Interreg Alpine Space
trAILs
EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

trAILs Addressing the Alpine Industrial Landscape Transformation

TrAILs focuses on former productive landscapes in the Alps, understanding their ecologic, economic and social regeneration as key priorities for the sustainable development of the Alpine region.

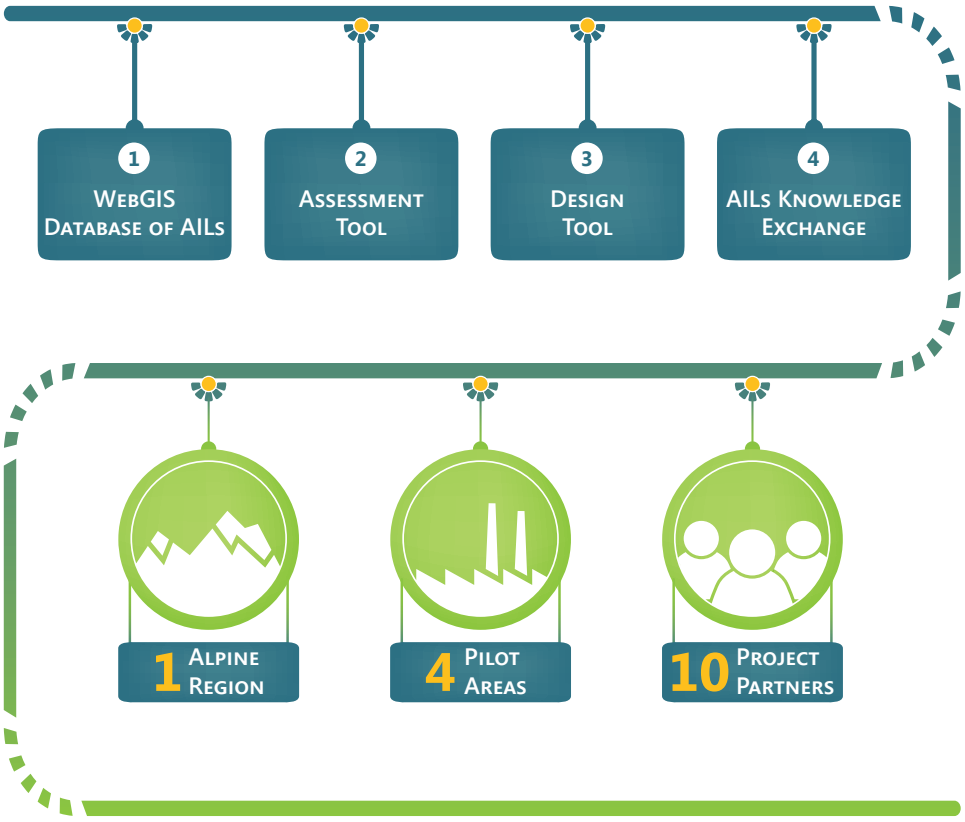
NEWSLETTER 3

We are continuing with site visits, co-design workshops, and test designs! Take a look at the transformation scenario ideas for former industrial areas in L'Argentière-La-Bessée, France and in Tržič, Slovenia.

12/2020

About

The decline of traditional heavy and manufacturing industry is occurring nowadays even in peripheral and less urbanized regions, such as the Alps. Here, in the so-called "green heart of Europe", this process is leaving behind impressive former productive landscapes of relevant size and complexity: Alpine Industrial Landscapes (AILs). The potential value of AILs in terms of sustainable transformation is strongly connected to Alpine-wide ecological, economical and social key challenges, such as the regeneration or improvement of blue and green infrastructures, the reactivation/upgrade of regional economies and the promotion of local identity and cultural heritage. The trAILs project will support local and regional stakeholders in the complex process of sustainable AILs transformation, providing them with strategic planning tools for the future as well as with useful hands-on experiences.



Project outputs

European Regional Development Fund
Support from the European Union: € 1.859.290,24

trAILs lasts from April 2018 to April 2021 and is co-financed by the ERDF through the Interreg Alpine Space programme.

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Co-design workshop in L'Argentière-la-Bessée (FR pilot) 11th-13th, February 2020

On February 11-12-13, the project team met in L'Argentière-la-Bessée (Hautes-Alpes) to join the third test-design workshop, this time focused on the future development of the former Pechiney industrial site. The workshop aimed to identify, together with local and regional stakeholders and observers, a set of agreed key planning elements for the future of the brownfield site. The workshop built on the thematic assessments done by scientific project partners as well as on the preparation activities carried on by the regional partner, the CAUE 84 (supported by CAUE 05).

Stakeholders and project partners joined three interdisciplinary working groups to discuss the test-designed identify plan ning priorities. The groups presented the outcomes from the discussion and their synthesis, which will form the planning recommendations for the site.

trAILs went online due to Covid-19 pandemic

During the spring lockdown trAILs activities shifted to online mode. On 19th May the first Steering Group "from remote" took place via Zoom. A new strategy for the upcoming activities on the Slovenian pilot site was developed, including the planning for a "virtual" site visit and a hybrid test design workshop.

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Virtual site visit in Tržič (SI pilot) on 18th-19th June 2020

On the 18th and 19th June, the trAILs team met online to join "virtually" site visit of the Slovenian pilot site, the former BPT textile mill in Tržič. On the first day, the site was briefly presented, and the detailed tour was provided through a 15' video, which included interviews to local stakeholders and community members involved. On the second day, the partners discussed with the local stakeholders and representative of the owner about the sites' current situation and future challenges.

Test-design workshop in Tržič on 14th-15th September 2020

On the 14th and 15th September the trAILs team implemented the test-design workshop in the last pilot site, the BPT textile mill in Tržič, Slovenia. On the workshop, leaded by UL and BSC Kranj, local stakeholders were involved in the discussion about the BPT site transformation. After participants presentations and overview of the assessments results, lead partner from the Technical University of Munich presented test-design for the pilot site transformation. Participants also had the chance to view, for the first time, video "Water was for power, now is for drinking" produced by the partners from the University of Verona. Afterwards, the stakeholders explained their views on the regeneration of the area.

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As an integral part of trAILs activities, and in particular of the co-design workshop with local and regional stakeholders, the Technical University of Munich worked with their students on the pilot sites in France and Slovenia. Some of the most interesting ideas and visions generated by landscape architecture students are here briefly presented.

Scenarios for L'Argentière-La-Bessée

- EAGLES, BOLTS & BRICKS
- Land in SHAPE Transformation of Alps Industrial Site into Regional
- OSMOSIS L'Argentière-La-Bessée
- THE CURRENT

Scenarios for BPT textile mill complex in Tržič

- PRODUCTIVE WAITING
- FIŽIČ ALPINE PRODUCTION
- GIANT MEETS KING, Transformation of micro characters
- MIND THE GAP

Scenario 1: EAGLES, BOLTS & BRICKS (Tanja Mauer, Minghui Chen)

Transformation of the area will be divided into:

a) Central part with the following content: structure garden, historical corridor, social centre, music school, workshop, carpenter school, exhibition halls, storage, library, caffe and tourist centre;

b) Surroundings with following content: industrial lot, power plant, construction industry, machinery engineering, carpenter, automotive industry.

Scenario 2: Land in SHAPE Transformation of Alps Industrial Site into Regional Service Centre (Qisu Li, Xiaoxiao Liu)

The new design proposes a complex of a human-friendly industry campus and a vivid community centre on site, shaping the site and surrounding valley as continuous landscape entity. Authors wish to arouse inner proud and sense of belonging in people's heart by providing pleasant environment shopping, leisure and cultural facilities for the introduced industry and people of L'Argentière-la-Bessée.

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L'ARGENTIÈRE-LA-BESSÉE

The third pilot site named L'Argentière-la-Bessée is an industry area in the French Alps. The construction of hydroelectric plant in the last century attracted large factories along the low land of Durance river. With the end of industrial golden age (1950-1970), the Pechiney area became shattered and disordered gradually and lost its status as main economic driving force. The town with industrial complex tries to find a solution in alpine tourism, beautiful nature, and Durance river. It is strongly believed that the Pechiney site could become the booster of economy again through a strong cooperation among several actors. Here are presented four TUM students' transformation scenarios.

Scenario 3: OSMOSIS L'Argentière-La-Bessée (Duygu Sinirliouğlu, Qwiman Yang)

The design concept selected the call membrane osmosis structure. The original site is close to the residential area, the industrial area and the natural environment but lacks connections between each other. The design work re-integration of the industrial area with the transition area of the natural environment, so that the different areas within the site not only have a close continuous between the spatial structure and the function. The entire design takes the structure of this industrial village as a landscape element, and together with the local architectural structures and the elements of the original natural landscape of the Alpine, it forms a new harmonious landscape. That is to achieve the purpose of re-naturalizing industrial brown land and providing residents with an ideal working and living environment.

Scenario 4: THE CURRENT (Inga Borge, Tan Au Ca Nguyen, Fan Wen)

The project aims to give back the full value of the water in all the spheres of people's life. The current is about the strength of the stream of water that shapes our land and imagination. It is about the power obtaining from the water that feeds our society and makes it work. The current philosophy is about this emergency to change our habits and produce more sustainable environment ...

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BPT TEXTILE MILL COMPLEX IN TRŽIČ

The fourth pilot site is the former Cotton spinning and weaving mill of Tržič within the city of Tržič. With its size of 4,6 hectares it occupies almost half of the city centre, making it a major environmental, spatial, economic, and social challenge. Unique industrial architecture of the complex, which dates to mid-19th century, presents important cultural value and development potential, but being protected as a cultural heritage it is often seen also as an obstacle for revitalization. After a long agony during two decades before and after textile production in BPT factory ended in 2005 after 120 years. The municipality of Tržič started in 2010's to search actively, in partnership with the complex's private owner, for solutions. In the following part there are presented four scenarios that TUM students designed for pilot site.

Scenario 1: PRODUCTIVE WAITING (Xiang Lin, Xiaozen Li)

The scenario mainly retains part of the building which would give new functions, such as tourist service centre, traditional handcraft workshop, café and so on. The rest of the building will be demolished, and the construction waste will be used for the remodelling of the site landscape. The central region will be developed under the principle of low maintenance for natural restoration in order to support the new development in the future. The main functions of this site will include tourist service area, community park area and land to be developed. And the design will add multiple walkways to the surrounding residential neighbourhood, river and wood, connecting site with surrounding closer.

Scenario 2: FIŽIČ ALPINE PRODUCTION (Lena Bonengel, Martin Rehm)

This scenario proposes the aquaculture due to the world-wide growth of fish consumption. The former BPT site could convert into an aquaculture facility and city of Tržič can be regionally marketed and can also be used for export. The design is based on a logistic grid of production and is completed by an organically shaped grid. This combi-nation will enable flexible reuse in the future as well. The geo¬graphical, climatic and water condi¬tions of this area are favourable for cold-water fish husbandry.

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Scenario 3: GIANT MEETS KING, Transformation of micro characters (Valentyna Fnukalova, Mira Groos)

The quality of the former textile mill BPT is constituted by a high diversity. Over 50 existing micro-characters are creating the identity of the closed down area. The aim of the project is to keep the diversity of the area under any circumstances. The proposed transformations in the shown scenario are not fixed rules, but guidelines. The transformations should be developed while realization depending on the future situation. The area will be activated by artistic approach on the characters welcome, core, and plaza. The three key points are connected to untouchable characters and well visible from the outside of the area. Artists and artisans are the initial group of users, that will activate the area for locals of Tržič, the surrounding towns and Ljubljana.

Scenario 4: MIND THE GAP (Linan Sun, Nikola Pohl, Noémi Pap)

The strategy of this scenario is to activate the spaces only with small initial points which can spread out in the further phases. The aim of the project is to create a bond between the residents and the BPT complex. It is useful for the local economy as well because the buildings are rentable on a fair price for crafts and start-ups and if these companies are expanding, they can invest more money in the site. The scenario attempts at bonding the residents, municipality, local economy, and the site.

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