



NEWSLETTER

N°22 – July 2010

**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**

Thank you so much for the perfect organization by the Bordeaux Agency of the last meeting of our Club on June 9. It gave the opportunity to discuss the project of the practical guide « The Urban Planning Agencies and the decentralized cooperation », which will be edited (with the financial help by AfD & MEEDDEM) during the next FNAU Annual Meeting in Rennes, Oct. 19-21. Please remember that our club is in charge of a workshop on day 21, morning, the topic being « Developing AND sustainable cities ?? »

Registration on www.audiar.org... before spending some nice holidays !

G.Antier & P.Berger, Club Leaders

News from the Club

Some 30 people attended the last Club meeting at the Bordeaux Agency last **June 9, 2010** ; It was headed by V.Feltesse, Chairman of the Urban Community of Bordeaux / CUB, and by J.M.Offner, the Agency's CEO. Besides Bordeaux, six agencies (Ile-de-France, Lyon, Marseille, Paris, Toulouse & St Omer) have participated into the meeting, as well as various territorial communities (Bordeaux & Aquitaine, Lyon, Toulouse), the Central Govt (Meeddem, AfD) and a network of cities (CUF). F.Brunet, consultant, in charge of the preparation of the guide to be published next October, has of course also closely attended the debates.

V.Feltesse and J.M.Offner first expressed their wish to find within this meeting **several good arguments** for the international activities of the urban planning agencies. Then G.Antier summarized the roles played by the numerous actors of the decentralized cooperation (agencies and communities, the Government and the networks such as Isted, Cuf, or the new *French*

Partnership for Cities and Territories, introduced by M.Belliot, the Fnau General Delegate.

P.Berger (Lyon) gave a good presentation of the ways through which agencies and communities may « coordinate » each other about a project of cooperation, before an illustration given by the case – study of **Bordeaux** (CUB / A.Raimat & the Agency A'urba / A.Charousset). The **AfD** (R.de la Rochefoucauld, P.A.Fiévet & M.L.Cam) set out its recent developments in terms of decentralized cooperation, and how it is regularly questioned abroad about this specific French way of making. The morning session was concluded by F.Brunet, consultant, giving a progress report about the practical guide now under preparation, which led to numerous questions and debates.

The case-studies took a wide part of the afternoon session : how the **Lyon** agency is closely associated to the cooperation projects of its Urban Community «Grand Lyon», how did the **Paris** Agency Apur build its work in Rio de Janeiro, the practical and financial aspects of the cooperation driven by the **St Omer** Agency in Benin, and finally how the Agency takes an active part into the cooperation projects of the city of **Marseille**. They mostly focused over « *who made how and with whom* » than over « *who made what* ». This led to several reactions by C.Raynal, Chairman of the Toulouse Agency, P.L'Huillier, the Grand Lyon International Manager & N.Wit, Deputy-Manager of Cités Unies France (CUF), mostly about the ways and feasibility for the agencies to work abroad.

One of them underlined how the French agencies are a kind of « *Swiss knife* » (!), and how this does motivate the developing cities to know more about them. Another one said how profitable (in terms of training and professional capacity) these missions may be for the agencies' staff.

And as a matter of conclusion, it appeared that operating for the decentralized cooperation was obviously useful, this within our such inter-connected world looking everywhere for « *urban best practices* » (*by the way, it is the name of one of the 5 zones of Shanghai World Expo 2010 !!*). And the French urban planning agencies should play their full role within that game.

Books Review

Le temps de l'Afrique (*The Time of Africa*), by J.M. Severino & O. Ray, Paris, Odile Jacob, 2010, 345 p., 25 €.

JEAN-MICHEL
SEVERINO
OLIVIER
RAY
*Le Temps
de l'Afrique*



This is a stimulating book, both for its style, full of anecdotes and of clear (sometimes rough) messages and for its global view. The so-called « obviousness of the past » has to be surpassed, and the book focuses itself over the topic of the on-going African change. This appears as a kind of prelude to a

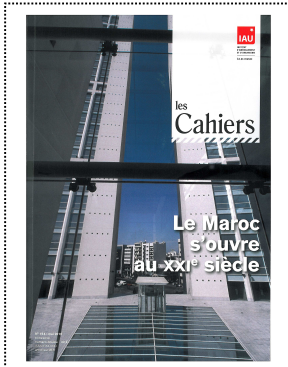
strategical rebirth of Africa.

And because this continent looks to change very quickly of scale and of course, the authors do bring the reader to consider Africa beyond the usual ways of analysis. All along this book, irrigated by practical considerations and by meetings on the spot, the diagnosis is updated, efficient and never forgets the future trends. Please do not lose this time of Africa..



Morocco opens itself to the XXIth century, Cahiers de l'IAU IdF, n° 154, may 2010, 176 p., 30 €.
Downloadable on <http://www.iau-idf.fr/nos-publications/les-cahiers.html> next September.

Four years after the IAU Ile-de-France's statement about its work in Lebanon (Cahiers 144, see *The Letter*, n°4, January 2006), this bulky issue is organized through various crossed views of some forty Moroccan & French experts, among which several from IAU IdF, who introduce on Section III their works & studies driven during the last thirty years in Morocco. Section I is mostly focusing over the urban history of the country since 1900, starting from the medina and the « European Town » and reaching the ways to a new metropolisation. Section II details the Moroccan urban policies before the aspects of the economy, of the quality of life and of the environment, and finally the legal and institutional tools.



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Who & where ? News from the agencies

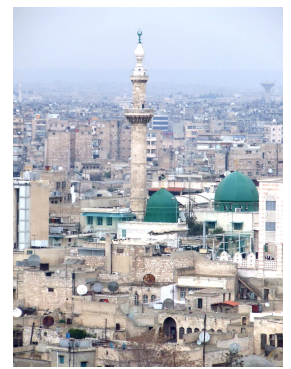


The Toulouse Agency (AUAT) in Asia

Following several expert missions driven in **Chongqing** (China) from 2003 to 2009 with the technical assistance of the Agency in the field of transport, a mission about the accessibility of the downtown – Yuzhong peninsula – will be soon realized within the framework of an agreement of decentralized cooperation. AUAT might also drive a mission in **Hanoi** about the project of a new public transportation axis, this as a new step of the long-dated cooperation between Toulouse and the Vietnam capital city.



The Mayor of **Alep** is wishing to study an «Plan for Urban Trips » (the first one in Syria) in order to improve the urban transportation within his city. The **Lyon** Agency, with the CETE and the Transport Metro Authority (SYTRAL), have just finalized the PUT Terms of reference in order to apply for a French public financing. In case of the file- prepared with a French firm and a local consultant – be agreed, the study might start in 2011, under the authority of the city and with help of the technical team from Lyon.



CL.A.U.Lyon

On your agenda



CODATU XIV will be held in **Buenos Aires next Oct. 25 - 27** on the central (and... trendy) topic « *Sustainable Transport and the quality life in the city* ».

Preliminary program on line on www.codatu.org



On the same days, « **Re-invent the urban region : infrastructures and urban services for a smart development** » will be the central topic of the INTA 34th Congress in Donostia - San Sebastian, Spain, **next Oct.24 to 28**. Facing the crisis : smart infrastructures, innovation within the delivery of urban services and within the et governance of the urban regions.

Information & registration.: www.inta34.org