltung und Landschaftspflege Hon. Prof. Arch. Hugo Potyka A-1190 Wien, Peter Jordanstraße 82 e-mail: potyka@edv.1.boku.ac.at	A
Project partner 14	Universität für Bodenkultur Institut für konstruktiven Ingenieurbau Dr. DI., Wilhelm Luggin A-1190 Wien, Peter Jordanstraße 82 Tel.: +43 1 47654 5250	A
Project partner 15	Österreichisches Institut für Raumplanung – ÖIR D.I. Christof Schremmer und D.I. Claudia Doubek (ab 2001) A-1010 Wien Franz Josefs Kai 27 Tel.: +43 1 5338747 e-mail: schremmer@oir.or.at	A
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Implementing organisation	Team of Austrian experts from Vienna and Linz	A

1.3 BRIEF OUTLINE

The BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube project has been running since the summer of 1999 as part of the Community Initiative INTERREG IIC, the Operational Programme for the Central, Adriatic, Danubian and South-Eastern Europe Space (CADSES). The project understands itself as the initial project which is to set off the sustainable development of the Danube region. INTERREG IIC is supposed to support transnational co-operation between those cities from EU member states and neighbouring MOEL states which receive funding from the PHARE-CBC programme.

1.4 THE APPROACH OF THE PROJECT

The approach of the project is based on the goals of the European Spatial Development Concept which pushed forward the need for sustainable development. Its primary aim is to save potential resources for future generations and guarantee a balanced economic and social development. For the Danube region this leads to a perspective for tasks to come which is made up of three integrated aspects:

- a) a polycentrical and rather balanced system of urban regions which tries to avoid an excessive focus on some major centres and the marginalisation of suburbs,
- b) a network of an environment friendly and efficient infrastructure which intensifies the coherence of communal space,
- c) a European Open Space System serving the protection of the natural foundation of life with functionally differentiated nature reserves.¹

In the present final report of the BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube project, this three-part perspective of the European Space Development Concept has also been the basis for our work in the newly established city network. When we were looking for a guideline paying attention to the economic, social and cultural conditions of the Danube region for its future development, these three parameters were always central to our discourse about the sustainable development of regions.

The scientists, planners, students and practitioners co-operating in the **new city partnership** already agreed upon the following two points when the co-operation was finalised:

- a) a deeper discussion of the above mentioned questions is not to be held in the face of the existing legal, organisational and financial framework of our tasks (especially in EU and MOEL states);
- b) only such questions are to be dealt with which presently open up and prepare common ground for a sustainable development in the long term.

It was our higher aim to work out approaches of a model of spatial planning which is geared towards a balance of living conditions without limiting anybody's authority in *Raumordnung* at a national, regional or local level. These goals were already accepted by all project participants when the project application was formulated.²

¹ Bundesministerium für Raumordnung, Bauwesen und Städtebau (ed.) (1995): Grundlage einer Europäischen Raumentwicklungspolitik. Bonn: Selbstverlag der Bundesforschungsanstalt für Landeskunde und Raumordnung.

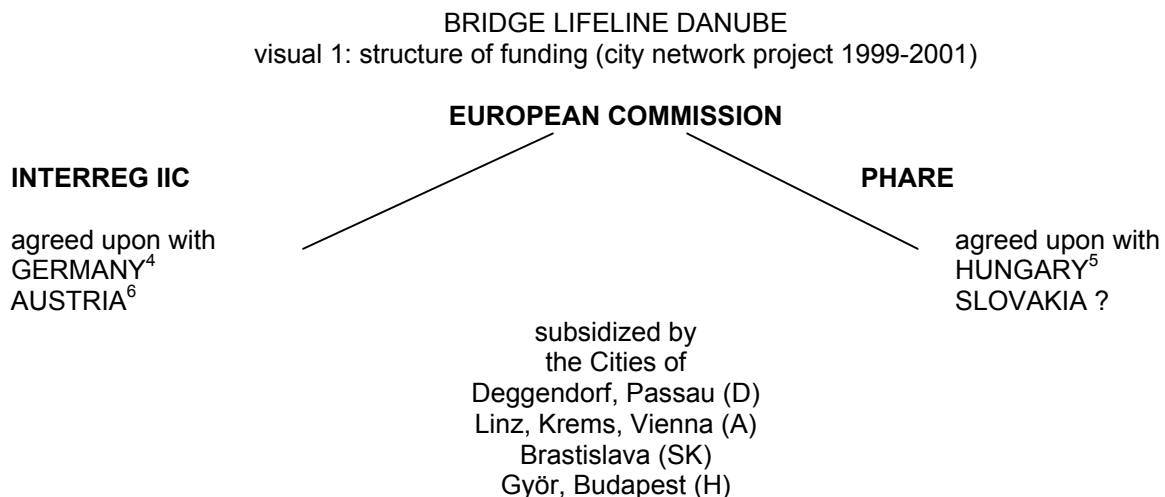
² APPLICATION PART I and PART II

2 THE DYNAMICS OF THE PARTNERSHIP

2.1 THE ORGANISATION OF THE INITIAL PARTNERSHIP

2.1.1 AT AN INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

As the transnational project co-ordinator, the Department of the Upper Austrian state government (co-ordination of EU regional policy) is responsible for the co-ordination of the project implementation between the transnational project partners and the reporting on the transnational project. The IFL is responsible for the realisation and the project management of these ³



The transnational project partners were the city council of Passau and Deggendorf, the Fachhochschule at Deggendorf, the City of Bratislava, the House of Europe in Bratislava, the Slovak Ministry of Environment, The city council of Budapest, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Györ, the Budapest Agglomeration Development Council, and the University of Food Technology in Budapest.

2.1.2 AT A NATIONAL/REGIONAL LEVEL

The LPI has to achieve the results and entrusted the IFL with the project management. The IFL was in charge of the national and transnational project management and co-ordinated the project team (cf. ch. 2.3.2.1.) from the four states represented by the Cities of Passau, Linz, Bratislava and Budapest.

³ Cf. PROJEKTDATENBLATT of the BKA funding contract.

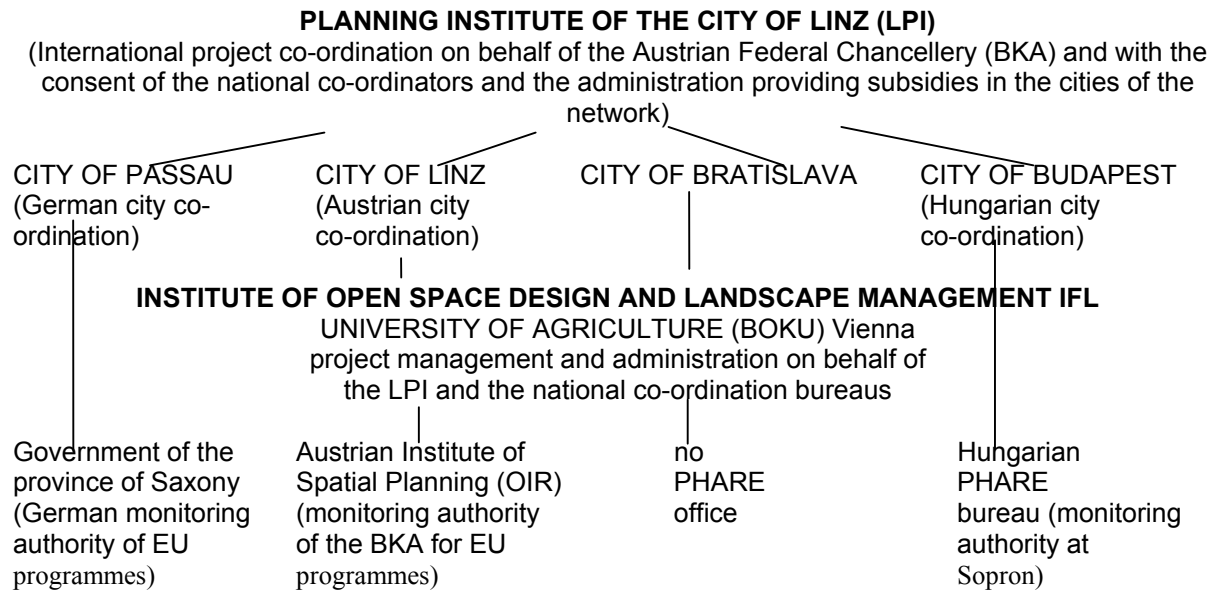
⁴ Sächsisches Staatsministerium des Inneren. Dresden. Institut für ökologische Raumentwicklung. Nationales Programmsekretariat. Weberplatz 1. D-01217 Dresden.

⁵ Ministry of Agriculture and Regional Development. PHARE Regional Development Management Unit. Budapest.

⁶ BKA Abt. IV/4 Vienna. Österreichisches Programmsekretariat for the INTERREG IIC programme CADSES: OIR Vienna.

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visual 2: organisation of the project (city network project 1999-2001)



2.2 THE ORDER OF EVENTS DURING THE PROJECT

The intended activities of our project went off in four stages:

2.2.1 STAGE 1: SCIENTIFIC AND ORGANISATIONAL PREPARATION

- **Set-up of a co-ordination bureau for the management and the preparation of the meetings and research activities**

This project was prepared from February 1999 until the kick-off meeting in October 1999. Contact was established with several participating Danube cities and co-operation agreements were made.⁷ Negotiations with representatives of the City of Regensburg were held twice. The project management was unanimously set up at the Institute of Open Space Design and landscape management of the University of Agricultural Sciences (BOKU) in Vienna. The preparations regarding contents and organisation of the kick-off meeting took place at the IFL in Vienna.

- **Development of a data collection (this aspect was only pursued further with regard to the web site)**

In the course of the scientific preliminary work, intensive talks were held with the project partners in eight Danube cities as from 1998. Questions for our common project were to be found as well as partners from universities and the administration possibly with a broad scientific spectrum of knowledge. The project management eventually won over representatives from the humanities as well as the natural, social and technical sciences to co-operation.

- **Preparation of a kick-off meeting in the form of a ‘future search conference’**

Furthermore, on 9 Aug. 1999 a first talk with the project co-ordinators from the four participating countries (Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary) was held in Linz and

⁷ See PART I and II of the project application.

the project team was constituted.⁸ The form of a "future search conference" was chosen by the project team for this first event (cf. ch. 3.2.).

2.2.2 STAGE 2: ANALYSIS AND DIAGNOSIS (MILESTONE 1 + 2)

- **Holding of a seminar to define the key issues of sustainable development**

In the monastery of UND near Krems on the Danube, the first meeting of the partner cities took place from 4 to 7 Oct. 1999. This kick-off meeting was held in the form of a future search conference (theme: Visions for the Danube region) as it had been developed in the USA by Marvin R. Weisbord⁹ and introduced into the German-speaking world as "Zukunftskonferenz" by Matthias zur Bonsen. This event which should point our way ahead was co-organised by the City of Krems, the IFL and the Planning Department of the City of Linz. Representatives of planning departments, the administration and universities from eight cities and four states participated in that conference.

- **Interpretation of the data and the facts (analysis and diagnosis) and preparation of more questions**

The start-up event of the BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube project was an unusual challenge to win over people to a common vision who are endowed with different interests, modes of working, cultures of enterprise, national characteristics and languages; moreover an efficient network of personal relationships and co-operation could be established.¹⁰

The central principle of the future search conference is to bring the entire open system into one room. This is necessary to get a complete picture in a complex world such as ours. Consequently, a comprehensive view of the system and its surroundings emerges. Since a future search conference is supported by participants from various occupational groups the chance of realising its ideas and goals in the future is increased. Our future search conference in fact intensified co-operation between the cities and has set the course for future co-operation in order to take measures designed to build trust.

Through discourse we could draw visions of a common future, present our ideas and plans and sort out key issues of our co-operation in the BRIDGE project (**analysis**). It is a point in the conference's¹¹ favour that our first ideas have already taken shape in the meantime and that co-operation across various borders has evolved due to the power of its visions and the dedication of its participants.

⁸ Cf. Tagesordnung 9.8.99 Linz.

⁹ Cf. WEISBORD, Marvin R. (1993): Discovering Common Ground. San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler Publishers.

¹⁰ RASCH; Johanna (2000): Brücken schlagen - Netze knüpfen. Zukunftskonferenz als Einstieg in das Projekt BRIDGE. In: Umwelt & Bildung, Heft 2, Wien: Forum Umweltbildung, p. 36.

¹¹ The method of the future search conference is described in more detail in the first Tagungsbericht. BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube. Kick-off Meeting. 4.10.-6.10.1999 in Krems. Schriftenreihe Freiraum. Institut für Freiraumgestaltung und Landschaftspflege. Universität für Bodenkultur. Bd. 19. Wien: BOKU-IFL.

During three days, six groups with diverging interests were discussing their ideas and views and finally arrived at a new level of co-operation.¹² The upcoming challenges for the Danube region were worked out through **mind mapping**. In a "landscape of thoughts", which had been devised together, the participants collected all the relevant themes and arranged them in a clear form. In a second step, these themes were evaluated with the help of stickers (**diagnosis**). This method allows all the participants to quickly gain an overview of the complexity of the issue. Such an overview is an important tool of information and orientation in the process of developing one's opinion and intentions.

As a first result of the future search conference in Krems (**milestone 1**) from 4 to 7 Oct. 1999 - on a scientific and organisational level - attractive project ideas were selected by several interest groups which were worked on in the subsequent months by representatives of universities and the administration.¹³

- **Suggestions of "good practices"**

During the winter term 1999/2000, the co-ordination team¹⁴ was in regular contact with the universities and the city councils. At the Bratislava seminar (**milestone 2**) from 12 to 14 April 2000 (in co-operation with the House of Europe and the Austrian embassy), the aim was to discuss how things stood and to record that state (see 2nd report of meeting).

- exchange and feedback on the status quo of projects
- continuation and specification of our project work in the sub-projects
- clarification of the BRIDGE network as a metaproject and corroboration of its consistency during the remaining course of the project and for the time after the official end of project.

2.2.3 STAGE 3: DEVELOPMENT OF MODELS* PREPARATION AND REALISATION OF A FINAL CONFERENCE

- **Development of best practices**

At the Seminar in Bratislava the project groups with partners from the universities and representatives from the municipalities were working on various best practice models. (cf. ch. 4.2.)

- **Preparation and realisation of a final conference to summarise the project results (milestone 3)**

At this conference, it was our objective to let the individual project groups present the contents and solutions of their work and then, in the course of guided group work, interconnect the various topics of their work with the goals of the conference to become a whole. The point was to present models of "good practices" for each topic. Moreover, it was attempted to structure and revise the experience of present achievements so as to gain a perspective for future developments. This involves coming to agreements for the future which could become part of the new INTERREG

¹² See 1. Tagungsbericht, p. 7.

¹³ Cf. BRIDGE LIFELINE DANUBE. Kick-off Meeting. 4.-6.10.1999 in Krems. Schriftenreihe Freiraum. Institut für Freiraumgestaltung und Landschaftspflege. Universität für Bodenkultur. Band 19. Wien: BOKU-IFL.

¹⁴ Co-ordination talk 4.2.2000

IIIB programme in the course of further co-operation and a continuation of the BRIDGE project.

2.2.4 STAGE 4: POST-PROJECT WORK: ASSESSMENT

- **publication of the results in a final report**

In addition to the final report in front of you, the various sub-projects will be published in a book entitled "Vision for the Danube Region" which will incorporate lectures that were given by representatives of the project groups as well as scientific articles from the participating cities and the project leaders. (cf. ch. 4.3.6.)

2.3 THE STEERING METHODS USED

The partnership was organised on three levels.

- a) The transnational project co-ordination was carried out by the Department of the Upper Austrian state government or the Planning Department of the City of Linz respectively. They were in charge of co-ordinating the project implementation and the reporting between the transnational project partners.
- b) The national project co-ordination was carried out by the city co-ordinators (project team) in the participating countries.
- c) The project management was co-ordinated by the IFL.¹⁵ It was in charge of both the co-operation between the national and the transnational project partners and the organisation of the project together with the universities and the city administrations.

2.3.1 THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The Institute of Open Space Design and Landscape Management (IFL) has accepted the national and transnational project management of the INTERREG IIC project "BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube" according to the agreement of the project team from 9 Aug. 1999 for the treatment of content-related questions.

In the preparation stage of the BRIDGE -Lifeline Danube project, the project leader repeatedly visited the various eight Danube cities from Deggendorf down to Budapest. In the course of the application of the project, co-operation agreements with the political representatives of the cities were signed which were to form the basis of further co-operation between the cities (universities and city councils) and the project head.

The agreement between the Planning Institute of the City of Linz (LPI) and the Institute of Open Space Design and Landscape Management (IFL) covered the following points¹⁶:

- The IFL of the Vienna University of Agricultural Sciences (BOKU) accepts the **project management** for the INTERREG IIC project "BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube" and the achievement of the results specified in the application from 15 Feb. 1999 and those handed in subsequently on 14 May 1999.

¹⁵ Cf. PROJEKTDATENBLATT - Fördervertrag BKA.

¹⁶ AGREEMENT between the Planning Department of the City of Linz (LPI) as the formal recipient of funding and the Institute of Open Space Design and Landscape Management (IFL) at the University of Agricultural Sciences (BOKU) Vienna from 20 Aug. 1999.

- The LPI as the formal recipient of funding provides the IFL at the BOKU Vienna for the **results** mentioned below (cf. PN: 99.41, project form - activities) with the
- necessary **means** without cuts and on time on the arranged dates whenever the IFL requires them.

The results expected from the IFL were

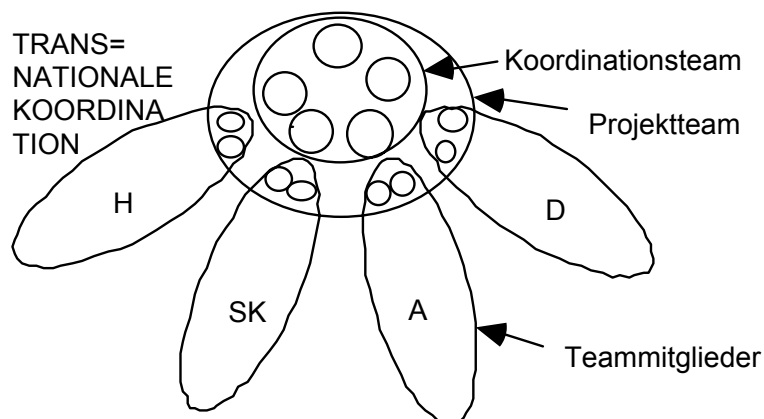
- firstly to design a **project organisation** for the city network,
- secondly to devise a separate plan of the **project structure** (see appendix),
- thirdly to suggest the individual activities ("**work packages**") as promised in the project application.

Moreover, it was the IFL's duty to administer the EFRE budget and the financial contributions of the co-operating cities correctly and then make the respective invoices in the interim reports. Besides, the IFL supported the national and transnational partners in matters of organisation and they balanced the budget for events and external commissions. For the achievement on schedule of the results specified in the project form (PN: 99.41) three interim reports and one final report were written.

2.3.2 THE PROJECT ORGANISATION

2.3.2.1 The areas of responsibility

The diagram below gives a quick overview of the participatory structure of the city network. Transnational co-ordination: co-ordination team, project team, team members.



The **co-ordination team** was mainly responsible for the project management of the financial and organisational handling of the three events as well as for the content-related co-ordination of the project team and the study groups. Prof. Kvarda was the project leader and as such supported and advised by Hugo Potyka, architect. Petra Schwaiger was in charge of the project's finances and organisation till the end of the year 2000, from February 2001 Akos Lantay continued that work. Complex legal areas of responsibility connected with transnational, organisational and financial tasks and problems were dealt with by Hanns Langer.

name	function	institution
KVARDA	project leader	University of Agricultural Sciences (BOKU)
POTYKA	organisation consultant	Hon. Prof. at BOKU
SCHWAIGER	organisation and finances	BOKU student
LANGER	budget and financial controlling; organisation	management consultant

FINAL REPORT OF "BRIDGE LIFELINE DANUBE"

	consultant	
LANTAY A.	finances	BOKU student

After the application had been approved, the co-ordination team prepared, from Vienna, a first meeting of the international project team in Linz in July 1999 (17.07.1999). On 9 Aug. 1999 the project team was set up in Linz and the international co-ordination bureau was established at the LPI. The participants agreed on getting together in a project team on an international level, which accompanied the course of the project as regards contents and organisation. This group was made up of representatives of the cities. The steering of the project together with the representatives of the project team only happened occasionally. Hence great responsibility for dealing with most financial and organisational tasks was placed on the IFL.

The **project team** is made up of representatives of the four countries. The idea was to attract, on the one hand, planners and architects from the departments of city planning and, on the other hand, scientists from the disciplines of space planning, landscape ecology and pedagogy. This concept at the start of a new city network emphasised the need for an intensive dialogue among the experts for the sake of solutions to problems in the major fields of knowledge and research.

name	function	institution
ONGJERTH	representation of cities in H	Studio Metropolitana Budapest
CSEMEZ	representation of universities in H	University of Horticulture and Food Technology, Budapest
BENUSKA	representation SK	House of Europe, Bratislava
BRUNNER	representation of City of Linz	Planning Department of the City of Linz
JANAK	representation of City of Vienna	MA 22 of City of Vienna
KALLMÜNZER	representation of City of Deggendorf	Urban Planning Deggendorf
FREUND	representation of City of Passau	Urban Planning Passau

Project participants: At the kick-off meeting in Krems study groups (teams) from all participating cities were formed which worked on the thematic key issues during the entire project.

STUDY GROUP	REPRESENTATIVES OF CITIES
"Neue Ufer"- "Hot spots" in the cities	Potyka, Benuska, Freund, Kallmünzer, Brunner ¹⁷ , Krejs, Bene ¹⁸ , *(Hutter, Kudelkova, Marek,, Kreuzer)
Hot spot - Deggendorf	Kallmünzer, Busch ¹⁹
Hot spot - Urfahr Market	Doubek, Kvarda (cf. ch. 4.2.1.)
Hot spot -Right bank of the Danube/Vienna	Potyka ²⁰ (cf. ch. 4.2.1.)
Hot spot - Budapest	Csemez ²¹ , Onodi
Bridge over the river March (from 2000)	Kattos ²² , Deffner ²³ , Kvarda
Sustainable agglomeration development	Onodi ²⁴ , Ongjerth, Potyka, *(Kostovsky)
Danube as an ecological corridor	Ruzicka ²⁵ , Csemez ²⁶ , Domany
Cycle path network in the Danube region	Kovacs ²⁷ , *(Achatz)
Culture Boat Ottensheim (from 2000)	Böker, Stockinger ²⁸
LifelineDanube.net	Németh, *(Linder, Kostovsky)
International Danube University	Kvarda ²⁹ , *(Mixa, Zahorcova)
Sustainable traffic development	Macoun, Welzig ³⁰

* People who participated in the team only initially.

Note: The footnotes refer to the respective article in the book "*Visions for the Danube Region*" (cf. ch. 4.3.6.).

¹⁷ BRUNNER: Die Donauufer und die Umnutzung im Gebiet des Winterhafens in Linz.

¹⁸ BENE: Industriebrachen am Passauer Donauufer: Historie und Zukunft alter Häfen in Passau.

¹⁹ BUSCH: Deggendorf und die Donau. Grundgedanken der Stadtentwicklung zur Anbindung Deggendorfs an die Donau.

²⁰ POTYKA: Neue Ufer - Hot Spots in den Städten, Beitrag Wien.

²¹ CSEMEZ: Gestaltung von Greenway-Systemen

²² KATTOS: Brücke bei Schlosshof und Devínska Nová Ves.

²³ DEFFNER: Zwei Entwürfe für eine Fußgänger- und Radfahrerbrücke über die March.

²⁴ ONODI: Donau-Lebensader: Fallstudien über die räumlichen Bezüge für den Donaauraum.

²⁵ RUZICKA: Ecolifeline Danube: The Environmental Corridor of the Danube Catchment Area.

²⁶ CSEMEZ: Raumordnungsplan des geplanten Donaunationalparks.

²⁷ KOVACS: Cycling Roads along the Danube.

²⁸ STOCKINGER: Kulturschiff Ottensheim - Impulse für Orts- und Regionalentwicklung durch Kunst & Kultur.

²⁹ KVARDA: An International Study Programme in Transdisciplinary Management and Sustainable Land Use.

³⁰ MACOUN, WELZIG: Nachhaltige Verkehrsentwicklung im Großraum Wien - Bratislava - Győr.

2.3.2.2 WORK PLAN AND SCHEDULE

Basically, the project management and the project team endeavoured to deliver the tasks and results laid out in the project application on time.

Work plan and deliverables

Project phase	Tasks	Task groups	Deliverables	Date
Stage 1: Scientific and organisational preparation	Installation of coordination team and project team	Coordination team Project team	Introduction of coordination team to all project partners	07/1999
	Development of data collecting method	Coordination team Project team	Data collecting method	07-10/99
	Preparation of Kick off meeting	Coordination team	Preliminary information for participants	09/1999
Stage 2: Analysis and diagnosis	KICK OFF MEETING in Krems (Milestone 1) + Future search conference Accomplishing a meeting to define crucial points of sustainable development + Analysis and Diagnosis of data and formulation of further questions	Coordination team Project partners Experts for moderation + City and university representatives (Students)	Summary of common grounds and subjects to be worked on Report + first interim report and report of the kick-off + University seminar reports	10/1999
	Data collection	City and university representatives (Students)	Comparable Data Set	10-12/99
	+ Development of new project ideas	City and university representatives (Students)	Seminar reports	01-03/00
	Organization of the seminar	Coordination team	Preliminary information on the seminar for all project partners	03/2000
	SEMINAR in Bratislava (Milestone 2)	Coordination team Project partners Keynote speakers	+ Report on exchange of experience and further questions/ideas + second interim report and report of the seminar	04/2000
Stage 3: Development of good practises	Development of new models	Project partners	+ Agreements for the development of sustainable Danube regions	04-07/00
	Transfer of proposals and discussions	Coordination team	+ reports and exchange of experiences	04-12/00
	Organisation of Conference	Coordination team	Preliminary information for project partners	10/2000
	CONFERENCE in GYÖR (Milestone 3)	All project partners Moderationsteam	3. Interim Report and final report	11/2000
Stage 4: Follow up	Completion of final report	Coordination team	Publication of final report	06/2001
	Future network project outlook	All project partners	+ Will be pointed out in the final report + Information on homepage and dialogue via Internet	06-07/2001

2.4 FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES (MONITORING AUTHORITIES)

Funds	where	who
EFRE in Germany	project co-ordination for German Institute of Ecological Spatial Development - Dresden	Ulrich Graute * Inst. d. ökologischen Raumentwicklung. Nationales Programmsekretariat. D-01217, Dresden, Rathausplatz 2
EFRE in Austria	Federal Chancellery or OIR (Vienna) respectively	Ms Matiassek * ÖIR, A-1010 Wien, Franz Josefskai 27
PHARE in Hungary	PHARE Regional Development - Budapest	Mr Csalagovits and Imre Janos * H-1016 Budapest, Gellerthegy u. 30-32
Slovakia	City of Bratislava represented by "Dom Europe"	Dr. Peter Benuska * SK-81101 Bratislava, Biela ut 6

The funding for the Austrian part of the project was administered at the IFL. In accordance with the decision of the project team (9 Aug. 1999) the IFL was in addition entrusted with the task of balancing the national co-financing of the Cities of Passau and Deggendorf. The respective amounts (7.250 EURO each) were paid into the project account of the IFL on 10 Feb. 2000.

The German and Slovak project partners' shares of co-financing of ATS 213,160,30 were considered when balancing the project account. They increased the Austrian budget by ATS **213,160,30** making it rise from ATS **1,596,200.00** to ATS **1,809,360,30**.

The national co-financing of 2.500 EURO by the City of Bratislava was paid through a benefit in kind of 1.500 EURO from the City of Bratislava and 1.000 EURO which were paid into the IFL account. The City of Bratislava did not receive any PHARE funds.

AUSTRIA

types of cost	project budget ATS	In EURO	state 31/07/2001 IN ATS	In EURO
Personalkosten	748.850,00	54.421,00	1.126.826,62	81.889,00
Sachkosten	283.745,00	20.620,00	209.500,51	15225,00
Reisekosten	563.605,00	40.959,00	309.741,52	22.509,79
Sonstiges			163.291,65	11.866,86
Summe Öst. Transnationales Management	1.596.200,00 213.160,30 ** 1.809.360,30	116.000,00	1.809.360,30	131.491,34

* vergl. Brief IFL an OÖ. Ld. Reg. vom 22.06.01

** Kofinanzierungsanteil von Deutschland und der Slowakei

GERMANY

types of cost	project budget In DM	In EURO	state 31.07.2001 In DM	In EURO
Personalkosten			20.000	10.226,00
Sachkosten			1712.-	876,00
Reisekosten			4.000.-	2046,00
Sonstiges *			31.000.-	15852,00
Summe	56.719,00	29.000,00	56.719.-	29.000,00

*Task on Prof. Kvarda's instructions; see letter Bene (City of Passau) 28/06/2001.

The EFRE funds for Germany are 14.500 EURO.

For the Austrian part of the project (58.000 EURO in total from national co-financing and 58.000 EURO from EFRE funds), all project costs which had been calculated for funding were granted except for a sum remaining of approx. ATS 340.000 for work begun or finished during the period from 15 Dec. 2000 to 30 June 2001.

The administration of the PHARE funds in Hungary was dealt with by the funded city partners. The City of Győr financed the establishment of a web site with a part of the funds.

Financial sources:

Own resources	3.340,00 ECU 29%
Amount of PHARE contribution:	6.660,00 ECU 57%
VAT component on PHARE support	1.700,00 ECU 14%
Total:	11.700,00 ECU 100 %

2.5 PUBLIC RELATIONS WORK

In order to have successful media work, it is necessary to analyse contents and planning processes more accurately. For the three events, press reports were prepared to make sure the press coverage would be factual. The media, local TV and local radio were informed of the events. However, in the future it will be important to prepare public relations work in more detail so as to guarantee continuous newspaper/broadcast coverage.

2.6 METHODS OF INFORMATION TRANSFER

2.6.1 THE TECHNIQUE OF MODERATION

The method of moderation helped to co-ordinate the event management of complex group processes. At our three events, the procedure of the presentation had been carefully prepared. This needed choosing the equipment at our venues beforehand and with great care as well as planning the schedule of the events in great detail for all the participants.

It was of importance to present the expectations of the participants and the atmosphere at the first confrontation with an issue attractively and in a comprehensible way. Pin boards for visualisation helped to document the progress of our work continually and hence make it easy to comprehend for everyone. Consequently, all the participants had the chance to express their ideas, opinions, "brainwaves" or critical comments with equal rights and also contribute to the thematic structuring of the goals commonly pursued. Finally, the flip charts which we worked out serve as valuable evidence for the process of having shaped opinions. They were used for reflection and assessment afterwards.

2.6.2 THE TECHNIQUE OF COMMUNICATION

The development of a common communication technique was supposed to foster especially the build-up and extension of networks for the information and communication of a university association and the city co-operation. The goal is to interconnect existing EU projects (VITECC, VISION Planet, ARCADIS, MUNICIPIA) and expandable institutions across the traditional disciplines, branches of industry and departments. The homepage www.lifelinedanube.net was commissioned by the City Plan-

ning Department in Győr and now serves as a basis for further connections of cities and their projects.

What was really innovative in that process was learning from each other. At the final conference in Győr, all the participants were concerned that in the future the city co-operation and the transfer of knowledge would be guaranteed and continued on behalf of experts, civil servants and officials. It was agreed that the project goal of the kick-off meeting - the promotion of networks for the communication of the city co-operation - was to be intensified and supported by installing a common homepage. (cf. ch. 4.2.2.)

2.7 A CRITICAL ACCOUNT OF THE COURSE OF THE PROJECT

The projected course of the BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube project with its three major events went according to plan. However, the project management, the project team and the participating institutions of the cities have gained important insights and made experiences concerning the course of the project due to the structure of funding.

2.7.1 UNCERTAINTY DUE TO THE STRUCTURE OF FUNDING

The project organisation was heavily influenced by the structure of funding. As mentioned above, the interplay of different funding programmes (EFRE and PHARE) and the fact that applications were made separately in the participating countries also had an impact on the project organisation. Applications of the Hungarian and Slovak partners which were handed in too late and were not consistent with each other did not only impede the organisation of events and the integration of programme sequences but they also caused uncertainties regarding their financing and control. Already in Aug. 1999, the project management had to accept the obvious consequences and re-organise the responsibilities for the transnational co-operation in the city network in the LPI-IFL agreement so that the (major) Austrian part of the project remained unhindered. The integration of the Cities of Bratislava, Győr and Budapest was now the task of the LPI whereas the co-operation with the universities in these cities could still be ensured by the IFL:

The separation of the two funding programmes through national co-ordination authorities meant an organisational and financial impediment for the co-operation of the city network but by no means hindered the project leader's actual project work.

2.7.2 THE CONTINUITY OF THE CO-OPERATION

During the course of the project, a few changes took place in the network of universities and the administration: Members of the project team who had still been represented at the kick-off meeting left prematurely - Krems Danube University, Kunstuniversität Linz, Passau University. Such partners leaving at short notice could unfortunately not be replaced for those projects running for a short time only.

On the other hand, new project partners joined us. Due to the initiative of the municipality of Ottensheim, the project "Culture Boat Ottensheim" was a worthwhile incentive (cf. ch. 4.2.3.). In Hungary, the "hot spot-group" around Prof. Attila Csemez won over colleagues from the Gödöllő University (*Spatial Planning on the Local Level* in Gödöllő) for co-operation (cf. ch. 4.2.1.). Colleagues from the Technical University Bratislava (*Institute of Landscape Architecture*) were invited by the Fachhochschule Deggendorf and the BOKU Vienna to take part in the construction and design work for the bridge over the river March (cf. ch. 4.2.3.).

2.7.3 COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION PROBLEMS AMONG THE CITY PARTNERS

We have discovered in the course of the project that in the future more financial means and more time must be provided for the overall planning of finances and time. In our project, diverse ideas of the city partners concerning organisation, deadlines and orientation towards results got together. It turned out that the co-ordination and communication between the project partners would have needed more time than was actually at our disposal. Hence in the future there will be need for more time to make use of intercultural know how. There will be need for special forms of presentation in order to convey the techniques from organisational learning such as team learning and systemic thinking.

The projected co-operation of the cities and universities was to be organised with the help of the modern communication and information instrument of a web site from the beginning to the end of the project. Since the Hungarian city partners in the PHARE programme handed in their application too late and hence the funds could not be provided in time, the project leader had to do without an important instrument of organisation and communication. Traditional tools of information like circular letters, faxes or e-mails had to be employed increasingly.

The meeting of the project team in Ottensheim from 29 to 30 Aug. 2000 aimed at the intensive preparation and co-ordination of the Budapest conference.³¹ Regrettably, the representatives of the MOEL states did not participate in that meeting so that the fixing of the contents and of the conference venue could only take place at a later date. In addition, a further difficulty arose for the project management because the intended venue in Budapest dropped out due to financial reasons. Only at the meeting of the project team on 17 Oct. 2000 did the city administration of Győr agree on organising the conference at short notice in their city (cf. ch. 3.6.).

At the final conference in Győr a **questionnaire** was distributed for giving feedback on the process, the organisation and the contents of the project. The common view was that the BRIDGE project had been a very positive experience with lots of results worth of being continued as the INTERREG III project.

Critical remarks were: goals difficult to grasp at the beginning of the project; too little public relations work; not enough exchange of the results of research; co-ordination too centralised. Demands were: more financial support for joint research; decentralised co-ordination; more co-operation with the universities.

We are looking forward now very positively. A homepage will be realized very soon and finally we will organize a press conference (cf. ch. 4.3.4.)

2.7.4 THE PROJECT STRUCTURE AND MONITORING

The common project monitoring together with the representatives of the project team happened only occasionally. Therefore, the IFL had great responsibility in dealing with most financial and organisational affairs. It must be stated that the project leader

³¹ Mr Busch from Deggendorf, Mr Freund from Passau, Mr Langer from Munich and Mr Brunner from Linz participated in this meeting.

did not charge his work for the project management. The project was carried out mainly through the financial resources of the BOKU and the project leader's engagement.

The thematic concept of the three events (kick-off meeting, seminar and conference) was prepared with representatives of the project team. Experience from different meetings has shown that, despite intensive preparation, again and again delays and misunderstandings arose since often not all country representatives were present. Therefore, it will be essential in the future to make such meetings obligatory and to prepare the minutes for decisive agreements also in the respective language of the country.

The work in the various sub-projects was done to a great extent in the respective countries. More interlinking of cities and universities regarding general questions of sustainable development would have been desirable.

3 INTENDED PROJECT RESULTS

3.1 A COMMON LANGUAGE FOR SPATIAL PLANNING

As the city planners already reported at the kick-off meeting, the planning practice has proven that the traditional static thinking in terms of real vs. intended condition determined by the information medium of the "plan" does not do justice to the complexity of reality. In the course of a traditional planning process, space is regarded static by the individual departments and then attributed to them. By doing so the aspect of ecological sustainability is by and large attached no or too little importance. However, in an ever changing world of diverse value systems, technical methods and political instruments future-oriented spatial planning means working with "dynamic systems".³² This is especially true of spatial planning in the Danube region because here regions which experienced separate economic, social and cultural developments over the past five decades are co-operating and are to develop themselves organically and rather harmoniously.

In order to do justice to these challenges, the project team decided to choose a new planning approach on the basis of two examples.

3.1.1 FUTURE SEARCH CONFERENCE - PLANNING AS LEARNING

Learning as an integral part of planning has become an important area of practice also for managers and is trained in learning laboratories (SENGE 1997:39). The future search conference is an instrument of dialogue, learning, planning and activation with which a relatively large group can plan their common future and doing so achieve unexpected breakthroughs in form of new visions. In future search conferences as many representatives as possible are brought together who focus on a common issue. The participants of the kick-off meeting articulated their problems together as a learning community instead of having an internal or external specialist provide them with a solution. The order consequently stems from initial chaos (cf. ibd.:583).³³

³² Cf. SCHINDEGGER Friedrich (1999): Raum. Planung. Politik. Ein Handbuch zur Raumplanung in Österreich. Wien, Köln, Weimar: Böhlau. p. 170.

³³ Cf. SENGE Peter, M. et al. (1996): Das Fieldbook zur fünften Disziplin. Stuttgart: Klett-Cotta.

3.1.2 THE PLAN IS THE ANSWER – BUT WHAT WAS THE QUESTION?

In the city network not only the cities but also the planning departments and universities in these cities are supposed to be interconnected. For the right bank of the Danube in Vienna, possible improvements of the bank areas, which had been redesigned in recent years, were developed. At the beginning of May 2001, students from Belgrade, Budapest, Bratislava and Vienna devised not only new models of developments but they also developed already existing ideas further. (cf. chapter 4.2.1.).

Their main aim was that the suggestions to be made were not tasks of city planning in traditional sense but tasks and solutions in the sense of sustainable urban development. Drawing up a plan was not in the centre but a different understanding of planning is looked for to develop a better awareness of the problems of present and future questions in order that better decisions can be made.

3.2 FINDING COMMON GROUND

The project management announced to its partners that the project start be a "future search conference". The central aim of the method of a future search conference is, besides planning, to work out common ground for the co-operation of participants from different sectors of society (also see "mind mapping" chapter 2.2.2.).

During the future search conference there was enough place and time to come up with visions of a common future and hatch plans for their realisation - all in all, draw as lively picture for our common process.

Finally, in mixed groups perspectives for the year 2010 were conceived out of the visions for the Danube region³⁴, common goals for the future were defined, and first ideas for solving hitherto unsolvable problems were worked out.³⁵

3.3 ASSESSING THE EFFECTS OF SUSTAINABLE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT ALONG THE DANUBE

In the plenary meeting of the future search conference the themes and ideas which had been worked out were presented. As long as their realisation was agreed on concrete goals were also described. The details of this process of developing one's intentions were worked out in more detail in the report of the Krems conference.³⁶

One point among others is the ecological design of open space along the Danube. The project understands itself as a contribution towards EU regional policy for the co-operation across the borders along internal and external EU borders. It offers already in advance of the project developments the chance to go for a transdisciplinary approach among the local, regional and higher partnerships socio-culturally, economically and technologically.

At this point, inspiring planning tips became apparent for the participants as can be conveyed, on the one hand, in the co-operation of universities and administrations

³⁴ See 1. Tagungsbericht, p. 32-35.

³⁵ See 1. Tagungsbericht, p. 36-40.

³⁶ See 1. Tagungsbericht BRIDGE LIFELINE DANUBE. Kick off Meeting. 4.10.-6.10. 1999 in Krems. Schriftenreihe Freiraum. Institut für Freiraumgestaltung und Landschaftspflege. Universität für Bodenkultur. Band 19. Wien: BOKU-IFL

and, on the other hand, due to the exchange of experience of cities with quite diverse legal and planning systems. It is one of the major insights of the BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube project that despite such differences we established our priorities for sustainable development in a new way because we had exchanged knowledge, insights and experience beforehand. (cf. ch. 4.2.3.)

The real success of the **city network** - noticed by the public as well - begins to emerge only when the co-operating partners manage to

- make the first results accessible to the respective decision-makers who can then start a political process of developing intentions,
- assign the various quasi pilot projects to short-, medium- and long-term goals which had been defined by our commonly devised development programme,
- describe possible and realistic strategies for the implementation of the stages of sustainable development.

For these goals no institutional contact was at the project team's disposal yet on grounds of the present project structure (see visual 1), the elected project organisation (see visual 2), and the concept of co-operation. It remains fairly open whether the leaders of urban development (not all of whom participated in the project team) will succeed in introducing the results into the politically decisive committees and in implementing them with the support of scientific experts within a useful period of time (visuals 1 and 2: see chapter 2.1.).

The implementation of the (rather) short-term and mainly regionally limited pilot projects ("hot spots") should cause few problems in contrast to those projects which need an agreement of more than two or even all partners in such development programmes that cross borders and are centred around complex issues of sustainability, i.e. long-term economic, ecological, social or cultural issues.

The latter also require new committees for preparing the development of political intentions and decision-making and the set-up of an interdisciplinary advice committee which does not only give a professional opinion on the development process but also accompanies it continuously.

3.4 COMMUNICATION WITH NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

Experience from the milestones 1 (future search conference) and 2 (seminar) have shown that human contact and the open exchange of opinions are very significant. Therefore it is understandable that present information technologies have only drawn a limited, fragmentary and even distorted picture of reality. Computers are machines for collecting and storing data but no "learning instruments able to change our perception and interpretation of information" (cf. SENGE 1997:613).

So the city partners also want to establish via Internet an information and communication system. An information technology based on a web site with a geographical information system and a relational data bank are supposed to enable the partner cities to publish the key issues of their work as well as local development schemes. (cf. ch. 4.2.2.)

3.5 ANALYSIS AND DIAGNOSIS OF DATA

A central part of our work at the three events was to obtain, in a preceding process of forming opinions, instructions and proposals for dealing with existing and future projects. We sought for suitable planning approaches for sustainable development in the cities along the Danube on the basis of present spatial planning. While the kick-off meeting aimed at developing visions, the second milestone, the Bratislava seminar, focused on making the individual areas of work concrete. This happened by means of a presented discussion and through establishing priorities (diagnosis) in a plenary meeting of the representatives of the city network. (cf. ch. 2.3.2.2.)

The suggestions of the teams were evaluated by the participants through the allocation of stickers. This made apparent for all participants which issues had outstanding priority in the city network and for which planning projects an optimum solution had to be found quickly. (cf. ch. 2.2.2.)

Another selection of "best practices" for the respective topic was made by diagnosing the various solutions. Different forms of town-planning methods were presented graphically and compared with each other with the help of a list of criteria. This resulted in the fact that mainly for the hot spot-group new approaches for river bank design could be visualised and now also be integrated into the repertoire of other cities. Learning from each other took place in a completely comprehensible process. The diagnosis of town-planning projects is supposed to happen along these lines in the future. In the future, existing open space in the surrounding areas of cities will be re-designed in a participatory process (AGENDA 21) and offered to the groups of society involved for use.

Director Ongjerth (see appendix) and Prof. Csemez from Budapest made fundamental statements on the topics of biocorridors and agglomeration development in additional studies presented in the plenary meeting of the final conference in Győr. The paper of Prof. Csemez will be published in full length in our publication "*Visions for the Danube Region*".

3.6 EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE

The exchange of experience happened continuously in the project work and was afterwards always deepened in the plenary meetings of our three events. In the table below the most important activities of the list printed in chapter 4.1. are once again compiled and summarised.

FINAL REPORT OF “BRIDGE LIFELINE DANUBE“

KT- Koordinationsteam -co-ordination team

PMT - Projektmanagementteam - project management team

PT - Projektteam - project team

WHO	WHEN	WHERE	ACTIVITY
KT	1 July 1999	Vienna	start/preparation
PMT	9 Aug. 1999	Linz	discussion about project management and finances for the BRIDGE project
KT, PMT, PT	4 to 7 Oct. 1999	Krems	kick-off meeting (cf. ch. 2.2.2.)
PT	3 Dec. 1999	Vác	kick-off conference C.H.R.D.C. ³⁷ in Hungary
PT	winter term 99/00	Linz, Vienna	workshops of the hot spot-teams of Vienna, Linz, Bratislava
PT	winter term 99/00	Linz, Bratislava, Deggendorf	student workshops for the project "bridge over the river March" (design workshops") (cf. ch. 4.2.2.)
KT	4 Feb. 2000	Vienna	preparatory discussions about the seminars in Bratislava
PT	16 to 17 March 2000	Krems	open space symposium seminar of the hot spot-team
KT, PMT, PT	12 to 14 April 00	Bratislava	Bratislava seminar (cf. ch. 2.2.3.) presentation of study works in the city hall
PMT	29 Aug. 2000	Ottensheim	preparatory discussion about the conference in Budapest/Győr (cf.ch.2.7.3.)
PT	summer/winter term 2000/01	Budapest	several workshops of the teams "biocorridors" and "agglomeration development" in Hungary (cf. ch. 3.5.)
KT	July to Oct. 2000	Budapest, Győr	preparations for the conference; choosing the venue (cf. ch. 2.7.3.)
KT, PT	17 Oct. 2001	Vienna	Dr. Nemeth suggests Győr as a conference venue
KT, PMT, PT	16 to 18 Nov. 00	Győr	conference (cf. ch. 2.2.4.)
KT, PMT	15 Dec. 2000	Vienna - OIR	discussion about controlling and finishing the BRIDGE project
PMT	19 January 2001	Vienna	preparatory discussion about a meeting in Deggendorf (cf. ch. 5)
PMT	27 to 28 Feb. 01	Deggendorf	meeting of partners for a possible INTERREG IIIB project (cf. ch. 5)
KT	25 April 2001	Győr	discussion with City Planning Council about finishing the web site (cf. ch. 2.6.2.)
PT	7 to 12 May 2001	Vienna	student seminar "hot spots - right bank of the Danube/Vienna" (design workshop) (ch. 4.2.1.)
KT	May, June	Vienna	finalising the project
KT	31 July 2001	Vienna	end of project

³⁷ The kick-off conference of the Hungarian project was held on 3 Dec. 1999 in Vác. The main co-ordinators of the Central Hungarian Region in the BRIDGE-Lifeline Danube project are the Central Hungarian Region Development Council (C.H.R.D.C.) and the Studio Metropolitana Urban Research Centre with two experts in the project: *Attila Csemez* and *Gabor Onodi* from the Szent István University. See doc.Ong.Dez.00 in the appendix.

4 ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

4.1 A COMPARISON OF PLANNED AND COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

During the course of the project, study groups were formed. Most projects were finished by their study groups by the end of the project and are published in the book "*Visions for the Danube Region*".

period	planned activity	completed activity
stage 1 1 July to 3 Oct. 1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> project management scientific and organisational preparation organisation of kick-off meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> set up a coordination office development of data collection preparation of a future search conference
stage 2 4 Oct. 1999 to 11 April 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KICK-OFF MEETING in KREMS (milestone 1) + interpretation of data and facts (analysis and diagnosis) + information transfer + first interim report + preparation of seminar • SEMINAR in BRATISLAVA (milestone 2) + second interim report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of data collection + future search method + interpretation of the datas and the facts mind mapping (evaluation) • PROJECTS/study groups + hot spots" - New River Banks + Home page "Lifelinedanube" + Danube cycle path * + International Danube University * + sustainable agglomeration development + sustainbale traffic development + ecological corridor + first report of the kick-off meeting + preparation of a seminar + second report of the seminar
stage 3 Development of models 'good practices' 12 April to 18 Nov. 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> development of models preparation of the conference • CONFERENCE in GYÖR (milestone 3) + third interim report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + exchange and feedback of the projects + development of good practices • PROJECTS / study groups + "hot spots" - New River Banks + Home page "Lifelinedanube" Danube + sustainable agglomeration development + sustainable traffic development + ecological corridor + bridge over the river March** + Culture Boat Ottensheim** • MODELS for the future + ecocorridor Danube + studying on the Danube + "umbrella" project (Metaproject) + ecologisation of the Danube region • CHARTER BRIDGE-Lifeline Danube
stage 4 final 19 Nov. 2000 to 31 July 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> final report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + book "Visions for the Danube Region" + final report + Student project "hot spots" – New River Banks in Vienna + Exhibition "hot spots", IFL-BOKU + Web site www.lifelinedanube.net + Press conference 20/08/2001

*Sub-project was not continued.

**New topics for the study groups after the kick-off meeting.

4.1.1 A KICK-OFF MEETING FOR PLANNING A PROJECT PROGRAMME (MILESTONE 1)

At the future search conference in Krems one of the main activities was to find **common ground** for all participating in the network (cf. ch. 3.2.). Through guided group work, common visions and activities could be worked out for our next steps - forming the future of the Danube region.³⁸ In the following process-like procedure, topics were suggested with the help of **mind maps**, (cf. ch. 2.2.2.) then evaluated and later topic-oriented study groups were formed, which was the central objective of our Krems kick-off meeting.

The following study groups were formed in order to build up a network between planners and introduce new information technologies:

- The establishment of a **homepage** was suggested in order to promote the build-up and extension of networks for information and communication of the city co-operation and the university association.
- Passau suggested an **International Danube University** in order to gain an overview of the programmes of study on offer at Danube universities now. A first step into this direction were the activities of the universities of Bratislava, Vienna and Deggendorf in the project "Bridge over the river March".
- On the topic of **sustainable agglomeration development** a workshop around Richard Ongjerth was set up aiming at the development of a landscape concept for the Danube municipalities of the Budapest Agglomeration.³⁹
- The topic of **sustainable traffic development** Vienna - Bratislava - Győr was worked on by Thomas Macoun and later Florian Welzig; it aims at examining alternative traffic concepts in connection with adapted agglomeration developments and green corridors.
- The examination of open space along the Danube (Neue Ufer - **hot spots**) started in Krems and turned out to become one of the most intensive workshops during the BRIDGE project. The three sub-groups - Vienna (Handelskai), Linz (Urfahr Market) and Budapest - have already worked out planning suggestions and concepts.
- For the topic of sustainable development, the study group "**Biocorridor**" was formed.

4.1.2 SEMINAR FOR AN INFORMATION EXCHANGE (MILESTONE 2)

In Bratislava, the various study groups already presented concrete examples and results; analyses of landscape spaces, open space designs, cycle paths along the Danube etc. were presented and discussed in detail in a plenary meeting. Some projects were singled out for further treatment and tested as to their usability. A major activity was the presentation of the results of "Bridge over the river March" to a broad public in the Bratislava town hall. Finally, all the participants expressed the wish to establish BRIDGE as a **meta-project** to promote the ecologisation of the Danube region in the sense of an exchange of experiences of sustainable development.

³⁸ Cf. 1. Tagungsbericht, p. 32-35.

³⁹ cf. PHARE documents from BUDAPEST. cf. Annexa.doc. see appendix

4.1.3 FINAL CONFERENCE ON THE INITIAL BRIDGE PROJECT

In Győr, all the study groups presented their sub-projects, which are now being published in revised form in a separate publication. (cf. ch. 4.3.6.)

4.2 WHAT ARE THE RESULTS? WHAT HAVE THE CITIES GAINED?

At the beginning of the Győr conference, the work of the various project teams was presented. Each sub-project proved to correlate with one of the main goals of the project application and they are now being compiled in a separate publication.

MAIN GOALS PROJECT APPLICATION	STRATEGIC STEPS	INSTRUMENT	SUB-PROJECT
1. Forming city networks	Establishing "hot spots" groups in Krems + Starting a dialogue between Danube cities	'Open space symposium' in Krems workshop and seminar in Linz studies and reports + signing a Charter in Győr	+ "HOT SPOT" groups - Urfahr Market (Linz) - Winterhafen (Linz) - Right bank of Danube (Vienna) - "hot spot" Budapest + BRIDGE Lifeline Danube CHARTER
2. Developing common communication	+ INFORMATION on the homepage and dialogues on the INTERNET + Building up a cultural network + Creating a study group 'Ecological Corridor'	+ agreement City of Győr – BOKU + Exporting the idea of the Culture boat + Studies and reports	+ HOMEPAGE www.lifelinedanube.net + DONAUDORF OTTENSHEIM + ECOLOGICAL CORRIDOR
3. Supporting projects of sustainable development	+ Establishing Hungarian national project and study group + Improving the Danube cycle path between Degendorf and Budapest + Establishing a working group 'traffic development'	+ Conference in the organisation of Central Hungarian Regional Development Council workshop + Design work shops in Linz and presentation in town hall Bratislava on 13 April 2000 + Final report in the book conference "Mobilita 01" Sept.2001	+ Sustainable AGGLOMERATION DEVELOPMENT + BRIDGE OVER RIVER MARCH + Sustainable TRAFFIC DEVELOPMENT
4. Promoting exchange of knowledge	+ Organising a transnational study group International Danube University	+ Working group at the final conference in Győr + Study programme in transdisciplinary management and sustainable land use	International DANUBE University and "ACADEMIA DANUBIANA" studying on the Danube + Cooperation of the Danube Universities in sustainable land use. Starting with a project in Sumy

4.2.1 FORMING CITY NETWORKS

One of the main project goals was the formation of city networks as part of the sub-project "**Neue Ufer/New River Banks**". By dealing with concrete studies, the so-called "hot spots", the goals, problems and solutions of sustainable land development could be demonstrated with the help of river banks. Studies of green corridors enabled open space planning in urban regions to be initiated. Concrete projects on the topic of "The City on the Water" are already under way in Krems, Linz, Vienna and Budapest. About this a first meeting of the hot spot-group took place as part of an open space symposium in Krems from 16 to 17 March 2000.⁴⁰

The hot spot-project "**Redesigning the Urfahr Market**", dealt with by OIR and IFL, is about a transdisciplinary approach of planning and developing a place characterised by multiple functions and demands of use on the one hand and implementing the plans through private-sector measures on the other hand.⁴¹ This sub-project is going to be continued in the next months and will provide valuable insights for the City of Linz but also for the future work of the hot spot-group.

The hot spot-project "**Right bank of the Danube in Vienna**" is a project of international co-operation between participants from universities and representatives of public administration which also involved local residents in the process of collecting information. Intensive talks about co-operation and funding were held with representatives of various Vienna city council departments. In addition, students from university institutes in Budapest (Prof. Csemez), Belgrade, Bratislava (lecturer Kattos) and Vienna (Prof. Potyka) participated in the project.⁴² In a design workshop from 7 to 11 May 2001 the planning was done on the spot.

Four test areas on the right bank of the Danube could be exploited for designing and planning. Improvements of the bank areas and a re-designing of the hinterland were the central objectives. Not only was it important to consider traditional structures of town planning but also to reflect on the tasks and solutions with a view to sustainable town planning. A jury awarded the projects on 29 June 2001 and they will be exhibited at the "Ingenieur- und Architektenverein" afterwards. The students of the TU Vienna have already developed their own web site (http://risg.tuwien.ac.at/p3_2001/index.htm). This project will also be continued in the future especially with our neighbours Slovakia and Hungary but also together with the universities in Belgrade (YU) and Sumy (Ukraine).

As part of our university co-operation, Prof. Csemez from the Budapest University visited open space design projects of the hot spot-group in Krems together with his students in May 2000. Moreover, Prof. Csemez visited Deggendorf with a large student group from 17 to 18 April 2000. They were received by the mayor, saw the banks of the Danube and had talks at the Fachhochschule Deggendorf.

⁴⁰ From Deggendorf, Kallmünzer and Ruhsdorfer took part in this meeting.

⁴¹ Cf. OIR/IFL (2000): "Neugestaltung des Urfahrer Marktgeländes". Expertise - Phase 1 im Auftrag des Wirtschaftsservice Linz. Wien: OIR (web site: www.oir.at).

⁴² Cf. POTYKA, Hugo (2001): "Hot Spots - Neue Ufer in den Städten", Beitrag Wien. Ein Studentenwettbewerb. Wien: IFL (manuscript)

4.2.2 DEVELOPING COMMON COMMUNICATION

An information technology based on a web site with a geographical information system and a relational data bank are supposed to enable the partner cities to publish the key issues of their work as well as communal development plans. The focus will be on traffic, tourism, city and agglomeration development ("hot spots"), ecological corridor, and the further extension of the city network along the Danube. The server for the web address www.lifelinedanube.net is available at the Austrian Institute of Spatial Planning (OIR-Informationsdienste GmbH.) from July 2001.

Co-operation across borders makes the idea of a "Europe made up of regions" take on shape. Cultural, social and landscape features that we have in common are to be stressed and taken into consideration when devising a model. The sub-project "**Kulturschiff Ottensheim**" can be regarded as a successful step in the right direction.⁴³ As an associated guest, the municipality of Ottensheim takes part in the international meetings and is an important partner in building up a cultural network (STOCKINGER, BÖKER). The festival project "A ship is comingCulture Boat Ottensheim" on the steamboat "Schönbrunn" is the beginning of an experiment and the attempt of a vision for the next ten years which wants to fill the people with enthusiasm for the project "Donaudorf Ottensheim". We are planning to export the idea of the culture boat into the entire Danube region (also see www.kulturschiff.ottensheim.at).

4.2.3 SUPPORTING PROJECTS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In Hungary, three study groups "**sustainable agglomeration development**", after analysing and evaluating the conditions of the stretch of the Danube in Central Hungary, developed the following points:

- major goals, priorities, necessary activities, full recommendations and steps to be taken for
- the design of river banks and holiday areas, mobility in the Danube region, the ecological corridor etc. These experiences were taken on board by other participating cities and can be applied for their own purposes.⁴⁴

At an international student workshop, students from Deggendorf, Vienna, and Bratislava had a common design workshop for presenting ideas of technique, design and construction. The departments of landscape planning at the Technical University in Bratislava, the University of Agricultural Sciences (BOKU) in Vienna and the Fachhochschule Deggendorf took the initiative to recreate the old connection between Devínska Nová Ves and Schlosshof. A design of the planning and the realisation of a **bridge over the river March** near Schlosshof and Devínska Nová Ves for the international Danube cycle path already exists. The project was presented to the public in the Bratislava town hall on 13 April 2000. The results can then be used for the realisation of a "bridge into the EU".

⁴³ Cf. BRIDGE- Lifeline Danube seminar in Bratislava 12.4.-14.4.2000. Schriftenreihe Freiraum des Instituts für Freiraumgestaltung und Landschaftspflege. Universität für Bodenkultur. Wien. Bd. 20.

⁴⁴ Cf. ONGJERTH, Richard (2000): BRIDGE - Dunai Üt_ér. A Közép-Magyarországi Régió Duna-menti Területeinek. Környezettudatos Fejlesztési Koncepciója. Budapest: Studio Metropolitana Kht. - Pro Régió Kht. Szent István Egyetem.

4.2.4 PROMOTING EXCHANGE OF KNOWLEDGE

In the sub-project "Studying on the Danube", now a concept has to be further developed in the form of programmes for future-oriented thinking and international learning. All shared the opinion that it is a worthwhile idea that in the future students and experts will co-operate on questions of sustainable development according to their own programme ("ecologisation of the Danube region") on specific courses at the various universities along the Danube and in an educational institution (Academia Danubiana) yet to be established.⁴⁵ Through both educational courses, the path initiated by the BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube project is to be integrated into an educational programme that can be passed on to the public and later get institutionalised.

4.3 UTILISATION AND DISSEMINATION OF THE RESULTS

In the final conference in Győr, we summarised the discussion of the project team about general questions and criteria of a sustainable development in cities and regions along the Danube as well as the results from

- the pilot projects of open space design in zones near the river bank of selected city areas (Passau, Linz, Vienna, Budapest),
- the institute and student projects of the participating colleges and universities.

This allowed us, on the one hand, to show the participants the broad spectrum of co-operation and on the other hand this information became the subject of individual publications of the city administrations.

Contributions related to central project issues were already presented at specialist and international conferences during the course of the project and they were also discussed with experts of sustainability. Model, results of the research, and reports of the sub-projects and the lectures were published in "Visions for the Danube Region", the final result of the project, after the final conference. Possible perspectives of a continuation of our work in the INTERREG IIIB project were also taken into consideration at the Győr conference.

4.3.1 DISSEMINATION OF THE PROJECT WORK

- a) The project was presented at the Danube Rectors' Conference in Bratislava in Sept. 1999⁴⁶, at an international conference in Cracow entitled "Didactic Forum of Landscape Architecture"⁴⁷, and at international events in Banská Bystrica and Bratislava.⁴⁸

⁴⁵ The BRIDGE-Lifeline Danube project was introduced as part of the International Workshop INTERREG IIIB ("An Opportunity for the Protection and Promotion of the Environment in Europe") at the Transnational Workshop in Rome on 25 May 2001. The topic was "An International Study Programme in Transdisciplinary Management and Sustainable Land Use".

⁴⁶ Cf. KVARDA, Werner (2000a): THE TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT "BRIDGE LIFELINE DANUBE". DANUBE RECTORS' CONFERENCE. "The Contribution of Academic Institutions to European Stability with Particular Attention to the Danube Region". Comenius University. Bratislava, Slovakia. Sept. 15-17, 1999.

⁴⁷ Cf. KVARDA, Werner (1999a): Landscape Architecture and Planning in the Trilateral Region of Hungary, Slovakia and Austria. In: II Didactic Forum of Landscape Architecture. Cracow: Cracow University of Technology. p. 37-40.

⁴⁸ Cf. KVARDA, Werner (1999b): BRIDGE-PROJECT. Cooperative Planning Processes for Sustainable Development. In: IV. Krajina Clovek Kultúra. Zborník referátov. Slovenská agentúra životného prostredia. Banská Bystrica. p. 96-98.

- b) In November 1999, a conference about traffic issues took place in the Austrian embassy in Bratislava where the project was presented as well.⁴⁹ In December 1999 the project was presented at the Danube Conference.⁵⁰
- c) The project team always took an interest in stressing the transdisciplinary approach. Enlarging on these questions could be done extensively in Zurich⁵¹ where at the "Transdisciplinarity Conference" the project was introduced in a workshop. It was especially the "bottom up-approach" of the project which was explained because at the future search conference it had enabled groups with most diverse interests and most diverse topics to arrive at a common development objective.
- d) Moreover, the question of education and planning in connection with transdisciplinary methods was discussed at the Vienna Federal Ministry of Education (BMUK) on 7 April 2000.⁵² The ENSI project (Environment and School Initiatives) pursues the principles of "learning on the spot" (in municipalities) and of project work connecting various school subjects.
- e) The goals of the project, the ecologisation of the Danube region, were also presented to an international public at various events.⁵³ A very interesting seminar was organised by Bystrík Bezák from the Institute of Traffic at the Bratislava Technical University from 4 to 6 May 2000. As part of "Nachbarschaft '21", a project of trilateral co-operation, a discussion was held with the aim of positive co-operation for a sustainable development of the Dreiländereck, the region where the three countries Hungary, Slovakia and Austria meet. Representatives of the sciences and public administration expressed their views on questions of territorial development planning, traffic planning⁵⁴ and building ecology.

4.3.2 DEGREE DISSERTATIONS RELATED TO THE BRIDGE PROJECT

student	topic
Thalhammer	Project management in landscape planning
Lantay I.	PHARE projects carried out in Hungary in the field of spatial planning and spatial development

Cf. KVARDA, Werner (1999c): Bridge Lifeline Danube - Cooperative Spatial Planning Process and Sustainable Development along the Danube. In: HRNCIAROVA, Tatiana/ IZAKOVICOVA, Zita: Krajina oekologické plánovanie na prahu 3. Tisícročia. TU Bratislava, p. 60-67.

⁴⁹ Cf. KVARDA, Werner (1999d): Verkehr und Lebensraumgestaltung. Lecture in the Austrian embassy in Bratislava on 3 Nov. 1999.

⁵⁰ Cf. KVARDA, Werner (1999e): Ecologisation of the Danube Region. 2nd Annual Conference on the Danube Region. Business Perspectives and Cooperation between Research, Development and Industry. Vienna, Austria Center. International Economic Conference, 8-10 Dec. 1999.

⁵¹ Cf. KVARDA, Werner (2000b): New Bridges to Learn - Models of Good Practice: The Bridge - Lifeline Danube Project. In: Proceedings of the International Transdisciplinarity 2000 Conference "Transdisciplinarity: Joint Problem-Solving among Science, Technology and Society". Workbook II. Zurich: Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, p. 211-215.

⁵² Cf. KVARDA, Werner (2000c): Aspects for the Development of Environmental Education (EE) in the Light of Transdisciplinary Practice. Environment and School Initiatives (ENSI) Visionary Workshop, 7 April 2000, Austrian Federal Ministry of Education.

⁵³ Cf. KVARDA, Werner (2000d): Entwicklungschancen im Großraum Wien-Bratislava. In: BEZAK, Bystrík. Medzinárodný Seminár. Sesedstvo '21 - Nachbarschaft '21 Szomszédtság '21. Seminar, 4.-6. Mai 2000. Bratislava: STU, Fakultät für Bauwesen. p. 29-34.

⁵⁴ Cf. KNOFLACHER, Hermann (2000): Verkehrsverhalten und ökologische Prinzipien. In: BEZAK, Bystrík: Mezinárodný Seminár. SUSEDSTVO '21. NACHBARSCHAFT '21. SZOMSZEDSAG '21. Bratislava: STU Stavebná fakulta ES - Vydavateľstvo STU.

Lantay A.	Spatial development politics or political spatial development in the border region Burgenland - West Hungarian Region
Haas	Public relations work in landscape planning
Deutinger	wien. bratislava ⁵⁵
Michalek	A comparison and evaluation of INTERREG IIC projects in the field of landscape planning
Antoni	The use of new media as an extension of application-oriented methods in the field of landscape planning: The BRIDGE- Lifeline Danube project as an example

4.3.3 CONTACTS WITH OTHER INTERREG IIC PROJECTS

An INTERREGional contact MEETING between representatives of the project "BLAUES BAND Elbe - Labe" and the BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube project took place in autumn 2000. Due to the initiative of the company ARCADIS a preparatory talk was held in Vienna on 28 July 2000 when it was arranged to exchange the experiences from both projects in the municipalities of Linz and Krems in autumn from 28 to 30 Sept. 2000.⁵⁶

The INTERREG IIC project "BLAUES BAND Elbe - Labe" has been running since 1998; it aims at the tourism development of the Elbe water system. Representatives of the sciences, of ministries and planning departments from the federal states of Brandenburg, Sachsen-Anhalt, Sachsen and the Czech Republic as well as of the BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube project took part in this event in Linz and Krems.

At a meeting of the "Transnationalgroup" in the BKA (Austrian Federal Chancellery) in Vienna on 24 Sept. 1999, first experiences of various INTERREG project teams were exchanged. On 15 Dec. 2000 an exchange of experiences from the BRIDGE project and VISION PLANET took place at the OIR. On 25 May 2001, the project leader visited and international workshop in Rome on the topic of "INTERREG IIIB: An Opportunity for the Protection and Promotion of the Environment in Europe". Valuable experiences for the future of the project could be gained, in particular the necessity to realise a project and establish it among the people.

4.3.4 PRESS WORK

The project was introduced to the media at three meetings (kick-off, seminar and conference).^{57 58 59} Our project work was also presented to the public in talks in Austria and abroad. A very interesting publication in the magazine "*mosty*" (mosty: Czech "bridge") followed an interview between Peter Benuska from Bratislava and Werner

⁵⁵ Cf. DEUTINGER, Theo (2001): wien. bratislava. A degree dissertation on the development of the region between the two European capital cities Bratislava and Vienna. Worked out at the Institute of Städtebau und Umweltgestaltung. TU Graz.

⁵⁶ Cf. report of company ARCADIS: INTERREGionales Kontakt-MEETING. Projektraum-Befahrung 28.-30.9.2000. Participants, procedure, extracts from the lectures, impressions, discussions, results: see Fa. ARCADIS Heidemij Advies. Sternstraße 8, D-39104 Magdeburg, tel.: +49/0/391/5312123.

⁵⁷ Cf. PRUSA, Manuela (2000): Städtpartnerschaft im Donauraum. In: aqua press 2. Wien: Bohmann, p. 12-14.

⁵⁸ Cf. Donau-Städte rücken näher. Gestaltung und Nutzung der Uferzonen werden nun gemeinsam erarbeitet. In: NÖN Kremser Zeitung, week 41/99, St. Pölten: Niederösterreichisches Pressehaus, p. 17.

⁵⁹ Cf. Bridge - Lifeline Danube. Ein transdisziplinäres Projekt. In: umwelt & bildung, Heft 2/00, Wien: Forum Umweltbildung, p. 34-35.

Kvarda. Sona CECHOVA took on the job of introducing the intercultural projects in the Czech Republic and in Slovakia to a broad public.⁶⁰

4.3.5 THE BRIDGE - LIFELINE DANUBE CHARTER

An outstanding result at the final conference in Győr was the signing of a common BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube charter by the mayors, city councillors, administrative officials, university professors and students participating in the conference. The aim was to establish the project institutionally, which was an effective step in public for the implementation of further transnational solutions. The charter is based on international documents like the local AGENDA 21 and the European Spatial Development Concept.

BRIDGE – Lifeline Danube Charter

On the basis of preceding documents, in particular of

- the UN Conference Environment and development (Rio 1992),
- EU legislation on environment
- the local AGENDA 21,
- the European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP),

the cities of Deggendorf, Passau, Linz, Krems, Wien, Bratislava, Győr and Budapest as well as the Marktgemeinde Ottensheim have decided upon transnational co-operation along the Danube. Within the framework of the community initiative INTERREG IIC and co-financed by PHARE, representatives of research institutes, of universities and public administration have realized the BRIDGE – Lifeline Danube project together. Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary have been the participating countries.

The question of the sustainable development of the Danube region – our common living space – require intensive co-operation especially in the fields of ecology, economy, society and culture. It is politicians, administrative staff, university teachers and students, planners and citizens who are expected to co-operate with each other.

Signing this charter, we recommend the following principles:

- 1) to create an open network for the sustainable development in the entire Danube region thereby including the countries of the Yugoslav Federation, of Romania, Bulgaria and Moldavia that are not yet participants;
- 2) to contribute towards a common spatial development concept for the entire Danube region on the basis of the European Spatial Development Perspective;
- 3) to promote a common approach for the sustainable spatial development in municipalities, cities and regions along the Danube thereby focusing on the co-operation in and between urban-suburban areas;
- 4) to support so-called best-practice-models for the benefit of sustainable projects;
- 5) to promote transdisciplinary research and development;
- 6) to disseminate the results of the co-operation mentioned above (see points 1-5) within the process of the local AGENDA 21;
- 7) to establish permanent co-operation.

Conference BRIDGE Lifeline Danube Győr, November 17th 2000

In the meantime, the charter has also been signed by the mayors of Linz and Krems.

⁶⁰ Cf. CECHOVA, Sona (1999): Dunaj - odveká kultúrna cesta medzi Východom a Západom. In: "mosty", 42, ČESKO SLOVENSKÝ TYZDENNIK, Bratislava: Zakladateľ Vlado Čech.

4.3.6 THE BOOK "VISIONS FOR THE DANUBE REGION"

As a result of our two-year project work, the individual talks, project reports and lectures by experts are now being put together in a book (authors in bold print). This book is intended for representatives of administration and the sciences dealing with practical issues of sustainability as well as for politicians and teachers who are responsible for the scientific underpinning of the issues of the future. The book is expected to describe, in a transdisciplinary approach, complex problems of planning and education and topics representing a cross section so that higher aims and visions can be practically applied.

The book is structured with regard to three thematic areas:

- 1) MODELS FOR THE DANUBE REGION
- 2) PROMOTION OF NEW FORMS OF COMMUNICATION IN PLANNING, EDUCATION AND POLITICS
- 3) DEVELOPMENT OF MODELS FOR A SUSTAINABLE DESIGN OF THE DANUBE REGION

BRUNNER Otmar, A New Learning Process (preface)

KVARDA Werner, Introduction

ad 1) MODELS FOR THE DANUBE REGION

The main idea of the entire project is the build-up of a co-operative planning network of Danube cities between the public administration and the universities for a sustainable development of the Danube region. In the future it will be of central interest to devise a model for this region. The BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube project attempts to develop a programme for the "ecologisation of the Danube region".

(Note: Most of the following titles have been translated into English; a few are English in the original. Please compare with the book.)

LANGER Hanns, Europe is more than the Euro! The Ecological, Social, Economic and Cultural Challenges and our Chances at the Beginning of the 21st Century

HOFMANN Wolfgang, Economic Region *Danube Cities* - An Example of Co-operation across Borders

ad 2) PROMOTION OF NEW FORMS OF COMMUNICATION IN PLANNING; EDUCATION AND POLITICS

The build-up and extension of networks for information and communication of a university association and a city co-operation is to be promoted. The examination of different planning approaches can break down long-established patterns of thinking. The project offers the chance to develop new models, perspectives and concepts for the conservation and the ecological improvement of the lebensraum Danube.

MÄRZ Leopold, The Role of the Academic Institutions in the Danube Region
KVARDA Werner, An International Study Programme in Transdisciplinary Management and Sustainable Land Use

OSINGER Dieter, The Future Search Conference. Fast Change with Large Groups

STOCKINGER Günther, Culture Boat Ottensheim - Incentives for Town and Regional Development through Art & Culture

STEINBACH Gabriele, Local Agenda 21 Alsergrund/Vienna. A New Quality of Public Participation

ad 3) DEVELOPMENT OF MODELS FOR A SUSTAINABLE DESIGN OF THE DANUBE REGION

Water is a crucial element of every environment. The question how water in a city can be made an issue and become a central element is a subject of our project and means bringing out the polarity between conservation of nature on the one hand and the utilisation of nature on the other hand.

Biocorridor - Danube region. A common methodology for the creation of a biocorridor is to be devised and an optimum landscape structure - from the point of view of landscape ecology - is to be developed.

RUZICKA Milan; Ecolifeline Danube: The Environmental Corridor of the Danube Catchment Area

CSEMEZ Attila, The Regional Development Plan of the New Danube National Park

LICHTENAUER-KRANICH Thilde, The Regional Development Plan Linz Umland: An Example of the Sustainable Design of the Danube Region

ONODI Gabor, Lifeline Danube. Studies of Local Connections in the Danube Region

BUSCH Klaus, Deggendorf and the Danube. Basic Thoughts about Urban development with Regard to Linking Deggendorf with the Danube

Agglomeration development along the Danube. This project offers the chance to gain valuable incentives for the whole BRIDGE project drawing on data and facts of landscape and structural analyses of areas of settlement and river banks being examined by university students from Gödöllő and Budapest.

POTYKA Hugo, New River Banks. Hot Spots in the Cities, Vienna

CSEMEZ Attila, Designing Greenway Systems

BRUNNER Otmar, The Banks of the Danube and the Adaptations in the Area of the Winterhafen in Linz

BENE Gabriele, Industrial Waste Land on the Banks of the Danube in Passau: History and Future of Old Ports in Passau

FEHER Katalín, Result of Student Work

Sustainable traffic development in the Vienna - Bratislava - Győr area. Planning deficits are to be revealed and the need for co-ordination and action as far as traffic connections and biocorridors are concerned is to be investigated.

MACOUN Thomas/ WELZIG Florian, Sustainable Traffic Development in the Region

Vienna - Bratislava - Győr

SCHWETZ Otto, The Role of Corridor VII in European Integration

Cycle path network in the Danube region. The tourist information office in Deggendorf is supposed to co-ordinate this project so as to create a common marketing and infrastructure concept for cycle paths from Donaueschingen down to the Black Sea. The bridge near Schlosshof and Devínska Nová Ves for the international cycle path along the Danube was planned and realised by students from Bratislava, Deggendorf and Vienna.

KOVACS Kristina, Cycling Roads along the Danube

KATTOS Karol, Bridge near Schlosshof and Devínska Nová Ves

DEFFNER Konrad, Two Designs for a Bridge (for Pedestrians and Cyclists) over the River March

4.4 WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED FROM THE PROJECT?

At the final conference in Győr, we dealt with the following question in a final group work: "Which perspectives do you see for further co-operation in the BRIDGE project?" There was intensive discussion, issues were listed and then grouped thematically ("clustering"). The final rating with points proved the most promising perspective to be further international co-operation. Obviously, there is a lot of agreement between the main goals as they were formulated at the beginning (cf. ch. 4.2.) and the strategic thoughts voiced in the discussion.

In the course of more group work, we agreed on four topics as **models for the future** which will have to be worked on as part of INTERREG IIIB, the continuation of the BRIDGE project.

- 1) The topic of the **ecocorridor Danube** has been chosen as a model for dealing with the Danube region extensively. The Institute of Landscape Design in Budapest (Prof. Attila Csmez) and the University of Nitra (Prof. Milan Rusicka) are in charge of this subject matter.
- 2) Another model could be the field of research of future-oriented thinking⁶¹ and international learning. **Studying on the Danube** could be the first step towards an ACADEMIA DANUBIANA.⁶²
- 3) The model "**Umbrella**" is a metaphorical term of a transdisciplinary approach (meta-project BRIDGE) which brings together the co-operation in various fields like traffic, nature conservation etc. with the aim of sustainable use of the common potentials on the Danube. The idea to create BRIDGE Lifeline Danube as a **metaproject** for the Danube region was raised first at the seminar in Bratislava. At the final conference in Győr the Slovak Minister for Environmental affairs Laszlo Miklos was emphasizing this idea in his key-note speech.
- 4) It is the region's big chance to build up an economic region of sustainability by commonly developing goals and models. This programme of an "**ecologisation of the Danube region**" offers the chance to create a transdisciplinary approach with regard to socio-cultural, economic and technological aspects. If we apply a systemic approach, an ecological policy can support changes of awareness in society, introduce ecological ideas into administration and poli-

⁶¹ Cf. THOMPSON-KLEIN, Julie/ GROSSENBACHER-MANSUY, Walter/ HÄBERLI, Rudolf/ BILL, Alain/ SCHOLZ, Roland W./ WELTI, Myrtha (eds.) (2001): Transdisciplinarity: Joint Problem Solving among Science, Technology, and Society. An Effective Way for Managing Complexity. Basel/ Boston/ Berlin: Birkhäuser.

⁶² As part of the scientific conference "Mobilita '01" in September 2001, the idea of ACADEMIA DANUBIANA in Kittsee will be presented to the audience.

tics, support strategies for the regional development in the future and heavily influence further ecological development.⁶³ This means efficient public transport, the organisation of cycle systems, the careful treatment of resources and the efficient use of renewable energy.

A special experience of the transnational co-operation of the BRIDGE project was that we did not choose a top down-approach but instead relied on the contributions of the city network thereby receiving guidelines for a sustainable development of the Danube region.

At the final conference of the Hungarian part of the BRIDGE project on 23 Nov. 2000, Richard *Ongjerth* made recommendations for the preparation of the INTERREG IIIB application.

5 THE FUTURE OF THE BRIDGE PROJECT

The gist of the BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube project was the creation of a common network of Danube cities between the public administration and the universities geared towards a model of sustainable development and open space design of the Danube region.⁶⁴ Learning from other cities plays a central role; after all, different mentalities and experiences as well as different political and legal frameworks in the participating cities result in different approaches to problem-solving and the definition of objectives. The objectives of the project correlate with the European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP). In the future, "New Bridge" will be about developing such a **model for the Danube region** (as mentioned above) and initiating its implications through pilot projects.

5.1 THE THEMATIC STRUCTURE OF NEW BRIDGE

It seems to be crucial that the structure of the coming project phase focuses on certain themes for which consequently a schedule of concrete pilots, their treatment and the relevant exchange of knowledge and experience can be prepared. At the final conference in Győr and at the meeting of the project team on 15 Dec. 2000, the project partners agreed on the following issues subsumed under four major themes:

- **ecocorridor Danube**: city by the water, open spaces, urban development, nature and landscape design by the river
- **studying on the Danube**: co-operation of Danube universities
- **"umbrella"**: traffic issues, Danube tourism, nature protection
- **ecologisation of the Danube region**: models of an economic region of sustainability

⁶³ Cf. MIKLOS, Ladislav (1995): The Ecological Awareness - Selected Issues. In: *Ekológia*, vol. 14. suppl. 1, p. 201.

⁶⁴ Cf. project application PART II: 5.2.99.

5.2 THE ORGANISATION OF NEW BRIDGE

If an extensive and long-term project such as the one drafted here is to be carried out successfully, project management, steering the project and the actual content-related project work must be clearly assigned.

- project management - support
- steering the project - professional responsibility

Steering the project refers to the city representatives participating in the steering committee and to the related expenses.

Project management/ support refers to the professional and technical-administrative responsibility for the whole process.

Specialist events (publicity) support the exchange of experience and take place, if dealing with major issues, among few, if dealing with topics of general interest (criteria of quality, guarantee of quality) with larger groups.

Pilot projects stand for the concrete implementation of projects in the various cities, partly also done co-operatively. They include professional advice, observation and documentation of the project experiences.

5.3 SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURE OF NEW BRIDGE

The specific quality of the "New Danube" project is due to the combination of international exchange of experience, model-orientation and the relevant quality criteria for projects on the one hand and the exemplary implementation of high-quality pilot projects on the other hand. This is a process which guarantees that the principles of a model can actually be put in concrete terms and finally implemented on the level of a project. Experiences made in such a process (quality criteria, selection, effect of the project) should be adapted in such a way that they can be applied to other (mainstream) programmes.

A schedule should therefore aim at an ideal procedure that can enable project participants to gain and pass on experience:

- 1) Put the **model** in concrete terms; topics for the key issues
- 2) Quality and selection **criteria** for the pilot projects
- 3) Carry out **pilot projects** with supervision and advice: requirements, effects, quality criteria
- 4) **Exchange of experience**, discussion of the results, publicity
- 5) **Modify** the guidelines of the model, the quality and the selection criteria
- 6) **Select** project/s and **implement** it/them

The procedure of "New Bridge" resembles an open "learning loop" which should enable a realistic monitoring of innovative projects in the participating cities and an open exchange of experience with professional support. The continuous analysis of experiences as well as discussions professionally supported aim at reaching a higher level of quality when selecting and modifying projects in the participating cities.

The following process is to be promoted by the city administrations of the member cities within the framework of the local AGENDA 21 as intended in the original application and approved of in the BRIDGE - Lifeline Danube Charter. This entails that not only the universities but also all the institutions and citizens are to be integrated into the following development. Moreover, the surrounding area of the cities is to be fur-

ther integrated into the planning process (as already started in *Deggendorf* and *Budapest*).

Concrete designs are supposed to give shape to the BRIDGE project in the future and make visible what the region along the Danube might look like. This region could therefore become a test case of EU regional policy, the BRIDGE project a model project from the point of view of environmental protection and sustainable land use. It could very well act as a **model of European significance**.

6 APPENDIX

- Plan of project structure for the BRIDGE project
- ONGJERTH/ Budapest: Further remarks on INTERIM REPORT BRIDGE (doc.Ong.Dez.00)
- BENE/ Passau: Industriebrachen am Passauer Donauufer: Historie und Zukunft alter Häfen in Passau.
- STOCKINGER/ BÖKER(Ottensheim): Kulturschiff Ottensheim - Impulse für Orts- und Regionalentwicklung durch Kunst & Kultur.
- KATTOS/ Bratislava; DEFFNER/ Deggendorf; LUGGIN/ Wien: Brücke über die March.
- DEUTINGER/ Graz: wien.bratislava (degree dissertation; urban development, green corridor)
- BRUNNER/ Linz: Die Donauufer und die Umnutzung im Gebiet des Winterhafens in Linz.
- BUSCH/ Deggendorf: Deggendorf und die Donau. Grundgedanken der Stadtentwicklung zur Anbindung Deggendorfs an die Donau.