



Enhancing Training on Collaborative Planning of Natural Resource Management (EnTraCoP)

Core Skills Analysis

Country Study of the Czech and Slovak Republic

FINAL REPORT

Ecological Institute Veronica

(Local Chapter of the Czech Union for Nature Conservation)

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1. Introduction

1.1 Country/ies studied

Czech Republic & Slovak Republic

1.2 Objective and Purpose of the Core Skills Analysis

According to the Enhancing Training on Collaborative Planning of Natural Resources Management (EnTraCoP) project plan, one of the specific results of the project is the Core Skills Analysis (CSA). The objective of the CSA, coupled with the VET Assessment, is to establish a solid basis for designing the Trainers' tool package on collaborative planning (CoPack). The purpose of the study is to provide a comprehensive analysis of the working life requirements, the current situation and perceived needs and priorities of the planners in the target sectors of training on collaborative planning. In the CSA, a systematic framework of collaborative planning is formulated and the priority needs for training and support material are defined.

The primary beneficiaries and users of the CSA are the Project Partners participating in the design of the CoPack. In addition, the results are likely to have general public interest among the natural resources students and planners and their organisations.

1.3 Collaborative Planning as understood by the EnTraCoP project

Under the term collaborative planning as defined here in this study, lies an entire complex of methods and processes of active participation of all the stakeholders in the planning process and process of designing proposals and decisions about the use of landscape in the Czech and Slovak Republic.

In the Czech Republic, collaborative planning is mostly referred to as participatory, community, or action planning. Collaborative planning represents an entirely different philosophy of attitude towards landscape and land-use (including natural resources) planning, than which was applied here before 1989.

1.4 Material and methodology used

- interviews by phone or personal contacts:
 - We interviewed about five experienced people - professional planners, teachers and NGO employee - everybody actively work with people during urban and spatial planning process.
- monitoring of web sites
- our own library
- publications of
 - Partership Foundation (<http://www.nadacepartnerstvi.cz/enindex.php>)
 - Center For Community Organizeing (www.cpkp.cz)
 - Healthy Cities of the Czech Republic (www.nszm.cz)
 - Ecological Institute Veronica (www.veronica.cz)
 - Zivica (www.zivica.sk)
- our own experiences



- experiences of civic associations (we cooperating)
- analyzes made by another's project (donor CBC Phare - Public participation on assessments of projects with crossborder environmental impact; donor NROS/EU Funds – program Transition Facility – The Way you Shout at The Brno-city, The Way The Sound Comes Back)
- annual reports of NGOs
- questionnaires recommended by Oulu Polytechnic:
 - We sent about 45 questionnaires, but only 14 organisations answered us. Kind of organisations which replied us:
 - 4 professional planners (private companies - urban or landscape planning)
 - 1 Czech chamber of architects
 - 9 NGOs
 - Possible explanation for low rate of questionnaires return:
 - professional planners aren't interested in collaborative planning methods (it is something new for them and they are too busy to fill out „complicated“ questionnaire)
 - people from NGOs are participation leaders (active users of collaborative methods) in Czech and Slovak republic and they also have much more friendlier attitude to our organisation than private companies
- case studies

1.5 Target organisations

- individual
- public associations
- eco-counselling centres
- non-governmental organizations
- professional planners
- local authorities

1.6 Limits of the evaluation

- a. willingness to compile the questionnaire (probably too difficult and long)
- b. willingness to want to change barriers
- c. the lack of good practices of “culture of participation”
- d. both of countries prepare new planning process norms – because Czech and Slovak republic used common law before 1992, both countries will use the new acts of town and country planning and building regulations from January 2007. But the final versions are known now. By the platforms of NGOs the positions of civic associations will be worth because of these changes.



2. Introduction to Urban and spatial planning in the Czech Republic

2.1 Zone Planning and Building Code

The planning authorities as of January 1st 2003 are:

- municipalities
- regions
- Ministry for Regional Development
- Ministry of Defence

Municipality, on the basis of a delegated power, procures the local plan, regulatory plans and non-statutory planning materials. The municipal office with extended authority shall procure upon the request of the other municipality the local plan, regulatory plan and non-statutory planning materials.

Regional office

- a) performs the role of a superior body to the municipal authority;
- b) procures the regional plans;
- c) procures the non-statutory planning materials that are necessary for its activity.

Ministry for Regional Development

- a) procures those regional plans the approvals of which have been reserved by the government;
- b) procures the non-statutory planning materials that are necessary for its activity; procures the area technical materials for the entire territory of the Czech Republic that regularly check the land disposition state and aims;
- c) works as a superior planning authority to the capital of Prague and to the administrative regions.

In accordance with the valid Act No. 50/1976 Coll. on town and country planning and building regulations (in the wording of later regulations) the planning objectives and tasks are the following:

- Town & country planning deals systematically and globally with the land use, sets the principles of area arrangement and co-ordinates the construction and other activities influencing the land development as to their time and contents.
- Planning provides the background for sustaining the permanent harmony of all natural, civilisation and cultural values within an area, particularly with respect to the care of environment and the preservation of its elements - soil, water and air.
- Planning in its objectives emphasises the principles of complexity in using the land and changing its use, principles of consistence and continuity, and takes into account all social, economic, and cultural impacts of land development. It also respects the principle of sustainable land development.

Planning includes the following tasks and activities:

- defines the land use limits;
- regulates the functional and spatial dispositions of an area;
- determines the necessary clearance, restoration or reclamation interventions in an area and defines the way of its further use;
- delimitates preserved areas, preserved entities, zones of restricted activities and protective zones, and ensures the protection of all preserved areas, preserved entities, zones of restricted activities and protective zones;



- specifies principles and conditions for time and material co-ordination of locally concentrated construction;
- assesses and evaluates area technical impacts of constructions and other measures in the area being prepared;

2.2 Collaborative Planning in the Czech Republic

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The beginnings of land-use planning in the Czech Republic can be found in the Austro-Hungarian Empire in early 20th century. Planning was developed as typical regulatory planning with exclusive position of the expert. The public (owners, land managers) did not participate in the planning process. They were only informed and had only little or slightly higher chance to express their opinions on the presented plans. Some planning processes, which were in case of the land reform from the verge of the 19th and 20th century built on the principle of “optionality” and active participation of public (land owners), usually ended up unsuccessfully.

The planning of land use, in the Czech Republic represented by spatial planning, retained its expert character even after World War 2. After 1948 (beginning of the Communist era in the Czech Rep.), spatial planning was developed upon the principle of the so-called centralised democracy: plans were created according to clear political order, and were controlled and approved by the superior political bodies. Principles of democracy were reduced down to formal approval of local and spatial plans by local authorities (called “national committees”). All comments from outside the official bodies or active participation of public in the planning processes were openly undesirable. Special role was played by the fact that all the information on the condition of the natural environment including the way of using natural resources were treated as state secrets – they were considered strategic information for the defence of the state, and public had no access to them.

In the 1980’s, planning is gradually influenced by more environment-friendly ways of utilising the natural resources. But this is not the result of public pressure or the demand of state administration bodies, rather a clear result of the pressure of the so-called “expert public”, that is the interested group of experts (ecologists and environmentalists) working in planning teams involved in spatial planning, forest management planning, or land consolidation schemes. Neither these forms of planning, which clearly bear signs of environmental planning, could be addressed as collaborative.

In November 1989, the political situation changed substantially, which also affected planning processes. The changes of legislation, especially the Act on spatial planning and building code, Act on land consolidation schemes, Act on communities, Environmental Act, as well as e.g. the EIA Act, establish a greater scope of public input in the planning processes. Despite these major changes of planning processes, which are still under way and being refined in the Czech Republic, planning of natural resources use can still be labelled as expert work. This character of the planning is certainly highlighted by the existence of mandatory local limits on the use of natural resources, which are the content of special legal documents (Act on nature and landscape protection, Land Act, Water Act, Forest Act, etc.).

Development plans are carried out by professional planners and representatives of local authorities, partially also by the so-called “involved state administration bodies”. The public, represented mainly by voted representatives, enters the planning process:

- during the development of the requirement on planning documentation,
- during public discussion about the documentation,
- during the process of its definitive approval.

For planning in the Czech Republic it is therefore typical and also traditional to a great extent, that the public and state administration bodies do not actively participate on the elaboration of the documentation proposal itself. They only express their opinions and statements to it.



Despite the above mentioned statement it can not be said that collaborative planning is not applied in the Czech and Slovak Republic at all. It is true that the share of public participation in planning processes and the increase of their responsibility for the development of the landscape is constantly reinforced during the amendments of the appropriate legislation. The public interest required by law (mainly of owners) is most markedly expressed during the preparation of documentation for land consolidation schemes. Second important factor in the development of collaborative process is the existence and functioning of non-governmental organisations.

Thanks to the effort of the NGO's, which focus on the protection of environment, and partly also thanks to some landscape development schemes supported by the Czech Government¹, the process of spatial development gradually includes also the active participation of public (civic associations, interest groups). The principal problem of developing participatory planning is a great passivity of the public, and the necessity to raise their interest in active participation in making decisions on public issues. At present, Czech Republic is therefore dominated by the effort to explain the importance and contribution of participatory planning than to precise techniques related to it (these are more of a "by-product" of the pilot cases where participatory planning is used in practice). Active approach in establishing collaborative planning in the Czech Republic nowadays rests substantially upon the shoulders of the NGO's, and a selected group of "enlightened" town and village mayors, and is driven by the enthusiasm by the individual persons. By supporting the NGO's, the Ministry of Regional Development² and Ministry of Environment indirectly enter the support of collaborative planning as well.

Features of participatory planning are most markedly (thanks to legislation) applied in the field of land consolidation schemes, in the EIA and SEA process, less in spatial planning, and with minimum effect in case of forest and water management.

Generally, it can be stated that education in collaborative planning is needed by all the participants of the planning process in order to be able to communicate together. These are:

- bodies of local administration (state bodies, local authorities, regional authorities),
- planners (professional "creators" of the plan proposal),
- the public (citizens, NGO's, interest groups).

Public participation is clearly a part of the planning process at the moment when the development proposal induces the need for the EIA and SEA process to be carried out. Most of the foreign laws determining the rules for EIA issue from the presumption that by degradation of the natural environment, the basic human rights are breached (mainly the protection of health and property) in case of those citizens that live in the area in question. This is why the public plays an important role in the entire process, and can determine the content and extent of the assessment, evaluate its objectivity, and also demand compensation and damage reimbursement where applicable.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) – are defined by Czech Act No 100/2001 Coll. On the environmental impact assessment as amended by Act No 93/2004 Coll. The public, including the NGO's and local civic initiatives has the right to participate in the EIA process in its following phases:

- Announcement of proposal / scoping procedure,
- Documentation,
- EIA assessments,
- Public hearing.

In case of the three first mentioned steps, the participation of public is not directly active. This is carried out in the form of comments that are presented within the deadline as stated in the administrative process. In case of public hearing, which is legislatively covered by Regulation No

¹ Supportive programmes of the Czech Government, e.g. the Programme of Rural Areas Revitalisation or Programme of Landscape Care, strategically built on the activity of local communities.

² Competition Village of the Year, About People with People, or the establishment of the National Network of Healthy Cities and Communities.



457/2001 Coll. issued by the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic On professional eligibility and on the amendment of some other problems related to environmental impact assessment, this is a classical active participation of the public. The participants of the hearing are: the local authority in question, announcer of the proposal, authorised persons for carrying out the documentation and the assessment, administrative bodies in question, representatives of regional authorities, each citizen who expresses his interest, non-governmental organisations and local civic initiatives, press and other media. The public hearing in the Czech Republic is conducted by an authorised neutral person, the so-called mediator. Minutes are recorded during the public hearing, and the authority in question is obliged to send the minutes to the administrative bodies and regional authorities, and make it public on the internet. The opinion of the public is one of the baseline documents for issuing the statement by the appropriate authority.

The Act No 100/2001 Coll. is an important tool of controlling the state and citizens during the preparation of investment proposals and development concepts, where exists a potential risk of environmental and public health damage. This legislation is closely related to the consequential approval procedures, and is not possible to avoid it in case of clearly defined proposal, e.g. ones that include the utilisation of natural resources. Currently, no study course is available in the Czech Republic, which would specialise directly on environmental impact assessment. The EIA process is a part of study plans of the following courses: ecology, environmental sciences, agricultural ecology, landscape engineering, landscape architecture, land consolidation, landscape protection and management.

3. Public Participation and Strategic Planning according the State Environmental Policy of Czech Republic (2004-2010)

3.1 Basic Principles of Environmental Protection

- a) Increasing public consciousness of environmental issues
- b) Management of resources and sustainable consumption
- c) The precautionary principle
- d) The polluter pays
- e) The principle of integration
- f) **Public participation**

There are increasing attempts to apply direct democracy in the area of the environment; this entails **participation of individuals in decision-making processes** (participation in administrative procedures, holding of a referendum) SEA, EIA. Decision-making should be moved as close as possible to those who are directly affected by the intended activity (the principle of subsidiary). However, it is necessary to state that effective decision-making presumes a certain minimum qualification and must be rational. This is also connected with the development of human resources in the area of protection of the environment, which means not only preparation of professionals and administrators, but also broad environmental education and public awareness. This necessitates broad access of the public to information related to the environment and human health. This approach is frequently unacceptably limited with reference to business secrecy, etc.

Only educated and informed citizens and their representatives are capable of making the right decisions. Demagogy, manipulation of public opinion, inexact interpretation of facts, on the one hand, and negative points of view, suspicion and irrationality, on the other hand, are the greatest obstacles to effective environmental protection, which must create the framework for sustainable economic and social development. Consequently, SEP CR also introduces new targets in the areas of environmental education and free access of the public to information, and the use of new instruments, such as registers of pollution sources and hazardous waste production, integrated permits (IPPC), emergency plans, etc.



Public participation is an important principle, especially in relation to application of the principle of direct responsibility for protection against the detrimental effects of natural or industrial catastrophes. The public should participate increasingly in financing preventative measures, and this will simultaneously lead to greater public participation in decision-making on allocation of public funds.

3.2 Instruments of Public Participation

Active participation of all key groups and the general public constitutes one of the basic principles of sustainable development.

The main instruments for public participation at a national level consist in legislative measures and also “soft instruments” (without the nature of legislative measures). Soft instruments include particularly the institute of the referendum and local referendum, the institute of the ombudsman, the possibility of making comments on the part of the public in the areas of creation of economic and legislative instruments, subsidy policy, etc.

Environmental law and law in general (administrative law) in its valid form already contain all three instruments, i.e. the procedural triad, on the basis of which the Aarhus Convention is constructed.

The first instrument of this triad is the right to information, which is an essential component of the right to the environment (according to Article 35 (2) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms “*Every one has the right to timely and complete information on the state of the environment and natural resources*”) and is also a necessary precondition for qualified use of the other two instruments of public participation (participation in decision-making and access to justice). The basis of the right to information is contained in the general law on free access to information and the special law on the right to information on the environment.

In particular, public participation in the decision-making of administrative authorities is included in the general regulations of administrative law. The Code of Administrative Procedure (§ 14) assigns the position of a party to those whose rights, interests protected by law or obligations are involved in the procedure, those whose rights, interests protected by law or obligations could be directly affected (or who so states, however, only until it is demonstrated otherwise) and, finally, those for whom the position of participant is recognised by a special legal regulation. The Construction Code and also the Act on Integrated Prevention, Act on Protection of Nature and the Landscape, etc. are such special regulations.

In addition, the legal regulations regulate public participation in the creation of acts of administrative law, which are not issued in the form of an administrative decision, and also in creation of documents prepared by obliged persons under the supervision of the public administration (e.g. safety report pursuant to the Act on Prevention of Major Accidents). These regulations include particularly the Construction Code (land-use planning documents), Act on Environmental Impact Assessment (standpoint), Act on Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment (standpoint), etc.

The third pillar in the procedural triad (access to justice) is provided by the new legislation on administrative justice, contained in the Code of Administrative Justice. In the framework of administrative justice, the courts decide on suits against decisions of the administrative authorities, on protection against inactivity of the administrative authorities and on protection against illegal intervention of an administrative authority (and on suits on competence).

Provision for public participation in the creation of conceptions, plans and decisions is currently inadequate in CR and is based on several provisions of the Construction Code, primarily for EIA, SEA, IPPC, protection of nature and the landscape and both Acts on access to information. The new Construction Code and amendment to the Act on Environmental Impact Assessment will bring these processes into full accordance with the EC Directives and with the Espoo and Aarhus



Conventions and it will become possible to not only criticize local, regional and national conceptions, but also to participate in their creation.

At a local and regional level, a top-priority instrument consists in public participation in LA21 (see Instruments of Strategic Planning).

Measures:

- Ratify and implement the Aarhus Convention (including the EC Directive implementing it) and Agenda 21.
- Increase the role of nongovernmental organisations, partners for sustainable development.
- Provide technical, organisational and economic conditions for access of the public to information on the environment (public information centres, sectoral information system, publishing yearbooks, reports on the environment, publications, workshops, internet) and their active utilisation in participation in conceptual activities and decision-making of bodies of the public administration.
- Provide for participation of municipalities and the public in decision-making on the use of mineral resources in their territories.
- Increase active public participation in care for the environment (separate waste collection, planting of vegetation, use of local heating units with cleaner and more economical technologies, etc.).
-

3.3 Instruments for Public Participation

a) *Right to information*

- Act No. 106/1999 Coll., on free access to information, as amended;
- Act No. 123/1998 Coll., on free access to information on the environment, as amended.

b) *Participation in decision-making of administrative authorities*

- Act No. 71/1967 Coll., on administrative proceedings (the Code of Administrative Procedure), as amended (esp. § 14);
- Act No. 50/1976 Coll., on town and county planning and building regulation (the Construction Code), as amended (esp. § 21, § 34);
- Act No. 244/1992 Coll., on environmental impact assessment of development conceptions and programs, as amended (§ 14);
- Communication No. 91/2001 Coll., I.T., on adoption of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (ESPOO);
- Act No. 100/2001 Coll., on environmental impact assessment and amending some related laws (Act on Environmental Impact Assessment);
- Act No. 76/2002 Coll., on integrated pollution prevention and control, the integrated pollution register and amending some laws (Act on Integrated Prevention) (esp. § 7);
- Act No. 114/1992 Coll., on the protection of nature and the landscape, as amended (esp. § 70);
- Act No. 254/2001 Coll., on waters and amending some laws (the Water Act), as amended (e.g. Chapter IV, Chapter IX);
- Act No. 86/2002 Coll., on protection of the air and amending some other laws (Act on Protection of the Air) (e.g. § 36);
- Act No. 353/1999 Coll., on prevention of major accidents caused by selected hazardous chemical substances and chemical preparations and on amending Act No. 425/1990 Coll., on the District Authorities, outlining of their competence and on some other related measures, as amended (Act on Prevention of Major Accidents) (Chapter V);



- Act No. 153/2000 Coll., on management of genetically modified organisms and products and on amendment to some related laws (esp. § 12).
- c) *Participation in administrative justice*
- Act No. 150/1997 Coll., on the Code of Administrative Justice, as amended by Act No. 192/2002 Coll. (esp. § 33 ff.).

3.4 Instruments of Strategic Planning

Strategic and action plans are comprehensive programming documents of municipalities, cities, microregions, regions and the state. They formulate the strategy for the development of an entire community, all the spheres of its functioning and an entire territory, with emphasis on the interconnections and mutual support of the proposed targets. Because of the role that strategic planning plays in the development of the community, it is necessary to ensure that it takes into account the principles of sustainable development and attempts to interconnect economic and social aspects with the area of the environment. The process of strategic planning must simultaneously be completely open and transparent.

Local Agenda 21 is an instrument for implementing the principles of sustainable development at a local and regional level. This is a process that improves the quality of life in all its aspects, through improvement of administration of public matters, strategic planning (management), public participation and use of all the obtained knowledge on sustainable development in the individual areas. It is directed towards responsibility of citizens for their lives and for the lives of other creatures in space and time.

Territorial land-use planning is a very effective instrument in implementing the targets of sustainable development; it has a long tradition and a stabilised legislation and organisational, technical and professional base. The preparation of territorial land-use plans for long periods of time establishes the degree and seriousness of factors affecting the environment, whether this is the re-allocation and use of areas, fragmentation of the landscape by transport structures or generation of demands on transport. Cooperation is required between MoE and the bodies responsible for preparation of land-use plans already

in the phase of accumulation of basic documents and formulation of the terms of reference and conceptions of land-use planning documents, in order to incorporate requirements in the

area of land-use plans into the environment. Thus, land-use plans enable effective protection of nature, the construction of territorial systems of ecological stability and protection of the recreational base of urban residential areas and industrial agglomerations. As land-use plans have the greatest details and predictive ability in connection with the functional use of the territory at the level of the individual municipalities, it is necessary to prepare a chapter on the environmental impacts of measures for the land-use plans of municipalities.

The prepared amendment to Act No. 100/2001 Coll., on environmental impact assessment, which also encompasses assessment of the environmental impact of conceptions, plans and programs, includes a procedure for assessment of any transboundary impacts. CR has already elaborated various specific provisions on transboundary environmental impact assessment in bilateral agreements on cooperation in protection of the environment with Germany, Slovakia and Poland. However, at the present time, new bilateral agreements are being prepared with all the neighbouring countries to deal with the operative procedure in transboundary assessment, as required by Article 8 of the UN ECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context.

The new Construction Code under preparation, which should replace Act No. 50/1976 Coll., on town and country planning and building regulation as amended from 2005, includes stricter requirements on environmental impact assessment in accordance with European legislation.



Measures:

- Ensure support for strategic and action planning across the sectors.
- Interconnect support at all levels of the public administration.
- Attempt to improve the quality of management in the regions on the basis of LA21 (including indicators of SD and other expert methods).
- Create criteria for assessing the quality of the LA21 process.
- Simplify conditions and provide motivation so that good LA21 become a common instrument in functioning of the public administration in CR.
- Include implementation of the LA21 process as a supplementary criterion for evaluation of applications for allocation of subsidies (NGOs from the funds of MoE, municipalities and regions from the funds of MRD).
- Incorporate LA21 into the legislative and methodical framework that will determine the quality of strategic planning in municipalities/cities/microregions/regions.
- Promote and increase information levels on instruments of strategic planning on the basis of specific cases of good practice in LA21 in municipalities, cities, microregions and regions.
- At an international level, increase the prestige of CR on the basis of examples of good practice of LA21 in municipalities, cities, microregions and regions.
- Include environmental impact assessment in the regulations for implementation of the new Construction Act.
- Respect specially protected territories, localities of the Natura 2000 system, wetlands, protective zones of water sources, protected areas of natural accumulation of water and potentially utilisable deposits of industrial minerals.
- Incorporate the territorial systems of ecological stability.
- Maximally utilise abandoned or poorly used areas and structures – brownfields – for industrial and other human activities.
- Prevent excessive fragmentation of the landscape and promote its ecological stability.
- Preserve or extend the area of territories with good air quality and maintain pollution limit values and emission ceilings.
- Respect locating places of operations, that could be a source of serious accidents, outside of human settlements, specially protected territories and protected areas of natural accumulation of water and designate areas of anthropogenic anomalies of high-risk substances, where they constitute an obstacle (limit) for new functional use of a territory.
- Respect waste management plans at a national level and at the level of the regions and waste generators.
- Respect plans for the main water courses and plans for riverbasin areas.
- Respect protection against noise.
- In proposals for location of large energy sources, verify the greater importance in land-use planning in a number of variants, including a decentralized energy supply system.



4. Brief description of the planning processes and key actors in the focus sectors

Currently valid act is the Act No. 50/1976 Coll., on town and country planning and building regulations as amended. This act has been amended and modified several times since its creation. Though it has been created in the era of communist regime its conception was relatively modern. Multiple amendments after 1989 did respect new political reality as e.g. protection of private ownership, market economy, autonomous municipalities, autonomous regions, involvement of public, emphasising nature and landscape preservation, environment protection, and preservation of cultural heritage. Amendments also covered the area related to respect for handicapped persons.

According this Act the key actors of the planning process are: **municipalities, land-owners, investors, public associations, touched authorities.**

The next related norms and conceptions are:

4.1 Related norms in the Czech Republic

- Regulation No. 132/1998 on the detailed provision of the law no. 50/1976
- Regulation No. 135/2001 of Ministry of Regional development on land planning basis and land planning documentation
- Regulation No. 191/2002 of Ministry of agriculture on technical requests for agricultural buildings
- Regulation No. 369/2001 on Ministry of Regional development on technical requests for handicap people
- Regulation No. 433/2001 of Ministry of agriculture on technical requests for building in forests

The regional municipalities were in 2000 established. Then starting strategies and programs were general and it was necessary to start implemented EU rules. Most of documents contain the base monitoring of actual situation, mapping and evaluation and suggestions for future steps. At the regional level have all regions their own "Regional development plan", where some factors and monitoring indicators are taken into account. Special document is territorial system of ecological stability established 10 years ago, then it isn't reflecting Construction code but nature and landscape conservation generally.

4.2 Related norms in the Slovak Republic

- Act No. 236/2000 amending the Act of Slovak National Council No. 138/1992 Coll. on Authorised Architects and Authorised Civil Engineers and the Act No. 455/1991 Coll. on Trades (The Trades Licensing Act) as amended by later regulations
- Act No. 533/2003 amending Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 138/1992 Coll. on authorised architects and authorised civil engineers as amended by later regulations
- State Regional Policy, adopted by Decree of Slovak Government No. 802/1997
- Slovak Spatial Development Perspective 2001, adopted by Decision of Slovak Government No. 528/2002
- Act No. 237/2000 Coll. of the National Council of the Slovak Republic modifying and amending Act No. 50/1976 Coll., on town and country planning and building regulations



(*amendment No. 479/2005*). as amended, and on the Modification and Amendment of Some Acts. This Act deals with land use planning and land development. According to this Act every land use scheme and every development must proceed in ways permitted by Land Use Law and the Building Code. Apart from above legislation, protection of several components of the environment (such as water, air, soil, forests) and economic activities (forestry, hunting, fishing) are subject to special legislation and are reflected in the spatial/land use plan.

- The Regulation of the Ministry of Environment No. 55/2001 on landscape planning survey and documentation” defines principles used in preparation of landscape planning documentation and specify contents of individual hierarchical types of documents. Four hierarchical levels are distinguished: Concept of the spatial development of Slovakia; The landscape plan of region; The landscape plan of municipality (cadastre); The landscape plan of zone.

Spatial planning/land use planning in the Slovak Republic is a relatively complex set of instruments and methods at the national, regional and local levels, with the emphasis on applying the decision-making power by the self-government and executive authorities at these levels. The system character of the instruments has not yet been sufficiently reflected in the planning practice, due to the uncompleted state of the self-governing institutions at the regional level of decision-making. Therefore the informal instruments come to the forefront in the process of decision-making, as they are applicable in the vertical as well as in horizontal integration and in co-ordination of various interests in the territory. It deals with integration of the economic, social and environmental interests that are represented by the sectors (horizontal level) and at the other side by co-ordination of community interests that are the subjects of planning superintendence of the municipalities between the regional and national levels. Spatial planning/land use planning in the Slovak Republic is of general kind, where the sector policies are included. However, consequently the outputs must be reflected in the spatial plans at different scale and geographical (national, regional, local, zone) levels that is in the form of blueprint allocation of land-use. Therefore, in the context of spatial development, the main focus is on the spatial/land-use plans that are the main instruments for land allocation that should be based on the integration of social, economic and environmental issues in the given space following the outputs of sectoral and some horizontal development policies. That is the instrument that, according to the law, has to implement the spatial plan policy at national, regional and local levels in the Slovak Republic.

Programs, studies and conceptions mentioned above are consistent with law but it is necessary to replay here that this documents are mostly uneffectual, they play just the role of guiding to final state of development.

It is important repeat again that The Czech and Slovak republic used common law before 1992, both countries will use the new “acts of town and country planning and building regulations” from January 2007. But the final versions are known now. By the platforms of NGOŝ the positions of civic assosciations will be worth because of these changes.

4.3 The Planning Process

a) The procedure when drawing up the territorial (regulatory) plan

Preparation

This phase contains – preparatory work, and processing surveys and analyses.

Submission

Submission is the initial step in the process of drawing up the UPD (territorial planning documentation). The basic contents of an UPD are set by annex no. 1 of regulation no. 131/1998, Collection of Laws. The preparation of a quality submission is the responsibility of the submitter



and is a prerequisite for ensuring the resulting UPD. The submission is publicly debated and every citizen can state their opinions.

The concept of the solution

The concept of the solution is provided by the submitter on the basis of an approved submission. The concept of the solution resolves the comprehensive development of the territory and to the same extent as the resulting proposal (usually in several variants). The basic contents of the concept are determined by annex no. 2 of regulation no. 131/1998, Collection of Laws. The results of the debating of the concept of the solution are an aggregate standpoint that is worked out by the submitter and approved by the relevant approval body. The aggregate standpoint summarises and evaluates the standpoints, comments and objections of all the participants of the proceedings.

The proposal

The proposal modifies the concept of the solution on the basis of the aggregate standpoint. The proposal that was in accordance with the building law is debated and judged and then prepared for final approval.

Changes in the UPD

If the conditions under which the UPD was drawn up change, the village is obligated to update the UPD with the changes or possibly create a new UPD.

b) The rights and responsibilities of a citizen when drawing up a territorial plan

When drawing up territorial plans and regulatory plans of villages the participation of the public is ensured by the building act in several phases of the drawing up process: when debating the submission, when debating the concept of the solution, and when debating the proposal of the territorial planning documentation.

The submitter is obligated via a public announcement to announce the place and date of the debating of the UPD proposal. The concept of the submission must be publicly accessible at the submitter's and possibly at other locations that are stated in the submission. Every citizen has the opportunity to become acquainted with the proposal and can also present his or her views, comments and recommendations in writing, however, no later than within 15 days from the last day the proposal was made public.

The concept of the solution of the territorial plan of the village and the regulatory plan is publicly debated and it must contain a publicly understandable explanation. The date and location of the public debate must be announced by the UPD submitter at least 30 days in advance and citizens must have the opportunity to examine the concept of the solution in this time period. Citizens may make their comments no later than within 30 days after the public debate. The owners of land and buildings and structures whose ownership rights are affected by the prepared territorial plan of the village or the regulatory plan (e.g. proposals concerning publicly beneficial structures) can submit objections no later than within 30 days after the public debate. The submitter of the UPD is obligated to tell them within 30 days of the approval of the aggregate standpoint that their objections were taken into consideration. If the opposite is true then they must be made aware of the reasons why their objections were not taken into consideration.

The proposal of the territorial plan and the regulatory plan must be made public and be publicly accessible for a period of at least 30 days at the submitter's and possible at other prescribed locations. The submitter is obligated to announce this fact to citizens via a public announcement. In this phase the owners of land and buildings and structures have 15 days from the last day the proposal was made public to make their objections or their not agreeing with the refused objections to the concept of the solution. Everyone can state their objections in the same period of time.



c) The citizen and drawing up an urbanist study

The procedure for drawing up an urbanist study is not prescribed by the building act. If an urbanist study is utilized as a concept for the territorial plan, it is further debated as the UPD. An urbanist study is primarily utilized by rural villages that would like to participate in the government's "Rural development program" and acquire means from its subsidy titles for the planned event.

4.4 What else should a stakeholders know?

A citizen should know the following:

- Territorial planning is not a matter just for experts.
- It is very important to be concerned about the surroundings one lives in and also in the purpose and significance of the territorial planning documentation. Currently a citizen starts becoming concerned with an UPD usually at the moment when he or she becomes aware of its legal ramifications with regard to his or her interests or they realize that their interests are affected via the realization of someone else's interests.
- The building act does not unambiguously give villages the responsibility of drawing up territorial planning documentation and that is why the village representatives can have the opinion that the existence of an approved UPD in the village is not actually necessary; however, it is necessary to be aware of the fact that without territorial planning documentation it is not possible to coordinate an important new building project nor define publicly beneficial structures. The existence of an UPD is also important for territory that is in danger of being flooded because it is this documentation that states where the territory that may be flooded is (if it was set down by a relevant water management body) and the form of directions concerning anti-flooding protection. Thus problems and disputes over future territory and building proceedings will be avoided.
- He or she has the right to know whether the village has territorial planning documentation and whether or not it was changed.
- He or she has the right to initiate an UPD.
- Via the realization of an UPD it is possible to avoid the unfavourable impacts of certain activities. An UPD protects the material cultural values of the territory and helps maintain the "genia loci" of the village. It is a guarantee of the purposeful organization of the territory.
- The areas that are demarcated in the UPD as areas that can be built upon are an important stimulator for possible investors wishing to invest into village buildings.
- The existence of an approved UPD (or at least urbanist study) is also a condition for being approved for certain government grants and EU programs (e.g. rural development program, the PHARE program, etc.).
- The submitter is responsible for preparing for the lay public an understandable explanation of the proposed solution and also that the building act leaves enough time for the public to verify the proposed solution.
- The citizen has the right (primarily via business chambers, real estate owners associations and other public associations) to enter into the process of drawing up an UPD already during formulating stage and all subsequent phases. It is a mistake to assume that drawing up an UPD without the participation of the public will be faster and that possibly money will be saved on promotion and other necessary activities when drawing up an UPD. On the contrary, the results of this approach can be long ongoing disputes when approving the UPD and the delay of the realization of development objectives.



5. Factors influencing the need for collaborative planning

5.1 Legislation

The main impulse for the development of collaborative planning in the Czech and Slovak Republic is:

- a. **legislation** – determines the obligations, form, and extent of co-operation
- b. **pressure of the non-governmental organizations** specialising in the protection of natural resources, which are closely co-operating with foreign partners (EU, USA).

All changes of landscape utilisation in the Czech and Slovak Republic are carried out mainly through: **spatial planning including EIA and SEA; land consolidation schemes; forest management schemes; drawing the territorial (regulatory) plan.**

All the planning processes in their legislation determine the need of co-operation between the planner and the representatives of institutions of local administration and public. The extent and required form of cooperation differ in the individual laws. **The most important laws that determine the need of participation in landscape utilisation are:**

- Act No. 50/1976 Coll., on town and country planning and building regulations (as amended)
- Act No 100/2001, Coll., on environmental impact assessment (EIA), as amended by Act No 93/2004 Coll.
- Act No 139/2002 Coll., on land consolidation schemes and land authorities
- Act No 289/1995 Coll., on forests and the change of some previous laws (Forest Act)
- Regulation MoA No 83/1996 Coll. On the processing of local forest development plans and determination of management complexes, and Regulation MoA No 84/1996 Coll. On forest management planning (both from March 18, 1996).
- The obligation to discuss the regime of protection of landscape with the public issues also from the amendment of Act No 114/1992 Coll., On nature and landscape protection that defines the determination of sites NATURA 2000.

5.2 The Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development

The IEP was commissioned by The Office of the Czech Republic Government to draw up a sustainable development strategy proposal for the Czech Republic with a requirement for direct public involvement. Members of the public, the central authorities of the state administration and regional and local governments presented their comments on the proposal during public meetings and regional roundtable discussions.

This strategy provides a framework for the political decision-making process within the context of international commitments; its thorough implementation is leading towards sustainable development for the Czech Republic. The strategy pursues a balance of social, economic and environmental concerns, which is a condition for the future quality of life in the Czech Republic. The Sustainable Development Strategy for the Czech Republic was approved under Government Resolution No. 1242 on 8 December 2004.

5.3 National Plan of Regional Development of the Slovak Republic

A fundamental conceptual solution for meeting the conditions of integrated approach to planning and management of land resources will be brought by implementation of the **National Plan of Regional Development of the Slovak Republic**, particularly in relation to effective land resource



management and in relation to demographic development in Slovakia. It is the basic development document for the implementation of the structural and regional policies of the Slovak Republic for the period 2004-2006, prepared by The Ministry of Construction and Regional Development. NDP identifies balanced regional development as one of its specific objectives, addresses disparities in the levels of development for individual regions and support their long-term sustainable agricultural and social growth.

5.4 Conception of Spatial Development of Slovakia 2001

In 2003, the competence in the field of the building order and spatial planning besides the ecologic aspects was transferred to the Ministry of construction and regional development of the SR. The most important tool in the field of spatial planning activity is being considered the **Conception of spatial development of Slovakia 2001 (CSDS 2001)**, which was approved by the SR Government.

The concept of the spatial development of Slovakia is based on the Regulation of the Slovak government No. 528/2002. CSDS 2001 solves the questions of the spatial arrangement and functional usage of the SR territory in relation to the international relations, as well as from the view of SR national interests in guiding the development of the particular SR regions. It determines the arrangement and hierarchy of the settlement structure and junctions of economic and settlement agglomerations, it determines the development of the main urbanization axes in the SR area, it determines the main guiding principles for the creating of the equivalent living conditions in whole area of the SR, for improvement of the environment, providing the ecological stability, preserving the cultural and historical heritage and for sustainable development.

Conception of the connections to the European settlement network comes out not only of respecting and acceptance of the contemporary European conceptions of national network development, of the neighbouring countries conceptions, but also from the our own visions of joining and using the settlement structure of Slovakia into central European spatial frame.

CSDS 2001 as spatial planning documentation is binding for all planning system of the SR and must be projected into the spatial plans of regions, into the system of systematic and material measures, as the proposals of the particular actions, legislative regulations, development programs and proposals for the public investments from the view of the central state organs.

Regarding the international obligations of the SR in the field of spatial planning, there is developing the cooperation in the frame of European Union *DG Regional policies* – in Work group for the spatial and urban development and in the Group for the urban development and *DG Environment* – Municipal environment. In the frame of European Council the activity is in the frame of European Conference of the ministers responsible for spatial/regional planning – CEMAT. Active is also the participation in the frame of the UN ECC *Committee for the human settlement*. As a chairman country we provide the cooperation in the Work group for spatial planning of the *Working community of the Danubian countries ARGE Donauländer*. There is also developing the cooperation in the field of spatial development of the border territories. According to signed agreements there is provided some elaboration of the projects with Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, and Ukraine.

5.5 Public Participation by Law

There is no uniform regulation of public participation in proceedings that have an impact on the environment, which allows for various interpretations as to which law should be used for the proceedings and for preventing participation of the general public. (e.g., the Forest Act does not allow public participation. Forest management authorities use this fact in practice and hold their proceedings without public participation pursuant to the Forest Act, even in cases, where



dozens of non-forest trees (outside forest) are to be felled and where the Act on Protection of Nature and the Landscape should be employed.)

Pursuant to the Czech laws, a distinction must be made between consultative and “full” participation in decision-making on specific activities, where only “full” participation encompasses the right to contest the decision before the courts.

Consultative participation involves any natural or legal persons without any limitation. In its framework, the general public may submit their comments. Consultative participation takes place:

- within preparation of land-use plans (Sections 17 to 31 of the Construction Code)
- within the EIA and SEA processes (Act No. 93/2004 Coll.)
- within the discussion of safety programs and emergency plans pursuant to Act No. 353/1999 Coll., on prevention of major accidents
- within the proceedings concerning permission of individual forms of management of GMO pursuant to the new Act on Management of Genetically Modified Organisms (Act No. 78/2004 Coll.) The Parliament of the Czech Republic has been discussing an amendment to this Act since the autumn of 2004.

Full participation applies only to non-governmental organizations (rather than to the public in general) and is applicable:

- in processes that are subject to Section 70 of Act No. 114/1992 Coll., on protection of nature and the landscape (associations or their organizational units, whose main objective pursuant to the constitution is nature conservation and landscape protection),
- in processes that are subject to Section 23 (9) of Act No. 100/2001 Coll., on environmental impact assessment, as amended, (“locally competent unit of an association or generally beneficial company, whose object of activities consists in protection of public interests that are protected pursuant to the special regulations”),
- in proceedings on issuing an integrated permit pursuant to Act No. 76/2002 Coll., on integrated prevention (“associations, generally beneficial companies, unions of employers or economic chambers, whose object of activities includes enforcement and protection of professional interests or public interests pursuant to the special regulations”)
- in administrative proceedings held pursuant to Act No. 254/2001 Coll., on waters (associations, whose objective under their constitution is to protect the environment).

Full participation of other entities (individuals, municipalities, “unorganized public”) is generally governed by Section 14 (1) of the Code of Administrative Procedure – i.e. parties to the proceedings are all persons whose rights, duties or interests (on the basis of the ownership title) are or could be affected, or who declare their interest, unless this interest is disproved – provided, however, that there is no special regulation applicable to this issue. This is particularly true for processes pursuant to the Construction Code and the Mining and Atomic Acts.

In proceedings on land use, construction, delimitation of the mining area and permitting mining activities, the circle of participants includes (in simple terms) the investor, owners of the affected properties, the municipality and those who are stipulated as such in special laws – in general, Section 70 of the Act on Protection of Nature and the Landscape, No. 114/1992 Coll., or Section 23 (9) of the Act on Environmental Impact Assessment, No. 100/2001 Coll., as amended.

In other proceedings – proceedings on establishing a protected deposit area, proceedings pursuant to the Atomic Act, etc. – the investor is the sole participant.

Act No. 114/1992 Coll., on protection of nature and the landscape

Section 70 of Act No. 114/1992 Coll., on protection of nature and the landscape

Following repeated attempts to substantially limit or entirely omit this provision, an amendment was approved with effect from April 28, 2004, pursuant to which a request of



associations for information on commenced proceedings is valid only for 1 year and must be substantively and locally specified.

Construction Code

From the viewpoint of public participation, the Draft Construction Code constitutes another disputable law, particularly with respect to the concept of a public representative for participation in approval of the land-use documents.

Pursuant to Section 24 (2), the general public may participate in the processes pursuant to the Construction Code (in fact, only with respect to land-use planning) through a public representative. Such a representative shall be authorized by at least one tenth of inhabitants of a municipality with less than 2000 inhabitants or at least 200 inhabitants of any other relevant municipality. By stipulating the minimum number of citizens, the Code limits public participation in proceedings held pursuant to the Code. While every person may lodge his comments, a decision will be made only on comments of the public representative as on comments of a party or municipality. Thus, the land-use planning body will need to adopt a decision only on such comments. This decision is not made according to the Code of Administrative Procedure and is not subject to appeal; however, it may be subject to court review (Section 25).

Act No. 22/2004 Coll., on local referendum

This act entered into effect in 2004. A fundamental change, which ultimately limits public participation in administration of public matters, consists in the newly regulated electoral turnout required for validity of the referendum. Participation of at least one half of the authorized persons registered in the lists for the given municipality, city ward or statutorily divided city is required for validity of a local referendum. Particularly in large cities, but also in city wards, such a turnout is difficult to achieve.

Act No. 100/2001 Coll., on environmental impact assessment, as amended by Act No. 93/2004 Coll.

EIA process has the following shortcomings:

The parties submitting projects are not motivated to commence an early dialogue with the general public, as they are not forced to do so.

No guidelines or standards have been drawn up to ensure high quality of the relevant information.

No clear procedures for addressing public comments have been established.

There is no control mechanism of supervising the manner, in which the public administration takes account of public comments.

Targeted addressing of the public concerned is neglected in practice.

From the standpoint of the SEA process and public participation, the part of the Act concerned with SEA is in accordance with the Aarhus Convention and the public can participate in each step of the SEA process. At the present time, the Act has no inadequacies from the standpoint of public participation. Now it is necessary to ensure good practice in fulfilling the various provisions of the Act – see positive and negative examples in practice.

Act No. 78/2004 Coll., on management of genetically modified organisms and genetic products

Not only the Act entirely canceled the possible participation of associations in proceedings on permitting individual manners of management of GMOs and also canceled the right of NGOs to nominate their representatives in the Czech Commission for Management of GMOs – the advisory body of MoE, but (at variance with the Act on the Right to Information on the Environment and valid EU Directive 2003/4/EC, on public access to environmental information) it even limited the right of the general public to information on management of GMOs. The Government has already approved an amendment to the relevant law, which



would resolve the problem but the Chamber of Deputies did not accept it on its July 2005 session.

Aarhus Convention

The legislation of the Czech Republic is fully compatible with the requirements of the Convention. The Czech Republic took an important step in signing the Aarhus Convention in 1998. Ratification itself, however, was repeatedly postponed, in particular because of a large portion of the Czech parliament took a negative stance towards the document. The original commitment to ratify the Convention by 2001 was postponed for 3 years and the Czech Republic ratified the Aarhus Convention on July 6, 2004. However, ratification and adoption of the necessary laws alone do not guarantee good practice. In 2005, non-governmental organisations prepared the first report on the implementation of the Aarhus Convention in the Czech Republic. The report is based on the organisations' everyday experiences and points out the difficulties most frequently faced by NGOs and individual citizens in exercising their right to access to information, participation in decision-making processes and access to legal review. NGOs complain mainly about slow and ineffective judicial review, judicial review does not result in effective redress, practice of refusing to provide copies of non-classified documents is becoming increasingly common, etc.

But the official ministerial report is quite critical as well. The 3rd Pillar – access to justice – remains to be the main issue related to implementation of the Convention. This is caused by inadequate enforceability of environmental law and slow decision-making by the courts. Certain complications are also caused by repeated deferral of effect of the Public Service Act, which is also reflected in the quality of work of the officials. From the official report of the Ministry for the Environment, one can read the following: “NGOs frequently face attacks by politicians and the media and are designated as “ecoterrorists” on the basis of their activities within administrative proceedings, where they exercise their statutory right of public participation” or “The principle of public participation has been repeatedly challenged by submission of legislative drafts aimed at limiting participation of the general public and NGOs and ensuring expedient implementation of potentially controversial investments – Act on the Highway Bypass of the city of Plzeň, Motorway Construction Act, Inland Navigation Act, etc.”. It must be said, that some ministers did not agree with this official report to the Aarhus COP as with the official stand point of the Czech Republic.

5.6 Trends and relevant projects

There are three levels of community planning activities in the Czech and Slovak Republic: Stakeholders have never heard about public participation. It was evidently during interviewed professional planners, village managers. The table shows regions with/without organizations initializing public participations processes in Czech Republic.

PP organizations	representation of The Center for Community Organizing	representation of The Healthy Cities of the Czech Republic
region		
Prague	☹	☹
Central Bohemian Region its offices are located in Prague	☺	☺
South Bohemian Region (Ceske Budejovice)	☺	☺
Plzen Region (Plzen)	☺	☹



Carlsbad Region (Carlsbad)	☹	☹
Usti nad Labem Region (Usti nad Labem)	☹	☹
Liberec Region (Liberec)	☹	☺
Hradec Kralove Region (Hradec Kralove)	☹	☹
Pardubice Region (Pardubice)	☹	☺
Olomouc Region (Olomoucký kraj) Olomouc	☺	☹
Moravian-Silesian Region (Ostrava)	☺	☺
South Moravian Region (Brno)	☹	☺
Zlin Region (Zlin)	☺	☺
Vysocina Region (Jihlava)	☹	☺

Municipalities don't use collaborative planning because of lack of local budget, unwilling of public, unwilling of stakeholders to cooperate:

BRNO-city: is preparing the new master plan of the town. At the beginning there was willingness to mediate this process via PR agency. Consequently the municipality stopped this idea and now there is no activity edgewise Brno's urbanists to collaborate with citizens.

Czech-Moravian Highland: the region in the middle of Czech republic – there is a lot of "poor" small municipalities. It is difficult for them to acquire the master plan of the village because municipal budget.

5.6.1 Projects of Local Agenda 21

A. Studenka - Revitalization of a Butovice brook³

September 1999: First round table on solving the situation of the Butovice brook was held. Present bodies were ZO CSOP Studenka (CSOP is a wide spread Czech organization of nature conservationists, ZO is the local branch), the Local Council and local people, who showed an interest in revitalization the brook. This was a pilot "mobile" Round Table – that was a walk along the Butovice brook which attracted attention of the local people (owners and users of the land) and they started to discuss problems connected with the brook with experts and technicians. The walk resulted in the public acceptance of the project gathering ideas of all the groups involved (stakeholders) finding the best way of the renovation defining the part of the stream for clearing.

October 1999: Elaboration of „Revitalization of the Butovice brook within the LA21 with participation of the public“ study. The study was discussed and ratified by representants of the public, members of ZO CSOP Studenka, the Local Council, administrator of the stream and delegates of the District Council Environmental Department. The Council of Studenka agreed to finance the project. Additional financial support was obtained from the Ministry of Environment.

November 1999: The cleaning of the brook has started. Within this work two weekends were organized when members of the CSOP and the public participated. Information was delivered by leaflets.

³ Contact: Mr. Ivan Bartos, ZO CSOP Studenka, Daronova 242, 742 13 Studenka, tel.:+420 655 402 716



2000: The results of the brook revitalization were presented at a next round table.

ZO CSOP Studénka submitted a project of a further revitalization of the brook within the LA21 to the Ministry of Environment. The Ministry agreed to support it.

B. Cerveny Kostelec: „Revitalization of the Olesnice brook“ Project⁴

This project was partly inspired by training organized by Czech Environmental Institute (CEI) and lead by British lecturers. The training was focused to public involvement and environmental education and had been running in 1997 – 2001.

Within the project the public was involved in the problem of revitalization, the cooperation with active interested groups and schools was strengthened. Public awareness was increased and active participation in the Council Commission for the Environment has started.

C. Protected Landscape Area (PLA) Cesky kras⁵

The administration of PLA initiated LA21 in the region of Cesky Kras and within this LA21 there were the following local projects on the Sustainable Water Management:

Morina – building of a sewage treatment plant amortization of calcite stocks (with the effect of cleaning the sewage from the village)

Kosor – the Round Table on disposal of the sewage and on the water management in the village was held. On the basis of this meeting the following aims were agreed: the draft of the sewerage and sewage to a sewage treatment plant in a town Radotin expansion of the water-supply capacity restriction of the earthworks when building the water-supply, gas pipeline and sewerage grant from the Environmental State Fund

In this project many subjects cooperated - the Local Authority, the public, LA21 group, PLA administration, Municipality of Praha-Radotin, Agency for Nature Protection and Landscape Conservation, Prague Town Hall, management of the State Environmental Fund and others.

Bucovice – the Round table on revitalization of Bubovice brook, sewerage of the village and provision of the sewage was held in February 2001. The round attracted a high interest of the public, a video record is available. At present: more subjects have started in cooperation of revitalization of the native ponds next to the village an improved sewerage project is being prepared a revitalization study and a flood plan for the village are prepared there have been made some steps to build “wetlands” - a biologically highly active wastewater treatment plants (it will be supported within the Programme of Small Water Management Buildings). In these actions and plans are involved many different subjects and the public.

D. Prague 7

In 2004, the IEP became involved in the project "Prague 7 - A Place to Live", through which the Prague 7 City District has undertaken to implement a Local Agenda 21 - a programme for launching sustainable development and promoting public involvement in the decision-making process. In co-operation with the Prague 7 City District and the Berlin-based partner organisation MobiLocal 21, we organized a two-day planning workshop entitled "One Place in Prague 7 ". Attended by an architect, the mayor, department of transport representatives, police officials and other municipal representatives, these public discussions resulted in the commissioning of an architectural design and the drawing up of a list of changes desired by citizens in connection with the planned renovation of Rezac Square. Residents suggested the building of an urban-type open space, the preservation of greenery and a marked reduction in local road traffic. Reconstruction of the square will be carried out in the summer of 2006.

⁴ Contact: Mr. Radomir Cesenek, Municipal office, Nam.T.G. Masaryka 26, 549 41 Cerveny Kostelec, tel.:+420 447 465 040

⁵ Contact: Mr. Pondelicek, coordinator of A21 in Cesky Kras, PLA Administration, Karlstejn 85, 267 18 Karlstejn, phone: +420 311 681 713, fax: +420 311 681 023, e-mail: ckras@iol.cz



The planning workshop was supplemented by online discussion on the Prague 7 website, a media campaign and an exhibition of children's work and resulting designs.

As part of the project "Prague 7 - A Place to Live", the IEP, in collaboration with the Prague 7 borough, MobiLocal 21 and the European Academy of the Urban Environment, organised a conference, Public Involvement in Urban Development, which focused on the experience of Prague, Berlin and other European cities with Local Agenda 21.

5.6.2 Projects out of Local Agenda 21

A. *Visnova (Liberec region)*⁶

Description of the place: The village is situated in the basin of river Smeda. During the years 1992-97 there were about 15 floods. The council made a research on the flooding places, visited each house and marked the flood area and examined the original remedies.

The Phare programme – combining of the anti-flood remedies was being realized in 1998 (there was no flood from the time). Looking after the river formation of „Meanders of Smeda“ reservation removal of invasive kinds of plants cleaning from plastic waste after the spring thaw building of the biologically highly active wastewater treatment plants (wetlands) including the mud management (Phare CBC) pond management – citizens renew the pond systems negatives – erosive flushes from the near Polish mine Turow.

B. *Orlice basin*⁷

There had been running the pilot project of a water management plan for the Orlice basin during the last two years. The plan was produced on a new approach accepting requirements of the public and respecting Environmental State Policy water management. It is respecting the EU directive no. 2000/60/EC.

Orlice basin had been chosen as one of the model basins. The most important requirements of water management are drinking water supplement, recreation possibilities, industry production, protection of the stability of ecological systems and prevention and reduction of effects of floods.

C. *Hanusovice, Litovel, Prerov*⁸

Testing new processes of public involvement into the procedure of strategic EIA (SEA) on the example of solving the anti-floods regulations in the region affected by floods in 1997. In this project the public was involved in collecting data of ecologically sensitive and dangerous elements of the river alluvium. The project (May 2000) was running in Hanusovice, Litovel and Prerov which are places endangered by floods. The public was addressed by media campaign informative leaflet and a questionnaire interviews public hearings interactive exhibition. On the basis of gained experience the methodology of public involvement into water management was elaborated. It will be used for the future work.

⁶ Contact: Ms. Marie Matuskova, Municipality Vistova, c. p. 184, 463 72 Visnova, e-mail: visnova@iol.cz

⁷ Contact: Ing. Jirasek, Povodi Labe, tel.: +420 495 088 111

⁸ Contact: Mr. Radim Misiacek, DHV CR, spol. s r.o., Taboritska 23, 130 87 Praha 3, e-mail: radim.misiacek@ova.dhv.cz
tel.: +420/69/612 31 24, mobile tel.: +420/603/471 763



6. Collaborative planning in target organisations strategies, procedures and practices

The main leaders of participation planning in both countries are NGOs, for example:



6.1 The Center for Community Organizing (CCO) is a non-profit non-governmental organization that provides information and advisory services to representatives from public administration, civic organizations and businesses in the following areas:

a) Citizen/NGOs participation in local and regional development

CCO designs and implements public participation programs in planning and decision-making. For example programs for citizen participation in planning and designing of public spaces, in housing estate revitalizations, in preparation of community development strategies or in investment planning. Within this program CCO organizes public hearings, interactive exhibitions, implements sociological surveys and questionnaires, facilitates citizen advisory boards etc. CCO also conducts training seminars in the field of citizen participation for public administration.

b) Local Sustainable Development

CCO provides consultation services for preparation of local social economic development projects with respect of sustainability principles. For example CCO prepares and updates local, micro-regional and regional development strategies; assists in preparation of local development projects and activities aimed at disadvantaged groups of citizens. We cooperate with local partners (public administration, businesses and NGOs) which enable us to tailor projects to local conditions.

c) Regional Policy of EU and Regional Development of the Czech Republic

Within this program CCO implements activities promoting principles of partnership and transparent decision-making in regional policy of European Union. In the Czech Republic we lobby for consultations and participation of public and non-profit organizations in preparation and implementation of EU regional policy instruments. CCO is actively involved in discussions about forms of regional policy, intermediates information for other non-profit organizations in the Czech Republic and prepares joint recommendations and strategies. We transfer our experience from the Czech Republic to other “new” as well as “old” EU member countries.

d) Educating, supporting and strengthening of non-profit NGO's

CCO supports and educates members of civic and non-profit organizations on all levels. We work with volunteers, organize seminars and training workshops in order to strengthen the non-profit sector. We promote interdisciplinary meetings and cooperation of non-profit organizations. Czech Republic has lead the PRTR working group under the Aarhus convention.



6.2 The Czech Environmental Partnership Foundation

(The Environmental Partnership – EP) is the most important Czech foundation supporting environmental projects in all regions of the Czech Republic. Since its establishment in 1991, the foundation has supported over 1500 projects with grants totalling over 100 million CZK. Together with five other foundations from Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, the EP is a member of the Environmental Partnership consortium. The Environmental Partnership receives a contribution from the Foundation Investment Fund. Since 2004,



the foundation has merged with the Josef and Petra Vavrouskovi Foundational Fund.

The partnership for public spaces program is a long-term program of the EP. It focuses on the active participation of people in the reconstruction of public spaces and in the life of the community. In 2004 the program consists of the project of revitalization of the Budejovicka metro station in Prague (realised by Partnerstvi, o. p. s.) and of the Schools for Sustainable Development program. Both activities use the methods of community development, which are promoted by the EP in the Training Program.

Schools for Sustainable Development is a joint grant and assistant program of the EP and the Centre for the Environmental Education and Ethics SEVER. The program is run in cooperation with Toyota Motor Europe - Social Contribution Fund, Toyota Company, Groundwork UK, the Polish Environmental Partnership Foundation and the Administration of Hradec Kralove Region.

The aim is to promote education in the area of sustainable development and to promote public participation in activities focused in improving the local environment.

Activities in 2004

The program in Czechia started in 2004 in Hradec Kralove Region and will spread to other regions. It also takes place in Poland and the United Kingdom. The teachers and pupils of ten schools had the opportunity to plan and bring to life their own project - to create something independently, invite the representatives of their town and general public, coordinate the project and finish it successfully. Each member of the project gained new experience, skills and better awareness of "active civil society" and "sustainable development".

Place-making at Budejovicka

In 2003, the place-making project started. It is focused on improving the public spaces near the Budejovicka metro station in Prague. The project was initiated by the Czech Saving Bank and is coordinated by the EP, using the experience and background of the PVP program and the know-how of the American partners from the Project for Public Spaces, NY. Their experience with revitalization of public spaces is 30 years long.

Beside the ongoing work towards the long-term vision, small projects take place. In 2004, simple orientation system was installed; the place in front of the Czech Saving Bank was improved with places for relaxing. Lots of greenery was planted, and a statue by Rostislav Pospisil called The Seasons was added. Another improvement was re-painting the subway, where the grey wall was decorated by painters.



VERONICA

6.3 Veronica and her Austrian partners took part in the preparation of strategic documents concerning getting the public more involved in administrative proceedings in across the border projects, particularly in EIA and SEA. We are monitoring compliance with the ESPOO convention. We are initiating a government agreement between Austria and the Czech Republic

concerning getting the public involved in across the border projects. During the year we closely worked with a citizens' association whose objective is to prevent the realization of transportation structures in the South Moravia region (R52 on the route of Brno – Mikulov – Vienna or R 43 going through Bystrc). In June Veronica organized in Břeclav-Poštorné a meeting of all these associations. Their representatives informed each other of their activities and thanks to this meeting it was possible to coordinate a mutual approach in the currently ongoing approval proceedings. Many associations consulted with Environmental Law Service representatives who were present. They also consulted with Lower Austria citizens' association representatives concerning information on the activities of citizens' associations in this border region.



A second meeting took place in October in Pohořelice. The citizens' association, besides informing its members, had the opportunity to become acquainted with the results of a study on the effects of noise on the mental health of a person and to formulate questions concerning the current traffic cases in the South Moravian Region at relevant institutions. The two-day meeting ended with a discussion with Lower Austria government representatives, Lower Austria citizens' associations and the Brno branch the Ministry of the Environment. The South Moravian Region did not respond to their invitation even though key questions were aimed at this regional government. During the project Veronica responded to the needs of the citizens' association and also provided both organizational and technical help and plans to continue in these activities in 2006. Veronica, as a representative of citizens interested in the protection of the countryside and nature, commented on the Břeclav Territorial prognosis and took part in the comments on the planned route of the R52 Brno-Mikulov-Vienna motorway, which unequivocally endangers the character of the countryside and the NATURA 2000 locality.

At a local level, we are monitoring the administrative proceedings concerning the felling of forests in all the offices of the municipality of Brno and are informing citizens on the web page of www.veronica.cz. Two dendrological schoolings took place during the year for the employees of the Environmental Department of the Municipality of Brno (hereinafter only MMB), during which we informed the offices of our activities in this area. In the autumn we got the students of the Mendeleev Forestry and Agriculture University of Brno involved in the renewal of the greenery in the town of Brno.

From March 2005, under the heading of CSOP Regional Association of Brno, we have been actively monitoring the creation of a new territorial plan of the town of Brno. During the year, the expert group consisting of experts in the fields of water management, forestry, dendrology, territorial planning and urbanism carried out the following:

- It formulated and presented a basic thesis during a round table that was attended by representatives of MMB, the ArchDesign processing company, expert groups, and the public.
- Worked on manuals for Brno residents with recommendations useful for the ongoing preparations of this strategic document during the years of 2010 – 2020.
- During the course of the year made proposals concerning the drafting of the territorial plan.
- Monitored the discussion with the public organized by the MMB.
- Organized a public discussion on the subject of Brno's rivers and fluvial plain, built up and not built up areas, brownfields, garden colonies, bicycle routes, pedestrian traffic, and greenery.
- On the pages of www.veronica.cz made public instructions for founding citizens' associations. It also informed about the ongoing creation of the territorial plan of Brno. And via an environmental advisory centre and other events is getting Brno residents to participate in the creation of the territorial plan of the town of Brno.



6.4 Healthy Cities of the Czech Republic (HCCZ) is a national association of active cities, towns and regions in the Czech Republic that are implementing the [WHO Healthy Cities Project](#), an international initiative under the auspices of the World Health Organization (WHO).

HCCZ pursues long-term health and sustainable development, represented by Health 21, local Agendas 21, LEHAP and other strategic steps to support the health and quality of life in the regions CR. In addition, membership in the association is open to municipalities, micro regions, and town districts – in short, to

all types of municipalities in the Czech Republic.



Since 1998, the core procedure to be adopted by the members throughout HCCZ has been a methodology for health, sustainable development and the quality of life in the cities of the Czech Republic. HCCZ Methodology is a support platform of strategic city development that helps city looking towards quality in accordance with international documents (Health 21, Agenda 21, NEHAP). HCCZ Methodology was selected as a Worldwide Project EXPO 2000, and is being developed in co-operation with Charles University Prague and other expert partners and NGOs.

As a practical service to its member cities, HCCZ offers assistance in attaining the quality standards required by the European Union. Through HCCZ Methodology, a city is purposefully working on arguments that it can use both for quality local development in the long term: health promotion, quality of life, sustainable development, citizen participation, cross-sector management and regional co-operation.



6.5 Partners for Democratic Change Slovakia

The mission of PDCS is to help develop and promote culture of democracy, expand democratic approaches and mechanisms for dialogue and conflict prevention.

“We fulfill our mission by working with nonprofit organizations, public administration institutions and cross-sector partnerships in development programs and by arranging cultured dialogue among various interest groups.”

The training courses given by PDCS have so far been attended by over 12,000 participants in Slovakia and 30 other countries. PDCS published 14 books.

Community Development and Civic Participation

“We see engagement of citizens in public decision-making and processes of cooperative planning involving various stakeholders in joint solutions to problems in the community, as well as cross-sector cooperation, as approaches which serve in cities and towns as prevention of local or national conflicts and which are a part of optimal public decision-making in a democratic society.”

PDCS started to work more actively in this program area in 1996, in connection to a joint program with ETP Slovakia "Local Initiatives Support Program". PDCS then provided training of staff in community initiatives, a training series for community leaders and a number of consultation sessions for this specific group of nonprofit organizations.

*“We also try to foster the values underlying **participatory decision-making and cross-sector cooperation** through training courses for public administration representatives. For example, in 1997-1998 we implemented the project "Effective decision-making at the local level", providing training to representatives of local governments and state administration in several regions of Slovakia (Trenčianske Teplice region, Prešov region, and Piešťany region) as well as consultation to representatives of local government in Ružinov part of Bratislava. Later we provided more training courses for local government in towns of White Carpathians region along the Czech-Slovak border. In addition, we trained public administration representatives in effective negotiation, mediation, cooperative planning, effective decision-making, and problem solving (for such clients as Slovak Environmental Inspection Office, Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Family, and local governments through Regional Educational Centers).”*

*“**In the Czech Republic**, we worked with the Community Partnership Support Initiative (1999-2000) in providing training courses to implementers of community projects and in publishing the collection of case studies *Six Different Views on Nonprofit Organizations*. We also conducted evaluation of the program *Places and People of the Via Foundation (2002)* designed to support project of reconstruction of public spaces with the involvement of public.*



Finally, we provided a number of training courses to the Center for Community Work Support (2001-2002)."

"In addition, we work with similar programs in other, mostly transforming countries. As example, we can mention training of citizen advocacy and citizen participation for a coalition of four organizations supported by USAID in Georgia (2002) or training on cooperation between nonprofits and local governments which was provided within the Stability Pact Program in Hungary for participants from Serbia, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia (2001)."

Examples of programs implemented in this program area include

- Community program of the Open Society Foundation Bratislava Project "Public Participation" Libraries as Community Centers.
- Evaluation of the program "Strengthening Local Democracy in the Stability Pact Region." The purpose was to provide an external assessment of the training program for trainers of local governments and its impact. The program was realized in nine countries/provinces of the Balkan region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, and Serbia).
- Training and long-term consultation abroad in 32 countries undergoing transformation, on such topics as organizational development, citizens participation and community development, coalitions and advocacy, and strategic planning. Training was provided in partnership with major international institutions (e.g. Freedom House, Counterpart, IREX, Amnesty International, World learning, ABA CEELI, ICNL, NDI, OSI, etc.) and very often in cooperation with local trainers and consultants.

7. Collaborative planning skills, competencies and qualifications of the staff required in the target organisations

Via questionnaires we recognize that professional planners and municipalities are not qualified in collaborative planning. Some of them know this term, but usually they don't use it in practice. In the CR and SR there is no tradition to participate and professional planners don't need "CP skills" to get certification (The Czech and also Slovak Chamber of Architects don't require it). Using of "CP methods" during the planning process is voluntary and very sporadic, it depends on planner or municipality.

Target organisations and their relationship to the collaborative planning:

a) public associations: no norms, guidelines, systems, job descriptions.

b) local authorities: especially persons responsible for drawing of territorial planning – university degree focused territorial or landscape planning; lack of willingness to support public participation during the process.

c) eco-counselling centres: eco-counsellors are graduate (geology, geography, environmental humanities, agroecology, chemistry, natural and landscape protection etc.), voluntary trained about communication with clients, about principles of Local Agenda 21, about environmental law in connection to public participation. The Czech Eco-Counselling Network is creating the new standards for eco-counsellors and prepare due to Leonardo da Vinci project the new two term studying program especially for them to achieve this standards (at the Faculty of Social Studies – Masaryk University in Brno).



d) non-governmental organizations: mostly university degree – the wide spectrum of proficiencies; no standard for collaborative planning skills, competencies and qualification of the staff. But there are a lot of employees absolved courses like:

- *Methods of community development* (leaded by Environmental Partnership)
- *Education in consultation methods* (leaded by Partners for Democratic Change Slovakia)
- *A John Hopkins University Course on Nongovernmental Sector* (international certificate)
- Czech Ministry of Interior certicated programme "*Local Agenda 21 and the HCP*" (including: Methods and techniques of communication with public; Theory of communication and communication skills; Sustainable development and its broader context; PR and publicity; Teaching and presentation skills; Managerial skills; Methods of sociological research)
- Czech Ministry of Interior certicated programme "*Strategic management in relation to sustainable development and quality of living*"
- *School of civil initiative* - course for protection planing and realising non-profit activities, media training, campaign training, training for fundraisers etc. (leaded by Hnuti Duha/ Friends of the Earth).
- *Public participation in municipality policy* (Municipality of Guelph, Canada)
- *Open Space meetings* (leaded by Partners for Democratic Change Slovakia)

e) professional planners:

The Czech Chamber of Architects (www.cka.cc) is a self-administered professional association. It was established by Act No.360/1992 Coll. (regulating the Practice of Licensed Architects and Construction Engineers and Technicians) as a public law entity with its headquarters in Prague and with authority across the Czech Republic.

According to the above legislation, the Czech Chamber of Architects acts as a forum for all licensed architects, licensed architects working in urban development, and licensed designers of environmental systems. The Chamber feels responsible for the ethical and technical professional standards of the practice of architects in the Czech Republic and wishes to further pursue the establishment of the fairest possible conditions in the architectural services market, to the benefit of both the clients and the architects. It considers the democratic professional self-administration to be an important aspect of a civil society, a practical tool to manage so called independent professions, and ultimately a prerequisite to an equal integration of Czech architects into the European Union.

Through its international activities the Chamber creates the best possible conditions for this integration. Through its elected representatives, the Chamber has always striven to carry out its entrusted duties in the most honest, legal and legitimate manner. The main function of the Chamber is to assist both the architects and their clients and, ultimately, the general public. This is why the Chamber has always stood against any useless and unjustified curtailing of the rights of anybody on the market.

Type, fields and specializations of certification and their designations

(certification is granted for):

a) the field of certification of "architect" (without specification), with the numerical designation A.0 and authorization to use the designation protected by the Act (hereinafter referred to as the "protected title") of "certified architect" or the alternative designation including the designation of specific fields "registered architect – building constructions, urban planning, garden or landscape architecture"),

b) the fields of certification of:

1. Building constructions, with the numerical code A.1 and authorization to use the protected title of "certified architect – building constructions",



2. **Urban planning**, with the numerical code A.2 and authorization to use the protected title of “certified architect – urban planning“ or the alternative title of “certified urban planner”,
3. **Garden and landscape architecture**, with the numerical code A.3 and authorization to use the protected title of “certified architect – garden and landscape architecture“, or the alternative title of “certified garden and landscape architect“;

8. Conclusions of CSA Survey

8.1 Most important challenges faced by the planners in implementing the elements of collaborative planning

- ❖ missing of collaborative planning trainings
- ❖ lobbying of investors
- ❖ ignorance of state bodies, local authorities, regional authorities
- ❖ the lack of willingness to involve public to decision-making processes edgewise of state bodies, local authorities, regional authorities, investors
- ❖ minimal awareness about good practices, about bodies which offers tools for the solving of problems, for public-involving
- ❖ political reasons
- ❖ lack of time and trust (stakeholders, politicians, citizens)
- ❖ non-effective public involvement (e.g. private sector)
- ❖ attract public officials
- ❖ political "cycle" – overcoming changes in local governments; general weakness of deliberative democracy
- ❖ people's distrust in participation “we-cannot-change-anything” syndrome
- ❖ little respect and support from the national level of public administration
- ❖ linking up collaborative planning outputs with resultant political decisions (sometimes lacking links in community or expert strategic documents and real actions)
- ❖ there is no tradition to participate, bad communication between public and municipality councils – obstruction of public servants, multivalent law
- ❖ be able to realize results of collaborative planning process

The great challenges we see in getting people involved in the process as mostly local people want to start discussions but often give up further cooperation. Also there is need to involve people from different groups (investors, local people, schools/children, seniors, minority groups, municipalities etc.). Other side is need to involve massmedia as they can spread the problem further and inform people which are problematically reached other ways.

8.2 Priority needs (preferences) of the planners for skills development and further training in collaborative planning

Collaborative methods/techniques:

- a. Questionnaire surveys;
- b. Public meetings, hearings, seminars, workshops;
- c. Negotiations between interest groups and Mediated negotiations;
- d. Interactive websites, E-mail discussion groups;
- e. Methods for systematic comparison of project alternatives;
- f. Computer-supported decision-making methods;



- g. GIS in illustrating information on projects.

Issues/skills:

- a. Preparing plans for collaborative planning;
- b. Motivating the public in the initial stages of collaborative planning;
- c. Negotiation and conflict management skills;
- d. Monitoring and evaluating collaborative planning processes.

9. Conclusions and recommendations for the design of the CoPack

The Czech and Slovak CSA is mainly based on questionnaire survey, interviews and on our own experience. Our respondents could fill bilingual questionnaires either in Czech or in English. But questionnaire was probably too long, difficult and incomprehensible because of low returnability. For more informations about results of questionnaire survey see ANNEX.

The biggest problems in urban and spatial planning:

- Building authorities often do not respect spatial planning document established by law No. 50/1976 Coll., on town and country planning and building regulation as amended.
- Remarks on spatial plan – many interest groups make pressure to local and regional governments to change once agreed spatial plans; make changes without consulting the public is relatively easy.
- No motivation of public to participate because of the lack of understandable informations.
- Lack of willingness of municipalities to cooperate with public “ultra vires”.

In the Czech and Slovak Republic, collaborative planning is mostly referred to as participatory, community, or action planning. Collaborative planning represents an entirely different philosophy of attitude towards landscape and land-use (including natural resources) planning, than which was applied here before 1989 (“Velvet revolution”).

There is no uniform regulation of public participation in proceedings that have an impact on the environment, which allows for various interpretations as to which law should be used for the proceedings and for preventing participation of the general public. Using of “CP methods” during the planning process is voluntary and very sporadic, it depends on planner or municipality.

There is lack of willingness to involve public to decision-making processes edge-wise of state bodies, local authorities, regional authorities, investors. But public is also very calm, people usually don't care about their wide neighbourhood (“we-don't-care” and “we-cannot-change-anything” syndrom) – very young civil society. Thus urban and spatial planning is the process without positive feedback (between public/individuals and decision-makers/planners/authorities). Therefore we need to develop collaborative methods and skills in our countries.

The main impulse for the development of collaborative planning in the Czech and Slovak Republic is: legislation (determines the obligations, form, and extent of co-operation) and pressure of the non-governmental organizations specialising in the protection of natural resources, which are closely co-operating with foreign partners (EU, USA).

The main leaders of participation planning in both countries are NGOs, for example: The Center for Community Organizing, The Czech Environmental Partnership Foundation, Veronica, Partners for Democratic Change Slovakia

It seems to be usual, that Czech and Slovak NGOs due to their activities substitute the role of investors and municipalities. NGOs organize round tables, doing “PR” of planning and preparing projects of investors and municipalities. In NGOs work a lot of people from different fields of study and their education in urban and spatial planning is only partial. But otherness from professional planners, they try to use the methods of collaborative planning in practice. In NGOs there are a lot



of employes, which absolved courses like: Methods of community development, Education in consultation methods, Local Agenda 21 and HCP, etc.



USED ACRONYMS:

CCO - The Center for Community Organizing
CEI - Czech Environmental Institute
CoPack - Trainers' tool package on collaborative planning
CP - Collaborative Planning
CR - Czech Republic
CSA - Core Skills Analysis
CSDS 2001 - Conception of spatial development of Slovakia 2001
EC - European Commission
EIA - Environmental Impact Assessment
EIV - Ecological Institute Veronica
EnTraCoP - Enhancing Training on Collaborative Planning of Natural Resources Management
EP - The Czech Environmental Partnership Foundation
EU - European Union
GMO(s) - Genetically Modified Organism(s)
HCCZ - Healthy Cities of the Czech Republic
IEP - Institute for Environmental Policy
IPPC - Integrated Pollution Prevention and control
LA21 - Local Agenda 21
MoA - Ministry of Agriculture
MoE - Ministry of Environment
MRD - Ministry of Regional Development
NDP - National Development Plan
NGO(s) - Non-Governmental Organisation(s)
PDCS - Partners for Democratic Change Slovakia
PLA - Protected Landscape Area
PR - Public Relations
SD - Sustainable Development
SEA - Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEP - State Environmental Policy
SR - Slovak Republic
UN - United Nations
UPD - Territorial Planning Documentation
VET - Vocational Education and Training (VET) Analysis
ZO CSOP - Local Chapter of the Czech Union for Nature Conservation



ANNEX – RESULTS OF SURVEY ON TRAINING NEEDS FOR “CP”

This annex represent “resultant questionnaire” of our survey in Czech and Slovak Republic – training needs (methods and skills) according to target groups. Filled questionnaire is based on quantitative and mainly on qualitative research – via questionnaire survey and interviews (for material and methodology used – see chapter 1.4).

A. Utilisation of collaborative planning methods and related training needs

Collaborative methods/techniques	Previous use	Future use	Training needs
Letters to the public	Occasionally	Occasionally	No need
Newspaper announcements	Occasionally	Occasionally	No need
Newsletters	Occasionally	Occasionally	Moderate need
TV or radio programmes	Occasionally	Occasionally	Moderate need
Exhibitions in public places	Occasionally	Often	Moderate need
Site visits or field trips with the public	Occasionally	Occasionally	Moderate need
Questionnaire surveys	Occasionally	Often	Great need
Interviews	Occasionally	Often	Moderate need
Inviting written comments from the public	Occasionally	Occasionally	No need
Telephone hotlines	Never	Occasionally	No need
Regional offices (drop-in centres)	Occasionally	Occasionally	Moderate need
Public meetings, hearings, seminars, workshops	Often	Often	Great need
Working groups	Occasionally	Often	Moderate need
Steering committees	Occasionally	Occasionally	No need
Discussions facilitated by a neutral, professional facilitator	Occasionally	Often	Moderate need
Negotiations between interest groups (without mediation)	Occasionally	Occasionally	Great need
Mediated negotiations	Occasionally	Occasionally	Great need
E-mail discussion groups	Occasionally	Occasionally	Moderate need
Interactive websites	Occasionally	Often	Great need
Children’s participation in planning	Occasionally	Occasionally	Moderate need
Methods for systematic comparison of project alternatives	Occasionally	Occasionally	Great need
Computer-supported decision-making methods	Never	Occasionally	Great need
Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in illustrating information on projects	Occasionally	Occasionally	Great need

B. Needs for training in other issues and skills of collaborative planning

Issues/skills	Previous need for skills	Future need for skills	Further training needs
Legal requirements for collaborative planning	Occasionally	Often	Moderate need
Requirements, norms and guidelines of your organisation for collaborative planning	Occasionally	Occasionally	Moderate need
Assessing “costs and benefits” (pros and cons) of collaborative planning	Never	Occasionally	Moderate need
Establishing and preparing your team for collaborative planning	Occasionally	Often	Moderate need
Designing communication strategies	Occasionally	Occasionally	Moderate need
Analysis of actors in a communication strategy	Occasionally	Often	Moderate need
Preparing plans for collaborative planning	Occasionally	Often	Moderate need

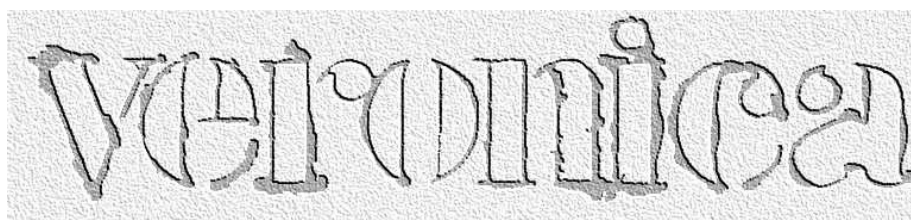


Motivating the public in the initial stages of collaborative planning	Often	Often	Great need
Chairing of meetings	Occasionally	Often	No need
Group/Team working skills	Occasionally	Often	Moderate need
Communications skills	Often	Often	Moderate need
Negotiation and conflict management skills	Occasionally	Occasionally	Great need
Identifying issues of disagreement (conflict mapping, etc.)	Occasionally	Often	Moderate need
Monitoring and evaluating collaborative planning processes	Never	Occasionally	Great need
Documenting collaborative planning processes and results (progress, views of the public, choices made, agreements/disagreements)	Occasionally	Occasionally	Moderate need
Planning theories (planning ideologies and approaches)	Occasionally	Often	Moderate need
Communication theories	Occasionally	Occasionally	
Organisational theories (organisational structures appropriate for collaborative planning)	Occasionally	Occasionally	Moderate need
Theories of democracy (evolving ideas of democracy)	Occasionally	Occasionally	Moderate need

This analysis was made by **Ecological Institute Veronica** (2006).

Veronica was established in 1986 as a magazine focusing on regional issues aiming to link culture with environment protection and to propagate environmental awareness. The activity of the personalities working at the magazine has become broader since 1990 and the editorial and publishing work has increasingly become supplemental to a wide range of environmental programmes. The programmes are under the umbrella of ZO CSOP (Local Chapter of the Czech Union for Nature Conservation) Veronica, registered since 1991. The Local Chapter is an independent legal entity and its legal form is a civil association – a non-governmental non-profit organization sharing its registration with the whole of the Czech Union for Nature Conservation. The present activity of the ZO CSOP Veronica comprises partly of the activity of the professional staff acting under the Ecological Institute Veronica, partly of the activity for the members and with the members of the civil association, which number almost eighty members.

„Our mission is to support a friendly approach to the nature, landscape and its natural and cultural values.“



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