



Revitalizing Local Communities through Enhancing Traditional Knowledge and Empowering Young Successors

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German Association for Landcare

The German Association for Landcare (DVL) founded in 1993 is the umbrella organisation for all regional Landcare Associations (LCAs) or similar organisations in Germany.

→ 155 LCAs at the moment

- we provide support and policy guidance to the network of LCAs
- we regularly inform and influence decision-makers at all levels



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What are Landcare Associations?

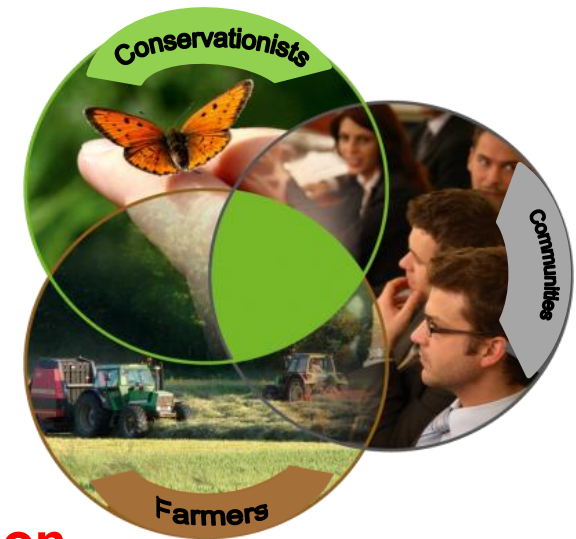
- Societies, founded by **farmers, environmentalists** and **representatives of local municipalities**; usually not-for-profit organisations serving the public interest; independent units

- **first characteristic: parity**

Boards: equal numbers of environmentalists, farmers and local politicians

- **second characteristic: voluntary participation**

➔ on request, they offer advice to municipal administrations, to farmers and other private landowners



Goals of Landcare Associations

Three main goals:

- to create an overall **network of natural habitats** (network of biotopes)
- to encourage **landscape management in conjunction with farmers** and offer them a reliable **second income from agri-environment schemes**
- to support **rural development** and **regional products**



Challenges

- Difficult to ensure a sufficient income for people who depend on the landscape (farmers, shepherds,..)
- Missing prospects (especially for young people)
- Decline of rural population
- Abandoned farmland
- Loss of biodiversity rich landscapes



Ideas and solutions

- ➔ 1) Agri-environmental schemes offered by EU and states pay farmers for specific measures; consultancy is given by Landcare Associations

Results:

- High acceptance of environmental protection
- Protection of landscapes/ species
- Generate additional income



Ideas and solutions

- ➔ 2) Enhance traditional knowledge and customs, which ensure the sustainable use of the landscape.

Results:

- Decent knowledge and customs
- Protection of landscapes/ species
- Generate additional income



Ideas and solutions

- ➔ 3) Marketing of regional products, which ensure the sustainable use of the landscape.

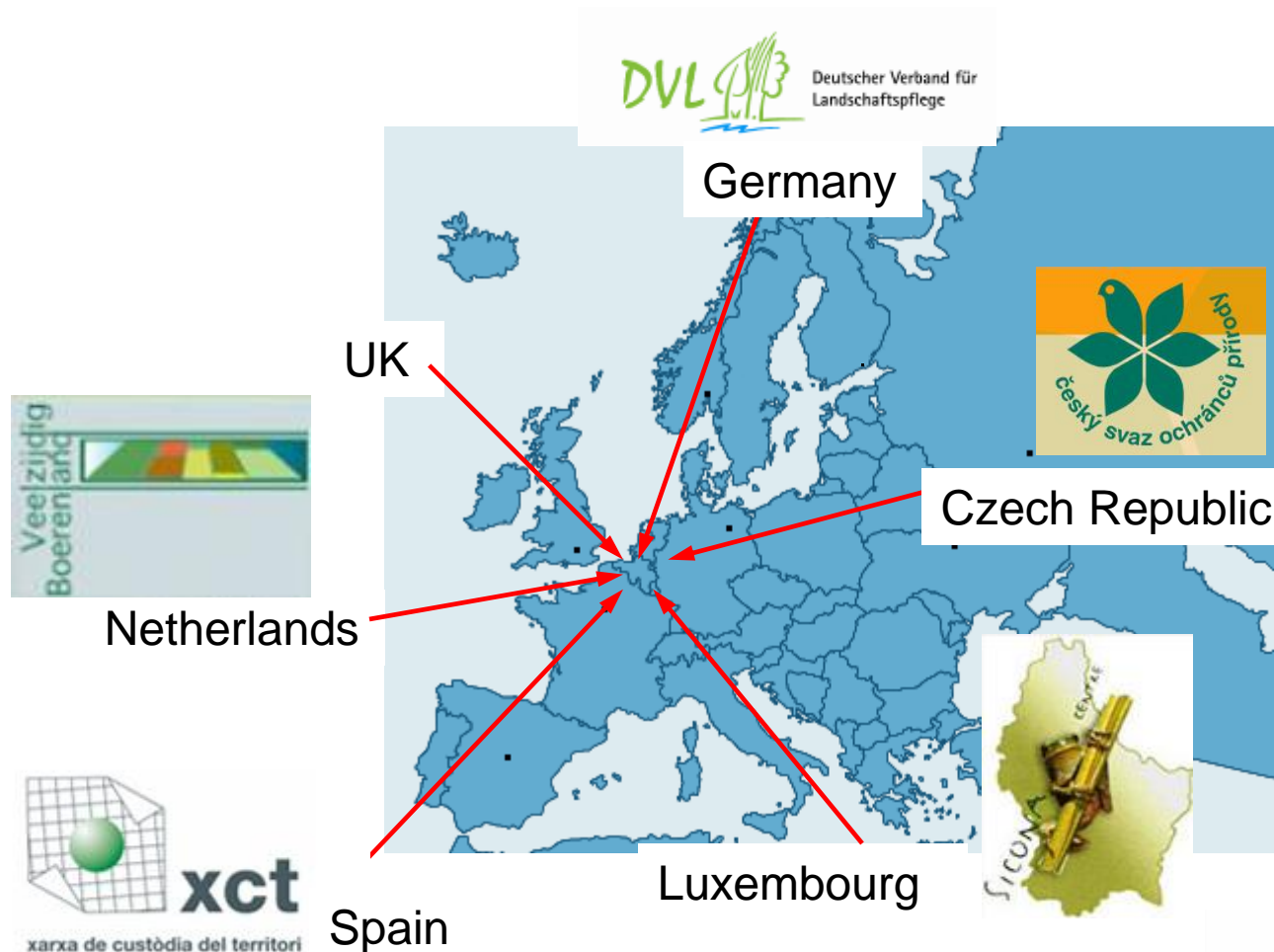
Results:

- higher income
- higher regional identity
- added value in the region
- landscape protection



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Network Landcare Europe



Together with our European partners we support SEPLs!



Thank you very much

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