Impact Assessment as a tool for capacity building in spatial planning: Does it work?

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IS THERE CAPACITY TO ADDRESS THESE CHALLENGES?
Typology of municipalities regarding their capacity for spatial planning/
Tipologija upravljudske sposobnosti občin na področju prostorskega
planiranja

- municipality with lower capacity/
  občina s slabšimi pogoji
  za izvajanje prostorske
  zakonodaje
- municipality with better capacity/
  občina z boljšimi pogoji
  za izvajanje prostorske
  zakonodaje
- municipality with the best capacity/
  občina z najboljšimi pogoji
  za izvajanje prostorske
  zakonodaje

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Author of map/avtor zemljevida: Andrej Herakovič
Source/vir: Geodetska uprava RS
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## Capacity to deliver national planning policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECTOR</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Settlement development (6 tasks)</td>
<td>😞</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land management and housing (5 tasks)</td>
<td>😞</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport (sustainable mobility, public transport, 5 tasks)</td>
<td>😞</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental protection (2 tasks)</td>
<td>😊</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture (1 task)</td>
<td>😞</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural heritage (9 tasks)</td>
<td>😊</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport (1 task)</td>
<td>😞</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohesion policy, balanced regional development (5 tasks)</td>
<td>😊</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy (4 tasks)</td>
<td>😊</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature protection (6 tasks)</td>
<td>😊</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Thoughts on capacity: health & planning

“Nearly everything is connected to the regulation which does not allow a lot of flexibility.”

“Of course, we have a problem that we create new and new resolutions but at the same time we do not even know what happened to the old ones and what results did they bring. Therefore, I would like to see a clear message of all these documents that would tell people what is going to happen.”

“It seems that we reached the point of recognition that the inter-sectoral co-operation is a must and that the common points of sectors should be found and nourished.”
Initiatives for IA

- **Political:**
  - Ministry, responsible for spatial planning: ex-post IA for the delivery of national planning policy (2013-2014; 4 months)

- **Transnational EU projects:**
  - SPHERA project: IA on health & planning, social policy & planning policy (2014; 3 months)
  - ESPON EATIA: ex-post/ex-ante TIA on EU directives influencing the territory (2010-2012)

- **Research:**
  - Role of the spatial planning law in the planning system: ex-post RIA (2005-2010; PhD research)
IA on national planning policy

- November 2013 – March 2014
- Objective: To evaluate delivery of measures as defined in the Strategy
- Techniques used:
  - Interviews:
    - 18 semi-structured interviews (13 ?)
    - 24 interviewees
    - Use of the strategy, tasks’ performance
  - Questionnaires
  - Document analysis
TIA for EU directives

- ESPON EATIA project (2010-2012)
- TIA on transposition and impacts of selected “territorial directives”: habitat, energy efficiency, renewables, soil
- Four workshops with stakeholders
  - Representatives of ministries, regions, local communities, R&A,
  - Discussion on the social, economic, administrative, environmental and TI
  - “Conflict mitigation”
  - Reflection on directives and the transposition process
  - Policy making vs. policy delivery
IA on planning & health policy

- SPHERA transnational project, Alpine Space programme 2007-2013 (April to June 2014)
- Three focus groups
  - Health & pl (Ministry of Health, research&academic)
  - Social policy & pl (relevant ministries, pensioners, R&A)
  - Plan. (relevant ministries, regional, R&A)
- Workshop (national seminar):
  - Cross-learning between the projects and programmes
  - 47 participants
  - “World cafe” group discussion
  - Addressing common challenges
## Comparison of techniques

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technique</th>
<th>Power of moderator</th>
<th>Reaching out to participants</th>
<th>Potential for capacity building</th>
<th>Overall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workshops</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Moderate to high</td>
<td>Mix of stakeholders</td>
<td>✓ ✓</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fixed range of exchange</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>More facts then values</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interviews</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>“Request” for information</td>
<td>✓ ✓</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Teacher-pupil relationship</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No cross-sectoral learning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus groups</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Mix of stakeholders</td>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Interactive learning</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Facts, values and standings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Self-reflection</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Feedback on the average view</td>
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Benefits of carrying out IA

**Stakeholders**
- Meeting the peers from other sectors
- Learning about (impacts of) their policies
- Exchanging knowledge in informal environment
- Learning about foreign practice (IA in transnational project)

**Research**
- New knowledge for policy analysis (content and approach)
- Learning about which techniques works better in which situations
- The best results by techniques that include dialog

Yes, it does work.
Thank you for your attention.

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