

Tour des Villes in Sonthofen

Study-visit on 24th and 25th November 2017



Aims

Project aims:

The aims of the project as defined in the project concept are:

- Participating alpine towns have better knowledge about the challenges of sustainable urban development and about how the transformation of conversion and empty areas and buildings can contribute to attractive and lively towns;
- Participating alpine towns have analysed a present challenge in their urban zone and received ideas, instruments, problem solving methods to tackle these in a sustainable way;
- Participating towns benefit from cross-border alpine exchange of knowledge and experience.

Aims of Sonthofen:



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Background information

As part of the German Federal Armed Forces' reorientation, the Federal Republic of Germany has decided to dismantle three military units in Sonthofen. These are the Jaeger barracks, the Grünen barracks and the German Federal Armed Forces service centre. This means that around 33 hectares of inner-city land will be available for civilian use in the future. The town of Sonthofen aims to purchase this area. This opens up new perspectives for Sonthofen's urban development. For this reason, Sonthofen has been working intensively for many years on the development of an "Integrated Urban Development Concept" (ISEK). The topics covered included urban planning, landscape planning, traffic planning and the real estate industry. A major component will be broad public participation also in the future. The city hopes that the Tour des Villes project will provide interesting impulses and an exchange of experience with Alpine towns with similar challenges.

Leading questions

A) Sustainability

How do the Alpine Towns imagine life, living and working on these areas?

Which ideas and images do Alpine Towns have in mind for the sustainable development of the conversion areas?

Which elements do the Alpine Towns consider particularly important for this purpose - energy supply, energy standards, spatial planning, transport planning?

B) Educational institutions:

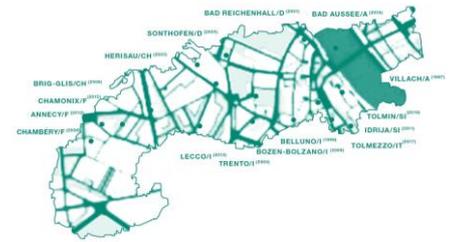
How do the delegations of the Alpine Towns see the creation of educational institutions/education institutions with an international character or the opportunities for this?

C) Commercial and interim uses

The Sonthofer barracks are 33 ha in size and will be developed step by step. Could interim uses for start-ups, actors from the creative industries or other companies help to revitalise the location and make the site more attractive for long-term uses?

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Programme

Friday, 24 th November	14:00	Welcome and introduction to Sonthofen, agenda [Town Hall, Grosser Sitzungssaal, Rathausplatz 1, 87527 Sonthofen]	Mayor Christian Wilhelm Ingrid Fischer Claire Simon & Magdalena Holzer
	14:30	Introduction: conversion areas in Sonthofen [Town Hall, with coffee]	Christoph Stöberl, Kling Consult
	15:30	Excursion part I: walk to the barrack area Jägerkaserne [Mühlenweg 12, Sonthofen] Visits of sites with background information on the project (architecture, history of the project, ideas and challenges for the town, expectations of the population, enterprises, politicians, etc.) and presentation of the main dilemmas.	Markus Briesach
	16:15	Excursion part II: by bus to the barrack area Grüntenkaserne [Salzweg 24, Sonthofen] See above	
	17:15	Common discussion of the project of the town (peer-to-peer counselling) [Town Hall, Grosser Sitzungssaal] First discussion round: what did you find impressive? What have you felt to be negative?	Tour des Villes Team Sonthofen Claire Simon & Magdalena Holzer
	18 :15	Closing	

Friday, 24 th November	19:45	Dinner and celebration of 20 years Alpine Town of the year association ["Anno 1898" , Schnitzerstr. 3, Sonthofen]
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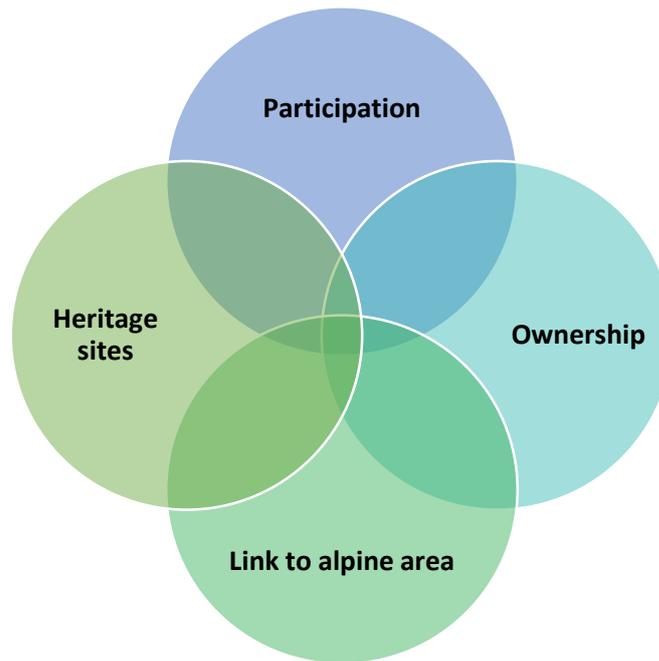
<p>Saturday, 25th November 2017</p>	<p>9:00</p>	<p>Common discussion of the project of the town (peer-to-peer counselling) on three thematic tables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Sustainability 2) Educational institutions 3) Commercial and interim uses <p>[Town Hall, Grosser Sitzungssaal, Rathausplatz 1]</p>	<p>Tour des Villes Team Sonthofen</p> <p>Claire Simon & Magdalena Holzer</p>
	<p>10:15</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>	
	<p>10:45</p>	<p>Common discussion of the project of the town (peer-to-peer counselling)</p>	
	<p>12:15</p>	<p>Conclusions and next steps</p>	
	<p>12:30</p>	<p>Closing</p>	
	<p>12:30</p>	<p>Lunch [tbd]</p>	
	<p>13:30 to 14:30</p>	<p>Optional: guided tour through Sonthofen</p>	

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**Check-list for the organisation of the excursions and workshops:
Which topics can be addressed where?**



Four thematic fields

		Sonthofen
Participation of the civil society	What is the right “size” of participation? Who should be involved? Should all inhabitants participate or only a selection? How can this selection be done, for e.g. if nobody is living/working in the building yet?	
	How can architects, experts, and planners be convinced about the importance of involving the population?	
	Which level of participation is appropriate: information (e.g. website, journals, etc.), participation in study trips, or participation in decision making?	
	How can young people be involved and how can the transformation of buildings contribute to keeping young people in town?	X

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Ownership	How can ownership issues be addressed in a constructive way?	
	How to deal with private or multiple ownership?	
	How to motivate private owners to invest in the transformation of buildings? Who should carry the costs? Who has better access to funds?	
	How can the ideas of the owners be balanced with the needs and expectations of the municipality regarding the destiny of buildings?	
Heritage sites	How to deal with restrictive (heritage) rules regarding the transformation and public access of heritage buildings, religious buildings, military buildings, etc.?	
	How can history and new technologies be combined in a successful way?	
Link to alpine area	How can the transformation of conversion areas strengthen the link between the town and the surrounding alpine area? Which are the alpine specificities of such areas?	x

Approach and methodology

		Sonthofen
Learn from past experiences	Learning from good practices	x
	Learning from past mistakes and problems	x
	Sharing ideas	x
	Strengthening cooperation between towns	
Generating new ideas	How can new ideas be generated to convert old buildings?	
	Allowing creative approach to find new forms of use: mixed, flexible or temporary use, minimal interventions, etc.	x

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Useful and practical ideas	Tangible results that can be implemented	
	Fill areas/sites with life	X
	Find solutions for all stages of transformation within a long term process	X
	Access to (EU) funds and develop a broader project	
Other		