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METADATA IN PLANNING - INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AT THE FA STU IN BRATISLAVA

An international conference dedicated to research in the field of metadata in planning was held at SPECTRA, Centre of Excellence from 9th till 11th September 2004. This event was scientifically fully covered by the PERSEUS project of the 5th EU Framework Programme. More than 50 experts from the entire Europe discussed the questions of summarizing, administration, restoration and utilization of information for steering the spatial development processes, both on settlement and on regional level with the emphasis on primary meta level. This event was also coordination meeting for international working group of SPECTRA, Centre of Excellence, led by Prof. Ing.arch. Karel Maier, CSc. from CVUT Prague.

This working group is in the context of newly established research areas continuously working in the field of metadata in spatial planning practice. The working group WP4 from the 6th Framework Programme INTELCTITIES has also utilised this event for the meeting. The SPECTRA Centre of Excellence is directly involved in the activities of this working group.

The METADATA Project in the spatial planning is focused on coordination of information metadatabasis utilised in the planning process with the aim to enable effective crossborder planning. The INTELCTITIES Project is aimed to create new innovative set of mutually interlinked management services on the local level. The main goal is to meet the needs of the citizens and economic bodies with the support of 24/7 interactive online system of city services. The availability of metadata and applications from the field of spatial planning plays a key role in the development of democratic city management. This is one of the hot priorities of the Programme for development of electronically supported democratic management of the society within the 6th EU Framework Programme

One of the scientific results is proposal for the project within the INTERREG III Programme.

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INTERNATIONAL STUDIO WORKSHOP IN TOULOUSE IN MAY 2004 - URBAN DESIGN OF EMBANKMENT IN TOULOUSE, FRANCE.

When choosing the embankment in Toulouse in France, as the area for studio urban design, we hardly could anticipate what a new experience this will be and with how many new contacts and friendships we will be enriched.

The urban design is on revitalisation of the embankment and creating a promenade in adjacent area on the right bank of the Garonne river in Toulouse, the French city under the Pyrenees with leisurely atmosphere. Historical features of the city are in contrast with life energy of local people, who come with their friends to relax on the right bank of the river.

French colleagues have been very friendly and helpful in realisation of the project. There was a one day workshop devoted to the issues of redevelopment on the right river bank in Toulouse, which was essential for the urban design. The most important task was to deal with transport connection of the embankment with the adjacent monument in the close historical town of Albi. All participants have been divided into small groups, consisting of international student teams. This was very

inspiring and motivating although later on there were different, often conflicting ideas, which did not stop the creative process but pushed it forward to the more open discussions resulting in the urban concept of the area. The outcomes were based on the vision of the teams, which was more important than technical feasibility of the design but with the sense for the detail, creativity and perfectness. This was already the 9th year of the International Studio Workshop in Toulouse, which was organised in cooperation with the French Ministry of Culture for the participants from the universities of France and central and eastern Europe. The previous studio workshop was taking place in Sofia, Bulgaria.

We would like to thank to our supervisor Ing. arch. Karol Kattoš, PhD., who attended the studio workshop with us and gave lecture there and also to the Faculty of Architecture of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, which supported and enabled our participation in this international competition.