



## **LANDSCAPE PLANNING IN THE ENLARGED EU - DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT**

Sustainability became a key concept since the Brundtland report "Our Common Future" in 1987. The concept sustainable development denotes the development that allows satisfaction of the current needs without limitation of satisfaction of the needs of future generation in integration of environmental, social and economic aspects of the development. Taking into account the integration of all these of societal development is not a new requirement, neither the requirement of future oriented planning approach.

A new aspect of this principle is in the new view on integrity. In the context of sustainable development, as an outlasting process of qualitative and quantitative development changes, there is an emphasis on mutual effect of the resulting synergic quality in time and space. This is an approach to be taken towards the integrity of planning activities.

The issues of sustainability are not possible to explain and solve in the practice without having known the synergic processes of the development of bio-natural systems as well as social and economic systems that are integrated into the settlement systems. At the same time it is necessary to be aware that these are complex systems in which the main driving forces are the self-development processes. Governing interventions (except for some) are limited to regulation of self-development and in a democratic society function as a part of self-regulative mechanisms.

To solve the key issues of current civilization are in close relationship with heuristic opportunities, opened by cooperation of landscape ecology, theory of urbanism and theory of spatial planning. This cooperation enables application of new approaches to comprehension of complexity of man and nature, contributes towards

understanding of evolution and development and thus to more complex relations of their sustainability. It enables to understand the long-term aspects of development and helps to form principles of long-term strategies, not only the useful ones but also those inevitable for the existence of homo sapiens. It helps to form the categories of progressivity and regressivity in various stages of societal development. This relates to the processes of landscape creation and protection in particular as well as to forming the systems of settlements.

The opportunities opened by cooperation of the branches of science have to be reflected by the new quality of legislative environment for governance of the processes that directly or indirectly determine the quality of "sustainable development". It is now the time to create the conditions in the newly established legislative environment for the development of governing and planning activities, based on the gained level of scientific knowledge in planning, landscape planning and socio-economic strategic planning and at the same time for real holistic spatial management, integrating these individual planning activities in a logistic sequence.

Preparation of the new "Act on Landscape Planning" running in parallel with preparation of the new "Act on Planning" and with forming the legislative environment for strategic socio-economic planning activities, that up to now have been reduced to "regional planning", should bring a chance to fulfil the "European Convention on Landscape" as well as the "National Strategy of Sustainable Development".

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