

B-Teamnews

THE NEWSLETTER OF BTEAM PROJECT

#1 APRIL-JUNE 2011



Welcome

to the first edition
of B-TEAM News

B-TEAM News is the official newsletter of the Brownfield Policy Improvement Task Force project. The B-TEAM project is under the umbrella of the INTERREG IVC programme which focuses on interregional cooperation to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies.

The regeneration of Brownfields is an increasingly important element in the sustainable development strategy across Europe. B-TEAM provides policy support in the regions that contribute to the development of Brownfield sites before greenfield land, as a principle of sustainable growth.

B-TEAM project is a collaborative effort by 14 partners from 11 different countries to influence policies on Brownfields through sharing their successes and experiences. The partnership was developed to include different cities and academic institutions across Europe.

The publication of B-TEAM News is an important means of communication to reach out to all its stakeholders. This is a step forward in disseminating relevant information to project partners as well as to the general public. It highlights the process, the partnership and the contribution of the project to each partner and vice versa.

Since this is the first issue, we are trying to present the highlights of the project activities so far and the planned activities throughout the project lifespan of three years. There is information of upcoming events and the identified good practice of the project. Some of the partners' contributions are also highlighted in the news.

We would like to thank all project partners and individuals who contributed to this newsletter. We hope this document will provide interesting information about the project and its activities, and will inspire to continue the initiatives in Brownfield regeneration across Europe.

Sabine Kalke
Project Manager, B-TEAM
June 2011



Hajdú-Bihar

Dissemination Event Successful



The 2nd European Dissemination Event (EDE) was successfully held in Debrecen, Hungary last 19 April 2011. The representatives from 14 B-Team partners and other participants were welcomed by Mr. Attila Tóth, Vice-President of the Assembly of Hajdú-Bihar County.

In the event, the national and regional officials from Hungary, officials from partner cities, members of the B-Team and general public shared their experiences in Brownfield regenerations.

The recent updates and results from the completed Brownfield Days in Oulu/ Finland, Torino/Italy and Ruda Slaska/ Poland were also presented.

The partners' cities like Belfast, Oulo, Sevilla, Dresden, Vilnius and Dublin had presented their case studies and good practice in brownfield regeneration. The respective presentations were focused on the economic aspects of Brownfield redevelopment.

Experimental Laboratory identified as Good Practice

The experimental laboratory showing the different brownfield soil remediation techniques in Torino, Italy was identified and submitted to the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) as a project good practice.

The experimental laboratory is initiated by the B-Team partners; the Municipality of Torino and University of Torino, together with a private institution Revi-plant s.s- R&D Department.

The experimental project deals particularly with the utilisation of soil materials in a Brownfield area and turns them into useful greening agents. Local communities have the opportunity to visit the laboratory field and learn about the decontamination process. It is envisaged that this will increase the community confidence in public authorities managing contaminated sites and will improve the reputation of Brownfields.



The role of historical industry in the revitalisation of the hybrid city

Julián Sobrino Simal

Professor at the Higher Technical School of Architecture, Seville

Since the last third of the 20th century the global economy has been in a state of major flux with exceptional consequences for many cities traditionally characterised by their mining or industrial activities. One of the most discernible effects of this change was the emergence of brownfield sites, that is, abandoned industrial sites. Brownfields come in many forms and can be classified depending on implementation scales, production sectors, industrial chronologies, geographical locations, socio-economic problems, demographic status or infrastructure provisions. In addition, it is important to remember that these industrial spaces have been internationally considered as heritage assets since the emergence of industrial archaeology in the 1960s. This fact has transformed these post-industrial spaces into areas of heritage interest with legal protection and has given them a new status as active territorial assets.

This situation reveals the need for comprehensive adaptation projects for new uses to allow the preservation of industrial heritage, environmental regeneration, social cohesion, the revitalisation of economic activities, job creation and planning in the territory affected.

Former industrial spaces need to be considered with an eye to renewal so that important examples of European industrialisation are prevented from disappearing. Cities need to set out urban policies that combine different functions such as housing, industry, leisure and culture. This is a time of recession

and reassessing social policies and is ideally suited to maintaining the productive activities of industrial spaces in crisis through a new urban-planning culture which is able to develop a comprehensive concept of cities from two complementary standpoints: preserving listed historical industrial buildings to guarantee the survival of their heritage values and offering these spaces to non-polluting companies in new technologies, creativity, research and with new models of socially responsible co-operative work.

All this can be implemented with a new methodology that conceives the intervention project as an opportunity aiming to generate a bold framework for management and architecture and one which is sensitive to pre-existing historical elements, while at the same time promoting the generation of new heritage through current architectural intervention.

Historical factories in the inherited city are a material record with a significant interpretive, not just descriptive, ability, which can reconcile the preservation of these industrial assets with new uses so that their creative potential can emerge.

The sustainable city is one which manages to plan for the future by combining inherited heritage, in this case the industrial, with new urban-planning projects which meet criteria for efficiency so that heritage can become a part of the environment, as a tool for cohesion for the territory and a factor for growth.



Brownfield Days in Seville

The fourth Brownfield Days (BDs) were held in Seville, Spain last 31 May- 3 June 2011. **Seville is one of the most important cities of Southern Europe.** Located in the heart of Andalusia, Seville is not just a prime tourist destination, but in recent years has also proved to be an important commercial, economic and industrial city.



The focus of these particular Brownfield Days were to share and exchange partners' experiences in re-imagining the productive spaces: the industrial spaces in historical cities.

On the first day, activities include; welcome of participants, presentation of B- Days in Seville, visit to the Interpretation Centre of the Port Authority of Seville, and an exhibition of B-TEAM at the University of Seville.

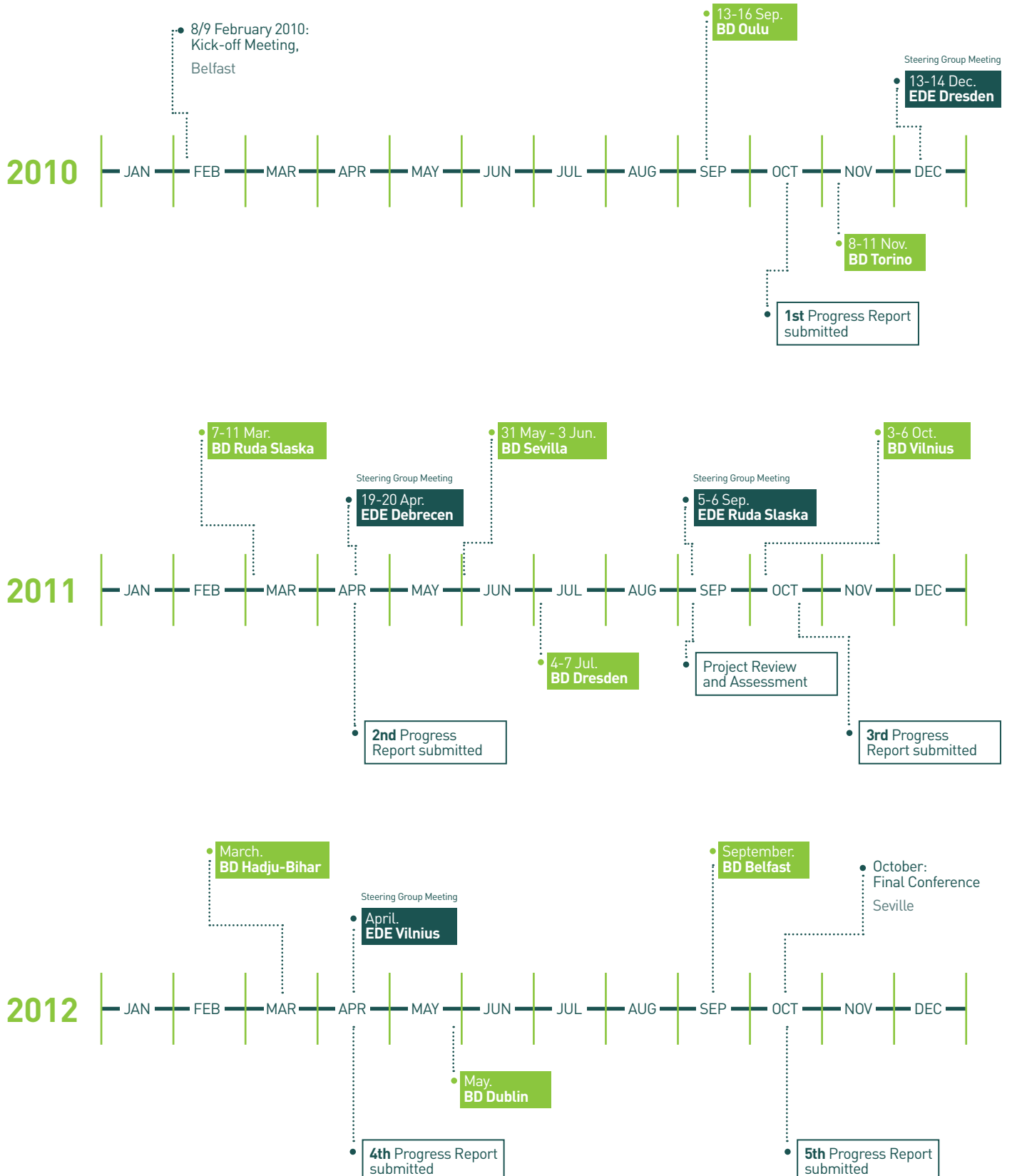
The next day activities include; tour to the industrial Seville and workshop which focused on 1) the role of the historical industry in the revitalization of the hybrid city; 2) the compatibility of the new productive sectors in the historical industrial spaces; 3) the

multifunctional city as a net for the integration of the historical industrial spaces.

The third day activities includes; Bike Tour to five (5) 'revitalized industrial sites' in Seville and a guided tour to the Real Fábrica de Artillería, the identified Brownfield site. The workshop was attended by B-TEAM members, professors and students of the University of Sevilla and the University Pablo de Olavide.

On the final day, a closing session was facilitated and outputs of the workshops were presented. B-Team members discussed their strategic and site-specific recommendations that could be part of the Brownfield Pledge of Seville.

Brownfield Policy Improvement Task Force Project Activities Timeline: 2010- 2012



Previous year activities:

B-TEAM initiative officially started last February 2010. Here are the major activities conducted by the project in the previous year.



Kick-off Meeting in Belfast

The B-Team kick-off meeting was conducted in Belfast City 8-9 February 2010. It was attended by all the partners of the project and procedures, management structures and partner responsibilities were discussed.



1st Brownfield Days: Oulu, Finland

The first Brownfield Days were held in Oulu, Finland 13-16 September 2010. This was the first activity wherein experts/ partners from other regions discussed the actual Brownfield issues and strategies.

BD Oulu programme included the discussion about the approach of Oulu and Toppila Shore II Project Area, Land Use Workshop – Ideas and Policies / Seminar, Sea Centre Seminar Workshop and the presentations of the partners' cultural centres.

On the final day, partners' recommendations both in the strategic and site-level were discussed and drafted for the Oulu Brownfield Pledge. The BP was adopted by the City Board.



2nd Brownfield Days: Torino, Italy

The second Brownfield Days were held in Torino, Italy 8-11 November 2010.

The BD programme focused on the theme 'Introducing of Torino's New Deal From Old Spaces to New Opportunities; Workshop theme "Green Day": From Brownfield to Greenfield Workshop, and "Rainbow Day: From Still-Life to Life Workshop.'" Brownfield soil remediation techniques were presented by the host and good practice identified by the partners.



1st European Dissemination Event (EDE): Dresden, Germany

The B-Team organised their first European Dissemination Event (EDE) 13-14 December 2010. It was hosted by the City of Dresden, Germany. The European Dissemination Event is part of the overall strategy of the B-Team Project to disseminate the results and experiences in Brownfield regeneration to a broader public.

The results and recommendations from the completed Brownfield Days in City of Oulu/ Finland and City of Torino/Italy were presented. The respective Brownfield issues, updates, reports and recommendations from those cities were discussed with the audience.

Brownfield Days in Ruda Slaska

The Brownfield Days in Ruda Slaska were carried out on 4-7 March 2011. Ruda Slaska is a city in Silesia in southern Poland and part of Silesian Voivodeship, an administrative region and local government unit in Poland.

The coal mining industry is of significant importance for the local economy and vitality of Ruda Slaska and the Silesian region.

The visit to one of the active coal mines was part of the BD activities. In the workshop with the Silesian Technical University, potential uses were discussed and recommendations drafted by the partners.



UPCOMING EVENTS

5-6 September
EDE Ruda Slaska, **Poland**

3-6 October
BD Vilnius, **Lithuania**