



NEWSLETTER

N°28 – January 2012

**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**



Former Fnau Delegate M.Belliot participated also into the annual conference of *Cités Unies France* (CUF) on July 2011, as it was a good opportunity to raise there the local communities' awareness of the decentralized cooperation and of the potential of the Fnau network agencies.

4 quarterly issues of our Newsletter (n°s 24 à 27) have been also edited and distributed through the Net. But some technical problems still complicate the updating processes of the English site www.fnau-international.org. This will be improved in 2012.

What about tomorrow ?

Two workshops at the Fnau annual meetings of 2010 & 2011 in Rennes and Paris, two documents about « Strategic planning by the agencies » and « Decentralized cooperation by the agencies », eight quarterly issues of the Club Newsletter in French & English, four thematic meetings (of which three in France) : we think we can be proud of our Club activities in 2010 & 2011 !! Our only wish for 2012 : may the network of our agencies and of their communities support more actively our efforts ! And may this Year of the Dragon (usually full of opportunities for any project) materialize this hope !.

G.Antier & P.Berger

News from the Club

The Annual meeting of the Clubs was held at Fnau last **January 27 at the FNAU HQ's**.

Three meetings were organized in 2011 :

- Lyon (Feb.9) : *The backers' urban strategies and the commercial activities of the urban agencies*, 45 participants, such as the Greater Lyon, Caisse des Dépôts, SYSTRA, the World Bank, Agence Française de Développement, CERTU, MAEE, MEDDTL, Urbaconsulting.

- St Omer (May 26) : *Urban mapping & International cooperation [joint meeting with the « Geomatics » Club]*, 33 participants such as Spot Image, Africa GeoDev, etc.

- and in Paris (Oct.20) : *What kind of profiles and jobs within the urban agencies when working abroad ?* [workshop in the framework of the FNAU 32th Annual Meeting], 31 participants, including the directors of the Moroccan urban agencies of Fes, Agadir, Meknes and Nador).



The meeting in St Omer about "Geographical information abroad" was welcomed on May 26 at the Longuenesse School of Engineers.

Ph. AUD / Rochas

Our prospects for 2012 :

- **a new joint meeting** with another club, this time the « transportation » Club, is to be scheduled for next May in Paris. The main topic might be « *New trends for Mobility in the emerging cities* » (BRT, etc), based upon several papers by agencies working abroad and by various experts. The day before, a half-day workshop will be driven about the contribution by Fnau to the WUF to be organized in Naples next September ;

- in cooperation with the **Guyana Agency** might be organized next September or October a meeting about the illegal & informal housing;
- the Club also considers to set up in next November another **workshop** within the framework of the 33rd Fnau Annual meeting in **Bordeaux**.

Four quarterly issues (n°28 to 31) of the Newsletter will be also edited and put on line on www.fnau.org & www.fnau-international.org.

The International Club also aims to strengthen its links with PFVT / the French Partnership for Cities & Territories, notably for the preparation of WUF 2012, with CUF / *Cités unies France*, also with the backers and with private partners within the tender processes.

Books Review



Testing the « Sustainable City » South from the Mediterranean Sea (dir. P.A.Barthel & L.Zaki) Ed.de l'Aube, 2011, 346 p.

Following a conference held in Tunis, this collective book is a new dialogue between some fifteen professionals and researchers about the topic of the Sustainable Urban Development (SUD). It does open in fact a new space for debates over various fields, such as the land policy or the social integration through access to urban services (even I we can see “spontaneous” SUD processes within some cases of traditional housing revival..).



However, the various papers show easily this is a kind of « homeless field of study ». Obviously, the ministerial level appears to be essential for SUD, but the institutional rivalries introduce a significant challenge.

The world - scale financial stakeholders play and will play a pro-

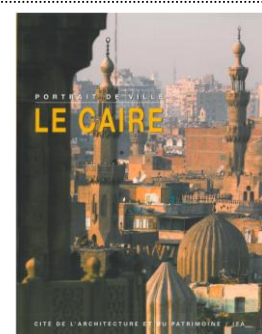
-minent role into the implementation of SUD, but they apply it according to circumstances and without any homogeneous definition (see V.Clerc about Syria). On the same way, the local authorities meet difficulties to implement SUD as well as in Amman (E.Verdeil). There is here a clear contrast with the private sector, which rushes into the « green business » while reconciling responsible projects and profit generation. Thus the book sets up a contrasted picture, full of questions, these becoming more pronounced due to the uncertainties about the future of the South Mediterranean territories.



Cairo – Portrait of a City (M.Volait, C.Piaton & J.Hueber), Paris, Cité Architecture & Patrimoine / IFA, 2011, 80p.

Just several months after the interesting document published by the review *Autrement* about Cairo [see Letter n°26], this new issue of « *Portrait de ville* » gives a fascinating historical background about the growth of the Egyptian capital city. And this just as Cairo meets a radical change of scale, moving itself into a “fragmented metropolis”. This is not really new: the 1910’s had met a first suburban explosion, anticipating the present sequence linking *infrastructures >> new territories >> contract with private companies*.

Based upon this long historical retrospective, served by an iconography mixing old documents and recent illustrations, the book sets finally a rough picture of the metro-politan unregulated situation met by Cairo since the beginning of the 70’s.



Ending with the 2050 vision of a « *global – green – connected* » (sic) Cairo, at the risk of becoming a neo -pharaonic « *Dubai-on-Nile* »..

News from the Agencies



Benin / Cosso : St Omer

Following the mission held on Nov. 2011 :

- specifications for the realization of a Territorial Urban Development Scheme in Lalo (underway),
- feasibility of urban land registers covering the downtown area of the three municipalities, in the aim of improving the territorial survey and, mostly, to increase the fiscal products



The opening ceremony of a drinking water network (co-financed by the Greater Lyon Water Fund, the Artois-Picardie Water Agency, the Pas-de-Calais District Council and the St Omer Inter-communality) will be celebrated during the first quarter of 2012.

On your agenda



- **Rio+20** Conference in Rio de Janeiro, June 20-22 www.uncsd2012.org/rio20
- **6th World Urban Forum** in Naples, September 1 - 7
- **CODATU XV** in Addis Ababa, Nov.15 - 18 www.codatu.org/english/services/news.htm
- **Africities** in Dakar, December 4 - 8

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