



## Schleswig

### **Culture and Resilience Action Plan – Summary**

The city of Schleswig, located in northern Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, near the Danish border, is a medium-sized urban center with approx. 25,000 residents and a regional catchment area of around 100,000. It is characterized by a strong focus on nature-oriented tourism and cultural heritage, including landmarks such as Gottorf Castle, the Haithabu World Heritage Site, and the Viking Museum. Despite its cultural richness, Schleswig faces social and economic challenges. With a relatively high average age, a 30% migrant population, and the highest child poverty rate in the county, the city experiences significant social fragmentation and structural weaknesses, particularly in the districts of Friedrichsberg and St. Jürgen.

### **Implementation Team & Stakeholders**

The CuReAP for 2026 will be implemented by a diverse team led by Carola Kemme (Culture and Tourism Department). It includes cultural scientists, youth workers, urban planners, integration officers, and civil society representatives. The team has already engaged in workshops with citizens and institutional partners to co-develop initial project ideas. Key institutions involved include the City Museum, City Library, Adult Education Center, state cultural institutions (theater, orchestra, museums), and various religious and migrant communities.

### **Target Groups & Engagement**

The CuReAP primarily targets youth and marginalized communities in disadvantaged neighborhoods. These groups will be actively involved through schools, family centers, youth centers, and street workers. Participation will be both digital and in-person, using co-creative methods to empower and include voices often left out of civic processes. The approach emphasizes collaboration with experienced partners in co-creation and community work.



## Challenges Addressed

Three main challenges are identified:

**-Social fragmentation:** Strengthening cohesion through inclusive, cultural, and temporary urban projects.

**-Hard-to-reach groups:** Building trust and genuine participation beyond tokenism.

**-Vacant urban spaces:** Finding sustainable, temporary uses for underutilized retail and public spaces.

## Cultural Tools for Social Change

Several cultural tools are planned to foster community connection:

**City Quest Tours:** Youth-led guided tours in Friedrichsberg using multimedia and geocaching.

**Street art workshops:** Co-designed public art in St. Jürgen.

**Gaming communities:** Intergenerational gatherings initiated by the library, adult education center and Castle Gottorf.

**Pop-up public spaces:** Placemaking and temporary events led by marginalized communities on Germany's "Cohesion in Diversity" day.

## Expected Outcomes and Long-Term Impact

The CuReAP aims to turn cultural participation into a shared civic practice, shifting both public institutions and citizens toward a more collaborative, inclusive mindset. By integrating marginalized groups into planning and implementation, the initiative aspires to build lasting networks, reduce social barriers, and support the city's resilience to future crises. Temporary projects are intended as pilots for sustainable urban and cultural development, aiming to establish long-term change in cultural governance and civic engagement.