

UTN PROJECT

Ivan Boesso - Veneto Innovazione

Introduction

UTN is a co-operation project among European cities, co-financed by the European Union in the framework of the Programme Interreg II C CADSES whose co-ordination at national level has been assigned by the Ministry of Public Works to Region Veneto.

The project, introduced by Austria during a Community session, sees the participation of Italy and Greece among the European Union Countries of the CADSES area, and it is opened to the participation of subjects of Central and Eastern Europe Countries, also in view of the next European Union widening.

Objectives of UTN project

The main objective of UTN is to constitute a network among European cities that, through such network and the other instruments produced in course of the project, realise:

1. occasions of comparison about the problems concerning the use of the technologies for the city spaces management;
2. opportunities to start co-operation projects on specific problems shared by more cities.

The aim of the project is therefore to supply cities with a set of instruments, in a position to facilitate the determination of shared themes and the development of common projects among the network supporting subjects. This will allow to better spread and take advantage of competences and previous experiences that the cities have matured using the technologies for the city environmental management.

In the first phase of the project the themes of main interest for partners have been taken shape, in view of the development of co-operation projects. They are:

- a) the management of solid waste and of energy alternative sources;
- b) the management and the sewage treatment, the reclamation of lands;
- c) the valorization of the cultural patrimony for the economic development.

The italian participation

Italy has joined the Urban Technology Network project with Regions belonging to the CADSES area, co-ordinated by Region Veneto. The other participating Regions are therefore: Abruzzi, Emilia Romagna, Friuli Venetia Julia, Marches, Molise and Puglia. At the present moment the cities that, at Community level, have joined the network, are the Municipalities of Vienna, Venice, Xanthi and Thessaloniki. At national level they have been involved moreover other technical reference subjects for the participating Regions. In particular for Abruzzi it operates the Scientific and Technological Park of Abruzzi, for Emilia Romagna the Regional Prevention and Environment Agency, for Friuli Venetia Julia the Consortium for Search of Trieste Area, for Marches they have been involved two municipal companies, for Puglia the Scientific Park of Bari, Tecnopolis CSATA Novus Ortus.

The management of the Italian part of the project has been entrusted by Region Veneto to Veneto Innovazione, the regional agency for innovation and technology transfer, and

therefore it is managing and co-ordinating, in collaboration with the partners, the realization of the activities provided in Italy and the Italian contributions to the transnational activities.

The national part of the project has had the following history: in the first months of 1999, in collaboration with the transnational co-ordinator, it has been developed and introduced the Italian proposal for the project. 25th May 1999, the Ministry of Works with the Decree 246/Segr has assigned the financial resources to Region Veneto, as national leader of the project.

Subsequently, 11th June, in Vienna the working programme and the responsibilities for the following months have been outlined.

The activities

On the 26th October 2000, date of the third national event of the project, the following activities have already been realised at international level:

- 2 International workshops developed: the first on the theme of solid waste management and alternative energies (Vienna - November 1999), the second on integrated cycle of the sewage (Venice- June 2000);

During the first international workshop, 6 project *clusters* were identified

1. The use and management of energetic sources;
2. Management of the city waste;
3. Utilization and management of the cultural patrimony;
4. Management of the organic waste;
5. Monitoring and management of water pollution;
6. Eco-industrial parks;

- 2 monitoring meetings, in Greece and Italy;
- one project web site, already operative, and one in testing phase.

From the associated work groups to the clusters individuated and from the events that will be realised during the project, the opportunities of common initiatives among the partners of the network will arise, also involving the cities of the PECO Countries ready to collaborate and activating therefore other financing sources like, for example, those of the Phare programme.

Structure of the national part of the project

At national level, in order to catch up the objectives fixed, it has given start to a series of activities that will have to allow us :

1. to involve other cities in order to increase the number of the active Italian subjects in the network;
2. to offer the possibility of deepening on specific topics;
3. to encourage an exchange of information on concrete cases of the use of technologies in city environment;
4. to create opportunities to the determination of topics of common interest among the participants, which new ideas-project can start from.

In order to catch up the objective, all the participating Regions will organise initiatives that will involve the local authorities, the public concerns and other subjects, with the above purposes. The complete programme provides for a course started 10th May 2000, in Bologna, with the topic " A re-use of sewage in agriculture". It has therefore followed a day in Trieste on the topic of the "City environment integrated management: waste, sewage and soils". On the 29th and 30th June, in Venice, a convention on the topic "The cycle of sewage in city

environment management", has constituted the international workshop organised by Italy. They have taken part in it, beyond the Italian partners, representatives of the cities adhering to the network at Community level.

The initiatives programmed by the other Italian Regions and at European level are brought back in the following general calendar of the activities.

Date	Workshop Topic	Responsible partner	Implementing actor	Typology
08-nov-99	Solid waste treatment, Energy saving, Renewable energy systems	Austria	Comune di Vienna	Transnational
10-may-00	Riuso acque reflue urbane in agricoltura	Emilia Romagna	ARPA Emilia Romagna	National
30-may-00	Gestione integrata dell'ambiente urbano: rifiuti, acque e suolo	Friuli Venezia Giulia	Consorzio per l'Area di Ricerca	National
29-jun-00	Gestione integrata dei sistemi di smaltimento delle acque reflue	Comune di Venezia	Comune di Venezia	Transnational
26-oct-00	Tecnologie, informazioni e infrastrutture per le aree urbane e la sicurezza	Puglia	Tecnopolis	National
<i>To be defined</i>	Water pollution monitoring	Marche	Regione Marche	National
16-nov-00	Cultural heritage, Urban renovation	Grecia	Comune di Xanthi	Transnational
<i>To be defined</i>	Basi topografiche numeriche in ambiente GIS per la realizzazione e la gestione delle reti urbane	Molise	Regione Molise	National
01-dec-00	<i>To be defined</i>	Abruzzo	Parco Scientifico	National
spring-01	<i>To be defined</i>	Ucraina (Odessa)	<i>To be defined</i>	Transnational
01-may-01	Simposio Internazionale	Austria	Comune di Vienna	Transnational

Conclusions

Veneto Innovazione is developing the Italian web site of the project whose domain (utn.it) has already been registered. The site is in the testing phase and it will be available on-line within the end of 2000. Of course it will be connected to the Austrian one, already on-line at the address <http://www.utn.at>.

The site will be one of the instruments through which the point of national contact, represented by Veneto Innovation, will make the flow of information standard among the participating subjects and it will spread the results by other subjects interested in the themes developed in the project. Moreover, more actions of animation of the network are going to be activated in order to involve the Italian partners in the activities organised at international level and to introduce to a wider public the activities realised.

This is the general framework within which the national days of work are placed. The topic of Bari "Technologies, information and infrastructures for the city areas and the security", is certainly a wide topic and of great interest for its implications of social nature. We consider therefore useful the programming, like for the other national initiatives, of the day's interventions collection publication that will be therefore put at disposal of all the interested people, both by the paper and the including of the publication in the Web site of the project.

We want therefore to thank people who have allowed the realization of this day: the Region Puglia and the Commune of Bari for their support to the initiative, Tecnopolis CSATA Novus Ortus that through its structure has organised the workshop, the reporters who have given concreteness to the contents of this workshop and all people who took part with their active participation.

The objective of the project is to generate new opportunities of collaboration among the subjects that, for various reasons, join the initiative: we wish that also this day could be a useful instrument, a first step able to provoke the interest of the ones who have participated, or that will receive or independently will take possession of the deeds, persuading them to put in contact with the referents of the project to give their contribution to the attainment of the UTN objectives.

We provide some useful references, as follows:

Project Management

Transnational & Austria	Greece	Italy
Regional Consulting ZT GmbH www.regcon.co.at A-1050 Vienna Schlossgasse 11 Tel.: (+43 1) 5440780 Fax: (+43 1) 5484956 rc@regcon.co.at Mr. Gerald STOEGER utn@regcon.co.at	STRATHESS – Hellenic Association for Strategic Studies and Actions of Thessaloniki GR-546 21 Thessaloniki 128, Tsimiski Str. Tel.: (+30 31) 224524 Fax: (+30 31) 273772 ymath@the.forthnet.gr Mr. Stamatis TSIAKIRIS ymath@the.forthnet.gr	Veneto Innovazione www.venetinnova.it I-30175 Marghera-Venezia Via della Libertà 5-12 Tel.: (+39 041) 2583237 Fax: (+39 041) 2583290 info@venetinnova.it Mr. Ivan BOESSO boesso@vegapark.ve.it

Project Co-ordination

Transnational & Austria	Greece	Italy
Municipality of Vienna, Chief Executive Office for EU-Funding http://www.magwien.gv.at/ A-1082 Vienna Schlesingerplatz 2 Tel.: (+43 1) 400082582 Fax: (+43 1) 40009982589 Post@meu.magwien.gv.at Mr. Walther STOECKL sto@meu.magwien.gv.at	Ministry of National Economy, Dept. Community Initiatives General Directorate for Regional Policies and Development http://www.mne.gr/ GR-10180 Athens Syntagmatos Sqr. Tel.: (+30 1) 3332446 Fax: (+30 1) 3332367 integr@otenet.gr Ms. Miranda COSTARA integr@otenet.gr	Regione del Veneto Unità di Progetto Programmi Integrati Comunitari http://www.regione.veneto.it/ I-30121 Venezia Cannaregio n 2278 Tel.: (+39 041) 2793296 Fax: (+39 041) 2793293 up.pic@mail.regione.veneto.it Ms. Flavia ZUCCON up.pic@mail.regione.veneto.it