



# University cooperation Danube Delta – Improving Livelihoods for the Poorest

22nd Meeting of ARGE Donauländer  
March 25th, 26th, 2015, UFT Tulln  
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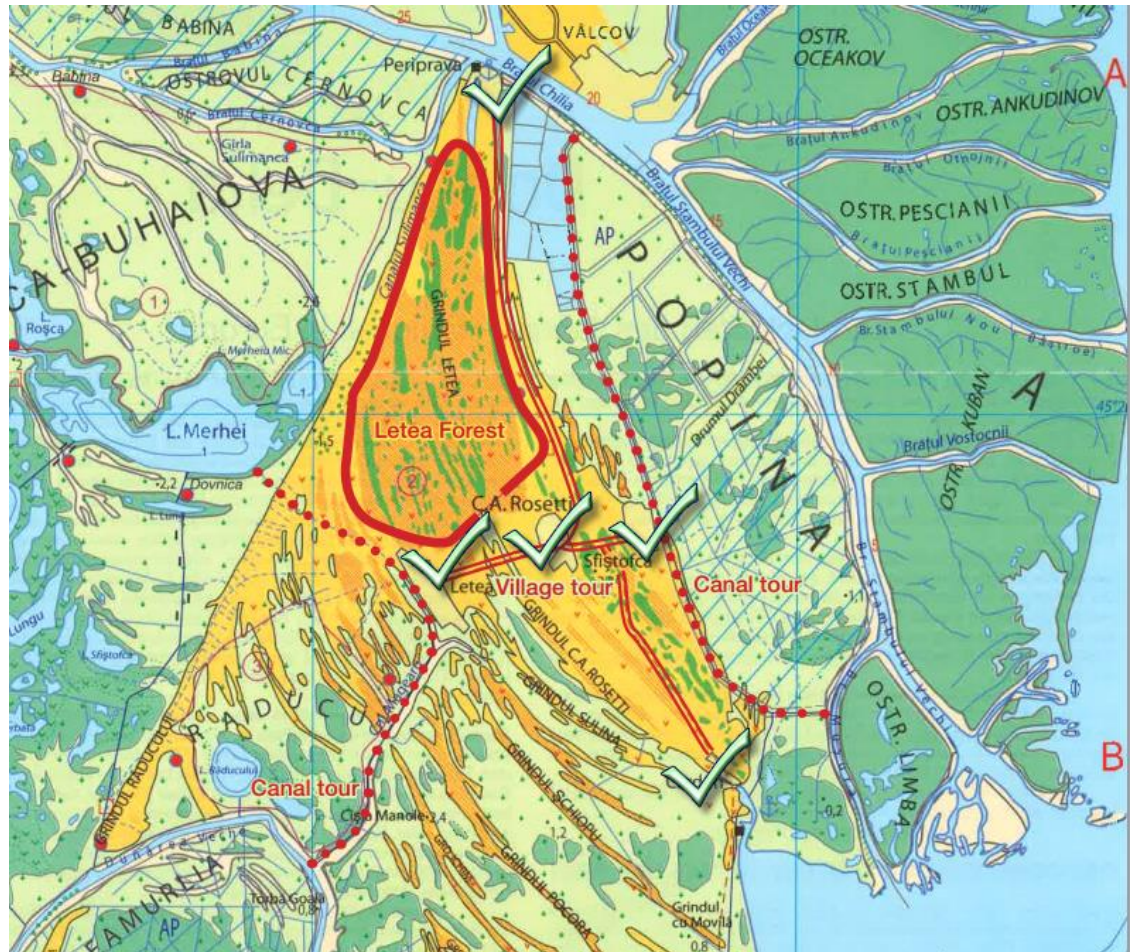
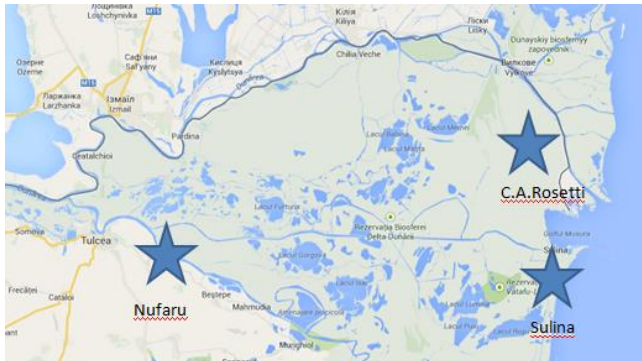
# Local people are in center

- Many locals are excluded from the positive effects of EU projects
  - Sometimes even negative attitudes to programs and projects initiated by key stakeholders
  - Many leftovers that individually experience a much harder situation than 10, 20 or even 30 years ago
- A minimum of organization structure is needed
  - Locals are not well organized to impose their interest
  - People in power seek in the first hand their individual interest and only then the common welfare
- For outsiders who want to be successful
  - Support and trust from local people is indispensable
  - However, locals are not one group, often divided, not speaking with one voice, many people are edicted to alcohol, many families are broken
- For the next EU period 2014-2020 the so called Integrated Territorial Initiative - ITI will be tested in the Danube Delta
  - Will the poorest of the region also profit?
  - We want to give a picture from the poorest municipality in the Danube Region called C.A.Rosetti



# Municipality C.A.Rosetti

- Five villages
  - C.A.Rosetti
  - Sfistofca
  - Letea
  - Periprava
  - Cardon



# University Cooperation

- UNArte National University of Arts Bucharest
  - Prof. Dragos Gheorgiu, Prof. in Archeology
  - Prof. Dan Popovici, glass artist and many more individual artists
- Ion Mincu University of Architecture and Urbanism in Bucharest
  - Prof. Marius Voica, Architect
- Ovidius University Constanta
  - Prof. Florin Aonofriesei, Microbiologist
- Sfistofca Art Association, NGO
  - Laura Nona Ivanov, Artist
  - Facilitator and linkage between Rumanian universities
- TU Wien, TTL Technology.Tourism.Landscape
  - Meinhard Breiling
- Beside guests and supporters for future activities
  - Donauuniversität Krems, Keio University, Japan, Kobe University, Japan

**Sfiștofca**

**СФИШТОФКО**

**Localitate de frontiera**



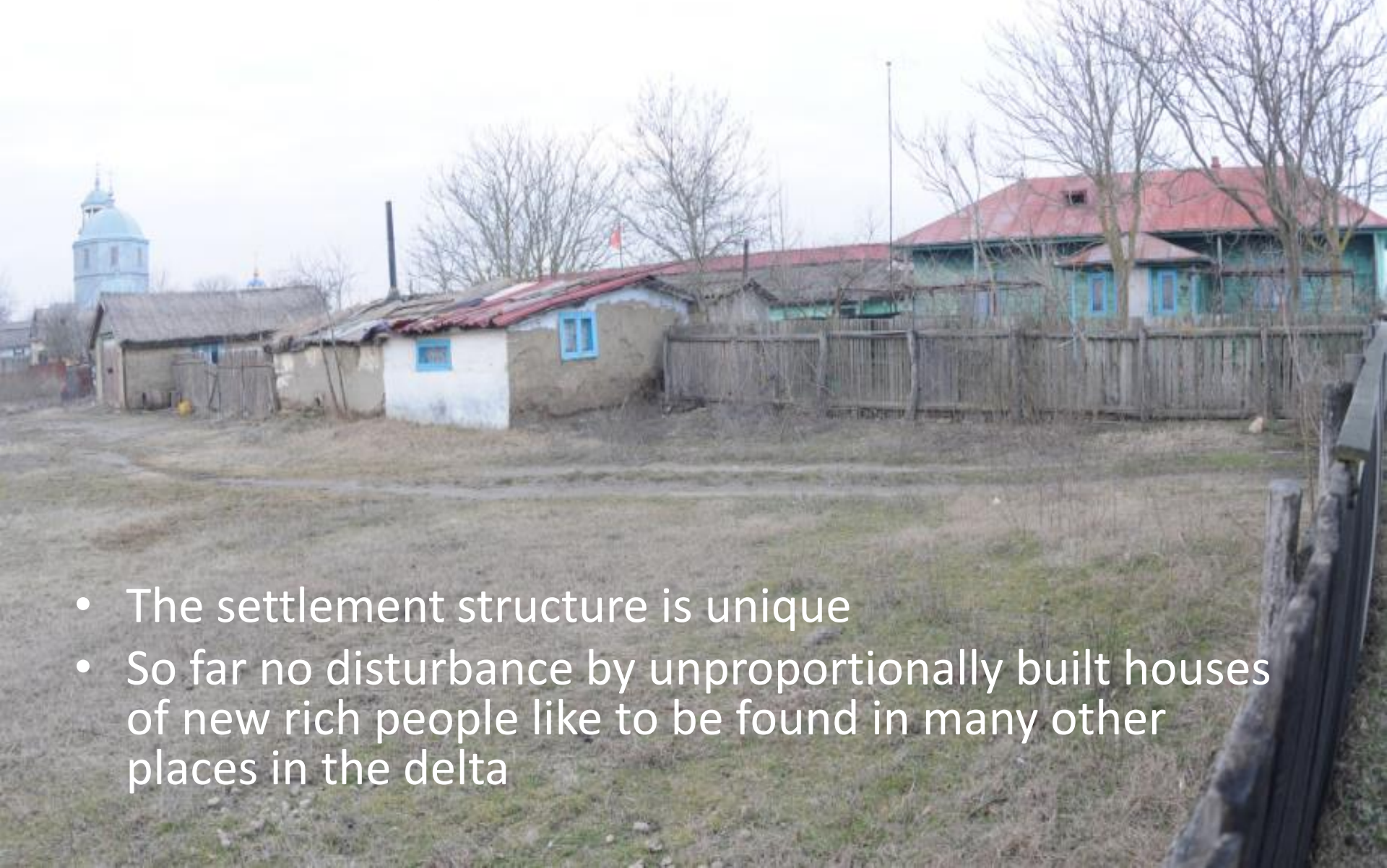


# Sfiștofca churgh



- Church of Russian Oldbelievers
- Lipovans are a Russian speaking religious minority

# Sfiștofca house front



- The settlement structure is unique
- So far no disturbance by unproportionally built houses of new rich people like to be found in many other places in the delta







# Sfistofca entry from channel



- Access via the water is limited to
  - Periods with sufficient water
  - Minimum maintainance by local people











- Marius Voica, Bucharest, Ion Mincu University
- Vassili Serbov, Chairman Lipovan Association Sfiștofca



# Vasili und Marius



- Enjoying exchange in the village Sfiștofca

One abandoned house found new use: since August 2014 there can be found an Artist Studio



- In the areal of this abandoned house with some 1500m<sup>2</sup> an artist studio was established in 2014



# Artist Studio Sfîstofca

- Setting new initiatives by establishing an artist studio in Sfîstofca



# Artist studio February 2015



- This area will become the venue of regular returning art events

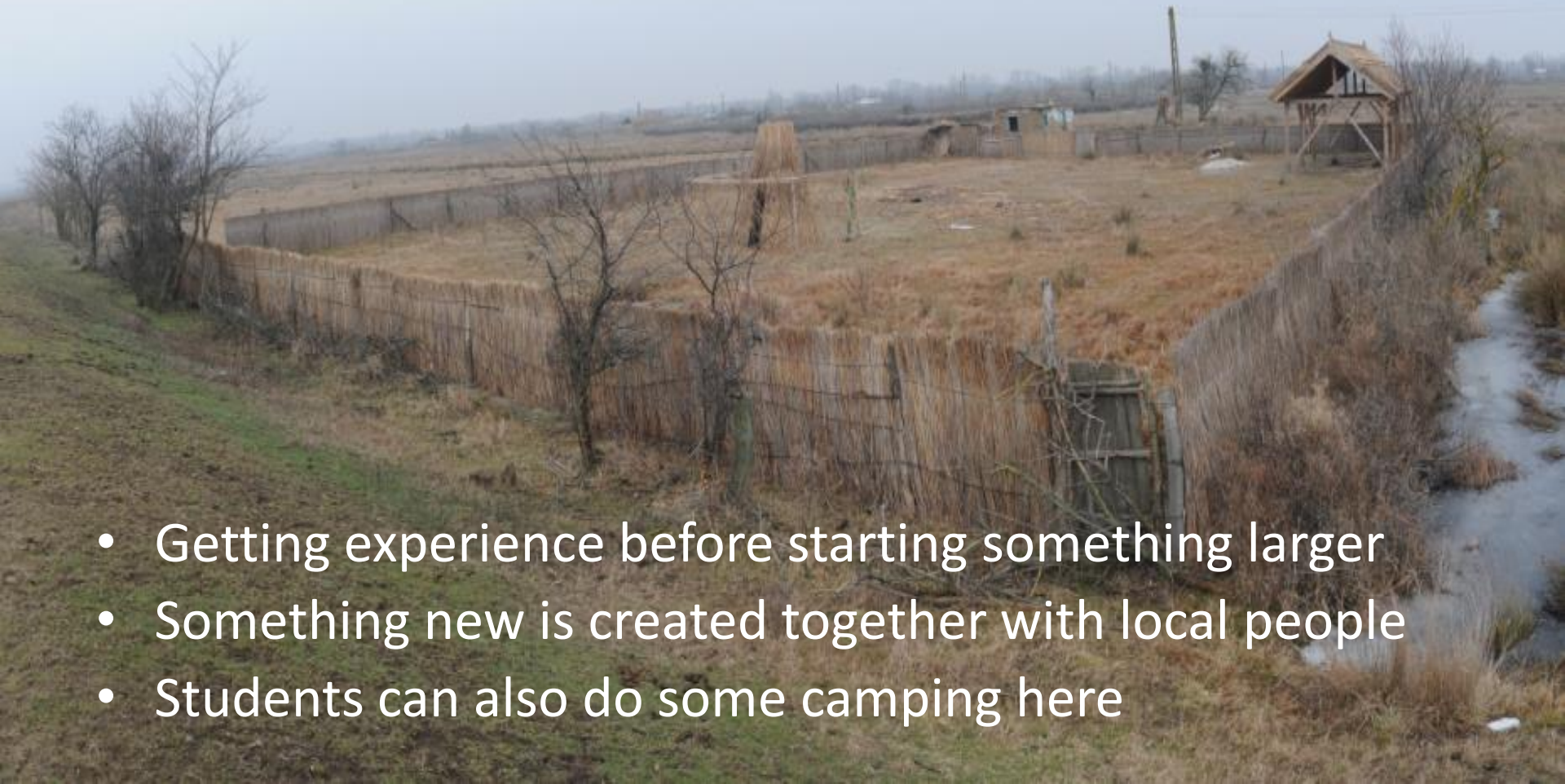


# Art studio in the morning



- Sometimes difficult to access
  - Water and ice

# Artist studio as a first small initiative



- Getting experience before starting something larger
- Something new is created together with local people
- Students can also do some camping here



# Disappearing houses

- A drastic situation of decline
- 1900 to 1970ies were up to 2000 inhabitants
- 2010 still more than 100 people
- Currently less than 50 people



# Cultural centre of Lipovan people in Sfiștofca

- Is the main cultural spot in Sfistofca
- An annual chess reunion
- Several evenings with singing traditional Russian songs





# Homestay in Sfiștofca

- Idea is to support the remaining people
- Doing something on a regular basis
- Not completely dependent on projects



# Guests are welcomed

- Creating some interest in the activities of local people
- Participating in their daily activities
- Giving hope





# Sfiștofca art studio

- A place for learning different technics of art
  - UNArte Bucharest, National University of Arts
    - Prof. Dragos Gheorgiu,
    - [www.timemaps.net](http://www.timemaps.net)
  - Regular workshops on forgotten knowledge
    - Decorating glass bottles
    - Metal workshops
    - Weaving fishernets

# Art installation by architect students

- A place to learn how to construct with natural materials
  - Reed as a construction material
  - Learn the traditional way to construct houses built from soil





# Artist studio and reed batches

- Reed is omnipresent in Sfistofca and the delta
- But it was impossible to get reed for the students as building materials
- Reed had to be bought from outside

# Artist studio at sunset



- It is the first small private venture to construct something new within 25 years
- Ideally more ventures will follow!



School in C.A.Rosetti



Școala cu cls. I-VIII  
Comuna C.A. ROSETTI  
Județul Tulcea



# Meeting in the school

- Discussion with teachers of the school
  - Activities initiated by university cooperation were highly appreciated



# In the school of Rosetti

- Rosetti is now the only school which provide an eight year education in the municipality
- Only in Periprava we find additionally a four year primary school which is also a Russian minority school






# Schoolkids C.A.Rosetti

Schoolkids are involved into university cooperation projects





# Schoolkids in C.A.Rosetti

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- A photograph of a classroom in C.A. Rosetti. A male teacher in a grey hoodie and blue pants is interacting with a young boy in a striped shirt. Another child is sitting on a desk in the background, and a girl is playing with toys on the floor. The room is decorated with colorful paper garlands and a Santa Claus drawing. There are wooden shelves with toys and small wooden desks with chairs.
- There is a declining trend in fertility rates
  - Beside the school in Rosetti the schools in all other villages closed down
  - The school is particularly important for the prospering of the municipality









A man wearing a brown cord jacket, a blue and white patterned scarf, and a black and white striped beanie is holding a rectangular glass panel. The panel features white painted designs, including a dark silhouette of a person's head and shoulders, and stylized white branches or roots. In the background, there is a radiator, a yellow garment hanging on a rack, and a window with some papers posted on it.

Children learned  
to paint on glass

- The workshop with artists of UNArte brought many impulses still prevailing in the curriculum of the school

# Inside shop C.A.Rosetti



- The shop is a spot for local exchange
- Now there are more people in this shop as the one of Sfistofca was closed in November 2014









# Church C.A.Rosetti



- Church was rebuilt several years ago

# Visit to Primeria



- The former mayor (left)
- The current mayor Fiorentina Hancerenco
- Marius Voica, Bucharest (right)





ROMÂNIA  
JUDEȚUL TULCEA  
PRIMĂRIA COMUNEI C.A. ROSETTI  
Nr. 306 / 20.02.2015

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Concern: **Mastercourse C.A. Rosetti - EU am Ende**

Dear Dr. Breiling,

Thank you for introducing to me the results from the Master course, elaborated during autumn 2014 by your students from TU Wien. The municipality C.A. Rosetti is now working on the General Plan and the work of your students give us added value to our own work and we can understand how the outside world perceives our municipality. This is very helpful for us and our inhabitants.

The seven project ideas elaborated by your students will be spread under the citizens of C.A. Rosetti. Individual informal meetings are planned for all our villages, Letea, Periprava, Sfistofca, Cardon and C.A. Rosetti. They can be of tremendous help for initiative people here who do not see the possibilities of options like you see it as coming from outside.

If you or your students have a chance to come back, we invite you to participate in this process. We need your planning and the engagement from outside. This is an extra credit. If you see a possibility to continue this cooperation also over the coming years, we would be very happy and count ourselves privileged to have with TU Wien and the Faculty of Architecture and Planning such a strong supporter of our municipal development work.

Primar,  
  
Hancorencu Florentina







The cows were smart enough to find  
their way



# Repairing the fence of Letea forest





# Riders at entrance to Letea forest



# Cowboys catching cows in Letea forest

















# Catching cows in Letea woods









# Transportation by horse





# Fishing family





























# Goal(t)s Rosetti

- To continue arranging courses in the municipality
- Keeping the contact over the periods of usual projects
- Enlarge the network and bring more ideas to the municipality





Thank you





# References

- [www.breiling.org/lect/euamende/](http://www.breiling.org/lect/euamende/)
  - Describes course outline and presents the project results to be part of the master plan in C.A.Rosetti