

Regional Planning Authority of East Wuerttemberg



In accordance with territorial planning legislation of the federal state of Baden-Wuerttemberg (Landesplanungsgesetz), regional administrative authorities within the state are responsible for planning and development at the regional level, the most important instrument of which is the regional territorial plan.

As one of the 12 administrative authorities in Baden- Württemberg, the Regional Planning Authority of East Wuerttemberg (RVOW) is responsible for the counties of Ostalbkreis and Heidenheim in the eastern part of the state, which include together 53 municipalities. The RVOW consists of two main bodies: the Regional Assembly, a 44 member governing council made up of regional representatives, and the administrative office, a small team responsible for the planning work and for preparing information for the Regional Assembly for vote.

Apart from planning, RVOW actively participates in various regional development projects. In the sustainable mobility-oriented project “KOMOBIL2035”, which ended last year, approaches for activating, networking and supporting volunteer engagement were researched and tested. Another project, the “Regionaler Wohnraumdetektor” (Regional Detector of Housing Spaces), started in 2011 and aims at establishing an efficient and comprehensive regional monitoring system for land development, for both housing and industry. This year was the fourth run.

As a predecessor project for ISTER, RVOW cooperated with the State Office for Cultural Heritage in Baden-Wuerttemberg in 2004 to establish a comprehensive catalogue of cultural heritage in East Wuerttemberg. Since then, the catalogue, which includes texts, pictures, tables and maps, has been used by RVOW for the landscape framework plan and regional plan update as well as by private landscape planners in the region.

Among East Wuerttemberg’s cultural heritage resources are a number of Roman routes and settlements. Since the German section of the ancient Roman LIMES-border is acknowledged as an UNECSO World Cultural Heritage site, there is a necessity to enhance this resource by linking it to further sites of Roman interest in East Wuerttemberg. The ISTER project, with its aim of making Roman routes more visible while boosting tourism development and developing a shared narrative of the Danube region’s common Roman past, provides an excellent framework for this.