

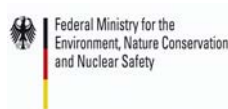
International Workshop in Budapest

cooperative decision-making and conflict management in public planning and environment

Central European University
Budapest, Hungary
January 22-23, 2007



supported by



If you work

- as a planner or regional developer
- as a mediator or facilitator of conflict resolution processes
- in an NGO, in the public administration or a company, and you are dealing with conflicts about environmental issues and in public planning

and you want to

- acquire knowledge in cooperative decision-making
- know more about the different ways of handling conflicts in the public sphere
- discuss quality standards and good practice in public participation
- learn about successful environmental mediation
- share your own knowledge with others
- meet experts of public planning and environmental issues
- exchange experience
- strengthen cooperation across the borders
- do networking,

you are most welcome to the Workshop on Cooperative Decision-making and Conflict Management in Public Planning and Environment.

The Workshop

is a follow-up to a research project on **Promoting environmental mediation as a tool for public participation and conflict resolution**, jointly carried out by OeGUT and REC in 2005. The workshop is also part of the knowledge-transfer project "Future in the Alps" of the International Commission for the Protection of the Alps (CIPRA). It gives an excellent opportunity to learn about successful mediations and to exchange experience in cooperative decision-making and conflict management. It offers the possibility to create a network of persons and institutions involved in public participation, environmental conflict management and environmental mediation and to establish links to existing networks, such as CIPRA or the Carpathian Convention. The conference will focus on how to improve public participation and decision-making processes. It will offer an overview of the benefits, principles and practice of using environmental mediation procedures for conflict resolution and a practical session during which such skills can be developed. Priorities for follow-up-projects and other activities will be defined.

Agenda

1st day

- 09:00—09:30 Registration of participants
- 09:30—10.15 **Welcome and introduction** - workshop goals, expected outcome, introduction of the participants (Kaidi Tingas, REC, Hungary)
- Address of welcome** (Austrian and Finnish Ministries, CIPRA, UNECE Aarhus Convention Secretariat)
- 10:15—11:00 **Alternative Dispute Resolution of Environmental Conflicts** – methods, overview of case studies in Austria and Germany and in CEE countries (presentation of results of the joint project)
(Martina Handler, ÖGUT, Austria; Magda Toth Nagy, Stephen Stec, REC, HU)
- Short Question & Answer session*
- 11:00—11:20 **New forms of decision-making** – what forms of cooperative decision-making are the most promising with regard to sustainable development? Best-practice from the Alpine space (Matthias Buchecker, WSL, Switzerland)
- 11:20—11:50 *Coffee break*
- 11:50—12:05 **Ombudspersons for the Environment** - promoters of public participation in environmental decision-making - the Austrian model (Alfred Brezansky, Advocacy for the Environment Vienna, Austria)
- 12:05—12:30 **Environmental Mediation** – history, concept and models, today's practice and experiences (Astrid Rössler, mediator, Austria)
- 12:30 – 13:00 **Conflict resolution and mediation** – specific features and conditions in CEE-countries (Marta Struminska, University of Warsaw, Poland)
- Short Question & Answer session*
- 13:00—14:00 *Lunch*
- 14.00—18:00 **Practice unit: Mediator skills and practices** – how to prepare and lead successfully a conflict resolution process in order to find a sustainable solution (Wolfgang Pfefferkorn, CIPRA International; Wolfgang Gerlich, Plansinn, AT)
- Evening Networking event*

Facilitation: Kaidi Tingas, REC

Agenda

2nd day

09:00—09:15	Summary of the last day's results and introduction to the work groups
09:15—10:45	Work groups: Public participation and conflict management (presumably) in the fields of • Protected areas, Natura 2000 • Traffic and transport • Waste management • Industry and trade Presentation and discussion of collected case studies and other projects from the region
10:45—11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15—13:00	Work groups based on different sectors (NGO's, administrators, mediators etc)
13:00—14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00—15:30	World café on future steps: How can public participation and cooperative conflict resolution be successfully implemented?
15:30—16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Conclusions and discussion about the next steps, possibilities and follow-up plans Evaluation of the meeting
17:00	Closure of the workshop

Facilitation: Martina Handler, ÖGUT

Speakers

Alfred Brezansky

Vice director of the Advocacy for the Environment Vienna. Working fields: technical environmental protection, administrative procedures in the environmental sphere, public participation, environmental mediation and conflict management.

Matthias Buchecker

Geographer and social scientist, works as a senior scientist at the Swiss Federal Institute WSL and manages projects on social requirements and public participation regarding landscape development, recreation and risk management.

Wolfgang Gerlich

Landscape planner, shareholder of Plansinn, Vienna; focus on urban planning, mediating, event management, the didactics of exhibitions, industrial design, project management, public relations; lecturer at the Vienna University and at the Universities of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Vienna.

Martina Handler

Political scientist and mediator, scientific project manager at the Austrian Society for Technology and the Environment and lecturer on public participation and conflict management at the Technical University of Vienna/MSc Program Renewable Energy.

Wolfgang Pfefferkorn

Landscape planner and mediator, works half time for Rosinak&Partner in Vienna and half time for CIPRA International in Liechtenstein. Working fields: regional development, knowledge transfer, evaluation, conflict management.

Astrid Rössler

Lawyer specializing in environmental law and formal approval procedures; consultant for projects of environmental relevance. Her activities as a mediator are centred on conflict counselling and managing participation projects.

Stephen Stec

Lawyer, head of the environmental law program at the REC, adjunct professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy at Central European University, experienced in negotiation, mediation and conflict resolution.

Marta Struminska

Sociologist at the Leon Kozminski Academy of Entrepreneurship and Management, Warsaw. Her field of work is environmental sociology, and research interests are Corporate Social Responsibility and environmental conflicts between business and civil society.

Kaidi Tingas

Public participation expert of the Public Participation programme of REC. Managing projects and building capacities in the area of access to environmental information and public participation in environmental decision-making, environmental communication, and mediation.

Magda Toth Nagy

Public participation expert, head of the Public Participation Programme of REC; focus on assistance in implementation of the Aarhus Convention, related EU directives including EIA, SEA, IPPC and Water Framework Directive and national legislation in practice, capacity building for public authorities and NGOs at national, regional and local level as well as other stakeholders.

Time and Venue

January 22-23, 2007

Central European University (CEU)

V, Nador utca 11

Budapest, Hungary

Look at: <http://www.utcakereso.hu>

Registration

Closing date: January 17, 2007 (registration form attached). There is a limited number of participants, those will be considered in the order of their application.

Admission to the workshop is free of charge.

Registration and information on accomodation:

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Contact and Information

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Organisers

The workshop is organised by

- Austrian Society for Technology and Environment (OeGUT)
- Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)
- International Commission for the Protection of the Alps (CIPRA)
- Austrian Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management

Supporters

And it is supported by

- Carpathian Convention
- Finnish Ministry of the Environment
- German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety.