



MINIPART aims to identify the most appropriate participation methods tailored to all stakeholders in mining areas.

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IMPROVING PARTICIPATION IN SPATIAL PLANNING OF MINING AREAS
– FORMAL PARTICIPATORY METHODS IN URBAN AND SPATIAL PLANNING IN EUROPE –

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Improving participation in spatial planning of mining areas

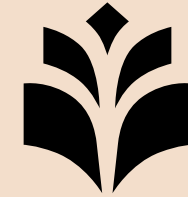
Project partners:



ИНСТИТУТ ЗА АРХИТЕКТУРУ И УРБАНИЗАМ СРБИЈЕ
Institute of Architecture and Urban & Spatial Planning of Serbia



External collaborators:



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Improving participation in spatial planning of mining areas

- Formal participatory methods in urban and spatial planning in Europe

Problem:

Development in large-scale mineral extraction regions impacts community and environment, mostly negative:

- forced resettlement,
- loss of agricultural land,
- construction of boom towns and company settlements,
- endangered indigenous rights,
- impoverishment,
- human rights abuse,
- forced and child labour,
- endangered health,
- gender dimension,
- endangered physical cultural resources,
- workforce migration.



Source: Jankovic, M., 2022, *Vreme*



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Problem in Serbia:

- Opposition of communities & experts against mining in Serbia intensified since 2000s
- International Mining Companies (mining rent, privatization of state companies, SLO, environment protection)
- Local population's opinion often neglected --> protests and riots
- reason: missing adequate prior information i.e. participation in decision making?





Traditional/formal participation

APPROPRIATE PARTICIPATION METHODS,
TAILORED TO ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN MINING AREAS

- Positive: legally binding
(i.e. must be applied)
- Negative: modest scope, not inclusive, not inventive, not adjusted to local needs or specifics of special purpose (as mining)

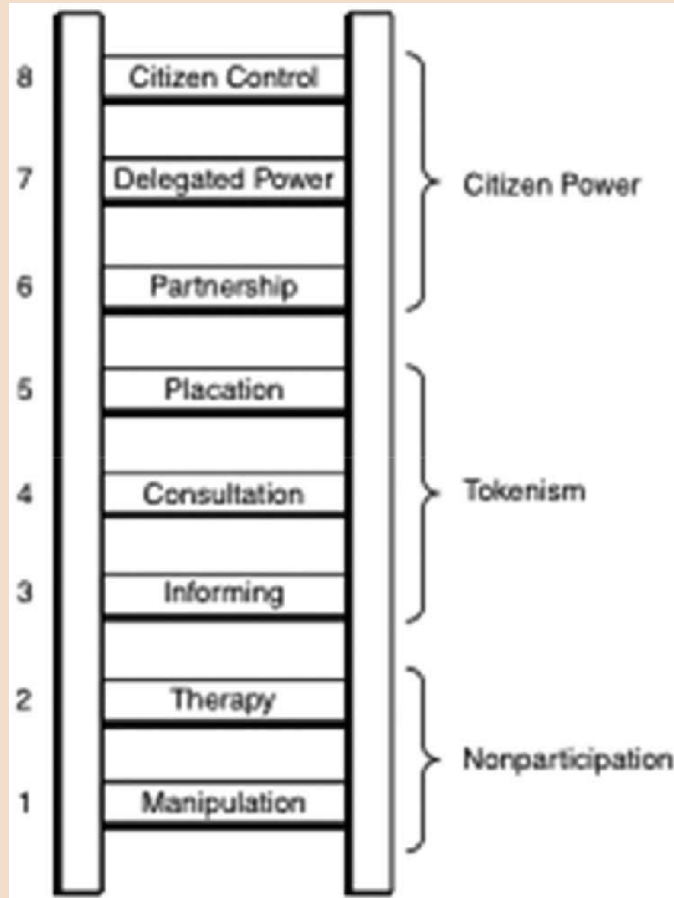


Source: <https://www.ekourbapv.vojvodina.gov.rs/rs/javna-prezentacija-nacrta-prostornog-plana-podrucja-posebne-namene-brane-na-tisi/>



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- National legislation:
 - 1) provides detailed instructions, or
 - 2) leaves the possibility of elaboration at regional & local level
- Informing (printed/TV/online media, information board in city hall, sending info per mail, etc.)
- Public insight
- Public hearing / meetings
- Consultations
- Duration can be prescribed
- Comments (accepted/rejected with explanation)

Ladder of citizen participation (Arnstein, 1969)



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- Combined with EIA/SEA consultations
- Early public insight (i.e. Serbia)
- Local advisory forums/citizen advisory panels (FKV), voluntary, organise advisory meetings for draft plan (Albania)
- No spatial planning on national level (e.g. Austria, Belgium, B&H, etc.)
- Registry – online info on draft planning documents, summaries of observations, proposals, public meetings



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Challenge:

IDENTIFY THE MOST APPROPRIATE PARTICIPATION METHODS,
TAILORED TO ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN MINING AREAS.

Conclusion:

Formal participatory methods should not be used exclusively, but accompanied with additional ones (i.e. informal) depending on the specific situation, to provide a shift from manipulation to delegated power.



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Further steps for improvement:

- (1) Engage all stakeholders (citizens, mining industry, government, NGOs, environmentalists) actively in the identification of the best participatory methods through interviews, surveys, and focus groups.
- (2) Address the specific needs of vulnerable groups (women, ethnic minorities, rural populations, persons with disabilities, elderly, youth)
- (4) Develop new or adapted approaches for meaningful and inclusive community participation in mining planning and development.



Thank you for your attention

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