

SUMMARY OF THE ATLANTERRA PROJECT 2010-2012

1. General objective : ATLANTERRA, fuelled by the GREEN MINES project experience (co-financed by the INTERREG IIIB “Espace Atlantique” program), aims for the preservation, the promotion and the transnational structuring of the mining patrimony in the “Espace Atlantique”. The former mining regions gathered are determined to preserve and promote the patrimony they have in common, in order to create new resources. This project allows them to establish a shared practice for the management and organisation of activities related to their mining legacy in the “Espace Atlantique” and to help them solve any problem that they might encounter

2. Connection with the Operational « Espace Atlantique » European territorial co-operation Program. First and foremost the project meets the objective 4.3 of the “Espace Atlantique” operational program, that is to say « the preservation and the promotion of Atlantic transnational cultural patrimony ». Since this involves former mining sites, it also participates in fulfilling objective 1.3 of the program which aims at stimulating economic reconversion and diversification by promoting endogenous regional patrimony. Mining, and linked industries, are historically very important for the economic, social and cultural development of the “Espace Atlantique”. The waterways and sea-routes were widely used to transport the ore and thus a strong bond developed between the inland and coastal regions of the Atlantic.

3. Specific Objects of the Project. The particular objects of ATLANTERRA 2010-2012 are:

- (1) insuring the transnational availability, for the different communities, of archives and data bases aiming at a “mining memory” build up in the “Espace Atlantique” ;
- (2) Carrying out transnational touristic activities with an added value for each involved, creation of shared promotional material for the mining patrimony in the “Espace Atlantique” and improving the practices of tourist operators related with visits and information regarding the mining patrimony in the “Espace Atlantique” ;
- (3) Promoting encounters between transnational cultures and their artistic expression in order to « dress-up», with innovation, the sociocultural patrimony of the “Espace Atlantique” ;
- (4) comparing and evaluating the practices in use for sustainable development of the mining sites in the “Espace Atlantique”, in order to create a guide of good-practice for the development of mining heritage sites;
- (5) Enlarging the scope of research among the common history of mining patrimony ;
- (6) Forming a structured transnational network of the mining sites of the European “Espace Atlantique” dedicated towards enlargement and continuity.

4. The activities and actions of the ATLANTERRA project 2010 – 2012. The 6 main activities are split into 13 operations scheduled over a period of 36 months. The following are the partners which will be involved in all the activities:

4.1. Activity: ARCHIVES/REGISTRATION/ RESEARCH AND PRESERVATION

CENTRES (Leader (UK) Blaenau Gwent) + **(Deputy Leader (Irl)** Geological Survey of Ireland. Coordinated by Blaenau Gwent (UK)

- *ACTION: 1.1. Build up a transnational base of digital archives of written and visual “ living memories “, relative to the social-economic and cultural history of mining in the “Espace Atlantique”, centres of historical research and the preservation of collections ,tangible or otherwise, of the mining “remembrance” in the “Espace”*

4.2. Activity: GEOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDSCAPES (Leader (P)

Laboratorio Nacional de Energia e Geologia + **(Deputy Leader (E)** Instituto Geologico y Minero de España). Coordinated by Copper Coast Geopark (Ireland)

- *ACTION: 2.1. Study of the environment affected by industrial activity in order to build up a transnational map which allows us to illustrate and show to people, via technological means, the evolution of the mining landscape in the “Espace Atlantique”. For example: geological gardens and geoparks found locally ...*

Coordinated by Laboratorio Nacional de Energia e Geologia (P)

- *ACTION: 2.2. The 3 E’s Challenge: Environment, Economy, and Ecology of former and current mining sites and landscapes in the “Espace Atlantique”. Ecological study of sites (organisation integrated into the framework of sustainable development).*

4.3. Activity: MINING HISTORY AND ARCHEOLOGY (Leader (UK) Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales) + **(Deputy Leader (F)** Les Mines de la Brutz Association. Coordinated by Les Mines de la Brutz Association (F)

- *ACTION: 3.1. History of population migration which helped to create the mining activity in the “Espace Atlantique”*
- *ACTION: 3.2. History of commercial routes and the maritime and waterway transport of raw material which were extracted and transformed in the “Espace Atlantique”*
- *ACTION: 3.3. Archaeology of mining landscapes in the “Espace Atlantique” thanks to TIC (3D modelling).*

4.4. Activity: CULTURAL PATRIMONY (Leader (F) Commune de Noyant la Gravoyère + **(Deputy Leader (Irl)** Geological Survey of Ireland).

Coordinated by Geological Survey of Ireland (Ireland)

- *ACTION: 4.1. Development of cooperation: sharing of learning and knowledge relative to mining tradition and transmissing of mining - site revitalisation know-how.*

Coordinated by Les Mines de la Brutz Association - (F)

- *ACTION: 4.2. Transfer of skills relative to preservation and restoration practices of the mining patrimony in the “Espace Atlantique “*
- *ACTION: 4.3. Publications, by topic, of old and contemporary shared cultural expression, relevant to mining activity.*

4.5. Activity: TOURISM AND PROMOTION (Leader (UK) Blaenau Gwent) + **(Deputy Leader (F)** Commune Noyant la Gravoyère). Coordinated by Agencia de Desenvolvimento Regional do Alentejo (P)

- *ACTION: 5.1. Creation of shared promotional material concerning tourism and the mining-heritage sites in the “Espace Atlantique”*
- *ACTION: 5.2. Creation of tracks/paths for role-play” adventures “, treasure-hunting...*

4.6. Activity: VALORISATION OF MINING PATRIMONY (Leader (F) Commune Noyant la Gravoyère) + (Deputy Leader (P) ADRAL)

Coordinated by Noyant la Gravoyère and Les Mines de la Brutz Association (F)

- *ACTION: 6.1. Elaboration of a transnational strategy to promote and develop the economical, social, cultural, landscape and archaeological heritage of the "Espace Atlantique"*
- *ACTION: 6.2. Final European symposium and Publications*

5. The main results

Thanks to know-how sharing, the project will allow the formation of new preservation tools and the promotion of mining patrimony: the guide to good practice for becoming a mining heritage site, adventure tracks, geoparks, digital mining archives, artistic creation, publications, a European symposium, a shared internet portal, exhibitions, and maps of mining patrimony ...

6. The partnership

ATLANTERRA brings together 10 partners from 5 countries and their organisations and various skills stand, by their complementarity, for a wealth of possibilities for carrying out this project: professional bodies, scientists' organisations, Geoparks, development agencies, associations.... It will be at hand, geographically, wherever the 5 countries of the "Espace Atlantique" are represented.

A transnational partnership agreement will be signed by all the partners to specify the responsibilities of each member and the practical details of the organisation.

Acting as leader, the commune of Noyant-la-Gravoyère, with the logistical and financial support of the **Pays de Loire** region, will be responsible for the general setting-up of the project. It will insure the coordination and the administrative and financial management of the project. It will prepare the reports regarding their activities ready for the authorities. A technical department will be set up in order to better organise the leader's tasks (coordination, representation, secretarial requirements, accountancy).

A committee, gathering all the partners, will be appointed in order to insure to correct running of the project and to get strategic decisions. It will meet twice a year and may work by visio-conference, if the meeting is not feasible.

Each activity will be led by an experienced coordinator assisted by a deputy from another country both chosen for their technical and scientific complementarity.

Follow-up and evaluation "tools" will be established to insure the smooth running and fulfilment of the project