



Editorial

European Development Days

In the frame work of European French presidency, the European Development Days took place in Strasbourg (France) on 15-17 November 2008 at the "Palais de la musique et des congrès". This event welcomes all the actors of the international cooperation, three thousands participants and one thousands and two hundred organization have attended those days.

The central theme was the different aspects of the local governance, others subjects have been discussed as food, energetic and climate crisis, new partners, Millennium Development Goals... The Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs put in place a "France" area where main actors of the French cooperation, from which Isted, were gathered. Isted presented the book "Emerging Cities" and disseminated different publications, notably, the special issue of the bulletin "Villes en développement" devoted to the urban local governance. Other activities such as press conferences and mini-forum, with a presentation from Dexia on "the organization and finance of local authorities in the 27 countries of the EU", were organized.

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Programmes and activities

Professional networks for sustainable cities, meeting global urban challenges

Isted published a bilingual document (French/English), realized in collaboration with the "Société Française des Urbanistes" and financed by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

This document is entitled "professional networks for sustainable cities - Meeting global urban challenges" it points out the importance of the professionals organizations of the South in the debate on cities that took an international dimension.

The hosting of the 2007 JMU by Cameroon is mentioned as a reference.

The document had been disseminated in Nanjing (China) on the occasion of the fourth World Urban Forum (November 3-6, 2008).

M. Xavier Crépin, Chief Executive Officer of Isted, intervined on this topic - and on others such as urban governance- during the global planners congress, organised in China by the Global Planners Network at Zhenjiang (November 1-2, 2008).

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Global urban research symposium

The topic of the 5th urban research symposium of the World Bank that will be held in France, Marseille, June 28-30, 2009 is: "**Cities and climate change - Responding to an Urgent Agenda**".

This Symposium aims at pushing forward the research agenda on climate change from a city's perspective. Specifically, the main questions will be structured around the impacts of city and urban growth on climate change; measuring and anticipating the consequences of climate change on urban quality of life, city assets, and local and national economies; and assessing alternatives to increase the resilience of cities and related costs and incentives required for successful implementation.

Isted is a partner of the World Bank for the organization of this event.
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Era-Net Transport

The High Level Group of Era-Net Transport attended a meeting for the first time on 19-21 November 2008 at la Défense (Paris).

In order to mobilize the decision-makers of transport researches and to assure means' availability for the concept of transnational cooperation, Era-Net Transport put in place a "High Level Group". Comprising public decision makers, the HLG will held meetings once a year in order to show strategic approaches, undertake transnational actions and to benefit from the other research national policy in the transport sector.

Isted is in charge of the implementation of this action and the MEEDDAT will host the first meeting.

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European Road Safety Day

The European Road Safety day was launched in 2007 in order to raise awareness, to give visibility to best local practices and to offer an opportunity to work together for safer roads. This year's edition, held in Paris on October 13th, was dedicated to "Road safety in our cities", as about two thirds of the accidents and one third of all road fatalities occur in urban areas, often affecting the most vulnerable road users.

The day was organized in three panel discussions:

- Road safety in cities: opinion of the "vulnerable users"
- How to adapt our cities in order to improve road safety: case studies
- How to change the behavior of the European citizens: Towards a new culture for preventive road safety measures in particular in cities.

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Current events

Internet

- *Villes en développement n°80, june 2008*: Le développement économique local / Local Economic Development / El Desarrollo Economico Local

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Villes en développement

• New acquisitions

Abidjan, Dakar : des villes à vendre ? La privatisation made in Africa des services urbains.

Sylvie Bredeloup, Brigitte Bertoncello, Jérôme Lombard (Eds). Preamble Xavier Crépin ; preface of Annik Osmond and Jean-François Langumier. Paris : L'Harmattan, 2008

Issued from the urban development research programme (PRUD), 2001-2004, led by the Gemdev and Isted, this document gives transversal analysis of various new actors' strategies in the urban development sector, which are emerging since about twenty years ago within two distinct metropolitan contexts: Abidjan and Dakar.

Two keys sectors of the urban functioning are selected: mobility and public transport organisation and the evolution of food-producing wholesale and retail markets

Africapolis. Dynamiques de l'urbanisation, 1950-2020, approach géo-statistique, West Africa. Catherine Chatel, Eric Denis, Dominique Harre, François Moriconi-Ebrard, Marion Séjourné, Ousmane Thiam.

The AFRICAPOLIS study constitutes a significant updating of the urbanisation knowledge in West Africa, supported by the AFD (AFR service) and coordinated by SEDET team (CNRS/University Paris Diderot), get more on the link below:

www.afd.fr/jahia/Jahia/Africapolis

L'emprunt des collectivités locales d'Afrique subsaharienne. In " la Revue africaine des finances locales ", june 2008

This special issue of Municipal Development Partnership's publication (www.pdm-net.org) deals with issues regarding local authorities' resources: could they get a loan to finance local infrastructures and produce local services responding to the community needs

Alfa 2006. Les territoires productifs en question(s). Transformations occidentales et situations maghrébines. Supervised by Mihoub Mezouaghi. Tunis: Institut de recherche sur le Maghreb contemporain, 2006

Collective thoughts on productive territories, all the studies led in this topic are wondering about the permanence and the transferability of the territorial models within a pluridisciplinary approach.

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