

The Attract-SEE Newsletter 02/2013

FIRST ROUND OF Attract-SEE STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE

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Stakeholders have a strong voice in the Attract-SEE project. They are involved in the development of concepts, drafts and proposals for a territorial monitoring system and the related policy coordination process. In recent months the first of four rounds of national/regional stakeholder workshops was implemented in Koprivnica, Budapest, Ljubljana, Bologna and Schwechat, and in the coming months similar workshops will be implemented in Serbia and in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The main aim of the workshops was to present to key stakeholders the main characteristics of the Attract-SEE Project, its approach and envisaged results, and to engage in a dialogue with the stakeholders about the concepts and main challenges related to the territorial monitoring system. In addition, a goal of these consultations was to gain knowledge about stakeholders' needs, to collect their comments on the usefulness of the project results, and their views on some content-related issues, such as for example, the definition of attractiveness capital categories. Stakeholders were invited to cooperate further in the project to improve policy coordination at national and regional levels using future workshops as a cooperation opportunity. The background and starting point of all the national workshops were the same, but partners had some flexibility in designing these events in accordance with specific country or regional characteristics.

The stakeholder workshop in Schwechat (Austria) was not only an opportunity to inform stakeholders about the Attract-SEE project, but also to learn about their expectations, opinions and suggestions related to the current status of territorial monitoring and related needs. The workshop participants were representatives from statistical offices and spatial planning experts from Austria, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovenia.

At the workshop in Koprivnica (Croatia) the majority of the 28 participants represented public institutions at a regional level. All the participants contributed valuable information about the stakeholders' needs for spatial data, and constructive comments related to indicators. They appreciated the opportunity for data owners and data users to discuss common issues together, and create better working relations.

The workshop in Ljubljana (Slovenia) attracted 35 representatives from key stakeholder groups: spatial planners, municipality policy makers, government administration,

public institutions, research institution and the civil society sector. In interactive discussions the participants commented on the concept and later implementation process of the territorial monitoring system, the challenges related to lack of policy coordination, and assets that define attractiveness capital categories. Stakeholders appreciated the Attract-SEE project as an important contribution to spatial/development planning and they expressed their readiness to engage in further project phases.

In Budapest (Hungary) the first Attract-SEE stakeholder workshop was attended by 20 participants from different institutions and professional areas. Participants discussed three main topics: the definition of attractiveness, the identification of stakeholders' expectations of the territorial monitoring system that the Attract-SEE project strives to establish, and the added value of the common SEE set of indicators. The lively discussions highlighted the relevance and importance of these topics for researchers and for decision-makers.

The participants of the workshop in Bologna (Italy) represented the majority of regional key sectors and departments interested and involved in policies relevant to 'attractiveness'. During the discussions some useful points for project implementation emerged: a need for better coordination in the use of statistical information,

the importance of having a system of indicators that is recognised at international level, and the necessity of measuring development/wellbeing with different indicators.

You can find more details about each national workshop on the following pages.

The reports from the national stakeholder workshops and their results were presented and discussed by the project partners at their regular meeting in Schwechat in April. Taking these results into consideration, the project partners managed to finalise the list of territorial capital categories and the assets to be used in the design of the territorial monitoring system. In addition, the results were recently used by the project partners in developing working materials for the follow-up project phases, especially in defining a common set of indicators, and in preparing the concept and the first draft of the Trans-national Attractiveness Synthesis Report. The content and structure of the draft report will be the main theme of the second round of national/regional stakeholder workshops that will be held in the autumn this year. The Attract-SEE partners will strive to collect the stakeholders' feedback on the Report's relevance, its usability, and its potential impact. Indicators used will also be discussed in relation to the report. Policy coordination issues and challenges will be put on the table in order to continue the discussion on how to make more significant improvements in this area. Besides regulation the discussion will tackle related soft measures.

There will be also another opportunity to hear about the Attract-SEE Project and especially to discuss the challenges related to spatial monitoring and the development with international South East Europe stakeholders: mayors, local government councillors, municipal and government officials, managers, investors and others. The project partners are preparing a **special thematic workshop within the NEXPO – NALAS International Municipal Fair 2013** that will be held in Rijeka and Opatija (Croatia) from 25th to 27th September 2013 (more information on the final page).

First Austrian Stakeholder Involvement Workshop

When: 27 February 2013

Where: City of Schwechat

Organised by: CEIT Alanova



At the start of the workshop, the main features of the project were presented to around 20 participants, mainly representatives from the statistical offices of the regions and countries and spatial planning experts.

Regions aim to be attractive for several target groups (e.g. companies, tourists, residents, etc.); to facilitate compatibility, the concept and goals of the territorial monitoring system and its benefits were presented and discussed at the workshop. Monitoring of the attractiveness of regions is needed for spatial and temporal analysis and to enable comparison between certain points in time and/or regions. Data harmonisation and exchange as well as monitoring of urban and regional development to detect changes are given high priority in order to plan and to steer development in a holistic and transparent way.

More information about the project on www.attract-see.eu

One aim of the workshop was to identify synergies between Attract-SEE and the CentropemAP/Centrope-STATISTICS database, which is the online portal for statistical data and geodata sets from Austria, the Czech Republic, Slovenia and Hungary (<http://www.centropemap.org/>). During the workshop a demonstration of the CentropeSTATISTICS software was given. The need to define common indicators for monitoring of spatial development was highlighted. The trans-national monitoring indicators that are defined in the Attract-SEE project could be used as input for monitoring activities in the Centrope region.

The workshop also focused on available data in the Centrope region, coming from several data providers. New data is available, particularly covering the themes of population and education. Preliminary results of the 2011 census in each country were presented.

The workshop provided information about the concepts of policy coordination and stakeholder involvement that are being developed within Attract-SEE and finally offered an outlook on next steps and upcoming workshops.

The participants were welcomed by Darko Koren, the mayor of the Koprivnica-Križevci County. The Project Manager Blaž Barborič from the Geodetic Institute of Slovenia outlined the project and its objectives.

Tomislav Cicelj from the State Geodetic Administration presented the national infrastructure of spatial data. Vlatko Roland commented on the practical application of GIS in monitoring the situation in the area.

Mladen Matica as coordinator from the Institute for Spatial Planning Koprivnica Križevci informed the participants about the implementation of the project in Koprivnica County, 'Common Territorial Monitoring Framework' and explained the concept of attractiveness. Maja Turin, also from the Institute, presented the proposed indicators for evaluating the attractiveness of areas. Through the establishment of a common system of indicators, the model will be used to monitor the quality and attractiveness of the areas. Saša Cestar from the Institute of Spatial Planning Koprivnica Križevci, emphasised the importance of stakeholder involvement in the project.

There were 28 participants to the workshop from 18 organisations. The largest number came from public institutions at the regional level (14); seven were from public institutions at the local level, five from private companies, and only two from public institutions at the national level. Three quarters of stakeholders were interested in actively participating in the project.

The average number of GIS professionals in each stakeholder institution was five, except for SGA (national level) where the number of GIS experts is between 100 and 200. Two thirds of the participants reported that their institutions were planning to set aside funds for the development of GIS in the current period.

In terms of data, 65% of participants used both analogue and digital spatial data in their daily work. The format in which digital spatial data was recorded was most commonly vector form (34%), while grids, tables and Excel format were equally represented (21%), and other formats were also used, such as Word documents, and database (DBF tables).

First Croatian Stakeholder Involvement Workshop

When: 21 March 2013

Where: Koprivnica

Organised by: ZAVOD



There were different responses to the question about which missing spatial data would be needed to improve performance at work. Stakeholders commented mainly about data quality (accuracy and timeliness) while missing data included an address model, DTM, information on issued permits, cadastral base, and information on cultural heritage. Since stakeholders come from different sectors, it was interesting to notice that a few that were missing data actually sat at the same table at the workshop with stakeholders who were data owners, which shows excellent potential for further co-operation and better networking and sharing of information and data.

At the trans-national level, the most important factor for stakeholders is the quality of the environment, while the indicators from the group population are the least significant. For stakeholders at the regional level the quality of the environment and employment are equally important. The least essential indicators for them are the quality of life - multicultural integration and a sense of belonging or citizenship.

First Hungarian Stakeholder Involvement Workshop

When: 26 March 2013

Where: Budapest

Organised by: Office for National Economic Planning

Twenty participants from different institutions and professional areas joined the workshop to become acquainted with the Attract-SEE project and share their opinions as well as their experience and ideas about the future of territorial monitoring in Hungary and the South-East European macro region.

The participants were welcomed at the Office for National Economic Planning by Dr Márton Péti, Chief Planner in the Strategic and Territorial Planning Department. He emphasised the importance of trans-national projects and co-operations in Hungary and welcomed the Attract-SEE project as one that could really establish the basis of bringing together differ-

ent stakeholders to discuss and implement common thinking about methods to measure territorial attractiveness and establish a common territorial monitoring system in South-East Europe. He also highlighted the special nature of the Attract-SEE project, because beyond its main focus it also intends to improve the policy coordination process.

Anett Madarász from the Department of Territorial Development Planning of the Ministry for National Economic Planning presented the background of Hungarian regulation of territorial monitoring and the related legislative background. Her presentation was followed by an introduction to the new Hungarian territorial monitoring system - TeIR - by Dr Géza Péter Juhász, Chief Planner from VÁTI Nonprofit Ltd., who presented new applications of the system and emphasized the importance of its continuous development. He noted problems arising with regard to the comparability of different data from the neighbouring countries.

Csilla Hoffmann, planner-analyst from ONEP, gave the audience an insight into the results from the ESPON ATTREG project, where the main focus is the attractiveness of European regions and cities for residents. This was followed by a comprehensive presentation of the Attract-SEE project, its objectives and planned results by Tímea Jaschitzné Cserni, the project manager from ONEP. After a coffee break, András Guti, planner-analyst, introduced the Policy Coordination Process



Handbook, and Márton Chikán, planner-analyst, presented possible methods of measuring attractiveness. As a practical part of the workshop, all participants were involved in a discussion of three main topics:

- the search for an appropriate definition for attractiveness;
- establishment of the expectations from a territorial monitoring system, such as the Attract-SEE project aims to establish;
- establishment of the added value of the common SEE set of indicators.

Lively discussions on the topics proved that territorial attractiveness is an important issue together with the necessity for a common territorial monitoring system, not only for researchers but also for decision makers, and that all the stakeholders are seriously interested in contributing and providing added value to our results. The workshop concluded in a pleasant mood with many fruitful ideas.

The first Slovenian national workshop with stakeholders was entitled "Territorial Monitoring System Baseline" and was attended by 35 participants. Its purpose was to introduce the participants and to discuss with them a number of issues in a participatory manner (participants were invited to participate actively, to state their opinions and make proposals).

Discussions included:

- the concept of the establishment and subsequent implementation of the territorial monitoring system (TMS);
- the key findings of the TMS analysis;
- key topics for spatial development and widgets as the basis for a set of indicators;
- the concept of policy coordination.

In the discussions, the participants stressed the importance of the quality of spatial information and its necessity for a useful territorial monitoring system. They also agreed that cooperation between the various sectoral policies needs to be enhanced.

In last part of the workshop, the participants discussed (through the Carousel Method) the proposed territorial capital classes (a basis for measuring/monitoring) – environmental capital, anthropic capital, sociocultural capital, economic and human capital, institutional capital – and added their own input regarding what should or should not be included in each of proposed capital classes. Their proposals were later taken into account when finalising the proposed capital classes.



More information about the project on www.attract-see.eu

First Italian Stakeholder Involvement Workshop

When: 12 April 2013

Where: Bologna

*Organised by: RER Territorial Planning Department
and ERVET Territorial Development Unit*



The participants to the first Emilia-Romagna Region Regional Stakeholder Workshop, besides the Attract-SEE project team, represented the majority of regional key sectors and departments interested and involved in policies relevant for "attractiveness". The departments represented were: Economic Development Policies, Regional President Cabinet, Statistics, Regional Internationalisation Desk, Infrastructures/Mobility/Logistics, Landscape Planning, Urban Planning, Territorial Planning and ERVET Territorial development Unit.

The Attract-SEE project objectives and partnerships were presented to the participants and the main results up to now were explained.

Some key points useful for the set indicators emerged from the debate following the presentation:

- the need for better coordination in the use of the statistical information (many context analyses are repeated in a quite similar way in different regional documents);
- the importance of having a system of indicators that is recognised at international level (to allow for comparisons);
- the measurement of development/welfare should be undertaken using different indicators (GDP can be rather unreliable for many issues).

Some points concerning the interpretative framework for data and indicators were underlined:

- to identify strengths/weaknesses and relate figures to activities in the interpretation of the data/indicators;
- to consider both quantitative and qualitative indicators (even if more complex);
- to consider connections between different indicators (and not only a single indicator);
- to adopt a common interpretative framework in relation to BES theme (Fair and Sustainable Wellbeing).

At the end of the debate some operative conclusions were shared by the participants:

- At an internal level: setting up of an inter-sectoral working team to develop and complete the territorial monitoring system of indicators connected to the Territorial Capitals identified by the Regional Territorial Plan and implemented under the Attract-SEE project.
- At project partnership level: to highlight the problem of an interpretative framework for the data collected with both qualitative and quantitative indicators. There are many different ways to be attractive.

Project Partner Presentation

EMILIA-ROMANIA REGION, ITALY

The department of Emilia-Romania Region involved in the Attract-SEE project is responsible for territorial planning in the region and the development of the territorial observatory foreseen by regional legislation.

Furthermore, the Regional Territorial Plan approved in 2010 foresees the establishment of a monitoring system to evaluate the dynamics of the territorial capital of the region.

A comprehensive territorial monitoring system that focuses on clearly-identified issues related to results of policies, their synergies and trade-offs, is the basis for the territorial development policy to turn wishes into reality.

The lack of territorial monitoring capacity makes it difficult to set appropriate goals and adopt the measures needed to pursue the desired changes, and information feedback to improve policy effectiveness becomes weak if not impossible.

Based on its experience in the design of a Regional Territorial Plan (as a strategic scheme for regional development), the Emilia-Romagna Region intends to support directly the development of specific sets of indicators and a methodological framework representing territorial quality and attractiveness.

The Attract-SEE team, from left to right, standing: Francesco Trapani (ERVET SpA), Gianandrea Esposito (ERVET SpA), Stefano Marani (ERVET SpA); in the middle: Francesca Altomare (ERVET SpA); sitting: Claudio Mura (ERVET SpA), Alessandro Selva (Emilia-Romagna Region) and Graziella Guaragno (Emilia-Romagna Region)



Project Partner Presentation

CENTRAL EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY – CEIT ALANOVA, AUSTRIA

The Central European Institute of Technology (CEIT) - Institute of Urbanism, Transport, Environment and Information Society is a non-university applied research institute that was founded in 2006 by the Municipality of Schwechat.

CEIT acts complementarily with existing organisations and in close cooperation with scientific and research institutions, enterprises and public administrations in order to facilitate the transfer of knowledge from research to practical applications.

The CEIT team consists of experienced planners, geographers, environmental resource managers and technicians. Specifically, CEIT's competences cover the following areas: Cities and urban development – holistic,

interdisciplinary, and trans-disciplinary approaches; Urban planning and regional development; Urban technologies, transport technologies, and environmental technologies; Information and knowledge society; Smart Cities/Smart Regions; Sustainability and resource management; Energy planning and geographic information technologies (GIS).

Within the Attract-SEE project, CEIT ALANOVA is the partner responsible for *Definition of the Common Territorial Monitoring System Model for SEE*"(Data harmonisation model and Interoperability model) and *Definition of methodological approach for the application of indicators on concrete territorial areas*.



CEIT ALANOVA Team

TERRITORIAL ATTRACTIVENESS AND A SET OF COMMON INDICATORS AT TRANSNATIONAL LEVEL

Vesna Dežman Kete,
Geodetic Institute of Slovenia

This article is a continuation of the article from the first newsletter about Territorial Attractiveness written by Italian Project Partner. They suggest that the assessment of Territorial Attractiveness should take into consideration the following:

1. The capacity to attract and/or retain different target groups of 'mobile audiences': these may consist of persons (e.g. residents, migrants, or tourists), organisations (e.g. enterprises/corporations, international organisations, or R&D organisations) as well as non-material elements (e.g. financial investments, or events);
2. Target groups may be influenced (attracted) by different assets of the Territorial Capital, also in terms of "potential", not or not fully expressed opportunities: these are the specific territorial elements that could be effectively influenced by policies;
3. Policies to improve attractiveness are promoted by each country/region. At the trans-national level, where such policies are mostly missing, we can assume the objectives and priorities of EU 2020 and the Territorial Agenda 2020. Policies tend to impinge on the assets of the Territorial Capital and only indirectly on the target groups.

The Attract-SEE project has adopted the following categories of the Territorial Capital: environmental, anthropic, socio-cultural, economic/human and institutional capital. For each category we have determined the assets that best represent each capital (*an example is given in Table 1 for environmental capital and its assets*). *Table 1*

TC asset	
Environmental capital	
Environmental quality	Environmental quality (air, water, waste, greenhouse gases, etc.)
Territorial/ecosystem integrity	Territorial/ecosystem fragmentation Biodiversity Risk management
Natural resources and energy	Natural resources management (renewable/non renewable) Energy management (fossil fuels / renewable resources)

For each 'aggregated' Territorial Capital asset we have tried to identify at least a couple of core-indicators, one 'state' indicator and one 'pressure' indicator, in accordance with the methodology for the definition of indicators developed by the Austrian Project Partner. In this methodology, indicators were classified as follows:

- State indicators: indicators that aim to provide a simple description of the current state of development;
- Pressure, process, or control indicators: these indicators are used to diagnose and gauge the process that will influence the state of progress;
- Target, response of performance indicators: these assess the impact brought about by policy changes.

The indicators were determined at the trans-national level. Many indicators were extracted from existing use (good practice) such as the European Environmental Agency, Eurostat, ESPON projects, the World Bank etc. (*an example of indicators for environmental capital and its assets is given in Table 2 on the next page*).

An optional indicator means one that each Project Partner can decide whether to use it for their country/region or not. The decision is usually based on the availability of data or its specific territorial characteristics and vocations. Indicators that are included on the wish list are usually the ones that cannot be quantified at present, because there are no available data, but are (or will be) important for the country/region.

More information about the project on www.attract-see.eu

Environmental Capital - *Table 2*

<i>Environmental quality</i>	
1.	Greenhouse gas emission (Europe 2020 indicator)
2.	Air pollution: PM10
3.	Air pollution: Ozone concentration
4.	Population connected to urban waste water treatment with at least secondary treatment

<i>Territorial/ecosystem integrity</i>	
1.	Artificial surface by Corine Land Cover
2.	Protected Areas for biodiversity: Habitats Directive (% of terrestrial protected areas) (Natura2000)
3.	Ecosystem services -> WISHLIST

<i>Natural resources and energy</i>	
1.	Electricity generated from renewable sources
2.	Consumption of water per capita
3.	Share of Renewable Energy in Final Energy Consumption by NUTS 2 regions - % (Europe 2020 indicator) -> OPTIONAL

Numbers of indicators per capital category - *Table 3*

	Nº OF SUGGESTED (FOR ALL PP)	Nº OF OPTIONAL	Nº ON WISH LIST
ENVIRONMENTAL CAPITAL	8	1	1
ANTHROPIC CAPITAL	3	2	
SOCIO-CULTURAL CAPITAL	5	1	
ECONOMIC/HUMAN CAPITAL	15		
INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL	5		
SUM	36	4	1

An example of an optional indicator is 'Share of Renewable Energy in Final Energy Consumption by NUTS 2 regions' (which is also a Europe 2020 indicator) - the indicator is defined as the share of renewables in gross final energy consumption, which refers to the quantity of energy consumed within a country's border. The energy sources taken into account are hydro, geothermal, wind and solar power, biomass and the biodegradable fraction of waste.

An example of a wish-list indicator is 'Ecosystem services' - indicators of ecosystem services help track and communicate how ecosystems support our physical, economic, and social well-being. In doing so, they can help public and private sector decision-makers formulate decisions that will maintain ecosystem health and help reverse current trends of ecosystem degradation.

Examples of ecosystem services indicators are:

- Biomass fuel consumption;
- Per cent of arable land under cultivation;
- Untreated waste flowing into water bodies.

The presented list of indicators is not the final version. The next step will be to check for available data for the determination of the indicators in all the country/regions that are in the Attract-SEE project. After the analysis of data availability, a final list of indicators will be made. The final list of indicators at the trans-national level will consist of indicators for which data are available for the majority of Project Partners. The indicators that are not included at the trans-national level can still be used in the list of indicators at national level or in a Project Partner's wish list for each country/region.

Attract-SEE AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE REAL CORP 2013 'PLANNING TIMES'

REAL CORP is an international conference on spatial planning, which has been organised annually since 1996. This year it took place in Rome, Italy, from 20th to 23rd May under the motto "*You better keep planning or you get in deep water, for the cities they are a-changin'...*"

This was an occasion to discuss theories and methods and also hands-on experience from all over the world on how planning deals with SPACE in TIME. When planning our cities and regions, when defining projects that may improve the conditions of society, when proposing decision processes that manage the space around us, when implementing techniques to foster development – the relationship between space and time is something we are constantly working with.



In this regard the project partners, the Geodetic Institute of Slovenia, the Republic Agency for Spatial Planning, Region Emilia-Romania with EREVET, the Slovenian Ministry of Infrastructure and Spatial Planning and CEIT Alanova highlighted the establishment of a territorial monitoring system in South East Europe. The Attract-SEE paper and presentation can be downloaded free at <http://www.corp.at/>, as well as the full conference proceedings for each year since 1996.

Project Partner Presentation

OFFICE FOR NATIONAL ECONOMIC PLANNING, HUNGARY

Through the establishment of the Office for National Economic Planning in Hungary in 2011, a new niche centre has been created, which supports and coordinates national strategic, economic and spatial planning.

It not only plans and evaluates, but also provides various types of directives and recommendations related to activities in the public sector, and to quality and methodology for organisations. The Office also operates as a new intellectual centre for economic development and analysis (a so-called 'think tank') based on its high quality analysis, research, consulting, and communication and dissemination activities. The establishment of the Office facilitates the cost-effective realisation of activities that are difficult within a ministerial system, such as complex planning, evaluation and government counselling tasks.

In addition to above mentioned fields of expertise, the Office places great emphasis on international co-operation and seeks to promote transnational initiatives and developments by managing projects under the Central Europe and South East European Transnational Cooperation Programmes.

Although the primary aim of the Office is to support the work of the Ministry (and indirectly that of the government), it has an objective to become an exemplary professional institute for the whole public sector with regard to planning-development activities at all levels, and facilitating decision making through the collection of good practices in the field of policy coordination from all over Europe.

As policy coordination is a priority for the Office, participation in the Attract-SEE project offers a great opportunity to extend its knowledge with regard to

the mediation role among decision makers, experts and civil society, as well as establishing a transnational network with the exchange of experience with professionals of other South East European regions and countries.

The Attract-SEE team, from left to right, standing: József Pál Lieszkovszky, Márton Péti, Márton Chickán, Gábor Kigyóssy; sitting: Timea Jaschitzné Cserni and András Guti



POLICY COORDINATION: ON THE WAY TO ESTABLISH A WIDELY ACCEPTABLE APPROACH FOR TERRITORIAL ATTRACTIVENESS

András Guti,
ONEP

The Office for National Economic Planning from Hungary is the Attract-SEE partner responsible for Work Package 'Policy Coordination', of which the objective is to support the progress of other work packages by providing methodology and tools for policy coordination with respect to territorial attractiveness in partner regions.

It is expected that this work package will also be useful for other users concerning this issue. Two partners from Slovenia, the Regional Environmental Centre and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Spatial planning also have a strong role in WP6. The main tasks are the preparation of a handbook on the policy coordination process and to develop methodological tools to support stakeholder involvement during the project lifecycle.

The main output will be the Handbook on the Policy Coordination Process. In essence, the content of the handbook will be based on two sources. The basic message of the handbook is a general approach and

methodology for policy coordination processes, paying specific attention to the characteristics of the coordination process, thus focusing on stakeholders and actors primarily from public administration. The handbook will include all the relevant aspects of a properly planned policy coordination process: the principles and guidelines for implementation, the expected benefits, and the drivers and potential barriers of stakeholder involvement.

A separate chapter will cover tools and methods for capacity building. The handbook will briefly summarise the results from existing literature, and the techniques that are currently widely used throughout Europe and the rest of the world.

The added value arising from this project will be continuously added and built into the basic manual described above. Concrete examples emerging during implementation of other work packages – especially good practice and the lessons learnt – will be included directly in the most relevant chapters of the handbook, emphasising the special issues concerning territorial attractiveness. Concrete tips and ideas for the organisation of stakeholder involvement events will be also built into the document to provide a user friendly output, so that a wide range of users can benefit from the handbook.

Project Partner Presentation

INSTITUTE FOR SPATIAL PLANNING OF THE KOPRIVNICA-KRIŽEVCI COUNTY, CROATIA

The Institute for Spatial Planning of the Koprivnica-Križevci County was established in 1995 as one of the departments within Koprivnica-Križevci County. Since 1st January 2008, the Institute has operated as a public institution.

Activities of the Institute include: Preparing regional spatial plans; Preparing spatial plans of towns and municipalities and urban development plans; Creating and monitoring the implementation of spatial documents at a local (regional) level; Territorial monitoring and preparing reports about territorial development in Koprivnica-Križevci County; Keeping a register of data within the Geographic Information System (GIS) of spatial planning; Issuing opinions on drafts of spatial planning documents in accordance with the law; Performing professional analytical work in the field of spatial planning.

The Institute cooperates with relevant experts and competent scientific and technical institutions, professional associations, legal entities and individuals in Croatia and abroad, central state administration bodies and regional bodies, local and territorial governments. The Institute actively participates in international projects, preparing technical documents for development projects and project ideas. At the moment there are nine employees in the Institute. The Institute is build-



The Attract-SEE team, from left to right: Saša Cestar, Maja Turin and Mladen Matica

ing a digital database of spatial data for Koprivnica-Križevci County (land use, construction areas, traffic and utility infrastructure, demography, natural and cultural heritage and social infrastructure).

Through the Attract-SEE project, the Institute will establish a permanent territorial monitoring system in Koprivnica-Križevci County suited to the needs of policy and decision makers in the county. Through the establishment of a shared system of indicators the model will be applied to monitor territorial quality and attractiveness for investment, tourism development or environmental protection.

Project Partner Presentation

NETWORK OF ASSOCIATIONS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES, NALAS

NALAS, the Network of Associations of Local Authorities, is involved in the implementation of Attract-SEE project as an organisation that represents local authorities through their associations at SEE level.

The complexity of the processes in territorial management and planning in SEE requires the establishment of appropriate monitoring systems with reliable sourc-

es of information and updates. Through NALAS and its members – the associations of local authorities in SEE, decision makers and municipal experts who deal with the issues of territorial planning will benefit from the results of the Attract-SEE project. The established framework concept as well as tools for policy makers will enable them to enhance the quality of development decisions and introduce evidence-based policies.

From a regional perspective at SEE level, the project will help NALAS in its role of promoting and encouraging networking amongst professionals and political stakeholders on issues of spatial planning. NALAS was established in 2001 under the auspices of the Stability Pact and the Council of Europe. Today, it comprises 16 national or regional local government associations that represent around 9000 local governments directly elected by more than 80 million people. NALAS promotes the process of decentralisation and international organisations, considering local self-government as a key issue in the current process of transition affecting the various countries in South-East Europe. NALAS builds partnerships in order to contribute to the reconciliation and stabilisation process in the region and henceforth contributes to the process of the European integration of the whole region.



*The Attract-SEE team, from left to right: Katerina Georgjevska
Milena Garthley and Jelena Janevska*

NALAS is also the initiator and organiser of the NEXPO International Municipal Fair, at which this year a trans-national workshop will be held as part of the Attract-SEE project (see below).

NEXPO 2013 International Municipal Fair: Be Where Ideas Come to Meet

Want to be part of the largest and the most important South-East Europe municipal event? Meet people, exchange experiences, learn new things, compare with others and promote your work? Get a unique opportunity to present your municipality projects in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and meet potential partners and investors?

NEXPO 2013 International Municipal Fair offers you all these and much more. Organised in the towns of Rijeka and Opatija, in the Republic of Croatia, from 25th to 27th September 2013, NEXPO will bring together local governments, local government associations, development agencies, civil society and businesses from South-East Europe and beyond. NEXPO was organised for the first time in March 2011, in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. It brought together 200 Mayors, 100 exhibitors, and 2000 visitors, and delivered nine conferences and workshops.

The topic of NEXPO 2013 is EU Integration. The Fair will also provide opportunities for local governments to meet representatives of the business sector and attract potential investors for their projects in energy efficiency and renewable energies. It is expected to bring together over 4000 participants in the Sport Centre Zamet in Rijeka, with an exhibition space of 4000 m².

For all information about NEXPO 2013, the detailed programme, on-line registration, accommodation booking, travel details, etc. please check the web site nexpo.nalas.eu

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www.southeast-europe.net*

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