

Urban regeneration of small industry areas - Évora, characterisation and opportunities

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In the context of the Portuguese urban system, over the last 50 years, a strong urbanisation has been verified as result of the increase of the population resident in urban areas. With regard to the growth of metropolitan areas, the medium-sized cities receive an important role in the Portuguese territory balance.

In medium-sized cities, small industry areas have a strong expression in the development and economic support, sometimes occupying wide areas of the urban territory.

In Évora's case, assuming that a city gread concentration has been achieved during the growth of the previous century, in nowadays, an industrial base is also identified showing some problems generated by the changes of the growth concepts and of the production paradigm, during the XX century. In these areas, deeply related to the railway as established on late XIX century and with the habitational and commercial units established during the XX century, there are large parcels of inactivated or obsolete industry, which origins the urban environment degradation.

After a detailed analyse on the evolution of Évora's industrial areas during the XX century and posterior analyse, the urban areas that, for several reasons, may create urban regeneration opportunities are identified.

On the identified basis, the implementation of a process for urban regeneration is particularly tested.

Keywords: Small-sized industry areas / Medium-sized cities / Évora / Urban Regeneration.