



HERICOAST

1st Workshop and field visit "Exchange of Experience" REPORT

Date: 22th - 23th of June 2016 Venue: Verftet, Ny-Hellesund



The historical outport of Ny-Hellesund with the conference facilities at Verftet under construction in the right side of the picture (@Sogneguiden.no).

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1st PART, Opening conference, 22th June

As Lead Partner Vest-Agder County Council invited to the opening of HERICOAST with a conference that had the latest European trends within the management of European coastal cultural landscapes on the agenda. The conference was held in the historical outport of Ny-Hellesund, a cultural environment in Vest-Agder that is currently in the process of being listed as national protected.

The background of the conference was that European coastal regions have a unique diversity of cultural heritage. At the same the regions face growing pressure on coastal zones following changes in the fisheries, transport sector and tourism industry. This puts vulnerable coastal cultural landscapes at risk.

The conference included 8 speakers and a field visit and had a total of 39 participants from project partners, international experts and regional stakeholders.

After the welcome by the Deputy Mayor of Aust-Agder County Council the first speaker was Michael Pye who introduced his recent book on the history of the North Sea. His work marks a new perspective on the history of the North Sea regions that stresses their interconnectedness and role in the development of modern Europe. This speech was followed by Linde Egberts from the advisory partner in the project Vrije Universiteit Amserdam. She addressed the relation between heritage and history and stressed how heritage was a selective present day activity directed at achieving future goals. Dirk Gotzmann from the other advisory partner in the project Civilscape supplemented Linde Egberts by introducing the concept of landscape as the spatial dimension to heritage.

After the first series of general themes it was time for a series of descriptions of different cases. First out was Mette Guldberg from the Maritime and Fisheries Museum in Esbjerg. The museum has had an important role in the management of the Wadden Sea area in Denmark. Mette Guldberg particular emphasized how the cultural elements in the area have had a tendency to be under appreciated as the main interest in the areas are the natural elements. Åse Bitustøl from the National Directorate for Cultural Heritage in Norway described how they had been working on heritage of Norwegian coastal regions. Historically these elements had been downplayed because the state has prioritized the inland as a supposedly more authentic Norwegian heritage.

After these two cases it was time to dive into the situation in the Agder region and particular the history and management of the historical outports along the archipelago. Dag Hundstad from the University of Agder described the historical development of the coastal communities and how these and their symbolic connotations transformed during the 1900s. His speech was followed by Bjarne T. Sørensen from Vest-Agder County Council who went into detail with the history of Ny-Hellesund and how the county council had been engaged in the listing process.







Dag Hundstad gives his lecture on the historical outports of Agder (@Vest-Agder County Council).

After a short break the last speeches was followed by a field visit in the cultural environment of Ny-Hellesund. A boat took the participants to the neighbor island of Monsøya where one of the local inhabitants Peder Johan Pedersen guided the group through the place.



Local resident Peder Johan Pedersen talks about the daily life at Ny-Hellesund (@Vest-Agder County Council).





2nd PART, Workshop and field visit, 23th June

Field visit



 $The \ newly \ constructed \ path \ in \ the \ protected \ natural \ environment \ of \ Kapell \textit{\'ey} \ (@Vest-Agder \ County \ Council).$

The field visit was guided by Bjørn Vikøyr, senior advisor from the County Governor of Agder. The field visit included a tour around the island of Kapelløya at Ny-Hellesund. The area of the island is partial protected as natural environment as part of a larger areas stretching along the archipelago. At Kapelløya the protected environment borders the protected cultural environment of Ny-Hellesund. Where the cultural protection is managed by the county council, the natural protection is managed by the county governor. This causes some differences and complicates the overall management somehow but according to Bjørn Vikøyr this goes rather well.

On the tour Bjørn Vikøyr payed special attention how various aspects of the area is managed. Firstly, a primary concern of the county governor is how to improve the accessibility without imposing to severe damage to the environment. A path made of wooden boards and bridges has newly been opened to the public and has become quite popular. Secondly, the management struggles with how traces of previous human activity, mainly farming and agriculture, disappear with the natural growth in the landscape. Thirdly, another concern relates to how to deal with wishes of building new constructions for public purposes in the area. At the present time they are plans for constructing a new chapel and the rebuilding of a burned down pilot's cabin.





Workshop



Examples of the templates filled in for the workshop.

Linde Egberts from Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam moderated the first partner workshop, in which the partners were offered the chance to get acquainted with one another and start their knowledge exchange. The starting point of the workshop was the lecture given by Linde the previous day where she presented a framework for understanding the use of heritage in relation to history, tourism and regional development. For the purpose of the workshop, Linde Egberts had developed a rough template for identifying and analyzing territorial situation. The template focused on a heritage project, highlighting what heritage was at stake, who was involved in the process of transforming or preserving this heritage and why this was a good example of heritage management. Each partner filled in the template with examples from their region beforehand.

The templates were presented at the beginning of the workshop. All partners were then invited to indicate which projects they found inspiring and what things they could learn from each other's expertise. This formed the basis of a group discussion, in which ten questions were posed that will form the basis for the knowledge exchange in the subsequent workshops and will also lay the foundation for the toolbox that is to be developed.

Before the 2nd workshop, advisory partners Civilscape and CLUE+ will on the basis of the results from the 1st workshop rework the template in order to identify the inventory of the territorial situation of all regions. Next to the strategy of engaging stakeholders in policy development, this will be the main topic of the workshop in Tulcea, next October.





Annex 1: List of Participants







