

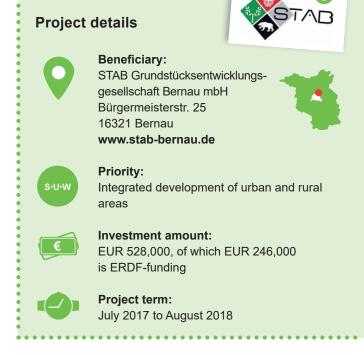
# **ERDF.** Making room for something new

At Bernau-Rehberge business park, Bernau's municipal property development company STAB has cleared an area of approx. 1.6 hectares of all kinds of hazardous waste. New building land for commercial premises has now been created on a site that was left derelict for a long time – a move that will boost Bernau's economic strength.

Located between Schönower Chaussee and Wandlitzer Chaussee in Bernau-Rehberge, the site is in the middle of an area formerly used for military purposes by the Red Army and CIS troops. Where halls, bunkers and barracks once stood, the newly developed business park will now play a significant role in the integrated urban district development of Bernau.

### Removal of construction debris and hazardous waste

Thanks to funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), Bernau's municipal property development company STAB was able to redevelop the long-standing derelict site in the north-west of Bernau near the A11 motorway. All sorts of construction debris, hazardous waste and remnants of former military use were to be found on the property.





### WHY IT MAKES SENSE

- Urban district development by converting the derelict area into new building land
- Upgrading of the business park by removing debris and rubbish
- Removal of military remains by the explosive ordnance disposal service
- Environmental protection thanks to the disposal of contaminated construction debris, asbestos and hazardous waste that pose a threat to nature and groundwater

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contaminated waste. First of all, sections of the area had to be cleared for munitions salvage. This was carried out using geomagnetic sounding. The explosive ordnance disposal service cleared suspected areas, ensuring that subsequent clearance work was able to proceed safely.

Piles of various types of hazardous waste, such as construction debris, scrap metal, glass, roofing felt and wood, had to be removed and transported to the respec-

The funding provided focused strongly on cleaning up

construction debris, scrap metal, glass, roofing felt and wood, had to be removed and transported to the respective disposal sites. In order to minimise environmental pollution, for instance, from asbestos, the material was not screened prior to removal. Merely coarse components were pre-sorted and temporarily stored on site. In the area adjacent to the motorway, a former 'fire extinguishing water basin' filled with household waste and construction debris had to be uncovered, removed and then professionally backfilled. The various layers in this 20 x 15 m basin were carefully separated, removed and initially also placed in temporary storage until they were finally taken away. After sampling, they were given the green light for safe disposal. After clearing, disposal and backfilling, soil profiling was then carried out to prepare the ground for later construction projects in the business park.

### A commercial area with a future

Following a soil protection investigation and approval, the commercial plots in Bernau-Rehberge were put up for sale by STAB. The urban development of this area was then driven forward with the help of ERDF support.



## DID YOU KNOW?

STAB is a company owned by the city of Bernau near Berlin. It manages the conversion of former military properties into sites for civilian use. Over the past 20 years, Bernau has grown into an attractive district for economic and social development. Former barracks have been partially converted into residential units and the business park has been redeveloped.