

# (Agri)cultural landscape

## Strategies for the cultural landscape of the future

Tasser, E., Mahlknecht, S., Meixner, W., Pecher, C., Schermer, M., Siegl, G., Teutsch, A., Tappeiner, U.

Since thousands of years land use has been forming the cultural landscape in mountain regions like South Tyrol and Tyrol. An intact landscape not only has an aesthetic value, but it also increases the quality of life for the local population and the site attractiveness for tourism. Furthermore, it offers essential ecological services for the society like soil protection, preservation of biodiversity and provision of clean water.

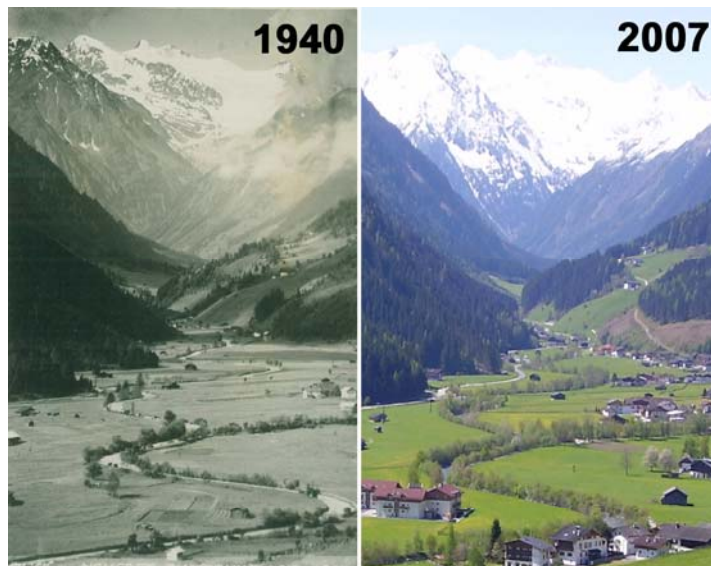
### Objectives

The development of the typical cultural landscape in South Tyrol and Tyrol was completed in the 15th century, when the medieval colonization was at its maximum. Distinct legal traditions between East and West and a changed legal situation after the annexation of South Tyrol to Italy shaped differences in the cultural landscapes. Additionally, the opening of markets in the middle of the 20th century led to an intensification of favourable agricultural land, to an extensification and, partially, to an abandonment of agriculturally unfavourable areas. Due to slowly proceeding succession processes in the landscape the extent of the consequences will, however, be observable only after many decades. Therefore, the project aims at answering the following questions:

How can farms' individual strategies be harmonized with the expectations of the society?

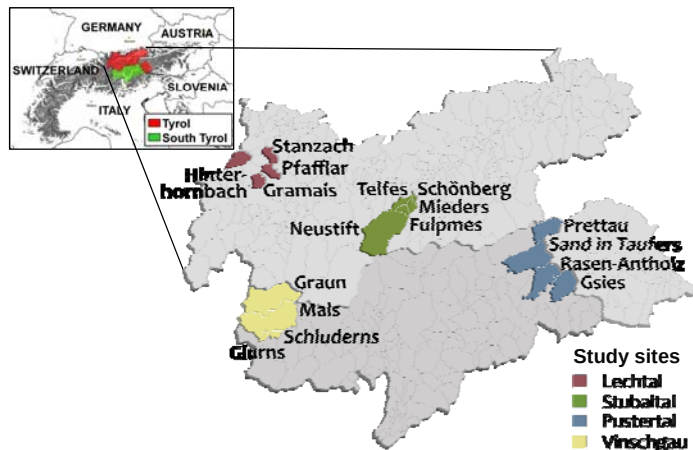
Which kind of landscape does the society desire?

Which economic and socio-historic processes have an effect on the landscape?



Landscape changes in the Stubaital (Tyrol)

### Project area / Study sites



### Project partners

- Lead partner:** Accademia Europea Bolzano; Istituto per l'Ambiente Alpino / Europäische Akademie Bozen; Institut für Alpine Umwelt
- Amt der Tiroler Landesregierung; Gruppe Agrar
- Provincia Autonoma di Bolzano-Alto Adige; Ripartizione Agricoltura, Ripartizione Foreste, Archivio Provinciale di Bolzano / Autonome Provinz Bozen-Südtirol; Abteilung Landwirtschaft, Abteilung Forstwirtschaft, Südtiroler Landesarchiv (SLA)
- Ländliches Fortbildungsinstitut Tirol (LFI)
- Istituto Pedagogico per il gruppo linguistico tedesco / Pädagogisches Institut für die deutsche Sprachgruppe
- Tiroler Landesmuseen-Betriebsgesellschaft m.b.H.
- Universität Innsbruck, Institut für Ökologie, Institut für Soziologie, Institut für Geschichtswissenschaften und Europäische Ethnologie

### Research issues

Integrated studies are being conducted by a multidisciplinary team at transnational level.

#### Landscape desired by the society

- Survey with comparison of historic, recent and potential future landscape images; target groups: local population and tourists in project area
- Focus groups with farmers in order to identify strategies for future farm management

#### Dynamics of the cultural landscape

- Analysis of landscape development within selected study sites during the last 150 years
- Additional analysis of agro-structural development for all municipalities in project area
- Evaluation of consequences for ecological services

#### Development scenarios and basis for decision-making

- 15-20 expert interviews
- Derivation of future trends → development of future scenarios
- Result presentation and discussion in local workshops
- Development of methods for achievement of desired landscape

### Expected results

- Decision-making basis for government and administration
- Transnational didactics tool for secondary schools: "Tyrolean cultural landscape in space and time"
- "Day of the landscape development" incl. travelling exhibition and discussion in study sites
- Open-source documentation comprising images, texts and maps

For more information: <http://kulawi.eurac.edu/> contact : [erich.tasser@eurac.edu](mailto:erich.tasser@eurac.edu)