A New Approach in Rural Ethno- and Ecotourism: Capacity and Competence Development
(Új megközelítés a vidéki falusi és ökoturizmusban: kapacitás- és kompetenciafejlesztés)

AREeCcDev project, HUSRB/1602/31/0075

Main achievements of the project by Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology

Survey preparation and Field interviews of the local population in the area encompassed by the project

The members of the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology together with the participants of the project from the Department of Ecology *have created a list of relevant literature on traditional use of plants in the* South Plain Area. After that we distributed the relevant literature and collected data from the issues concerning our topic. We had conducted interviews in town Szeged and in a neighbouring village called Domaszék. Our informants were mainly local people and specialists who were engaged in preparing different local products from herbs and other plants. They provided information about the collection, cultivation, usage, processing and conservation of wild and cultivated plants. We visited the local pensioner center in Domaszék where we prepared most of our interviews among the members of the association. From the perspective of the project this was a very important moment, because we could document the local ethnoecological knowledge on plants. All together we prepared 15 interviews with our informants. In line with the data collection we processed and systematized the interviews taking into account same aspects and methods. Our results were intergated into the tri-lingual monograph which will contain every information about the local usage of plants in the Hungarian-Serbian borderland.

Organization of information collecting from external experts

We managed to reveal written documents, visual sources and museum objects related to crop production, usage and knowledge of plants based on the data service of three different local public collection. A staff member of the Móra Ferenc Museum prepared a report on the datas which can be found in the collection of manuscripts and photos. She organized the plants into a catalog and provided about 90 photos about the traditional usage and cultivation of plants.
The staff members of the Somogyi Library prepared a report about the Herbaria books which are preserved in their collections. They made digitalized copies about the colourful plant illustrations of the issues. The staff members of the Ópusztaszer Heritage Park made a report about their new project, the so called Herb Center which was established few years ago near the ruins of the monastery. The paper introduced the production and procession of herbs and

the touristic role of the center. The purpose of the data services was to draw attention of the actors of tourism to these special sources and places. We will publish the most important datas of the reports on the internet because we couldn't share these informations with the audience on the workshops.

Dissemination activties

In the spring term of the academic year 2018/19 we visited the Ópusztaszer Heritage Park with three students who are specialized on cultural heritage studies on MA level. They prepared interviews with the staff members of the institution about the activity of the Herb Center. In April they presented the results of their research on a workshop organized by the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology and the Department of Communication and Media Studies. We planned a course titled „Traditional usage of plants in the South Plain Area" in the spring semester of academic year 2019/2020 with a fieldwork trip to the Hungarian-Serbian borderland. The journey couldn't be realized because of the pandemic situation, but students had a possibility to get information about the project and its main results.
We provided content to one printed leaflet about grape products which were prepared by local people before the 1950's and 1960's in the surrounding area of Szeged.

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