

Development Workshop 1973 - 1998

29 June 1998

Dear members, colleagues, and friends,

Development Workshop celebrates 25 years of work in human settlements and development this year. From a small group of architects fresh out of the Architectural Association in London in 1973, Development Workshop has grown to a non-profit network that has worked in over 30 countries and achieved international recognition. Today it has offices in Angola, Canada, France, and an affiliate organization in Mali.

To mark our 25th anniversary, we cordially invite you to join us in a three-day reflection cum celebration to be held on 28 to 30 July in Cubertou close to the Development Workshop office in southwest France. (This immediately follows our Annual General Meeting held on the 26 and 27 July). As has been the tradition in Development Workshop, we want to maintain an atmosphere where we can work and enjoy at the same time. Cubertou, located in the fertile landscape of the Lot river, provides a tranquil setting surrounded by meadows and woodland, lots of sunshine accompanied by good southwest cuisine.

The theme of the gathering will be *Development Workshop: the next 25 years*. The forces of globalisation present a major challenge to organisations working at local levels to promote a social order founded on equity and sustainability. During this period we wish to engage our members, colleagues and friends in a process of reflection and planning.

We start by examining the thematic areas of our work and the directions we wish to pursue in the context of our mission. The second day, we have invited several of our partner organisations to share their insights and identify ways we can develop greater synergy in our mutual interests. The respective units of the Development Workshop network will also be outlining their programming strategies.

On Thursday, the third and final day, we map out strategies on how we can continue to pursue development initiatives that empower people to access resources and build capacity as individuals and organisations to improve their lives. We examine, as a network, how to achieve scale and impact with the work that we do. And on the final evening we have arranged a celebration dinner, music and a surprise entertainment. Participants leave Cubertou on the morning of Friday, 31st July.

We will provide breakfast, lunch and supper (including local wines). A cash bar is available for spirits, beer and soft drinks. To those who have to remain "connected" the telephone takes incoming calls. Holders of Visa/Master Card with at least 6 months expiry date can purchase a "Globo" card from France telecom to make outgoing calls.

At present, we estimate that all participants will be billeted in Cubertou, some in shared rooms. If necessary, Development Workshop can reserve a room on your behalf at a nearby

bed and breakfast at the cost of French Francs 165/person/night including breakfast. Alternatively, tents are available for those who prefer to camp at Cubertou itself which has good facilities for this.

You will need to make your own travel arrangements but to coordinate pick up and drop off, we request that you provide our Canada office as quickly as possible with details of your arrival and departure (airline, flight number, arrival/departure time, origin/destination). By air, there are numerous flights daily from Paris (Orly/Charles de Gaulle) and other European capitals to Toulouse airport, which is about a two hour drive from Cubertou. We request that you arrange to arrive at Toulouse Airport or train station on Monday, 27th July as close as possible to 17:00 hours. We will do our very best to ensure that participants are met and dropped off on the 27th and 31st respectively. Those flying into Bordeaux, you will have to make an onward connection by train. Please advise us of your arrival details in Bordeaux so that we can suggest the most convenient train arrival point as there are several available. For those who are coming by car or bike detailed directions are provided in the accompanying documents.

If you have any queries or suggestions, let us know and we will try to accommodate them.

Should you need to contact us concerning last minute changes after 23rd July you can reach us:

- On the 24th of July at the Development Workshop office in France. To call from outside France +33 5 63 95 82 34 from within France 05 63 95 82 34
- From Saturday 25th of July at Cubertou. To call from outside France +33 5 65 24 66 30 from within France 05 6524 6630.

Sincerely,

FOR THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Maribel Gonzales

Enclosed:

- Development Workshop 25th Anniversary Celebration Invitation
- 28 to 30 July Provisional Programme
- Information on Directions to Cubertou and Pickup at Toulouse Airport
- Map of general area Southwest France
- Cubertou Brochure

INFORMATION ON DIRECTIONS TO CUBERTOU AND PICKUP AT TOULOUSE AIRPORT

Toulouse Airport

For those who have confirmed with DW Canada their pickup from Toulouse Airport on the 25th of July and the 27th of July, please meet your party at the bar/café located immediately opposite of the International Arrivals after exiting customs.

By Road from Toulouse (or from the South)

1. From Toulouse take the A62 motorway, signposted BORDEAUX, and exit at the Montauban exit. (Toll costs 14F)
2. Take the N20 North from Montauban to Cahors
3. D911 Cahors to Duravel (in Cahors, signposted VILLENEUVE/S/LOT)
4. In Duravel, turn right at the mini roundabout
5. Follow signs to St Martin Le Redon/Chateau De Bonaguil
6. When you reach a T-junction with the D673, turn left. Cubertou drive is the first left opposite white railings.

By road from Paris (or from the North)

1. Take or join the N20 South toward Toulouse.
2. Appr. 20 miles before reaching Cahors, exit the N20 and take the D673 toward Gourdon and Fumel. This is a well-signed junction, branching right off the N20.
3. Simply stay on the D673, which is not always as easy as it sounds because some of the villages have slightly erratic signposts. Keep going toward and through Gourdon.
4. Follow signs to Fumel.
5. This will take you right to St Martin Le Redon, about 5 miles before Fumel. As you arrive almost level with the village, you pass a tall medieval tower next to a farm on your left;
6. Cubertou is the first drive on the left after that tower, opposite a modern house with white railings; there is a signpost on the drive, but facing the other way from you.

Biking

1. With detailed (yellow) Michelin map n° 79 (for bikers) locate the village of St Martin-Le-Redon, on the D673 between Gourdon and Fumel, just North of the Lot river in the extreme southwest of the Lot department.
2. From the D673, ignore signs to St Martin le Redon: Cubertou is on the opposite side of the valley to the village itself; it is signposted from the D673, opposite a modern house with white railings. If in doubt ask for directions to Cubertou in the café in the village.

Up Cubertou drive as far as you can - when you can't go any further, that's Cubertou!

Cubertou

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