

**PERSPECTIVES FOR THE EXPLOITATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF
ABANDONED MINING AREAS. THE EVALUATION OF LAND USE
ALTERNATIVES**

R. KATTER and C. RINESCH

*JOANNEUM RESEARCH, Institute of Environmental Geology and Ecosystems
Research, A-8010 Graz, Elisabethstraße 16-18/I, Austria*

ABSTRACT

The project has been funded within the scope of the federal research initiative Cultural Landscapes. The emphasis is placed on developing perspectives for an abandoned mining site, the Eisenerz region, by applying an interdisciplinary evaluation model and by encouraging the population to participate in the decision-making process. An interdisciplinary research team comprising the disciplines archeology, geology, history of mining, ecology social ecology, social ecology socioeconomics, and art history will investigate the possibilities of enhancing the land-use capability of abandoned mining sites