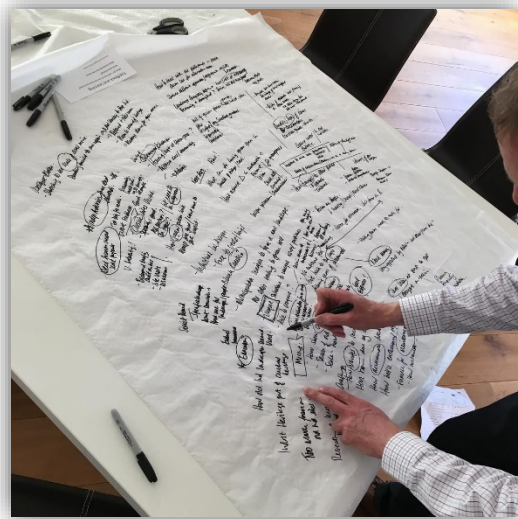


UrbanLinks 2 Landscape

Workshop in Schloss Dyck; 5.-7.11.2018

- Summary
- Outcomes of the World Café
- Proposal for activities of the Working Group



Compiled by: Martin Wolthaus, Christian Guessen and David Greenwood

WORKSHOP 1: „GOOD PRACTICE AND CHALLENGES “ Schloss Dyck, Jüchen, Germany 5 - 7 November 2018

Agenda's essentials

- Presentations by regional stakeholders (pages 3 - 4)
 - Volker Mielchen, Zweckverband Tagebaufolge(n)landschaft Garzweiler
 - Frank Bothmann, Regionalverband Ruhr (RVR)

- Presentations by partners/stakeholders from other regions (pages 4 - 5)
 - Simon Elson, Surrey County Council

- Study visits (pages 6 - 8)
 - Lignite opencast mining, follow-up landscapes, future mining areas
 - Haus Ripshorst – Information Centre for the Emscher Landscape Park
 - BernePark
 - Landschaftspark Duisburg-Nord, Duisburg

- World Café (pages 9 - 11)
 - Table 1 “Visions”
 - Table 2 “Feedback and Learning”
 - Table 3 “The Stakeholders”

Summary and next steps

- Summary of the workshop's outcomes and suggestions given by participants (pages 12 -13)

- Next steps / Proposal for UL2L working group (page 14)

(Post)Mining Landscapes – Lusatia and Rhineland

Volker Mielchen, Zweckverband Tagebaufolge(n)landschaft Garzweiler

The history and development of the open cast lignite mining region in Lusatia (eastern Germany) was presented with the town of Senftenberg as a typical example. Here the International Building Exhibition was a successful instrument of regeneration and regional development. One of its objectives was preserving industrial heritage. Very famous now is the conveyor belt bridge F60, one of the biggest machines worldwide. It is now accessible and art (light-sound installation) is used to change perspectives and supports the transformation of perceptions and the discovery of landscapes that have been forbidden and hostile for many years. Following the idea of “old landscape meets new landscape”, a new lake landscape with connecting bicycle paths and canals has been developed, including landmarks, a marina and floating holiday houses. The new visitor centre „IBA-Terraces“ at the edge of the mine is well visited as tourism is a new economic factor in the region now.

In the Rhineland, the step-by-step “renaturation” of the open cast lignite mining “Garzweiler” will offer new space for diverse uses. Current ideas include a green ribbon around the mine as a first step to conquer this enormous hole. This ribbon may be used for cycling tracks, different forms of gardens and renewable energy. The slopes that will become the shores of new lakes can be developed as an “Innovation Valley” with an innovative mix of housing, business, local food production, new transport systems etc. But that is a vision for 2070+.

Conclusions were given as such:

- Open cast mines cause extreme changes in landscape
- Their regeneration is a great challenge but also a great opportunity for unique approaches
- Settlements, landscapes and people must be reconnected by the post-mining landscape
- Planning needs to be process-oriented and flexible
- A widely agreed long-term vision and strategy is important
- Parallel short-term actions are crucial for local acceptance

(Contact: volker.mielchen@zv-garzweiler.de)

Emscher Landscape Park development | RVR – commitment, public communication

Frank Bothmann, Regionalverband Ruhr (RVR)

The Ruhr area has undergone a dramatical change since the beginning of the industrialisation at about 1840. Mining, steel production, chemical plants and much more required enormous amounts of land. The huge increase of inhabitants asked for new housing areas. Transport (railways, canals, streets) was essential to keep these new structures working. Astonishingly the area kept much of their green areas too, many of them thanks to an early understanding of the need to maintain green corridors (mainly for air quality and infrastructures).

The Regionalverband Ruhr (RVR), set up in 1920 as Siedlungsverband Ruhrkohlenbezirk (SVR) is one of driving forces in planning this complex mix of landscapes. Today the RVR uses the instruments planning, real estate ownership, development and operation for open space

protection and development. More than half of its staff is working in this field. This combination of planning expertise, investment and operation of regional open space infrastructure in one regional body is unique in Germany. With this set of competencies RVR was successful in supporting and designing regional development processes, including the Emscher Landscape Park (compare “visits” below).

The Emscher Landscape Park was and is one of the biggest landscape investment programmes in Europe with an overall investment of 445 Mio Euro in 25 years. It forms a development model for the metropolis with the open space as central axis. There are 14 areas of regional importance in the park with annual maintenance costs of 5 Mio. Euro. 50 % of these costs are co-funded by the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. The other half must be paid by the owners (e.g. cities, county, RVR).

The main keys to success include:

- a political consensus on regional and state level
- a long-term strategy
- a long-term funding programmes
- an agreed high-level design quality
- a regional responsible body
- and long-term quality standards.

(Contact: bothmann@rvr.ruhr)

Mineral Site Restoration in Surrey - A contribution to urban fringe improvement

Simon Elson, Surrey County Council

The UK National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires a restoration plan for new and existing mineral sites, which needs to be updated through a review process (ROMP).

Surrey is the only Mineral Planning Authority in the UK that has staff specifically dedicated to mineral site restoration and is seen as UK Local Authority leader in this field. Mineral site restoration is uniquely placed to meet economic, social and environmental agendas, offering big scale delivery that often exceeds UK biodiversity targets. It presents recreational opportunities and contributes to ecosystem services, e.g. climate change, flood alleviation, biodiversity offsetting. To achieve this and to fit into the wider jigsaw of land use restoration needs to get designs right.

Surrey’s approach is restoration led, targeted, proactive and based on partnership working. It is an area or jigsaw approach. To be accepted and successful, it is essential to promote enhancements, to amend existing plans, to create a vision and to award and promote excellence.

Restoration options include

- “agriculture”, which is the traditional way sites were restored. It must be aware of the decline and viability of agriculture and of fragmentation. Today it includes serving niche markets (e.g. local food products), horse grazing and conservation grazing.
- “forestry”, but even in England’s most wooded county there are only a few woodland restorations, in spite of their long term – not only economic - return.
- “nature conservation” to protect, reinforce, buffer and expand existing protective designations, which also help create green corridors and stepping stones. Unique

options for big landscape scale delivery of “living landscapes” and “Biodiversity Opportunity Areas”.

- “recreation” to serve formal leisure and sport provision as well as informal recreation. This includes angling, rights of way (footpaths, cycleways etc.) and other green infrastructure.

Surrey also participated in the Interreg RESTORE project to develop a framework for restoring minerals sites (quarries) to provide benefits for biodiversity, habitats and local people. In this context the deficits and challenges for urban fringes were identified as dereliction, vandalism, neglect, lack of open space provision, no local products, loosing local identity and the hope value for development.

(Contact: simon.elson@surreycc.gov.uk)

DAY 1: Lignite opencast mining, follow-up landscapes, future mining areas

a) Garzweiler II opencast mining

The opencast mining in Garzweiler II is part of the Rheinisches Braunkohlerevier. The mining in Garzweiler II started in 2006 and its current size is 48 km². Since the mining will operate until about 2045, plans and ideas for future development are not visible yet (compare “presentations” above). Therefore, the study visit was focussing on topics, which show the impact of the industrial use of landscape. The village of Immenrath will soon disappear because of the mining. Visiting the now abandoned village, gave inside into how historic places being cleared for deconstruction and places of memory like the graveyard being transferred. The visiting point at Jackerath gave an impressive view into the operating mining field of Garzweiler II. Technical and logistical aspects of open cast mining were discussed as we stood in awe in front of the immense abyss the mining is creating. The last part of the study visit was about the standard approach of rebuilding landscape, infrastructure and settlement. The new build motorway A44, the adjoining remodelled land for industrial agriculture and the commuter town of Neu-Otzenrath are the result of a technical and matter-of-fact approach.

b) Relevance/Lessons for UL2L:

The scale of Garzweiler II is challenging in many ways. On the one hand, it provides a massive “white canvas” and with this holds vast opportunities and place for inspiration. On the other hand, the interest of the landowner, the mining company, politicians and local residents differ and even contradict. The solutions found for the small, redeveloped parts east of Garzweiler II proof that the lowest common denominator does not lead to inspiring results. To develop a plan including the different stakeholders and be laid out for such a long term developing progress, while also gathering short term results needs a clear vision, open-minded management and excellent communication. A new Identity can only emerge when beside practical issues also emotional aspects are considered.

DAY 2: Emscher Landscape Park

a) Haus Ripshorst – Information Centre for the Emscher Landscape Park

The Emscher Landscape Park (ELP) with around 450 square kilometres and over 200 completed projects is the most developed regional park in Europe and a vital element of the Ruhr metropolis. The ELP consists of several individual parks, industrial naturescapes, artificial landmarks and much more. Elements are interconnected via green corridors and small-scale green links with hundreds of kilometres of leisure trails, e.g. cycling tracks on defunct railway lines and riverside trails. Viewpoints on former slag heaps show how surprisingly green this metropolitan area is.

ELP offers a multitude of leisure time attractions and fascinating insights into an exceptional landscape of industrial culture and landscaping: this includes many panoramic views, miles of leisurely cycling trails, the unusual beauty of wild industrial nature, climbing, diving, mountain biking, picnics, and much more. These projects have significantly and sustainably improved the quality of life of the people living in the area, the identity and image of the region.

ELP is acclaimed as a modern and inspiring urban landscape with structures of deep symbolism. As a regional development strategy, it does not deny periods of prosperity and crisis, but actively uses all these as unique assets. With their high aesthetic quality and innovative environmental approaches and ecological benefits, these projects are signs of a dynamic and forward-looking mood and a request for others, including private investors, to follow this example and to implement not only high-quality architecture and open spaces but also high-quality jobs and services.

The development and implementation of the ELP is a joint venture project of Regional Association Ruhr (RVR) as the organiser of the park, the 20 municipalities Duisburg, Mülheim an der Ruhr, Oberhausen, Bottrop, Gladbeck, Essen, Gelsenkirchen, Bochum, Herne, Castrop-Rauxel, Herten, Recklinghausen, Waltrop, Dortmund, Lünen, Bergkamen, Kamen, Werne, Bönen, and Holzwickede, the two counties Recklinghausen and Unna, the three government districts Münster, Düsseldorf, and Arnsberg, the federal state North-Rhine Westphalia, and EmscherGenossenschaft and Lippeverband.

Since 1999, the buildings of the former farm Haus Ripshorst house the information centre for the Emscher Landschaftspark. An interactive exhibition shows well-known highlights alongside many smaller projects. Haus Ripshorst is surrounded by the "Gehölzgarten" showing the allocation of varieties of trees in a geohistorical context from "tertiary" to "cultured trees and shrubs".

b) BernePark

BernePark in Bottrop is located on the so-called Emscher Island between Gasometer Oberhausen and Nordsternpark Gelsenkirchen, directly linked to the Emscher Radweg (Emscher cycle path). BernePark is one of the extraordinary, transformed industrial monuments in the region: Wastewater has been treated here since the 1950s. In 1997 the sewage treatment plant with the two round basins and the turbine house was shut down and almost fell into oblivion. Its revitalisation as a place of industrial culture took place within the context of EMSCHERKUNST.2010 a summer art festival with installations and interventions at a number of places along the river Emscher.

Internationally renowned artists and landscapes architects (e.g. Piet Oudolf) transformed the previously inaccessible sewage treatment plant into a unique park. One clarifier remained as a lake accessible via a pontoon bridge, the second was transformed into a "theatre of plants" with thousands of perennials and grasses reminiscent of a green amphitheatre. The main building now serves as a restaurant and parts of the former machinery have been lovingly preserved as decorative highlights. The unusual "Parkhotel" is unique in Germany: Five canal pipes converted into bedrooms offer overnight experiences with views into the starry sky above the Ruhr Area.

c) Landschaftspark Duisburg-Nord

The former Meidericher Hochofenwerk, a disused blast furnace works, 5 kilometres north of downtown Duisburg, is the centre of the Duisburg-Nord Landscape Park. The park covers an area of approximately 200 hectares.

The structures left behind by the industrial past were unearthed by landscape architect Peter Latz and his team. The structural concept of the park is based on the idea of several "layers" connected at various points. From 1992 – 2003, the park was developed in separate steps. The blast furnaces are the former "hot heart" of the park and formed the widely visible centre of iron and steel production. The "Water Park" consists of the Alte Emscher river system and a new water collection network. A network of railway tracks at different levels structures the park into separate sections and offers sweeping views into the surroundings.

The “greening” is based on the diverse natural vegetation which spread spontaneously throughout the area. Visitors can find the “Gärten im Park” (gardens within the park) at selected locations. The singularity of each location is brought to the fore and presented in themed gardens. For example, the sinter bunker gardens were created within chambers with concrete walls formerly used to store minerals. The park’s spectacular appearance at night is the result of Jonathan Park’s light installation.

Duisburg Nord’s unique approach to dealing with the heritage and remnants of its industrial past has earned it local and international recognition. The park is a very special place for all the senses and appeals to many different target groups.

d) Relevance/Lessons for UL2L:

Similar to the lignite mining, the scale of the Emscher Landscape Park is certainly too big to be transferred as such to other regions. However, and the sites visited exemplify this, there is much in the entire scheme that causes a new understanding of the values and resources of spaces that are often considered to be waste land, brownfields, lost between main uses, unattractive or “out of use”. Such spots can certainly be found in many regions, often being part of the areas between settlement areas and landscapes. Their hidden values can be used to enhance the urban links to landscape (UL2L).

BernePark for instance is a good example how an infrastructure that has been made redundant can be used in an innovative way, offering the people that have always lived by and often suffered from this infrastructure new opportunities.

The services provided at Haus Ripshorst and its integration into the ELP with its cycling and walking tracks and with the bridges that open up areas that have not been accessible before (Emscher Island) is certainly a model to be transferred. Same is true for the new ideas on how to create and maintain a park - as shown with the Gehölzgarten at Ripshorst and even more with the Landschaftspark Duisburg-Nord turning industrial remains into follies within a multifunctional and nature related park – will inspire new ideas elsewhere. It is also the understanding of the way it was achieved by long term policies and financial support as well as by managing a fruitful cooperation of many public bodies and early and convincing inclusion of the public.

It must be stressed that the combination of architecture, art, culture, heritage, ecology gains and social improvements was and is a key factor for a new urban landscape (including the links between urban areas and the landscape) and for economic benefits, such as the allocation of new business sectors on former industrial sites in the Ruhr area with the Emscher Landscape Parks as one element.

World Café Dyck

On the third day of the workshop all participants met for a session to analyse the presentations and site visits in regard to the lessons learned and their outcomes for achieving the objectives and UL2L as well as to clarify next steps. This was done in a world café with three tables and three sessions. This allowed participant joining each table. At the end a summary was given on each table and partners identified the most important outcomes by giving five votes each. These votes are shown by the stars * below.

World Café Dyck: Table 1 *Visions*

These have been the guiding questions:

- What are/could be characteristics of urban fringes?
- What is my ideal of urban fringes?
- To what extent is the ideal real and/or what needs to be enhanced?

The vision about the urban green fringes was mixed:

More/better green is needed

- to ensure green belts and connections between activity zones ** **
- to hide ugly buildings, infrastructures etc. **
- to be more than just decoration
- to structure the growing urban zones
- to serve as a “green dock” between conurbation and landscape **

But other use forms within these areas will be inevitable

- to reduce the pressure on inner-city green
- to establish eco-friendly transport *
- to well locate health care, education, eco-system services, local agriculture etc. **

The implementation of better urban links to landscapes requires or can benefit from:

- convincing demonstration of and support for the cultural importance of the areas ** ** ** *
- simple administrative processes
- finding a common language between all specialists and the population
- following a finger approach for urban development into the landscape rather than a belt
- approach as these fingers offer “more fringes” and “opportunities for new designs” ** ** ** *
- the leadership for new developments to be with the planners, listening to the people and backed by politicians ** *
- keeping away shopping centres, which are for an increasing number of people their preferred landscapes, form the fringes and the real landscape
- fringes to be a chance for high quality urban areas rather than only be a stop for development ** ** ** *
- the resources for the higher qualities (as above) are made available **
- the replacement of the word “fringe” as it sounds a bit “far away” and “nobody’s land”. “Urban links to landscape” is a way forward, “green dock” may be another

During the two days of the workshop, participants saw a variety of industrial sites, mainly very large scale and several location specific factors, e.g. industry, landscape, political, financial, that have come together to enable regeneration. A question was somehow, if these sites were unique solutions to unique issues, problems, opportunities, cooperation?

What enables the rebirth of old industrial landscapes, what is the role of industrial heritage?

- Given back access to the people
- Recreation *
- Learning

And in this context

- Heroes are vital... ** ** as well as:
- Clear vision ** **
- Long term view
- Funding

What are the challenges?

- How to transfer to smaller cities/places with different approaches and cultures? ** ** **
- How can we disseminate what we've seen and heard back home?
- How can we bottle the enthusiasm and experience of what we've seen!
- How sustainable are the improvements?
- How can finance be secured for ongoing maintenance as well as the initial investment?
- How to adapt to smaller scale? ** ** **

What was Missing?

- Need to involve **more stakeholders, ambassadors, decision makers and expert views** from.
- Show **change** so that we can see the difference from how the old industrial areas used to look and operate. Perhaps looking at change since the 1970's.
- Discussion of **smaller scale** projects and **how to adapt to smaller places**.

Next Steps

- Consider what can be done in **smaller cities**.
- Further discussion on how to achieve **change in authorities** to make green space projects a success – finance, vision, skills, ownership.
- Involve **more stakeholders** / politicians ** ** ** *
- Important to use the presentations, workshops and visits to **bring different points of view** to daily work back home.

Dissemination of Learning

The group discussed how the valuable insights from speakers, presentations, questions, case studies and visits can be best captured to enable learning to be shared. Suggestions included:

- Small films could be made during future events to capture key presentations and visits
- Develop models based on the experience of development at the sites ** **
- Produce papers of issues ** ** *
- Develop practice guides. 'How to...'
- Identify common paths/solutions

Stakeholders

- a. experts and administrations (Strong Planers vs. Awareness how to communicate and involve other Stakeholders)
 - i. 5-6 Cities (describe their problems, give input about what is needed) *
 - ii. Politian, municipalities (decisionmaker, know what to do, rulers) ** ** ** *
 - iii. Universities, academic experts (knowledge) **
 - iv. Privat companies
- b. citizens / people (Encouragement to participate, involve in planning process, have knowledge and soft skills, their acceptance ensure long-term success) ** ** ** *
 - i. Locals (looking for Recreation, can provide memories)
 - ii. Children (Lab-School to provide creativity) **
 - iii. Farmers (use of the land, value of farmland)
 - iv. Immigrants
 - v. Tourists
 - vi. Non-profit organisations *
- c. Non-human stakeholders (do they have a Voice or an avocat? How to create awareness for this stakeholder?) ** ** ** *

 - i. Animals/ sites / building / Nature

- d. Future generations (do they have a Voice or an avocat? How to create awareness for this stakeholder?) **

Tools and Issues

- a. Identity (long-term and fundamental aim)
- b. Nudging (push & encourage to go into right direction)
- c. Value Mapping (to find shared values of the diff. Stakeholders & bring those together) *
- d. Communication (speak common language, open & honest about what is possible or not, informal approach, exchange with colleges, socialize between diff Stakeholders)
- e. Trust (Between diff. Stakeholders & diff. Planers) *
- f. Participation
- g. How representative are the stakeholders?
- h. “FACILITATORI DI PROCESSI” ** * & Independent Moderators ** can help to bring the stakeholders and planers together

The wished for UL2L result

- a. Provide a menu/ declaration/ guide ** ** ** ** *

Summary of the outcomes and suggestions given by participants

There was a strong appreciation for the value of seeing the range of **industrial landscapes** in the area. The **scale** of the current and previous industrial activity, in particular the coal mine, was a surprise to many.

There was a sense that a number of **location specific factors** (including industrial, landscape, political and financial factors) had come together to enable the activity in, and rejuvenation of, the area.

Several comments suggested that the sites visited were **unique solutions** to unique issues, problems and opportunities particular to the area. It was suggested that the scale of previous industrial activity in the area had meant that there was a **'blanker canvas' and greater freedom** to enable the rebirth of some of the new post-industrial landscapes that we visited.

There was a discussion about how **transferable** the approaches would to other regions. There was a sense that the sites were at a scale that was **considerably larger** than other partner regions, which made comparisons about how they could be implemented 'back home' slightly challenging. However, these large-scale projects seen in the area, all include **solutions for issues** that have to be addressed (e.g. the use of rain water, new paths) and of individual **approaches to use unique qualities** (e.g. for recreation, nature areas) **at smaller sites** too.

One partner highlighted that many old industrial areas in their region had tended to be demolished and that the visits demonstrated **the potential for new uses** of these landscapes for people. The options and values of **preserving elements of former use** should therefore be considered whenever sites will become derelict (is this the best term considering the modified approach?) in the future.

There was a strong feeling that the sites had showed how **industrial heritage is linked to cultural heritage**. There was a sense that sites had been **'given back to the people'** following years of industrial activity and pollution. **Former employees** were now returning to the same sites but as visitors. **Recreation** was identified as a key area that could be developed at sites like these, as was more **education** about these landscapes.

We saw the **nature** environment returning to these industrial areas with better ecology and initiatives to collect rainwater. There was a discussion about how **contaminated site** restoration requirements and approaches vary across the partner regions.

The advantages of recreated sites to be integrated into **a network of green pathways**, corridors, alleys etc. have been clearly visible. This tremendously increases their use for leisure and recreation as well as for nature and **climate mitigation** purposes. These green networks can, be a **backbone for sustainable transport** as for instance along the Emscher, where a fast track **highway for cyclists** linking many cities in the area is under construction, carefully integrated into the (new) green network.

'Heroes' were vital to start initiatives with a **clear vision** at the start to get everyone on board. This included planning colleagues and those financing the projects. A **long-term** view and a persistent and **open-minded management** are necessary for such significant developments. The need for **funding** and the significance of financial support from NRW **supported by ERDF** was acknowledged as being a key factor here.

Event feedback

Feedback was that the event was excellent and well organised. The workshop was an interesting mix of presentations, discussions and site visits and the background briefing note on the bus was useful. The location of the meeting at Schloss Dyck enabled the group to see a range of green places, not just industrial sites. Having 'topic' advisors from other counties worked well. Presentations that highlighted other aspects of greenspace were also very positive and highlighted how an integrated approach is necessary for the successful improvement and management of these landscapes.

NEXT STEPS / PROPOSAL FOR UL2L WORKING GROUP

On the third day of the workshop, the joint discussions alongside the three tables of the World Café in Dyck (as above), informed and inspired by the previous presentations and site visits, revealed various keywords and associations and showed the need for further discussions and more structural analysis during the UL2L project.

To deliver to this objective, the UL2L project's working plan includes a Working Group to be staffed by the partner's planning experts. This group will meet regularly (mainly alongside other UL2L events) and will work towards proposals for the best use and design of urban links to landscapes.

Based on the subsequent evaluation six striking topics emerged:

1. Leadership / Vision
2. People / Engagement
3. Planning / Green infrastructure
4. Multi-functional greenspace
5. Ways how to deliver
6. Ways how to share good practice

To be operational these topics points can be classified and summarised in three topics:

1. Communication and cooperation in the planning process
(covering "Leadership / Vision"; "People / Engagement"):
 - a. Description and evaluation of existing different administrative and political planning systems and landscapes in the partner regions
 - b. Description of possible tools: facilitators, mediators or others
2. (Good/best) Practice collection
(covering "Planning / Green Infrastructure"; "Multi-Functional Greenspace"):
 - a. Which needs and uses are associated with and located on landscapes
 - b. Concrete assignment which usage fits where to go? What makes sense where?
3. Tools and vehicles to publish our results
(covering "Ways how to deliver"; "Ways how to share good practice"):
 - a. How can the discussions, research and results from 1 and 2 become visible, comprehensible and transferable?
 - b. How can the UL2L project foster this, e.g. by creative mediation, low-threshold access

Proposal for the next steps to be taken by the project's Working Group:

The goal would be to address and further discuss these three sets of questions or topics on a meeting during the next workshop in Sweden. Are they fine and operational? Do they cover the needs and objectives of UL2L and Interreg? What needs to be modified or added? What are our first replies?

Based on this, the questions could then be further addressed in one workshop each. It is still to be considered which "homework / research / preparations" have to be done by the participants in the run-up to the meeting in Sweden AND which procedure can lead to a constructive and results-oriented workshop. Proposal are most welcome!