Improving spatial planning by developing an indicator-based monitoring system in the Republic of Serbia

Louisa J.M. Jansen, Tijana Zivanovic, Judith Borsboom-van Beurden, Sinisa Trkulja, Theo Overduin, Ljiljana Zivkovic and Aleksandar Djordjevic

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Introduction

- Reform process started in 2001.
- Uneven regional development in the country.
- Uncertainty EU membership status solved, this brings good territorial planning to the forefront as key issue for development.
- New institutions, new notion of planning:
  - Republic Agency for Spatial Planning (RASP); and
  - National Agency for Regional Development (NARD).

Republic Agency for Spatial Planning

- Spatial planning to plan sustainable territorial development as a general strategic framework for general and sectoral policies → role of control enabling policy and decision makers to observe results and effectiveness of different policies in space and to predict efficiency and required adjustments.

Three objectives:
- ‘Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia’.
- ‘Regional Spatial Plans’
  - According to functional regionalisation.
  - NUTS 2/3 level.
  - 4 plans adopted and 5 in elaboration.
- ‘Spatial Plans for Special Purpose Areas’.
Project approach

- Information model for spatial planning
  - ESPON Monitoring Meth. Spat. Strategy
  - National level RASP
  - Regional level NARD
  - Local level
  - Indicators
  - Semantics
  - Technical standards for data

Focuses on G2G project

National spatial planning process

- Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia
  - 5 goals
  - 106 indicators
  - 292 strategic priorities

- Information system for monitoring and evaluation
- Programme of Implementation
- Annual reports
An indicator-based monitoring system

- Needs and gaps analysis: how to implement a list of 106 indicators?
- In-depth analysis of the indicators: ranking and classifications of indicators to elaborate in a timely manner the ‘First Annual Report’:
  1. Data availability; and
  2. Relevance, or urgency, or importance of the indicator in relation to the National Spatial Plan.

Prioritising using two criteria

Prioritising 106 indicators by combination of importance and availability

Key indicators
(about 50% of total)

Other indicators
(about 50% of total)

Importance of the indicators

Availability of the indicators

Not easy to get or to realise

Easy to get or to realise

Nov. 2010
Dec. 2011
Nov. 2010
April 2011
April 2011

2012
2013
2014

??

Review
Nov. 2010
Important considerations

- **Geographical scale** on which data are collected, produced and visualised.
- **Frequency in time** (annual, 10-year census).
- **Purpose of monitoring**:

Potential overlap RASP and NARD

![Diagram showing the overlap between RASP and NARD](image)
Common interests in indicators

- Complementarities and overlap in monitoring programmes \(\rightarrow\) MoSCoW methodology.
- Prioritisation of RASP indicators by NARD:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MoSCoW categories</th>
<th>Number of indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must have</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Should have</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could have</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Won't have</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discussion and conclusions

- Spatial development requires strong political will, a good institutional organisation and funds.
- Monitoring system compliant with EU standards.
- A good link and synergy with NSDI is important.
- Keep the information system simple and user-driven.
- Subsequent steps with other groups of indicators will benefit from experiences gained.
- Monitoring system will develop and mature over time, robustness can be assessed and necessary adjustments made.
Thank you for your attention

More information: louisa.jansen@kadaster.nl