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LUDA - IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN LARGE URBAN DISTRESSED AREAS

www.luda-project.net

Lisbon Dissemination Workshop and Mid-Term Assessment of the 5th Framework Programme Research Project of the European Commission under the Key Action: "City of Tomorrow and Cultural Heritage"



The workshop and mid-term assessment of the LUDA project, which runs from February 2003 to January 2006, took place in Lisbon, Portugal on the 8th -10th of July 2004.

LUDA project is dealing with the large urban distressed area, which usually is:

- a large and strategic part of a city
- characterised by multiple deprivations and a low quality of life.

Overall goal is to improve the quality of life in large urban distressed areas.

Project objectives are:

- To better understand the situation and development of LUDA
- To provide a systematic strategic planning and development approach
- To provide useful decision-making aids to support public managers and administrative staff.

Target groups

- Inhabitants of LUDA
- Private sector businesses and institutions
- NGOs, neighbourhood groups and associations
- Cities' administrations
- Local and regional stakeholders
- Scientific community
- Decision-makers at the national and European level



In practical terms there is a focus on identifying the issues that drive the rehabilitation process and need to be assessed or evaluated as well as issues that represent common problems in the partner cities (Dresden, Bratislava-Rača, Valenciennes, Edinburgh, Florence, Lisbon) in order to constitute the basis for effective cross-analysis among the six case studies.

A network of 12 reference cities in Europe (Dublin, Essen, Genoa, Lyon, Manchester, Graz, Xanthi, Malmo, Maastricht, Tallinn, Ostrava, Trnava), with experience in dealing with distressed areas, was established in the project in order to give inputs to the LUDA improvement process.

During the workshop three thematic groups were initiated once again by the cities on the topics of illegal construction, and the question of making the area attractive to the new inhabitants and investors. Networking of the cities and academic institutions is one of the strengths of the LUDA project.

