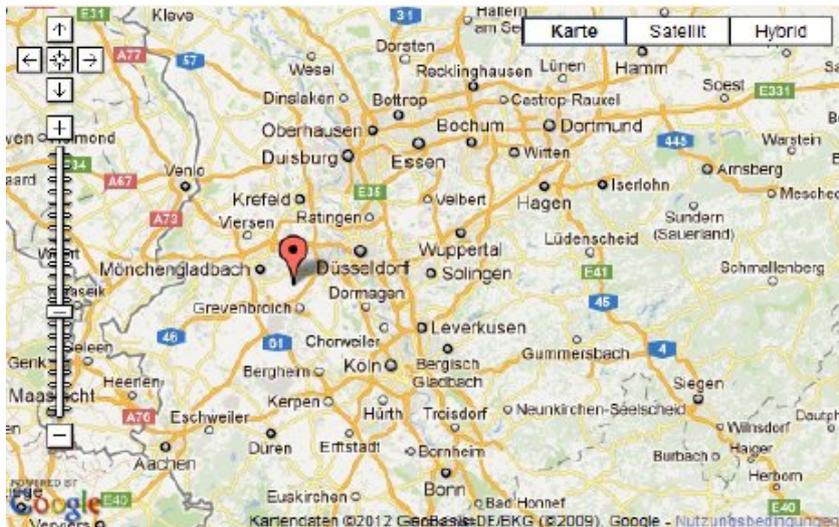


## 1. Schloss Dyck: a site, a foundation and a centre

Schloss Dyck is culturally and historically one of the most important moated castles in the Rhineland (located in Jüchen, close to the cities of Neuss and Düsseldorf), a region of North Rhine-Westphalia (compare report by partner 2).



With its buildings, stable blocks and forecourts, it is located on four islands and surrounded by a picturesque English landscape garden. With history dating back to 1094, the site was in the hands of the Salm-Reifferscheidt-Dyck family for 900 years. In the 1990s Marie Christine Wolff Metternich offered Schloss Dyck and grounds to set up a foundation securing quality and public access. Based on a concept by the Rhineland Regional Authority (LVR), Schloss Dyck Foundation was set up in 1999 and became a Centre for Garden Art and Landscape Design.

Quite unique, it now connects, on more than 70 hectares, historic gardens (designed in the 1820s by landscape architect Thomas Blaikie from Scotland) and cultivated landscapes with current landscape design and urban development. The "Dycker Field" won national and international awards. Permanent and temporary exhibitions, located in several buildings, show the history of garden design and feature contemporary art as well.





In 2011, about 200.000 people visited Schloss Dyck. Various events, in particular garden markets, concerts, the Illumina (a light festival) and the Classic Days (a major meeting of vintage cars in Germany) helped to raise the visitor numbers over the years. The local community is included as annual ticket holders and by the educational programme.



There were and are numerous financial supporters: the foundation's starting capital was supplied by the LVR, the Rhine County Neuss, the municipality of Jüchen and the Neuss Savings Bank. The Government of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) gave funds to the Rhein-Kreis Neuss to establish the foundation. In addition, exhibitions, restoration works and projects got support by the EU, the German Federal Government, the German Foundation for Monument Conservation, the Art Foundation NRW, both regional authorities in NRW and others.

Money from business sector helps to create and to maintain the grounds and individual gardens, and contributes towards cultural programmes and the creation of a scientific institute.

Most of the investment made into the enhancement of the castle and the park and into the new gardens has been made possible by the EUROGA 2002+, a unique combination of two NRW policies: The State Garden Shows (Landesgartenschauen) and the REGIONALE, to be presented below.

## 2. State Garden Shows in North Rhine-Westphalia

Federal Garden Shows (BUGA), International Garden Exhibitions (IGA), and, later on, State Garden Shows (LAGA) have created generous green spaces in German communities. Not only during their presentation year, they have given impetus to the development of urban green spaces, have provided economic impact and platforms for the discussion of new ideas on how to use public green and private gardens.

Over almost 60 years the focus of the BUGA has changed: After the war these shows restored devastated urban parks. Then focus was on creating green spaces with an abundance of flowers in densely populated regions as recreation grounds and playgrounds for children.

In the 80s, the debate on habitats, ecology, organic gardening etc. had lasting impacts on garden shows, incl. State Garden Shows, started in NRW in 1984 in Hamm (right).

Here, Maximilianpark transformed a colliery ground into a park. It respects the remains of industrial use and natural vegetation that established here over years of neglect and combines these assets



with modern planting, playgrounds and purpose buildings. Since then, a total of 15 State Garden Shows in NRW created links between separated urban quarters and green areas, given new quality and use to derelict sites or even contaminated land (Leverkusen, below), restored landscapes and created new parks, gardens, promenades, playgrounds and event locations that are much beloved by local citizens and visitors alike.



The Regional Working Group Horticulture and Landscape Management (Landesarbeitsgemeinschaft Gartenbau und Landespflege NRW – LAGL) was established as the management body ensuring standards and acting as a mediator between municipalities, designers, professional associations, chambers and the business sector and ministries allocating funds (in particular Ministry for Climate Protection, Environment, Agriculture, Conservation and Consumer Affairs and Ministry for Economic Affairs, Energy, Building, Housing and Transport).

Sized between 21 ha and 80 ha each, total investment into the shows (including the implementation of the six months event) sums up to 176,5 Million Euro, with additional investments into urban development measures of a total of 197,5 million Euro (calculation based on a table provided by LAGL NRW).

### 3. The REGIONALE: regional cultures and landscapes

Sustainable regional development supports and exploits the talents and resources of landscapes, built environments, heritage and regional culture for intelligent strategies to create

a specific profile and to benefit from it. In NRW, the REGIONALE (full title: REGIONALE - Cultural and Natural Landscapes in NRW) was established as an action-oriented policy instrument bringing a new move into municipalities and regions.

Only regions formed according a joint basic idea can apply (to the Ministry for Economic Affairs, Energy, Building, Housing and Transport) to implement a REGIONALE. The municipalities and counties, which form the region for this specific purpose, draft a joint concept outlining the strategies, measures and events which they agree on to be fundamental to strengthen the region and its profile. As core elements some sophisticated measures of structural relevance for the cities, landscapes, culture and economy which will be further developed and implemented within a given time span of some (3-6) years.

The system of the REGIONALE can be considered as a successor of the International Building Exhibition Emscher Park (IBA), which from 1989 until 1999 that was extremely successful in regenerating the old industrialized region. Today much of the work is continued and new activities started under the auspices of the "Metropole Ruhr" with the "Emscher Landscape Park" as its key green Masterplan and with the Regionalverband Ruhr and the Emschergenossenschaft as two of the key players.

The IBA legacy and ideas are vital to each REGIONALE: follow the principle of sustainability, strive for high cultural excellence, monitor and react to social and socio-demographic changes.

While implementations differ in scale, priorities and measures and according to the resources and selected individual theme, these four key actions are predefined for each REGIONALE:

- 1) Built heritage and new urban development
- 2) Nature protection, landscape development, garden arts
- 3) Inclusion of economy and employment
- 4) Highlights and landmarks to exemplify key actions

The state supports the REGIONALE by regular policy budgets, in most cases funds for urban development and regeneration. There is no additional budget (but a certain priority) and the usual regulations apply, e.g. the maximum rate of 80% funding. This ensures a "reality check" and support at the local level.

Presented during the agreed REGIONALE year (2000, 02, 04, 06, 08, 10, 13, 16) all outcomes need to be sustainable.

Public spaces are central to the REGIONALE as such, e.g. the GartenLandschaft OstWestfalenLippe in 2000 (including art installations and a literature festival in restored parks), major enhancements at Benrath, Dyck and others in 2002, or the new Brückenpark Müngsten (below, by Atelier Loidl) in 2006.



#### 4. The European Garden Heritage Network – EGHN

The start and growth of the European Garden Heritage Network – EGHN since 2003 has been made possible by support given by the NTERREG-III-B-NWE-Programme of the European Union, additional regional funding and the commitment of the 16 official project partners, with the Schloss Dyck Foundation as the lead partner, in five countries across Northwest Europe. The successful inclusion into this European programme for transnational cooperation in regional development was partly due to the fact that parks and gardens are a common and linking cultural heritage asset across Europe that needs to be maintained and to be made accessible. It also honoured their unique qualities and resources that can be used for a sustainable development of cities, regions and landscapes.

Activities within this 5-years project focused on “Spatial Strategies”, “Education”, “Interpretation”, “Access”, “Regional Routes” and “European Themes”. Results are available from the website [www.eghn.eu](http://www.eghn.eu) which attracts a high number of visitors and interest thanks to the presentation of about 250 parks, gardens and cultural landscape elements in nine countries.

Schloss Dyck Foundation was leading on the spatial strategy, on the design and presentation of the regional routes, hosted an international youth camp and used ideas of the interpretation toolkit, provided by the French partner, on its grounds.

Today, as a independent partnership network led by the Schloss Dyck Foundation, the major aim of the European Garden Heritage Network EGHN still is to support the preservation and enhancement of high quality parks and gardens in Europe, their wider use and the sustainable valorisation in the context of policies to foster urban, regional, cultural and landscape development within its European partner regions.

To achieve its aims and objectives, EGHN above all will

- raise public awareness for the broad values and resources of parks and gardens as elements of cultural landscapes,
- develop international and interdisciplinary exchange,
- establish a European quality brand to market parks, gardens and elements of cultural landscapes, by regional garden routes and by thematic routes across Europe,
- foster an early debate about challenges for parks and landscapes and the development of concepts and policies
- support mutual assistance among the partners, in particular for marketing, lobbying and tourism development.

The EGHN is constantly growing thanks to applications for partnership which are accepted if agreed criteria are fulfilled.

The EGHN European Garden Award was handed out for the first time in 2010, in different categories and based on the votes of an international expert jury. It is continued annually since then.

Partners in NRW applied for funding to develop and to market tourism packages based on gardens, landscapes and cultural attractions. Not at least thanks to the growing recognition of EGHN as a quality label this project was approved in late 2011.

Also the new INTERREG IVC project Hybrid Parks including both EGHN partners and non-partners, was clearly initiated and inspired by EGHN networking activities, positive partnership experiences and the results of the INTERREG IIIB project.

## 5. Hybrid Parks

Schloss Dyck Foundation and some of its EGHN partners have taken the initiative to develop “Hybrid Parks” as it fully in line with the EGHN objective (as above) to “foster an early debate about challenges for parks and landscapes and the development of concepts and policies”. It was very supportive that from a very early phase of project development onwards, other bodies encouraged EGHN to be the lead in a joint application. Thus the wide partnership developed and agreed on joint objectives, activities and implementation.

Schloss Dyck Foundation will contribute its experiences with both park management and the EGHN and is keen to transfer best practice from other partners, in particular related to “climate” and “tourism”. Input to regional policy development will be achieved in cooperation with the Ministry for Economic Affairs, Energy, Building, Housing and Transport in NRW, supporting the foundation in its role as the lead partner, and ready to use the activities and outcomes of the project for its policies on green cities and sustainable urban development.

## 6. Useful links

Schloss Dyck Foundation (in English and German)

[www.stiftung-schloss-dyck.de/en/home.html](http://www.stiftung-schloss-dyck.de/en/home.html)

REGIONALE (in German, with links to individual REGIONALE websites)

[www.regionalen.nrw.de/cms/](http://www.regionalen.nrw.de/cms/)

LAGL NW (in German, links to individual State Garden Show websites)

[www.lagl-nw.de/](http://www.lagl-nw.de/)

Ministry for Economic Affairs, Energy, Building, Housing and Transport NRW (in German)

[www.mbv.nrw.de/](http://www.mbv.nrw.de/)

Ministry for Climate Protection, Environment, Agriculture, Conservation and Consumer Affairs NRW (in English and German)

[www.umwelt.nrw.de/ministerium/info\\_english/index.php](http://www.umwelt.nrw.de/ministerium/info_english/index.php)

Regionalverband Ruhr (in German, English, Dutch, Polish, Turkish)

[www.metropoleruhr.de/](http://www.metropoleruhr.de/)

Emschergenossenschaft (in German and English)

[www.eglv.de/en](http://www.eglv.de/en)

More information about Hybrid Parks and INTERREG IVC

[www.hybridparks.eu](http://www.hybridparks.eu)