

# COBRAMAN NEWS

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# What has happened lately?

## Bydgoszcz Poland

October 5<sup>th</sup> 2009

### Assessing existing concepts and tools in brownfield revitalization

#### Workshop

Early Fall welcomed the COBRAMAN partners in Bydgoszcz, where colleagues from the University of Economy In Bydgoszcz, leaders of the COBRAMAN WP3 "Knowledge base and decision support" organised a one day workshop. The final aim of WP3 is to provide an evaluate key information on brownfield development and to make this database available on-line. The starting point of the WP3 is the exploitation of existing project results and their evaluation. Recently many European funded project focused on the problem of sustainable brownfield regeneration, but the knowledge was not brought together yet. Following the initial review of existing concepts and tools for brownfield regeneration, which was completed in the first COBRAMAN project period, the workshop "Assessing existing concepts and tools" was organised. The aim of the Bydgoszcz workshop was to bring together key actors from previous projects, experts and national practitioners to assess identified concepts and tools against their practical relevance, usefulness and applicability. Representatives of respective projects introduced experiences from EUBRA, CABERNET, PROSIDE, REVIT, BERI, MAGIC, RECORE, and RESOURCE. The last session of the workshop was devoted to presentations and discussion regarding the database. A visit of the pilot site of Bydgoszcz was also organized.

Future brownfield managers had their **1<sup>st</sup> COBRAMAN Brownfield Manager training seminar Basics and Roadmaps.**

(see Comments of training participants in this Newsletter).



## Most Czech Republic

23<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

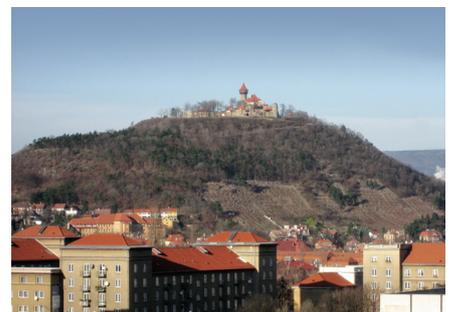
### Annual project meeting

On the first day COBRAMAN Project Steering group met, with Project Management, Communication and Financial management being the main issues on the agenda. Second day was devoted to Work Package 5 "Pilot sites". The sessions were open to the public and made an important contribution to promotion of the COBRAMAN project and its activities. Pilot sites, their characteristics and problems were presented. The pilot sites are very heterogenous and will thus offer a chance to learn about a wide array

of fields within brownfield management. The second day concluded with a visit of the Most Lake pilot site. The morning sessions of the third day of gathering in Most was devoted to discussion on methodological and other issues related to WP3 "Knowledge database" and "European school for brownfield managers".

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> COBRAMAN Training Seminar

introduced management instruments and tools in the afternoon of the third day and on the fourth day of Most event. The training focused on how to establish an Interdisciplinary working group to deal with brownfield management and how EU wide legal aspect relate to the daily work of a brownfield manager. The second day of training was devoted to basics in general project management and project development, practical work on the issues of project management, "Site review" and SWOT in connection to brownfield redevelopment.



# What will happen shortly?

## Verona Italy

December 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009

[www.central2013.eu/event-calendar/verona.html](http://www.central2013.eu/event-calendar/verona.html)

### Presentation of COBRAMAN at the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme Annual event:

The Managing Authority and Joint Technical Secretariat of the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme are organising the Programme's Annual event on 3 - 4 December 2009 in Verona, Italy. Together with other approved projects within CENTRAL EUROPE programme, COBRAMAN project will be presented during the "Interactive session: Cross Fertilisation" on the first day of the event.

### Project Partners



City of Bydgoszcz (Poland)



The University of Economy in Bydgoszcz (Poland)

## Ostrava Czech Republic

week February 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010

### 3<sup>rd</sup> COBRAMAN Training Seminar

focusing on "Civil engineering and environmental technologies" will be held within organization of PP5 VSB University Ostrava. The seminar will cover many important technical issues regarding deconstruction of buildings, contamination and remediation, geotechnics, water management, protection of soil and habitats, as well as technical aspects of industrial heritage protection.



City of Stuttgart (Germany)



City of Most (Czech Republic)

## Ferrara Italy

week May 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010

### The COBRAMAN project meeting

We will be half-way through the project, important outputs will be completed, a mid term evaluation of the overall project development will be done. Presentation of main outputs, such as WP3 database is foreseen.



VSB-Technical University of Ostrava (Czech Republic)

### Transnational workshops for WP3 "Knowledge base and decision"

Public workshop in Ferrara on key features of the database as content, reliability of information, peer reviewing update mechanisms and user aspects will be held.



City of Kranj (Slovenia)

### Transnational workgroup WP5 "Pilot sites"

Transnational workgroup which meets every nine months will meet to discuss key issues of the pilots to enable all managers to cover the whole range of issues



City of Usti nad Labem (Czech Republic)

### 4<sup>th</sup> Cobraman Training Seminar "Economic aspects"

The fourth COBRAMAN training seminar will focus on economic and financial dimension of brownfield management. Important issues from real estate economics and land valuation of brown fields, financial and funding instruments, risk dealing, cost analysis as well as EU funding possibilities will be a subject of detailed consideration.



SIPRO-County Board for Development Ferrara (Italy)



Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia Ljubljana (Slovenia)

### Visit for project updates!

[www.cobraman-ce.eu](http://www.cobraman-ce.eu)

# The Cobraman Training Seminars

■ ■ **No one ever involved in a brownfield revitalisation process will deny, that there is an urgent need for professional process management to develop opportunity plans and to steer revitalisation processes. This process has to be managed by someone with extraordinary wide range of skills and interdisciplinary knowledge in communication, environment, engineering, architecture and finance.** ■ ■

However, the professional discipline "brownfield manager" does not exist, neither do education or training courses. Due to this lack, COBRAMAN aims to clearly define a professional profile and job description, sets up training courses and gives advice how to position a "brownfield manager" within existing municipal structures.

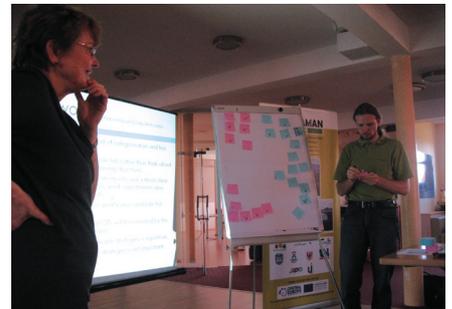
Work in this part of the COBRAMAN project started with drawing up a training plan for the first brownfield managers, who will be trained during the project lifetime. The training plan foresees a series of training seminars, with online meetings and homework in between.

The first draft job description was compiled combining existing knowledge and experiences from former research projects and experiences of the project partners. Best practises referring to the organisational framework for the position of a "brownfield manager" were collected and evaluated.

The brownfield management plan will be a key tool for a brownfield manager in his daily practise. Important topics and checklists will be explained and shown as templates in a Brownfield management plan. The Plan will include guidelines for the set-up and management of an interdisciplinary working group within the municipality, comprising various departments, investors and other stakeholders. The working group structure will depend on the specifics of each case. Time and finance management as well as key communication issues will be part of this plan.

Further tools for brownfield managers will be a "Site review" leading to a SWOT analysis of the plot under revitalisation. The "Site review" will be developed continuously and will summarise all the important information about the plot.

Currently the project is halfway through the training seminar series: the training sessions, focusing on Basics & Roadmap as well as Management Instruments & Tools were already held. The training on Civil Engineering & Environmental Technologies is upcoming. Further trainings focusing on Economic Aspects, Communication & Marketing and Planning Aspects & Sustainability will follow.



SWOT Exercise - Is it weakness or opportunity

It is planned to finish the series of training events in May 2011. For each training, the COBRAMAN training handbook is updated and expanded. This will lead to a guide on how to train new brownfield managers. By the end of the project lifetime, the outcome of the COBRAMAN WP4 should be a clear description of the new profession, guidebook, training materials and knowledge how to install the position within the municipality. In addition, 25 people who are staff member of the COBRAMAN project partner consortium will be trained and positioned as new brownfield managers.

## Comments of training participants from 1st seminar held in Bydgoszcz / Poland October 2009:

- Comprehensive seminar, tailored to the needs of practitioners
- Combination of expert lectures, work in small groups, speed dating session with European top level experts and field trip makes this seminar an outstanding experience.
- Besides all differences among participants in respect of the position in their institutions, professional background and national regulations, sharing of knowledge and getting aware of the similar needs is a vital element and success factor of the course.
- Brownfield management means networking and communication with a wide technical background. The soft skills make the difference!
- Great experience in a great team!

## Project website

[www.cobraman-ce.eu](http://www.cobraman-ce.eu)

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The Cobraman project in brief

Programme	Central Europe
Priority	Enhancing competitiveness and attractiveness of cities and regions
Area of intervention	4.1 Developing Polycentric Settlement Structures & Territorial Cooperation
Duration	December 2008 - November 2011
Total budget	3.624.696,00 €
ERDF contribution	2.984.381,60 €
Partnership	City of Bydgoszcz (Poland) lead partner, City of Stuttgart (Germany), University of Economy Bydgoszcz (Poland), City of Most (Czech Republic), VSB Technical University of Ostrava (Czech Republic), City of Kranj (Slovenia), City of Usti nad Labem (Czech Republic), SIPRO Ferrara (Italy), Urban planning institute of the Republic of Slovenia (Slovenia)