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# RERURAL PROJECT GROUP WORKS IN SLOVAKIA OUTPUT



## Renovation Models for Rural Tourism Destinations with Youth

2021-2-TR01-KA210-YOU-000050325



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# About Rerural

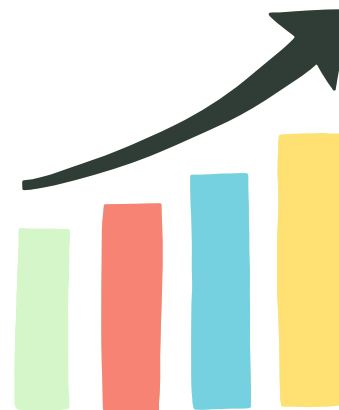
Our project endeavors to delve into the intricacies of implementation problems stemming from the restoration and tourism activities associated with cultural heritage items in rural areas. We recognize the multifaceted challenges these activities pose and seek to unravel them through a comprehensive analysis. The Rerural project's focus extends beyond mere identification; we aim to foster collaboration between our students and local administrations, who play pivotal roles as policymakers in the realm of cultural heritage preservation and rural tourism.



The Rerural Project aims to increase the professional competence needed by tourism and landscape architecture and try to develop new models and strategies and to identify the implementation problems that arise as a result of the restoration and tourism activities of cultural heritage items in rural areas.

## Objectives

- Identification of Implementation Problems
- Collaborative Strategy Building
- Development of Applicable Models
- Focus on Cultural Elements
- Creation of a Restoration Strategy



The collaborative project involves three distinguished organizations representing Türkiye, Poland, and Slovakia. The strength of this international partnership lies in the diversity of expertise and perspectives brought forth by each participating organization.



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# GROUP WORKS IN SLOVAKIA



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The Group Works in Slovakia event was held in Bratislava, Slovakia between 01-03 December 2022. 11 participants travelled from Türkiye, 11 participants from Poland. 10 participants were selected locally. The event was attended by a total of 32 participants. The participants in the three events were selected from the fields of tourism, architecture, and landscape architecture. Undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral students, as well as faculty members as group leaders were among the participants.

## Objectives

- When selecting participants for the project, it's essential to align their expertise with the project's priorities and objectives, specifically focusing on the fields of tourism, architecture, and landscape architecture. This targeted selection ensures that each participant brings valuable insights and skills to the table, directly contributing to the project's core areas. The participants' expertise plays a crucial role in tackling the complex challenges associated with cultural heritage restoration and the development of rural tourism.
- Moreover, it's important to highlight the significance of the participants' specialized knowledge in these areas, as their contributions are vital in addressing the intricate issues surrounding the preservation of cultural heritage while promoting sustainable tourism in rural destinations.



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# GROUP WORKS IN SLOVAKIA



## Visiting Rural and Historical Areas

At the Group Works in Slovakia event, participants took part in engaging visits to rural regions, providing them with an up-close view of the cultural, historical, and socio-economic factors influencing the challenges and prospects in these areas. These field trips enabled attendees to delve into the heart of local villages, significant landmarks, and cultural heritage sites. This hands-on exploration offered them a more profound comprehension of the distinct attributes and conservation requirements of rural communities, enriching their understanding of these areas' unique dynamics.



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# GROUP WORKS IN SLOVAKIA

## Group Works Sessions

The core of the event was centered around the structured group work sessions, where participants collaboratively tackled the challenges and objectives previously identified. These sessions were a melting pot of diverse expertise, bringing together professionals from tourism, architecture, and landscape architecture. They provided a platform for intensive brainstorming, problem-solving, and strategizing.

During these sessions, participants engaged in lively discussions, pooling insights from their visits to rural areas and interactions with local communities. This collective approach fostered an environment where innovative solutions could be proposed. The group work sessions were instrumental in promoting interdisciplinary collaboration, enabling each participant to bring their unique skills and knowledge to the table. This collaborative effort was key in driving forward the shared objective of enhancing restoration practices within rural tourism destinations.



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Rural areas in Bratislava were visited with groups and the destinations visited were examined and analyzed. The groups developed solutions with the data obtained in the analysis.



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# Devín



Devín, nestled at the confluence of the Danube and Morava rivers, is a picturesque borough seamlessly blending its rural charm with historical significance. As an integral part of Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, Devín has evolved into a haven for history enthusiasts and nature lovers alike. Devín boasts an essential role as an archaeological treasure trove, with the prominent Devín Castle standing as a testament to centuries of history. The castle ruins not only narrate the region's rich past but also offer breathtaking panoramic views of the surrounding landscapes, enhancing the visitor experience.

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All information about the region was compiled in the group study. Analyzes were primarily made with the information obtained as a result of the observation. Solutions were then produced with the resulting SWOT analysis results. The results were presented and reported by the group.



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# Devin

## Strengths

- \*Renovation Efforts
- \*Multilingual Information
- \*Accommodation Options
- \*Accessibility
- \*Effective Tourism Utilization

## Weaknesses

- \*Limited Commercial Infrastructure
- \*Seasonal Dependency
- \*Limited Accessibility
- \*Scarce Marketplaces and Souvenir Shops
- \*Underutilized Tourism Potential



## Opportunities

- \*Opportunities:
- \*Cultural Events
- \*Enhanced Interpretation Services
- \*Abundant Natural Resources
- \*Rich Historical Background
- \*Strategic Location Near City Center
- \*Existing Funding Opportunities
- \*Riverside Camping and Caravan Businesses

## Threats

- \*Environmental issues
- \*Financial Constraints and Lack of Adequate Funding
- \*Weather-Related Challenges
- \*Flood Disasters Due to Danube River



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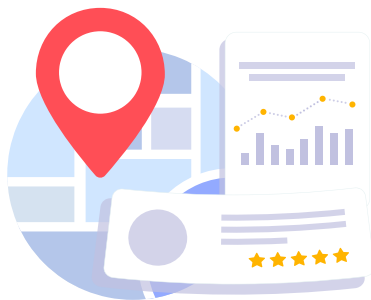
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# Devin Solutions



**Improving Accessibility:** Invest in infrastructure projects that enhance accessibility, such as improving road networks, public transportation options, and creating pedestrian-friendly pathways. This can encourage more visitors to explore the village.

**Promoting Local Markets:** Encourage the establishment of local markets and souvenir shops, showcasing authentic products and crafts. Collaborate with local artisans and businesses to create a diverse range of souvenirs that reflect the unique character of the village.



**Cultural and Historical Interpretation:** Implement guided tours, interpretive signage, and digital platforms that provide insights into the cultural and historical significance of different areas within the village. This not only educates visitors but also enhances their overall experience.



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# Devin Solutions



**Collaboration with Local Businesses:** Foster partnerships with local businesses and entrepreneurs to encourage the creation of tourism-related ventures. This could include cozy cafes, art galleries, or thematic experiences that showcase the village's unique character.

**Climate-Resilient Agriculture:** Implement sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural practices. Provide training and resources to local farmers, promoting techniques that can withstand extreme weather events. Establish a community-supported agriculture network to enhance collective resilience.



**Community Involvement:** Enrich the restoration journey by actively involving the local community. Recognize the invaluable insights community members possess about the building's history. Their participation is not only a source of rich historical knowledge but also a crucial element for the sustained preservation and maintenance of the restored structure.



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# Devin Solutions

**Integration of Modern Amenities:** Elevate the restoration process by thoughtfully integrating modern amenities and technologies. Ensure a seamless coexistence between historical charm and contemporary functionality. This may involve discreetly incorporating energy-efficient systems, insulation for sustainability, and safety features without compromising the building's historical integrity. This harmonious integration ensures that the restored structure not only honors its past but also meets the practical needs of the present.

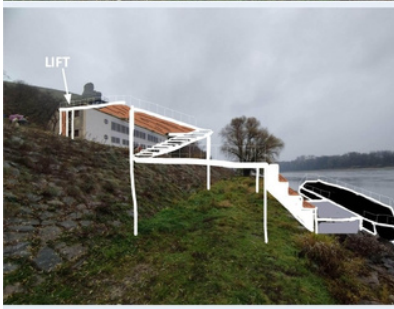
1

Selecting the building to be renovated



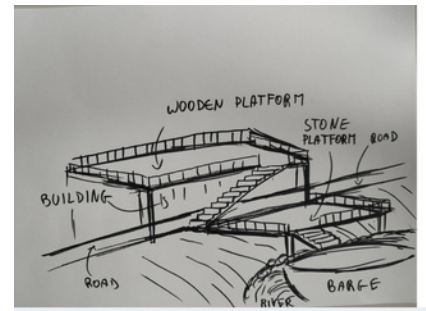
2

Making the first drawings



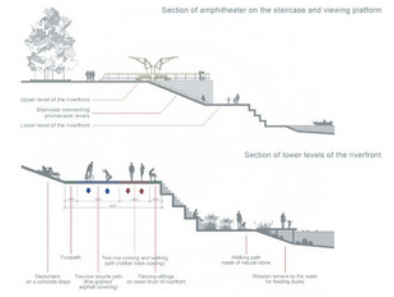
3

Drawing the renovation model



4

Completion and detailing of the design



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## Devin Castle



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Nestled amidst the picturesque landscapes of Slovakia, Devin Castle stands as a testament to centuries of history, bearing witness to the ebb and flow of time. Perched strategically on a hill at the confluence of the Danube and Morava rivers, Devin Castle is not merely a fortress; it is a living monument that echoes the rich cultural heritage of the region.

Recognizing the immense potential of Devin Castle as a premier tourist destination, there is a concerted effort underway to enhance the visitor experience and unlock the full historical and recreational value of this iconic landmark.

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# Devin Castle

## Strengths

- \*Historical Values
- \*Traditional Gastronomic Values.
- \*Close to City Center
- \*Cultural Values
- \*Natural Beauties
- \*Good Design of the Neighborhood

## Weaknesses

- \*Private Properties
- \*Lack of Information in Different Languages
- \*Lack of Marketing/Advertising



## Opportunities

- \*Dark Tourism
- \*Empowerment for Local Folk

## Threats

- \*Untouchable Castle
- \*Natural Disasters (Floods)
- \*Fossil Remainings
- \*Permissions



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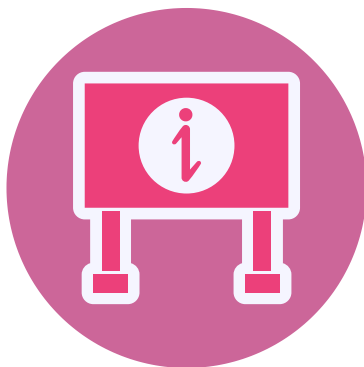
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# Devin Castle Solutions



**Gallery of Historical Artefacts:** Create a dedicated gallery within Devin Castle showcasing historical artifacts, manuscripts, and artworks that narrate the castle's storied past. Implement interactive displays, holographic projections, and augmented reality elements to bring history to life, providing visitors with an engaging and educational experience.

**Hologram Projections (3D):** Introduce hologram projections that use 3D technology to recreate historical scenes and events. Visitors can witness key moments in the castle's past, from royal gatherings to battles, through dynamic holographic displays. This cutting-edge approach adds a captivating and futuristic dimension to the historical narrative.



**Information Boards in the Village:** Install information boards at strategic locations in the village, providing details about its history, notable landmarks, and local points of interest. Include maps, historical timelines, and QR codes linking to digital resources. These boards serve as valuable navigational aids for visitors, encouraging them to explore the village and learn about its cultural heritage.



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# Devin Castle Solutions



### Improved Hiking Route with Interpretive Stations:

Enhance the hiking route from the city center to the village by incorporating interpretive stations along the way. These stations can provide information about the flora, fauna, geological formations, and historical landmarks. Implement QR codes or mobile apps to offer multimedia content, ensuring an informative and interactive hiking experience.

**Culinary Experiences on the Trail:** Collaborate with local establishments to set up pop-up culinary experiences along the hiking route. These could include food stalls offering regional specialties, providing hikers with an opportunity to savor local flavors amidst the natural beauty. This not only supports local businesses but also enriches the overall hiking adventure.



**Community Art Workshops:** Foster community involvement by organizing art workshops that allow both locals and tourists to participate in the creative process. These workshops can be hosted by local artists and provide hands-on experiences in various art forms, promoting cultural exchange and collaboration. The resulting community-created artworks can be displayed alongside professional pieces, celebrating the collective artistic spirit of Devin.



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## Vajnory



Nestled in the embrace of Bratislava, Slovakia, Vajnory stands as a small district that defies the bustling urban archetype. Its landscape, dotted with family houses, echoes a tranquil ambiance, a departure from the concrete expanses found in larger urban areas like Petržalka. With an approximate population of 5000, Vajnory exudes the warmth of a close-knit community. Despite its modest size, Vajnory holds claim to the title of the oldest airport in Slovakia. While no commercial airlines operate from here, the airport adds a unique touch to the village's character. For moments of relaxation, Vajnorské jazera or Bager, a man-made lake, beckons locals and visitors alike during the summer. While the lake offers respite, it remains unembellished, providing a natural escape. Additionally, Zlaté piesky, known as Golden Sands, offers a water-centric recreational spot with sporting facilities, making it a favored destination for enthusiasts.

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# Vajnory

## Strengths

- \*Historical Landmark
- \*Natural Attractions
- \*Bike Bridge
- Connectivity and Infrastructure
- \*Senior Housing Initiatives



## Weaknesses

- \*Lack of Information
- \*Lack of Restoration
- \*Infrastructure Gaps

## Opportunities

- \*Natural Resources
- \*Heritage Tourism Development
- \*Ecotourism



## Threats

- \*Neglect of Historical Assets
- Urbanization Pressures



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# Vajnory Solutions



**Vajnory Airport Restoration Project:** Launch a community-driven initiative or seek partnerships for the restoration of Vajnory Airport, transforming it into an aviation museum and historical site. Organize airshows, aviation-themed events, and educational programs to attract aviation enthusiasts and the general public.

**Vajnory Lakes Ecotourism:** Develop eco-friendly tourism activities around Vajnory Lakes, such as bird watching, guided nature walks, and boat tours. Establish nature interpretation centers to educate visitors about the local flora, fauna, and environmental conservation efforts.



**Senior Housing Tour Packages:** Develop tour packages catering to seniors, highlighting Vajnory's senior-friendly housing initiatives and offering tailored activities and services. Collaborate with wellness and healthcare providers to create holistic senior tourism experiences.



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# Vajnory Solutions



**Art and Music Festivals:** Organize art exhibitions and music festivals in Vajnory, celebrating local talents and fostering a vibrant cultural scene. Incorporate local artists and musicians into events, creating a platform for cultural exchange.

**Digital Marketing Campaigns:** Develop a robust online presence through a dedicated tourism website, social media platforms, and digital marketing campaigns. Highlight Vajnory's unique offerings, events, and attractions to a broader audience, attracting both domestic and international tourists.



**Bike Tourism and Bridge Promotion:** Promote Vajnory's bike bridge as a tourist attraction, encouraging cycling enthusiasts to explore the region. Organize cycling events, guided bike tours, and provide bike rental services for visitors.



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# Learning Outcomes

## 1. Cultural Competence:

- Participants developed cultural competence through interactions with international peers, gaining a deeper understanding of diverse perspectives in the fields of tourism, architecture, and landscape architecture.

## 2. Interdisciplinary Collaboration:

- Attendees fostered interdisciplinary collaboration, learning to work effectively across various fields and contributing to the integration of tourism, architecture, and landscape architecture in cultural heritage preservation.

## 3. Project Alignment and Implementation:

- Participants understood the alignment of the Group Works in Poland event with the broader project's priorities and objectives, demonstrating the ability to connect theoretical knowledge with practical applications in restoration practices.

## 4. Local Engagement Skills:

- Those attending from the local community enhanced their skills in actively participating in regional initiatives, ensuring their voices were heard, and contributing valuable insights to the cultural heritage preservation efforts in Olsztyn.

## 5. Leadership and Mentorship Development:

- Faculty members serving as group leaders developed leadership and mentorship skills, guiding students and fostering a collaborative learning environment within the context of cultural heritage, tourism, and architecture.

## 6. Problem Identification and Solution Proposals:

- Participants enhanced their ability to identify implementation problems related to cultural heritage restoration and rural tourism, proposing innovative and applicable solutions in alignment with the project's goals.

## 7. Communication and Presentation Skills:

- Attendees refined their communication and presentation skills through active engagement in discussions, articulating ideas clearly, and effectively conveying the outcomes of the event to a broader audience.



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## Learning Outcomes

### 10. Critical Thinking and Analysis:

- Participants engaged in critical thinking and analytical exercises, evaluating challenges and opportunities associated with cultural heritage preservation and rural tourism in a holistic manner.

### 11. Networking and Relationship Building:

- Attendees established valuable professional connections, building a network of peers, mentors, and collaborators that extended beyond the event and contributed to future collaborative endeavors.

### 12. Documentation and Dissemination:

- Participants gained experience in documenting key insights and outcomes, developing skills in knowledge dissemination through reports, presentations, or publications, contributing to the wider academic and professional community.

### 13. Civic Engagement and Social Responsibility:

- Attendees, especially those from the local community, strengthened their sense of civic engagement and social responsibility, recognizing their role in preserving cultural heritage and promoting sustainable tourism practices in their region.

### 14. Adaptability and Open-mindedness:

- Participants cultivated adaptability and open-mindedness, embracing different cultural norms and perspectives, and applied this understanding to their approach in addressing challenges related to cultural heritage and tourism.



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# Event Poster



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## RERURAL

### GROUP WORKS IN SLOVAKIA

01-03 December, 2022

Bratislava Slovakia

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#### Renovation Models for Rural Tourism Destinations with Youth



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