



# ReNewTown

Newsletter





## Newsletter No. 1 - ReNewTown

June 2011

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Dear reader,

we are very pleased to present you with the first issue of the *ReNewTown* project newsletter. *ReNewTown* is an acronym for the longer project title which is “New Post-Socialist City: Competitive and Attractive”. This project was brought to life by 8 partners from the Central European area. We joined forces for the 3rd Call under the European Territorial Cooperation Objective with the purpose to identify, improve and transfer the best solutions for creation of more balanced territorial development within towns and cities in the former socialist countries.

This newsletter will keep you up to date on our ideas and activities. If you at any stage feel you can contribute to the better project implementation, please contact us.

We are looking forward to hearing from you,

*ReNewTown* Project Team

## Introduction the project

### Project background

**Over 300 million people in the CEE live in the areas impacted by socialist era one way or another. Close to 2/3 of them live in cities and towns often with districts created and fast developing in the socialist period.** This is the case of Krakow in Poland, Prague and Ústí nad Labem in the Czech Republic, Velenje in Slovenia and Hnusta in the Slovak Republic. **Districts of these cities and towns face problems** resulting from shortage of space for, and lack of, local cultural and social events, poor conditions and quality of buildings and public spaces between blocks of flats, unemployment and low number of enterprises in the districts, depressing appearance of socialist architecture, low identification with the place of living by the local citizens, and, last but not least, lack of ideas for new/modern functions of public buildings created in the socialist era.

### Project general objective

The main project objective is to create a more balanced territorial development within towns and cities in the former socialist countries by reducing existing disparities between districts. **We aim to reduce these disparities by enhancing the quality of life in urban areas in districts with socialist burden.**

### Expected result

**The main project result be the creation of a solid ground for balanced territorial development within cities and towns with socialist burden** in the former socialist Countries. Domestic and international support that will be channeled in through the ReNewTown project represent key elements to achieve it.

## Project objectives

- Creation of a model for development of cultural and social offer in districts with socialist burden (Nowa Huta in Kraków).
- Identification of ideas (models) to improve conditions and quality of public spaces between blocks of flats (Velenje).
- Creation of a model of entrepreneurship development in districts with socialist burden (Prague).
- Identification of model solutions for improving appearance of socialist architecture (making its visual aspects more attractive).
- Identification of ways to reinforce the feeling of identity the local population has with their place of living (Nowa Huta in Kraków, Velenje, Hnusta).
- Identification of ideas for new/modern functions of public buildings created in the socialist era (Nowa Huta in Kraków, Prague, Hnusta).



Velenje, Slovenia



Hnúš a, Slovakia



Ústí region, Czech Republic



# ReNewTown

New post-socialist city: Competitive and Attractive



### Lead project partner

-  Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization  
Location: Poland, Warsaw

### Project partners

-  The C.K. Norwid Culture Centre  
Location: Poland, Cracow
-  University of Ljubljana  
Location: Slovenia, Ljubljana
-  Municipality of Velenje  
Location: Slovenia, Velenje
-  Prague 11 Metropolitan District  
Location: Czech Republic, Praha 4
-  Karlsruhe Institute of Technology  
Location: Germany, Karlsruhe
-  Regional Development Agency of Usti Region  
Location: Czech Republic, Ústí nad Labem
-  Agency for development of Gemer region  
Location: Slovakia, Hnúš a

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