

COST ACTION C23

Strategies for a Low Carbon Urban Built Environment

Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd February 2007, Athens, Greece

Management Committee Meeting and Plenary sessions Minutes

Present:

- Chair: Phil Jones (PJ),
- Vice Chairs: Paulo Pinho (PP) and Chris Tweed (CT),
- Host: Demetris Bouris (DB)

Rossano Albatici (RA), Fernando Brandão Alves (FA), Oyvind Aschehoug (OA), Vincent Buhagiar (VB), Maria Helena Corvacho (MHC), Jan Górski (JG), Tonka Grgic (TG), Willi Husler (WH), Aleksandra Kristic-Furunzic (AK), Christopher Koroneos (CK), Pekka Lahti (PLh), Petros Lapithis (PLp), Gerald Leindecker (GL), Manuel Larraya Ruiz (ML), Kari Ojala (KO), Kostas Ordoumpozanis (KOr), Joanne Patterson (JP), Norbert Plass (NP), Adam Rybka (AR), Marjana Sijanec Zavrl (MS), Veronique Stein (VS), Theodore Theodosiou (TT), René Wansdronk (RW), Konrad Wildeneauer (KW).

Apologies: Jorgen Munch Anderson (JA), Raimondas Bliudzius (RB), Luis Bragança Lopes (LB), Torben Dahl (TD), Morten Elle (ME), Marc Frère (MF), Antonio Frattari (AF), Thierry Goger (TG), Anne Grete Hestnes (AGH), Astrid Hublitz (AH), Jesper Ole Jensen (JoJ), Werner Lang (WL), Carmencita Malimban (CM), Petter Naess (PN), Fernando Rodriguez (FR), Wolfgang Schölkopf (WS), Geralt Siebert (GS).

ITEMS

1 Welcome – Introductory remarks and adoption of the agenda

PJ welcomed the participants to the meeting and thanked DB for hosting the event.

Some modifications to the agenda were made to accommodate the local speaker and late arrivals to the meeting.

2 Approval of the previous meetings minutes

The minutes from the Trento meeting (December 2006) were approved.

3 Update of programme for C23

There was some discussion about the final output of the action. Although this is some time away, it was agreed that an early draft of the structure of the output should be presented at the next MC meeting. It was agreed that the main output should be a book which should include the themes of the Action and the case studies. This could also be put onto a CD to be used for teaching.

4 Confirmation of membership

It was agreed by the MC to include Lithuania in the Action as requested.

5 Joining Grant System

The MC approved C23 joining the grant system subject to confirmation of viability at Cardiff University. It was agreed by the MC that Cardiff University (the MC Chairs organisation) should manage the Action's funding. Cardiff will discuss details with the Cost Secretariate and relevant staff at Cardiff.

6 Opportunities for collaboration

Opportunities for collaboration with C24 - Analysis and Design of Innovative Systems for Low-EXergy in the Built Environment and C25 - Sustainability of Constructions: Integrated Approach to Life-time Structural Engineering. Members of C24 and C25 will be invited to the April conference and will be asked to make presentations.

7 Short Term Scientific Missions

Participants were reminded of the opportunity to send early researchers on visits to partner institutions. Interest was noted from the following participants.

- AKF identified 2 Researchers from Belgrade who are very interested in STSM. JP to send details on how the application procedure should progress.
- Interest for Researcher from Portugal to visit Norway.

The application procedure can be found on the COST website at:

http://www.cost.esf.org/fileadmin/cost_documents/guidelines/2-financial_instruments/2.3-STSM.pdf

8 Report from COST Science Officer

Thierry Goger is now the Science Officer for Transport and Urban Development. Unfortunately he was unable to attend the meeting but submitted a Report from the COST office that can be found on the LCube website.

A presentation was made to the action by Dr Costas Balaras from the Institute for Environmental Research and Sustainable development National Observatory of Athens entitled the 'Energy Performance Assessment of Buildings according to the European Directive (EPBD) and the new European Standards'. A copy of the presentation can be found on the LCube website.

9 Future Meetings

The next meeting will be held in Vienna on Monday 16th April which will be followed by the conference on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th April. Details for this event can be found on the LCube website.

Future meeting venues were provisionally agreed for:

- Geneva, Austria - Monday 10th/ Tuesday 11th September 2007
- Madrid, Spain – Tuesday 4th/Wednesday 5th December 2007
- Rzeszow, Poland – Thursday 24th and Friday 25th April 2008).

10 Any other business

The COST 8 'Best practice in sustainable urban infrastructure' book is about to be published. 5 copies will be sent to each partner of C8. Additional copies can be ordered from PL.

Opportunities for further funding opportunities were discussed – possible sources include

- FP7 - 3.6.2.2 released May/June deadline September/October,
- Intelligent Energy Europe – Call released April 2007 http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/index_en.html
- The World Bank.

It was suggested the COST office should be approached to invite EC representative to the next meeting to present funding opportunities available.

A leaflet will be produced documenting the aims and objectives of LCube to enable the participants to promote the work.

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February 2007

Plenary Session

Combined WG1 and WG2 Meeting

Presentations were made in the plenary session concerning an analysis of the carbon and sustainability aspects of the two cities of Porto and Cardiff (copies attached).

PP presented a draft template for data collection (on LCUBE website) to stimulate discussion on the most effective way of collecting data and the reasons behind what was included. The template is to help with:

- producing a database of information to assess the energy performance of a city,
- provide a background framework to see if projects contribute to the overall performance of a city.

Time and space have been included with the data collection procedure in order to illustrate the changes of a city and to possibly make comparisons between cities.

PJ presented a more general presentation of low carbon related characteristics of carbon and the research that has been undertaken in Cardiff. The template was used as a starting point for the presentation.

There was a discussion on how the cities could be analysed in order to relate small scale building, transport carbon impacts on whole city carbon performance. By collecting the data in the template it will allow case studies to be put into perspective. The work will provide a picture of different cities in Europe and provide information on how they perform in different ways. Different cities will have different issues.

The plenary session then split into Working Groups 1 and 2 to discuss the different approaches that the different groups might have towards collecting data. Minutes for the separate WG meetings are provided separately.