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The Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia (herein after: UPIRS) is the central national research institute for spatial planning, urban design and related disciplines, established in 1955. It is a public research organisation partly financially supported by the Slovene government. The institute engages in different activities and covers a broad area of research such as spatial planning and regional development, urban planning and design, landscape architecture and design, urban regeneration, housing studies, demographic studies, cultural heritage protection and renewal, environmental protection, climate change, geoinformatics, transport and mobility studies. Researchers also engage in applied research by preparing pilot urban development projects, regional plans and other more applicative projects.

An important mission of the UIRS is co-operation on all levels of territorial division. In recent years the Institute participated in EU Framework programmes, European programmes of Territorial Cooperation including Central Europe, Alpice Space and Mediterranean, and ESPON itself. The Institute also provides expert, project and educational consultation services throughout the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

For this ESPON call the Institute would be - according to its expertise - interested to join partnership for the following project proposals:

Applied Research:

- **European Neighbour Regions**
- **Small and Medium sized Towns in their Functional Territorial context**

Targeted Analysis:

- **Liveable Landscapes for Sustainable Territorial Development**

See next page for more information on expertise for each proposal and selected references.

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### **Applied Research - European Neighbour Regions**

- Established co-operation with the planning research institution in countries of former Yugoslavia
- Good knowledge of the territory and territorial development of South-East Europe
- Strategic environmental impact assessment (Canton Sarajevo), preparation of regional and municipal spatial plans (for example for Podgorica, Montenegro)
- Cross-country analytical studies and policy evaluations in EU and in European neighbour regions
- Expertise in trends identification and scenario building
- Co-operation of UIRS researchers in education process, e.g. University of Zagreb (Croatia), which means continuous inflow and exchange of information on the current state-of-the-art in planning and geography
- References:
  - Housing study for the Canton of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, commissioned by Cantonal Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, financed by the World Bank, 2011
  - CLISP – Climate Change Adaptation by Spatial Planning in the Alpine Space. Alpine Space Programme, 2008–11
  - Spatial urban plan for the city of Podgorica, Podgorica, Montenegro, 2010
  - Training Programme for Municipal Planning and Management Framework in Kosovo. UN-HABITAT, 2005–06
  - Demography and the settlements system for the Canton Sarajevo Spatial development plan from 2003 to 2023, commissioned by Cantonal Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2005-06
  - Course on Planning and Development. United Nations Development Programme, Serbia and Montenegro, UNDP, 2005
  - RDA-NET-CEDA – Regional Development Agencies Network, Central European and Danubian Countries. INTERREG IIC, 1998–2001

### **Applied Research - Small and Medium sized Towns in their Functional Territorial context**

- Settlement network and the scale of Slovenia (20,273km<sup>2</sup> of land populated with nearly 6,000 settlements with development being mainly supported by settlements with 5,000 to 50,000 inhabitants)
- Studies on settlement network, housing patterns, demographic changes, governance issues, mobility and relation between rural and urban areas
- Preparation of regional development plans and municipal strategic spatial plans (Savinjska, Koroska region; City of Ljubljana, Municipality of Skocjan etc.)
- Studies of terminology in urban planning, preparation of the dictionary of urban planning in the Slovenian language
- Co-operation in preparation of Slovenian national planning policy along with proposals for the planning legislation process
- References:
  - Cities Regrowing Smaller – Fostering Knowledge on Regeneration Strategies in Shrinking Cities across Europe. COST, 2008-12
  - CIVITAS ELAN – Mobilising Citizens for Vital Cities. 7<sup>th</sup> FP EU, 2008–12
  - DEMOCHANGE – Demographic Change in the Alps: Adaptation Strategies to Spatial Planning and Regional Development. Alpine Space Programme, 2009–12
  - Implementation of regional policy in the changing conditions of development management due to introduction of new territorial levels. National Research Programme, 2008-10
  - ClimChAlp – Climate Change, Impacts and Adaptation Strategies in the Alpine Space. INTERREG IIIB Alpine Space, 2006-07
  - Integrated Analysis of Transnational and National Territories Based on ESPON results. ESPON 2006 Programme, 2004–05
  - RE URBAN MOBIL – Mobilising Re-Urbanisation on Conditions of Demographic change. 5th FP EU, 2002-05

- URBS PANDENS, Urban Sprawl – European Patterns, Environmental Degradation and sustainable development. 5<sup>th</sup> FP EU, 2002-05
- The Role Specific Situation and Potentials of Urban Areas as Nodes in a Polycentric Development. ESPON Programme, 2004

### **Targeted Analysis - Liveable Landscapes for Sustainable Territorial Development**

- Landscape planning and integration of landscape issues into urban and spatial planning -> regional and urban planning
- New approaches and methodologies for strategic planning of urban green spaces, cases of Ljubljana, Celje and Nova Gorica
- Studies concerning landscape changes
- Experiences in methodology of programming sustainable urban development projects facilitating infrastructure, in the field of regional economics, transport, applied demography, urban geography and sociology, urban renewal and conservation of natural and cultural heritage
- Expertise in (strategic) environmental assessment and territorial impact assessment
- References:
  - Tackling climate change with the tools of spatial planning, National Research Programme, 2010
  - Regional spatial plan of Ljubljana urban region, analytical study and draft, 2008-10
  - Strategic spatial plan of the City of Ljubljana, 2008
  - Scenarios of spatial development for City of Ljubljana, 2008
  - Monitoring and territorial impact assessment of sectoral policies, National Research Programme, 2006-08
  - Interreg IIIB project GreenKeys, UPIRS as co-author of publication *GREENKEYS @Your City – A Guide For Urban Green Quality*, 2005-07
  - Basic guidelines and rules for the urban green development for the cities of the Republic of Slovenia, 2006
  - REGALP – Regional Development and Cultural Landscape Change: The Example of the Alps, Evaluation and Adjusting EU and National Policies to manage a balanced Change. 5<sup>th</sup> FP EU, 2001-04
  - Landscape as a development factor: Regional development and changes of cultural landscape, National Research Programme, 2002-04
  - URGE "Development of Urban Green Spaces to Improve the Quality of Life in Cities and Urban Green Spaces, "Case of the City of Ljubljana", 5<sup>th</sup> FP EU, 2004
  - Basic guidelines and rules for the planning and development of urban areas in Slovenia, 2004