

WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT AND INVITATION FOR APPLICATION

In January 2007 (exact workshop date to be confirmed soon) an international expert workshop on "Participation /Public involvement in spatial planning processes", will be held in Graz, Austria. This event will be organized by JOANNEUM RESEARCH, Institute for Sustainable Techniques and Systems (www.joanneum.at) in cooperation with ASO Office Ljubljana, supported by ASO Office Sofia, Federal Government of Styria (Europe Direct, FA 1E), the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and JOANNEUM RESEARCH.

The workshop will last two full days and be composed of

- (1) a presentations and discussion part (exchange between practitioners, scientists, public administration) and
- (2) the workshop itself, exploring challenges, issues and concrete project ideas for future international collaboration

This expert workshop will bring together a selected group of around 10 researchers and practitioners coming from Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia (FYROM), Albania, Slovenia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania or Austria. These researchers are experts in the fields of applied research on Urban Planning, Regional/ spatial planning, Traffic planning or Evolution of Society and democracy and focussing part of their work on possibilities and limitations of public involvement.

The aim of the workshop is

- to exchange on programmes, theories and practical experiences concerning goals and reality of public participation in spatial planning at the national as well as at EU level
- to contribute to the building up of an international cooperation network on the subject "participation/public involvement in spatial planning processes"
- to elaborate on common research questions for the future and start planning of concrete projects (bilateral level, EU level)

Call for application

Researchers and practitioners with academic background, Coming from Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia (FYROM), Albania, Slovenia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania and Austria

Specializing on one of the following topics

- Urban Planning
- Regional/ spatial planning
- Traffic planning
- Evolution of Society and democracy

And setting a focus on

- public involvement in planning processes (project experiences, methods)
- Good governance and bottom up democracy (project experiences, methods)
- development and application of participatory decision support systems in public administration (SEA, e.g.)

Experienced in practical cooperation with public administration on these Topics

Are invited to apply for participation in this workshop. Applicants should submit a 1 page position paper in English, presenting

- A) Abstract of his/her planned presentation topic
- B) Key questions on future research and cooperation that should be discussed during the meeting

Submission deadline is 15 October 2006

Up to 10 researchers/participants will be invited. For these participants, travel, food and accomodation costs will be covered. Abstracts as well as any questions should be addressed to gudrun.lettmayr@joanneum.at

THANK YOU FOR FORWARDING THIS INFORMATION TO YOUR COLLEAGUES

With our best regards

Gudrun Lettmayer

Dr. Gudrun Lettmayer

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