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Spatial planning system reform proposal diagram

MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CZ

Establish national Geoportal, process digitalization and improve expert support

Promote instruments for inter-municipal and inter-stakeholder cooperation

Integrate planning into one family of planning processes and documents

Redefine competencies over planning

Promote time-limited judicial review

Support public involvement and education

Cluster of vertical-horizontal coordination

Provide methodical support for decision-making
To ease and make decision-making coherent upper level governments should provide expert support and guidelines for decision making

Vertical stakeholders' cooperation
Multi-level cooperation of self-governing units should be promoted

Incentives for general inter-municipal cooperation and mergers for the purpose of strategic and spatial planning
Together with devolution powers to municipal and regional governments, municipal governments have to cooperate to efficiently deliver public services and planning tasks as majority of municipalities is currently too small for doing so

Coordinating strategic plans
Strategic planning documents on all levels of government should provide basic framework of sustainable development goals within the given unit of government

Strategic plan defining framework for subordinate documents
Strategic documents should be compulsory underlying documents and binding for process of spatial planning and integrate all public policy planning and safeguard its coordination.

Subsidiarity principle
Planning should follow subsidiarity principles and planning problems should be addressed on the appropriate governmental level

Specify local sustainable development goals by elected representation
Move spatial development decision making and spatial planning to appropriate level of government and legitimize it by political responsibility of elected representations

Building permitting processes within state powers
Self-governing powers should define all their requirements in the planning documentation and building permitting process should be completely within the competencies of state administration

Potential disputes between self-governing bodies
It should be expected priorities and understanding of sustainable economic development will differ across levels of governments and there will arise struggles whether some proposals meet requirements of the upper level regulation and whether the nature of proposal should be considered on municipal, regional or national level.

Include spatial development and planning in general education
Potential for long-term increase in planning awareness is via its inclusion into the education framework

Incorporate monitoring of permitting processes
The national geoportal should be linked to the agenda of decision-making regarding permitting processes to allow all stakeholders to easily follow permitting processes of new construction.

Support general public education regarding spatial development and planning
Perpetually communicate the planning process, resulting decisions and justifications for these decisions. All this material have to be accessible to general public yet informative in the key areas

Cluster of planning documentation

Use the system for discussing and commenting planning documentation
The system of national geoportal should ease drafting and discussion of newly proposed spatial planning documents as draft versions of plans would be presented to all involved actors and stakeholders via this system

Present planning documentation
Spatial planning documentation from national to municipal level. In principle the interface should allow to project either nationally standardized features in a coherent way or project spatial planning documentation for each administrative unit in its original form.

Make underlying data accessible from one place
The primary aim of this service should be to link existing sources of spatial information and when possible allow to visualize them in a web interface and for more detailed analytical work allow to download underlying data

Supra-municipal and agglomeration plans
Plan development distribution over the area of the whole agglomeration and jointly plan related public services and amenities provision and mobility

Inter-municipal spatial planning within municipal powers
Single municipalities or municipal joint consortia should prepare their strategic and spatial plans

Upper level municipal spatial plans
Spatial plan should be less detailed and one of its key function is to define areas of expected development that should be planned in more detail in second level documents

Lower level municipal development plans
Documents may or may not substitute some components of the zoning permit process such as building volume and capacity, orientation on the plot and functional use especially in cases of larger development areas or redevelopment sites

Flexibility of planning documents
The content of planning documentation should be largely left to reflect local situation as well as formal aspects of documentation

Plan infrastructure and other supra-local issues bindingly and on an appropriate level
Planning on higher level should be done in case when the planned issue causes spill-overs beyond administrative borders of planning authority or in case when de-centralized uncoordinated decision-making leads to suboptimal results

National regulation revision
Current regulation on the national level should be revised and only essential requirements, especially with national spill over effects such as carbon footprint or cases where single standard brings significant benefits, should be regulated on the national level as obligatory

Reference baseline given by strategic documents
When assessing spatial planning documentation in judicial review, the baseline given by approved strategic plan should be the core underlying framework against which plans subject of review are compared and assessed whether they do or do not comply with aims stated by the strategic plans

Review planning documents in a given timeframe
Every planning document should be reviewable by the independent court. The review should have clearly defined time period starting by the approval of planning document. After the end of the review period there should be no option to file the plan for review again

Improve education of planning experts
Special urban planning tertiary education programs should be established to both educate new interdisciplinary experts and do academic research that could be later applied in following decision-making

Cluster of new tools

Establish an open encyclopedia of spatial data as a digital public participation tool
Layers completely open for public could bring new relevant information very relevant for spatial planning that are currently missed and that makes it innovative tool for new responsive planning policies

Build on experience from ITI and include financial incentives
The establishment of agglomeration and municipal joint planning boards could be based on experience from Integrated territorial investment boards. Combine strategic and spatial planning to secure holistic development approach from problem description, planning, finance allocation and project selection and management, to implementation and evaluation.

Incentives for flexible construction permitting in high-demand areas
Incentive for municipalities to be more flexible to permit more construction where demand for space is high

Spatial planning economic instruments
Incorporating economic tools such as property taxes, spatially differentiated local public services and amenity fees, impact fees and spatial plans changes fees

Interlinked planning documents on national and regional level
Spatial planning policy and spatial development principles should be interconnected with Regional development strategy and Strategical framework of regions' development to create set of documents on the national level and on the regional level

Planning autonomy with higher fiscal autonomy
Efficient municipal planning should be achieved as a combination of dominant role of local governments in the processes of strategic and spatial planning combined with higher level of fiscal autonomy

Deciding about planning documentation and considering just compensation
Courts should always discuss optimal remedy beyond simple revocation of planning documentation that might cause much larger losses

Cluster of stakeholders' involvement

Participate with appropriate stakeholders given the character and scale of plan
The more abstract given plan is, the more professionalized stakeholders should be invited to participatory part of planning

Public participation in an appropriate moment
Public participation should take place at the very beginning of any planning process when requirements and goals of plans are set

Set minimal participation requirements and individual participation plans
The initial task should contain participation plan that describes what participation methods with which stakeholders will be used during the plan drafting

Consider reform implementation

Consider splitting the Building code and Spatial planning into separate acts

Consider the goals and depth of spatial planning system reform

Prepare spatial planning reform management

Prepare and discuss the spatial planning system reform proposal

Implement the reform into legal framework