ABSTRACT

Indicators of Evaluation Spatial Policy and Spatial Management on Local Community Level: The research presented in this study is devoted to evaluation of the decisions on land use, mainly regarding construction purposes, in spatial planning at the local level of management. Based on this evaluation, the study formulates a method that can help to optimize these decisions from the perspective of sustainable development. Municipalities, in exercising their statutory powers regarding spatial planning, are obliged to manage the land in accordance with the constitutionally guaranteed principle of sustainable development. Decisions on land use are based on the spatial policy as formulated in the studies on conditions and directions of spatial management, and implemented on the basis of local spatial management plans.

Analysis of the literature does not bring an unambiguous definition of what the land use planning in accordance with the principle of sustainability should look like, how it should be pursued, measured and monitored. The study undertakes an attempt to resolve these doubts.

The starting point and inspiration for the construction of the Indicators of Spatial Policy Evaluation (hereafter ISPE) is the role that in the modern spatial planning is attributed to the wider environmental determinants. ISPE is to assist local planning through optimizing solutions and eliminating erroneous planning decisions, by identifying and sizing the phenomena occurring in space. To this end, a set of indicators is proposed which calculation using mathematical formulas will provide information raising no doubts about the scale and direction of the existing and planned transformations of the space.

The main methodological objective of the study is to create indicators which would provide comprehensive and reliable information and can be understood for the residents and assist them in taking decisions and making choices. Thus ISPE proposes such a way to process space information which does not require specialized knowledge.

The essence of ISPE is calculation and presentation of independent, not directly related with one another indicators that arise from the processing of spatial information contained in the planning documents.

With regard to the impact of local planning issues described in the study, division of the indicators into the following five groups is proposed: land management, demographics, safety, environmental pressures, infrastructure.

Land management group includes indicators relating to the land that is supposed to fulfill various functions. These indicators allow maintaining control over

the scale of potential changes in land use. In addition, they indicate discrepancies between the objectives and the actual spatial policy that is implemented.

Demographic indicators inform about the „demographic" consequences of land use planning, *i.e.* the possible number of people who could live in the areas designated for investment. They facilitate comparison of the proposed scale of land transformation with the possibilities of its effective use taking into account actual demographic projections.

Safety indicators are based on the scale of the risks posed by natural processes for the areas under investment. They inform about wrong decisions regarding construction purposes in local planning.

Environmental pressure indicators indicate the scale of the discrepancy between the assumed spatial policy and natural resource protection requirements.

Indicators from the infrastructure group indicate the scale of infrastructure needs in terms of equipping the investment areas in all the necessary services and utilities.

The application of the ISPE confirmed their high effectiveness in identification and parameterization of the effects of spatial planning. This method shows high cognitive and practical values. The results do not provide a picture of cumulative pressure on space and the resulting risks. The values of the indicators show that both the municipal authorities and the residents often do not understand the mechanisms governing land use. The results in all the selected municipalities show that space management has a random character.

Indeterminate nature of the principles of sustainable development in local planning is an issue which comes up repeatedly in this study. Hence an attempt to create the measures for evaluating sustainable development of spatial policy could be the direction of future improvements of the ISPE.
Key words: Monitoring, *Indicators of Spatial Policy Evaluation*, sustainable development, spatial policy, spatial planning.