

" ARCHIMEDES
Actions to Regenerate Cities and Help Innovative Mediterranean
Economic Development Enhancing Sustainability "

THEMATIC GROUPS SCHEME

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[Thematicgroups5febr07.pp](#)

One of the mains activities of the project

The creation of the THEMATIC GROUPS is one of the mains activities of the ARCHIMES project.

It answer at the necessity to promote a VIRTUAL discussion about three priority theme for urban planning that are:

- CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT;
- URBAN REGENERATION;
- STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TOURISM;

These 3 issues have much more in common that you can expect: deal about CULTURAL HERITAGE AND TOURISM means also deal about ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, and so, they boath deal with URBAN REGENERATION processes.

The expected outcome

Expected outcome:

TO PRODUCE COMMON GUIDELINES FOR EACH THEME.

Useful to:

- support the analysis of the areas;
- suggest new approach problems;
- compare implementation methodologies;
- deliver best practices patterns;
- define implementation tools.

The expected outcome

The study in depth of these issues to deliver innovative implementation methods is the objective that the MEDA towns want to pursue participating to the ARCHIMEDES project.

All of MEDA cities need a plan for urban regeneration and for the exploitation of their potentialities, in particular in terms of tourism and cultural heritage promotion, to improve citizens' quality of life and guarantee a sustainable economic development.

Each MEDA city has chosen a city area where to experiment the development of an urban regeneration feasibility study and implementation plan (pilot project).

MEDA cities will acquire a methodology to be transferred in other districts or cities, and the district involved will have a regeneration plan

The expected outcome

All the participants to the ARCHIMEDE project are expected to contribute to the 3 thematic groups.

In detail, the persons that should participate to the activities are:

- the local groups that the MEDA cities will establish;
- all the actors of the local system involved in the project;
- all the people able to enrich the discussion.

All the cities involved will contribute to the guidelines definition, bringing together different point of view: EU cities, MEDA cities, Candidate Countries cities, cities more focused on cultural heritage other more on economic animation but with a common aim: urban regeneration and sustainable development.

Meda cities will establish local groups involving the main stakeholders in the pilot project development.

The

The 3 thematic groups will work on the 1st phase of the project starting from june 2006: “transfer of knowledge based on EU cities experience and definition of a common methodology”.

year 1													
Activity	semester 1					semester 2						Implementing body	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		12
Kick-off meeting -Preparation activities													Istanbul
Local working group establishment													All cities
SWOT analysis and data collection plan													All cities
Second meeting													Sofia
Thematic groups activities:													Venice
1- cult. herit. & ec. dev.													(coordination)
2- urban regeneration													Bordeaux
3- strategic planning and tourism													(coordination)
Pilot actions (4) start up and development													All cities
Thurd meeting													El Mina
In itinere evaluation													external expert
Steering committee													All cities

Timeline

It is necessary to start immediately...

3 thematic groups

Venice, Genoa and Bordeaux will coordinate
the three thematic groups.

Venice: CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

Bordeaux: URBAN REGENERATION

Genoa: STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TOURISM

Crucial points of the 3 thematic groups

- 1) define clearly the discussion issues/the expected results
- 2) clarify “WHAT MEANS VIRTUAL DISCUSSION?”
- 3) define the target groups of the virtual discussion

Crucial point 1: define clearly discussion issues/expected results

Issues and results are expressed in a “generic” way. It is necessary that each MEDA town involved in one of the 3 thematic groups proposes the “key issues” to work about.

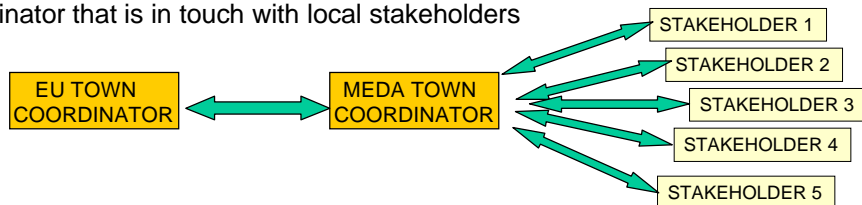
The few following months before the start-up should be used to identify the discussion issues/expected results.

The responsible of the EU town that coordinates one of the 3 thematic groups will evaluate the proposals of the MEDA town – BY MEANS OF A VIRTUAL DISCUSSION - and define the starting document.

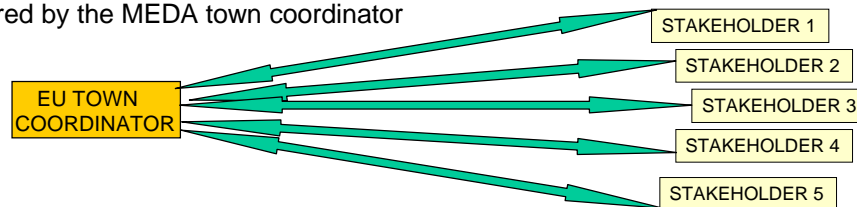
Crucial point 2: clarify “WHAT MEANS VIRTUAL DISCUSSION?”
(part 1)”

- E-mail

Solution A – EU town coordinator keeps contact with the MEDA town coordinator that is in touch with local stakeholders



Solution B – EU town coordinator writes directly to a mailing list of local stakeholders delivered by the MEDA town coordinator



Crucial point 2: clarify “WHAT MEANS VIRTUAL DISCUSSION?”
(part 2)”

- Forum on the WEB

A dedicated web-site where local stakeholders can send directly their messages and also comment the existing ones.

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The aims of the action 1/2

Overall objectives

1. ESTABLISHING NEW LONG LASTING PARTNERSHIPS between European and Mediterranean cities involved in the project and reinforcing the existing ones;
2. PROMOTING MORE BALANCED AND MORE SUSTAINABLE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS in MEDA and Candidate Countries cities based on a strategic approach that include involvement of citizens in planning and implementation processes;

Those overall objectives will be achieved through the following specific objectives:

- a. **STRENGTHEN AND WIDEN PARTNERSHIPS** between cities partners working together for sustainable local development in MEDA and Candidate Countries cities;
The networking activity will be developed starting from the existing partnerships.
All these partners will work together within the project giving a common perspective to their cooperation
- b. **TRANSFER OF ADEQUATE TECHNICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL TOOLS TO MEDA CITIES and assistance in defining, promoting and implementing integrated urban planning process;**
Swot analysis; data collection; strategic planning; participations scheme
- c. **SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIFIC URBAN POLICIES** for the urban regeneration and economic development based on promotion of local crafts, exploitation of cultural heritage and tourist growth
by experimenting the proposed tools developing pilot project for the regeneration of one districts in each MEDA city