Šibenik-Knin County

Coastal plan for the Šibenik-Knin County
A Road to Resilience

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Šibenik-Knin County
Geography

- Total surface: 5,670 km² (land: 2,994 km², sea: 2,676 km²)
- Length of the coast: 56.2 km
- Real length of the coast: 805.9 km
- 109,375 inhabitants
- Climate: Mediterranean
- 5 towns: Šibenik, Drniš, Skradin, Knin, Vodice
- 15 municipalities
Natural resources

2 national parks: Krka and Kornati
2 parks of n2 monuments of nature
7 significant landscapes
nearly 250 islands and islets
Cultural heritage
Situation of the coastal areas

- Constant drop in the population living in the county hinterland
- The rise in the population living in the coastal settlements
- Neutral demographic trends in the entire county
- Increase in secondary housing
- A drop in the share of residential housing in the total housing number
Situation of the coastal areas

Share of residential housing per settlements in 2011
Consequences...

• Long shore construction is with climate changes **even more exposed to the sea activity** especially regarding the sea – level rise due to climate changes

• This area extremely rich in the winter becomes **poor in water** in summer

• **High preassures on water sources**
  • exerted by local population, tourists, agriculture, and especially hydro energy producers are expected in future.
Why Coastal plan for ŠKC?

*As far as as climate change are concerned, this County’s coastal area belongs to the so-called hot sports of the Adriatic part of Croatia.

Why Šibenik –Knin County:
- Highly indented coast facing a high level of urbanisation
- Presence of negative development processes
- The importance of the Krka river - the overall wealth of the County water resources
- Existance of valuble and sensitive coastal ecosystems
- County administration was ready to tackle these problems

With the aim of alleviating such problems and building coastal resilience, the initiative was launched to prepare a Coastal Plan for the Šibenik-knin County
The Plan was drawn up in accordance with the Article 18 of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)
The goals of the ICP

• Define a management system for coastal areas which can ensure the building of resilience of coastal systems to the impact of climate variability and change, and direct development towards sustainability;

• Identify particularly endangered Areas with regard to coastal processes, especially areas that are vulnerable to the impacts of climate variability and change;

• Propose measures for the definition of a policy for the adaptation to the impacts of climate variability and change; and

• Provide assistance in the formulation of sectoral policies and plans, and their integration in the policy of the sustainable development of the coastal area.
Parallel activities

• **Climagine**: Parallel to drawing of Plan, a participative method called “Climagine” was also implemented (4 workshops and 50-odd local actors discussed critical issues of the ŠKC castal development.

• **Local assessment of climate variability and change impacts on the development of the ŠKC**: This assessment represents the sectoral approach to the problem that is, it deals with impact on certain economic sectors important to the County: specifically tourism, agriculture, fisheries, mariculture, water management, maritime traffic, manufacturing and energy sector.

• **Economic and social analysis of the Croatia coastal areas**: Drawn for the needs of the Croatian marine and Coastal Strategy, contains a **view of the effects of economic measure**.

• **Geographic Information Systems**: Spatial analysis and a more efficient display of results.
Vision of the ICP

“Coastal area of the Šibenik-Knin County is an area inhabited by people aware of its uniqueness and the value of its natural resources, people who cherish the area they live in, draw their strength and inspiration from it, and develop in accordance. Their wellbeing relies on a reasonable and well planned use of resources via institutional mechanisms that ensure the balance and observe how the use or protection of one resource affects the other; on adjustment and further control of negative effects of climate change and variability; and on strengthening the coastal resilience against the consequences of natural hazards and anthropogenic impacts, all to secure a long-term life of quality and fulfilment.”

- Defined on the basis of diagnostic analysis, and during participatory workshops - Desired future of the ŠKC defined

- Several possible scenarios have been developed – they are basis for suggesting solutions in the Plan

- From “Cohesion by competitiveness to “Sustainability by protection”
Masures/Solutions

Four policy groups

- Sustainable spatial development
- Sustainable economic development
- Water resources management
- Building resilience of the coastal area

General measures

- Space
- Water infrastructure
- Narrow coastal belt
- Forest fires
- Economy (tourism, agriculture, aquaculture, energy, traffic)
- Other challenges (biological, diversity, health, cultural heritage and other spheres of life)
General measures

• **Space**
  Advice is to avoid building in low coastal areas as well as in the immediate vicinity of the sea, improving system of physical management of spatial development on a regional level

• **Water infrastructure**
  Improve the stability of the water infrastructure system /insure quality of water for all purposes/secure protection against flooding and droughts

• **Narrow coastal belt**
  Adaptation of the existing coastal objects, waterfronts, jetties, marinas and entire coastal infrastructure to extreme weather events, as well as to sea-level rise protecting hydro-dynamic features of the coastal sea, biodiversity, including erosion and sediment transport

**Forest fires**
  Strengthening the prevention measures and their integration into the policies of spatial and economic development/integration
Economy measures

• **Tourism**
  Increase of good quality, diversified and attractive tourist offer outside the high season and include local actor from the entire County in the offer/ Monitor, plan and manage all resources used by tourism (supply of water, electricity and food...)

• **Agriculture**
  Securing irrigation systems/establishing early warning system, using insurance, exchanging experience/building partnership between scientists and farmers, plans for rotation of cultures, strengthening local agriculture

• **Aquaculture**
  Promotion of the thermophilic species, sea-use planning/more careful allocation of sites for aquaculture

• **Energy**
  Promoting local production of energy from renewable sources/promote energy efficiency to reduce emissions/plans for extreme weather events /test and service the infrastructure of energy transfer to ensure its resilience to climate variability and change/promotion of ecologically acceptable mobile concepts/ensure that the traffic infrastructure is more resilient to extreme weather events
Specific measures

• Defined on the coastal settlements level - For each coastal settlement, the importance of particular problem has been established within a specific thematic field and accordingly certain measures have been proposed with regard to natural, socio–economic, spatial and other features of a particular settlement.

• These measures are ranked by challenges related to water infrastructure and by evaluation of spatial development resilience- they represent a certain “Catalogue”

• It can be used as a support for physical plans, for investment plans, as well as sectoral plans and strategies
A way forward...

The Coastal Plan has been finished in December 2015 and yesterday was approved by the County Assembly.

The PAP RAC is currently working on the Action Plan that will define and prioritise specific actions to be implemented in coastal settlements.

The final realisation of the plan will be achieved by the formal establishment of the body for the ICDP that will take responsibility for coordination and integration, and implementation of the proposed measures into physical plans, regional development strategies and other sectoral plans, programmes, policies and projects.
Thank you for your attention!

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