

The pupils reflect their own understanding of sustainable development by developing GPS-tours.

Overall, the project involves five schools in Germany and Romania: On the German side the Marion-Dönhoff-Gymnasium Mölln, the Haupt- und Realschule Salzhausen and the Integrierte Gesamtschule Lüneburg, in Romania the Liceul Teroretic "Joseph Haltrich" Sighisoara and the Secondary School Sf. Gheoghe in the Danube Delta.

The project runs as a pilot project funded by the Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (DBU) from November 2011 until July 2013.



## Interactive website Navinatur.de

On [www.navinatur.de](http://www.navinatur.de) pupils have the possibility to write wiki-articles for their respective topics and to communicate with others over the internet by forum or chat. On a specific day (Day of the Educational-Treasure Hunt) the students will then identify the best Points of Interests in Germany and Romania – according to the motto of: On the search for the super-POI.

Via the GPS educational tours global partnerships between schools, which are engaged in the field of sustainable development, can be realized in the future.

The website [www.NaviNatur.de](http://www.NaviNatur.de) is also available to all the necessary tools like wiki, chat, forum and tour generator.

Furthermore, the Center for Environmental Education SCHUBZ provides training seminars and comprehensive project documentation (I technical & II pedagogical manual) for interested schools, educational institutions and environmental education centers.



## NaviNatur is a project of the Centre for Environmental Education SCHUBZ



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The project "NaviNatur school exchange between Romania and Germany" is operated under the auspices of the Minister of Education of Lower Saxony/Germany Dr. Bernd Althusmann.



Project funding:



Project partners:



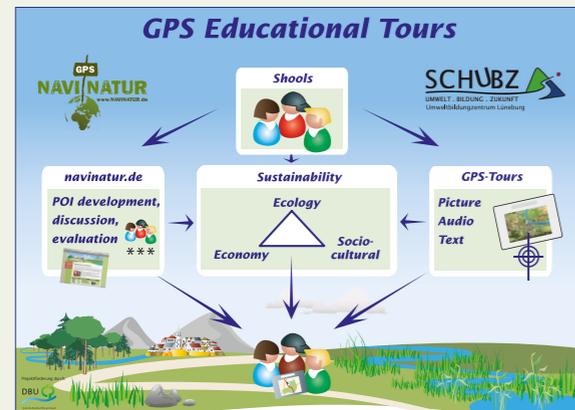
Education for Sustainable Development with digital media:  
**GPS-Educational Tours**



## GPS combines the experience of nature with theoretical review and digital processing

The everyday life of teenagers is influenced by all kinds of media. Whether Smartphone, computer or digital camera - within a very short time they are able to handle them. But what about the experience and discovery of nature?

This is where NaviNatur, designed by the Center for Environmental Education SCHUBZ, comes into play: Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) by linking nature experiences with digital media. The goal is to create GPS-based educational tours.



## Method: GPS-Educational Tours – Participation with digital media

In contrast to conventional GPS tours (so called “geocaching”) at NaviNatur the pupils create their own “Points of Interest” (POI) as GPS educational points in the context of sustainable development. For this purpose, they develop interesting questions based on the real experience in nature. To do this, they create own information with pictures and audio features. Afterwards, these will be uploaded to GPS-devices.

Thereby the pupils do a particular contribution to the public awareness of sustainable development in their region, self-organized and down to earth. And who would know better how to excite other students for the concept of sustainable development than the pupils themselves?



At NaviNatur the pupils concentrate on interdisciplinary topics based on Biosphere Reserves or other protected areas as landscapes for sustainable development. Equipped with GPS devices, digital cameras and recording devices they do excursions on foot or bicycle to explore their environment. Thereby they seek and explore places where the topics can be illustrated particularly well. They feed the GPS devices with information of the given habitat and navigate themselves to the relevant Points of Interests. The contents are centred around ecological, economic, social and cultural aspects of their region.

## NaviNatur – School exchange between Romania and Germany

Running various pilot projects, since 2007 the SCHUBZ develops methods where schools learn how to implement Education for Sustainable Development with digital media. Since 2009, the SCHUBZ has developed, tested, evaluated and transferred the method of the GPS Educational Tours by training seminars together with four national schools close to the Biosphere Reserve Elbe River Landscape and further partners like the Leuphana University Lüneburg.

The new project „NaviNatur – school exchange between Romania and Germany” extends the existing method by connecting divergent places digitally. Through personal encounters of schools an exchange between Eastern- and Western Europe takes place.

