



sustainable & accessible urban landscapes

Quarterly
Newsletter 5
January 2005

SAUL Awarded an Additional €1.8 Million ERDF

In October of last year, SAUL responded to a targeted call for proposals for the Interreg IIIB NWE Programme. Entitled *SAUL Plus*, the application is an enhancement of the existing SAUL project to bring in related activities and expand transnational activity. In late November, the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) in Lille announced that the application had been successful, resulting in over €1.8 million additional ERDF being awarded to SAUL.

The revised application, available on the 'Download' page of the SAUL website, gives outline proposals for how the additional funding will be spent between now and June 2006. Detailed proposals will be agreed between the SAUL Partners and the JTS during early 2005, after which Partners will be advised of the additional budgets available to them.

SAUL Plus Figures

- **Total Project Budget €21,916,263**
- An increase of €5,568,113
- **Total ERDF €9,979,949**
- An increase of €1,805,874

The Interreg IIIB North West Europe Mid-Term Event



The Lead Partner team and the SAUL stand at the Mid Term Event

The Interreg IIIB NWE Mid Term Event took place in Lille on 18-19 November 2004. The event brought together over 700 participants from across North West Europe, providing the opportunity to share experiences and information, and to meet potential new project partners. The Project Village hosted stands for 63 out of the 76 projects so far approved, including SAUL.

The conference on the first day demonstrated progress both at Programme and project level, demonstrating the added value of cooperation. During the morning, key note speakers also provided participants with some insights on the future direction of European programme funding, which formed the basis of many discussions during themed workshops on the second day. The SAUL team were asked to give workshop presentations on *Communication* and also *Project Management*, which included a demonstration of the project management and reporting system on the SAUL website. A number of projects have expressed an interest in adopting the SAUL website-based project management system.

The full programme, presentations and other materials relating to the Event are available on the Interreg IIIB website at <http://www.nweurope.org>.

SAUL Timetable

Actions Completed since Newsletter 4

November 2004:

- 18-19—Interreg IIIB NWE Mid-Term Event (in Lille)

December 2004:

- 3—Deadline for Partners to enter Payment Claims on SAUL website
- 13—Deadline for audited Payment Claims to be received by Lead Partner
- January 2005
- 14—Deadline for Lead Partner Payment Claim / Report to Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS)
- 21—Lead Partner visit to Amsterdam to discuss SAUL Final Conference

Forthcoming Actions

February 2005

- 7-8—SAUL Steering Group Meeting (London)
- 28—Deadline for SAUL Partners Interim Report to Lead Partner

March 2005

- 3-4—Proposed JPG Amsterdam Noorderpark
- Early March—Proposed JPG Saarland

April 2005

- 25-26—Proposed JPG Luxembourg
- SAUL Quarterly Newsletter 6 issued

For further information on forthcoming events

please contact:
helen.rawlins@groundwork.org.uk



Focus on SAUL Action Project: South Luxembourg Region Partnership Building

On the misty late afternoon of January 13th, 2005, Fred Sunnen, mayor of the community of Sanem, welcomed the working group "SAUL - pathways in the South Region" to one of the municipality's meeting rooms. Meeting for the fifth time, the group is made up of sixteen people from across the South Region and further afield in Luxembourg. Following the spirit of open exchange established by the group itself, the mayor explained some of the most important planning projects of Sanem.

The Luxembourg SAUL Project will not invest large sums of money. It focuses on a strategy of awareness-building: enhancing the understanding of urban landscapes, their importance and their development in a region, which for two decades has been undergoing a rapid change from old industrial large-scale production to a service oriented economy and society. This should have an impact on the process of regional planning which will be carried out in the South Region as a pilot project for the whole country during the next three years.

Research based on document analysis and interviews with people well acquainted with the South Region resulted in a strategy proposal discussed in a JPG meeting in March 2004. Two fields of action have been set up. One of them is "pathways of urban landscapes in the South Region" and the other is called "experiencing urban landscapes".

The first field of action, "Pathways of urban landscapes in the South Region" is focused on the design of a route which will lead residents and visitors to places and spaces typical of the dynamics of urban landscapes. It involves the following features:

- working group including technical experts and politicians from six communities, members of national and local associations (Pro-Sud, Mouvement Ecologique, Luxemburg Nature and Bird Protection Society, Luxemburg Cyclist Association, Friends of the Haard - a South Region nature conservation area, and other cultural institutions);
- five meetings since September 2004, more to come;
- a bicycle tour with fifteen participants on an ice-cold, bright November Sunday;
- forthcoming:
 - presentation of a pathways analysis with suggestions for improvements in network relations and technical status;
 - meeting with mayors and other key persons;
 - summer special guided tours (members of the working group acting as hosts for their personal invitees).

Features of the field of action "experiencing urban landscapes" include:

- an inspiring visit to the Saarland SAUL project on October 23rd 2004, with arts, music and literature staged on a former slagheap (an exchange visit by Saarland colleagues is planned for Spring 2005);
- forthcoming:
 - tours for the general public in the urban landscape of the South Region, guided by the artist Boris Sieverts who has staged similar events in the Ruhr area and in the suburban zones of Cologne, Paris and Orléans;
 - symposium in collaboration with the developer of the South Region's brownfields in the context of the opening of a new concert hall in Belval;
 - landscaping projects by university students on selected sites related to the pathways project.

**Field of Action 1 -
"Pathways of Urban
Landscapes in the
South Region" -
cycling tour and
meeting of the
working group**



**Urban
Landscapes
of the South
Luxembourg
Region**



A final conference in the South Region in Autumn 2005 will address "lessons learnt" and will spell out ideas which may be transferred to other planning projects in the post-SAUL period.

Anyone interested in participating in one of the forthcoming events is invited to contact Henrik Schultz or Ursula Stein (phone +49 69 95 52 41 62) or Philippe Peters (phone +352 47 86 924).

Thanks to Ursula Stein of Stein + Schultz Frankfurt a.M. for compiling this information.

Focus on SAUL Action/Investment Project: The Warndt Project - Spatial Vision and Participation

The mining era in Saarland is drawing to a close. The next stage of this process will be reached when the mining site Warndt/Luisenthal, one of the last two mines, is shut down in 2006. This will result in far-reaching consequences for the regional economy, the current employees and their families, as well as for the Warndt area due to the increased number of



Mining site Warndt and the town of Karlsbrunn

landscape. Here, the lessons learnt from the spatial vision process within the SAUL project Saarkohlenwald have been transferred, even though the situation in the Warndt area, being also a part of the Regional Park Saar, is far more complex. However, while the Saarkohlenwald participation process was linked to local projects breathing life into the wider spatial vision framework, the Warndt process started with a workshop sequence, which from the very beginning involved locals in the regional discussion about the Warndt future development.

The first workshop took place on 15th and 16th November 2004. Around 150 participants from both sides of the border discussed strengths and weaknesses of the cross-border area, its main resources and future development schemes as well as regional and local physical projects. The main objective was to make use of peoples local knowledge and to encourage dialogue between locals, politicians, planners and the DSK company. The latter is not only interested in developing their sites and real estate but also in meeting local needs. The event was considered a success by all participants. The comprehensive and fruitful results formed the basis of a subsequent planners workshop in mid November, which resulted in a draft structural concept. The participants of the first workshop met again at the beginning of December to discuss the planners' proposal. The feedback received was very positive in terms of the process and its results.



SAUL JPG members outside the former hunting lodge, now the Forest Centre, Karlsbrunn

brownfields. To tackle these challenges at a very early stage, the Saarland Prime Minister called for a conference to initiate region-wide cooperation. The conference resulted in the setting up of three working groups involving all relevant actors, of which one was charged with the development of the abandoned sites and real estate of the German mining company DSK in the Warndt area.

The members of the Working Group decided not to focus on the single sites in isolation but to recognise the regional and even cross-border dimension of their task. The Warndt area borders on the French coal mining area of Lorraine, which is undergoing similar structural changes but at a faster pace. Therefore, a cross-border spatial vision on a regional scale for the Warndt area seemed to be the most appropriate way to establish a framework for an integrated development of the urban



Workshops and plenary session at the first cross border meeting on the future development of the Warndt



There are two major issues to be tackled in 2005. First, the structural concept as spatial vision and action programme should be agreed within the political realm in the German and French municipalities. Second, the first physical project should be initiated and realised to foster the whole development process and motivate all of the actors involved. The SAUL project supports both objectives through local, regional and transnational actions, for example through transnational workshops to brainstorm innovative ideas for the development of the mining site "Bergwerk Warndt" and the two cross-border Warndt settlements.

Thanks to Andrea Hartz of Planungsgruppe agl for compiling this information.

**SAUL Lead Partner:
Groundwork UK (Groundwork
London)**

**18-21 Morley Street
London SE1 7QZ**

Phone: +44 (0) 20 7922 1230

Fax: + 44 (0) 20 7922 1219

Please direct any comments or queries on this
newsletter to Martin Jones

Email: martinR.jones@groundwork.org.uk

*We're on the Web!
www.saulproject.net*

JPG Members Reminder!

- Please complete your Learning Log (available on the 'Download' page of the SAUL website) after each JPG meeting
- Post your completed form on the relevant JPG Discussion Forum on the SAUL website

The SAUL Project

Sustainable & Accessible Urban Landscapes (SAUL) is a transnational partnership project part-funded by the European Union's Interreg IIIB programme for North West Europe (NWE). Interreg encourages closer co-operation and integration through transnational spatial development initiatives, which promote sustainable development. Further information on the Interreg IIIB programme for NWE can be found on the website www.nweurope.org.

Six Metropolitan regions of North West Europe are represented in the SAUL Partnership: London (with two partners); Saarland; Frankfurt/Rhein-Main; Nordrhein-Westfalen (the Rhein-Ruhr region, with two partners); the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg; and the Municipality of Amsterdam. This partnership has evolved from an earlier project under Interreg IIc.

Sustainable & Accessible Urban Landscapes is the development phase of the successful Interreg IIC project, *New Urban Landscapes*. Based on that experience, SAUL tackles a key issue of transnational relevance:

The vital role of socially inclusive spaces in the sustainable development of metropolitan regions.

In the IIC project, we also identified three contributory issues common to metropolitan regions:

- Regional identity, following economic and social changes, and the importance of regional spatial planning**
- Planning through partnerships, leading towards a new planning culture**
- The transnational value of the 'learning region' approach, leading to stronger integration between regions.**

SAUL will seek practical solutions to these challenges through joint transnational projects, which apply the principles of co-operative spatial planning, by testing and demonstrating methods and processes for involving local people in the planning and realisation of actions for land use, to the lasting benefit of all the partner regions.

Joint Good Practice Guidance on planning through transnational partnerships for new urban landscapes will be published for wider dissemination throughout NWE and elsewhere in Europe.

