World Heritage Volunteers China meets Hallstatt

Hallstatt – Dachstein / Salzkammergut

 Hallstatt Upper Austria, Austria
Cultural property inscribed on WH list since1997

Human activity in the magnificent natural landscape of the Salzkammergut began in prehistoric times, with the salt deposits being exploited as early as the 2nd millennium BC. This resource formed the basis of the area's prosperity up to the middle of the 20th century, a prosperity that is reflected in the fine architecture of the town of Hallstatt.



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Project objectives: Hallstatt, being one of Austria's most famous World Heritage Sites, is a well-known tourist attraction among Chinese visitors. "China meets Hallstatt" is set out to give the Chinese, but also the Austrian volunteers an authentic view on the site apart from the usual tourist program by actively supporting the community of Hallstatt. One objective of the project is to give the participants an idea of the problems that alpine towns like Hallstatt, which thrive on tourism, have to tackle from year to year. On the other hand the project is ought to set a focus on the reasons why certain places become World Heritage sites and the responsibilities than come hand in hand with it.

Project activities: The work will include the restoration of natural sites as the "Gletschermühlen", the restoration of hiking paths, the building of fences to support torrent and avalanche control as well as the restoration of a traditional Austrian wooden boat.

Partners: Austrian Youth Alpine Association; CSETC; Service Civil International Austria; Austrian Federal Forests; Austrian Service for Torrent- and Avalanche Control; Austrian Alpine Association Hallstatt; Catholic Church Club of Hallstatt; Provincial Government of Upper Austria