ICURD research project 2010/2011

Bilateral Cooperation with Industrialised Countries

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EU home university	University of Groningen
US host university	University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign
title of project	Planning Support Systems and urban planning; usage with civilian participation
main research goal	The goal of this research is to study the usage of planning support systems within participative planning processes embedded in spatial planning, by focussing on urban growth management projects at a regional level, in order to examine the contribution of PSS towards these planning processes. Doing this by choosing a public planners perspective, and to find out what lessons can be drawn to improve the supportive capacity of PSS for the planner
main research question	By looking at urban growth management projects on a regional scale, what role of input do PSS have within participatory planning processes and what lessons can be drawn in order to refine the supportive capacity of PSS for public planners?
main research methods	(In depth) interviews, questionnaire
main results (description of projects and findings)	Two Planning Support Systems and related projects: 1 LEAM (Land-Use Evolution and impact Assessment Model, USA) St. Louis city region LEAM has been, and still is used by many urban planners within the states of Missouri and Illinois. The St. Louis metropolitan region is an example of it, whereby LEAM fulfilled a core task as decision support system as well as a interactive and communicative instrument, helping planners and stakeholders/locals to participate, interact and decide about integral cases within this region. The way LEAM is being plasticized by focusing on the communicative aspects of the urban planning process; it clearly shows a fresh and effective way of involving non-experts into the process. 2 Urban Strategy (Netherlands) Stadshavens Rotterdam In progress - still doing research on this case.
Keywords	Planning support systems, pss, urban growth, participative planning, mediated planning support systems, GIS