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INVESTOR RESPONSIBILITY IN INFORMING THE PUBLIC ABOUT A PLANNED PROJECT

ODGOVORNOST INVESTITORA U INFORMIRANJU JAVNOSTI O PROJEKTU

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Introduction

Uvod

Public participation in EIA is a mechanism introduced to involve the public in decision-making, but also for achieving broader social goals.

The goal of early involvement, as well as continuous public participation, is to create preconditions that allow the public to affect the outcome of environmental impact assessment.

Sudjelovanje javnosti u PUO je mehanizam uspostavljen s namjerom uključivanja javnosti u odlučivanje ali i sredstvo za postizanje širih društvenih ciljeva.

Cilj je ranog uključivanja, kao i kontinuiranog sudjelovanja javnosti u postupku, stvaranje preduvjeta koji omogućuju javnosti značajno utjecanje na ishod donošenja odluke o procjeni utjecaja na okoliš.

Little will change in practice without procedural, administrative and legal instruments for monitoring the processes of environmental impact assessment, along with those aimed at involving the public in decision-making. Bez proceduralnih, administrativnih i pravnih instrumenata za nadziranje procesa procjene utjecaja na okoliš i donošenja odluka u rukama građana u praksi se neće puno promijeniti.

The aim of the research

Cilj istraživanja

- **The goal of the study was to analyse the differences among the members of the interested public, defined by belonging to a particular sector or target group, in terms of the level of awareness and opinions on project holder involvement in the legally required informing of the public about a planned project before starting the environmental impact assessment procedure.**

  Cilj istraživanja je primjenom znanstvenih metoda analizirati moguće razlike u informiranju i stavovima zainteresirane javnosti definirane prema ciljnim i sektor grupama o angažiranosti nositelja zahvata prema zakonskoj obvezi u pripremi i informiranju javnosti o planiranom projektu prije pokretanja postupka procjene utjecaja na okoliš.

Methodology

Metodologija

1. Problem-oriented in-depth interview / participant observation.

Problemski usmjeren dubinski intervju / sudjelujuće promatranje.

2. Qualitative method of Grounded theory - three basic types of coding: open or initial, axial, selective coding.

Kvalitativna metoda utemeljene teorije – tri osnovna tipa kodiranja: otvoreno ili inicijalno, aksijalno, selektivno.

3. Statistical analysis by STATISTICA Ver.11.00 software package.

Statistička obrada je izvršena računalnim paketom Statistica Ver.11.00.

- **The sample of respondents - 100 entities in 10 target groups qualitatively defined with 10 entities:**

Uzorak ispitanika – 100 entiteta u 10 ciljnih grupa kvalitativno definirani s 10 entiteta:

1. **Study makers – persons authorised by the Ministry /** Izrađivači studija – ovlaštenici Ministarstva

2. **Developers – investors /** Nositelji zahvata – investitori

3. **Ministry of environment/committee – members of committees /** Ministarstvo okoliša/Povjerenstvo

4. **Cities – employees of the city administration /** Predstavnici zaposlenika gradske uprave

5. **Counties – employees of the county administration /** Predstavnici zaposlenika županijske uprave

6. **Associations – NGO environmental associations /** Udruge – NVO za zaštitu okoliša

7. **Civil initiatives - civil society, but not environmentally oriented /** Građanske inicijative, ne ekološke

8. **Economic associations –economic interest associations /** Gospodarska udruženja

9. **Political parties –political structures included in the process /** Političke stranke

10. **Scientists/journalists –academic institutions and journalists /** Znanstvenici/novinari

- **New qualitatively defined control groups were classified based on the above subsamples:**

Iz navedenih subuzoraka klasificirana su tri kontrolna sektora (klastera), kvalitativno definirana:

1. **Public sector - 40 respondents from target groups: min. of environment/committee, city, county, scientists/journalists /** Javni sektor – 40 ispitanika ciljnih grupa: ministarstvo okoliša / povjerenstvo, gradovi, županije, znanstvenici/novinari
2. **Civil sector - 30 respondents from target groups: associations, civic initiatives, political parties /** Civilni sektor – 30 ispitanika ciljnih grupa: udruge, građanske inicijative, političke stranke
3. **Economic sector - 30 respondents from target groups: study makers, developers, economic associations /** Gospodarski sektor – 30 ispitanika ciljnih grupa: izrađivači studija, nositelji zahvata, gospodarska udruženja.

Results, discussion and conclusions

Rezultati, diskusija i zaključci

The response was defined on three levels based on the question:

Ispitanici su definirani u tri razine ovisno o odgovorima:

Do you think that the operator should have a legal obligation to prepare and inform the public about the planned project before initiating the environmental impact assessment procedure?

Smatrate li da bi nositelj zahvata trebao imati zakonsku obvezu pripreme i informiranja javnosti o planiranom projektu prije pokretanja postupka procjene utjecaja na okoliš?

1.The first group was classified according to negative responses, and represents those entities who answered: No. Quantitatively, these negative responses were coded as zero (0), for the upcoming statistical data processing.

Prva skupina klasificira one entitete koji su odgovarali niječno, kvantitativno, ovi odgovori kodirani su brojem nula (0), radi predstojeće statističke obrade podataka.

2.**The second group says that it does not have enough information, does not know or is not sure how to respond, is undecided. Quantitatively, these undecided responses were coded as one (1), for the upcoming statistical data processing /** Druga skupina odgovorila je da ne zna, nije sigurna, nema stav - ovi odgovori kodirani su brojem jedan (1), radi predstojeće statističke obrade podataka.

3. The third group of entities responded affirmatively, and argued its views as follows: Yes. Quantitatively, these affirmative responses were coded as two (2), for the upcoming statistical data processing / Treća skupina ispitanika klasificirana je prema potvrdnom odgovoru - ovi odgovori kodirani su brojem dva (2), radi predstojeće statističke obrade podataka.

Absolute and relative cumulative frequency *variable operator_legal obligation,* N = 100

Apsolutne i kumulativne relativne učestalosti varijable *nositelj zahvata_zakonska obveza*, N=100

Odgovori	Učestalost	Kumulativna relativna učestalost
0	41	41,00
1	1	42,00
2	58	100,00

Odgovori	IS	NZ	MO	GR	ŽU	UD	GI	GU	PS	Z/N	Ukupno
0	7	9	8	7	7	0	0	9	3	4	54
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
2	3	1	2	3	3	10	8	1	7	6	44

Legend: 0 - no; 1- I do not know, I'm not sure; 2 - yes.
Legenda: 0 – ne; 1– ne znam, nisam siguran/na; 2 – da.

Frequency variable *operator_legal obligation* to sector group, n = 100

Učestalosti varijable *nositelj zahvata_zakonska obveza*, prema sektor grupi, N=100

Odgovori	JAVNI SEKTOR	CIVILNI SEKTOR	GOSPODARSKI SEKTOR	Ukupno
0	14	4	23	28
1	1	0	0	5
2	25	26	7	67
total	40	30	30	100

Legend: 0 - no; 1- I do not know, I'm not sure; 2 - yes.
Legenda: 0 – ne; 1– ne znam, nisam siguran/na; 2 – da.

The majority of respondents views investor involvement as insufficient, claiming that project holders should be legally required to inform the public about a planned project before starting the environmental impact assessment procedure, as they could change the decision in case of negative reactions, but with no additional costs.

Većina ispitanika izražava stav o nedovoljnoj angažiranosti investitora projekta **i** smatra da nositelj zahvata mora imati zakonsku obvezu pripreme i informiranja javnosti o planiranom projektu prije pokretanja postupka procjene utjecaja na okoliš jer bi kod eventualne negativne reakcije javnosti mogao promijeniti odluku, a bez da se izlaže novim troškovima.