

CURRICULUM VITAE

Michael Schimek

(Dipl.-Ing. MA)



Personal

Born / Citizenship / Place of residence:
October 24th, 1972 / Austrian / Tulln, Austria

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Summary:

Austrian consultant with over 20 years of experience in community-led local and regional conservation and development planning. Expert on issues of World Heritage management, with a focus on cultural landscapes.

Teaching assignment for the master study course “World Heritage Studies” in Cottbus/DE for ten years, as the only practitioner not coming from academia. Training for establishing bottom-up led local development in Romania and Bulgaria.

Professional experience

Consultancy “schimek plant”, Tulln/AT

(owner, since 01/2010):

- World Heritage management planning, World Heritage applications, heritage impact assessments, heritage consultancy.
- Project management, grant proposals.
- Workshops on World Heritage management in Austria, Germany, and Belgium (partly in English).
- Lectures and coaching on regional development issues in Romania and Bulgaria, by appointment of the European Commission (in English).
- University lecturing in Germany and Slovakia (in English).
- Peer reviewer for the “Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development”.
- Member of the Group of Experts supporting the Secretariat of the Berne Convention of the Council of Europe in monitoring the European Diploma for Protected Areas.
- Member of ICOMOS Austria.

RaumUmwelt Planungs-GmbH, Vienna/AT

(head of spatial planning division, 01/2022 – 06/2022):

- Municipality planning.
- Environmental impact assessments, partly in connection with World Heritage sites.

NGOs Arbeitskreis Wachau; Association World Heritage
Municipalities Wachau; Leader association Wachau-
Dunkelsteinerwald; Arbeitskreis Wachau Dunkelsteinerwald
Regionalentwicklungs GmbH, Spitz/AT
(CEO and World Heritage site manager, 05/2002 – 10/2018):

- Building up and leading the regional conservation and development office (up to 8 members of staff).
- Supporting the governing bodies (15 mayors, representatives from the economical sectors of the region and from civil society, representatives from the federal and the provincial governments) of the regional NGOs in meetings, steering committees and general political and association work.
- In charge of all staff, financial, technical, and public relations aspects of the office of the NGOs (legal issues, budgeting, accounting, taxation, technical infrastructure, general public relations work); annual budget responsibility up to 2 million EUR.
- Strategic planning and redesigning of the regional structures and the regional network to prepare for a formal World Heritage site management based on a strategic World Heritage management plan.
- Managing the Leader region Wachau-Dunkelsteinerwald, twice running a huge stakeholder involvement campaign in preparation of the successful recognition as a Leader region (European programme for innovative development in rural areas).
- Acquiring, financing, putting into action and settling accounts at almost 700 projects amounting to a total of 60 million EUR.
- Rebuilding Wachau Jauerling Nature Park from bankruptcy, forming the basis for a continuously successful institution. Creation of successful national and international partnerships, mainly in the field of nature protection and World Heritage management.
- Intensive networking and lecturing on national and international level, especially with other World Heritage sites all over Europe. More than 100 lectures in AT, DE, PL, NO, SE, BE, FR, ES, PT, IT, SI, HU, SK, RO, BG, mostly in English.

Hinterwirth Architects, Gmunden /AT;

Dr. Schedlmayer Planning, Loosdorf/AT;

Dr. Paula Planning, Vienna/AT;

Institute for Urban Design, Technical University Vienna/AT

(member of staff, 10/1998 – 04/2002):

- Project management and project assistance in all issues dealing with municipality planning.

Järnskogs framtidsgrupp, Koppom/SE

(master thesis, 10/1997 – 02/1998):

- Advising a local citizen group in community development issues.
- Coordinating the plans with the local municipality administration.
- Work done in Swedish.

Education

Technical University Vienna/AT (10/1992 – 06/1998):

- Bachelor and master studies of Spatial Planning (Dipl.-Ing.)
- Three semesters studies of landscape architecture at the Swedish Agricultural University, Alnarp/SE

Danube University Krems/AT (10/2014 – 11/2017):

- Master studies of Music Management (MA)

Professional licences:

- Technical Office for Spatial Planning (01/2010)
- Civil Technician for Spatial Planning (05/2003)

Languages

- German (mother tongue)
- English (fluent: 116 out of 120 points at the TOEFL Test, June 2019)
- Swedish (fluent: Rikstest, the Swedish test certifying language proficiency for studying in Sweden, passed in 1997)
- Danish, Norwegian, Russian, Spanish, French, Italian (basic)

Other information

- Proficiency in MS Office applications, Adobe InDesign, CMS systems.
- Basic knowledge in Adobe PhotoShop, AutoCAD, QGIS.
- Driving license classes B and C.
- Scout leader for 25 years, woodbadge holder, member of the Austrian leader trainer staff.
- Co-organizing international scout camps.
- Choir singing, own musical projects.

PROJECTS (EXAMPLES)

normal .. project done as schimek plant

Italics .. project for the World Heritage region management of Wachau or as a member of staff of RaumUmwelt

World Heritage

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| since 2023 | Creating a World Heritage management plan for the WH site "Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn"
(Client: Schloss Schönbrunn Kultur- und Betriebs GmbH) |
| 2023 | Supporting the regional stakeholders in finding a decision about the nomination of the Austrian Iron Road to the World Heritage
(Client: Tourism Association Steyr + National Park Kalkalpen Region) |
| 2023 | Supporting the newly established World Heritage site management at Hallstatt-Dachstein/Salzkammergut during its start-up phase
(Client: Association World Heritage Management Cultural Landscape Hallstatt-Dachstein/Salzkammergut) |
| 2023 | Supporting the State Party and the Austrian World Heritage sites during the Third Periodic Reporting Cycle of the World Heritage
(Client: Austrian Ministry for Arts, Culture, Public Service, and Sports) |
| since 2022 | Evaluation and update of the World Heritage management plan for the Saxonian part of the WH site "Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region" |

- (Client: Association Welterbe Montanregion Erzgebirge e.V.; together with transform architects, Berlin)
- 2022 Putting up the “landscape observatory” landscape monitoring system for the transnational Austrian-Hungarian World Heritage cultural landscape “Fertő-Neusiedler See”
(Client: Federal State Government of Burgenland)
- 2022 Preliminary study for the World Heritage nomination of the Großglockner High Alpine Road
(Client: GROHAG AG; together with Revital Consulting, Nussdorf-Debant, Idam/Kain Monument Protection, Hallstatt/Bad Goisern, conos management consulting, Vienna, Dr. Kurt Luger, Salzburg, Mag. Peter Rupitsch, Heiligenblut, and Quendo Graphic Design, Vienna)
- since 2022 Study „Evaluating ways of legal cooperation between the federal and the provincial level in Austria with regards to the built environment”
(Client: Austrian Ministry for Arts, Culture, Public Service, and Sports; together with Dr. Mona Mairitsch, Madrid/Vienna)
- 2022 *Finalizing the Environmental Impact Assessment report for the project „Heumarkt neu“*
(Client: wertinvest Hotelbetriebs GmbH)
- 2021-22 Heritage Impact Assessment „Hotel Grand Semmering”, World Heritage site Semmering Railway
(Client: Lower Austrian State Government, together with Danube University Krems, Univ.-Prof. Dr. Christian Hanus, and Andreas Wirth and Toni Häfliger, Switzerland)
- 2020-21 Preparing the application of the Mosel valley for being listed in Germany’s World Heritage Tentative List (together with michael kloos planning and heritage consultancy, Aachen)
(Client: Association World Heritage Mosel Valley)
- 2020 Thematic study “Historical Development of Scenic Routes”, global Comparative Analysis (together with Solimar International, Washington D.C., Dr. Kurt Luger, Salzburg, Dr. Kristina Skåden, Oslo, and DI Thomas Mitterecker, Berndorf)
(Client: Austrian Ministry for Arts, Culture, Public Service, and Sports)
- 2020 Article on the similarities of the World Heritage sites Upper Middle Rhine Valley and Wachau for a special booklet celebrating 20 years of World Heritage in the Wachau
(Client: Lower Austrian State Government)
- 2019-21 Creating a World Heritage management plan for the WH cultural landscape “Hallstatt-Dachstein/Salzkammergut”
(Client: Upper Austrian State Government)
- 2019 Case study paper on the effects of the flood protection provisions in the WH cultural landscape Wachau following the flood of 2002
(Client: ICCROM-ICOMOS Joint Working Group)
- 2018 Licensing an offer for nature protection grants in Wachau World Heritage
(Client: Association World Heritage Municipalities Wachau)

- 2018 *Establishing the platform „World Heritage Volunteers“ in order to organize volunteer camps for the maintenance of the World Heritage in the two World Heritage cultural landscapes Wachau and Upper Middle Rhine Valley*
- 2016-18 *Preparation of the joining of the Wachau and representation of the region in DANUBEPARKS, the network of large nature protection areas along the Danube river, participation in the joint Interreg project DANUBE parksCONNECTED*
- 2015-18 *Restructuring the region Wachau in order to achieve a stable and sustainable management for the tasks connected with the World Heritage status, drafting and building up the monitoring system for the surveillance of the development of the World Heritage, drafting, building up and servicing the World Heritage Advisory Board of the World Heritage region Wachau*
- 2015-17 *Lead editor for the World Heritage Management Plan for the World Heritage site Wachau*
- 2015-18 *Establishing and leading the nature protection cooperation “Wachau-Thayatal-Donauauen” and “Big Five Volunteer” for the joint planning and organizing of volunteer camps for nature protection, at the same time establishing a platform for the exchange between five of the largest nature protection institutions in Lower Austria (Donau-Auen National Park, Thayatal National Park, Wienerwald Biosphere Reserve, Wilderness Area and World Natural Heritage Dürrenstein, World Heritage Wachau)*
- 2011/12 *Joint grant proposal for partners from Austria, Germany, and Hungary for a project aiming at creating awareness for the importance of nature protection in the framework of the EU Danube Territorial Programme, EU for Citizens programme (Client: Austrian Environmental Umbrella Organization)*
- 2011 *Grant proposal for the technology and arts project “Slow Light”, Austrian impulse LEAD programme (Client: Siegrun Appelt, artist)*
- 2010 *Lecturing of the final report on a new tourism info system in the Wachau (Client: con.os tourismus.consulting)*
- 2010/11 *Operational management of the participation of the Wachau region in the Interreg IVc project “ViTour Landscape” with partners from other World Heritage winegrowing cultural landscapes in DE, AT, HU, IT, PT, FR (exchanging best practice projects dealing with a number of different aspects of cultural landscape management, organizing workshops, financial management) (Client: Wachau Dunkelsteinerwald Regional Development)*
- 2010-18 *Managing a regional working group for setting up and creating development plans aiming at tailor-made conservation plans for the built environment in the historic villages in the Wachau*
- 2009-16 *Operational management of the cultural and touristic federal state grant programme “Wachau 2010 plus” (more than 100 projects in the fields of arts and culture, tourism, and renewable energy in the World Heritage Wachau)*

- 2007 *Drafting the proposal of the Wachau for the State Exhibition 2007 as a basis for the strategic programme "Wachau 2010 plus"*
- 2003-11 *Feasibility studies, concepts, participating in the architect competition and surveying the building of the World Heritage Center Wachau at the Danube pier in Krems-Stein*
- 2002-09 *Drafting and surveying the preparation work for the hiking route "World Heritage Trail Wachau", starting the cooperation with the Upper Middle Rhine Valley for gaining support in creating the hiking projects in the Wachau*

Regional development

- since 2022 *Municipality Development Masterplan for Alberschwende, Vorarlberg
(Client: Municipality of Alberschwende; together with Kairos Wirkungsforschung, Bregenz)*
- 2019 *Setting up the regional partner network ahead of the Lower Austrian State Exhibition 2022
(Client: Weinviertel Tourism)*
- 2018/19 *Creating a series of final reports for the Interreg project "CESBA (Common European Sustainable Built Environment Assessment) Alpine Space – Sustainable Territories"
(Client: CESBA Association)*
- 2014-15 *Writing the current Local Development Strategy for the Leader region Wachau-Dunkelsteinerwald based on a huge stakeholder involvement process in the region*
- 2014 *Stakeholder involvement for the preparation of the Wagram region for the new Leader term*
- 2011 *Planning and organizing a showcase event for emphasizing the significance of Leader regions for the rural development in Lower Austria
(Client: Lower Austrian State Government)*
- 2007 *Writing the Local Development Strategy for the Leader region Wachau-Dunkelsteinerwald for the term 2007-14 based on a huge stakeholder involvement process in the region*
- 2005-15 *Deputy speaker of the Lower Austrian Leader regions, representing them at the officers-in-charge of Lower Austria, Austria, and the EU*
- 2002-08 *Re-starting the work of Jauerling-Wachau Nature Park starting from bankruptcy, creating an active modern nature park, coordination of the nature park strategy 2006*

WORKSHOPS, EXCURSIONS, TRAININGS, LECTURES, UNIVERSITY TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS

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Italics .. project for the World Heritage region management of Wachau

Workshops, excursions, trainings

2023	Supporting the regional stakeholders in finding a decision about the nomination of the Austrian Iron Road to the World Heritage (Client: Tourism Association Steyr + National Park Kalkalpen Region)
2019	Adding cultural heritage expertise to workshops aiming at a further development of the cooperation of the castles in the Marchfeld region, Vienna and Schloss Hof/AT (Client: Working Group Marchfeld Castles, together with conos Tourism Consulting)
2019	Organizing a reunion workshop and excursion for the Spatial Planning studying year 1992
2018	Lecture “Challenges of management planning” at the kick-off event for the creation of the World Heritage management plan for the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, St. Goar/DE (Client: Zweckverband World Heritage Upper Middle Rhine Valley)
2018	Organizing an excursion and lecturing on World Heritage site management for stakeholders from the Hungarian part of the World Heritage site Fertő-Neusiedler See, Spitz/AT (Client: Management Fertő-taj World Heritage)
2017	Workshop on the issue of the Outstanding Universal Value in World Heritage management, 1 st annual meeting of the Flemish and Dutch World Heritage managers, Antwerp/BE (Client: Flemish State Government)
2017	<i>Chairing and moderating a working panel “Sustainable Regional Development”, Interreg project “CESBA Alps”, Bezau/AT</i>
2016	Lecture at the annual meeting of Flemish World Heritage managers, Brussels/BE (Client: Flemish State Government)
2016	<i>Lecture “The contemporary in the old – how a focus on quality may give distinction to the World Heritage”, Annual meeting of the association UNESCO World Heritage sites Germany e.V., Regensburg/DE</i>
2014	Lecture at an expert hearing on a controversial development issue at the Mosel river, Cochem/DE (Client: Rhenish Association for Monument and Landscape Protection)
2012	<i>Lecture “Mobility system Wachau”, workshop for creating the Master Plan World Heritage Upper Middle Rhine Valley, Kaub/DE</i>

- 2011 *Intervention “The Role of Europe in regional development in Lower Austria”, European Forum Wachau, Göttweig/AT*
- 2010/11 Operational management of the participation of the Wachau region in the Interreg IVc project “ViTour Landscape” with partners from other World Heritage winegrowing cultural landscapes (exchanging best practice projects dealing with a number of different aspects of cultural landscape management, organizing workshops, financial, management), Riomaggiore/IT, Chexbres/CH, Boppard/DE, Fontevraud/FR, Montalcino/IT, Tarczal/HU, St. Goar/DE, Parndorf/AT
(Client: Wachau Dunkelsteinerwald Regional Development)
- 2010 Lecture on nature protection and the Leader programme at Klagenfurt Protected Days, organized by Network Rural Austria, Klagenfurt/AT
(Client: Austrian Environmental Umbrella Organization)
- 2010 Lectures on “EU legal system” and “Biodiversity in regional development”, TAIEX seminar for preparing new member states for an active role in the EU, Sibiu/RO
(Client: European Commission)
- 2010 Lectures on “Rural development in Austria” and “The role of SME in developing rural areas”, TAIEX seminar, Sibiu/RO
(Client: European Commission)
- 2010 Workshop on how to build up sustainable bottom-up based structures for rural development, TAIEX seminar, Baia Mare/RO
(Client: European Commission)
- 2010 Workshop on how to build up Leader regions, TAIEX seminar, Sibiu/RO
(Client: European Commission)
- 2009 Workshop on how to build up Leader regions, TAIEX seminar, Vaslui/RO
(Client: European Commission)
- 2009 Workshop on how to build up Leader regions, TAIEX seminar, Krdzhali/BG
(Client: European Commission)
- 2009 Workshop on how to build up Leader regions, TAIEX seminar, Baia Mare/RO
(Client: European Commission)
- 2009 *Lecture „Sustainable tourism in the World Heritage landscape Wachau“, workshop of the UNESCO European office on tourism in World Heritage sites, Bardejovské Kupele/SK*
- 2008 *Lecture “Keeping up the Wachau winegrowing landscape”, final workshop of the project “Historic wine hills – winegrowers, monument protection, and nature protection on a common path, Rosswag/DE*
- 2006 *Lecture „World Heritage cultural landscape Wachau, Austria“, Workshop for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe, Ljubljana/SI*
- 2004 *Lecture “Effects of being listed as World Heritage cultural landscape”, workshop of the International Lake Constance Conference on a potential World Heritage listing of the Lake Constance region, Constance/DE*

Lectures and conferences

- 2004 *Lecture on the workshop “World Heritage proposal Bregenzerwald”, Egg/AT*
- 2018 Panel discussion on the positive effects of the World Heritage on the urban economy, Baden bei Wien/AT
(Client: Municipality of Baden bei Wien)
- 2018 *Panel discussion “Cultural heritage protection in larger protected areas” during the Day of Europe of the Lower Austrian State Government, St. Pölten/AT*
- 2017 *Lecture „Sustainable solutions in World Heritage management“, conference of “Douro Generation“ on the World Heritage and sustainable development, Vila Real/PT*
- 2017 *Lecture „A case study: Memorial peace cross St. Lorenz – reinventing a misused historic location in the Wachau“, 4th Heritage Forum of Central Europe, Cracow/PL*
- 2015 Lecture at the kick-off event for the creation of the World Heritage management plan for Bamberg Historic City Centre, Bamberg/DE
(Client: Municipality of Bamberg)
- 2015 *Lecture „The pros and cons of voluntary site management“, conference “50 years European Diploma for Protected Areas” of the Council of Europe, Pisa/IT*
- 2014 Lecture at the symposium “Cultural landscapes and the World Heritage”, Koblenz/DE
(Client: General directorate for the Cultural Heritage in Rhineland-Palatinate)
- 2013 *Lecture „Exchanging views and projects – positive effects of international networking in World Heritage site management“, conference „Between dream and reality: Debating the impact of World Heritage listing“, University of Oslo, Oslo/NO*
- 2013 *Lecture „The role of voluntary involvement in managing the World Heritage cultural landscape Wachau“, 2nd Heritage Forum of Central Europe, Cracow/PL*
- 2012 Lecture on regional development in the Wachau for stakeholders from South Western Styria, Krems/AT
(Client: Krems Real Estate Ltd.)
- 2012 *Lecture for a delegation of Members of Parliament from Rhineland-Palatinate, Angern bei Krems/AT*
- 2012 *Lecture for a delegation from the future World Heritage region Burgundy, Dürnstein/AT*
- 2010 Lecture on cultural landscape management at an expert conference, Častá-Papiernička/SK
(Client: Academia Istropolitana Nova)
- 2006 *Lecture “Institutional cooperation in regional development in the Wachau”, conference of the Heinrich Böll Foundation on “Regional development in Germany and Poland”, Warsaw/PL*

University teaching assignments and lectures

2004	<i>Lecture „The World Heritage cultural landscape Wachau“, conference „Riverine landscapes as World Heritage sites: Upper Middle Rhine Valley-Loire“ of the Rhenish State Library, Koblenz/DE</i>
2003	<i>Lecture „World Heritage Wachau – protection and development of a cultural landscape“, conference “Historic cultural landscapes – conservation and development”, Bavarian Association for Home Conservation”, Klosterlangheim/DE</i>
2013-18	Teaching assignment “Marketing in World Heritage Sites” (Master Course “World Heritage Studies”) (Client: Brandenburg Technical University Cottbus-Senftenberg/DE)
2018	Lecture at the professional orientation day for students of the Bachelor course “Built environment”, Wiesbaden/DE (Client: RheinMain High School, Wiesbaden)
2016	Workshop participation during a lecture on the management of the built environment, Aachen/DE (Client: RWTH Aachen)
2012	Teaching assignment “Marketing in World Heritage Sites” (Master Course “Built Heritage Conservation and Development”) (Client: Academia Istropolitana Nova, Sväty Jur/SK)
2010-11	Teaching assignment “Marketing in World Heritage Sites” (Master Course “World Heritage Studies”) (Client: Brandenburg Technical University Cottbus /DE)
2009	Teaching Assignment “Practical Training in Heritage Management” (Master Course “World Heritage Studies”) (Client: Brandenburg Technical University Cottbus/DE)
2008	<i>Organizing of an excursion and lecturing for students of the master study course “World Heritage Studies” from BTU Cottbus, Stein/AT</i>