



Deteriorating Areas

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Mr. Barry Hills, North East Wales, Institute of Higher Education, United Kingdom is organising a preparatory meeting to investigate the feasibility of a CIB activity in Deteriorating Areas, which he believes is a topic of increasing interest to governmental, local governmental and project based authorities and which involves a range of professions not at present meeting on a structured or regular basis.

Preliminary Statement of Topic

Most countries have areas of land, sometimes within a city/town environment, sometimes on a regional scale, that are deteriorating areas, or are potentially deteriorating. That is to say, they exhibit a range of criteria considered negative to desirable development viz.:

- Old Areas 'contained' or threatened by new peripheral development
- Poorly designed housing that does not attract tenants/potential buyers
- Poorly designed housing area/estates that attract deviant patterns of behaviour crime, drug dealing etc.
- Industrial/commercial buildings empty, potential derelict and based on declining or vanished industry
- Poorly designed housing areas/estates perceived to be impersonal, unattractive and lacking in facilities
- Out of town location in poor environments often with limited transport facilities
- Social criteria of particular types (overcrowded housing, poverty, large immigrant populations etc.)
- Older areas not particularly poorly designed but where modern facilities may be lacking (sanitary facilities, car parking or access for servicing etc.)

Possible Objectives of a CIB Group

If a CIB Group were to be established it might seek to draw together various perspectives, experiences, researches and data from comparative studies to focus on this area of study and to produce some proactive publications clearly setting out useful experiences, prioritisation programmes, measurable criteria for government and development studies, and a clear methodological approach (or approaches) to the problem of deteriorating areas in a variety of contexts.

That is the aim could be to produce, on a regular basis in a structured manner, the following:

- the main themes, criteria and common data bases useful to study of deteriorating areas
- common development patterns in deteriorating areas cross-linked to the various backgrounds involved (urban/rural, extent of deterioration etc.)
- common paradigms of desirable potentially beneficial developments in deteriorating areas
- plans for prioritisation of policies, investments, action plans etc. for deteriorating areas
- a comprehensive methodology of approach to the international problem of deteriorating areas.

The foregoing are offered as pointers for discussion at the meeting but clearly participants will wish to advance their own ideas also.

Contact Address

If you want to take part please communicate with Mr. Barry Hills as soon as possible:

Mr. Barry Hills
NEWI - North East Wales Institute
School of Built Environment
Faculty of Technology
Postal Point 15
Plash Coch, Mold Road
Wrexham LL11 2AW
United Kingdom
Tel: +44.1978.290666
Fax: +44.1978.290008