

## **ECOSYSTEM APPROACH TO CREATING COMPETITIVE SPACE AS A BASIC ELEMENT OF MODERN SPATIAL PLANNING**

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### **Introduction**

Competitive space is defined by economic, human and environmental index and means the creation of attractive places which lure different users and stimulate sustainable development in regions. Little efficiency of competitive space designing in Poland results from the fact that 80% of country area do not have spatial development plans. Aiming at implementing the country strategic targets of biodiversity protection and regional development, it is necessary to set many acts of specialist law, which would in feedback weaken further the significance of coherent spatial planning and competitive space designing.

### **Methods**

The use of statistical data and SWOT analysis, the strengths and weaknesses of the spatial planning process, in reference to the implementation of biodiversity protection targets in Poland, are indicated. The model of integrated competitive space designing, based on geo-complex analysis, is proposed.

### **Results and discussion**

Spatial planning is recognized as an instrument for coherent management of nature resources, economy and regional development. Considering biodiversity protection objectives, a triangle hierarchy of limits exists in the model of the economical use of country surface in Poland: areas with priority of nature protection and prohibition of business activities (National Parks, Nature Reserves), protected areas where business operation is acceptable under specific conditions (Natura 2000, Landscape Parks, Protected Landscape Areas) and the rest. This simple and transparent model introduces many exceptions in law regulations. They constitute potential source of conflict among interests of different groups and as a result reduce the competitiveness of space in the domain of nature values and business activities of the local societies. Another problem is the instability of local forms of nature protection which are not included in spatial plans. Additionally, the obligation of full regeneration of destroyed habitats, even outside the place of damage, require the establishment of the appropriate places during the compilation of spatial plans, and is not therefore very realistic. Starting from the idea that ecosystems management is placed within a given space, depending on its own features, the geo-complex management is more appropriate method for designing of spatial order both on national and regional level.

### **Conclusions**

The simplification of country law regulations in the domain of environment protection, the strengthening of protection rules within National Parks and Nature Reserves, including local protection forms in spatial planning, the integration of strategic document of regional development, the country spatial development and biodiversity protection as well as space management, based on the geo-complex analysis, are the basic tools for the further creation of competitive space in regions.

### **References**

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