



COOPERATION FOR CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN BELARUS

SUBGRANTED PROJECTS

Arc: uniting people and cultures

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GENERAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project location: Golshany

Organiser: The Department of Culture of Halšany through the Golshanskaya Information and Local History Center

Status: Partnership project with the support of Gulbene municipality (Latvia)

This project aims at creating a virtual museum of the meridian of the Struve Arc that runs through Ashmyany district in Belarus. The Struve Arc is a chain of survey triangulations stretching from Hammerfest in Norway to the Black Sea, through ten countries and over 2,820 km. The Arc yielded the first accurate measurement of a meridian. This general public museum will provide information about the Struve Arc as well as about the people, the cultures and the traditions of the regions which host the Arc. The information will be transmitted in a virtual way or will be directly exposed in the museum.

The project is a partnership project and will be implemented jointly with the support of Gulbene municipality in Latvia.

The Golshanskaya Information and Local History Center was created in 2006, for the population of the region to become familiar with the historical and cultural heritage of the region.

PROJECT UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2012

The project was launched by a round-table including a discussion of the concept of an online museum. As a result, a working group was established and an action plan was elaborated.

The working group launched a huge campaign to find necessary information about the survey triangulations in other countries of the chain (Latvia, Belgium, Finland, Sweden, Russia) and in Belarusian towns. The information offered by the foreign partners is available on the website of the online museum on <http://www.struve.by/>. Soon the English version of the museum will be available as well.

On the basis of the museum the Fifth Coordination Committee of the Struve Arc met in Oshmyany (Belarus). Representatives of all ten countries of the Arc took part in the meeting. The scientists exchanged the latest information about this unique heritage object. It was announced that Belarus is planning to create a touristic path through survey triangulations – more than a half of the triangulations in Belarus have been preserved. It is a good basis for the development of an international cooperation and touristic interest to that destination.