9th LE:NOTRE Institute Landscape Forum 2020 in Bratislava
Cross-border landscapes: Slovakia - Austria - Hungary
21. - 25. April 2020

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COMPETITION

Cross-Border Landscapes Bratislava Region
Austria - Slovakia - Hungary

Prize-winning teams of the 6th LE:NOTRE Institute Student Competition
First Prize: **Mobius Plan**  
Nannan Zhang, Yehan Li, Ying Lu, Bixia Yuan, Xiang Zhang, Siyuan Huang  
Huazhong Agricultural University, China

Each position of Mobius ring is opposite, but the whole ring has only one side, which represents that all the opposite contradictions will eventually be unified through some transformations.

The proportion of residents’ food consumption in Slovakia and Hungary is far higher than the level of Austria and the EU, we hope to establish a flexible cross-border space with production function to deal with local food issues. We summarize 4 contradictory relationships: the contrast between agricultural landscape and heritage; the separation of rural communities and urban; the contradiction between agricultural development and Natura 2000 protection; and the pressure of urban expansion on rural landscape.

Through the integration of agricultural landscape and local foodscape, we transformed the above contradictions into mutually promotion goal, and put forward the Mobius plan the planning vision of sustainable agricultural production is realized. The heritage points become the parks or stations on the greenway through the combination with the local foodscape; The agricultural area between urban and rural is planned as a multi-functional productive corridor to provide agricultural sightseeing and local food supply; Through sustainable rotation system and low impact development of bird watching facilities planning, the three countries point has become an agri-biodiversity Park; Urban expansion area is planned as a production-oriented mode to maintain the stability of food budget plan fully links the existing urban green infrastructure and foodscape, so as to rebuild the emotional connection of urban residents to the land, and activate agricultural production in the region.
First Prize: **Mobius Plan**

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Second Prize: **Amalgam**

Shaurav Paul, Nicole Leung, Chiara Loffredi, Foysal Karim
Nürtingen-Geislingen and Weihenstephan-Triesdorf Universities, Germany

The very much significant site of central Europe is high

drives by four major factors: urban growth, tourism, history and culture, and ecology and agriculture. These factors exert both challenges and opportunities for landscape development in the area. While developing the concept, we took all the piece of a landscape as a patch of a mosaic and the paths as a “fuge” of the mosaic pattern. SO, our overall goal was developing the connection in between the history-culture-time and tradition which will make an amalgam and tell a new story of a historical landscape. In developing the masterplan, we have connected all the potential area with new paths or modifying old paths and developed some special zones for special functions. We started from Petrzalka, creating a green corridor that cuts the district until the historical road between Petrzalka and Kittsee. Here we developed a park that celebrates the history and traditions of this cross-border region and also thought about the urban development of both districts. We used the 15 minutes living circle theory to divide the path into different sections, to give people the possibility to take rest. The main item that highlights the border is the tree curtain instead of the iron curtain, made of the typical trees from the three different nations, symbolizing their national identities, but also the closeness between the countries. In the 3 countries point, we have developed a cultural plaza, which will uphold the individual culture and tradition of 3 countries and create a common space for showing and preserving their own identity.
Second Prize: **Amalgam**
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In our world, globalization has led to the point, where food that has travelled hundreds of miles is cheaper than the food produced at our neighbour. This has changed agriculture in a way that it is competitive to global market. The most efficient way is to have big areas of monocultures, great mechanization and effective means to reduce pests. This change has a great effect on small-scale farms, quality of food, nature and biodiversity.

The natural geographical features of the Pannonian Plain create good conditions for agriculture, but Slovakia, Austria and Hungary all have different perspectives on agriculture. Austria has smaller parcelation, meanwhile Slovakia has greater due to its past deprivatization of land in time of transition and todays management. Hungary has smaller parcelation than Slovakia, even though it went through similar process of deprivatization. Nevertheless, all three countries strive for better food self-efficiency and better quality of food.

This was also a goal in changing border landscapes to landscapes that bring nations together, by trying to surmount history with making locally produced food easier to access, small farmers gathering in food hubs and agriculture to be a part of preservation of nature and landscape diversity. We strive to protect agricultural land by developing urban areas inward and utilizing degraded areas, mitigating climate change by farm activity diversification and research centres but most important - reducing food globalization by food self-efficiency and educating people of the importance of local production by offering them a wide range of activities.
Third Prize: **Mono-Multi-Use**
Ana Benedik, Dorotea Volk, Hema Kunsic, Tamara Tratar, Meta Zgonec
University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
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The first impression is always the most important and what’s simple than a bicycle ride to discover the site? It is without an idea in mind that we went along the old iron curtain which cutting the Europe in two parts during more than forty years. Alone or with others, under the sun or the rain, from the North to the South, from the East to the West, we get closer to the inhabitants, the farmers, the bicycle tourists and even the greats bustards... We all knew the iron curtain history, we had the pictures of this « no man’s land » but we discovered the opened landscapes of Jarovce, the apricots orchards of Kittsee, the Danube old arms, the red and white stone border makers, the birds observation tower, the windturbines forest... All these little details, those gorgeous views on the castle or on the middle-age tower that the ride offers us, we want to highlight them and help the locals to (re)discover it.

« A project by the locals, for the locals » - Board 2
When we met the inhabitants, it seemed to us necessary to add another dimension to this competition. We realised that the Austrian, the Slovakian and the Hungarian people haven’t appropriated back the site, despite the free movement and the opening of the borders. Our will, throught the particular design of our boards is to create an effective communication tool for the local actors, readable by everyone, in order to allow the locals knowing their territory, the possibilities of activities and the soft mobilities around their hometown. The project puts in place very simple infrastructures, the intervention is minor, integrated in the agricultural and forest landscape and so enhance it, as well as his big territorial scale. We want to (re)link or reveal only what is needeed, to show the historical elements, natural ones or just pretty to look at it. The used materials could come from the local production such as wood, with cheapest production costs and a lower carbon footprint.

« Anticipating the evolution of the site while respecting the past and improving the present » - Board 3 & 4
The challenges of this cross border landscape fall into three different time frames. The first challenge is to respect the past and each remains left by History. By highlighting the Danube ancient old arms with the creation of ecological corridors and soft mobilities, we wish to remind the old natural border constituted by the river, a long time ago. The second challenge is to improve the present, based on the potentials and the positive feelings that we noticed during the survey. The site offers some great openings on the surrounding and the quality of life of the Austrian’s villages is sought after the Slovak families who want to settle in the countryside near the capital. This new dynamic is beneficial for these rural towns but social relations between new inhabitants and old ones are difficult to establish. In the heart of Europe, we want to encourage these international and inter-generational meetings by setting up « evolutive boxes » in some strategic places in the site. We discovered these places during the ride : a point of view, an apricots orchard, a market gardening between two countries, the heart of a village...Finally, the last point to consider is the landscape evolution over the long term and specifically with the massive urbanisation on the Slovak side. We have thought about an urbanization management diagram for future years in order to control the volume rise on one side of the border and avoid an important contrast between the Austrian countryside and the district of Petrzalka. The Austrian countryside is enhanced by the development of the orchards and the protection of the strip parcels, typical of this country. From the Euroveloroute to the Rusovce Castle via the Green Belt, we hope that the European citizens and people from the entire world will come along the border and enjoy the fly of the great bustards in the middle of the windturbines.
Honorable Mention: **Along the Border**
Marie Chanel, Violette Feutry, Yann Mazimann, Raphael Clement, Lea Vielhauer
Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava
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**ALONG THE BORDER(S)**

**THE BORDERS THAT GATHER RATHER THAN SEPARATE**

- A formerly fragmented territory
- A common and continuous border
- First attempt at reconciliation: bringing together through art
- Shaping the border crossing as a change of the place's materiality
- Highlighting the sculpture park to turn a pedestrian wooden path

This space fits in with the continuity of the borders where three countries meet together. Like yarns, the borders meet and tangle. The curtain fell revealing a unified territory. The cycling and pedestrian paths meet together to highlight the first common initiative done for the three countries. Green corridors and street furniture allow people to embrace the landscape.
The prominent feature of the site is cross border. Tourism is one of the pioneer industries in cross border areas because: 1. Bratislava's tourist attraction should be enhanced. 2. Villages near the border need development opportunities. 3. Cross border characteristics have inherent advantages in tourism. We propose the concept of „BORDER +“ for sustainable tourism as a catalyst for cross border landscape renewal:

1. The connotation of the border + We recognize that the border is not only a line, but also a cross border area with multiple meanings and potentials.

2. Cross border First, the ecological restoration of cross border landscapes is based on the principle of increasing habitat diversity and connectivity. Second, comb the tourism resources around and inside the cross border area. We integrate history and culture with tourism resources to form the cross border theme tour line and activities. This integration can catalyze reactions to create more attractive cross border sustainable tourism. Third, promote cooperation among cross border communities and encourages local residents to act as planners, participants and beneficiaries of sustainable tourism.

3. Future benefits In the future, cross border sustainable tourism will play a broader role in economic, social and ecological sustainability. Sustainable tourism provides more jobs and income, drives the development of more related industries. Sustainable tourism promotes the development of public infrastructure and cross border cooperation and communication. Interaction between international tourists and residents may innovate more international knowledge. Protection awareness of tourists and residents on the rise. With the improvement of the habitat, more animals will inhabit the cross border areas.
Honorable Mention: **Border Plus**
Yuan Jingda, Xie Deling, Zhao Shuang, Li Rou, Wang Yilei, Yang Xiaoyu, Li Lan, Lu Yawen
Huazhong Agricultural University, China
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