REPAIR Work Group – Pillar I – RENEWABLE ENERGY Paola, Malta - 08 April 2010
DRAFT NOTES

Introduction

Paola Local Council suggested that partners visit Malta for the REPAIR WORKING GROUP Pillar 1 on the subject of Renewable Energy because they have a number of initiatives being carried out in the field and can demonstrate highly successful application for EU funding.

Paola and Malta provide a wonderful example of how to achieve the results desired.

Meeting Notes

The Work Group started with a Business breakfast, hosted by Mr. Domenic Grima, Mayor of Paola; The Hon. Chris Said, LL.D, M.P., Parliamentary secretary for Public Dialogue and Information; Dr Stefan Buontempo, Shadow Minister for Local Councils; was attended by all partners, Paola councillors, and other dignitaries resulted

Following breakfast the meeting started with MAH – thanked dignitaries and welcome partners

Paulius – reminded us of the four pillars and the various crosscutting issues.

He referred to the Gothenburg and Lisbon Agenda from where the idea of REPAIR came from and the more recent EU2020 and EU Sustainable Development Strategy, which will both have more long lasting impacts.

PK referred to development of the Agenda and provided a synopsis of EU Policy

Holistic approach to site conservation – "*This approach needs to aim at both improvement of the regenerated site and creating positive external sustainable development impacts. The approach must be implemented through institutional and procedural design. Institutionally, examples include a strategic co-ordination committee, which features inter-departmental representation from all levels of authorities, and a project delivery working group which combines multidisciplinary expertise in planning, social regeneration, sustainable development, business development, finance etc. The work of such groups must engage in jargon busting to break down inter-disciplinary communication barriers. as well as barriers between different levels of governance. The procedures must enable determining realistic capital costs of conservation and rehabilitation of the sites and the plausible scenario of revenue costs of ongoing maintenance. Integrated spatial, social and economic plans must be prepared and adopted in order to employ potential of the military heritage the sites to generate employment, accessible to as many groups of the local population as possible".*

When speaking of architectural policy there is no policy. Concerns fit well into the Medway Charter (PILLAR II)

In the Utrecht meeting PILLAR III developed probably the best model of working. Insert slides: Cases – why good – modality, communication and sustainable modes of transport. How partners may have a common interest leading to a so-called buddy system.

Communication of marketing alternatives.

PILLAR IV – Local Jobs.

Facilitating entrepreneur ship – Fort Vechten and Telecom City examples we could see that small scale entrepreneurs insert slide

Triple Helix – Local authority, university, small business to develop a sustainable community. Examples were seen showing how this method could be used in other places. Practical

approaches have been different e.g. Karlskrona a narrow theme telecom. In Opava was different. In Fort Vechten it was a Christmas tree approach - all things to all people.

EU2020 emphasis (insert Slide) – 3 themes

PK outlined today's work method. He suggested the same process as in other workshops be adopted and that we listen to the presentations with an ear to

P G Ros – what are the next steps - consolidation in Opava so that when we come together in Opava there is a broad agreement and we can work.

LM – what level of government we are aiming at. Comments are aimed at local but we need to determine at what level we will recommend.

PK – confirmed that the policy recommendations will of course be flexed accordingly.

PK – reminded partners that a Fact Sheet was sent out for completion and some have been returned. He continued by citing some examples.
(Insert notes from slide)
All partners who had replied had been working with various initiatives io EE< RE and WM
2 interesting examples –
Charente - Maritime (Marennes) is mentioned where a special local board authority. This is an integrated approach, which is practical and educational.

Avrig – presents the (insert notes)

Whereas only one REPAIR partner is a regional area and seems to have more highly developed integrated approach to energy /
Economic and conservational approaches are barriers to development. Legal complications

Capacity barriers – there is simply a lack of experience locally to set up projects in this area of expertise.

PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS
Repair partners dealing with military heritage sites have addressed efficient energy EE, RE and WM.

The results are therefore quite different. Insert slide here

Different responsibilities in cities within the same country.
Different awareness of the authorities of the EU instruments available. (Medway)

LM – mentioned the barriers and capacity – the lack of experience at local level. EU Commission has prepared guidance. She continued to promote the Covenant of Mayors.

Rachelle Riolo – presentation. MRA
Insert slides and comments?

First Grant schemes were launched by the ministry of Finance

PV Photovoltaic system eligible grants. 20% on the purchase price. 2006 take up of the scheme was 4, 2007 only 5.

Solar water heater system was 2600 per yr. (insert notes)
There were difficulties with the quality of equipment.

2009 scheme was a great success. Within 2 weeks 350 application were installed and roof insulation 230, double glazing 137 installations.

Malcolm Borg – Heritage Enterprise

Restoration of houses and sustainable heritage areas
Malcolm and Susanna are keen to test the methodology they had developed and they provide sustainable tours on the subject.
Bob the Builder was introduced and Malcolm showed a typical Maltese housing situation. He demonstrated the design of the Maltese house has its own climatic system. The first stage is to read the house and take account of the physical ventilation systems.
They talked about conditions prevailing in a property dating from 1740. Cool in summer – warm in winter viable for an office space. Rising damp and salt impregnation. A light well used to illuminate the interior. Steel grill was used to protect the glass to reduce costs of reinforced glass.

An assessment of carbon footprint has been made (insert slides) Normal household estimate 4750 Malcolm's place 3732.

Selling electricity to the grid.

50% payback when using solar hot water system.
We were reminded that although we are here to discuss Military and heritage sites, the lessons learned through this exercise are transferable to developing a sustainable building, locally and globally.

Are they receiving payment for electricity generated. No – a waiver is seen on the bill. This is due to the fact that they

Liz asked the question of Planning regulations in the context with installation of insulation, glazing, renewable energy source?
Joseph ? answered saying that when considering application for development of old buildings it is essential to take into account the formation and features of the building. Why was it made that way? Retention of old buildings is more energy efficient than the modern building as there is a reduction of pollution by way of the fact that when stone was cut (1740) the pollution was unintentional and minimal compared with today.

The new approach toward heritage development means that

Presentations – Avrig
Insert slides here
Strategy to reposition local economy, Avrig has tried to develop several projects to develop Local Jobs.

The energy strategy includes 65% biomass, include slide.
Focus is on local and county level. Vision and mission statement is to implement 5 different projects on local level. Strate Frame

MAP shows the position of the energy policy and its aim not only to produce local jobs but to create energy for use within the region, instead of importing from Siberia.

There is plenty of vacant land to grow the raw material to produce biomass fuel. Two outputs are electricity and heat for the Biomass ChandP system. This will be linked to industrial centre and housing and connected to the heating system.
An energy Masterplan has been drawn up and analysed. A second URBACT project has been implemented focussing on energy efficiency measure and renewable energy.

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Thermal insulation of windows, isolate the outside climate and install PVC on the roofs.

Each initiative needs to be confirmed and approved as relevant by experts. EU needs to act more on these issues.
Arnold referred to a Bioreactor, which produces biogas and will potentially provide 20% of energy required to generate electricity.

He also mentioned a programme combining funding 50/50 for the insulation the remainder will be financed by owners.

He strongly believes that change cannot be made in the cities such as Bucharest, Brussels etc. it must originate at the local level.

On the Military site, Bio diversity is essential and must be maintained as a wildlife park and leisure area with walking trails etc. Research centre and academic institution etc (insert slide here.) Could we link with University of Greenwich at Medway with Avrig academic plans?

PK – we have heard this vision a number of times. Has a feasibility analysis been made on the Bioreactor? Yes and looking for more detail after funding received.

PK – is quite sure that funds would be found to provide for

PK – asked about the capacity available in Avrig as stated in response to questionnaire. Arnold informed us of ENERGYAVRIG.

Opava – how many of the proposals are under construction? Is funding schemes foreseen as a potential problem? Would is the date of the implementation?
Final investment will be €60million making Avrig the most modern in Romania.
The plan was established about one year ago. €80k has been spent in analysis and consideration of how to dispose of the waste material.

The vision is expected to be complete in 2020 and working to improve efficiency by 2030.
Theend of the year will see selection of the tender to invest in ENERGYAVRIG. Funding could come from public money or structural funds, or sell it as a pilot project to Romanian Government.

Arnold alluded to the rising cost of oil and gas and the proliferation of escalating costs.

Petr – public investors? How many? Answer is that several are interested?

In conclusion, Arnold is convinced that a project based on this model.

Charente – The Ministry of Ecology, Energies
Insert slides and comments here. National, Regional and Territorial level Charente Maritime .
The ministry has 5 core missions - insert them here.
Renewable Energy – insert bullet points here.
Waste management – incineration plants, waste material collection, recycling, sorting, local landfill dumps.
Fortified Heritage Sites Solar panels are considered incompatible with heritage sites. It is therefore impossible to reconcile the questions of energy efficiency with that of restoration/conservation. Some situations are less complicated such as at Champlain House which has a heat pump installed but problems of management of a local action plan were cited as each fortified site has a syndicate group of communities with specific role; For instance there is a job about sustainable development; a Guide to best practices and a guide for private individuals and Local Authorities.

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Florence – Q1

Waste management and land reclamation. Barriers are mainly financial due to costs of land reclamation in Italy. It has been difficult to take measures due to reluctance of residents and elected members.

Comprehensive report on how the system works in Florence.

Kaunas – can show a very good saving of finance by their approach to using gas resources.

LM - Malta Resources Authority how is the ministry advertising the grants and are they monitoring the installation for quality and if on heritage sites.

Malcolm – nationwide advertising campaign was used to promote the scheme together with the news about part funding.

Charente – Island of Oleron plus 10 partners. Association undertakes composting and waste collection based on economy of scale. It is funded by tax on waste management. In Kindergarden and schools this has been

Oleron is a very small island group with a population of 20,000 in winter that swells to 100,000 during the summer months. Making waste collection very difficult to plan for and manage as well as fund.

PK – asked for a clearer picture of how things work in Florence.

MT – answer provided by concurrence with Avrig communication strategy - namely to promote the plans at both public and political level simultaneously.

PK – asked a question of Kaunas about the long list of project Kaunas has participated in. He asked for details about specific projects such as street lighting. Replacement of light bulbs with LED lighting that are more efficient.

PK – tried to extract more details about projects. The Covenant of mayors is referred to with great reference but I wonder if the signatories are as active in producing results as it appears. Energy savings in public buildings project have been suggested by Kaunas to EU allowing replacement of doors and windows in historic sites.

HG – asked if Kaunas could demonstrate how the EU projects are helping to formulate their LAP. Response was lost.

PK – Challenged us to consider one Good Practice Exchange and address the questions:

- Identify a good practice example?
- Why you think it is good practice?
- Why is it interesting our city?
- How will we implement it in our city?

Avrig cited the Charente example of communicating a strategy.
Malta cited the same message from Charente and the sorting sites for recycling.

Liz informed us of the EU Waste Framework Directive, which has new targets for demolition and building waste. Also set up waste prevention plans over the next 5 years - the regulatory driver.
MB – responded by saying that there would be a series of new facilities developed over the next few years.

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LB – liked the proposal put forward by Charente and Malta. Liliann continued by saying that she liked the number of ideas put forward by Malta but linked to this to the proposal of Avrig of wide communication.

LB – continued to inform us about an island which will be abandoned in 3 years time.
LM – reinforced that the status referred to is part of the Building Efficiency Directive which is widespread in Europe already.

MB – energy certification business is a must for all of us. There is a widespread routine of architects going about undertaking energy audits making a big difference over the next 5 years leading to a increase in the value.
Regarding big impacts of the Sustainable Energy Directive

We will return to this question again and again.

VJ – voted on the Malta proposition.
MH – voted for Avrig because its worthy, ambitious and needs to be incorporated into the Medway LAP.

Medway would like to study the proposal of Avrig and transpose the idea that energy is important
TB – also supports the Avrig proposition because they have incorporated a number of topics including universities.
NF – also support Avrig because of the Masterplan concept incorporating all details and the important fact to reuse old buildings wherever possible. La Rochelle, for instance, has a large number of unused, empty buildings which could be reused.

Samantha – pointed out that they adopted Venice Charter, Bury Charter – less in more.

Petr – is also interested in the Avrig prospect particularly because of Arnolds plan to find private investors for the project because it is not easy to find them in Czech Republic.
He also is interested in the street lighting proposal made by Kaunas. He would like to find out more about this

AK – what is important is the National policy – Not Pain Tax - assuring bankability of projects attracting investment. He added the point of too much energy production at certain times of the day

Kaunas man – identified Malta closely with Kaunas in size and people. He commented on the state of the people in Kaunas and how Solar energy could be used to generate

Kaunas Lady – Agreed with the Masterplan of Avrig and its implementation. She referred to concrete projects, which would lead to funding if they are strong enough concepts.

Spreading information in early years education and at schools

AB - Certification of buildings is operating in Lithuania, although not every building is required to have a Building Performance Certificate.

MT – Communication strategy of Avrig and Charente Maritime is favoured because of the importance put on this subject. In Florence there is a lack of communication, which is not a good thing.

PR – Good Practices. It is difficult for Utrecht/NDW to choose a good practice. He referred to the example brought by Charente an

LM – point out a good practice but asked we organise our thoughts. For instance:

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The importance of having an over arching
Strategy
Regulation
Finance/ economic tools
Education - Awareness raising
Capacity – technical expertise
Skills, training and jobs
Governance – multi level topics

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Day 2

PK summarised Day I activity
He noted that all partners raised the subject of communication as being extremely important.

He suggested to partners that there were 3 cases preferred to be followed up.

He suggested that a second theme is present

Also the preparation of heritage and military sites is very important. Especially carbon foot print and usability issues.

He

Paulius recapped day 1 and partners agreed three clear good practice examples which were xx Charente Maritime, heritage enterprise restoration approach to sustainable development practices and renewabl.e energies linked in laso with the subsidies offered by the malta resouces authority. Avrig was also chosen for a variety of reasons interesting from different poiunts of view by each partner.

Partner presentations received from medway, rostock, Opava, new dutch waterline and paola.

Vincent presented the case of medway highlighting the new use of lighting at Fort Amherst as a result of a SLA with the local authority who contracted use of the site for car parking.

Chattenden barracks and army camp and supporting sustainable business. Commercial and industrial waste is not covered by the domestic contract for medway and remains a challenge for the area. 59% of total excluding demolition and constriction sites. Landfill directive is an eu and therefore national regulation with local effects. This amongst other illustrations are well defined but the main issue is that they are not well joined up and so will continue to be a focus and challenge.

Currently developing medways renewable energy action plan will be presented to cabinet in mid may 2010 for approval.

QQQQ Vince – shall we use the expertise of liz to review this part only – could be best use of her time and expertise and also of the 1 TE day allocated to medway. If you think this is workable maybe we should discuss with Harpinder and his boss in what way liz could add value to their work.
Similariliy we could use this idea and ask Anton to offer a point of view on the LTP3 in respect to the heritage sites (he may do this for free is we simply email the relevant parts of the old and new plans to him. Alternatively we could channels some ULSG funds to 'pay' for his professional opionion) in this way.

PR – NDW
Nergy – humidity and climatic controls
Humidity, damp, leakage, ground water human use

Comparison –

Decay, wet walls
Case 1 - Solar energy in Martello Tower UK – failed
Case 2 – Fort Aan de Klop – failed as the system was not ready by the funding deadline
Case 3 – Reversbattery H demands
Use existing building techniques - openings supply fresh air
All in one heating and ventilation humidity control

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Case 4 – Plan how to use of thermal mass of Fort Vechten
Museum requires 19C and 50% humidity
Bats need – 5 C and 80% humidity

Role of Government
For the fortifications – none
Rest follow National Regulations

Conclusions – 1
No
Conclusions – 2

Proposal on knowledge centre

Waste management
It is normal to separate glass , plastics etc.

QQQ – Kaunas. How were the construction funded by Interreg.
AAA – Interreg B and local funds
QQQ – Samantha –Restoration method statement or conservation plan for site? Anton answered these are undertaken location by location.
QQQ – Liz – consider the buildings in the setting and to follow up Charente comment about siting renewable in unobtrusive place on site.
QQQ – Hen – LAP

QQQ – Hen will studies be available for partners and in English
AAA – Yes in 3 out of 4 will be in English! When availabl wwill check.

OPAVA

Introduced Martina Heizova EU funds expert

Started with a good example – Opava

10 new hybrid vehicles Opava put in 5.2 million and got back 80%
No so good example – bio mass
Main obstacles; changing circumstances; technologies; **same as Medway**

Opava still receive objections to its location.

Environmental education – focussing most interesting experience is working with children as they influence their parents.
Practical results are the inprovemtns to “feed” the plant with recycled separated
More efficient kindergarden 50% EU funded. Raised the category from G to F. To reach A class would mean demolition.
Have your own tree. Connected to teaching the principals of RE and ecofriendlyness.

Conclusions – sometimes a strong political decision is required to make it happen
Education is so important to get people to buy in.

QQQ – Talked about the Peaking of electrical production is a problem

QQQ – where are trees being planted. There were already plans to plant trees

QQQ – Hen asked about the lack of political will and what can REPAIR do to help in this case?

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AAA – We is wanted for the military site is environment educational function. Public /private company to ensure reuse of the site.

Rostock
The former military sites in Rostock are now green spaces which is why they do not lend themselves to renewable energy.
Rostock Heath is 6000 hectares, north east of Rostock. Since 12th century the heath was used for leisure activities. Latterly it became used for military purposes in 1989 the heath was returned to the public use.
Renaturation
By the support received from KNOVER I and II the forest was renaturated in 1994.
In 1996 after the project ened in June KONVER II

Liz – identified that at least one open space project should be possible per partner which will be of interest under the LIFE+ policy but in a

PK – we will not be coming back to this ballroom. After lunch we will go on bus tour and then to Paola for the Final working session.

Day 2 afternoon
PK invited us to consider this mornings presentations and select a favourite that could be transferred to our own area.

MB – chose Rostock Heath
LB – chose Rostock Heath because it uses they
TB – Fort Vechten and the sharing of use Human and Animal.
PR – Fort Amherst lighting, Rostock Heath project
PS – NDW project at fort fighting against nature in old heritage buildings
MT – waste management creation of jobs and energy NDW Fort projects
AK – Opava and the production of energy from waste (unsuccessful due political support) Hybrid buses linked to the military sight education centre. This will fit future developments
AB – Opava situation using ecological transport. It would fit in Kaunas as they hasve plans to introduce this method in futer. NDW also interesting because Kaunas has 9 forts. Opava Have your own Tree also because Kaunas is one of the greenest cities in Kaunas and it involves the community.
NF – NDW because it shares the problem of bats and snakes etc. NDW show evidence of how these can live in harmony with humans and heritage buildings if approached properly. Also Hybrid type buses are interesting because of the need to provide public transport and reduce emissions.
MH – first Rostock Heath. The reestablishment of green spaces and it had clear results and goals. Also interesting in connection with the plans for great lines Heritage park and Chattenden development. To complement that Plant a Tree Scheme because it is very attractive and can be implemented easily with ULSG funds could achieve a result.

PK – started to recap on the two days Get slides and insert. Other supporting cases – use of geothermal energy: corderie Royal and Convent in Florence.

PK continued with the format of reciprocity
PS – said that these case studies are interesting
MH - added that involving the community
HG – asked about the park and Ride facility in Malta
Discussion continued about how we should continue
LM – continued by going on about classification
PK – went on and on about something based on the enabling environment – proving that energy solutions for heritage building is possible but also desirable. Yes we can!
But there are limitations … should be added and may be developed into a

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MH – asked partners for their reaction to the process outlined by PK so far. There was no reaction so PK continued with his outline "Action planning on site"
PK – reminded us that it is essential to remind ourselves of the original principles and techniques…….
To Formulate desired options
Defines inner climate requirements
Determine installations optimal for each Get slides for insertion.
MH – is this a theme for a "recommendation" or is it a "recommendation"
PK – responded by saying that in previous meetings we arrived at two themes, which
He went on to say that from hi point of way it would be relevant to make a theme for recommendations from two point of view. We wanted to this certain thing but this was not possible because heritage authorities would nlot approve it.

HG – asked, in connection with MH question, are these questions that partners should ask of your Local Support Groups. To underpin the
Discussion between MH, HG, VJ and PK about whether or not partners have or have not discussed such themes with ULSG members. It seems to be important that we have these discussions as a means of increasing the evidence base.

PK – stated there was only one pure case study on the theme of ENERGY in the two days.
MB – stated that we were all wrong and all right at the same time. He mentioned that PK has undertaken a very good logic base to reach a conclusion but the logical process will never surface because of the different nature of the projects.

PK – responded by saying that one cannot have the candy and eat it at the same time. You cannot learn from best practices without

PK – Miltary sites (slide)

Mh – suggested that we consider one recommendation which appoint advanced partners to help those learner partners to

PR disagreed.
MH – continued by wanting to clarify the situation.

MB – reminded us that we are located in Malta – the only city/area that is adhering to EU requirement (energy)
MH - asked what he would recommend.
MB – responded by saying that the diversity of the project is so great tat we are unlikely to reach a convergance, also the diversity of the sites I so diverse which does not hep divergence either. We will not therefore be able to reach a. every site has to respond in a different manner.
MH contiiued to say that she felt that partner cities need assistance to make it happen. MB – said that heritage is at a point where it is being effected by
HG – added that because these cases are so different isit a problem that we only recommend one or two from this theme.
PS – proposed that we should find two recommendations. We could try to find two themes that would be common to all of us.
MB – supports the proposal but is concerned about the recommendations. Military heritage

MH – added that the she agreed with MB that the single partner
LM - stated that there is a list of a recommendation of regulations.
Energy ……..r with a possible opt out for listed buildings.
What guidance could we obtain Covenant of mayors guidance (as five partners are signatories)
LM – Continued to say tha she would like to see a classification system that could then be categorised. Local grants, finance instruments. Etc.

There is very specific guidance from English Heritage.
MH interjected that she shold share the categorisation by a matrix or something. This would be useful to practioners and we should make thisavailable. She asked Liz to sign post the changes that has occurred.
PK asked how a matrix would be useful. MH stated that it is preferable for practioners to check through a matrix that to read reams of reports.
PK – do we want to put forward the conclusion that RES/EE on military sites is not always possible.
MB – continued to talk about the conditions of certain
HG/MB – asked if we were reaching the conclusion.
Council of Europe has a way of working with projects through the union. A practical recommendation. Council of Europe produce a joint programme to combine Heritage Agenda with the Green Agenda. (Please put this in an email)

HG - We have figured out that there is a conflict between green agenda and Energy issues. Make a recommendation to Eurocities
PS – asked does
MB - make a diplomatic suggestion – Partners will make recommendations and then we can determine how to proceed.
MH – That was a difficult and troublesome discussion and we appreciate that is not easy to retain comprehension etc thank you.

Comments received from Thematic Expert – Liz Mills

REPAIR PILLAR I WORKING GROUP – PAOLA-CORRADINO 09 - 10 APRIL 2010

Thurs 8th April

0900 Opening & welcome addresses

No LM notes – is the text of each speaker's intervention available?

A few points about Malta include some special measures:

- Govt creation of a co-financing fund and explicit encouragement to the 68 local councils in Malta and Gozo to bid for EU funds. Good to see use of EU funds for local restoration projects.

- Introduction of a special funding scheme for local councils to help restore small local buildings.

- Urban Improvement Fund – for local authorities to improve quality of life. Will sign an agreement to fund 19 local projects on eg upgrading recreation areas, public gardens in Paola, energy-saving street lighting, paving works etc.

- Apart from this allocation to local authorities, 2009-10 has seen an increase in funding and some special financing schemes eg on energy saving, improvement of squares and historic town centres, tree planting. All 68 local councils will plant about 10,000 new trees.

- Pilot research on sustainable localities – studies on long term sustainability (mainly about green space ?).

Need to check and report how many funding schemes there actually are, what they are called, what they fund, how much is available etc

Heritage is part of the identity of Malta. Need to find a sustainable use for restored buildings. Restoration is only just beginning, and not only in Valetta.

Government has made a commitment to improve urban environment and local sustainability. Now it's the duty of all councils to follow the example of places like Paola and take advantage of EU funding opportunities. Impacts are already apparent.

On energy efficiency & renewables – example of a pilot village with PV and solar water heaters on the roof of every household. In a short time this village will be carbon-neutral. *Need full details of this scheme – it could be reported as a 'good practice' case study.*

Others are now working on green innovation – responding to EU Lisbon etc objectives. Valetta is planning ahead for EU funding post 2007-13.

0930 Introductory session – Paulius

A reminder on the context – the 4 themes (pillars) drawn from the former Lisbon and Gothenburg strategies (now EU 2020 and EU SDS). The project is establishing a policy framework and putting recommendations into this context – aiming to anchor each recommendation to relevant EU policy.

Conservation – Paulius's contention is that 'there is no EU policy' and that a Council of Europe convention provides a better context. *For the EU context it would be worth checking Communications on culture, the urban environment thematic strategy and the current intergovernmental work on the Leipzig Charter.*

Transport – Paulius claims that 3 best practices were selected in Utrecht (not sure by whom), that there were 2 main conclusions and 2 proposed recommendations – one on 'connectivity' and one on communication and marketing of attractions. Note that it is possible to make a much longer list of 'good practices' including eg use of Civitas funding, the freight buggy, engagement at EU level… and to identify recommendations which are not only aimed at the local level.

Jobs – Paulius's summary - aim is 'maximising sustainable communities and social cohesion'. 2 main themes emerged – facilitating entrepreneurship on a small scale and the triple helix 'LA, university,city'. *What about clustering ?* Local authority strategies vary – eg single niche, enabling environment, a 'basket of activities'.

Need to take account of EU policy on green jobs, local jobs, integrated strategies for local economic development, SMEs, public procurement, tax and emerging linked to ecosystem services.

This Malta workshop – outlined the intention to look for examples of practice interesting to each partner and to allow 5-10 minutes after the presentations for partners to note down examples 'relevant to you and what might be transferred'. From this to identify 2-3 themes from which to create recommendations relevant to existing EU policies.

Responses to the fact sheet on energy sent in advance

Replies had been received from Avrig, Karlskrona, Kaunas, Utrecht and Rostock but not from the other partners.

Preliminary conclusions reported by Paulius – the partners have very different approaches, different nature of the military sites, local authorities have different issues and place different priorities on energy and waste. There's a wide variety of national policies & available instruments. Partners have different awareness of the EU instruments available.

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Sorry but this is not very useful info – I hope the material has since been reported more fully.

10.15 – 11.00 Case studies on the Maltese islands

No presentation from the Malta Environment & Planning Authority

Malta Resources Authority – energy policy etc

There are government regs to promote energy efficiency and renewables. National Energy Efficiency Action Plan sets targets. For renewables the target is 10% by 2020.

Ministry of Finance launched some support schemes which have now been taken over by the Malta Resources Authority.

In 2006 schemes for PV and solar water heaters – eg 20% grant on purchase price of PV. The grant for solar water heaters has been increased to 25%. Applicants just have to complete an application form, show ID and receipt. This is not only for social housing. But the take-up has been very low. Why ? In 2007 there were only 5 PV installations. Now getting better on water heating.

2009 schemes – nationally funded – for PV, solar, double glazing, roof insulation. Much bigger grants. Now 58% for investment in PV, to a maximum of 3000 Euro. Solar water heating – 60% grant. Etc.

There are also new technical standards for solar and PV. There are now EU standards for the technical equipment and the Building Regs of the Maltese Govt are applied. All equipment has to be requested from MRA before applying for a grant.

No mention of inspection of the installations or any EU element to the grants. No evidence on how much is spent in historic buildings.

Compare UK schemes available only to those on benefit or dependent on private investors.

In 2009 all available grants were taken up within 2 weeks. Higher grant and lower equipment prices contribute to improved take-up. In addition, returns on investment in renewables are becoming increasingly attractive as compared with bank deposits. The return on investment in PV is much higher than the same amount invested in a bank.

Questions – what take-up at military heritage sites ? How is the available funding publicised ? Do the local authorities play a role ?

Future plans – certification of installers of PV and solar equipment. There have been some complaints about quality so the govt is taking action. May raise standards on investors etc depending on the improvements in technology. Want more info on the outputs of PV and wind turbines. MRA would like to install wind turbines, monitor their output and compare with other renewable sources, especially the different types of PV. So they will do some pilot/demonstration projects. Hope the prices will fall.

A new PV scheme will be launched in May 2010 to meet unmet demand – hope to bring in far more people – maybe 800-850.

Heritage Enterprise – restoration of historic houses & heritage assets

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Energy efficiency and renewables – not just about implementing new technology but also about using past technology. Example of the restoration of individual historic houses in line with the requirements of international charters and conventions.

Various approaches tested by HE in own house.

Bob the Builder image includes reduce, reuse and recycle – starting early to inform kids.

Maltese historic houses typically have double walls, cellar, louvres, balconies etc – all for natural ventilation and heating. Usually there is a bell-shaped water cistern. Flat roofs. The Maltese houses effectively have their own climate control systems – aim is to improve their efficiency – to make the buildings sustainable in use as well as decreasing the carbon footprint of the building itself. Also to generate electricity – the energy plus house idea. Many houses have long been vacant or abandoned. Example of renovations – opening up blocked spaces to provide spaces for natural cooling of food and wines. Use of de-humidifiers in which water is re-used.

Questions – how calculate own carbon footprint ? Has it been reduced ? Is HE using any of the grants available from MRA ?

Policies still make it difficult for listed buildings to be adapted for energy efficiency and renewables. Need to create a framework in which individual householders can act. Minute details are important.

Mushrooming of companies active in the renewable energies sector – for installations eg for solar panels, solar heating and PV.

Comments from the planning authority

Lately increasing requirements for energy efficiency in new build. Traditional buildings are already designed for local climatic conditions. Various features eg internal courtyards. We try to ensure that these original elements are retained.

Individual owners and architects don't always understand the role of historic design elements and how they fit with energy efficiency. For example, they often want to widen windows to increase views. Glazing causes problems. Air conditioning units cause lots of damage. Dealing with planning applications gives the planning authority opportunities to advise the public. More studies are needed on the impacts of such changes. Pollution from past emissions is much reduced but there is still dust. Even transport in the past was cleaner. In general there is a problem with air pollution.

Keeping old buildings is the wisest move environmentally. Many unskilled workers are employed in new build. Restoration requires skilled workers. The planning authority is trying to promote a return to traditional crafts eg construction of wooden balconies which are very efficient for indoor climate. There's a return to traditional carpentry. Many owners/architects don't want to do restoration. They want to do something new. We get problems with some suppliers.

11.30 Partner presentations

Avrig

The energy pillar fits very well the position in Avrig. One year ago Arnold as mayor focused on a strategy to reposition our local economy in the energy sector – to develop several projects to createlocal jobs and reposition/create competitive advantage for Avrig and regional and national levels in Romania.

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Goal is 65% biomass, 17% wind, 12% solar, 4% micro (hydro ?) and 1% each PV and geothermal.

Together with the county council president from the same political party we focus also on the county/Avrig joint projects.

Avrig has a vision and a mission statement. 5 projects are foreseen – Avrig will become Romania's leading centre for energy.

Map shows the position of projects in the city – not individual projects but they are combined in a Local Energy Programme. The projects are connected. We want to promote this approach as a model to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

Romania imports very expensive energy from Russia and the middle east while at the same time having thousands of hectares unused. This was the motivation for the county president to support Avrig.

In rural areas in Romania there are very few opportunities to create jobs. Must fit jobs to the location. By promoting biomass and biogas we need the raw material. It is the intention to plant corn. This will create several local jobs in rural areas.

We want to demonstrate that energy production can be done in places like Avrig.

Feasibility of this project ? Two outputs are anticipated from biomass – electricity and heat. Need to link to final consumers – either householders or industry. Avrig has 3 communist residential blocks previously heated by individual systems which are no longer working. We will create biomass CHP directly in the military site. We will link the thermal energy to the military site and housing blocks, replacing individual heating systems. The city council has commissioned an energy maser plan with an analysis of the potential of all possible energy solutions.

The URBACT Urbanenergy project aims to transform all households from energy consumers to consumers. The energy efficiency mkodel can be applied across all 3 residential areas. Measures will include:

(1) replacement of individual heating systems with CHP and district heating
(2) thermo-insulation of housing – changing the windows, insulating the outer shell, installing PV panels on roofs. We can't link every house to the national grid. WE need new infrastructure to collect energy from every house and link to a transformer and hence to the grid. WE want to store energy over night – will probably use hydrogen technology.

Probably this model will not be suitable for all UrbanEnergy partners. But partners share the overall idea to develop energy solutions at local level – decentralised energy production to smaller local stations. This decentralisation needs a new infrastructure to connect all units.

We want this model to be used all over Romania, with the primary goal to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. This model has been promoted to the Romanian government.

Avrig has applied to ELENA for funds to finalise feasibility studies and develop business plans jointly with the private sector.

We will not have the technical capacity to develop and run biomass plants ourselves. We must get private companies to do it.

Compare City of Cesena and Romagna Compost company

Arnold is convinced that energy is the key issue for the 21st century.

Two networks of support are under development. UrbanEnergy is 'policy' support. An Intelligent Energy Europe project - Bio-reactor - is under development. This involves Transylvania Univ Brasov (Ro), Stuttgart Univ, CHR IMAA Germany, Potenza Italy, L.Blago (?) Univ Sibiu (Ro) and Avrig. The idea comes from a professor in Germany who has a simple bio-reactor system – biogas CHP. Will replace fossil gas with biogas.

But note that IEE will not pay for the technology or a demonstration. Why not use the Structural Funds Operational Programme for Romania ?

There is an issue about how to work with households.

Energy is not just an issue for big cities or Brussels. We need to start small scale at local level.

Focusing on the military site – about 80% of it is nature. Want to make a biodiversity park. 70 ha will be available for this and we have identified government programmes from which we can get 100% funding but this needs to be at the level of the mountains. The use will be multipurpose – to promote tourism as well as nature. Plans for a conference centre/hotel as an attraction. We also want an academic research centre. This is the most challenging part. Without importing knowledge and expertise in this field it will be very difficult to achieve the vision on renewable energy.

Question on waste management – what use of materials taken out of the buildings to be renovated ? Currently this is thrown away. EU Directive sets binding targets for recycling of demolition and construction waste.

To develop the biogas plant Avrig will set up a municipal energy company. The municipality will be a shareholder in all of these projects. Currently the council is looking for an inward investment company – will make land available, probably for free, and will want at least 10% of the shares.

It is estimated that 60m Euro will be needed to achieve all this. Most is still on paper. But we have done studies, prepared an energy master plan, done a feasibility study for hydro energy strategy of Avrig river, an analysis of raw materials, land availability etc. 80,000 Euro has already been invested. The Elena programme bid is already in. We would like to have all this implemented by 2020.

There will be a public tender by the end of 2010. Will apply for Structural Funds support. It may be possible to sell the entire project as a pilot to the Romanian government. Currently all the housing areas are heated using expensive imported gas. It will be feasible to sell the idea to the Romanian govt as a pilot on grounds of energy security. Need 20m Euro to get started.

Avrig intends to use local tax policy to persuade consumers to switch from fossil gas to biogas.

Charente-Maritime

National context – Ministry of Ecology, Energy, SD and the Sea created 2007. This ministry is responsible for eg green technologies, climate negotiations. Has 5 core missions:
SD (awareness raising, stakeholders)
energy & climate (including innovation)
infrastructure (transport etc)
housing, natural resources & quality of life
risk prevention – especially better coorindation.

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Regional level – Poitou-Charente – responsible for improvement in energy management and developing renewable energy sources, regional financial incentives and actions for water conservation, ecology, decentralised energy production etc

Charente-Maritime – Waste management – all communities are committed to separate waste collection (yellow bag schemes – recyclables are sorted at central facilities) and readily accessible municipal dumps. *(ie implementation of the Waste Framework Directive.)*

Organic waste is treated through composting and incineration in a waste to heat plant – there is one large plant. Some local authorities provide households with a composting bin. Some local authorities have a management board to implement waste management – financed through waste collection charges.

Example of Orleron Island military heritage site – the Ecopol – a centre for composting, sawmill, rubble collection site and environmental education. – *ie centralised facility for recycling demolition and construction waste – should help to meet EU target for recycling this waste stream.*

Renewable energies etc. Local actions for energy efficiency have been established by Poitou-Charente region and ADEME – French agency for energy management.. There is an energy information unit in La Rochelle which provides advice to households etc. Aid for solar power installation – 500Euro – through a special regional fund for environmental excellence.

Focus on the military heritage sites – it is not actually forbidden to install PV etc but architects from France dealing with listed buildings systematically refuse renewable energies in order to preserve quality of landscape. Solar panels are considered aesthetically unacceptable for 'historical reference' buildings. But it is possible to encourage the use of sustainable materials in construction.

In Charente Maritime we have 6 ex military sites near the coast – including 2 islands. Want to have a network of fortresses. In the LAP each fortified site is managed by a group of syndicated communities which each have their own policy for waste and energy etc. May lack capacity to go further. The ULSG has held awareness-raising meetings but there are no outputs. Brouage and the Isle of Aix have purchased electric vehicles for rubbish collection.

Considering development of a best practice guide to waste reduction and a household guide on renewable energies.

Florence

The presentation is based on the fact sheet.

Florence has a city plan for energy and environment (PEAC), an air quality management plan and a city regulation for waste management. All of these plans are for the whole city. A structural urban plan is in preparation – awaiting approval. But there is still work to be done to increase explicit references to military heritage in local authority strategies.

Recovery of existing buildings itself helps to contribute to the overall goal of sustainable development through re-use of brownfields. There is national environmental legislation – Laws 308/2004 and 152/2006 – establishes procedure for environmental impact assessment, defence of land, air, water and waste and defines the role of the provinces and cities. There is a Regional Environmental Law for Tuscany 25/1998 on waste management.

The main barriers to effective implementation are economic – land reclamation costs and difficulties in tackling air pollution without funds to invest in local public transport. One lesson is that improved interventions require involvement of the private sector.

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Funding available to Florence – ERDF 2007-2013 Tuscany Region Op Axis 2. Three main challenges are mobility, air pollution and waste and water management.

These challenges are beginning to be considered at metropolitan level. The city may attempt to locate a new incinerator. The city council environment office has an LA21 officer and another dealing with parks, noise, waste, geological issues etc. They also use outside consultants and the local university faculty of engineering. The city has made a start on reducing its carbon footprint. The urban strategy avoids new construction and provides for implementation of national regs on energy efficiency in buildings. The city hosts a regional agency for environmental protection.

The Florence LAP will focus on the general urban plan for redundant sites. Currently learning from the former military barracks in Utrecht. (?)

Kaunas city

Huge site of the old aerodrome which is protected as cultural heritage of the Lithuanian republic.

Kaunas is active in European networks and projects relating to energy - a member of Energie Cites, had a CONCERTO project, was in Intelligent Energy Europe DISPLAY project (on implementation of the EPBD), participates in sustainable energy week, CIVITAS and currently CIVITAS Catalyst. Is producing a mobility plan for all companies in a particular industrial area – project Commerce (IEE). Previously a signatory to the Aalborg Charter and Aalborg Commitments on SD. Kaunas energy strategy is in preparation with various other partners eg energy agencies.

For waste management Kaunas city and surrounding municipalities have a regional waste management centre which administers initiatives and projects. Also environmental education on waste. Now building CHP plant, waste to heat and bio fuel plants from some parts of the city. Saves money too.

Regeneration of military sites take place in the context of national and regional strategies eg the national energy strategy, regional waste management plan etc.

Financial support is available from the Operation Programme for Lithuania. Use of renewables to generate electricity, energy efficiency measures to reduce air pollution, ecological transport etc are all written in the Operational Programme. Renovation of Kaunas city street lighting system has led to more energy efficiency work. Kaunas has accessed funding for renovation of public buildings eg kindergartens, schools and libraries – save money on heating, modernisation of electricity, gas and heating transfer systems.

Renovation of multi block housing is going slowly. **About 2 years ago it was possible to get up to 50% grant for housing renovation. Now less – about 15% - because of the weak economic situation – and there are some gaps in legislation.**

In the next EU support period – post 2013 – we expect that the same types of projects will be supported.

Question about opportunities to influence the future OP.

Kaunas intends to increase the use of biofuels in public transport and the use of energy-efficient trolley buses.

In the pilot military regeneration area we expect:

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- renovation of derelict buildings in an energy efficient way – we want to do one pilot building including some RES eg solar, wind. But there are no good financial schemes to support these green energy actions. ***(???? What about the SFs OP just mentioned ?)***

- development of wooden cultural heritage buildings at the aerodrome.

Q&A

More detail on **MRA** and their role in the financial schemes for renewables – they had a nationwide advertising campaign. Also, all the advertising on solar and other technical equipment must include the info on the national scheme. No analysis of expenditure in listed buildings. They know the number of private buildings subsidised but not the type.

There is now a new scheme in Paola. All public roofs will have PV sources. This is running in parallel with the national grant scheme. *There should have been more detail about this !*

Charente-Maritime Ecopol involves 11 communes which jointly manage waste. The Ecopol is funded by a special tax on waste management. *(on landfill ?)* The educational service is regarded as especially innovative.

'Good practice exchange' on the presentations so far today – led by Paulius

Avrig selects awareness-raising approaches used by **Charente-Maritime**. Important in Avrig. To achieve our vision we need the local community to accept a new approach on energy and waste. We're developing a communication strategy so will soon do the same thing, starting with schools (teachers, students) on the impact of climate change and energy. Can't succeed without the community on board.

Paola selects the rubbish-sorting facilities in **Charente-Maritime** Ecopol. Paola is in the process of implementing waste separation.

Karlskrona – likes the educational example from Charente-Martitime, but main choice is **Avrig** because of the overall strategy. Malta for concrete presentation with many good ideas.

In **Sweden** the Board of Housing, Building & Planning requires all public buildings to declare how much energy they use and they source. *(Implementation of the EPBD.)* We would like to implement this in such a way as to interest householders in making improvements and getting the best energy solutions. – *ie link the energy ratings to an incentive scheme* ? In Sweden the National Property Board owns 99% of historic buildings. Eg the University in Karlskrona is climate neutral. Sweden is trying to make the EPBD provisions more demanding in listed buildings.

Malta ***is also implementing the EPBD currently. Going through the process of certifying the inspectors etc. Audits in Malta are revealing that historic houses are actually positive for energy efficiency.***

The SEA Directive is also relevant. It is very taxing on carbon footprint and energy efficiency of buildings.

Medway selects **Malta** – putting energy sources into an individual building and extrapolating results to all buildings. This addresses questions in Medway of reducing emissions and how to reduce fuel poverty (which is high in UK, especially in Medway) and potentially puts surplus energy into the national grid – providing we can find smart grids to do it. Results in

savings on fuel costs. In Medway we should adopt a widespread communication programme. A national scheme is already implemented in UK but it needs to be improved.

Medway also selects Avrig for the concept of an energy masterplan – an overarching strategy. This is ambitious and planning for the long term. Political vision, collaboration with universities and investors. Raising the profile of Avrig in Europe and *vice versa.* Strengthening relationships with partner cities elsewhere in Romania. Medway should do this. Only this year have we realised that we need an energy plan. We are learners on energy and lack capacity to develop an overarching document that integrates all required actions. Recent appointment of an energy manager. Intend to work on this in the ULSG.

Hope the energy manager will be invited to participate directly in Medway's LAP.

In the LAP we will try and ensure that any future strategies on energy and waste cover all 4 pillars of REPAIR and try to make special provision for military heritage sites.

Rostock selects **Avrig** – use of local sustainable resources and the creation of local jobs + collaboration with universities.

Charente-Maritime picks **Avrig** and **Malta.** Avrig for the big-scale masterplan, communication with individuals and use of several different sources of renewable energy. Malta because of the re-use of old buildings which is efficient use of available space. Charente-Maritime has experienced recent flooding because of building on flood plains. Need to avoid this and to maximise intensive buildings and re-use in city centres.

We can refer to good practice in other countries to achieve local change. 'It works there – why not here ?'

Using empty buildings is also an issue for **Medway**. There are several thousand of them. It's pointless to build so many new ones.

Opava – picks **Avrig** as an interesting project, especially in looking for private investors. Small cities often collaborate as a regional network to attract investors for big projects. Also like **Kaunas** – the totally changed public lighting system. Lighting is expensive so increasing energy efficiency will save money. Opava will ask Kaunas how they achieved this – what steps were taken. Every regeneration project should include a focus on lighting.

Comment from Avrig that for encouraging energy efficient solutions national policy is more important that regional schemes. In Romania energy supply is exposed to the market. To make renewables more feasible some Member States now guarantee a certain price – so enterprises can make business plans.

Comment from Opava – the Czech government has set a minimum price for buying energy from renewable sources. Sometimes Cz is close to blackout because when the sun shines too much energy enters the system……

Kaunas – picks **Malta**. Malta is a country about the same size as our city. Several concrete examples. Government support for households. In Kaunas the whole process is very slow – communities are not so well organised and need central government support, for both admin and finance. Kaunas also supports **Avrig** for the strong masterplan – a good beginning is half the battle. Kaunas is making a new energy strategy and certifying buildings for energy (*EPBD implementation).*

Florence – picks **Avrig** and **Charente-Maritime** for their communication strategies – to raise awareness of citizens. 'Because in my city there is a real failure of communication'. Starting with teachers in schools. We need to identify a new stakeholder group and keep in mind the powers of the city council.

New Dutch Waterline – we have very specific problems with our buildings on sustainable energy. Eg problems with bats. We do lots of research but so far we have not found a successful solution. Likes the **Charente-Maritime** Ecopol – good function for an ex military building ? and Heritage Enterprise in **Malta** for spreading knowledge.

Friday 9th April

Case studies from Malta

Energy efficiency & renewable energy systems

Very little renewable energy. Load very dependent on the season and daily peaks. Two fossil fuel plants – Marsa Power Station and Delimara plant. First priority is to improve the efficiency of these plants. Marsa will close 2015 to meet requirements of the EU Large Combustion Plant Directive. There is a need to reduceGHG emissions also. For the new plant which will replace this the choice is between diesel & gas.

Small PV pilot and 1 wind pilot with a 2.5kw micro wind turbine ('to break the ice with the local planning authority'. A 2nd wind pilot is planned for Gozo using EU funding,

Outputs from the pilots so far are very variable depending on ambient conditions.

Apparently using variability of RES outputs as an excuse not to mainstream it ?

A cable connection to Sicily is planned – first connection 2013 and a 2nd in 2016.

Possibility of a large off-shore wind farm NW of the islands.

The potential for PV is very high.

The plan is to strengthen the network to increase use of wind and by means of the connection to Sicily. If a 90MW wind farm is constructed the expected variation in output means a need for the interconnection to even out the variation. Various technical projects are in hand to do this.

Demand management - Will install SMART metering for all consumers to monitor own consumption and use energy in more intelligent ways.

Question - No consideration of waste to heat for the new Marsa power station, even though there is also a huge waste management problem. Ans – waste is not considered as a main fuel source. Waste is taken care of by a separate agency.

Waste management initiatives & EU funded projects

Waste Serve Malta Ltd established 2002 – various EU funds have been received. www.wasteservmalta.com

Got lots of re-accession assistance for design, cost-benefit analysis, EU funding applications. There was a bilateral framework agreement EU-Malta 2004-2006. ERDF was used to control emissions from landfills and then rehabilitation of these sites.

To establish civic amenity sites for separated waste collection Malta has received 5.9m Euro.

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Cohesion policy has supported upgrading of waste treatment plant (16.7m Euro). All will be completed during 2010. The plant will produce compost and biogas.

2004-2006 450,000 Euro ESF for training of waste management workers.

Also training for vulnerable groups using EQUAL.

For the period 2007-2013 we have Cohesion money and JASPERS for eg reheb of closed landfills, treatment and storage of hazardous waste…

We need more facilities to deal with all the waste streams. Two new facilities are being built. One will derive biofuels in a digestion plant. In Gozo a bio treatment plant is planned. This will treat manure and other organic waste. Thus will much reduce the transport of waste between Gozo and Malta.

There is a new application to the Cohesion Fund to extend the separation and collection of waste plus education and awareness-raising. Intend to increase the incineration of hazardous waste locally rather than exporting it.

There are various initiatives to recover energy from waste. PV has been installed at waste sites. A project to set up about 2000 PV panels in Gozo is currently being evaluated. There has been recent approval for 1.2m ESF to be spent on training related to environment.

INTERREG IVC project Pre-waste – to improve the effectiveness of waste prevention strategies in EU territories. Partners from 10 Member States.

More partner presentations

Medway

350,000 pop, 2 power stations within the area generate 10% of UK electricity

Council's own administration:
6 months ago appointed an energy manager for the first time who did a survey of energy use within LA buildings. Found Gun Wharf very bad. Out of date heating and ventilation. Beginning the process of staff behaviour change and considering how to replace a 30year old heating system.

Military sites:
Fort Amhurst money from CP (Community Programme ?) has been used to install an energy-efficient lighting system. Running costs have been reduced by about £200 a quarter. The council would like to take advantage of low interest loans from the Carbon Trust.

Chattenden Barracks:
Plans to install about 500 new homes plus services – the equivalent of a small town. Private developer.

Opportunity to introduce CHP. District heating could be taken from the existing Kings Norton Power Station.

The Sustainable Business Strategy covers lots of green points eg green procurement, cleaning up the transport fleets, supply chain reviews, commercial waste mitigation (a particular challenge in Kent).

Need for a waste plan. Key issues are the Landfill Directive, collection of food waste from 80,000 properties and a possible anaerobic digestion unit. Medway has recently made a

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25year contract with a private company – so no prospect of changes for the next 25 yrs. *Can this really be true ?*

UK has a National Renewable Energy Action Plan. Medway is doing its own REAP which will go to cabinet by mid May 2010. *Really ?*

There are various transport policy initiatives linked to national performance indicators on emissions.

Vincent – no mention of the Climate Change Act 2008 ??

Website says Medway adopted a carbon management plan in 2006 and an action plan for delivery against national performance indicator NI 186(Per capita CO2 emissions) in 2009.

Kent Renewable Energy Network – any thing worth reporting ? The Medway Waterway Plan 2005-2010 ? Transition town http://medway.greenparty.org.uk/transitiontown

Is heritage regeneration helping to deliver sustainable development ? Yes eg application of Building Regs in docks regeneration.

Use of EU funding:
ESF and ERDF grants, including for a low carbon buildings programme. Skills training for tradesmen.

Several planning processes are coming to a head at the same time.
- The Sustainable Communities Strategy – a 15 year vision
- LTP3
- The LDF – spatial plan. Land use requirements to make the other two work.

Medway LDF Core Strategy Issues & Options Report has a chapter about energy.

All are in a consultation phase and due to be completed in the next 2 months. The 3 plans all address issues covered in REPAIR.

Medway intends to sign the Covenant of Mayors.

NDW

It is technically very difficult to have climate control in 54 different buildings, each with specific problems like humidity, damp, leakage, bats vs humans on temperature requirements, decay, patina etc etc

Examples:

INTERREG IVB Crossing the lines project investigated installation of cheap solar energy in a Martello Tower in Essex. This was not applied because the fortress was already undergoing renovation and 'English Heritage blocked the solar'. Technical reports are available on this.

More likely that the installation needed Listed Building Consent in advance from the local authority and something went wrong with the paperwork.

Fort Aan de Klop, Utrecht – proposed ventilation ducts through the roof. These were developed too late to be funded by available INTERREG money

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Plan for Fort Vechten – currently undertaking a research study. Advice suggests you can remove air conditioning and use the 19th century ventilation system. Look first at the building itself – how it was originally designed.
Fort Asperen – bats vs humans issue.

Peter says there is no role for government in our project. It is all bottom-up and driven by the market. But we have to follow the national regulations.

'Up to now there are no good examples on sustainable energy in the NDW.'

Suggestion to put renewables like solar panels in the grounds rather than on buildings. Don't ignore the contribution of the NDW assets for climate protection and adaptation – green management of the sites contributes to implementation of local climate strategies.

Lessons :

Check the original function of the building
Decide on the climate/energy solution before starting the renovation
See investments in relation to future energy costs

Proposal for a knowledge centre. An international conference is planned for November 2010.

Waste management – it is normal in the NL to separate waste streams.

Opava

Good examples:

Greener public transport – 10 new vehicles funded with 5.2m Euro EU funds. Hybrid engines – trolley bus or independently powered. Now we need to educate the population to increase use of public transport.

A biomass power plant has been planned for some years but has not yet happened.

Development of an energy-efficient kindergarten owned by the city. *(Focus on insulation rather than RES.)*

Recognition of the need for environmental education starting with children.

'Have your own tree' – an awareness-raising campaign.

Lessons include recognition that a strong political decision may be the solution to overcome what seem to be intractable technical problems.

The message seems to be the need for a portfolio of complementary measures.

Like Malta, Opava raises the issue of overloading of energy systems when renewables are added to the net.

Rostock

Greener management of military sites to contribute to climate protection and adaptation.

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Rostock Heath 6000 ha. Since 1252 this forest has belonged to the city of Rostock. In the 20th century it became increasingly important for recreation and health. Post 2nd world war military use started – barracks, bunkers, firing ranges etc until in 1989 more than 50% was a military area. Restricted access. 1st Jan 1992 the heath was given back to the city and public access restored.

When it was returned to the city the heath was in bad condition. About 20% was contaminated with splinters. (check)

A process of 're-naturation' was started.

Konver I and II funding was available.

Konver I project started July 1994 with the equivalent of 1.8 euro. This project gave work to 30 long term unemployed people. Main actions included dismantling and removing the military rubbish eg concrete areas, walls, fences. Decontamination was necessary to remove eg asbestos, faeces. Planted 50ha of trees – to increase the incidence of rare biotopes, provide new wetlands. Use of bunkers as a wintering ground for bats.

From 1996 Konver II was used to restore an old missile area.

Suggestion for Rostock LAP – develop a bid for LIFE+ Nature & Biodiversity funding.

'Good practice exchange' on the Friday morning presentations – led by Paulius

Malta selects **Rostock Heath** – for integration of green/natural environment and the former military site. Using the landscape itself leads to a 'heritage product'. Malta could gain in Corradino – industrial site – using a philosophy of 'less is more. A recreational package which would also create jobs.

Karlskrona selects **Rostock**. Karlskrona city has taken over a very large industrial area. The military still have stuff there. Need to rescue redundant buildings etc. Have established a sports camp. But we will have more land available and so opportunities to do more. Also note **NDW** – a critical mass of knowledge and experience – participants help each other to overcome obstacles. Technical expertise also.

Rostock selects **NDW** – Fort Vechten – the removal of air conditioning and trying to use the original construction. Also the possible combination of nature and human use – Rostock faces similar questions.

Question – is Rostock Heath a Natura site ?

NDW selects **Medway** Fort Amhurst. Also like **Rostock** Heath – 'it is covering 3 or 4 pillars'.

Opava is interested in **NDW**'s problems, especially tackling the 'anti culture of the heritage business' in restoring old buildings. Sometimes it is too difficult to respect the building and restoration is blocked. Opava will try to focus on the people living around the sites.

Florence – picks **Rostock** – especially the job creation element. Link between the energy and jobs pillars of REPAIR. **NDW** – for identification of barriers to restoration/re-use. Expertise includes the ability to identify barriers and tackle them.

Avrig picks **Opava** – for the identification of two important issues – (1) steps towards implementation of the biogas plant - having the infrastructure in place and making efforts to get political support. It is feasible because Opava has the infrastructure to do this. (2)

changing the fuel used in buses – this makes a huge difference. Bus transport to the military site – a combination of renewable energy and transport. *(Avrig should be using Civitas)*

Kaunas selects **Opava** – for the hybrid buses. Kaunas has similar plans. Kaunas will also set up a centre for cleaner energy. Also likes the relatively low cost tree planting initiative. **NDW** also made points about the education system. On trees – Kaunas is already green. Wants to increase community 'ownership' of nature.

Charente-Maritime – picks **NDW** and the way they deal with bats. For C-M the issue is snakes vs humans and the apparent conflicts between biodiversity and access. Refers also to the **Opava** biomass example – the identification of RES solutions appropriate to the site and not visually intrusive.

Medway – picks **Rostock** for the re-naturisation of green spaces. High quality and real results. Can sell something like this to elected members. Medway has a heritage park which is currently vandalised – a no-go area close to new homes. A solution like Rostock's fits with local strategies. Complement this with the **Opava** tree planting scheme – useful for awareness-raising and education. *(Tree planting is an example of a win win solution.)*

Medway is a learner in energy management. We have an energy manager going into schools and some funding for the ULSG – could use them to get action crossing several pillars.

Pillar I

<u>Good practices noted during the meeting in Malta</u>

Clear national lead on energy provided by Malta Resources Authority (MRA).

Public private partnership – eg as supported by MRA.

Having the (mainstream) infrastructure in place. (Opava – the basics for the biogas plant and the switch to hybrid buses.)

The main waste management operator knows how to use the available EU Cohesion etc funds to get some big improvements to waste & energy infrastructure and is able to develop complementary projects using the more competitive budgets like INTERREG. (Malta)

Financial schemes available to a broad cross-section of households – not just for social housing or those on low incomes. (Malta)

Effective advertising of available national funding for renewables by compulsory publicity about the scheme when marketing products. (Malta)

Restoration of a site has measurable results which can help others to make the case for following similar approaches. (Rostock)

Responsive and flexible national government - Minister lobbying the Commission to change the ERDF rules on subsidy for solar water heaters. New policy instruments introduced to improve take up and implementation of funding scheme for PV and solar water heaters. New scheme being introduced to cater for unmet demand.

Recognition of the need to put in place a framework which enables individual householders (including owners of listed buildings) to take action on energy efficiency and renewables. (Malta)

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Close attention to detail when renovating individual buildings. Installation of small scale renewables in individual buildings, sometimes resulting in surplus energy to be fed into the grid. (Malta)

The organisation has a critical mass of knowledge, experience and technical expertise. Participants (members, officials etc) support one another. (NDW)

Expertise/ability to diagnose barriers to restoration/re-use and to identify ways to overcome them. (NDW)

Making knowledge of good practice available. (Malta – HE)

Where land is in short supply - efficient re-use of existing buildings in urban centres to avoid new building on flood plains. (Malta)

Planning authority recognises that traditional buildings were originally constructed to fit local climatic conditions. They try to ensure that original design elements are retained & promote skills training in traditional crafts eg a return to traditional carpentry. (Malta)

Clear overall strategy for the city. (Avrig, Kaunas)

Strong political leadership/ambitious vision locally. (Avrig)

Collaboration between the local and county levels on energy projects. (Avrig)

Building relationships with other cities in the same country in pursuit of common goals. (Avrig)

Adoption of a local energy programme made up of a cluster of complementary projects – better than several individual projects. Use of several different sources of renewable energy. (Avrig)

Innovative technical solution – in post communist apartment blocks replacement of obsolete individual heating systems with biomass CHP and local district heating. (Avrig, Kaunas)

Large scale change to local infrastructure. Eg change the whole public lighting system to make it more energy effficient. (Kaunas)

Identification of solutions which save both energy and money. (Kaunas – public lighting)

Creative use of EU funds – complementary use of different funding programmes to support coherent energy objectives. URBACT project UrbanEnergy with the goal to transform all households from energy consumers to producers + prompt application to new financial instrument ELENA for feasibility studies. (Avrig) Kaunas also active in a range of programmes. Rostock use of successive programmes since the early 1990s to restore the heath.

Willingness to invest in ambitious schemes using innovative technical solutions. (Avrig)

Recognition of own limitations and identification of practical ways to overcome these. (Avrig)

Promotion of <u>multi-purpose</u> re-use of military sites. (Avrig, Rostock)

Novel examples of re-use. Eg fortifications as a site for park & ride (Malta ?)

Establishment of municipal companies as a vehicle for delivery. (Avrig)

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Use of local tax raising powers to influence consumer behaviour. (Avrig)

Orleron Island Ecopol – central facility for recycling demolition & construction waste + education etc. *Apparently achieved by voluntary cooperation between several local authorities – or is it just normal implementation of the Waste Framework Directive ?* (Charente Maritime)

Creativity in identifying non-visually intrusive thermal efficiency schemes. (Charente Maritime)

Recognition that renovation/recovery of existing buildings itself helps to contribute to a local authority's overall sustainable development objectives. (Florence)

Local authority enhances its capacity to deal with energy and waste management etc issues by calling on the expertise available in the local university engineering faculty/other universities. (Florence, Avrig).

Active participation in European networks and funding programmes relating to energy supports the city's overall approach. (Kaunas)

The city or wider region invests in CHP and waste-to-heat plants in its main waste management programme. (Charente-Maritime, Kaunas)

Role of local authority in complying with regulation. Tailored local regs. (Florence, Kaunas)

Creative use of local fiscal measures/tax incentives to encourage switch to biogas. (Avrig)

Identification of and collaboration with private investors to achieve implementation. (Avrig)

In some places a cluster of small towns operating together to attract inward investment. (Kaunas ??)

Awareness of the opportunity to influence future EU funds. (Kaunas)

Use of INTERREG projects to pay for some local renovation and help to fill technical knowledge gaps. (NDW) Use of INTERREG IVC to support development of regional waste strategy. (Malta)

Communication strategy to get households to change their behaviour. Focus on education. (Charente-Maritime).

Appointment of an energy manager for the local authority. (Medway)

Capitalising on local natural resources (open space, forests etc). (Avrig, Rostock)

Successful adaptation of building/site for both nature and human use. (NDW)

Integrated & multi purpose approach to regeneration of a military area based on nature. (Rostock)

Harnessing local human resources. (Avrig)

Work with the traditional features of the buildings – many had their own energy management 'systems'. Return to traditional building methods. (Malta, NDW – eg removal of air conditioning from Fort Vechten)

Use of a portfolio of complementary measures. (Kaunas) Possibly this is what Paulius refers to as a 'Christmas Tree' approach.
Existence of low interest loans for energy efficiency measures available from the Carbon Trust. (Medway)

Medway's Sustainable Business Strategy. *(hope this was mentioned in Karlskrona. Also hope it explicitly mentions regeneration of the military sites)*

'Have your own tree' – an awareness-raising campaign. (Opava)

Gaps/common challenges not much addressed

Application of national grant schemes/financial incentives to support energy efficiency measures and renewables in historic buildings. Failure to assess the take-up and impacts.

Waste management – recent EU legislation sets binding targets for recycling of demolition and construction waste. (70% by 2010 ? check) This will have implications for restoration of heritage sites. Should encourage re-use of recycled materials – in turn requires skills training. How are the REPAIR partner countries implementing this ?

For renewable energies at historic sites – not enough attention to placing these in non-intrusive locations eg in gardens rather on roofs, and/or using eg geo-thermal systems.

Effective take-up of existing Operational Programmes ? Not enough attention to the use of Structural Funds programmes to finance energy and waste measures. Some partners mention the relevant operational programmes but don't say how they are using the money.

Awareness-raising is mostly with households. Communication with SMES and other local businesses rarely mentioned.

Not much information on internal arrangements within the partner local authorities.

Emphasis on greener solutions, including use of open space/the natural surroundings of military sites, but not much attention to how green open space and other greenery (eg façade planting, green roofs) might be extended in denser urban areas eg to extend green corridors linked to greenways for access on foot, bike or water. Good to promote biodiversity, air quality, energy efficiency etc.

Possible EU level recommendations emerging from the meeting in Malta

Raise awareness of the inherent sustainability of heritage buildings in helping to meet national, regional and local objectives for climate protection. (Focus on the design features of the buildings.)

For ERDF spending the European Commission classes solar water heaters as energy efficiency and not renewables, so they insist it is only for social cases. Maltese minister is lobbying the Commission about this restriction. Possible recommendation for the ERDF regulation to change the classification of solar water heaters to renewables.

Lobbying heritage organisations to increase acceptance of renewable energy technologies.

Seek to influence the funding available from Structural Funds post 2013. eg lobby for explicit reference to measures which support energy efficiency and take-up of renewable energies at heritage sites/in listed buildings.

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Ensure availability of whatever replaces INTERREG IVC funding to support development of integrated regional strategies linking heritage sites with green infrastructure. (This would assist implementation of the European Landscape Convention.)

Local rec - Every regeneration project should include a special focus on public lighting.

Call for increased attention to sustainable mobility and transport measures in the Covenant of Mayors on Energy.

Call for further technical work on energy efficiency and RES in historic buildings, especially in urban centres, to be supported by EU programmes such as Intelligent Energy Europe and FP7.

EU funding is already allocated specifically for 'protection and preservation of cultural heritage'. Call for increased recognition in EU policy for culture that the built cultural heritage is part of the 'cultural infrastructure' of Europe, contributing to economic attractiveness, job opportunities and quality of life.

Lobby for a European Commission/Council of Europe Joint Programme on the integration of historic environment (including listed buildings) and greenways/biodiversity & nature conservation, or more specifically something on military sites and climate change.