

Project Information Sheet



The Apold Project

**A pilot project for restoration and revitalisation
of the fortified church in Apold**

Description:	Restoration of the fortified church, training of local workers and careful development of a sustainable utilisation concept.
Beneficiaries:	Evangelic Church C.A., local people, comuna Apold
Project Implementer:	CORONA Hallandstr. 14, D-13189 Berlin or N° 245, Cetate, RO-547040 Apold, jud. Mures http://www.CoronaBerlin.de
Co-Implementer:	Evangelic Church C.A., Sighisoara
Time Span:	Begin: 2003, duration: 8 years
Estimated costs:	2005: EUR 84,800 (EUR 50,000 already assured), 2006: EUR 187,000

1. Title of the Project

The Apold Project – A pilot project for restoration and revitalisation of the fortified church in Apold.

2. Location of the Project and Area of Coverage

Location: Fortified church site in Apold
Cetate, 547040 Apold, Romania
(15 kms South of Sighisoara)

Coverage: In first instance: Impact on the fortified church and its immediate surroundings. In second instance: impact on Apold and surrounding villages.

3. Justification

After the revolution of 1989 the majority of the ethnic German population of Transylvania left the country. The remaining Saxon communities had to live through a process of transformation; several of them vanished almost entirely. The Evangelic Church C.A. as institution holds a big responsibility in terms of maintenance and utilisation for a large number of buildings that they own all over the country.

The fortified church from Apold is one of them; it is one of the most outstanding in Transylvania. It was abandoned for more than a decade, but almost all buildings are preserved although they are in a bad state.

The evangelic community in Apold has changed a lot: it is small, most members are not Saxons anymore and it is rather young and fragile. In its consciousness the church is not existing yet as a monument that has to be preserved.

Apold has about 1,000 inhabitants and is located halfway between Agnita and Sighisoara. The road has been repaired only this year.

The inhabitants of the village are mainly farmers and relying on self-supply. Economic perspectives they often find only outside the village, chances for education are rather limited.

4. Objectives of the Project

a. Long-term objectives:

- Restoration of the fortified church in Apold.
- Preservation of traditional handicraft techniques.
- Continuous utilisation of the fortress with workshops and training measures
- Creation of simple accommodation around the castle
- Motivation for sustainable activities in the village
- Implementation of crafts as an economic factor to the village.

b. Immediate objectives

- Urgent reparation works (roofs and walls)
- Immediate involvement of local workers in the reconstruction and restoration process
- International exchange of experience through organisation of work camps

5. Activities of the Project

- Setting-up of a building site workshop and a building site office.
- Training measures for local workers
- Organisation of (international) work camps
- Establishment of a seminar location
- Implementation of sustainable infra structure measures (water supply and disposal, waste disposal, electricity supply)
- Involvement of volunteers in the project work

6. Inputs

a. Human

- Evangelic Church administration ('Bezirkssynode') as owner of the fortified church of Apold
- The CORONA Association from Berlin/Germany as the initiator of the project
- Sebastian F. Bethge, German citizen and delegate from CORONA, site manager in Apold
- Local workers
- Volunteer workers with various professional backgrounds from Romania, Germany, the UK and other countries contribute to the project

b. Material

- The Apold fortified church and the neighbouring Parrish house are a long-term asset to the Apold Project

c. Financial

- Foundations: Mihai Eminescu Trust (UK), Siebenbürgisch-Sächsische Stiftung (Germany), Hermann-Niermann Stiftung (Germany), Gustav-Adolf Werk (Germany)
- Private donators

7. Requirements from outside the project

- **Financing.** Additional resources needed: partly for certain projects, workshop equipment and for running costs
- **Training** in certain restoration techniques for local workers: masonry and wood construction, structural static in early 2005
- **Advisory/knowledge** transfer necessary for consolidation measures, infra structure and sustainable concepts (water, energy, waste)

8. Calendar of Activities

- **2003/2004 Emergency measures & basic supply**

Stop the destruction of the buildings

Reparation of roofs and walls, partly installation of gutters and drainages

Basic supply: digging a well, reparation of the electric installations, establishment of provisional accommodation for project workers on the site, uncovering of paths and drains

- **2004/2005 preparatory measures**

Provision of raw materials: set up of lime pits, acquisition of wood

Planning: surveying of the site and design of necessary expertises. Furnishing of a building site office and a building site workshop.

- 2005 Restoration of the Gate House ('Torhaus')
- 2006 Restoration of the Parrish House ('Pfarrhaus') and the Guardian House ('Burghüterhaus')
- 2007 Restoration of the Upper Store House ('Oberes Fruchthaus')
- 2008-10 Restoration of the other buildings: Oat Tower, Southern Tower, White Tower, Lower Store House and the ring walls

9. Budget (until 2006)

2005	Necessary expertises	EUR	2,900	*
	Restoration of the church organ (planning)	EUR	4,000	
	Building site workshop	EUR	5,000	
	Building site office	EUR	2,000	*
	Restoration of the Gate House	EUR	25,000	*
	Protection measures at the tower roofs	EUR	40,000	**
	Reconstruction of the sacristy	EUR	7,000	**
2006	Restoration of the Guardian House	EUR	45,000	
	Other protection measures	EUR	10,000	
	Reparation of the tower clock	EUR	2,000	
	Restoration of the Parrish house	EUR	120,000	
	Restoration of the church organ (implementation)	EUR	10,000	

* Financing partly assured, ** financing fully assured

