



CATEGORY urban/architectural

LOCATION Dunkerque : East Harbour/Pier 1

POPULATION 208,000 inhab.

STUDY SITE 18 ha **PROJECT SITE** 7 ha

SITE PROPOSED BY Dunkerque Urban Community (CUD) and City of Dunkerque

SITE OWNER Port Autonome de Dunkerque (Pier 1 currently being acquired by the City)

COMMISSION AFTER COMPETITION:

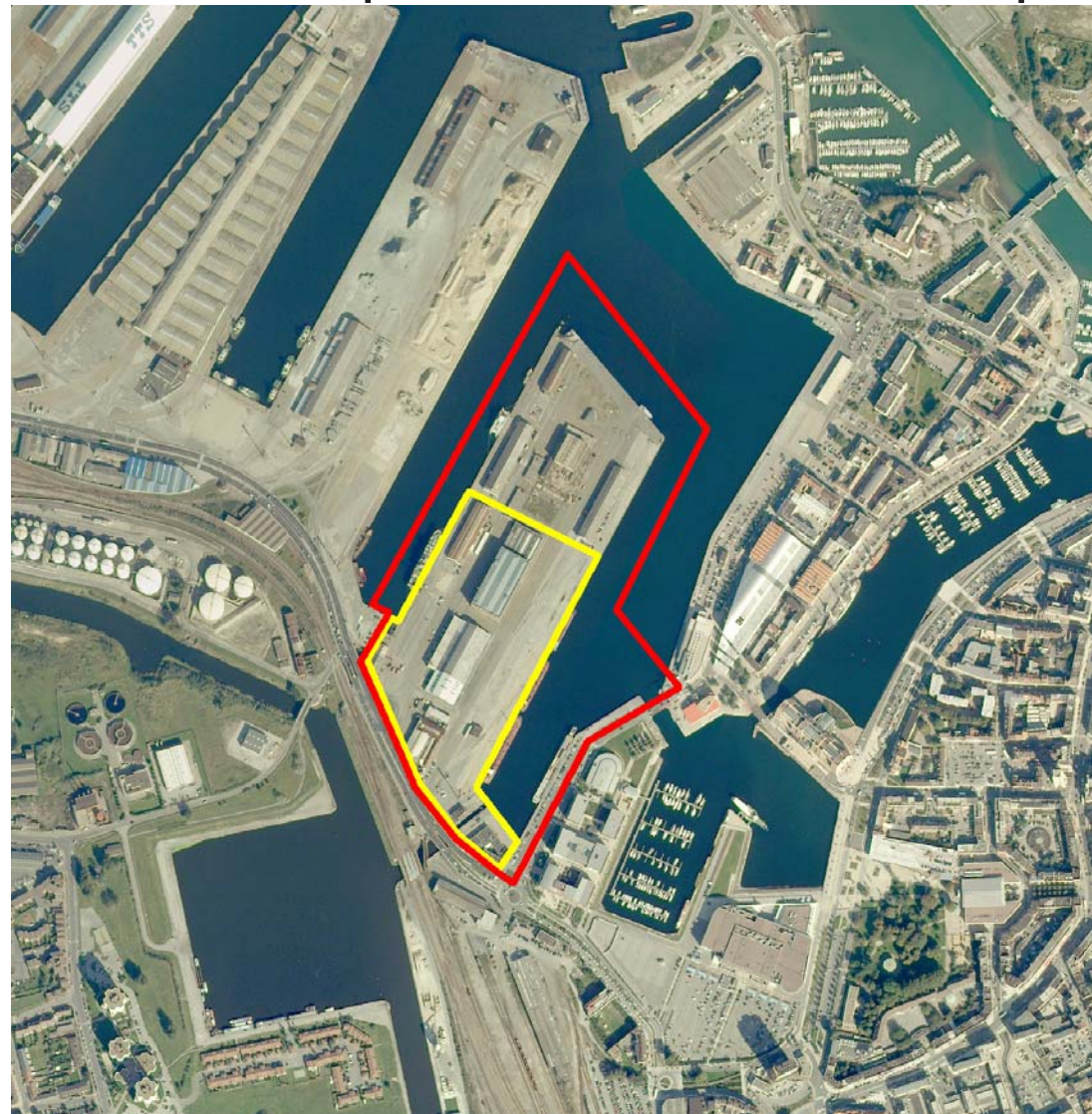
Urban project management. Project management for public spaces. Project management for 80 student lodgings and/or a cultural building of 7000m²

TRANSFORMATION OF SITE

Pier 1 is a former wharf in the Port of Dunkerque currently used for warehousing activities. It represents a major part of the "Neptune" urban development program (Richard Rogers) begun in the early 90s to reincorporate the harbour spaces into the city centre. Initially, the CUD aims to make it a cultural and recreational area. Subsequently, it wishes to make it part of Dunkerque city centre by building housing, amenities and shops. This means it is looking for an **EXPLORATORY URBAN STRATEGY FOR THE GRADUAL COLONISATION** of this area.

CITY STRATEGY

Since the early 90s, the city has been looking at ways to reabsorb the old Normed shipyards and the harbour area to the east into the urban fabric. The "Neptune" project lays the groundwork for turning the city back towards its harbour and bringing derelict industrial land into the urban fabric. It is currently continuing through the Grand Large project (Nicolas Michelin) and the regeneration of Pier 1. In addition, the City has commissioned an urban study for the restructuring of the city centre and the station area from the urban planner Joan Busquet.



SITE DEFINITION

The site is located on Pier 1, where the city centre meets the harbour. It has very close connections with the water. A competitive tender has just been launched for the conversion of the "Halle aux Sucres" into a space dedicated to the urban past and future of the City. The aim is to propose a gradual two-step urban strategy of colonisation:

Phase 1: the design of a platform for artistic creation (7000m²) open to the city, of a marina (400/500 moorings, linked areas and around 100 parking places), of a pedestrian/cycle bridge linking the pier to the Citadelle, of an 80 room student residence, as well as public spaces.

Phase 2: Eventually, the colonisation of Pier 1 by the city, with housing, shops and a few local amenities and services.

NEW MOBILITY

With the proximity of the high-speed (TGV) train station, which will be restructured, and of the city centre, the aim is to design a car-free neighbourhood, with the exception of the marina. For this marina, the nature of the access and parking arrangements will need to be considered very carefully, given that for technical reasons underground construction on the pier is impossible. The pedestrian/cycle bridge will provide a green link with the city centre.

NEW LIFESTYLES

The priority of the project here is to provide public spaces that enhance the urban and harbour landscape in order to make Pier

1 and its docks a walking area for the people of Dunkerque. This proposal could be based on establishing a visual connection between the architectural heritage (la Halle aux sucres, ...) and the maritime heritage (the Princess Elizabeth museum ship, the docks ...).

NEW SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

The City and Dunkerque Urban Community are keen for the project to incorporate a strong ecological dimension, in particular for the public spaces. The rain, wind and pollution coming from the industrial zone to the west are parameters that need to be taken into account.

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Sheltered dock road



Entrance to the jetty



Sugar Market



The lock