

Central Europe Programme Project “FORTE CULTURA”

REPORT on

Transnational Workshop Activities to involve citizens into fortress utilisation (Output 4.3.4)

On 26th of September, 2013. The partners and invited guest of the Forte Cultura project were participate on a transnational workshop about the possibilities of involving citizens into fortress utilizations.

The host partner, Fort Monostor invited guest presenters and asked the partners to present their practices.

At the beginning of this part of the programme, Mrs. Andrea Tóth-Lencse, touristic leader of the Danube port reception area at the Fort Monostor introduced the cooperation between the citizens and the property management company Fort Monostor Non-profit Ltd.

The company cooperate with

- Non-organized groups of citizens – technically individuals from the region
- Non-formal, but organized groups of citizens from Komárom and Komárno
- Civil partners who are interested in the forts, mostly on the fields of tradition keeping.

The cooperation dated back to 2006, when the “hero’s forest” project were realized. It was a request towards inhabitants of Komárom. The citizens could “buy” a tree (symbolically), and planted it on a pointed place. The tree become the part of the war memorial place, but parallel it belongs to the people, who donate its planting. 105 tree were planted into this “forest”.

Cooperation with civil partners are

- 1) Association of the Friend of the Fortresses of Komárom (since 2006.)
- 2) Association for traditions of the Hungarian war of Independence 1848-1849 and
- 3) Association for tradition of the II. World War.

The fields of cooperation:

- Museum pedagogy and andragogy
- Participation at events- attraction
- Contribution to exhibitions

Cooperation with organized but non-formal groups: Youth projects

Since 2008 the Fort Monostor Non-profit Ltd. has a close cooperation with organized groups of citizens, exactly youth from Hungary and abroad. The involved partners from abroad: Przemysl (PL), Venice (I), Komárno (SK), Bovec (SLO).

The aims of this cooperation were:

- Strengthen contact to local young people
- Strengthen understanding between local inhabitants and the work in the fort
- Develop cooperation between European fortresses and forts in Komárom.

The realized project are:

- Nature around the fort Output: booklet for children with creative tasks
- Museum theatre Output: theatre performance for the public on the XIX. Century history of the fort
- Museum theatre on the topic international cooperation Output: performance for the public
- Work on the Soviet period of the history of the fort Output: booklet for pupils

- Work on the topic water from different aspects, Output: exhibition.

There are 2 young initiatives project for young citizens about the prejudices and the European values between 2011-2012. The main result of this project for young people it that now there is group of local young people, who wants to work with the Fort Monostor Non-profit Ltd., and participate on the reutilization of the fortresses of Komárom.

After the presentation of the Fort Monostor, the participants of the workshop could meet with an example of the cooperation between fortress management and group of citizens from Slovakia. Ms. Réka Kiss introduced a really interesting initiatives from Komárno.

Some active people – after realizing that there is a lot to do around the Old Fort in Komárno – started to organize a community on the Facebook for a voluntary work on the fort.

They only use the Facebook, created a group profile, and tried to involve people to join and take participate on their actions.

The initiative were open on the FB on October, 2010., under the label: Let's know your fortress! At that time, there were 217 member of the group. During this time, they organized a volunteer action in the Old fort with 50 volunteers.

The basic was:

- Disclaimer about individual responsibility
- Health care supervisors – also volunteers
- Conscious involvement of the children to the voluntary movement
- No age limits: volunteers from 3 to 72 years were participate.

Since then, they organized 7 action to clean the forts and casemates from rubbish, invasive plants, etc.

This is a non-formal group, organized only via Facebook. (Not registered group or association.) The number of the volunteers on their last action were more than 100.

The next practice were from Jaroměř-Josefov presented by Ilona Zatloukoulova

She introduced the current situation, and the cooperation between the owner (municipality) and citizens.

Current situation:

- Socially disadvantaged citizens - make up a large part of the population of the fortress- people are leaving the fortress due to the problems with socially disadvantaged citizens, it makes the fortress unattractive
- Jaroměř Municipality offers unused areas and buildings for business purposes, there is no another initiative how to attract citizens and get them interested in the fortress
- Nevertheless some citizens show interest in the fortress, in the history, in utilization of areas and buildings
- Civil associations, volunteers, enthusiasts for military history .
- Some parts of the fortress are used by civil associations

The municipality cooperates with civil associations and group of volunteers.

Volunteers, civil associations

- Retrenchment 18
- Ravelin 14
- Bastion 10
- Soužití Jaroměř (Coexistence Jaromeř)

Associations of children and young people

- Skaut
- Pionýr
- Brontosaurus

Interest associations

- Military History Club

- Club of Friends of the Fortress Josefov
- Sportmans

The fields of cooperation:

- Long- term use of buildings (residence of the associations, maintenance of the area, meeting place of Josefov citizens, meeting place of artists,
- Place for events (concerts, exhibitions, wood carving symposium, etc.)
- Craftwork on restoration (reconstruction of walls and underground corridors, military history expositions)
- Tradition keeping (living history, lectures focusing on history and military history)
- Non-formal education (fortress reconstruction of battles, events for children, meeting of historic vehicles etc., Time-lapse documents, photos of inaccessible places of the fort)

Via Skype Ms Kati Langer showed us the practice from Erfurt, Petersberg citadelle.

The owner of the citadel is the municipality.

They cooperate with

- institutional office (Labour Office)
- associations
- schools

There are 3 main fields of involving citizens into fortress utilization:

1. Field of reconstruction
2. Field of civil engagement
3. Field of education

1. Involved citizens into fortress utilization on the field of (re)construction

- the Petersberg Citadel was integrated in the master plan as a so called „municipal employment project“
- That means on one side: the Petersberg was offered as urban building site for the re-integration of unemployed people in to the labour market.
- On the other side: The Labour office supports with budgets and capacity of unemployed people the reconstruction work at the citadel.
- This follows the strictly rules of labour market policy criteria for public subsidised employment for unskilled labourers, such as:
 - The work must be in public interest,
 - Must be non-competitive
 - Must represent additional tasks (in contrast to mandatory tasks of the municipality)
 - The unemployed labourer get professionally organised in project groups.
- After 20 years of reconstruction this covers around 10% of the Erfurt population of working age - that creates a strong identification with the citadel of their own city
- Especially projects in the field of reconstruction of fortress parts, creation of green spaces and maintenance of the greens were carried out.
- Furthermore during these labour market projects roads and pathway relations were created to make the fortress accessible from all directions. That brought back the Petersberg to people's awareness

2. On the field of civil engagement

- After the political change a culture of civil engagement formed around the Petersberg in Erfurt
- A number of private initiatives were founded as associations

- They follow charitable aims and deliver cultural, historical or touristic contributions for the utilization of the Petersberg

Examples:

The association: „friends of the citadel“

- On the occasion of the 330th anniversary regarding the laying of the foundation stone of the citadel they initiated the first Petersberg festival
- For the first time the Erfurt citizens swarmed up the Petersberg and took possession of it. Since 1995 the Petersberg festival takes place every two years.

The „Historical Society“ of Erfurt

- The members created the military-historical museum in the commander's house.
- Today the museum is operated by a cooperation work of Erfurt Tourism & Marketing Board, TIAW, mason's lodge and labour administration

3. On the field of education

- So far the citadel is established in the city development plan as a place of recreation, as „garden above“ the city and as a place for culture and tourism
- A new development direction for the Petersberg is to form the area into a place for education and to increase awareness for this development
- Especially this field offers great potentials to involve large parts of the Erfurt population - young and old - into these activities and to lock up new utilizations for the Petersberg citadel.

• Examples:

- Co-operation between University and City administration under participation of external partners to develop the Petersberg area.
- University has an innovative part in the study fundamental which is called „Sustainability“. Within this the students are working on micro projects with a sustainable impact in any field. External partners are giving the framework for this ideas.
- So far two specific pilots have been worked out by students for the Petersberg area.
 - a) Development of a communication concept for the Petersberg area, including a SWOT analysis to explore some specific challenges of this area,
 - b) Researches in accessibility and pathway relations on the area from the visitors point of view.

The last presentation was about the cooperation between citizens and fortresses in Kostrzyn nad Odra. Mrs. Agnieszka Zurawska-Tatala presented their practices.

The municipality of Kostrzyn nad Odra cooperates private companies focusing on the field of education and recreation.

There are

- „Photo lessons lessons“ for students
- Fild games – airsoft, stalking
- Canoeing lessons on the moat
- Ets.

To involve citizens into fortress reutilization is an wide range of possibilities. As the reconstruction works will carried out, they will have more opportunities to cooperate.

At the end of the day, the participants made a workshop about the possibilities of the involvement of the citizens into the fortress reutilization. They had a discussion about the theme in relation to the host partner's actual situations. The conclusions are:

- To involve citizens into fortress utilization is needed for every entity, who owns, managed etc. a fort.



- The engagement of the citizens can help to develop the forts as a touristic attractions.
- There are a huge potential on the cooperation with volunteers and associations
- Every managing organization should keep in mind their responsibility, should be careful and well prepared for every critical situation (as much as it is possible).
- The legal background of the cooperation between citizens and managing organizations are different in the states.
- Development or reutilization of fortresses can create jobs, can help to manage unemployment in the area of the fort.
- To widen the cooperation is important.
- There should be a responsible person at every organization who manage the cooperation between citizens and the organizations.

The report were made by the presentations and documents of the meetings and workshop.

Komárom, 09.11.2013.

Erika Farkas
Project manager
Fort Monostor Non-profit Ltd.

Annex: Programme of the conference

Time	Programme	Speaker / Moderator
September 24th 2013		
19:00	Welcome and contact meeting (dinner)	
September 25th 2013, Fort Monostor, Duna-part 1.		
Output 3.3.6: Transnational Conference to identify best practice of fortress utilisation		
9:00	Welcome and opening of the Conference	Mr. István Varga director of Fort Monostor
9:10	Welcome speech	Mr. Dr. Attila Molnár mayor of Komárom
9:20	Introduction report: The Fortified Heritage of Hungary - element of the national history, cultural identity and tourist offers	Mr. Gábor Iván Kiss Hungarian National Asset Management Inc. Leading manager for national monuments
9:45	Best practice in Hungary at the field of fortress utilization and touristic offers	Sümege – Mr. Krisztina Papp Hungarian National Museum Mr. István Kovács
10:30	Development of efficacious utilisation concepts: Best practice Germany: Utilization concepts at the example of the former major fortress Cologne (Fort VII and Freiluga).	Mrs Dr. Henriette Meynen City of Cologne / Germany
10:50	Coffee-break	
11:20	Best practice Italy: Experiences in the initiation of utilization of Forte Lessinia	Mr. Architect Fiorenzo Menghelli Verona
11:40	Best practice Romania: Utilization strategy of Fortified Ideal City Alba Iulia	Mr. Bálint Szabó Alba Iulia / Romania
12:00	Best practice Poland: Utilization strategy of Fort IV in Torun	Mrs Elena Czerwinska, City of Torun / Poland
12:20	Cross border fortress system Komárom/Komarno at the river Danube - utilization strategies and cooperation forms <u>Fortress group of Komárom / Hungary:</u> Utilization concepts in Fort Monostor, Fort Csillag and Fort Igmand ; visions for the future	Mr. István Varga,/ Ms. Erika Farkas, Komárom
12:40	Lunch / Press conference	
14:00	Cross border fortress system Komárom/Komarno at the river	

	Danube - utilization strategies and cooperation forms <u>Fortress group of Komárno / Slovakia:</u> The utilization strategy of the fortress monuments in Komárno	Mr. Ludovit Grafel
14:20	Workshop on identifying best practices of fortress utilization	All partners and invited guests- Moderated by: Fort Monostor, Komárom
16:00	Guided tour in Fort Monostor	
19:30	Dinner	
September 26th 2013		
Output 4.3.4: Transnational Workshop Activities to involve citizens into fortress utilisation		
9:00	Introduction	Komárom
9:10	Presentation of Komarom	Mrs. Andrea Tóth-Lencse, Komarom
9:30	Presentation of North-Komarom	N. N.
9.50	Presentation of Erfurt	Ms. Kati Langer (through skype)
10.10	Presentation of Jaromer	Mrs. Ilona Zatloukalova
10.25	Presentation of a Kostrzyn	Mrs. Agnieszka Zurawska-Tatala
10:50	Coffee-break	
11.40	Discussion and experience exchange Summary	Komárom
12:30	Lunch	