

Cultural assets

DBU-Funding information – Funding subject 12



Funding subject 12: Preservation and safeguarding of nationally valuable cultural assets from harmful environmental influences

Anthropogenic influences on the environment damage not only nature, but also nationally valuable cultural assets. The scope and type of damage inflicted by these influences have shifted in recent years. This is due, among other things, to the change in anthropogenic emissions and the effects of climate change as well as the way we handle chemicals that were formerly used for protection. In the interest of sustainable cultural heritage conservation, we

need to develop new strategies, methods, procedures or products and apply and/or communicate them in an exemplary fashion.

Model projects in this area generally pursue an interdisciplinary approach, in particular involving the participation of small- and medium-sized enterprises and application-oriented research.

In particular, the following measures are eligible:

- Development and exemplary application of new methods, procedures and products for the protection of valuable national cultural assets against the impact of anthropogenic immissions
- Development of strategies and concepts for preventive conservation, safeguarding and preservation as well as maintenance and care of valuable national cultural assets and historical cultural landscapes
- Development and testing of procedures, methods and products for handling previous conservation methods and materials that have been harmful or even toxic
- Continuing education programmes in the area of sustainable protection of cultural assets and historical cultural landscapes
- Innovative measures for solving conflicts at the intersection of historic preservation, nature conservation and cultural landscape preservation, in particular with regards to urban spaces and energy-related land-use requirements
- Projects for protecting cultural assets, in particular projects targeted at children and young people that focus on aspects of involvement and volunteer work or innovative conservation methods



DBU-funding – competent and service-oriented

The Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (DBU) can look back on more than 25 years of funding. The foundation has a broad wealth of experience and professional expertise in various fields. In its work, the DBU can rely on a broad network of experts working as honorary consultants.

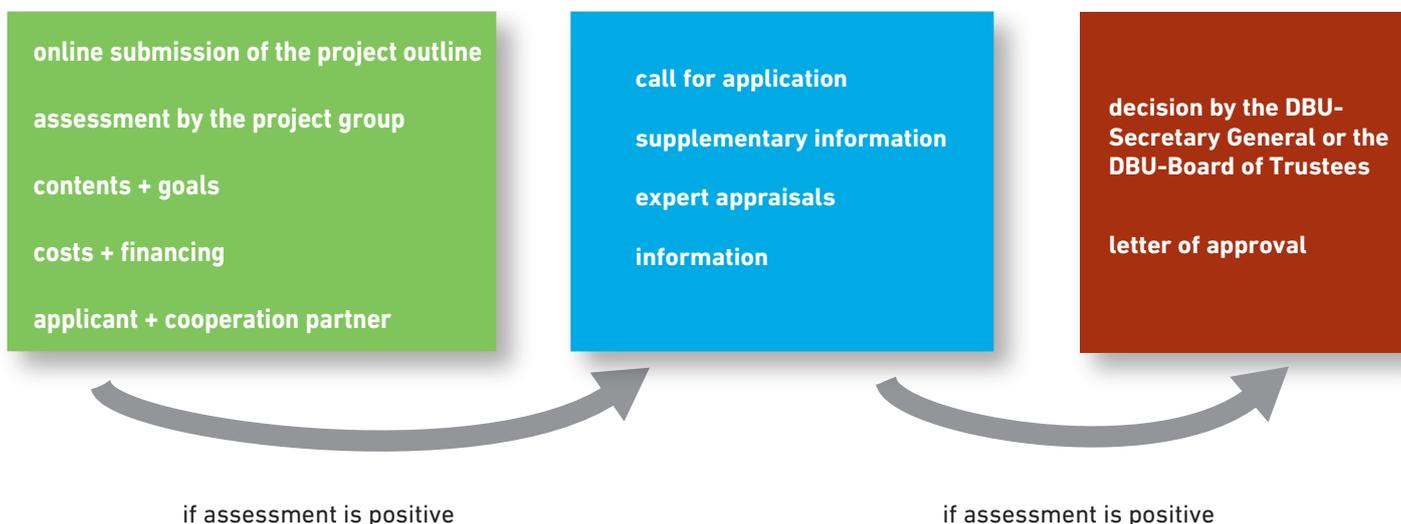
The DBU is independent and neutral from any political party. When submitting an application, only the technical quality and the innovative content of the application are important. The DBU offers its applicants competent, result-oriented advice and individual support by a highly qualified, interdisciplinary team. The internal

assessment of the projects and the external evaluation lead to a further development and qualification of the project proposal.

The DBU accompanies project partners from the project outline to implementation and provides support in finance and expertise.

DBU-partners of particularly successful projects are also supported in the dissemination of their project results by appropriate communication measures (trade fairs, exhibitions, events, publications, press work).

From outline to funding



First steps in a project outline

We are pleased to receive innovative, exemplary project ideas that contribute to the preservation of nationally valuable cultural assets.

Initially, it should be clarified:

- Is/are the object(s) dealt with in the project a nationally valuable cultural asset that is damaged or endangered by anthropogenic, i.e. man-made, environmental influences?

If this is the case, the following criteria should be considered when preparing a successful project outline:

- The objectives of the project outline are set out in direct connection to the support subject.
- The methods, processes or products developed go beyond the current state of the art or develop it further.
- The solution approach is tested in practice on a nationally valuable cultural asset and is examined for strengths and weaknesses.

- The solution approach can be applied to similar problems in an exemplary fashion.
- The special unique selling point of the project in terms of technical significance and/or innovation is named.
- The results of the project will be communicated to the public and relevant experts in a target-group-specific manner.

If these criteria apply, interdisciplinary and systemic project approaches are of particular importance to the DBU.

You can submit your detailed project outline online www.dbu.de/antragstellung

Exemplary DBU-funded projects

The following projects show an excerpt from the thematic range of funding subject 12 and specify the implementation in the fields of action mentioned on page 1. Further information on the projects can be found at www.dbu.de

Traffic and monuments (AZ 29728)

At five locations in Germany, the Institut für Steinkonserverung e. V., of Mainz, in cooperation with partners, investigated the influence of traffic-related emissions on monuments in the city center. With the help of the Microscale Climate and Dispersion Model (Mikroskaligen Klima- und Ausbreitungsmodells – MISKAM), model simulations were created for the individual sites with regard to the expected deposition rates. At all locations, sample racks with different types of rocks and measuring filters documented the influence of pollutant loads on the monuments in a weathering test. The results show that a large proportion of inner-city monuments in the cities of Munich, Bamberg, Würzburg, Mainz and Essen are - in some cases - severely affected by traffic-related emissions. Based on these findings, the project partners made recommendations or traffic planning. These include the optimization of traffic lights, a reduction in traffic speed or the closing of potholes.



Climate change and gardens (AZ 30304/31350)

Climate change means new challenges for parks and gardens. The Stiftung Preußische Schlösser und Gärten of Berlin-Brandenburg has therefore conducted two interdisciplinary expert colloquia and an international conference on »Historical Gardens and Climate Change« and has published the book »Historical Gardens in Climate Change - Recommendations for Conservation«, which has also been published in English. The series of presentations and the book publication compiled the global status quo on the subject of historical gardens and climate change and gave concrete recommendations for action: for example, measures to promote the resilience of existing plants. The project »Forward-looking Management of the Woody Vegetation of Historic Gardens in Times of Climate Change« has been testing models on this topic since 2015. Scientists at the Technical University (TU) of Berlin are working in four »working packages« on central questions about how to deal with woody plants in times of climate change.

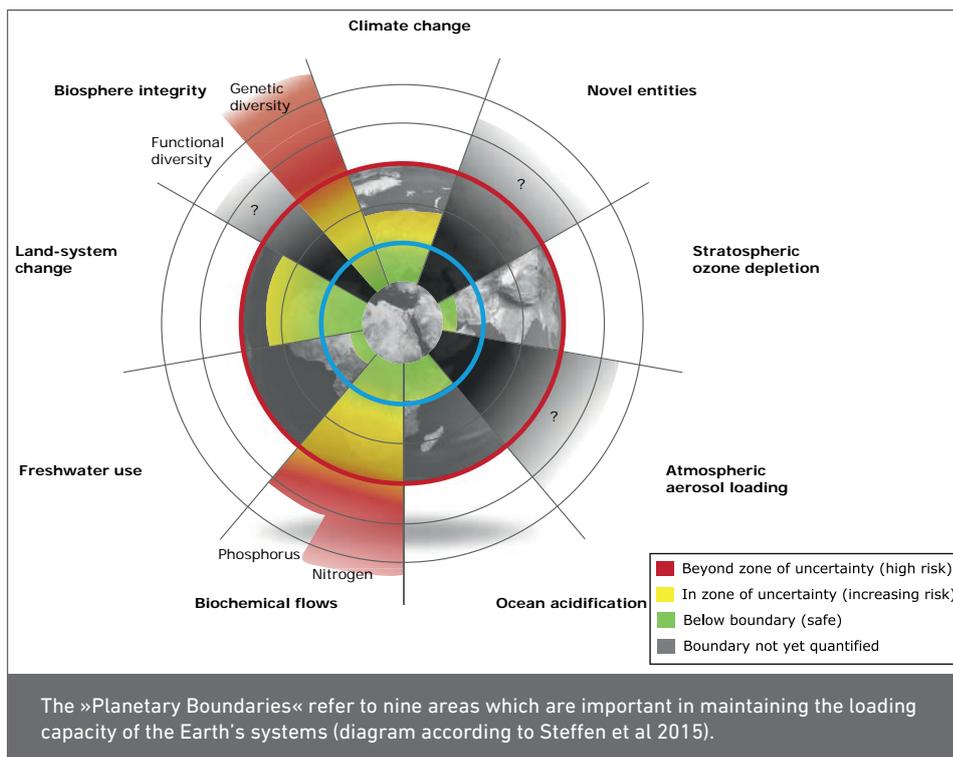
Conflict area monument and nature conservation (AZ 29773)

The Jewish Cemetery in Berlin-Weissensee is an outstanding cultural monument and a habitat with high biological diversity. The challenge: The Jewish community wants preservation and care as a place of burial and remembrance, while monument preservation are obliged to maintain the garden and cultural monument. And for the nature conservation the preservation of existing biodiversity is important. The project's aim was to consider all actors in the preservation and development of the cemetery. On the basis of an inventory analysis, the project partners TU Berlin, the Berlin State Monument Office, the Berlin Senate Administration for Urban Development, the Jewish Community of Berlin, the Weissensee Cemetery Administration and the New Synagogue Foundation of Berlin developed a joint guideline. The aim is to protect and preserve the cemetery as a cultural place of remembrance with outstanding monumental substance and special biological diversity.



DBU – We promote innovations

The Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (DBU) supports innovative, exemplary and solution-oriented projects for the protection of the environment in accordance with the foundation's mission statement, with special consideration for the mid-sized business sphere. Funded projects should achieve sustainable effects in practice, provide impulses, and have a multiplier effect. It is important to the DBU to contribute, in particular, to solving current environmental problems which result from unsustainable economic practices and ways of life in our society. The DBU sees key challenges above all in climate change, biodiversity loss, the unsustainable use of resources, and harmful emissions. The funding subjects thus tie in with both current scientific findings on »planetary boundaries« and with the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the UN. Especially with regard to biological diversity (biosphere integrity) and the disruption of the nutrient cycles of nitrogen and phosphorus (biochemical flows), the planetary boundaries have been far exceeded. Humanity has therefore moved a long way from any safe operating space, and is now exposed to a high risk of negative ecological, economic and social consequences. Mankind has also already moved into the danger zone in terms of land-system change and climate change.



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Imprint

Publisher: Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (DBU), An der Bornau 2, 49090 Osnabrück, phone +49541/9633-0, fax +49541/9633-190, www.dbu.de//**Editor:** Melanie Vogelpohl//**Responsible:** Prof. Dr. Markus Große Ophoff//**Design:** Helga Kuhn//**Photo credits:** p. 3 top: Dr. Petra Bundschuh, p. 3 middle: © Hans Bach, Stiftung Preußisches Schlösser und Gärten Berlin-Brandenburg, p. 3 bottom: Jens Scharon, all other photos: DBU

01.09.2019