

# PLUREL

## PERI-URBAN LAND USE RELATIONSHIPS

Strategies and Sustainability  
Assessment Tools  
for Urban Rural Linkages



Invitation to the EU project

PLUREL

General Assembly

10 – 13 October, Leipzig



	Wednesday, 10.10.07	Room splitting	Thursday, 11.10.07	Room splitting
9.00–9.30	9.30 am Meeting within the <u>Scientific Coordination Board</u> (including SIAT discussion with M5; SR7.1)		M5/6 Plenary ❖ Data management, W. Loibl, ARC; Pedell, JRC ❖ Econ/soc science coordinator, S. Bell, ECA	Hall 1A,B
9.30–10.30			Module meetings 1-5 Paralleled by meeting with <u>Scientific Advisory Group</u>	1C,1D 2A,2B SRSL 112
Coffee break		Foyer	Coffee break	Foyer
11.00–12.30	Arrival (starting at 11 am)		Module meetings 1-5 Paralleled by meeting within the <u>Project Management Board</u>	1C,1D 2A,2B SRSL 112 SR7.1
Lunch			Lunch	Foyer
14.00–14.30	Opening session ❖ Welcome by UFZ & KU ❖ Scientific officer K. Fabbri ❖ Hilda Blanco, Univ. of Washington	Hall 1A,B	Module meetings 1-5 Paralleled by meeting with <u>Scientific Advisory Group</u>	1C,1D 2A,2B SRSL 112 SR7.1
14.30–15.30	M1 Plenary ❖ Scenario framework, M. Rounsevell, UEDIN ❖ Economic futures, B. Boitier, UP1 ❖ Demographic futures, V. Skirbekk, IIASA ❖ Baseline for environmental change, J. Ravetz, UM	Hall 1A,B	Module meetings 1-5 Paralleled by meeting with <u>Board of Stakeholders</u>	1C,1D 2A,2B SRSL 112 SR7.1
Coffee break	Coffee break	Foyer	Coffee break	Foyer
16.00–18.00	M2 Plenary ❖ RUR-typology, ARC ❖ Nat. spatial planning, UTH	Hall 1A,B	Parallel workshops ❖ Structuring the SIAT-RUR (Chair: ZALF) ❖ Planning issues in the case study regions (Chair Alterra) ❖ Workshop on Social and Economic aspects (Chair ECA/UBath)	SRSL 112 1C 1D
	Module meetings 1-5	1C,1D 2A,2B SRSL 112 SR7.1		
18:00	General Assembly	Hall 1A,B	Transfer to City Centre	C I T Y
	Icebreaker with Lecture on 'Shrinking Cities' by Tim Rieniets and Dinner	Hall 1AB	Welcome by Mayor of Leipzig, Mr. zur Nedden Conference dinner	

# PLUREL



## PERI-URBAN LAND USE RELATIONSHIPS Strategies and Sustainability Assessment Tools for Urban Rural Linkages

### Leipzig, Germany – a shrinking city with suburban growth?

*Dagmar Haase, Nina Schwarz*

The conurbation of Leipzig-Halle (4,387 km<sup>2</sup>, 1,073,467 inhabitants) has a long history as an important urban centre in Central Europe: Leipzig was first mentioned in official documents in 1015. The core of the urban region, the city of Leipzig (1989: 530,000 inhabitants; 2005: 501,000 inhabitants), is presently challenged by suburban growth and international investments on the one hand and inner-city shrinkage, emigration and extremely low rental costs on the other.

Situated in the eastern part of Germany, the former socialist GDR, processes of urban sprawl were almost unknown in the post-World War II period, mainly because the socialist planning system directed investments primarily to the urban centres. Only the building of the 'notorious' prefabricated housing estates on the urban fringes could be seen as a 'peculiarly socialist' variant of urban sprawl. In Leipzig, these estates provided housing mostly for people from decayed old built-up areas and also from demolished villages in the open-pit mining area south of the city. Apart from the inner city, which consists of a solid, dense structure of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century tenement blocks, the city's territory contains large areas of the 'typically suburban' mixture of land uses, including agricultural open land, forests and restoration areas.

Before and after the GDR, however, large-scale changes in land use were quite common in the region of Leipzig. The city experienced a period of vibrant growth between around 1870 and 1930, reaching its historical maximum at a population of more than 700,000 in the early 1930s, to which time Leipzig was Germany's fourth-largest and one of the most densely populated cities. This development was accompanied by the urbanisation of what were then the city's rural surroundings. The onset of post-socialist transformation beginning in 1989 ushered in a period of heavy urban sprawl, with shopping malls, enterprise zones and residential 'parks' spreading – in this order – on the city's outskirts and into the suburban townships. Industrial decline, low birth rates, emigration, and residential vacancies, however, contradicted the expectations linked to these investments, which eventually led to a huge oversupply on the markets of housing, office space and developed land in general. Since the late 1990s urban sprawl around Leipzig has abated considerably. Currently, the administrative territory of Leipzig covers almost 30,000 ha (298 km<sup>2</sup>) following the incorporation of several suburban towns and villages in recent years. The today's situation of Leipzig is rather paradox and turns it into an interesting example for PLUREL: ongoing dynamics of suburban growth (single and semi-detached house settlements, new 'housing parks') with adjacent partly over-dimensional construction commercial activities at the urban fringe and a simultaneous increase of depopulation and related shrinkage, residential vacancy, perforation followed by demolition in the inner city areas have to be acknowledged. For PLUREL, the main research question in the Leipzig region can be formulated as follows: How to steer sustainably land use development in an urban region with close neighborhoods of "islands of suburban growth" and urban decline, abandonment and shrinkage?

The Leipzig region is a representative example to carry out an ex-post analysis of social, economic and environmental consequences of post-socialist highly dynamic land conversion, extreme urban sprawl and considerable shrinkage under conditions of demographic change. During the last decade Leipzig was host of various international workshops coping with shrinkage, a.o. the exhibition of "Shrinking Cities". The former Lord Mayor of Leipzig, Wolfgang Tiefensee, today Federal Minister for construction, planning and transportation, was the president of the European 'Cities of tomorrow' network.

# PLUREL

## PERI-URBAN LAND USE RELATIONSHIPS Strategies and Sustainability Assessment Tools for Urban Rural Linkages

### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

#### ▪ VENUE

The KUBUS is situated at the UFZ area in the eastern part of Leipzig. There are very good public traffic connections.

#### ▪ DATES

10 – 13 October 2007

#### ▪ COSTS AND REGISTRATION

Please visit our conference website for detailed information regarding venue, accommodation, and registration:

<http://www.ufz.de/index.php?en=14707>.

Deadline for reserved booking of hotel rooms as well as registration is 15 of September.

Please register by using our online registration tool

[http://www.ufz.de/tagungsmanager/index.php?tag\\_id=22](http://www.ufz.de/tagungsmanager/index.php?tag_id=22).

There is a well chosen number of pre-booked rooms between city center and UFZ. Costs for single rooms per night reach from 29 € up to 80 € and double rooms from 80 € up to 100 €. Except for the UFZ guest rooms breakfast is included. Moreover you will have to pay public transport and the participation fee.

<http://www.ufz.de/data/hotels-in-leipzig6742.pdf>

#### ▪ CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Dr. Dagmar Haase  
+49 - (0)341 – 2353950  
[dagmar.haase@ufz.de](mailto:dagmar.haase@ufz.de)

Dr. Nina Schwarz  
+49 - (0)341 - 2354450  
[nina.schwarz@ufz.de](mailto:nina.schwarz@ufz.de)

	Friday, 12.10.07	Room splitting	Saturday 13.10.07
PROGRAM	9.00–9.30	M3 Plenary ❖ Stakeholder integration, Alterra	Hall 1A,B
	9.30–10.30	Module meetings 1 - 5 + Data upload training session	1C,1D 2A,2B SRSL112
	<b>Coffee break</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	Foyer
	11.00-12.30	PLUREL meets cases Open market session	KUBUS Entrance hall
	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	Foyer
	14.00–14.30	M4 Plenary ❖ Conceptual model for an Rural-Urban Region, UFZ, Dagmar Haase ❖ Indicators on Ecosystem Services and Quality of Life, Felix Müller and Simon Bell	Hall 1A,B
	14.30–15.30	Module meetings 1-5	1C,1D 2A,2B SRSL112
	<b>Coffee break</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	Foyer
	16.00–18.00	16:00-18:00 Summary session	Hall 1A,B
		17:00-18:00: Reviewers session	Hall 2A
	19:00	19:00-20:00 Dinner 20:00-21:00 Training sessions Editing of PLUREL web-pages	Foyer  Hall 1A,B

## Direction / Location

