











Envisioning as a participatory planning tool

BACKGROUND

The five-day envisioning workshops with the involvement of different groups of stakeholders from nine Kosovo municipalities have been a kind of a trade-mark of Municipal Spatial Planning Support Programme (MuSPP) phase 1/2 and a specific tool in its planning methodology. The main purpose of these workshops was to retrieve ideas from citizens for long and short-term spatial and urban planning, as inputs for the Municipal and Urban Development Plans and their implementation. MuSPP developed a 'format' of these workshops which provided basic training for the participants in planning principles, which focused on 'learning by doing'. Without any doubt, the envisioning workshops were the most inclusive planning activities ever (co-)organized by Kosovo municipalities which empowered civil society to contribute in a pro-active way to municipal and urban planning.

Therefore, for the better understanding of the power of participatory envisioning as a planning tool as well as future territorial organization and management of a neighborhood, a city or a region based on a shared vision and concepts, the project called "Envisioning technique in Participatory Planning" was built within MuSPP.

The project aims to enhance good governance through participatory and gender sensitive planning methods. The outcomes of the project are community safety audits, spatial/urban plans, urban design guidelines and envisioning toolbox.

Whilst the focus of the first envisioning cycle was entirely at the municipal level, the next phase will either address 'upscale' (inter-municipal, regional, cross-border, transnational) or 'downscale' (urban centre, village, informal settlement, neighborhood, street, building block, ...).

However in supporting smaller municipalities in drafting their MDP/UDP and setting up a planning framework, envisioning workshops will be needed as part of the inclusive planning process.

As a result, the round table debate on "Envisioning Technique in Participatory Planning" was held on 9th of October, 2009.

Municipal officers and civil society representatives from nine municipalities – all MuSPP counterparts, gathered to discuss the achievements of the visioning workshops as well as their impact in the municipalities. One of the main conclusions was that all experiences and lessons learned need to be shared with other municipalities too.

The conference on Envisioning as a participatory planning tool will bring together a range of municipalities from those at the beginning of their spatial planning process to those at their spatial plan implementation phase.

Also, the conference will not only provide feedback on the first cycle of vision workshops but also deliver recommendations and guidelines for the next vision cycle, resulting in an Advisory note from MuSPP to its counterparts at the local and central levels.

INVITATION

October, 2010

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are kindly invited to participate in the conference on "Envisioning as a participatory planning tool". The conference is organised by UN-HABITAT/Municipal Spatial Planning Support Programme (MuSPP), funded by Sida and the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, with the support of the Ministry of Local Government Administration, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and Cultural Heritage without Borders

The envisioning workshops were the inclusive planning activities organised with an active participation of local government officials and civil society organisations from nine Kosovo municipalities.

The main purpose of the conference is to better understand the power of participatory envisioning as a planning tool and its impact on the future territorial organization and management of a neighborhood, a city or a region based on a shared vision and concepts. Also, it aims at enhancing good governance through participatory and gender sensitive planning methods.

The conference will bring together a range of municipalities from those at the beginning of their spatial planning process to those which are now implementing their plans. The conference will also offer an opportunity to exchange experience with representatives of different countries on related topics.

The conference will not only provide feedback on the first cycle of vision workshops but also deliver recommendations and guidelines for the future vision cycle, resulting in an Advisory Note from MuSPP to its counterparts at the local and central levels.

The conference will take place in Grand Hotel, Prishtinë/Priština, on 9th of November, 2010, starting at 09:30.

Sincerely yours,

Mahir YagcilarMinister
Ministry of Environment
and Spatial Planning

Krystyna GaleziaHead of
UN-HABITAT
Kosovo Programmes

AGENDA

09:30-10:00 Welcoming remarks/introductions by:

Mr. Mahir Yagcilar - Minister of the Ministry of Environment and Saptial Planning

Mrs. Krystyna Galezia – CTA/Programme Manager UN-HABITAT/ Kosovo

Represenative of – Ministry of Local Government Administration

Mr. Anders Berlin - Sida

Mrs. Besa Luzha – Head of Friedrich Ebert Stiftung – Kosovo Office

Mr. Sali Shoshi - Head of Cultural Heritage without Borders - Kosovo Office

10.00-11.00 Session 1:

- a. Presentation: Summary of nine visioning workshops in MuSPP1/2; successful achievements/ difficulties/benefits and influences in planning Ishaku&Arijeta
- b. Presentation: Department of Spatial Planning (MESP)
 Current situation in the municipalities
- c. Experience from Sweden on participatory planning with concrete examples Mr. Steve Johnson Head of the Dept for Sustainable Community Planning and Development

Discussion

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-12:45 Session 2:

Experiences of the municipalities with regard to participatory planning process:

- a. Presentation from the Municipality of Junik Mrs. Ferdone Tofaj -
- Directorate of Urbanism
- b. Presentation from Hani i Elezit/General Jankovič Mr. Nexhmedin Daci Directorate of Urbanism
- c. Presentation from Municipality of Mitrovica Mr. Mehdi Bala Directorate of Urbanism

Discussion

12:45-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-15:10 Session 3:

Mr.Flamur Kuçi

Experience from Albania on participatory planning

Mrs.Nuran Zeren Gűlersov

Experience from Turkey on participatory planning with concrete examples —

Istanbul Technical University

Discussions

15:10-15:25 Coffee Break

15:25-16:25 Session 4:

Future ideas for visioning and community planning

Mr. Luan Shllaku - Executive Director of KFOS

Mr. Ilir Gjinolli - Lecturer in the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Architecture/

University of Prishtina

Mrs. Elvida Pallaska - Institute of Spatial Planning

Discussion

16:25 –17:00 Recommendations - next cycle of visioning workshops