

Hist.Urban – Integrated revitalisation of historical towns to promote polycentric and sustainable development

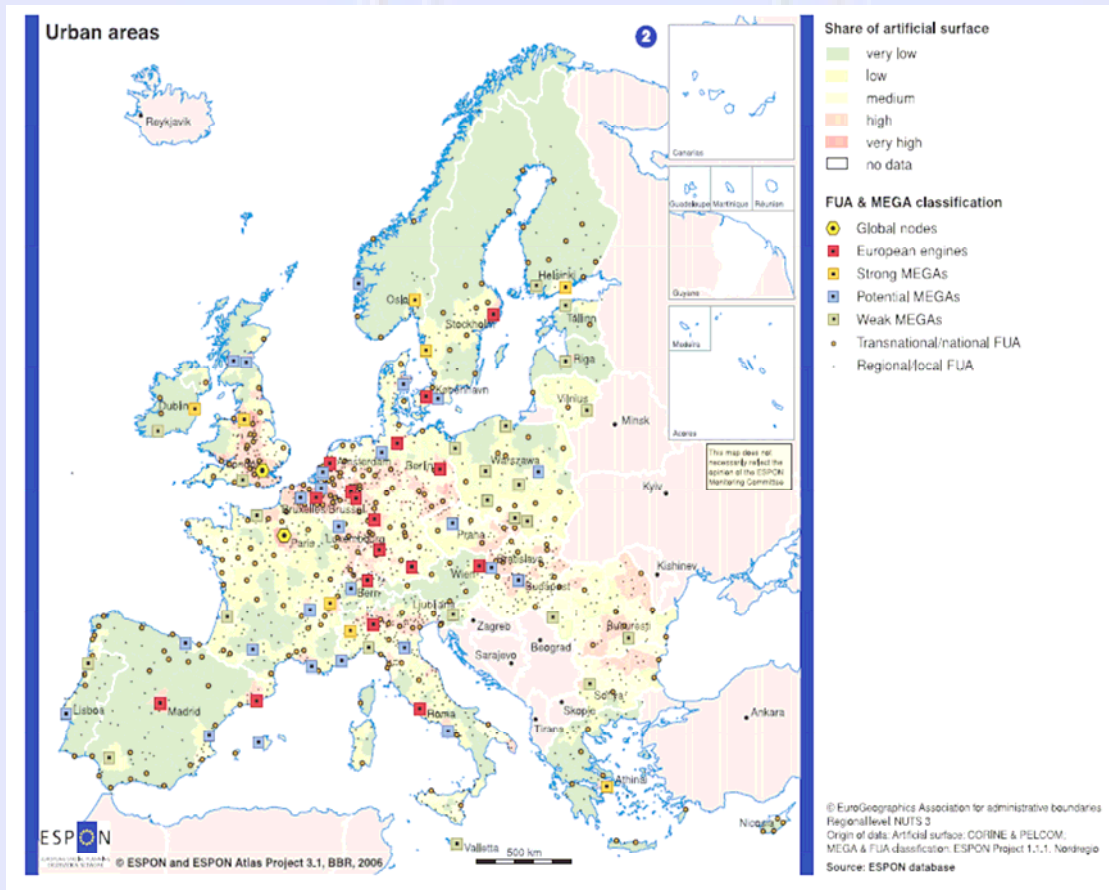
CADSES Closing Conference
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Development

Overview

- What is the origin of Hist.Urban?
- What has Hist.Urban achieved?
- How are the achievements utilised?
- What are the requirements for the future?

Relevance of Small and Medium-sized Towns in Europe



European Dimension of Territorial and Urban Development

- European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP)
- Territorial Agenda of the EU (TAEU) towards a more competitive and sustainable Europe of diverse Regions
- Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities
- Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion („Turning territorial diversity into strength“)

Federal Programme „Transnational Cooperation“ of the German Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Affairs

- Providing **political and financial support** for **transnational cooperation projects** as **contribution to implement territorial cohesion objectives** in Europe
- **Complementary** INTERREG III B-projects as selected „flagship“
 - **Hist.Urban** „Integrated Revitalisation of small and medium-sized historic towns“
 - **ADHOC** „Adapted Development of Historical Old Towns“

Hist.Urban Characteristics

19 Project Partners

- 12 Local authorities
- 3 Research institutes
- 1 Regional Development Agency
- 1 Chamber of Commerce
- 1 Non-profit organisation
- 1 Private company

9 CADSES countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Moldavia, Poland, Romania)

Duration 02/2006 - 08/2008

Total Budget 2.172,618,84 €



Origin, Background and Intention of Hist.Urban

- **Origin: Network of East German Towns** with historic centres setting up a **European partnership** and **transnational project design**
- **Main concern:** Strengthening of **vital and attractive historic towns** by using the **built-cultural heritage as one of the main assets** for building Europe's future
- **Strategic objective:** Elaboration of **implementation-oriented integrated revitalisation approaches** to promote the sustainable and future-oriented development of small and medium-sized historic towns.
- **Topics:**
 - Strengthen the urban **economy, social and ecological functions**, qualities
 - Improve **capacity of partners** to apply integrated and **implementation-oriented revitalisation approaches**
 - Rehabilitate and valorise the **built-cultural heritage as development potential AND element of identity**

Outputs and Achievements of Hist.Urban

Outputs

- ... wide range of **local pilot projects** (strategic plans, retail concepts, lighting plans, cultural tourism routes, participation models, public-private cooperation etc.)
- **Schematic process flow** in a sequence of 12 steps for integrated revitalisation processes
- **10 key messages** for the urban and ecological rehabilitation
- **Concept for promoting economic development** by using existing opportunities
- **Base-Line Study** „Significance and Challenges of small and medium-sized historic towns“
- **Transnational Manual** „Integrated and Implementation-oriented Revitalisation Approaches for Historic Towns“
- **European Declaration** „Integrated Revitalisation of Historical Centres“



Outputs and achievements of Hist.Urban

Achievements to be utilised in „daily life“ and beyond

- ... at local level: Developed and **tested integrated implementation-oriented revitalisation approaches**, improved **know-how**, increased **capacity**, new **forms of participation and horizontal cooperation**
- **Guidelines on common topics and fields of action** for integrated revitalisation
- Transferable, implementation-oriented **recommendations for local decision-makers**
- Profound **comprehension**, raised **awareness** and common **commitment** to apply integrated revitalisation



Comprehension, Awareness and Commitment

- **Sustainable, future-oriented historic towns require** integrated revitalisation policies
- **Common thematic objectives** of integrated revitalisation in the CADSES area analysed and identified by Hist.Urban:
 - Emphasizing the development of **vital town centres**, attractive to live, work, invest and spend time in for all citizens, actors
 - Combining the protection of **protection of our built-cultural heritage** with the **requirements of our changing society** and economy
 - Applying and implementing a continuous, **process-oriented and integrated development approach**



Topic: Emphasising the development of vital town centres, attractive to live, work, invest and spend time in for all actors and citizens

Fields of action:

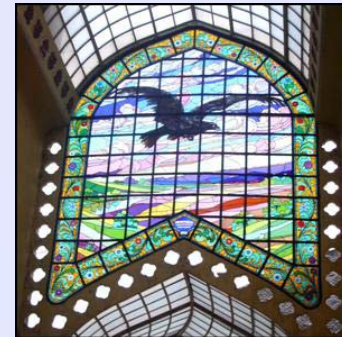
- **Diversity of function and use**
Good practice: Concept to promote retail in Regensburg
- **Sustainable cultural tourism environment**
Good practice: Strategy of diversification of tourist offer in Verona
- **Promoting economic development**
Good practice: Existing potentials as economic driver in Sopot
- **Activating of private funding**
Good practice: Favourable investment conditions in Germany



Topic: Combining the protection of our built-cultural heritage with the requirements of our changing society and economy

Fields of action:

- **Preserving and carefully adapting urban architectural and cultural heritage**
Good practice: Concepts to combine monument protected buildings with specific needs of new forms of neighbourhood and housing in Wismar
- **Revalorisation of public spaces**
Good practice: Lighting concepts to create awareness for the built-cultural heritage in Kaufbeuren and Sanok



Topic: Applying and implementing a continuous, process-oriented and integrated development approach

Fields of action:

- **Ensuring planning culture and process control**
Good practice: Strategic plan for the historic town in Faenza indicating a common action plan and paradigm-shift
- **Activation and participation of civil society**
Good practice: Bottom-up participation process in Graz



Comprehension, Awareness and Commitment

- Integrated revitalisation of historic towns **require political commitment on all levels** – local efforts in historic towns must be supported by national and EU strategies
- „**European Declaration** for Integrated Revitalisation of Historic Centres“ **jointly initiated** by ADHOC and Hist.Urban reflects **common thematic topics**
 - Adopted by **30 towns and institutions of twelve countries** in Central and South-East Europe
 - **Commitment to pro-actively design the towns** sustainably and implement integrated approaches
 - **Call for all political levels** to support the local efforts in realising integrated strategies



Requirements for the Future

- **Towns** and cities **play a key role as motor** for the socio-economic development in Europe
- **Integrated approaches** of urban development **contribute to implement the principles strengths of the diversity of regions and European towns**
- Integrated approaches are to be **interlinked** with:
 - future-oriented and sustainable **development goals** defined by **Lisbon Agenda** and **Gothenburg Strategy**
 - relevant **topics** and new requirements as result of **changing society and accelerating globalisation** (e.g. demographic trends, climate change, innovation and competitiveness, social inclusion, environmental preservation)
 - **strong focus** on development and implementation of concrete, **applicable tools, instruments and processes** ensuring realisation



Thank you very much for your attention !

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