

B-Teamnews

THE NEWSLETTER OF BTEAM PROJECT

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Message from the Project Manager

Sabine Kalke
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This is the 3rd issue of our B-Teamnews. In this quarter, we have carried out the Brownfield Days in Vilnius, Lithuania and had the opportunity to disseminate the results of our project in the INTERREG Good Practice Fair in Krakow. The special topic featured in this issue is coming from our partner in Austria.

In this Christmas season, we wish all the B-Team partners as well as readers of this e-newsletter a Happy Christmas and peaceful and successful New Year 2012.

Brownfield Days in Vilnius were successfully held

“I am glad we can use knowledge of the cities that already have developed such projects before we starts in the area“ a quote from the City Mayor Arturas Zuokas. The Mayor was referring to Vilnius case study area- Park of Architecture, a vast Brownfield area of the City which was subjected to rigorous examination by the B-Team partners in the Brownfield Days in Lithuania.

The first day of the activity was called “Vilnius Exploration Day” and activities included sight visits, viewing of the city model, presentations on Vilnius historical background, urban planning and development. There was also a presentation on the City real state market analysis, demand and supply; and the introduction to pilot territories, unique neighbourhood of “Uzupis Republic”.

The next day was the “Territory Analysis Day” that included the tour and territory analysis of “Park of Architecture” as well as the introduction to workshop groups. The third day was named as “Workshop Day” that was continuation of workshop activities, presentation of conclusions to overall groups, and identification of further works, and discussions on the main ideas for the final workshop results.

On the final day- “Conclusion Day”, the presentations of B-Team project and workshops results were presented to the public where more than 120 people participated.

The project was also featured in the main national TV station, radio stations, several newspaper and internet sites.

From brownto green

Albin Blaschka, Wilhelm Graiss

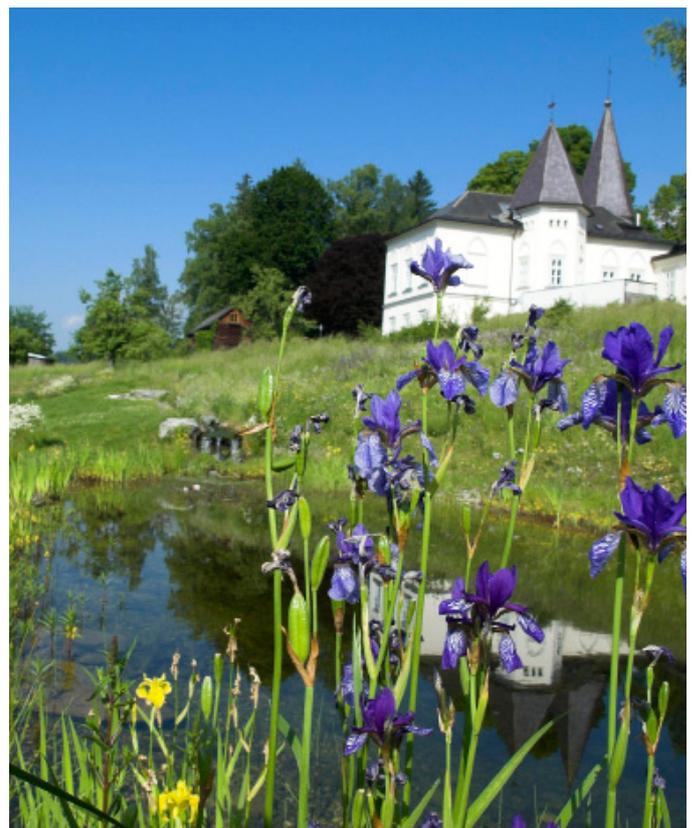
Agricultural Research and Education
Centre Raumberg-Gumpenstein, Austria

Revegetating and reclamation are important parts in brownfield regeneration. Reclamation has a broad application: The main objectives of reclamation include the stabilization of the terrain, assurance of public safety, aesthetic improvement, and usually a return of the land to a useful purpose. All these considerations are the starting point for getting brownfields back into the city and make something like the “handicraft” part for urban redevelopment. Open spaces are an integral part of urban areas and play a central role in acceptance of the people living there and in the surroundings.

Different vegetation or habitat types are able to meet different demands. It is important to see revegetation measurements not only as “green painting” but as a set of tools which has to be considered from the starting of the planning process to be able to create a real townscape. Vegetation regulates the microclimate in the area, it can be used to structure a quarter and shield off from ugly views and even, at least partly, from different kind of emissions (noise, dust, smell) and connect the city with its natural surroundings. The main challenge is to bring the different natural vegetation types into an urban context, to be able to fulfil the different requirements (attractiveness, regulation of the micro climate, usefulness – think for example recreation, general setting, overall long-term development process etc.). Important is therefore a solid planning and preparation with a thorough data collection, to be able to make an expert selection of methods and suitable materials, to ensure a sustainable and sensitive implementation.

The specific creation needs experienced, skilled experts and workers. Lack of attention given to

decisive criteria, such as the degree of acidity of the soil, or the availability of nutrients is often reason for failing. Plant material is living material and therefore careful handling is indispensable. Badly stored grass swards, inexperienced fixing of the sward in the soil, a lack of adequate bedding-in and the connected drying-out phenomenon can destroy the efforts undertaken and are only a few examples. The gathering and intermediate storing and application of the topsoil, the subsequent prevention against erosion (even on a flat area in the city a thunderstorm can cause relocation of soil and hinder an even germination), the use of special methods and the choice of donor areas are key factors for success.



B-TEAM

presented in the Good Practice Fair in Krakow

The project good practice “Experimental Laboratory: Brownfield Soil Remediation Techniques” has been selected by the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) to be presented at the INTERREG IVC Good Practice Fair in Krakow, Poland on 24 November 2011. The good practice was presented by the Project Manager, Sabine Kalke at the workshop on “Smart use of waste lands”.

As cited in the programme website, Interregional cooperation has brought many advantages to those organisations involved in partnerships. Across 122 projects financed by the INTERREG IVC programme, over 1000 good practices have been identified in ten themes thanks to this cooperation. This event aims to be a platform for exchanging experiences and taking up good practices identified or transferred with cooperation projects.

The experimental laboratory is initiated by the B-Team partners; the Municipality of Torino and University of Torino, together with a private institution Replanta s.s- R&D Department. The experimental project, which is located on-site of the identified Brownfield area, presents the various techniques in soil remediation.



Put it in your diary: B-TEAM Final Conference 7-8 November 2012

This is a special day for all the partners as well as all stakeholders of the B-Team project and other interested parties. The project has started in 2010 and will end in December 2012, with its culmination scheduled 7-8 November 2012. The Final Conference will be held in Sevilla, Spain. This will be hosted by the Spanish partner, Sevilla Global- Seville City Council.

To make the event successful, the Steering Group has created a small task group to ensure that the system, structure and strategies of the final conference are put in place. Initial meeting was held in Sevilla, Spain on 25 October 2011.

UPCOMING EVENTS

European Dissemination Event
Vilnius, Lithuania
26-27 April 2012

Brownfield Days
Dublin, Ireland
21-24 May 2012