

>>> Editorial

The centre of Bordeaux is changing with each month that goes by. This zone stretching out on either side of the Garonne is benefiting from support from the European Union for a large number of projects that improve the quality of our day-to-day life.

The inauguration ceremonies have been coming fast and thick: the La Benaugue day-care centre on 5 June, the new botanical garden on the right bank on 23 May, Bordeaux Monumental (permanent exhibition of Bordeaux heritage) on 12 May... These achievements combined with the other projects that are underway (child-minder services in Cenon, redevelopment of Bas-Floirac...) should attract new inhabitants here to the heart of the city.

This second newsletter provides an opportunity to mention the Monitoring Committee which met on 28 March at the Hôtel Préfectoral in the presence of two representatives of the European Commission who expressed their satisfaction with the state of progress of our programme and the first results of this collaboration between the municipalities.

A new city centre is emerging and will soon be served by the tram. The Urban2/Unicités programme, initiated and largely supported by the European Union, gives us the chance to launch new projects which, each in their different ways, contribute to the development of the city centre to which we are all so attached.



Alain Juppé,
MP and Mayor
of Bordeaux

Conchita Lacuey,
MP and Mayor
of Floirac



Alain David,
Mayor of Cenon

>>> URBAN2/Unicités **Concrete Results**

The Urban2/Unicités Monitoring Committee meeting (see box below) held on 28 March under the joint presidency of the Préfet and the Mayor of Bordeaux and with the Mayors of Cenon and Floirac, provided an opportunity to review what has been achieved and project programming.



Less than 18 months after the official launch of the **Urban2/Unicités** programme, no less than 21 projects have already been selected to benefit from European financial support within the Urban2 area. These projects highlight the main themes contributing to the sustainable development of our city:

> Urban Renewal / Environment
restrictions on car access to the historic quarters of the city centre, development of the landing stages on the Garonne river, rehabilitation of public spaces (the Place St-Christoly in Bordeaux, Square de l'Égalité in Cenon...)

> Solidarity / Social and Economic Integration:
support for the Caisse Sociale de Développement Local (Local Development Social Fund – see Interview), efforts to re-integrate homeless people through work, support for the "Citizen Dialogue Group" of the Local Social Action Centre, etc.

> Local Services
restructuring of the La Benaugue day-care centre, creation of a child-minder service in Cenon...

After the Monitoring Committee meeting, the representatives of the European Commission were given the opportunity to see the Urban2 territory for themselves (see map overleaf). At the end of the day, they then attended the inauguration of the Benaugue Social and Cultural Centre (35% of the cost of the work was financed by the European Union) where they were welcomed by more than 1,000 local inhabitants.

A series of display panels presenting the **Urban2/Unicités** programme were put on show for the first time on the occasion of the Monitoring Committee meeting. This exhibition will soon be moving on to various other sites in the area concerned (Town halls, municipal offices, etc.) and will be displayed for several weeks on each of those sites.

The Role of the Monitoring Committee

The Monitoring Committee groups together the partners of the Urban2 programme (European Commission, Ministries, Region, Département, Bordeaux Metropolitan Council, Municipalities of Bordeaux, Cenon and Floirac, Consular organisations, Economic and Social Council, housing organisations, various associations, etc...) and meets at least once a year. In particular, it is charged with the tasks of:

- examining the state of progress of the programme and its results,
- making any modifications that might be required to the programme priorities,
- approving the annual reports before they are sent to the European Commission,
- approving the programme mid-term assessment (currently underway).

>>> Interview



Low Interest Rates for the Heart of Bordeaux

The Caisse Sociale de Développement Local (Local Development Social Fund) is an association that grants loans to those in the Bordeaux metropolitan area who are otherwise excluded from the traditional banking system.

Unicités is supporting the CSDL by supplying funds to encourage the creation of micro-enterprises in the area covered by Urban2 by offering loans at preferential interest rates. In this way, the Association is making an important contribution to economic development and job creation in the heart of the city.

Interview with Ms Nathalie ROMANO who opened a shop in the Saint-Pierre quarter of Bordeaux in 2003 with the support of the Caisse Sociale de Développement Local:

You were granted a loan by the CSDL. What exactly do you do?

Nathalie ROMANO : "I run an interior decoration shop that places the emphasis on metal, colours and scents.

I try to create atmospheres thanks to the decorative articles I sell.

I also use my shop to exhibit paintings".

What difference did the CSDL make to your project?

Nathalie ROMANO : "I was working part time and living on income support. The CSDL granted me a loan (on which the interest rate was reduced from 5% to 3.5 % thanks to Unicités). This loan helped to consolidate the financial plan for my project and to secure a loan from

another bank. The contribution of the CSDL also enabled me to be more ambitious in my investments for the first year, with the purchase of computer equipment and displays for the shop".

How do you see the future?

Nathalie ROMANO : "My shop is in an area of the city that is very dynamic and that should benefit from new clients thanks to the tram system. It is up to us, the shopkeepers of the Saint-Pierre district, to seize this opportunity to let people know about what we are all doing".

>>> Zoom on a project

All Systems Go in La Benaugé !

After the renovation of the library, the "Les Bastides" shopping centre, the Jean Dauguet sports hall and local stadium and the social and cultural centre, now it is the turn of the La Benaugé day-care centre!

Reopened a few weeks ago, the new centre was officially inaugurated on 5 June. It was originally built in the 1950s and was in need of complete restructuring. The floor area has been increased to 1,500 m² and it can now provide permanent day-care facilities for 60 children aged 3 months to 3 years and a walk-in service for 15 children of ages 3 months to 4 years. Once fully operational, the walk-in centre for parents' occasional day-care needs (while they are busy looking for work, dealing with administrative formalities or enjoying leisure activities) should receive about one hundred children a month.

The new premises are much lighter than they were before and open out onto play areas outside. In the garden, a kiosk has been installed between the baby and toddler areas.



URBAN2/Unicités area

Europe financed 30% of the cost of restructuring the day-care centre in partnership with the City of Bordeaux (contracting authority), the Child Benefits Office, the State and the Conseil Général. A superb facility for the families and the 30 people who work there!



News in Brief from the City Centre

> On 13 May, Bordeaux Monumental opened the doors of its premises in the Rue des Argentiers in the Saint-Pierre quarter to tourists and local inhabitants. The exhibition presents the city, its history and its future in a most attractive way.

> The La Bastide botanical garden has been open to the public since 24 May. It provides one more place for visits and relaxation on the right bank of the river.

> Since March, the Théâtre National de Bordeaux Aquitaine has been receiving audiences in extended and newly renovated buildings. This facility emphasises the cultural vocation of the Sainte-Croix quarter.

> The "En Attendant Octobre" event organised by the Carrefour des Littératures in Bordeaux, Cenon and Floirac from 27 May to 2 June gave local people the chance to meet Italian author Erri de Luca and to discover the beauty of his texts.

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