



Dear Sir/Madam,

Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU) and partnership of the UGB project are delighted to invite you to the **Synergy Workshop on Active Involvement of Community in Smart Governance of Urban Green Spaces**.

Date:

Tuesday, May 29, 2018

Time:

9.00–16.00

Venue:

Hall of the Geographical Museum, ZRC SAZU, Gosposka ulica 16, Ljubljana

At the Synergy Workshop, we will address and discuss the obstacles, techniques, methods and smart techniques for awareness raising and activation of civil society organisations and citizens through community building together with three experts from the field. We invite stakeholders from academia, local political authorities or officials, NGOs and other interested stakeholders, dealing with challenges with how to involve community in different stages of urban green spaces planning and maintenance.

The workshop is organized as part of the project *Urban Green Belt – Smart integrated models for sustainable management of urban green spaces for creating more healthy and liveable urban environments* ([UGB](#)), where partners from 7 countries are developing innovative methods and tools leading to integrated models for managing urban green spaces smartly.

Please sign up for the event with the [registration form](#) until **May 24, 2018**. The workshop will be held in English.

Contact: ugb@zrc-sazu.si

The project and the workshop are financed from the European Regional Development Fund and the Slovenian Research Agency.



Programme:

- 8.45 Registration
- 9.00 Welcome (*dr. Jernej Tiran, ZRC SAZU; dr. Mimi Urbanc, Assistant Director*)
- 9.10 Introduction to UGB project (*dr. Jasna Fakin Bajec, ZRC SAZU*)
- 9.30 Smart Model for active involvement of communities in smart governance of urban green spaces (*dr. Martin Pogačar, ZRC SAZU*)
- 10.00 Pilot activities testing community involvement techniques and tools: cases of Maribor, Krakow and Budapest (*UGB partners' representatives*)
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- 10.45 Coffee break / Networking
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- 11.15 Showcase 1: Urban Green Space Management – New Concepts, Old Dilemmas (*dr. Maja Simoneti, Institute for Spatial Policies*)
- 11.45 Showcase 2: Bottom-up approaches to create new green infrastructure – Examples from Green City, Munich (*Silvia Gonzalez, Green City e.V.*)
- 12.15 Showcase 3: Community involvement to urban green space management through community gardens – the case of Hungary (*Csaba Bende, University of Szeged*)
- 12.45 Discussion
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- 13.00 Lunch
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- 13.45 Interactive session on active involvement of communities: 3 parallel break-out groups, organized in a round table format. The final format of the session will depend on the number of participants.
- 1: How to assess the situation and identify stakeholders?*
- 2: How to mobilise the community?*
- 3: How to ensure continued participation of the community in urban green spaces planning and maintenance?*
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- 15.15 Coffee break
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- 15.30 Reporting
- 15.45 Concluding remarks & recommendations for UGB project
- 16.00 Closing

Showcase 1: Urban Green Space Management – New Concepts, Old Dilemmas

The lecture will tackle current challenges of urban green space management from historical and local perspective. We will search for the reasons behind the idea of public participation in public green space management, we will describe characteristics of Slovenia's public green space management system, and ask about the prospects for the development of collaborative management models. We will relate the reasoning to the findings of some of the groundbreaking European research projects and to selected examples of good practice and try to explain why the changes are taking so much time.



Maja Simoneti, PhD (IPoP – Institute for Spatial Policies, Ljubljana, Slovenia) is a licensed landscape architect and spatial planner, author and co-author of numerous studies, articles and books, most interested in public policies and knowledge transfer. She has 30 years of experience in planning and design, she participated in several interdisciplinary projects on national, local and EU level. She produced and co-produced some of the leading analytical studies in the field of planning and management of public playgrounds, urban gardening, cemeteries and public green space.

Showcase 2: Bottom-up approaches to create new green infrastructure – Examples from Green City e.V., Munich

The lecture will present experience and the most successful practices of management, creation and participation in urban green space in Munich. Environmental NGO Green City is working to make Munich a sustainable place by promoting the use of alternative forms of transportation, initiating urban gardening projects, claiming for city greenery and encouraging conscientious energy use. They achieve these goals through political activities, participative workshops, and educational projects with children and adults.



Silvia Gonzalez (Green City, Munich, Germany) studied Environmental Sciences in Madrid. Since 2001 she lives in Munich, Germany, when she started to volunteer at the Green City. In 2005 she started working there in the area of “urban planning”, which she significantly developed to a staff of seven, who implement more than ten projects a year. Her main focus is participation, greenery and urban gardening, mainly at citizen empowerment level, but also at political and city administration level.



Showcase 3: Community involvement to urban green space management through community gardens – the case of Hungary

The lecture will present the experiences of the Hungarian community gardens as means to involve local residents to the development and maintenance of urban green spaces. The aim will be to share the ideas about how community gardens could be developed with less negative outcomes and how to utilize more effectively the possible positive effects of them.



Csaba Bende (*University of Szeged, Hungary*) is a third year PhD student at the Department of Social and Economic Geography of the University of Szeged. In his research he focuses on community gardens and on their role in community building and enhancement of social cohesion, especially in large housing estate areas. Besides, he also examines the role of community gardens in urban gentrification processes.