A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Dear colleagues,

This time, the new Editorial board presents a new issue of the magazine “BESTSDI Newsletter”. It was a great challenge for a new editor to achieve the continuity of publishing, as well as the quality achieved in the previous issue of the Newsletter. We are still gathered around the idea to disseminate project information and communicate results with a broad audience. This magazine provides information about our activities, events, results and activities tied to a project undertaken by project partners. It will be released within the frame of Dissemination and Exploitation Work Package and Task Group Communication prepared by the Editorial board.

The main events covered by this issue are the Fourth and Fifth Workshop in Nikšić and Mostar, so we bring the details and the basic conclusions from these workshops. With special attention, we also present the Second Project Status Report. In the rubric “Project Bodies Meetings”, we introduce a lot of details from several important meetings, such as Project Management Board, Project Advisory Committee, Project Office and Partner Project Representatives, whose results are certainly a significant number of successfully implemented activities.

From our great partners we got interesting presentations of their universities and faculties for our regular rubric “Partner Presentations”. On them we can see beautiful Split, Mostar, Banja Luka and Nikšić.

As before, in the section “Related Events and Conferences”, we provide information about a lot of events that have disseminated more information about the BESTSDI project. Our colleagues presented this project on all important meetings related to Spatial Data Infrastructure, as well as in certain magazines, throughout partner countries.

We thank all authors for their excellent articles and, at the same time, we invite other colleagues to join us and be the part of the Newsletter in all subsequent issues. This way, as the editor-in-chief, I would like to point out the great efforts made by Professors Vesna Poslončec-Petrić and Željko Babić. Their suggestions and comments helped make this issue the best one. Cooperation and work with these colleagues as well as with all of you has to be successful and fruitful.

Slavko Vasiljević, Editor-in-chief
Faculty of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy
University of Banja Luka

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More information at: www.bestsdi.eu.
At the workshop in Mostar (November 6-8, 2017), 2nd Project Status Report has been presented to the partners. This semi-annual report provided information about the project progress in five chapters (legal status, organization and management status, project execution, financial status, deliverables). While there were no major activities regarding legal status, project was active regarding management and organization.

Project office representatives visited partners in Varaždin (July, 28th), Banja Luka (September, 27th) and Mostar (September, 28th) meeting with partners and representatives of Universities and national geodetic authorities, while project partner from Subotica visited Zagreb (October, 12th) addressing number of specific topics relevant for each partner (organization management, financial management, task group activities, workshop preparation, expanding project team and inclusion of other faculties in use of project SDI curricula, etc.).

Considering project execution, it goes according to plan:

- summer school in Split and workshop in Nikšić have been successfully executed,
- five task groups finished their work and delivered expected deliveries, and they were closed at the PMB meeting in Nikšić,
- further five task groups continued their work, and next six task groups have been activated,
- procurement of equipment is running on high intensity. At the University of Montenegro, for both its faculties participating in the project, Faculty of Philosophy in Nikšić and Biotechnical Faculty in Podgorica, ICT equipment has been purchased and installed.
- at the Faculty of Philosophy opening of SDI computer room was organized during the Q4 workshop in Nikšić on September 15th and well promoted in media.

Regarding financial status, with some extra effort and some delay, clear financial picture for Y1 has been established, and we know that all partners on the project have spent in period 15.10.2016. – 30.09.2017. total amount of 209,212,00 EUR (21,4 % of grant amount).

Regarding deliverables, out of 9 deliverables foreseen to be delivered and published till end of Y1, it has been done for 8 deliverables (88,9 %), expecting fast deliverable of remaining 9th one.

Next, 3rd Project Status Report is foreseen for delivery on April 15th, 2018 and should be presented at workshop in Banja Luka (April 23-25, 2018).

Željko Bačić
Faculty of Geodesy
University of Zagreb
Project Bodies Meetings

Project Management Board Meeting

On September 7th, the first BESTDI Project Management Board (PMB) meeting has been held in Nikšić. Most of the PMB members came to Nikšić, while Project coordinator was linked webinar connection from Zagreb and colleagues from Novi Sad (prof. Miro Govedarica) and Tirana (Bibil NURÇE) participated from Ponteferada in Spain, meaning that all PMB members participated at the meeting.

PMB had on its agenda 1st Project status report for the first half year of the project life-time, adoption of decisions regarding update of Project workplan and Project events plan, adoption of number of project deliverables which have been delivered by task groups till PMB meeting, risk evaluation, financial management and list of actions which should be undertaken till Q5 workshop in Mostar.

In Project status report Project coordinator emphasised that all legal and managerial activities (signing of Partnership agreements, transfer of funds, establishment of organization, etc.) have been executed on time and in proper manner, as well as workshops organized. Most of the task groups started with their activities on time and delivered products (T1.1, T1.2, T1.3, T3.1), but there was some delay with few task groups (like T3.1).

Execution of project has also shown that there is necessity to update planned Project workplan coping with mentioned delays but also pushing some task groups to start with their work earlier. Therefore, updated Project workplan has been presented to PMB and adopted.

Project execution has also show that running separated workshops for provider and user group of partners was bad idea, and therefore proposal has been made to merge remaining three pairs of separated workshops (Beograd-Banja Luka, Tirana-Varaždin and Podgorica-Tuzla). This proposal has been also accepted and decisions has been immediately agreed that workshop locations will be Banja Luka, Tirana and Podgorica.

PMB adopted final documents delivered by task groups T1.1, T1.2, T1.3, T3.1 (one out of two), T4.1, and T5.1 (both documents) as well as Minutes of the Kick-off workshop in Zagreb, workshops in Subotica and Skopje as well as from Summer school in Split. Adopted document are available on the following link: http://science.geof.unizg.hr/moodle/course/view.php?id=6.

PMB meeting focus was also on risk and financial management of the project. Coming second year of the project life-time is critical for success and therefore attention has been made on financial issues (reporting, money spending, book keeping, procurement, etc.) which can generate risks to project. PMB adopted list of acwhich must be executed by partners till Mostar workshop which execution will be reported in 2nd Project status report!

Željko Bačić
Faculty of Geodesy, University of Zagreb
Project Office visit to Banja Luka, Mostar and Varaždin

Project coordinator, prof. Željko Bačić and Head of Project Office, assist. prof. Vesna Poslončec-Petrić visited on September 27th and 28th project partners in Banja Luka and Mostar. Background for those visits was to get deeper view in execution of project on project partners level, preparations for coming workshops and resolution of some managerial issues.

In Banja Luka Project office representatives and University of Banja Luka Faculty of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy partner representatives, Mr. Mladen Amović and Mr. Slavko Vasiljević visited Republic Administration for Geodetic and Property Affairs of Republika Srpska discussing with Mr. Velibor Vitor preparation of joint IMPULS-BESTSDI workshop in Spring 2018.

Results of this meeting was presented on meeting with the prof. Biljana Antunović, vice-rector of the University of Banja Luka and prof. Brankica Milojević, dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy. University representatives gave full support for organization of joint workshop. It was emphasized that project team from Banja Luka is actively participating in the project and interest expressed to expand BESTSDI project activities on other study programs of the Faculty and University.

In Mostar, Project Office first meet with the project partner manager prof. Snježana Musa from University of Mostar Faculty of Science and Education, discussing preparations for soon coming workshop in Mostar (November 6–8). Next meeting was at the University of Mostar with the vice-rector prof. Izabela Dankić and her team on which project has been presented and aspects of financial management have been discussed. Final meeting was on the Faculty of Science and Education with the vice-dean prof. Sanja Tipurić-Spužević and her team summarizing previous two meetings, getting agreement on workshop organization and financial management issues.

This successful working tour has been encircled having meeting with the director of the Federal Administration for Geodetic and Property Affairs of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Mr. Željko Obradović and director of Swedish funded CILAP project Ms. Anda Zimić. This occasion was used to exchange information about activities of both projects and role of Federal Administration, as associated project partner, in the BESTSDI project.

Project coordinator, prof. Željko Bačić and Head of Project Office, ass. prof. Vesna Poslončec-Petrić visited on October 5th, Faculty of Geotechnical Engineering which is one of two faculties of University of Zagreb participating in BESTSDI project. Working meeting with Faculty dean, prof. Ranko Biondić and whole project team was used to review past activities, present status and expectations in coming period. The Varaždin project team has been recently strengthen with new members also resulting in reorganization of roles and tasks in it. Communication between Project Office and partner as well as project and financial management have been also evaluated and arrangements made for improvements.

Work in coming second year of project life-time has been reviewed due to the fact that there are many tasks for Varaždin team and support from Faculty of Geodesy in Zagreb has been agreed with the goal to achieve appointed goals. So, we agreed, to have internal workshop prior event in Mostar to be ready for start of activities in Task group 2.2 Long-life learning courses.

Željko Bačić and Vesna Poslončec-Petrić
Faculty of Geodesy, University of Zagreb
**Project Representatives of Faculty of Civil Engineering in Subotica visited Zagreb**

Head of project team of University of Novi Sad Faculty of Civil Engineering in Subotica, vice-dean prof. Danijel Kukaras and prof. Vukan Ogrizović visited Zagreb and BESTSDI Project office on October 12th. Reason for this visit was the fact that Faculty of Civil Engineering will soon offer to student’s new study program of geodesy and geoinformatics resulting in need to reorganize project team and activities in frame of BESTSDI project. Faculty of Civil Engineering is finalizing formal procedure to introduce new study program which should start in academic year 2018/2019. For this purpose of special interest is SDI curriculum which is developed in frame of the BESTSDI project.

In line with this partner project team of Faculty of Civil Engineering will be strengthened and reorganized to fulfill execution of tasks in BESTSDI project and introduction of new study program. Further, communication and managerial, especially financial management issues have been considered at the level of Faculty of Civil Engineering and University of Novi Sad as one partner with two faculties participating in the project.

*Željko Bačić*

*Faculty of Geodesy, University of Zagreb*

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**Project Advisory Committee Meeting**

On November 7th, the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) held its first meeting during the workshop in Mostar. Meeting was chaired by Nedim Hadžiosmanović (Federal Geodetic Authority of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnia and Herzegovina), with the presence of Peter Wasström (Lantmäteriet, Sweden), Helge Onsrud (Statens kartverk, Norway), Željko Bačić (Project coordinator), Danny Vandenbroucke (KU Leuven), Joep Crompvoets (KU Leuven), Snejana Musa (UNI Mostar) and Vesna Poslončec-Petrić (UNIZG FOG).

Initially PAC has been established and introduced with BESTSDI project goals, organization, tasks and present status. Next, PAC relevance, purpose, tasks and organization of work has been presented and discussed among the PAC members and project representatives.

In discussion which follows PAC members expressed satisfaction with BESTSDI project and to participate in it. Specific role of Lantmäteriet and Novogit in the Project have been discussed, linking Lantmäteriet experience in the region and connections with NMCA’s to support work of PAC and BESTSDI project at all, what should be soon materialized in coming joint IMPULS – BESTSDI workshop in Banja Luka (April 2018).

Having the role to follow the work of the BESTSDI project, give suggestions and hints from stakeholder’s side, and evaluate project deliverables, first set of deliverables has been presented to PAC members by task group leaders Danny Vandenbroucke (D1.1 - Partner Universities Status Report) and Joep Crompvoets (D1.3 – Requirement Analysis Report). Presentations were followed by discussion in which PAC members expressed their first comments on the reports. At the end, practical aspects of PAC task to evaluate prepared deliverables have been discussed. Internal and external evaluation have been clarified, as well as independence in external evaluation between PAC and Novogit (A. Östman).

Passing first year of Project lifetime, members of the PAC elected chairperson for Year 2 - Mr. Nedim Hadžiosmanović, while Mr. Darko Mišković from Geodetic Authority of Republika Srpska, will be the chairperson of PAC in year 3. Next PAC meeting is planned for September 2018, workshop in Tirana.

*Željko Bačić*

*Faculty of Geodesy, Zagreb*
Partner presentations

University of Split, Faculty of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Geodesy

The tradition of higher education in the field of Civil Engineering in Split began in 1971 with the founding of the Department of Civil Engineering as part of the University of Zagreb. The institution started to exist autonomously in 1977 as the Faculty of Civil Engineering Science of the University of Split. Since July 1991 the Faculty of Civil Engineering of the University of Split has been functioning as an independent higher education and scientific research organization. The study of Architecture was established in 2003. The study of Geodesy and Geoinformatics was established in 2010. Since then, the faculty exists as the Faculty of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Geodesy, University of Split. At the Faculty, courses and research activities are carried out in 22 departments. There are currently more than 900 students enrolled in the Faculty. Until the present day the Faculty has produced numerous Bachelors of Science in Civil Engineering, Bachelors of Science in Architecture, Bachelors of Science in Geodesy and Geoinformatics, Civil Engineers, Bachelors of Civil Engineering, Bachelors of Architecture, professional Bachelors of Civil Engineering, Masters of Civil Engineering, Masters of Architecture, Masters of Science and Doctors of Science.

The Faculty of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Geodesy performs the following studies:

- undergraduate University Study of Civil Engineering;
- graduate University Study of Civil Engineering;
- postgraduate Doctoral Study of Civil Engineering;
- undergraduate University Study of Architecture;
- graduate University Study of Architecture;
- undergraduate University Study of Geodesy and Geoinformatics;
- professional Study in Civil Engineering.

Undergraduate University Study of Geodesy and Geoinformatics lasts for three years (six semesters) and upon the study completion a Bachelor’s degree (baccalaureus/baccalaurea) in Geodesy and Geoinformatics is awarded.

A Bachelor of Science in Geodesy and Geoinformatics possesses the following skills and competencies:

- understands the role of geodesy, geoinformatics and spatial data in contemporary world,
- demonstrates familiarity with and understanding of measurement systems, methods and technologies for surveying and spatial data gathering, demonstrates the knowledge of theoretical principles, procedures of computational processing and visualization of data obtained through geodetic measurements,
- demonstrates the familiarity with real estate registers and interests in real estates,
- understands measures related to land development and methods of land assessment, designs plans, maps and related representations based on measured data and other sources using up-to-date methodology and technology, maintains topographic, cartographic, marine navigation and land information systems, integrates and visually represents obtained spatial information, GIS etc.

Holders of this degree are encouraged to continue their education in the area of geodesy and geoinformatics or any other related discipline and nurture the culture of lifelong learning and continuous professional development.

Last, but not least, the Faculty is situated in Split - the 1700-year- young pearl in the heart of the Mediterranean, equally proud of its tradition as well as of its unparalleled beauty.

Jelena Klič and Ivana Racetin
Faculty of Civil Engineering Architecture and Geodesy
University of Split
University of Mostar, Faculty of Science and Education

The Faculty of Science and Education at the University of Mostar was created as a successor of the Faculty of Pedagogy on January 1st 2006, whose follower is also the Faculty of Philosophy (at the beginning named the Faculty of Philosophy and Humanity), and all the facts before this date which are specified by the Faculty of Pedagogy on its way to the Faculty of Science and Education summed up the shares after the study directions in relation to the former university.

Faculty building

The Faculty of Pedagogy had 39 study groups in the academic year of 2005/2006, 20 of which the Faculty of Science and Education inherited and reorganized in eleven study programs. Great efforts are made to connect the Faculty with other scientific and economic institutions in the region and beyond.

The Faculty of Science and Education wants to take an active knowledge-based role of social change in the region and wider. This kind of role is implemented through scientific research and transfer of new knowledge to the new generations. In accordance with the new mission, the Faculty of Science and Education seeks to develop study programs and strengthen institutions in order to contribute to the economic and social development of the region and beyond.

In 2018/2019 academic year there are 18 studies at our Faculty: Biology, Physics, Geography, Chemistry, Informatics, Mathematics, Technics, Tourism and environmental protection, Ecology, Pedagogy, Preschool education, Primary education and Tourism and environmental protection in Orašje.

Those are Informatics, Preschool education, Primary education and Tourism and environmental protection in Orašje.

All three levels of study programs offer bachelor, master and doctoral degrees. Doctoral programs are offered in Pedagogy, Geography and Ecology.

Laboratory for biology and chemistry

The Faculty grew into a modern educational and scientific institution performing its teaching activities in Croatian.

This program is intended to prepare students to be successful professionals competent in critical thinking, problem solving based on fundamental knowledge in a wide range of scientific disciplines.

The Faculty have facilities on two campuses, one in the city centre, and other one in the suburb area. The buildings have modern classrooms, laboratories, computer classrooms and the library.

Dario Šakić and Snježana Musa, Faculty of Science and Education, University of Mostar
University of Banja Luka
Faculty of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy

The University of Banja Luka, founded on November 7th, 1975 and comprising of 17 faculties today, is the leading higher education institution in the Republic of Srpska and the second largest one in the whole of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Since 2007, the University has been integrated, with the faculties functioning as organizational units. At the moment, there are 811 fully employed professors and teaching assistants, 342 professors working part-time, and 175 visiting professors, the administration of the University totaling 559 employees. So far, the University has produced 31,500 graduates, 700 hundred specialists, 1,150 MA/MSc and 600 PhD degree holders respectively, with 20,000 students currently enrolled at its study programmes.

Building of Geodesy Study Program

The establishment stage of the Faculty lasted more than two years. After completing the formal legal requirements, the first generation of civil engineering students enrolled in 1996, and students of architecture in 1997.

The teaching process was carried out according to this 5-year curriculum until 2004 on the Study Programme of Architecture, and on the Study Programme of Civil Engineering until 2007.

In practice, these generations of graduate engineers of architecture and civil engineers, educated according to the mentioned curricula, proved to be high-quality educated professionals, being successfully included in the process of reconstruction and rebuilding after the war.

Next stage was followed by a period of curricula transition (2004-2007) to the Bologna education process.

The new curriculum was implemented in the Study Programme of Architecture in the academic year of 2004-2005, and in the Study programme of Civil Engineering in 2006-2007; the Study Programme of Geodesy started in 2007-2008 by the enrolment of the first generation of students. This was an extremely complex and demanding period of the Faculty development, in which the reform in the teaching process, in accordance with the accepted principles of Bologna process, created preconditions for the next stage of the Faculty development. In doing so, the academic personnel capacities were still very modest and insufficient without the participation of visiting professors from other universities. However, our own potentials, developing from our own TA staff, were promising.

The period of 2007-2016 represents a time of the implementation of relevant curricula, licensed by the Declaration of Bologna in all three study programmes of the first and second cycle studies through the 4+1 model. Some of the modern principles of European education have been successfully implemented so far.

Mobility of students has been achieved and a number of activities have been initiated in the field of scientific-research cooperation of the Faculty with other European universities in joint international projects, and students are placed in the centre of the educational process. In 2014 we started with education on Master studies of Geodesy.
Till now, on Study program of Geodesy graduated 200 students on Bachelor studies and 10 on master studies. We are now in process of accreditation of new Bachelor programm which is planned to start from 2019/2020 academic year. It is created according the all national regulations and recommendations which includes all new and important teaching materials of new principles of geodetic science.

We hope that the continuation and completion of its construction will finally reach its set objectives, to the great benefit of not only our students and teachers, but also the University and the community as a whole.

Creating better conditions for a continuous integral development process of our young teaching personnel also represent one of the strategic decisions on the way of improving the quality of the teaching process.

Slavko Vasiljević and Mladen Amović
Faculty of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy
University of Banja Luka

University of Montenegro, Faculty of Philosophy, Nikšić

The Faculty of Philosophy in Nikšić has a tradition of 70 years. The Higher Teacher School was created first, then the Pedagogical Academy, Teaching Faculty, and at the end the Faculty of Philosophy. Faculty of Philosophy established Faculty of Natural Mathematics in Podgorica, then Academy of Fine Arts in Cetinje and Faculty of Sport. Last year was established the Faculty of Philology.

Today, the Philosophy Faculty has eight study programs: History, Geography, Pedagogy, Psychology, Preschool, Teacher, Sociology and Philosophy. Faculty of Philosophy today has 1300 students.

Duško Vujačić and Goran Barović,
Faculty of Philosophy Nikšić
University of Montenegro
Project Events and Conferences

4th BESTSDI Workshop, September 2017, Nikšić

After 1st BESTSDI Summer school, BESTSDI gathered again on 4th workshop. This time host was University of Montenegro, Faculty of Philosophy and workshop was held in their faculty premises in Nikšić. Even though this was a two day workshop, it was a very important meeting with many activities ongoing. This was also last meeting in the first project year giving opportunity to see where the project was successful and where it needs extra push. More than 35 project participants gathered this time in center of Montenegro. Unfortunately, there was not enough time to further explore famous natural beauties of Montenegro.

Agenda was divided into sessions. After usual presentations of host institution and workshop plan, Željko Bačić presented the project status, this time using online tool Adobe Connect. After that, two sessions were held in parallel. One was dedicated to work of Task groups 1.4 and 1.5 which have to deliver project curricula and the guidelines for implementation in third project year. Discussion on draft results was conducted and final deliverables agreed on. Second parallel session was for implementation work package, specifically for Task groups 2.1, 2.2 and 2.4. These groups have to use outputs from Task groups 1.4 and 1.5 and provide partners with learning materials for updating the studies and lifelong learning programs and to prepare teachers for teaching new SDI topics. These task groups were initiated and draft workplan presented.

Next session was on equipment procurement. Equipment is a big part of this project and partners have to perform public procurements. Each partner has a bit different situation related to national rules for procurement and sharing experiences is of great help. University of Montenegro is first partner who successfully finished procurement and this was opportunity to present how it was done.

This workshop was a perfect occasion to present new computer classroom to participants and media. In the afternoon, first Project Management Board (PMB) meeting was held.

Prof. Željko Bačić led the meeting over online conference tool, and other member who did not make to Nikšić joined the meeting online. First, the decision to join workshops was adopted meaning that instead of separate workshops for program and partner countries we will have joint workshops. This way more efficient work is expected with less overload on the organization side. After that 8 deliverables were officially adopted as well as minutes from previous meetings. Project management board meeting continued with discussion and guides on risk evaluation and financial management. Meeting was concluded with PMB actions to be taken before next workshop in Mostar in November, 2017.

First part of second day was dedicated to workpackage on dissemination and exploitation. Communication plan was adopted day before on PMB meeting and shortly presented. Task groups 4.3. and 4.4 on dissemination of materials and project results discussed the actions. Next session was on quality plan, introducing Task groups 3.2 and 3.3 responsible for evaluation of progress and results and monitoring success results. Workshop was closed in concluding session in which highlights were given and actions for all task groups. Beside official program, a few additional meetings of Project Office with delegates were held serving better coordination among partners and resolving some specific issues that partners has faced on national level.

The workshop in Nikšić was a milestone on its own. Some task groups were closed and deliverables adopted, new task groups were established and workplans drafted. That was a lot of work in such short time, but thanks to perfect organization and great support by our host, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Montenegro everything went smoothly.

Dražen Tutić
Faculty of Geodesy, University of Zagreb
5th BESTSDI Workshop, November 2017, Mostar

The 5th BESTSDI workshop was held at the Faculty of Science and Education, the University in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina on November 6 – 8, 2017. The key activities at this workshop were:

**Work package 3:**
* T3.2 Evaluation of Progress and Results,
* T3.3 Monitoring of Success Indicators - presentation of preparatory work and introducing routines of evaluation and monitoring,

**Work package 4:**
* T4.4 Dissemination of Project Results presented Dissemination Plan, while,
* T4.3 Dissemination of Project materials presented their task and activity plans,

**Work package 2B:**
* T2.1 Development of Project Curriculum,
* T2.2. Life-long Learning (LLL) Courses had discussed results of T1.4 Specification of Project Curriculum and continued their work.

More info about the 5th BESTSDI workshop is available at BESTSDI Working platform and a video presentation (FPMOZ) is available at https://youtu.be/hJ2BxWsxSh4.

We thank the Faculty of Science and Education, the University in Mostar, and their BESTSDI team for the excellent organization and warm welcome.

Vesna Poslončec-Petrić, Snježana Musa
Faculty of Geodesy, University of Zagreb
Faculty of Science and Education, University of Mostar
Related Events and Conferences

BESTSDI presentation in Presing

Journal Presing (ПРЕСИНГ) is published by Chamber of Certified Architect and Certified Engineers of the Republic of Macedonia. Pages 32-34 are dedicated to presentation of BESTSDI project.

Zlatko Srbinoski, Vesna Poslončec-Petrić

10th Regional Conference on Cadastre and Spatial Data Infrastructure

10th Regional Conference on Cadastre and Spatial Data Infrastructure was held in Skopje, June 8—9, 2017. Presentation about BESTSDI project on the Conference theme “The role of national agencies Cartography and Cadastre, private surveying sector and universities in the process of managing geospatial information” was held prof. Zlatko Srbinoski, Faculty of Civil Engineering, UKIM, Skopje, Macedonia.

Vesna Poslončec-Petrić

BESTSDI project presentation in Ponferrada, Spain

From September 11-16, 2017 in Ponferrada (Spain) it was held 4th GEOWEB workshop with focus on E-learning and Problem Based Learning (PBL). Topics were: new approaches in teaching and learning in geodesy education, how to install and maintain Moodle on server, Moodle basics and Moodle Advanced, other tools and web resources like Kahoot on-line learning, and specially topic of Problem Based Learning.

On Friday, Dušan Jovanović gave a short presentation on the BESTSDI ErasmusPlus project. All participants from different partner universities are informed with the basic objectives of BESTSDI, who are partners in the BESTSDI project, what are main BESTSDI project activities and project events, and finally BESTSDI expected results. At the end, web site of BESTSDI and other social network of BESTSDI was presented.

Dušan Jovanović

Scientific Journal of Civil Engineering – special edition

A special edition of the Scientific Journal of Civil Engineering is published in December 2017. This issue is dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the geodetic high education in the Republic of Macedonia. This issue of the journal is entirely devoted to topics of geodesy and geomatics and can be downloaded here. The journal features article “ANALYSIS OF MID-TERM NATIONAL SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGIES IN THE WESTERN BALKANS” by Željko Bačić, Slobodanka Ključanin and Vesna Poslončec-Petrić which presents part of the findings in the BESTSDI project.

BESTSDI team congratulate our colleagues from Faculty of Civil Engineering, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, Macedonia on the significant anniversary.

Vesna Poslončec-Petrić
Acquisition and installation of equipment (Faculty of Philosophy, Nikšić)

Within the 4th Workshop which took place at the Faculty of Philosophy in Nikšić, University of Montenegro in period September 14-15, 2017, a session about the Task Group 2.3 Equipment purchase / installation was held as well. An overview of the steps undertaken so far was given, encompassing the previous Workshops (Subotica and Skopje), Summer School – Split, minimum HW requirements and the ‘Letter of Justification’ template. As was presented on the Summer School in Split, each partner within the BESTSDI project is supposed to provide its own equipment procurement list with associated specifications and the accompanying ‘Letter of Justification’. A centralized equipment procurement tendering procedure at the University of Montenegro (Faculty of Philosophy – Nikšić and Biotechnical Faculty – Podgorica) was launched after the providing of ‘Letter of Justification’ and specifications approval. Moreover, before the 4th Workshop, the tendering procedure was finalized and the ICT equipment was provided accordingly. So, the Workshop in Nikšić was a good occasion to officially open the newly equipped computer classroom featuring 26 computers. In addition to 26 computers, the procurement of 1 server, 3 laptops, projector and smart board was carried out as well.

*Official opening of the newly equipped computer classroom at the Faculty of Philosophy in Nikšić ([source](#))*

The equipment procurement has foreseen the purchase of an handheld GNSS receiver with GIS application. The public procurement will be carried out within a separate tendering procedure which will be launched soon since the specifications approval was already provided.

Since the ICT equipment procurement at the University of Montenegro was carried out, within the Task Group 2.3 Equipment purchase/installation session the further steps were outlined: recording of the equipment in the inventory of the institution, providing of Erasmus+ sticker which have to be set on each individual part of the purchased equipment. Furthermore, the provisions of the ‘Guidelines for the Use of the Grant’ related to the public procurement were additionally highlighted: award of Contracts, Tendering procedure, and supporting documents. At the end of the presentation a sort of ‘Cookbook’ (Guidelines) for the performance of the public tendering procedure was explained.

Currently, the Specifications acceptance documents were issued for the UNSA FCE and UCG (GNSS receiver), other submitted ‘Letters of Justification’ and the accompanying specifications are under evaluation and the Specification acceptance documents will be issued accordingly.

*Danijel Šugar*

**BESTSDI project overview in journal Inženjerstvo okoliša**

*Inženjerstvo okoliša* is journal published by Faculty of Geotechnical Engineering, University of Zagreb. In Issue 2 (Vol. 4), 2017 features [BESTSDI project overview](#) on pages 152—155 written by Nikola Kranjčić, Davor Stanko and Mario Gazdek (University of Zagreb, Faculty of Geotechnical Engineering).

*Vesna Poslončec-Petrić*
BESTSDI project presented to colleagues from Moldova

During TAIEX Study Visit on National Spatial Data Infrastructure of colleagues from Agency for Land Relations and Cadastre of Moldova, Dražen Tutić presented BESTSDI project as part of visit to Faculty of Geodesy, University of Zagreb. Visit for colleagues Stefan Crigan, Deputy General Director, Ivan Danić, Deputy Head and Maria Ovdii, Head of Department for Geodesy, Mapping &GIS, was organised by Tomislav Ciceli from State Geodetic Administration of the Republic of Croatia from December 11-13, 2017 in Zagreb. This was opportunity to initiate future collaborations with colleagues from Moldova.

Dražen Tutić

BESTSDI project presented on SDI Days Croatia 2017

The ninth Croatian conference dedicated to Spatial Data Infrastructures, SDI Days 2017 was held on November 30th and December 1st at the Faculty of Geodesy University of Zagreb. The conference was jointly organized by the State Geodetic Administration and the Faculty of Geodesy University of Zagreb.

In the frame of conference, a forum on the NSDI Strategy and its implementation was held and moderated by Tomislav Ciceli, M.Sc., Head of the NSDI Sector at the State Geodetic Administration. The participants of the forum were: Damir Šantek, PhD, Director of the State Geodetic Administration, Vlado Cetl, PhD, Joint Research Center, Milan Rezo, PhD, President of the NIPP Council, Branimir Pavlinec, Croatian Agency for Environment and Nature, Željko Bačić, PhD, Faculty of Geodesy and Plamenko Barišić, CEO of King ICT. During the forum, participants discussed the strategic and operational goals defined by the NSDI Strategy and the Strategic Plan.

Scientific and professional contributions have been submitted in 10 presentations which were held through two sessions covering various topics related to NSDI: the legal status of the NSDI, the achievements of individual subjects and projects and the application solutions of the private sector.

Main deliverables of the BESTSDI project in the 1st project year were presented by Dražen Tutić (Competences for SDI - lessons learned within the BESTSDI project). Presentation focused on competences needed for sustainable development of SDI and INSPIRE that were identified and represent basis for curricula design and creation of learning materials. More about SDI Days 2017 at www.nipp.hr.

Dražen Tutić

Visit to Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering, University of Ljubljana

Within the Academic mobility of the University of Zagreb, Assist. prof. Vesna Poslončec-Petrič (Faculty of Geodesy, University of Zagreb) visited the Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering, University of Ljubljana. During his stay on December 4-8, 2017, activities under the Erasmus+ BESTSDI project were also presented.

Visa Poslončec-Petrič and Dražen Tutić
Dissemination

Production of dissemination material

One of the goals of Work Package 4 (WP4): Dissemination & Exploitation is dissemination of project results. Dissemination should raise the general knowledge about SDI.

WP4 is split into five tasks:
Task 4.1 – Development of the Communication Plan,
Task 4.2 – Life-long learning (LLL) courses for professionals,
Task 4.3 – Production of dissemination material,
Task 4.4. – Development Plan for Dissemination and Exploitation of Results (DER),
Task 4.5. – Dissemination and exploitation execution.

Task group 4.3 is established to organize, prepare and support production of project products (project curriculum primarily) and other documents, (leaflets, web-site notices, e-newsletter, etc.).

The first task of the TG4.3 was to prepare a leaflet about Erasmus+ and BESTSDI project, as well as a Project poster. The Faculty of Geodesy, University of Zagreb, financed the initial print of leaflets. The poster is distributed to partners in digital form.

Leaflets were prepared and printed in seven languages: Albanian, Bosnian, Croatian, English, Macedonian, Montenegrin and Serbian and The Faculty of Geodesy, University of Zagreb, will finance the print of 400 leaflets for each BESTSDI partner.

All materials prepared from the Task 4.3 – Production of dissemination material are available at http://science.geof.unizg.hr/moodle/course/view.php?id=26.

Ivana Racetin
Faculty of Civil Engineering Architecture and Geodesy
University of Split

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