



Public presentation of GreenKeys project in Ljubljana

Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia had a public presentation of the GreenKeys project in the European Centre in Ljubljana on the **23rd of November 2006**. The main purpose of this presentation was to inform general as well as professional public about international partnership in this project and to introduce the role which Slovene partners play within it. The presentation was given by mag. Ina Suklje Erjavec, researcher and landscape architect, the key and main responsible person for the project in Slovenia. Firstly, she highlighted content, goals and expected results of the project. Secondly, she gave also some other, practical information, such as how the work is going on and what experiences have been gained so far. The key point of the entire project is that there are professional experts involved from different research institutions or departments on the one hand and that there are concrete pilot projects addressed on the other. Accordingly, mag. Ina Suklje Erjavec stressed the benefits for urban planning practice, in Slovenia and in general, based on the experiences linked to practical issues of all the partner cities involved. Finally, she gave a short introduction and description of pilot projects, and announced the future public presentations regarding the GreenKeys project in Ljubljana.

They are scheduled as follows. Presentation of Nova Gorica, a pilot project in Slovenia will be given by Maja Šinigoj, an architect and urban planner from the Municipality of Nova Gorica. Presentation of GreenKeys project starting points: Problems of urban green spaces and connections to quality of life will be given by mag. Ina Suklje Erjavec from the Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia. She will also give a final expected presentation addressing the Work-package 4: Urban green space strategies.

There were 40 people attending the presentation. Participants were from all over Slovenia, mostly clerks from municipalities, interested students (architecture, landscape architecture, social science, civil engineering, ethnology/cultural anthropology), some participants of public services (communal infrastructure building, horticulture), and representatives from Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, and individuals from different institutions and private

practices that deal with spatial planning and related issues.

There was a lively discussion following the presentation. The questions ranged from very general, such as where the information about the project is announced, what is a timeframe of the project etc., to more specific such as about the possibilities of joining the project, possibilities of following the progress of the project, and about an interest in future results of the project. There were several practical issues addressed in the discussion, too. For example, debate was about a good practice of managing and maintaining green spaces in cities, funding and the role and experiences in public - private partnership, and about experiences in planning green spaces for teenagers. Some of these questions were directly related to the case of Nova Gorica, which is involved in the Greenkeys project as a partner city. Maja Šinigoj from Nova Gorica, who joined the UPIRS presentation, took part in the discussion and shared some of the experiences with the audience.

