






DANUBE LIMES BRAND
International Final Conference

**Cooperation with SONDAR –
Soil Strategy Network in the Danube Region**

TU Wien, 6. Oktober 2014



*Christian STEINER, Lower Austria / Department of Rural Development
Danube Working Community / Working Group „Sustainability“*



ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT
DONAU-LÄNDER
PRACOVNÁ SPOLUZNOSŤ
PODUNAVSKÝCH ZEMÍ
PRACOVNÉ SPOLEČENSTVO
PODUNAVSKÝCH KRAJIN
DUNABINTI DOKUMENTAR
MUNKAKÖZÖSSÉGE
RADNA ZAJEDNICA
PODUNAVSKE REGIJE
RADNA ZAJEDNICA
PODUNAVSKIH ZEMALJA
COMUNITATEA DE LUCRU
A STATIILOR DANUBIENE
PRAČOVŇA OBLASTI RŮZ
DUNABINSKÝCH STRAN
РАБОЧА СПЕЛІВНОСТЬ
ПРИПУДНАВАНСЬКА КРАІНА



Content:

- General remarks on soil protection
- Working Community of the Danube Regions
- Lower Austrian Landscape Fund
- Authority of Land Reform
- European Land and Soil Alliance ELSA
- Lower Austrian Soil Campaign
- EU Strategy for the Danube Region
- European Cross Border Projects SONDAR
- SONDAR +

Why to protect soil? 8 dangers to soil

- erosion
- loss of organic matter
- local and diffuse contamination
- soil sealing
- compaction
- loss of biodiversity
- salinisation
- landslides



Soil consumption

Austria: 15 to 20 ha per day

Germany: up to 130 ha per day

Europe:

- 1.000 km² per year in Europe (= area of the City of Berlin)

Worldwide reduction of arable land per capita:

>>> 0,51 ha (1950) >>> 0,27 ha (2000) >>> 0,18 ha (2020)

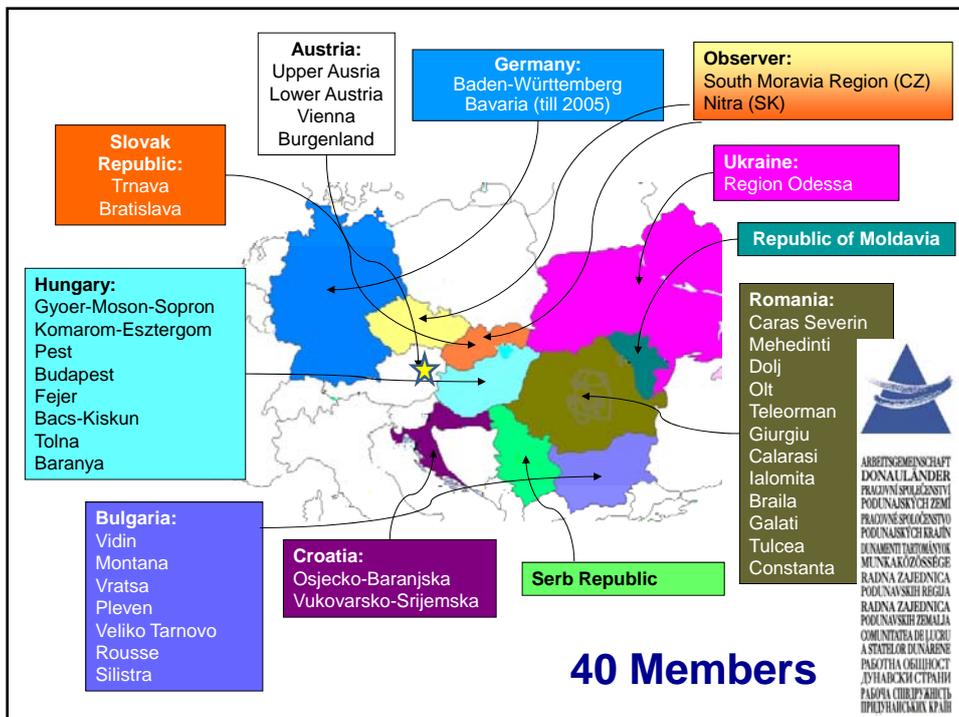


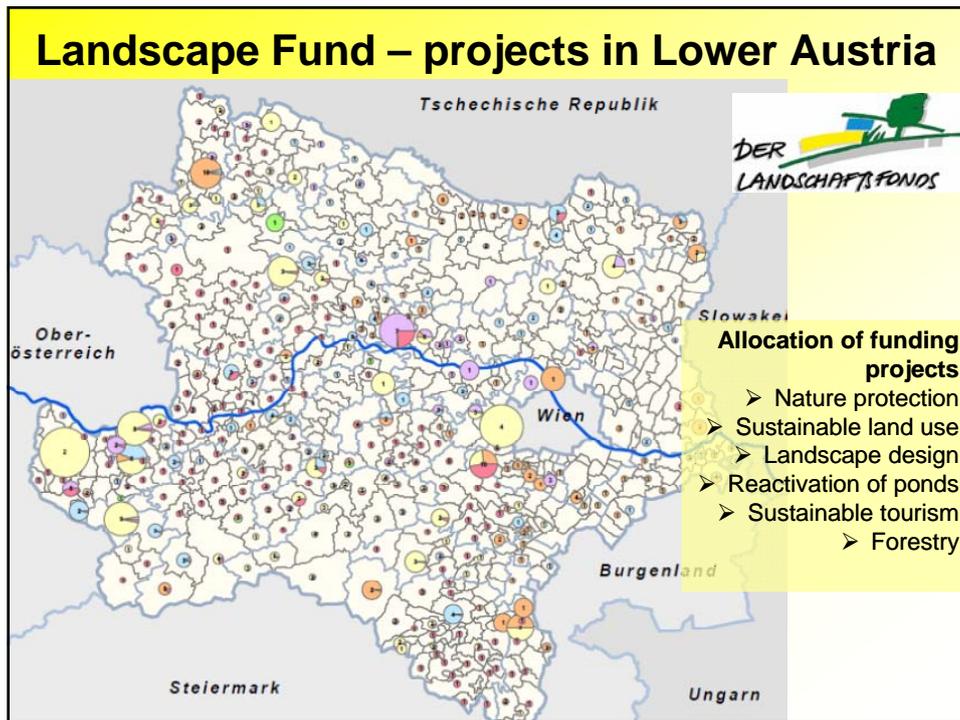
Output of soil life

total value per year: 1,5 to 13 Billion US \$

(Pimentel 1997, Costanza 1997)







Project type „landscape design“

Example: planting of hedges, fruit trees and rows of trees

Planting of characteristic traditional fruit trees in rows and orchards, hedges

✓ 5.000 trees per year on average equivalent to a row 60 km long



Example: renovation and reactivation of traditional wine cellars





Project type „sustainable land use“

Example: revitalisation of abandoned or fallow grassland

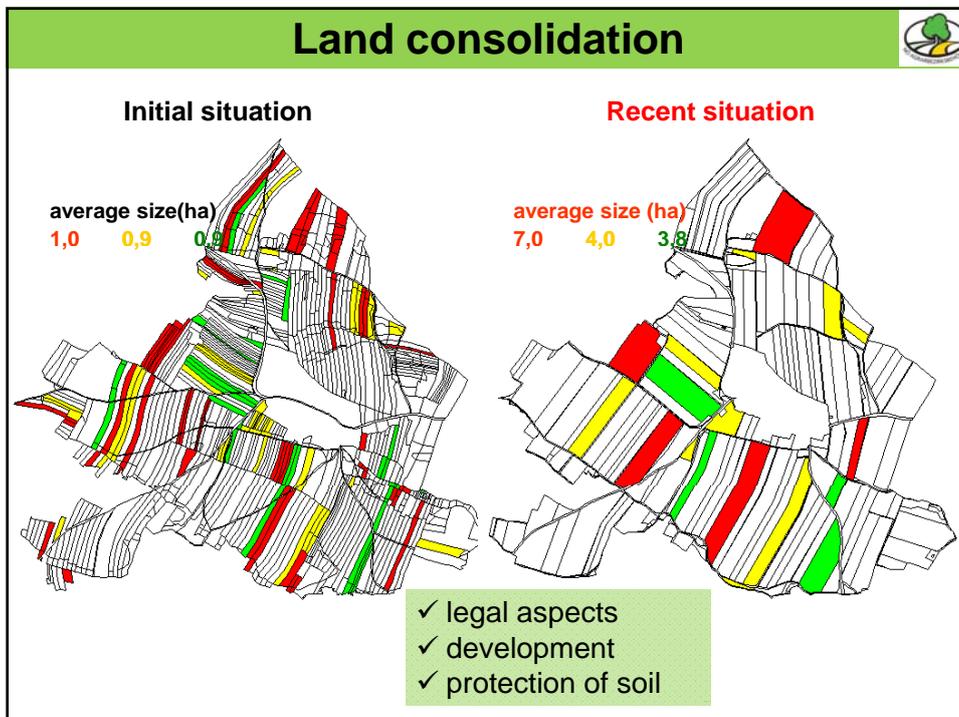
Protection+recovery of mountain pastures



Project type „nature management“

Example: Wachau Volunteer – Youth for Nature

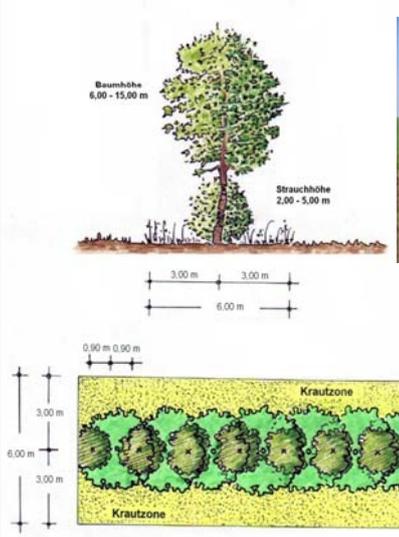
Maintainance of natural hot spots and traditional stone terraces

SOIL PROTECTION



Planning and planting of hedges & fruit trees



Baumhöhe
6,00 - 15,00 m

Strauchhöhe
2,00 - 5,00 m

3,00 m 3,00 m
6,00 m

0,90 m 0,90 m

3,00 m
6,00 m
3,00 m

Krautzone
Baum / Strauch-
reihe
Krautzone





European Land and Soil Alliance ELSA

- Association of cities and communes
- for an active contribution for a sustainable handling of soil
- ELSA-members commit themselves to determined action on local level.

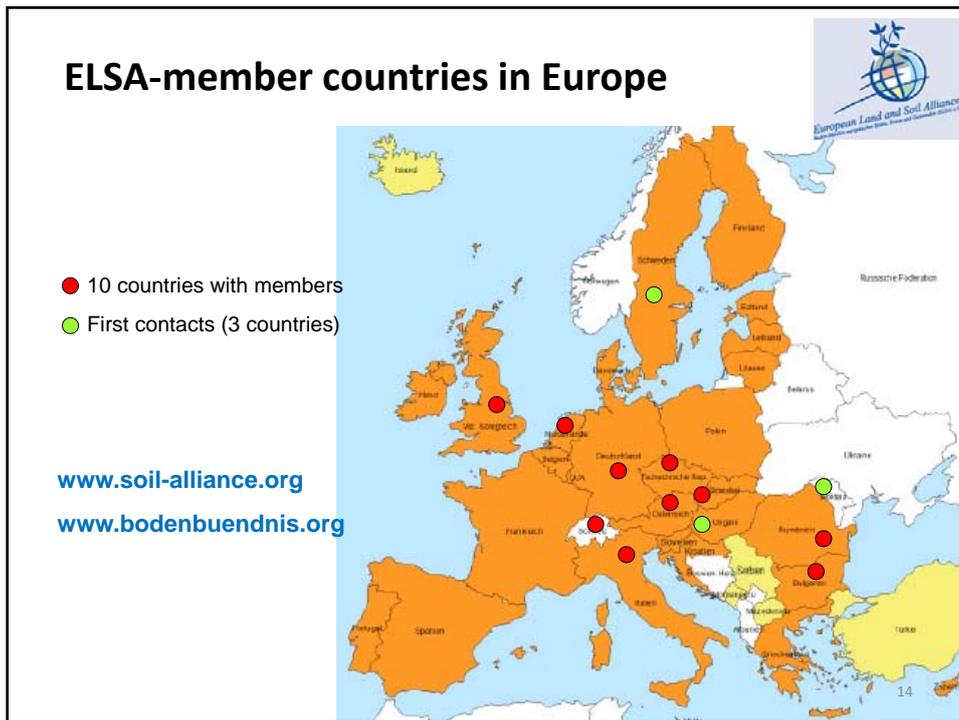
ELSA e.V. is a registered association after German law situated in Osnabrück.

Lower Austria is the leading region with 85 members, and chairs ELSA since 2009.

almost 200 members in 10 European countries



www.bodenbuendnis.org



sozial produziert
www.sozialproduziert.at

NIEDERÖSTERREICHISCHE CHARTA
FÜR DEN LÄNDLICHEN RAUM

unser Boden
wir stehen drauf!
www.unserboden.at

Soil Protection & Awareness Raising

- the value of our limited and non-renewable soil resources and the need for a more sustainable land use
- deepening and extending an **“artistic approach”** towards soil protection through “soilart” and “with the colours of the earth”

unser Boden
wir stehen drauf! 

Eine Initiative von Landeshauptmann Dr. Erwin Pröll
und Landesrat Dr. Stephan Pernkopf

Painting with colours of the earth

activities/materials:

- box with 5 different earth colours
- soil post cards
- soil sign
- calendar





	1:1	1:3	1:5
Schwarzerde			
Braunerde A			
Terra			
Braunerde B			
Stadtboden			

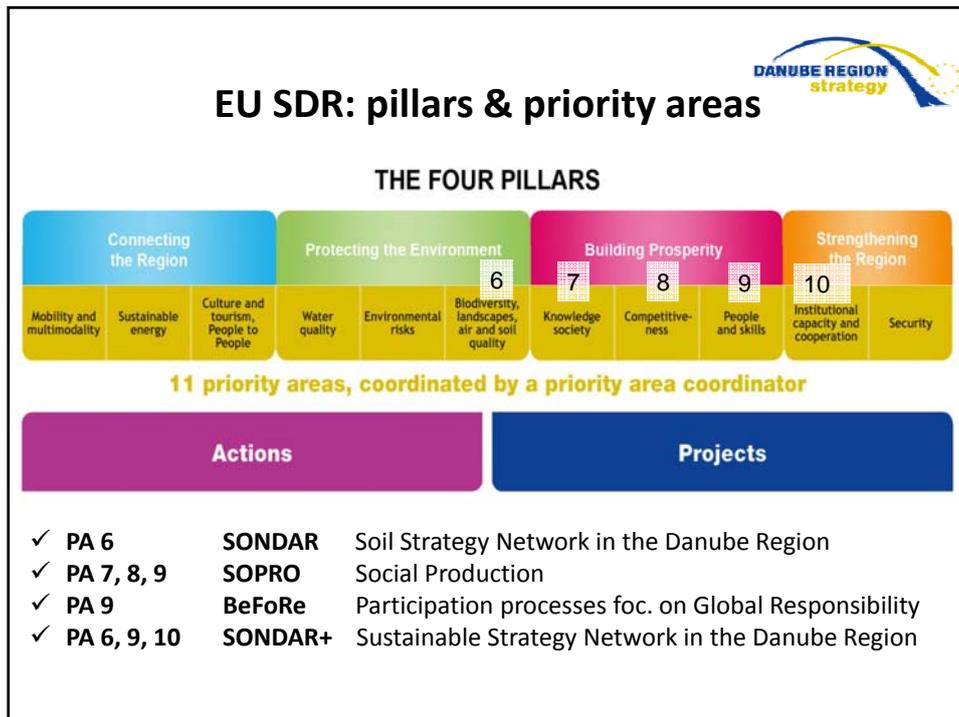
EU Strategy for the Danube Region



The strategy is not about funding, it is about closer cooperation!



The map shows the Danube river flowing through the following countries: DEUTSCHLAND, CZECH REPUBLIC (ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA), SLOVAKIA (SLOVENSKO), UKRAINE (UKRAJINA), REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, ROMANIA (ROMÂNIA), BULGARIA, SERBIA (SRBIJA), BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, CROATIA (HRVATSKA), SLOVENIA (SLOVENIJA), and MONTENEGRO (CRNA GORA). Major cities marked include Praha, Wien, Bratislava, Budapest, Kishinev, Bucaresti, and Sofya.





Soil Strategy Network in the Danube Region

3 ETC-projects in Lower Austria with SK, HU, CZ

Soil awareness

Sensibly use, carefully protect our soil

<p><small>In execution:</small></p> <p>SONDAR SK-AT</p> <p>Soil as an indicator of flood occurrences</p>	<p><small>In execution:</small></p> <p>SONDAR HU-AT</p> <p>Soil as a filter for pollutants / soil as a reservoir for carbon</p>	<p><small>scheduled:</small></p> <p>SONDAR CZ-AT</p> <p>Improving quality of soil by raising soil awareness/ soil as an archive</p>
---	--	--










„Social Production“: Creation of Value through Appreciation

Cooperations between enterprises, the public sector and social institutions create sustainable products and services: **from the region – for the region!**

Visions:

- ✓ **Sustainable economy** for all partners
- ✓ **Clear production processes**
- ✓ Enterprises use company waste in an **innovative, value creating way**



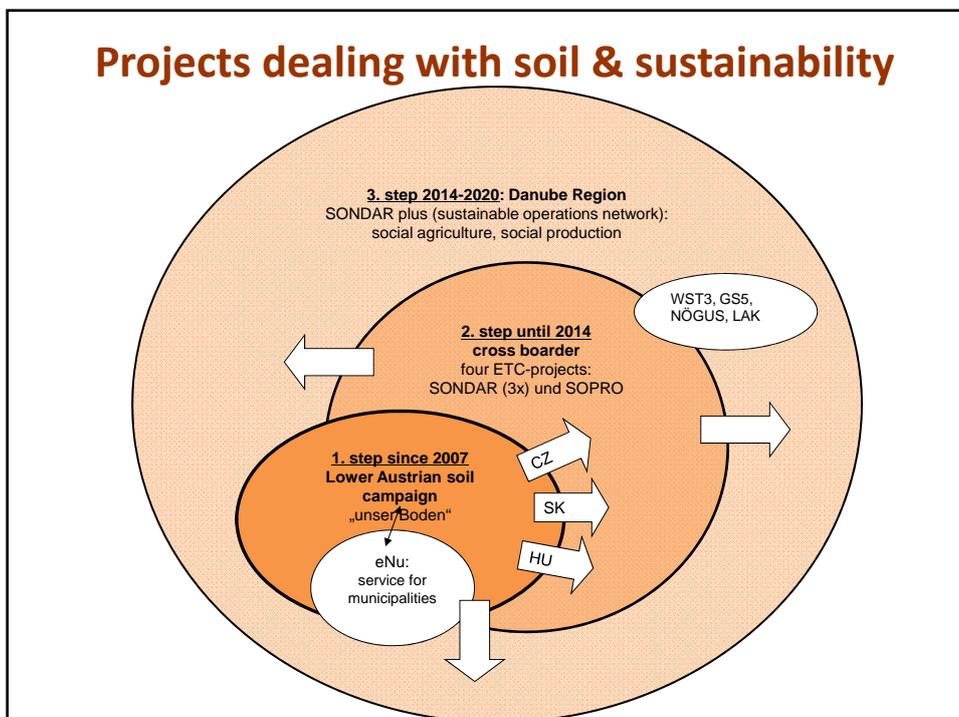

sozial produziert
www.sozialproduziert.at

WIENRÖSTERREICHISCHE CHARITÄT
FÜR DEN LÄNDLICHEN RAUM

unser Boden
wir stehen drauf!
www.unserboden.at

Sustainability / Social Production

1. **Pilot projects** in the region of East Austria / West Hungary
2. Developing **100 examples** of sustainable products and services
3. **Implementation of experiences** through a platform within the framework of the EUSDR in further areas in the Danube region
4. “Best-practice example for local and global responsibility“ of the **Austrian Strategy for Sustainable Development (ÖSTRAT)**



SCIENCE ALLIANCE AWARENESS

SONDAR

Sustainable Operations Network in the Danube Region



**„A nation that destroys its soils destroys itself.“
(Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1937)**

Thank you for your attention!

DI Christian Steiner & DI Dr. Erwin Szlezak
 ARGE Donauländer, Arbeitskreis Nachhaltigkeit
 NÖ Agrarbezirksbehörde/Fachabteilung Landentwicklung
 Landhausplatz 1, 3109 St. Pölten
christian.steiner@noel.gv.at erwin.szlezak@noel.gv.at
www.unserboden.at / www.sondar.eu / www.soilart.eu / www.sozialproduziert.at



ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT
 DONAULÄNDER
 PRACOVNI SPOLEČENSTVÍ
 PODUNAVSKÝCH ZEMÍ
 PRACOVNE SPOLOČENSTVO
 PODUNAVSKÝCH KRAJIN
 DUNAMENTI TARTOMÁNYOK
 MUNKAKÖZÖSSÉGE
 RADNA ZAJEDNICA
 PODUNAVSKIH REGIJA
 RADNA ZAJEDNICA
 PODUNAVSKIH ZEMALJA
 COMUNITATEA DE LUCRU
 A STATELOR DUNARENE
 РАБОТНА ОБШИННОСТ
 ДУНАДСКИ СТРАНИ
 РАБОЧА СПІВРУЖНОСТЬ
 ПРИДУНАВСЬКИХ КРАІН