

Department of Spatial Development, Infrastructure and Environmental Planning

## Centre of Local Planning - IFOER



The Centre of Local Planning sees itself as a link between theory and practice. On the one hand, the experiences gathered by our team in our professional activities as planning consultants are consistently fed back into our teaching and research. On the other hand, our work at the local level gives us a concrete relation to the built environment.

This key strength of the Centre of Local Planning is also reflected in our students' work, from the projects they complete for the degree programme in Spatial Planning (Project 1 - Project 3) right through to their dissertations.

This completes the circle that starts with teaching based on problems and scenarios taken from planning practice and transfers back into planning practice via the graduates of our degree programme.

**The goal of the Centre of Local Planning is to understand the practice, research and teaching of planning as one entity and to link them together. The Centre came into being as the Institute of the same name in 1974.**

Local Planning deals with all the space-related spheres of municipal policy and is therefore a comprehensive, interdisciplinary task. Its field of action are local authorities, irrespective of size, status and structure. In addition, inter-municipal planning tasks have to be dealt with, including their functional and spatial integration into the larger space. Implementation strategies have to be developed which take into account the influence of pan-European spatial regulations on municipal development.

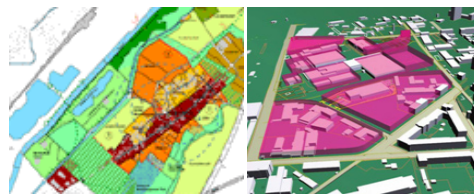


Fig.: Development Concepts - St. Pölten  
 Fig.: New Methods for Zoning Plans - Linz

**The research and course contents therefore relate to**

- Municipal / urban development planning with Local / Urban Development Concept, Zoning Plan and Development Plan as instruments;
- The urban design tasks and spatial compatibility aspects associated with development planning;
- Renewal processes in rural and urban areas;
- Municipal information systems and space-related simulation at all levels of Local Planning in conjunction with multi-media communication and visualisation methods.

One particular strength of the Centre of Local Planning and the Spatial Planning degree course is the close link with municipal and inter-municipal spatial planning in practice. There is also the technical engineering aspect and the close relationship with site planning and the realisation of projects in built form. Simulation of the planning reality forms the focus of efforts to provide an interdisciplinary, reality-based course of study.

**Currently the main research themes of the Centre are:**

- Instruments and implementation strategies for spatial development
- Quality assurance in urban development and design
- Resource efficiency and renewal of rural and urbanized housing development areas
- Inter-municipal planning strategies and networks

**Selected research projects:**

- Graz as a Spatial Model (1999)
- St. Pölten Development Concepts - St. Georgen, Ratzersdorf (2003)
- Evaluation of Upper Austrian Local Development Concepts (2004)
- Inter-municipal Cooperation Ried im Innkreis (2004)

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- Procedure for the assessment of potential sites for the partial or total relocation of Vienna University of Technology (2005)
- Master Plan "New Kottlingbrunn Centre" (2004)
- Gallneukirchen urban planning study (2005)
- Design concept for the market town of Sollenau - Allee-gasse (2006)
- Resource-efficient Development Structures and Urban Design (1999, 2007)
- Renewal Levels for Social Housing in Slovenia (2004)
- Postwar Social Housing: Urban Planning and Design Rules (2005)
- The city of short distances from the eco-social perspective - local amenities and recreational facilities against the background of demographic change (2006/07)
- Spatial Compatibility as a Contribution to Durable Spatial Utilisation (1998)
- Development and Renewal Processes in Rural Areas (1999, 2006f.)
- Space-related Simulation and Local Planning (2002), Urban/City Experimental Lab (2006f.)
- Open, Self-organising Repository for Scientific Information Exchange - SciX (2004)
- Spatial Planning Network (2006f.)
- Masterplan Wiener Neustadt (2007f.)
- Standortplanung TU Wien (2006, 2008)



Fig.: Development and Renewal Processes in Rural Areas

The **Spatial Planning Network** [www.netzwerk-raumplanung.at] - an initiative by the Centre of Local Planning in cooperation with the Federal Specialist Group for Urban and Regional Planning and Geography - serves as a network for spatial planners, a platform for the presentation of best practice in planning, and a forum for discussion of topical planning issues. The aim is to encourage dialogue between planning theory and practice and forge stronger links between research and current questions relating to the future design of our living space.

**Netzwerk Raumplanung**  
 The Communication Platform for Planners.

<http://www.ifoer.tuwien.ac.at>

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