Dienst Landelijk Gebied
Ministerie van Economische Zaken

Sketch & Match

engaging stakeholders in design

Cat’s Bend Romania

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PART 1

Introduction to Sketch & Match
What is Sketch & Match? - the method

• 1 to 3 day intensive and interactive workshop method (‘pressure cooker’)

• on site NOT in the office (!)

• 3 to 4 teams of up to 7 stakeholders from very different backgrounds: land owners, inhabitants, experts, local / regional / national authorities, ngo’s, etc

• 1 process supervisor (overall), teams facilitated by landscape architects

• the teams: - analyse the spatial problem(s) of the area
  - (re) define the assignment
  - elaborate and draw integrated solutions (group theme or focus)

• input: maps (GIS), presentations, collective knowledge and creativity
Advantages of Sketch & Match

- collective thinking and sketching:
  - integrated, locally adapted and **tailor-made** solutions (‘added value’)
  - raises awareness and leads to empowerment
  - making plans ‘with’ people rather than ‘for’ people

- **dialogue** instead of discussion:
  - images unite, words are easily misinterpreted
  - true understanding of each other other’s interests

- conceptual **flexibility**

- increases **support** for a spatial plan/policy & accelerates decision making

- last but not least: enthousiasm, energy, **fun**
PART 2

Sketch & Match in Romania
Project history

2006 / 2007

1. REELD study by Apele Romana: strategies for flood protection Danube Delta region

2. first contact between DLG and Romanian authorities, institutes and ngo’s

   ➔ Cat’s Bend as project area

   ➔ REELD study as starting point for Dutch “Room for the River’ approach

   ➔ developing flood protection scenario’s, together with stakeholders

   ➔ funding by Dutch ‘Partners for Water’ program
Room for the River - design principles

- Deepening of the foreshore
- Removal of obstacles
- Lowering of groynes
- Displacement of dikes or
  Depoldering
- Enlarging of summer beds
- Flood channel
- Strengthening of dikes
- Retention watercompartment
wetlands
Macin mountains
agriculture
more agriculture...
Danube at Grindu
Initial objectives of Sketch & Match in Cat’s Bend

- introduce participants to this method of interactive design

- explore suitable flood protection scenarios:
  - supported by local, regional and national stakeholders
  - suited for the land use and characteristics of the local landscape
  - preferably in accordance with existing policies

- **focus shift** during Sketch & Match Cat’s Bend:
  stakeholders perceived drought / water scarcity - leading to socio-economic problems - as equally urgent problems

**redefined design assignment:**

- water management AND sustainable economic development
Program of Sketch & Match Cat’s Bend

DAY 1
• exploration of design assignment and project area:
  • field excursion, analysis by maps
  • problems, qualities and opportunities (potential)

DAY 2
• exploration of solutions
  • calculate probable effects with hydraulic modelling

DAY 3
• synthesis: integration of concepts into integrated sketch
  • final presentation for team members and decision makers
impression of process and results
Lessons learned: succes (and fail...) factors

- thorough preparation
  - problem (pre)definition
  - selection of participants
  - program
  - facilities and materials (location, catering, tracing paper, etc)
  - input (maps, presentations, field excursion, etc)

- enthusiastic and motivated participants (at least some...)

- well qualified, cooperative team

- combination of sketching and hydraulic modelling

- flexibility (concepts ànd process)
PART 3

Recommendations
Recommendations: how to ensure local sustainability

1. think **top-down**, act **bottom-up** in a cyclic way:
   - use the Sketch & Match or similar method in policy planning and equip staff
   - coherent set of objectives at national level, pliable on local level (finetuning)

2. **triple layer approach**: prevention | sustainable planning | disaster management

3. combine **vision with facts** (eg. hydraulic modelling or other calculations)

4. include **socio-economic aspects** in a broad approach for solutions (‘added value’)

5. focus on **common ground** (win-win) instead of (apparent) contradictions

6. think about an effective **follow up** before starting a Sketch & Match session!
The End

Thank you for listening!

Any questions?
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Widen your view

DLG Government Service for Land and Water Management works today to shape the landscape of tomorrow.