

Editorial

4th World Urban Forum, Nanjing 3-6 November 2008

A French booth gathering the MEEDDAT, the MAEE and the AFD was held in the framework of the world urban forum, organised in Nanjing (China) by the ONU-Habitat. The purpose of this participation is presenting the French political directions regarding the "cities and sustainable development" and some international actions notably in China: observing the urban growth (a French studies centre specialised in contemporary China) and urban heritage (Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine).

A French delegation comprising about fifty persons participated to this forum. The Association des maires de grandes villes de France (association of mayors of big cities in France) held a networking event on the transversal approach of the municipal urban planning.

ISTED launched the Chinese version of the book "Emerging cities", the Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine inaugurated at "Nanjing French Alliance" an exhibition on the ecotourism and urban heritage.

Many publications had been disseminated during this event, notably those published by the MAEE, FNAU, IGD, Ecole de Chaillot, the Observatoire de l'architecture de la Chine contemporaine, Veolia, CERTU on the strategic cities and the publication of SFU about the global urban professional networks.

The Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine had a strong presence at the Unesco booth. The same importance for ISTED presence at Cities Alliance booth was noticed.

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Internet: www.isted.com/manifestations/forum_urbain_mondial.htm

Programmes and activities

GPN Congress, Global Planners Network

The 2nd GPN congress was held in Zhenjiang (31st October-2nd November 2008) which immediately precedes the World Urban Forum (Nanjing, 3-6 November 2008).

The congress actualized the discussions of the inaugural Global Planners Congress held in Vancouver in 2006 for which thirteen national institutes throughout the world became signatories and represents about 150 000 planners.

As agreed in 2006, the GPN aims at responding the challenges of urban growth around the world, furthermore, at tackling challenges posed by climate change and urban poverty.

The "Zhenjiang Communiqué" was the main outcome of the Congress where local authorities, international agencies and all professionals concerned by the urban development were invited to take in consideration in their policies and programmes the challenges related to a strategic approach for urban planning.

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Transport observatory for French Guyana

Technical assistance to the French Guyana local unit of the Ministry of Sustainable development (DDE Guyane) for the establishment of the transport observatory is provided by:

- ISTED for the port component

- CETE Lyon for the road component.

A joint mission (DDE Guyane, ISTED with IPER from Le Havre, and CETE Lyon) visited the port of Macapa, in Brazil, to meet the trade and transport community, and assess the potential that could be unlocked by the improvement of the corridor to Brazil resulting from the building of a bridge across the Oyapock river.

A similar visit, to Suriname, was organized earlier, in January for the port component, and May for the road component.

Both visits enabled identification of key stakeholders for information exchange on traffic and their evolution.

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CODATU XIII Conference

During the CODATU XIII Conference (Ho Chi Minh City, November 12-14th 2008), a workshop on urban transport financing provided the opportunity to present preliminary results of a study funded by the French Development Agency (AFD) and the French Ministry of Sustainable Development (MEEDDAT) and undertaken by CODATU, with the participation of ISTED as member of the scientific committee, and for the communication component of the study.

The presentation highlighted the possible financing options for urban transport, for investments, but also for operation, between three main groups:

- Transport users
- Public sector (including local communities)
- Indirect beneficiaries (employers, commerce, etc..)

The options were illustrated through examples drawn from practical cases worldwide. The final results will be published in 2009.

Contact: www.codatu.org

"Contractualization: a key for a sustainable management of essential services"

The Institut de la gestion déléguée published, in both French and English version, a summary report entitled "Contractualization: a key for a sustainable management of essential services".

This document, for which the AFD and ISTED supported the edition, summarises the exchanges of a working group, chaired by the IGD and for which ISTED took part. This work suggests a method for a global understanding of the essential services management. Contribution of each of the members of the working group is available on the website of the IGD.

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Current events

Internet

- The bulletin *Villes en développement* n°81-82: Urban governance (French and English)

Internet: www.isted.com/periodiques/villes-developpement/bulletin.htm

- Villes en devenir - Chinese version

Internet: www.villesenavenir.org

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Villes en développement

• New acquisitions

Le cap après l'Apartheid. Gouvernance métropolitaine et changement urbain. Alain Dubresson and Sylvie Jaglin (Eds) - Paris: éditions Karthala, 2008

A collective work, issued from collaboration between universities' students from South Africa and France involved in research programmes, devoted to the capacity of the supervision of urban changes by the metropolitan government of Cape Town, South African republic.

Internet: www.karthala.com

Vivre en ville. Observatoire mondial des modes de vie urbains. Julien Damon (dir.). Paris: Puf, 2008.

This work gives us results of a survey led by the end of 2007 with inhabitants of fourteen big cities around the world. It is also an analysis of the global context of urbanisation and thoughts on urban living conditions and the evolution of the social stratification.

Internet: www.puf.com

Biodiversity, energy and climate change. Issues and prospects. Liaison énergie

francophonie, special issue, September 2008

Elaborated on the occasion of the 4th UICN world congress, this book summarises little-known aspects of the local and global biodiversity's impact according to the energy needs, the local strategies adopted to satisfy this biodiversity as well as the consequences related to the climate change.

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