



## In short

The Reuris project for the Old Bydgoszcz Canal and its adjacent area means to create a new area with historical and spatial value to appear an attractive, green, recreational site. The project will include planning action, area analyses, social consultation, designing phase and implementation of the investments. The essence of the project is to create a package of governing principles for the urban river revitalisation process and to exemplify them by practical implementation.



Historical view of the Old Bydgoszcz Canal



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## General information

Bydgoszcz Water Node is a special place in Poland. Its unique character stems from the fact of connecting the East-European and West-European systems of inland waterways. It is also the connecting point of two main water channels of international importance: E- 40: leading from Gdańsk up the Vistula river to Warsaw, and then via the Bug river to Brześć, E-70: from Antwerp to Klaipeda – via Holland, Germany, Poland, Russia to Lithuania. The Bydgoszcz Old Canal entered Regional List of Monuments as the hydro technical monument. The attempts to put the object on the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List are now in progress.

## History of The Old Bydgoszcz Canal

starts in 16th century, when the first idea arouse. The idea was to connect two of the biggest Polish rivers: the Vistula and the Odra rivers with an artificial cutting.

The most important dates and facts :

16th century – first ideas pertaining to the connection of the Vistula and the Odra rivers with a channel ,

1766 – Polish concept of the channel’s construction according to the project of Florian Czaka ,

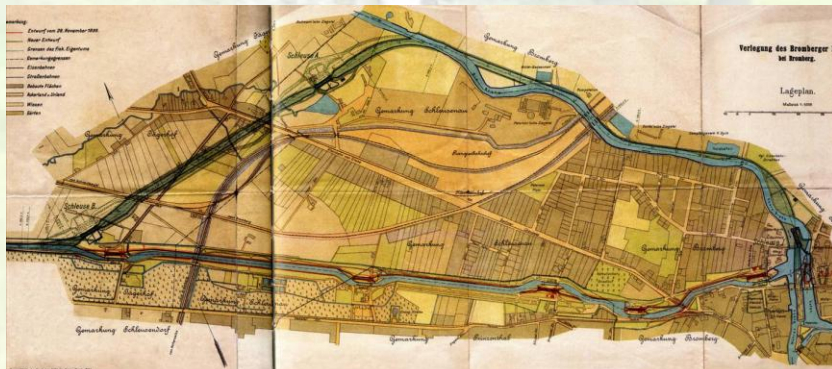
1773 – 74 - the channel’s construction ,

1915 – rebuilding of the Bydgoszcz Channel,

1969 – 70 covering of a part of the Old Bydgoszcz Channel,

1999 - turning over the Cersko Polskie water-gate for use

After changing the route of the canal and then filling up the part of it, the area was gradually losing its value and disappearing in the awareness of citizens as the recreational area.



This project is part of

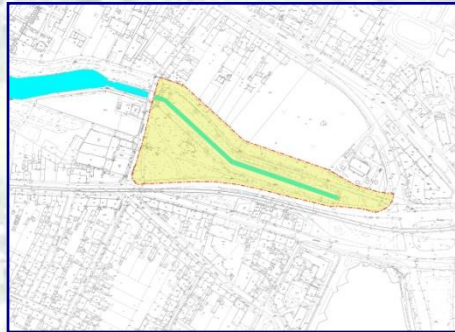
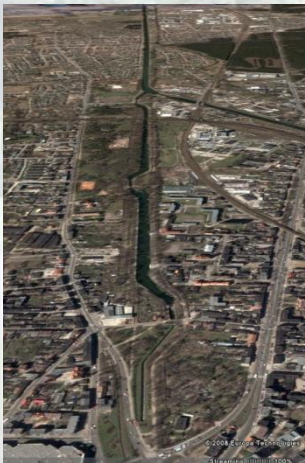






## Location in the city

The pilot project covers a small part of the inland water system which is also a part of the city's wildlife. The area constitutes one of the green axes of the city. It is the area of 2.4 ha, bordering with town centre and important transport routes. The area analysed during the project is a part of the bigger area connected with the Bydgoszcz Old Canal. Locks of historical value, the waters of the canal, ancient forest and central location are undeniably highly positive aspects of this area.



The Old Bydgoszcz Canal nowadays



Historical view of the Old Bydgoszcz Canal

## Current state of the area

The Old Canal has the form of a concrete water course which deprived the canal of its previous charm. It does not work as a recreational entertainment area and is unappealing road greenery area. Because of its historical significance, central localization, nature and functional potential, exposure in the landscape of the city and distinguishing value, the area requires conversion, particularly to increase its social function.

## Planned activities

- Analysis of the various conditions
- The development concept for the park located by the Old Canal
- The educational and promotional activities
- Technical project for the development of the pilot area
- Realisation of the investment

Reconstruction of existing water flow and adjacent area is planned within the project with reference to historical traditions of the place. Works will include enlarging water level, introducing decorative elements such as illuminated water cascades and adapting the adjacent area for recreational and leisure functions.



**For further information please contact**

Revitalisation of Urban River Spaces (REURIS)

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