

METHODS AND TOOLS FOR URBAN WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT - A REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE OF CEE COUNTRIES

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Abstract

After the overview of a range of funding opportunities offered by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD - Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst), related to the countries of the SEE region, this paper focuses on the recently completed Fachkurs on the specific issues of architectural/urban design of waterfronts. It analyses specific participation perspectives of three regional architecture schools, Faculty of Architecture, University of Belgrade, Faculty of Architecture, Polytechnic University of Tirana and Faculty of Architecture, University of Montenegro, Podgorica. Having previous experiences in similar projects, the institutions were the base of a regional consortium, while the leading German institution was Anhalt University. Following the main purpose of the proposed Fachkurs titled “Methods and Tools for Urban Waterfront Development”, to transfer the knowledge from German academia to the academic institutions of the SEE countries, as well as to establish a cooperative infrastructure for the regional knowledge exchange in the selected field.

Each of the participating institutions had its specific approaches and targets. This study compares different perspectives of waterfront development and planning in the respective countries. The Belgrade Faculty of Architecture research highlights actual issues and solutions mostly for Belgrade waterfront and perspectives for the sustainable development. The Tirana, Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism research gives a wider variety of examples, considering Albanian riverfront, urban lake coasts and seashores waterfronts sustainable development, with attention to the protection of natural and cultural heritage. The Podgorica Faculty of Architecture research highlights the waterfront regeneration of a military harbor.

Finally, this paper presents the lessons learned from the regional schools in both organizational and realization aspects, as well as in aspects of contents and final results.

Keywords: Waterfront development, architectural/urban design, DAAD, Fachkurs, CEE countries