

CONTENT

- > Recent Events
 - Project meetings
 - CircUse at "Soil in the City"
- > In the Spotlight
 - CircUse data land management tool
- > Upcoming Events



Recent events

Vienna (Austria)

CircUse data land management tool installation course

December 1-2, 2011

Workshop

A data tool for land use management was developed in the CircUse project. Within the frame of a two day training and installation course all responsible project partner got knowledge regarding the installation, use and implementation of the new data land management tool.



Figure 1: Installation of data land management tool

Baernbach (Austria)

CircUse best practice workshop and project management group meeting

February 16-17, 2012

Data land management tool

The CircUse core output – the transnational data land management tool - was readdressed. The upcoming challenges and next steps (e.g. language) of the new data management tool in the pilot areas were discussed.

Land management agencies

Two different concepts of land management agencies in the pilot regions City of Piekary (Poland) and the Region of Voitsberg (Austria) were presented. Both approaches to the land management agencies were discussed by participants – pros and cons were identified.

Action plans

Action plans in the six CircUse pilot regions were shown. All presented action plans in the regions were discussed by the participants and proposals for modifications were identified.



Figure 2: Participants of the Baernbach meeting

Stuttgart (Germany)

Central Europe projects Urban SMS conference "Soil in the City"

February 8, 2012

CircUse at "Soil in the City"

The CE-funded project Urban SMS focused on the implementation of soil management strategies. The project results were presented at the conference "Soil in the City".

CircUse was present at the conference with two posters, newsletters, flyers and other project information. Participants of the conference also had the possibility to discuss CircUse activities with representatives.



Figure 3: Discussion about CircUse at "Soil in the City" in Stuttgart

To spotlight

CircUse Data Land Management Tool

Sheets of a CircUse data land management tool



Figure 4: Starting screen of data land management tool

Fieldwork record sheet - Land use management	
CHARACTERISTICS	Editor:
Ident Number: _____	Area designation: _____
Date of registration: _____	Locality: _____
Numb. of digital photos: _____	Street, Nr.: _____
Area mapped: <input type="checkbox"/> yes	Type of area:
<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> Brownfield
Ownership: <input type="checkbox"/> privat	<input type="checkbox"/> Greenfield
<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> underused land
	<input type="checkbox"/> Gaps (build up area)
USAGE	
Previous Use: <input type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural/Social
<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Mining
<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Military
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Not any
Comment Previous Use: _____	
Residual / temporary use: <input type="checkbox"/> yes	Description: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> no	
BUILDING	
Building stock: <input type="checkbox"/> yes	Description: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> no	
Situation Summary: <input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruinous
<input type="checkbox"/> mean	<input type="checkbox"/> unclear
INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION (road, rail, ...)	
Infrastructure provision available: <input type="checkbox"/> yes	Description: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> no	
degree of development: <input type="checkbox"/> sufficient	<input type="checkbox"/> insufficient
<input type="checkbox"/> unclear	
SEALING	
Degree of sealing of the area: <input type="checkbox"/> high to very high (67 - 100%)	
<input type="checkbox"/> middle (33 - 66%)	
<input type="checkbox"/> low (< 33%)	
<input type="checkbox"/> unsealed (0%)	
Sealing material: <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-binding Gravel
<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/> Railway track
<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete pavement	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Natural stone pavement	
Description: _____	
TERRAIN PROFILE	
Natural terrain profile: <input type="checkbox"/> Plane (< 5% - 5 m per 100 m)	<input type="checkbox"/> Terraced
<input type="checkbox"/> Sloping (>= 5%)	<input type="checkbox"/> Uneven
Artificial terrain profile (land fill, exploitation, etc.): <input type="checkbox"/> yes	
	<input type="checkbox"/> no

Figure 5: Field record sheet

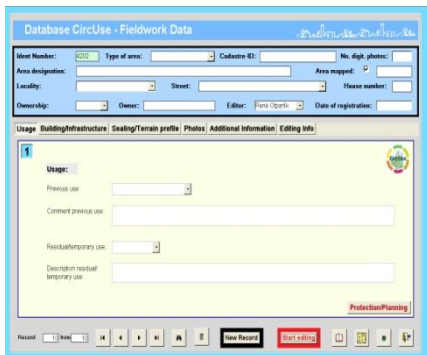


Figure 6: Screen of Database - Fieldwork Data

Introduction

A CircUse data land management tool is necessary to get resilient information about urban development potentials and to work against the increase of land consumption for settlements and transport infrastructure. Based on local data search and collection in the CircUse project the tool was developed and is now available in all partner languages (see figure 4). With this tool it is possible to detect development potentials so that local and regional authorities get available information about existing urban development potentials.

Targets

Based on the common parameters of the fieldwork record sheet (see figure 5), the database was developed as a "Land use management data and monitoring system". It provides a structured repository for all collected fieldwork-data. The main output is a flexible interregional land management tool for the classification of types of area, data collections and management of GIS. The CircUse data land management tool is an information and planning system for local authorities to coordinate and reduce land consumption in a sustainable and climate friendly way.

Basics of the CircUse data land management tool

The basis for the database is a good and accurate handling with fieldwork data. Therefore the common "field record sheet" was developed.

In this sheet, the principle categorisation and types (Terms of Reference – ToRs) defined at the beginning of the project in

- ▶ green fields with development perspectives,
- ▶ vacant and underused land,
- ▶ gaps in built-up areas and
- ▶ brownfields,

are integrated.

To make the data collection and later work with the planning data easier, the four types can be subdivided according to their former use into:

- ▶ industrial,
- ▶ military,
- ▶ commercial and former investments,
- ▶ infrastructure and traffic,
- ▶ housing,
- ▶ cultural and social,
- ▶ agricultural and
- ▶ others.

Description of tool – field record

In the beginning the field record sheet can be used as an EXCEL sheet or directly by using a laptop to collect viewable data in the field. The main focus is to get information about building and sealing degree, terrain profile and a first impression about the former or residual use. Categorisation is based on former use, which has been defined by all project partners in the so called ToRs (see above or www.circuse.eu). With the field record it is possible

- ▶ to assign defined sites and areas the editor has determined,
- ▶ to record in-between of this areas key aspects and concrete determined sites based on planning data.

To spotlight

CircUse Data Land Management Tool (continued)

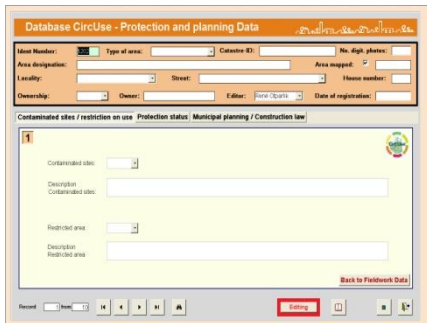


Figure 7: Screen Database – Protection and planning Data



Figure 8: Presentation of data land management tool by Mr. Scherer



Figure 9: Polish project partners install the data land management tool

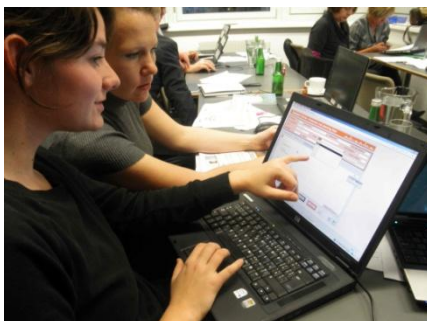


Figure 10: Czech project partners install the data land management tool

In the record tool the editor documents previously unknown sites which are recognised during the field work. To get an impression, photos are also useful and can be saved also in the system.

Description of the tool – data management

The database is based on MS ACCESS 2007 in which the field work data can be imported and stored (see figure 6). Because of this, the structure of the tool is similar to the field record sheet. In addition to photos, coordinates and documents in relation to the site can be stored.

After integrating and validating the field data in the tool, other additional data for protection and planning (see figure 7) can be added. A combination with digital data is possible (e.g. land utilization plan, protected areas, contaminated sites database).

Municipalities and other stakeholders can collect necessary information about urban and inner city potentials by using the tool.

The tool will be installed and tested in all CircUse partner regions. It can be downloaded for free on the CircUse webpage.

The tool and the manual are some of the core outputs of the CircUse project. The manual helps with installation and use while explaining the methodology of circular flow land use management.

Outlook

The tool has been developed to be as simple as possible, but with all necessary information for promotion and coordination of the inner development potentials of urbanized areas. Data collection and data interaction is possible, and there are easy to use search functions (e.g. sites can be found easily by investors). The tool could become part of a national or European strategy to reduce land consumption based on local information.

Publications

1. Terms of Reference (ToRs)
2. CircUse Data Land management tool

See downloads:

www.circuse.eu

Contact

René Otparlik, Bernd Siemer and Nicole Schäfer
LfULG Sachsen (Germany)

Email:

Rene.Otparlik@smul.sachsen.de
Bernd.Siemer@smul.sachsen.de
Nicole.Schaefer@smul.sachsen.de

To spotlight

CircUse Teaching Materials for Schools Available



Figure 11: Student engage in the course program in Koeflach (Austria)



Figure 12: Team working together to complete tasks



Figure 13: Austrian students gather together after the course session

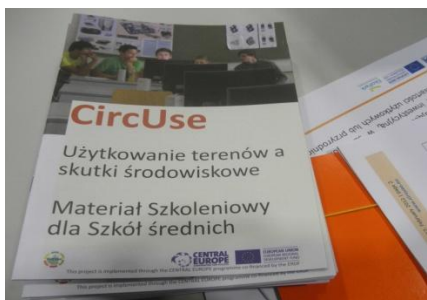


Figure 14: CircUse brochures on teaching materials for schools in six languages were produced

Brochures in six languages

CircUse now has a school teaching materials, organized in the form of a brochure, available in six different languages. School materials can be used in the learning environment to raise awareness among tomorrow's land users. These were created so that all EU-member states can implement the session. The brochure describe how to create a two day course designed for students aged 14 and up to explore the issue of land use management through a combination of homework, classroom discussions and outdoor excursions.

Development and aims

The brochure is based upon two training sessions held on the 28-29th of April and the 17th of June 2012 in Koeflach (Austria). The key aspects of personal land consumption, mobility issues in relation to land use, and sealed surfaces are addressed in the course. The setup is aimed at making the pupils more aware of the value of soil and unused land while at the same time promoting circular flow land use management as a viable goal.

Structure of the course

The school course is split into four phases, where in the first phase students are asked to imagine their dream house. Based upon these visions the land use required was calculated to show the students the impact their dream homes would have on the land.

In the second phase of the course the students compare the houses typical for the time of their parents and grandparents. With this information the students can compare them to today's standards. This is completed through assigning the students home work to gather information from their families.

Thirdly, the issue of transportation is dealt with by the students. The daily routes the students travel are to be mapped and then the CO₂ emission calculated based upon this distance. This raises awareness of greenhouse gas emissions that occur from disperse land uses. The course's final section is comprised as an excursion to analyse the amount of sealed surfaces. After the excursion the students are asked what impact this has on the environment.

In the two day session, students are to be made aware as to the importance of efficient land use management.

Availability

The school brochures are available in English, German, Polish, Italian, Slovak and Czech. The brochure can be found on the CircUse webpage under "project results", please see: www.circuse.eu

Contact

Barbara Birli and Gundula Prokop
Environmental Agency (Austria)
E-Mail: barbara.birli@umweltbundesamt.at
gundula.prokop@umweltbundesamt.at

Upcoming events

Pre-announcement CABERNET

CABERNET conference 2012 and the 3rd International Conference on Managing Urban Land in Ustron (Poland)

October 2-4, 2012

The main conference theme is "Innovative Solutions towards Circular Land Use" and combines aspects of urban land management and degraded land revitalisation. A session for Circular Flow Land Use Management (CircUse) will be held on the first day.

Abstracts are to be submitted by the 16th of April, 2012. Please refer to the abstract requirements on the CircUse webpage (www.circuse.eu). Abstracts are to be sent by email to a.pilch@ietu.katowice.pl

VI CircUse meeting

Sixth CircUse meeting of the project management group and workshops in the Cities of Asti and Turin (Italy)

June 20-22, 2012

Issues which are in the focus of this meeting and workshop are the further development of CircUse compendium, the use of the data management tool and the action plans in the pilot regions (Asti, Usti, Piekary, Trnava, Baernbach and in Middle Saxony).

ELSA annual meeting

11. International annual meeting of the European Land and Soil Alliance (ELSA) in St. Pölten (Austria) and Sáhorská Ves (Slovakia)

May 31– June 01, 2012

Name of the meeting is "Boden zum Begreifen – Bodenschutznetzwerk im Donauraum". For more information please see the ELSA webpage: <http://www.bodenbuendnis.org>

CircUse in a nutshell

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www.circuse.eu

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Institute for Ecology of Industrial Areas (IETU)
Kossutha 6 St.
40-844 Katowice/Poland

Dr. Anna Starzewska-Sikorska
Tel. (+4832) 2546031 ext. 275
Fax (+4832) 2541717

Project Lead:



Institute for Ecology of Industrial Areas/Poland
www.ietu.katowice.pl

Project Partners:

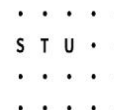


Asti's Municipality



telepark

Telepark Baernbach Corporation Ltd.



Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, SPECTRA Centre of Excellence



City of Trnava



Istituto Superiore sui Sistemi Territoriali per l'Innovazione

Higher Institute on Territorial Systems for Innovation



Environment Agency Austria Ltd.



Institute for sustainable development of settlements



City of Piekary Śląskie



Saxon State Office for the Environment Agriculture and Geology



The Usti Region



German Institute of Urban Affairs