



# NEWSLETTER

**N°12 – January 2008**

*This is the Newsletter edited by the  
"International Cooperation Club"  
of the FNAU network.  
FNAU is the non-profit association of the  
French public urban planning agencies*

## News from the Club

**Our decentralized meeting in Lyon on Wed. Nov. 28** (*"The French urban planning agencies, operators of the decentralized cooperation"*) was quite successful, with some 50 participants of which 20 were representing twelve agencies of the Fnau network.

Perfectly well organized by the Lyon Agency, the meeting had different phases :

- statements and speeches by the various actors of the decentralized cooperation (mayors & councillors, professionals, administrations..)
- round-tables, mainly through some experiences driven jointly by a local community and an urban agency, such as in Dunkerque, Lyon, Marseille & Paris,
- a long open session of exchanges between the participants, this in order to give a very practical information to the agencies about (i) the way to launch a cooperation process, (ii) the financial means and (iii) the potential support by the Fnau network and mostly its International Cooperation Club.

The main conclusions of the meeting were introduced at the national monthly meeting of the Agencies' Directors, on Dec.5, and the Fnau National Board has approved both these conclusions as the decision to participate into the Nanjing 2008 World Urban Forum.



**Meeting in Nanjing / China next October, 2008....**

The World Urban Forum is a biennial gathering that is attended by a wide range of partners, from non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, urban professionals, academics, to governments, local authorities and national and international associations of local governments. It gives all these actors a common platform to discuss urban issues in formal and informal ways and come up with action-oriented proposals to create sustainable cities.



*Nanjing*

The Fourth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF4) will be held in the ancient city of **Nanjing** from 13-17 October 2008. It should be remembered that some 11,400 people already attended WUF 3 in Vancouver in 2006. The Fnau network will participate into this important event.

**...but firstly in Agadir / Morocco next March**

Our foreign readers have probably already noticed that the Fnau network has initiated a permanent cooperation with Majal, the network of the Moroccan urban agencies.

Fnau will thus participate into the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of these agencies, in Agadir on March 6 - 7, which will be held on the topic "*The urban agencies, at the very heart of the strategic planning for the territories*".

More information is available on the (well – furnished) website of the Moroccan agencies network, [www.majal.org](http://www.majal.org)

## Who & where ? *News from the agencies*

⇒ **The agency for Urban Planning & Development of the Flandre – Dunkerque Region** (AGUR, at the northern border of France) is now starting a decentralized cooperation project with the wilaya of **Annaba** (Algeria) and the city of **Bizerte** (Tunisia).

A first agreement for partnership, signed in 2004 with Annaba, had already given the opportunity to study the feasibility of an urban agency to be set up at the level of the Wilaya.



Annaba  
DR

With the financial support of the French MOFA and of the European-based program MED-PACT, a more ambitious project was then carried on by the AGUR Agency and the Urban Community of Dunkerque. Along three years and with a total budget of some 540,000 €, it was in fact enlarged to the city of Bizerte (the twin-city of Annaba) in order to help them into defining sustainable and integrated urban development policies through some various tools :

- an urban agency in Annaba
- tools and processes such as GIS, urban observatories and territorial statements in Annaba & Bizerte
- assistance to the upgrading and enhancement of the ancient monuments and buildings in Annaba.

A local coordinator will soon be set-up by the agency and the Urban Community of Dunkerque in order to develop this program along the next three years.

Contact : [s.debeaumont@agur.org](mailto:s.debeaumont@agur.org)



In order to strengthen its activities in the Mediterranean area and Middle East, **IAURIF**, the Ile-de-France Region Planning & Development Agency, has now a **regional representative, based in Damas / Syria** : He will manage various actions in the framework of the new decentralized cooperation program in Lebanon (set up by the IDF Regional Council), missions for the present contracts in Algeria & Libya, and the development of new projects in the area.

Contact : [eric.huybrechts@iaurif.org](mailto:eric.huybrechts@iaurif.org)

## On your notebook



The next biennial **CODATU conference** will be held in **Hochiminh city** on **next November 12 – 14** on the topic “*Sustainable Development Challenges of Transport in Cities of the Developing World: Doing what works.*”.

Papers submission (*already 81 were received !!*) and registration on :

[www.codatu.org](http://www.codatu.org)



Hochiminhville - DR



We must also mention, less than one month before, the 9<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the **Metropolis Association**, in Sydney (Oct.22-25).

The overall theme is : “*Connecting cities*”.



[www.metropoliscongress2008.com](http://www.metropoliscongress2008.com)

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