

TG34 - Regeneration of the Built Environment

Barry Hills and Brian Heath report on TG34 affairs and highlight collaboration with Task Groups having similar aims and interests as being a key factor in achieving a planned expansion in the Group.

Current Status of Group

Fifteen 'core' members (that is, members in regular contact and expressing willingness to undertake TG work) form the body of the Group. These 15 originate from ten countries viz: Netherlands, Spain, England, Australia, Uganda, Japan, Wales, U.S.A, Lithuania, and Estonia.

Forthcoming meetings with like minded Task Groups (see below) indicate that a dozen or so extra members may be recruited over the coming year.

Information/Profile of Group

TG34 now has its own website (<http://www.TG34.org>) covering:

- TG34 Aims and Objectives
- TG34 membership
- TG34 Virtual Conference
- TG34 Link to the CIB and other sites
- TG34 Future Directions
- TG34 Discussion Page and Registration

The TG34 Virtual Conference will remain as a medium term objective. This was not immediately successful and feedback from members and interested parties indicate the following reasons:

- It was arranged too early in the development of the Group
- The time scale in itself was too short
- Members preferred a face to face meeting initially even if virtual conferences remained as an objective for later conferencing.

Correspondence from members indicates that the TG34 objectives themselves are acceptable to all parties and that the perspective is sound. This will be kept under continual assessment and will be reviewed as a permanent agenda item at each meeting at no less than yearly intervals.

Forthcoming Plans

Both Joint Coordinators are based in Wreccsam, Wales at Plas Coch Associate College of University of Wales. This is the venue for the next conference of W069 - Housing Sociology in September/October 2000.

As TG34 is a new group and there is an obvious overlap of interest with W069 the Coordinators have decided (following advice from CIB) to hold a back-to-back meeting immediately following on from W069. Obviously TG34 members will be encouraged to attend but also W069 members (there is already some duplication in membership) will be asked to stay on to add an extra dimension to our first face to face annual meeting.

The themes set out in the virtual conference will remain as areas for consideration.

Immediate Tasks

- To achieve consensus between members of TG34 for the need for the face to face meeting in 2000
- To encourage all interested parties to enter into CIB membership
- To contact like minded Task Groups and Working Commissions to inform them of TG34's plans
- To investigate best methods for disseminating information produced by TG34 (publishing, Internet etc.)

Barry Hills & Brian Heath

