



City of Ljubljana

DUPPS

Town and Spatial Planners Association of Slovenia



Intended outcome

Recognising the value of agreeing on a common vision on the future development before plan production

Organisers

ECTP-CEU - European Council of Spatial Planners/ Conseil Européen des Urbanistes
Town and Spatial Planners Association of Slovenia (DUPPS)
The City of Ljubljana

Cities as motors of territorial cohesion: From decisions through policy and governance to plans

Where and when:

Ljubljana, Slovenia
26 – 27 September 2008

Venues:

Congress Centre of the Grand Hotel Union / Ljubljana Castle

Introduction

One of the central questions in the professional debate concerning spatial planning and territorial cohesion is how can planners contribute to the new policy objective?

As put by Jan Vogelij, the EU policy is in line with ECTP aims, regarding objectives of future oriented planning practice. EU documents concerning territorial cohesion include notions similar to those set by European planning professionals in the paper "Strategic Planning towards Territorial Cohesion". Which shows consensus achieved in preparatory discussions, clarifies possible contributions of planners, strategically targets the regional scale, suggests applicable planning approaches and shows aspects of governance, essential for achieving territorial cohesion. However, the newly adopted policy requires elaboration and interpretation into terms that can be applied in planning practice.

In order to achieve, territorial cohesion, issues of modern spatial planning should be approached in ways that require improvements of governance and planning education.

The event continues from two conferences, dealing with territorial cohesion, which were held in London (March 2008) and Marné la Vallée (June 2008).

Content of the conference:

The conference consists of four sessions, next to the opening session and the closing session. The opening will take place in the late afternoon of Friday 26, the other sessions will take all Saturday 27 of September

1. European territorial cohesion policy

The notion of Territorial Cohesion will be presented and discussed, the outcomes of the Greenbook on the definition of Territorial Cohesion is envisaged, together with the first experiences with the new legal entity of ECGT

2. Regional experiences

Regional development issues will be presented and discussed as well as experiences with processes of cooperation between regions in France

3. Lessons learned

Experiences with local and regional development in Vienna and Basque country are presented in order to identify lessons for effective spatial planning processes.

4. Discussion

The discussion with the panel will be extended to a plenary discussion with all participants

Provisional conclusions:

- Government policy concerning economic, social and environmental issues has to be better coordinated to achieve cohesive territories.
- Decision-making processes should be coupled with effective and inclusive participation, representation and leadership.
- Modern spatial planning processes should be open, interactive and integrative and focused on strengthening opportunities to capitalise on the territories qualities.
- Formation of coherent territories can be accelerated by development of generic skills, which interface other professions and stakeholders (such as visioning, leadership, community engagement and communication).
- Capabilities to organise and guide planning processes must become an important item in the profession's development.
- Achieved desired practical results have to be widely promoted, whereby also particular processes and methods are emphasised, such as cooperation, plan implementation, public-private partnership and new skills (facilitators, negotiators, moderators etc.).

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Plenary session 1:

European (territorial)
cohesion policy

The session will focus on issues coming from the EU level and influencing local and regional spatial planning practice.

The focus will be on Territorial Cohesion, and how it is to be understood according to the European Commission, together with the possible importance of the legal form of ECGT for (cross border) cooperation in spatial development.

Both items may be of influence on local and regional governance and the way planning processes are to be organised.

Plenary session 2:

Regional experiences

The regional level is of increasing importance for strategically planning spatial developments. Better coordination and intensified cooperation will be supportive to the effectiveness of planning processes.

Plenary session 3:

Lessons learned from
planning processes

The capacity for delivering feasible plans, which are supported by society and the responsible politicians are discussed in this session. Good examples are presented of processes involving relevant stakeholders. Emphasis will be on cutting edge processes where the stated values were applied.

Plenary session 4:

Lessons from panel and
participants

The outcomes of the considerations among EU member states with regard to spatial planning during Slovene presidency are envisaged here, together with a panel discussion. The panel will delve in to practicalities of promoting and achieving Territorial Cohesion.

A plenary discussion offers the possibility to all participants after each plenary session, these discussions are chaired by Virna Bussadori, ECTP President

Closing session:

After an attempt to summarize the achievements of the presentations and discussions, the conference will be closed, considering next steps.

Output

Report for wider dissemination lead by ECTP.

Possible questions and remaining issues will be addresses at the next ECTP conference, organised in the next General assembly in Autumn 2008.

Practicalities REGISTRATION

- There is no charge for participation in this conference.
- The registration form can be downloaded from www.ceu-ectp.org/review.
- Special dietary or access requirements should be indicated on the registration form
- The registration deadline is **10 September 2008**.
- The number of places for attendees is limited, therefore register ASAP!

ACCOMMODATION

- **Participants are kindly asked to book accommodation themselves.**
- The local organiser has provided a list of hotels near the conference venue. Accommodation information and booking forms can be downloaded from <http://www.ceu-ectp.org/review/>

LANGUAGE

- The official conference languages are English, French and Slovene. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

Une interprétation simultanée en français sera disponible lors de la conférence

Further practical information and the map can be downloaded from <http://www.ceu-ectp.org/review/>

Organising committee

Jan Vogelij – president
Miran Gajšek- vice president
Virna Bussadori
Margita Jančič
Janez Koželj
Peter Bassin
Ivan Stanič
Barbara Černič Mali



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P R O G R A M M E

Friday 26 th September 2008		Location: Grand Hotel Union / Blue Hall
from 14:00 on	Registration	
16.00 – 18.00	Opening session	
	Welcome and opening by organisers	
	Zoran Jankovič, Mayor of Ljubljana Virna Bussadori, President of ECTP Metka Černelč, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia Miran Gajšek, President of DUPPS	
	Setting the Scene	
	Jan Vogelij, ECTP Past president	
	Questions & Discussion	
18:30 - 21:00	Welcome reception, hosted by the Mayor of Ljubljana	
Saturday 27 th September 2008		Location: Ljubljana Castle / Estate Hall
09.30 – 10.30	1st Session: European (territorial) Cohesion policy	
	Patrick Salez, European Commission, DG Regio, <i>"The EU policy option of Territorial Cohesion and the definition of Territorial Cohesion"</i> Gianluca Spinaci, Committee of the Regions, <i>"The importance of the new tool ECGT for Territorial Cohesion"</i> Discussion Vincent Goodstadt, ECTP/RTPI: <i>Summary of discussion</i>	
10.30 – 11.30	2nd Session: Regional experiences	
	Gerhard Stahl, SG Committee of the Regions, <i>"Territorial Cohesion and regional/local development"</i> Jean Peyrony, French Government Agency / European Commission, DG Regio, <i>"Experiences with regional cooperation and regional development"</i> Discussion Nicolas Buchoud, SFU: <i>Summary of discussion</i>	
11.30 – 12.00	Coffee/tea break	
12.00 – 13.00	3rd Session: Lessons learned from planning processes	
	Rudi Schicker, Municipality of Vienna, <i>"Lessons learned from local and regional cooperation"</i> Alfonso Vegara, Taller de Ideas, Madrid, <i>"Experiences with regional development processes in Basque region"</i>	
13.00 – 14.00	Light lunch	
14.00 – 15.00	4th Session: Lessons from panel and participants	
	Janja Kreitmaier, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia <i>"Coordination of Territorial planning and urban planning - Summary of the EU workshop 16/17 September"</i>	
	Panel discussion: Chair: Virna Bussadori (ECTP President) Panellists: Patrick Salez, Janez Koželj, Rudi Schicker, Gerhard Stahl, Alfonso Vegara, Jan Vogelij	
	Plenary discussion Chair: Virna Bussadori (ECTP President)	
15:00 - 16:30	Closing session	
	Jan Vogelij, ECTP Past president: <i>Preliminary conclusions: "Recommendations for effective spatial planning processes"</i>	
	Virna Bussadori, ECTP President: <i>"Next steps & Closing of the conference"</i>	
16:30 - 17:00	Farewell drinks	