

Project work plan

The presence of brownfield sites in central locations is a characteristic feature of the urban environment in almost all EU Member and Accession States, offering numerous linkages to the topic of urban regeneration and development. The industrialisation process in many countries of the European Community progressed in parallel with the growth of the coal mining and steel industry. With the decline of these core activities in the past 20 years, a structural economic change has taken place in most Member States. However, the heritage of the prosperous phase of industrial activities is an integral part of any city's structure. Former steel, gas or coal products processing sites are often left derelict. Large groups of buildings and former processing plants may need dismantling. In some cases however, these buildings have documented local industrial history and may be worth conserving. In brownfield redevelopment, communities are faced with significant obstacles in delivering progressive and sustainable strategies for spatial planning and environmentally sound urbanisation. Due to the extensive site preparation requirements and the significant environmental impacts that can arise from these sites, the application of average urban development scenarios and the use of integrated planning tools in brownfields has not been promising. From today's perspective, this land was used in an environmentally inadequate manner during its production phase. Consequently, soil and groundwater contamination is a common redevelopment obstacle hindering future commercial activities on such sites. The development of brownfield sites often requires soil and groundwater clean up measures as well as dismantling and demolition of buildings and structures.

At the same time, former industrial areas are often located in the economic centres of cities (as well as countries), providing an excellent basis for the necessary infrastructure of road and utility connections, public transportation network and a highly skilled workforce. EU wide, there are regions that suffer severely from the presence of derelict land through both environmental damage and adverse economic effects for the region. The closure of core industries' production sites has resulted in a loss of jobs. The loss of jobs and the decrease of industrial activities also significantly affects the tax income of the local and regional municipalities. Being restricted financially, these municipalities are often unable to revitalise brownfields and thereby city centres and neighbourhoods. Revitalisation of brownfields can, however, contribute significantly to the economic and ecological health of a community. It can attract new investors and thereby create new jobs. Tax income from new workers and new industries can increase and facilitate initiatives of the community to preserve and enhance the urban environment. Brownfield redevelopment in this sense can be one of the most important tools in many regions of the Community for providing the basis for environmental improvement and economic prosperity. It has the potential to improve the quality of urban life and improve the use of land resources. Cities and urban areas can be made more dynamic and innovative, attracting new businesses, creating and consolidating employment. Therefore, if carried out in an optimised and holistic manner, brownfield redevelopment is a major tool for sustainable and environmentally sound urban planning.

Methodology

The process of brownfield re-development as an essential component of sustainable urban regeneration is an exceedingly complex matter. It encompasses topics relating to the projects themselves (technical preparation of the site, urban design on the site, management of the process), issues related to the overall context of urban development and planning with its socio-economic implications, and finally to the projects' implications onto sustainability. In order to cope with this complexity, RESCUE is structured along the lines of the different issues arising during the life cycle of brownfield projects.

The principal methodological approach of RESCUE is to analyse and evaluate current practice in brownfield re-development and to derive improvements for the applied procedures. Based on practice

in industrial core regions in France (Nord-Pas de Calais), United Kingdom (North East Region), Poland (Silesia) and Germany (Ruhr Region, South of Leipzig), the regeneration process will be broken down into the main steps of decision making and analysed along transnational work packages. By means of this, the thematic topics relevant for brownfield re-development are tackled in a four step approach:

- Analysis and critical review of the current project practice in the participating countries;
- Evaluation of approaches and cross check with the principles of sustainability;
- Identification of strengths, weaknesses and gaps;
- Derivation of tools towards more sustainability in brownfield projects: development of best practice approaches.

The prerequisite for this four step analysis is a measurable yardstick building the bridge between the concept of sustainability in general on the one hand and brownfield regeneration on the other:

- What does sustainability mean for brownfield re-development?
- What is required by brownfield projects to be sustainable?
- Under which conditions can brownfield projects be labelled “sustainable”?

Previously, the essential yardstick to assess the recycling of derelict land in terms of sustainability has not existed. RESCUE will develop indicators and criteria for sustainable land regeneration, thereby vitalising the term sustainability and developing a benchmark for sustainable brownfield redevelopment.

The analysis will be done based on eight pilot projects provided by the participating countries. Each of the countries participating in RESCUE will provide two projects that are typical for the process in their country. The breadth of this approach is desired to ensure an almost complete representation of the different approaches for the redevelopment process. It is also desired to provide a wide range of relevant decision factors that may lead to the success and/or to the failure of the project. The analytical framework is illustrated below:

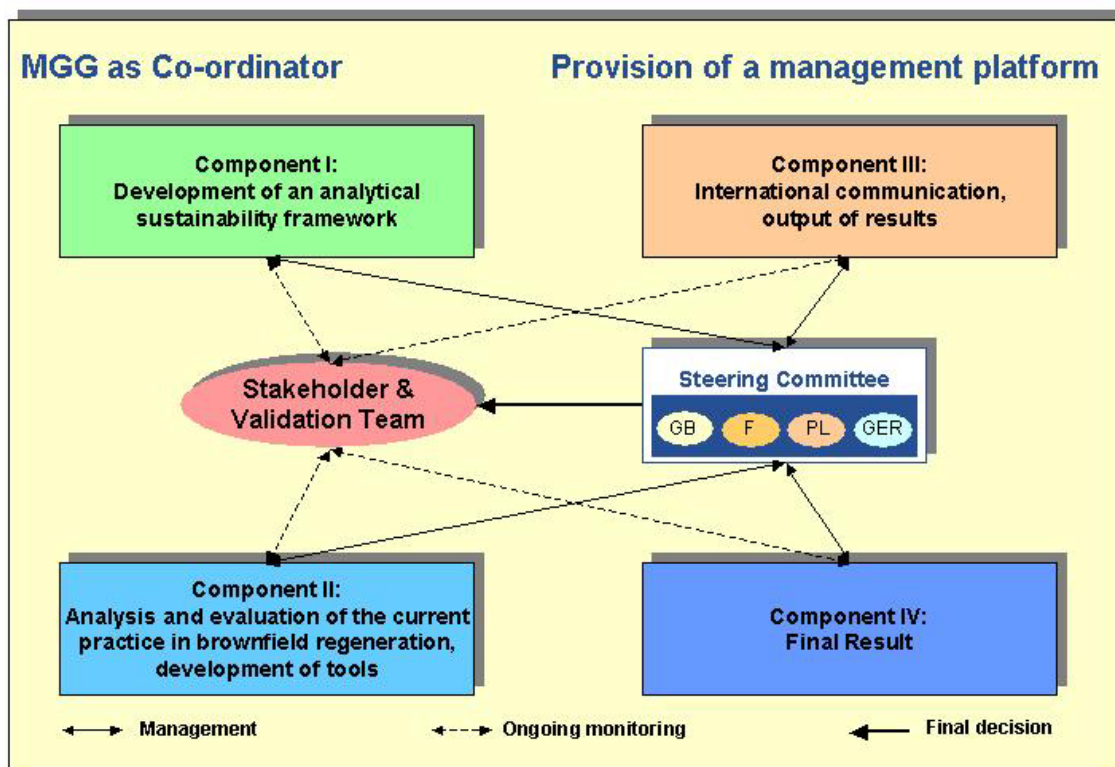


Structure of the workplan

Following this conceptual outline, RESCUE consists of four main components:

- Component I: Development of an analytical sustainability framework
- Component II: Analysis and evaluation of the current practice in brownfield regeneration, development of tools
- Component III: International communication / output and dissemination of results
- Component IV: Final results, Manual of a European system approach of sustainable brownfield regeneration

Each of the components consists of specific research work packages (please see the interconnection diagram). The relation of the single components to each other and their integration into the overall project management is illustrated below:



In recognition of the complexity of brownfield regeneration issues, the work packages will be internationally processed by multidisciplinary expert teams integrating all stakeholders and end-users. Partners are:

1. Montan-Grundstücksgesellschaft mbH (MGG), Germany
2. Federal Environmental Agency, (Umweltbundesamt), (UBA), Germany
3. Ruhr Universität Bochum (RUB), Zentrum für interdisziplinäre Ruhrgebietsforschung (ZEFIR), Germany
4. exSite Limited, United Kingdom
5. The University of Nottingham; School of Chemical Environmental and Mining Engineering, Land Quality Management, United Kingdom
6. University of Wales in Cardiff, Geoenvironmental Research Centre (GRC), United Kingdom
7. Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières (BRGM), France
8. Mission Bassin Minier Nord-Pas de Calais, France
9. Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille (USTL), France
10. Central Mining Institute (GIG), Poland
11. City of Bytom (CoB), Poland
12. City of Sosnowiec (CoS), Poland

13. Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), France
14. Projektgruppe Stadt und Entwicklung (Stadt+), Germany

These include regulators, developers, planners, architects, engineers, academics and environmentalists. Moreover, the research teams are constituted to represent different levels of interest in the regeneration process. Each of the partners has specific experience in the realisation of brownfield redevelopment projects and fundamental experience of the forces influencing the process (drivers and pressures). The partners provide a complete appreciation of the issues across Europe. By focussing on problem-related topics that highlight the need for decision making processes, each work package is targeted at solution-orientated results. Through interdisciplinary working within each work package, views and interests from the perspectives of all stakeholders will be established, communicated and integrated. Furthermore, the progress within all components will be monitored and advised by the Stakeholder & Validation Team (work package 8) and the Steering Committee.

An essential element that extends to all four components will be the management of the project by MGG (work package 0). Effective project management will be vital for the success of RESCUE, particularly at the beginning of the project when the overall aims, the detailed organisation structure and the allocation of responsibilities have to be set. In addition, a smooth co-ordination and flow of information during the whole duration of the project will be a prerequisite for the quality of the results achieved in the work packages 1 - 10.

Component I: Development of an analytical sustainability framework

Component I will provide the essential analytical background for the evaluation of current brownfield redevelopment and decision making practice in Component II. **Work package 1** will develop the general yardstick to benchmark the success of brownfield redevelopment in terms of sustainability. This includes a precise definition of the term „sustainability” in the context of brownfield regeneration. The work package on sustainability criteria will work towards this objective on the basis of existing international approaches towards such definitions. Several institutions are carrying out research on what constitutes sustainable development. Until RESCUE, there has been little or no research on what constitutes sustainable brownfield regeneration.

In addition to this task, wp1 will establish the political, legal, social and economic framework of the participating countries/regions to provide a comparative context for selected project case studies. Building on this background, wp1 will also co-operate closely with the Stakeholder & Validation Team (representing the end-users’ interests) to define criteria for the selection of the projects. The projects will encompass as many of the aspects to be analysed in RESCUE as possible and will form the basis for the development of best practice tools. This work package will be led by a partner who has fundamental experience in the conduct and co-ordination of interdisciplinary projects. The lead partner is involved in many studies of social science in the context of brownfield redevelopment and sustainability and is a knowledgeable source of consultation by politicians, administration and industry. The lead partner, RUB will work in close co-operation with the partners from the other participating countries in order to make the framework for sustainability compatible on a European scale. The partner from Canada will provide specific contributions on this world-wide issue from an overseas perspective.

Component II: Analysis and evaluation of the current practice in brownfield regeneration, development of tools

This component of work will be a thorough international analysis and evaluation of current practice in brownfield re-development, leading to the development of tools for the enhancement of sustainability related to the applied methods and technologies. The analytical structure follows the essential steps of regeneration projects with decision making needs and impacting on the overall sustainability of

projects. The research undertaken will be structured along engineering work packages 2 and 3, planning work packages 4 and 5 and work package 6 on management and integrated methodological approaches. The work packages within this component relate to each other in the shape of a triangle (see interconnection diagram). They will work on the same time scale, adjusted by the Steering Committee and the Stakeholder & Validation Team relative to the principal requirements of work package 1. Special attention will be given to a close and smooth co-ordination of the individual work packages since they all influence the success of the whole process. The basic research work follows the principles of sustainability related to each step of the redevelopment process. A range of eight brownfield redevelopment projects will be evaluated, two from each of the participating countries Poland, United Kingdom, France and Germany (East/West).

Engineering work packages 2 and 3

Work packages 2 and 3 encompass all technical aspects to be dealt with within the redevelopment process. **Work package 2** is concerned with the essential tools for the management of contamination and the reuse of soil and debris. **Work package 3** deals with the management of existing buildings and infrastructures. Both aspects significantly influence the process of site redevelopment. If handled badly, these aspects can generate high cost expectations and, in many cases, abandonment of a project before it starts. However, there are some specific examples documenting intelligent approaches to integrating technical requirements into urban planning schemes. In such cases the engineer's point of view needs to be blended with the planner's vision, to provide guidance for land use, contaminated soil treatment and reuse buildings and infrastructures maintenance and restoration. Nowhere in Europe, is there any guidance available that can inform the community of engineers and planners as a working tool. Through this international analysis and research, co-operation synergies across borders will develop and allow the development of specific technical guidelines to be used for brownfield redevelopment. The research work in work packages 2 and 3 will be carried out by an international team of practitioners, including developers, consultants and regulators, i.e. mainly end users and no pure scientific work. By these means, cost effectiveness will be assured.

Work package 2 will deliver technical Guidance on the sustainable management of contamination and reuse of soil and debris. It will also provide administrative tools to promote the reuse of soil and construction related waste through the use of tax incentives, funding or other fiscal measures. This work package will be led by an institution having many years of experience in research and consulting in the field of geology, groundwater and management of mineral resources. The lead partner BRGM will work in co-operation with regulators and partners from the consulting and developing sectors.

Work package 3 will deliver guidance on sustainable management options for existing buildings and infrastructures as well as options for incentives to promote the maintenance of heritage buildings. The lead of this work package will be conducted by the Central Mining Institute (CMI) who, due to his practical work in Poland is especially experienced to cope with redevelopment projects that have an above average degree of existing buildings and infrastructures. The lead partner CMI will closely co-operate with partners that are experienced in project management, site development, citizen communication and technical and ecological site assessment and site remediation issues.

Planning work packages 4 + 5

These work packages deal with all planning related issues related to brownfield re-development. The topics addressed are interconnected with technical aspects of brownfield re-development in the way that they all need to be integrated into suitable schemes for certain sites. It may be asked whether technical aspects should be the basis for planning aspects or vice-versa. However, this is an obsolete question as both aspects must be integrated to produce sustainable regeneration projects. The planning aspects of brownfield projects are addressed by means of **work package 4** tackling the issues "What should be planned to be sustainable?" and "How should it be planned?".

Complementary, **work package 5** is related to the process addressing the question “How can social requirements be considered to meet the principles of sustainability?”.

Following this structure, **work package 4** deals with sustainable land use planning (both in an urban and site specific context), and sustainable urban design on brownfield sites. Apart from technical constraints which are dealt with in the engineering work packages 2 and 3, the logical starting point for the re-development of derelict sites is to decide which kind of use is appropriate for a given site in terms of sustainability and integration into its neighbourhood and the urban and regional context. Therefore this work package analyses the social, economic and environmental effects of different use options for a given urban context to provide guidance for assessing different use options. It is, essentially, a Masterplanning exercise:

- Contribution to the provision of jobs?
- Implementation into the social context?
- Improvement to the quality of the urban environment.
- Contribution to energy and water saving strategies
- Urban density and the necessary amount of green space
- Use of rain water
- Integration of cultural heritage aspects into the process

This work package will be lead by GPE and Stadt+ who draws on long years practical experience in elaborating use and urban design concepts for brownfield sites. The lead partner will work in close co-operation with partners from all the other participating countries which represent different stakeholder interests, e.g. intermediate development agencies, universities and local authorities.

Work package 5 analyses the processes and decision making structures in terms of spatial planning, again both on an urban and site specific scale. To achieve sustainability, a socially balanced planning process that offers participation opportunities for all interested parties is a pre-requisite especially for brownfield projects which are often located in socially sensitive areas (unemployment, quality of life, ecological problems). Work package 5 therefore deals with the current practice of citizen participation as an essential element of sustainable urban regeneration. New forms of citizen participation cannot replace representative democracy, but they are essential for a holistic approach of the regeneration of urban brownfields. Traditional conceptions of urban planning and public decision-making, usually restricting participation to a limited and formal step or to mere information/consultation, show their limits: public authorities are often unable to incorporate citizens into projects, and stir up initiatives. Indeed, decision-making is ‘tacked’ on citizens who, in the past, were used as productive tools for generations, and are now faced with unemployment, precariousness, health problems and the end of a whole social system. The work package in this context deals with questions like “Did the projects cater for citizen participation at all?” “How did they do this?” “Did the applied procedures and methodologies manage to facilitate social integration of the projects into their urban context?” Wp5 will be lead by the Mission du Bassin Minier, a partner that offers specific know-how and experience in linking the issue of citizen participation to the elaboration of development strategies for an industrial region. The lead partner will work in close co-operation with partners offering academic and consulting services and with regulators.

Management work package 6

Linking technical and planning aspects, **work package 6** deals with the specific skills which are necessary to manage complex brownfield projects in terms of sustainability. The management of brownfield projects has the difficult task of integrating the often contradictory aims and interests of the different stakeholders and scientific disciplines associated with the re-development of derelict sites to complete projects within the time and cost schedule. This work package will be lead by the BRGM an institution that has long years of practical experience in dealing with large re-development projects. It will co-operate with partners who include specific environmentalist and regulating perspectives to this work package.

Component III: International communication/dissemination of results

This part of the project is the major element to allow communication of the intermediate results and the progress of the project with those parties that are not directly involved in the conduction of work, although potential users of the results. Principally, this component aims at meeting the requirements of end users by means of involving them in the project execution process. The means to achieve this objective are

- development of a virtual training centre (work package 7)
- establishment of a stakeholder and validation team (work package 8)
- structured dissemination of the findings of the project (work package 9)

By means of these work packages, an important step towards quality assurance and control will be made and the results are likely to be accepted by a wide range of potential end-users.

Virtual Training Centre (VTC)

The principal aim of the work package is to deliver a web based training package that will enable anyone to understand the main conclusions and lessons to emerge from the project.

Inputs will come from WP1, case studies collected in other WPs and all conclusions, lessons learnt and good practice pointers from other WPs.

The VTC will provide web based training resources for:

- self teaching and
- for use in face-to-face training.

The VTC will be publicised through a series of Journal and conference papers and presentations. Publications commonly accessed by a range of stakeholders will be targeted for inclusion of editorial. It will also be promoted through various gateway web sites and registered with popular web search engines.

The VTC is the first step on the way to an international agreement and validation of the results. The centre will serve as an open, Internet based repository of the project documents and interim reports. All deliverables of the work packages indicated with an "open dissemination level" will be accessible on the web site hosting the VTC. It will further serve as an interactive tool offering advice and networking opportunities for stakeholders engaged in brownfield redevelopment.

The VTC will also include open discussion fora ('listservs') on specific subjects respectively on interim findings of the research project. Once a tool has been developed, a discussion forum will be established asking for comments. By means of this the maximum inclusion of all parties involved in brownfield redevelopment will be achieved. The archives of the discussions will allow anyone to follow the thread of a given topic of discussion at any time.

The training material will consist of:

- Stand alone readers - text explaining specific topics
- Illustrated 'powerpoint' type presentations
- Video and audio clips to illustrate specific points from the case studies
- VR scenarios to illustrate key points or to provide testing environments
- Self teaching aids - such as quizzes, questions, and problems
- Suggestions for keeping up to date in this rapidly changing field
- Topic specific listservs (email lists that will support exchange of information and advice)
- Up to date pointers to key information: web sites, conferences, journals, books etc

Access during the funded period of the project and for 12 months afterwards will be free, however users will need to register their details before being allowed access to parts of the site. Thereafter access to parts of the web site will be on a fee paying basis in order to provide resources for the ongoing maintenance and updating of the materials.

Registration will allow us to ascertain who is accessing the site. We will regularly poll subscribers to the listserv to determine user satisfaction and to inform future development and evolution of the site.

Individual academic partners will be encouraged to adopt the site within their existing or future teaching packages.

Stakeholder and Validation team

The main objective of the Stakeholder and Validation team within **work package 8** is to bridge the gap to countries and stakeholder groups that are not actively involved in the research work. The stakeholder and validation team is an important element to ensure that RESCUE will be researching along the substantial requirements of potential end users. It will include representatives from all stakeholder groups. Regulators, financiers, investors, developers, consultants and service providers who are not member of the consortium and who do not necessarily come from one of the participating countries will be established as a specific project component. The role of the Stakeholder and Validation team is to monitor and review the work and the progress of work of all other project components. In liaison with the steering committee the team will monitor the progress of the project, verify the usefulness of the deliverables and recommend future project activities – also regarding possible reorientation according to the requirements of potential end users. In this general context the stakeholder and validation team is a major element of external quality control of RESCUE.

According to the preliminary meeting schedule, the members of the team will meet at least 3 times with the steering committee. Since the meetings of the steering committee will take place at the same time and venue as technical working group meetings the members of the team will also have the opportunity to interact directly and personally with the technical working groups. This will stimulate direct discussion between the validation team and the technical working groups.

The stakeholder and validation team will be led by the Federal Environmental Agency, Germany (UBA) and will be set up with a maximum of 8 members just after commencing RESCUE. UBA will prepare a specific guidance for the work of the team and acquire potential members to fulfil this task.

The guidance for work will at least comprise:

- procedure to identify potential weaknesses from an end users viewpoint
- guidance for information exchange between the stakeholder and validation team and the technical working groups
- guidance and structures for decision making within the team
- guidance for reviewing and validating the deliverables
- Criteria for the identification and approval of additional investigation regarding validation.

For the composition of the stakeholder and validation team it is suggested to involve particularly experts who are participating at the Concerted Action CABERNET which will start in December 2001. UBA is one of the co-ordinators of this Concerted Action on Brownfield and Economic Regeneration Network. This network has a unique mix of countries and stakeholders, including a full range of end-users from policy makers and industry to technologists and community groups. It provides substantial expertise to be used by RESCUE for validation purposes. The nominees who stated their interest to participate in the stakeholder and validation team (see RESCUE proposal) are members of CABERNET.

In order to enable more detailed validation work on specific tools a certain amount of the budget is reserved for subcontracting. This budget will be made available if the team concludes on the necessity for additional investigation in a practical context.

Typical examples for validation tasks to be conducted by subcontracts are:

- Practical trials of decision support tools
- Practical trials of decision support tools for specific stakeholder groups
- Feasibility checks on options/restrictions concerning the implementation of developed tools into national frameworks
- Modification and adoption of developed checklists and performance criteria to be compatible to the legal and planning systems across the European Union

Dissemination

The third step in terms of communicating the progress and the results of RESCUE will be with **work package 9** on dissemination. The main objective for the installation of this work package is to delegate responsibilities within the project on this issue. The lead partner responsible for dissemination is in charge for continuous communication with all parties and media which are potential targets for the dissemination of the results and the progress of RESCUE. Within this work package liaison to other relevant networks that are involved in the brownfield redevelopment issue will also be networked. The lead partner is experienced in citizen communication and provides a profound knowledge on how to transport messages and to communicate with the media. He will have the main responsibility for the organisation of project workshops (see below). The other partners in this work package are obliged to write regular newsletters and respond to call for papers by the organisers of conferences and other workshops. In order to facilitate international availability of the results and support dissemination, all deliverables of the individual work packages that are meant to be „public,“ will be put onto the RESCUE-homepage in the internet as part of the dissemination work package.

RESCUE Workshops

There are three workshops foreseen within the scope of this project.

1. Workshop on sustainability and brownfield redevelopment (Month 17)
 - General presentation of the project, objectives and targets
 - presentation of sustainability criteria and indicators
 - presentation of pilot projects and strategy for investigation
2. Workshop on tools for sustainable brownfield regeneration (Month 28)
 - Presentation and discussion of the developed tools
 - Stakeholder working sessions
3. Final workshop (Month 36)

Component IV: Final Report / Manual of an European System Approach for Sustainable Brownfield Regeneration

Component IV will draft up the final report of RESCUE. The key element of the final report will be the *Manual of a European System Approach for Sustainable Brownfield Regeneration*. It will conclusively integrate the validation feedback into a holistic system approach that may be used throughout the European Community as well as in EU accession States.

The manual should be disseminated throughout Europe to practical end users and scientific networks. It will also be available on the RESCUE homepage on the internet. Key guidance will be translated into the Polish, German, French and Russian languages for wider access.

It will be a substantial decision making tool for stakeholders, public administration and financial funding bodies. It will provide checklists, performance indicators, evaluation criteria and examples of best practice that have been evaluated within RESCUE. Economic tools for the enhancement of brownfield regeneration will be proposed (e.g. tax incentives etc.). Furthermore, decision making tools for funding organisations on the national, regional or even European level will be part of the manual. The manual is envisaged as being structured along the following topics:

- Introduction;
- Quality criteria for sustainable brownfield regeneration;
- Project and planning tools for designers;
- Project and planning tools for contractors;
- Project and planning tools for regulators;
- Project and planning tools for public sector policy makers;
- Project and planning tools for stakeholders;
- Economic tools;
- Funding criteria;
- Summary and conclusion.

The consortium

The RESCUE consortium is made up of 14 European partners from the **UK, France, Poland and Germany**, representing long years of practical experience and specific expertise in brownfield regeneration in the industrial core regions of Derbyshire and the North East of England, Nord-Pas de Calais, Silesia, the South-of-Leipzig Area and the Ruhr Area. They will participate in all major work packages of RESCUE under the umbrella of a key player in brownfield regeneration in that part of the world. The consortium of RESCUE comprises research institutes, administrative bodies and private organisations with direct “stakeholder” interests in the various aspects, processes and methodologies in recycling brownfield sites. Therefore the consortium is well prepared for dealing with the complex matters of brownfield regeneration, integrating all relevant technical, planning and management related aspects. The motivation of the partners to participate in RESCUE is to compose a consortium with a high degree of expertise in order to benefit from the results of the project in the future.

Participant no. 1, MGG Montan-Grundstücksgesellschaft mbH, is the co-ordinating contractor of RESCUE. MGG is the real estate development and project management branch and a wholly owned subsidiary of the RAG AG, one of the largest hard coal mining corporations in the world. Its contribution enables MGG to access all data concerning many projects in the Ruhr Area and the South of Leipzig region. Due to its professional experience in managing large brownfield projects and its acquaintance with all major issues of such projects, MGG will participate in the Steering Committee of RESCUE. As principle main contractor, MGG will be responsible for the overall management of the RESCUE project (wp 0), encompassing the co-ordination of the Steering Committee, accountancy and interface duties between the consortium and the EC. MGG will lead the work package on sustainable land use and urban design on brownfields (wp 4), and contribute to the analytical framework of RESCUE (wp 1), the management of existing buildings and infrastructures (wp 3), the dissemination and exploitation (wp 9) and the development of a system approach (wp 10).

Participant no. 2, the Federal Environmental Agency of Germany (UBA), is an independent federal authority and the central advisory body on environmental protection in Germany. The UBA has substantial knowledge and experience in contaminated land management, waste management and brownfield redevelopment. Within RESCUE, UBA will contribute substantially to work packages 2, 3 and 6 based on such fundamental technical and administrative knowledge. Although not accounted to

the personal resources, UBA will be a member of the Steering Committee and contribute by advisory responsibilities to wp0 “project management”. Having co-ordinated the CLARINET workgroup on brownfield redevelopment, UBA will play a mayor role in the validation of the findings and lead the stakeholder and validation team within work package 8. Significant support will be achieved by the upcoming network on brownfield redevelopment CABERNET which will start in December 2001. UBA is one co-ordinator of CABERNET.

Participant no. 3, RUB Ruhr Universität Bochum with its department “Zentrum für interdisziplinäre Ruhrgebietsforschung” is a central academic institution of the Ruhr University of Bochum. It is active in comprehensive and cross-disciplinary research on the Ruhr Area, dealing with socio-economic aspects of urban and regional development. According to its specific competence, RUB leads on wp 1 dealing with the analytical context of brownfield redevelopment, and adds its expertise to wp 5 working on the subject of citizen participation.

The exSite group of the UK is the fourth participant of RESCUE. exSite is constituted of VHE plc., British Gas Properties Division (BGPD), British Steel plc., the Welsh Development Agency (WDA), Shanks Waste Solutions and Shell. exSite’s main focus is on activities enabling the productive re-use of land as part of the brownfield re-development process. The group was formed to further this aim, co-operate with NICOLE and CLARINET, support and fund the trailing of new technologies and strategies on a field scale basis, and thereby secure the beneficial re-use of redundant land assets. As a member of the Steering Committee, exSite will fulfil managing duties of RESCUE (wp 0), lead the wp 6 on the management of brownfield projects, and add its expertise to the wp 1, 2, 3, 9 and 10.

The University of Nottingham’s School of Chemical Environmental and Mining Engineering (UNOTT) as RESCUE participant no. 5 is home to Land Quality Management, one of the leading research groups in contaminated land in the UK. LQM staff are involved in research, education and consultancy across the entire spectrum of contaminated land from helping Local Authorities fulfil their responsibilities under Part IIa of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 through developing novel approaches to sampling strategy and risk assessment to ways of evaluating the sustainability of remedial strategy alternatives and of managing the financial risks associated with land contamination. Current research activities include developing the use of Life Cycle Analysis for selecting remediation strategies. This builds on a recent project carried out for the Environment Agency with TNO (NL) and r³ Environmental to review approaches to sustainable remediation. Based on their specific competence in the field of web based training resources, the University of Nottingham will lead wp 7 on the virtual training centre. Moreover, the University of Nottingham will add its expertise to the work packages 2, 4 and 5.

The University of Wales at Cardiff, namely the Geoenvironmental Research Centre (GRC), is the sixth participant of RESCUE. The GRC performs research across a range of geoenvironmental problems, covering for example, land fill engineering, urban development and land use, ground water protection and remediation. Another key feature of work is the intimate collaboration with the Land Reclamation section of the Welsh Development Agency. Due to its specific competence, the GRC will participate in the work packages 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7.

The Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières (BRGM) as participant no. 7 is a French Public Institution for mobilizing the Earth Sciences in the sustainable management of natural resources and the subsurface domain. The fundamental areas of activity of the BRGM are geological mapping and modelling, groundwater, and management of mineral resources. Faced with the increase in environmental concerns, BRGM has progressively expanded its activities to the areas of geological risks and hazards, and contaminated environments and waste. In order to contribute its competence to RESCUE, BRGM will lead wp 2 on soil and contamination treatment and wp 6 on the management of brownfield regeneration projects.

The Mission d' Aménagement et de Développement du Bassin Minier (Mission Bassin Minier, Mission BM) is the eighth RESCUE participant. Forming a sub-division of the Nord-Pas de Calais Regional Council, the MBM was established to help the local authorities to solve their specific problems (contaminated soils and water, degraded landscapes, urban, social and health decay), to implement mayor regional projects (e.g. the Coalfield Greenbelt), and to integrate citizen participation into project management. Based on this activity, the MBM will lead wp 5 on sustainable planning processes and citizen participation. Moreover, MBM will participate in the Steering Committee, therefore being responsible for the overall project management as well. In addition, MBM will participate in the work packages 3, 4, 9 and 10.

The Laboratoire de Sédimentologie et Géodynamique at the Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille is the 9th participant of RESCUE. USTL is one of four universities in Lille. Environmental studies cover ecology, water resources (quality and hydrogeology), air quality, fauna and flora indicators of soil pollution, phytoremediation, natural underground resources, regional management, sustainable development, urban space and its building and substratum management. Building on this competence, USTL will participate in the work packages 1, 3, 4 and 7. USTL acts in partnership with partner 14, the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) which will fulfil administrative functions for USTL.

The following three partners comprise of Polish organisations and local authorities, thus encompassing a large variety of different stakeholder perspectives. The huge amount of derelict land in the Accession states for which Poland stands as an example impair the prospects of future economic and environmentally sound development. Due to the scale of the problem and its European dimension, RESCUE integrates three polish partners into the project.

The Central Mining Institute (in Polish: Główny Instytut Górnictwa) as the first Polish partner and RESCUE participant no. 10 is a research and development organization, with more than fifty years tradition, working for the needs of industrial enterprises of all branches, including the mining industry, small and medium enterprises (SME), institutions and offices of state and self-government administration, communities, foreign partners. The Institute's service include all the phases of research and implementation activity ranging from planning and preliminary tests to economic analysis and implementation of the undertaking. Strategic areas of our activity constitute work safety and environmental engineering as well as economic and social studies, education and implementation of management systems. The mission of the Central Mining Institute is "Creation of modern, energy saving and clean technologies, technical solutions for the formation of favourable relations: people-industry-environment". The CMI offers research projects, licences and know-how, expertises, consultancy and training. Based on its experience and extensive scope of work, the CMI represents Poland in the RESCUE steering committee, thus participating in wp 0. It will lead work package 3 on the management of buildings and installations and furthermore participate in the work packages 1, 2, 6, 7, 9 and 10.

The City of Bytom is partner no. 11 of RESCUE and the second Polish partner. As the whole area of the local authority is located in an traditional mining area, the rehabilitation and redevelopment of brownfield sites is a key issue on the political agenda as the presence of huge amounts of brownfield land is a significant constrain for sustainable urban development. The City of Sosnowiec, RESCUE partner no. 12, suffers severely from similar problems, again the presence of brownfield land demands urgent action and economic restructuring. Due to their problems and their planning responsibilities, the two cities offer valuable end-user input to RESCUE and therefore they participate in workpackages 4 dealing with sustainable land use options and urban design and 5 on sustainable planning processes and citizen participation.

The Projektgruppe Stadt+Entwicklung (Stadt+) as partner No. 13 works on scientific and practical brownfield projects under the aspect of urban planning and design. Stadt+ have been involved in national research projects for the Ministry of housing and Urbanism and the Federal Environmental

Agency. Staff have been involved in interregional co-operation project in brownfield redevelopment by the Association of European Technology Regions (RETI) and the DG REGIO study on brownfield problems in the coal and steel industry funded by the Commission in the early 90th. Today Stadt+ is responsible for the scientific management and evaluation of the EU brownfield redevelopment scheme for Saxony 2000 – 2006 and will bring practical experience on the project level as well on the level of programme management to the consortium. In WP 1 Stadt+ will structure and coordinate the multidisciplinary approach for the specific technical work packages. Brownfield regeneration will be analysed in the specific eastern German background.