
CECÍLIA MEZEI: LOCAL RESOURCE MAPPING

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In order to meet great environmental challenges including climate change, more attention needs to be paid to the resource efficiency. Establishing a resource efficient economy is a major environmental and development challenge today, which needs political actions at all (international, national and local) levels. Improving resource efficiency by better understanding of amount, value, structure, ownership, use etc. of resources within a given place is crucial to planning and implementing good resource based spatial policies. For the adaptive and sustainable development of a territory the decision-makers need the exact information about the potential and the consumption (capital formation, stocks, flows etc.) of resources related to the development processes of a given place.

While Circular Economy concept focuses on the total use of local and incoming resources, the local resource based, bottom up development approaches usually deal with the better and more effective use of local resources as driver of local economic development. For this good strategic planning processes local decision-makers and planners (mostly the local/regional governments) require exact local information about the groups, quality and amount of local resources.

The paper presents a local resource mapping (planning) model concept. The model attempts to account the total amount and value of local resources, to calculate the potential of these local resources (by different resource use types), and to give some development proposals for the local decision-makers based on the local circumstances and features. The pilot model was tested for Hungarian settlements for a limited range of resource use types. The paper reviews the model concept and the first results came from the test phase of the model.

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