

**Needs and opportunities  
regarding the lifelong learning  
in regard to planning in Poland**

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# 1. Urban development processes in Poland

- **Change in development paradigm after 1989**
- **Dominant position of the private developments**
- **Liberal approach to urban development presented by local authorities (and some planners)**
- **Development of urban sprawl and beginning of urban regeneration processes**



## 2. Polish planning system

- **Based on regulatory planning, executed at the local level**
- **Master and Structure planning – present at the local and regional levels**
- **Spatial regulations not coordinated with socio-economic plans**



### 3. Consequences for planning profession

- **Vanishing profession of structure planners and urban designers**
- **No serious market for action planning**
- **Development of the „new” planning profession, focused on legal aspects of development**



## 4. Present changes in the planning paradigm

- **RE-Recognition of the traditional urban values, search for the ways of including them in the planning system**
- **Understanding that planning paradigm should be based on:**
  - **Creation of the desired urban form**
  - **Participatory process leading to definition of the desired urban form**
  - **Understanding the implementation powers**



## 5. New situation – new professionals?

- **Development of planning profession:**
  - „traditional” regulatory planners
  - „old-new” urban designers
  - „new” action planners
- **Need for new professionals:**
  - Able to design urban space
  - Ready for undertaking the participatory processes
  - Understanding the urban development and management mechanisms



## 6. Present planning education pattern in Poland

- Majority of planners – emerging from the architectural profession
- Only recently – development of the „spatial management” as the alternative track of studies for planners
- Most of the planners are „self-reeducated” architects
- Their knowledge comes from the practice



## 7. Need for lifelong planning education

- **New situation requires:**
  - Reforming the planning curricula
  - Development of the new tracks of „re-education” for already working professionals
- **Ways of dealing with this need:**
  - New undergraduate and graduate planning programs
  - New post-graduate studies and courses
  - New tracks of doctoral education



## **8. Post-graduate educational offer in Poland**

- **Post-graduate studies required as a precondition for membership application to the Planners' Chamber**
- **Various courses, conferences and seminars organized by different schools and private consulting companies**
- **Doctoral education included in the architectural and civil engineering studies**



## **9. Formal post-graduate programs as the basis for further planning education**

- **Changing planning profession in Poland calls for new set of skills and new knowledge**
- **This can not be easily acquired in the accidental way**
- **There is a growing need for the formal planning post-graduate studies, offering interdisciplinary or specialized programs**
- **These studies will most probably become the major track of post-graduate planning education**



## **10. Types of post-graduate programs in planning**

- **Including various aspects of present planning profession**
- **Focused on particular aspects of planning issues;**
  - **Urban and environmental management**
  - **Urban regeneration**
  - **Preservation of heritage**
  - **Preservation of the environment**



# 11. Types of educational offer

- **Fully „commercial” studies – students (or their employers) pay for education**
- **EU-sponsored and co-sponsored programs – students pay the small percentage of the actual cost of the course, the rest of it is sponsored**
- **State-sponsored doctoral studies**





## 12. Further challenges for planning education

- **Further recognition of the needs**
- **Validation and verification of the present studies and courses offered in regard to needs and paradigm changes**
- **Making these courses more accessible for –especially – young professionals**
- **Linking the educational offer with changes in planning system**



# Conclusions

- **Post-graduate studies constitute the basis of lifelong learning for planners in Poland**
- **Many courses and studies offered – more to come**
- **Necessary formal recognition of them and linking them with the planning system**
- **Issues in costs of this education**

