SUMMARY OF PILOT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

PHASE

Project /Title: Open urban space renewal in the city of Prešov
Site (region/city or town): Prešov, Slovakia

1. Summary:
The open space area in "Sidlisko II Presov" is located in a housing district built in the late 1960s. The space was a typical example of a neglected area without relevant functions, with a low ratio of vegetation, problems of criminality (especially during night time), conflicts between car traffic and pedestrians, neglected and insufficient small architecture.

![Picture 1: Situation before](image)

Based on the approved design, elaborated on the participatory way with local inhabitants, the square can be divided into four functional units:

- Entrance area of the square
- Area around the existing fountain
- Podium and meeting space in front of it
- Playground for children

Through the pilot project investment phase, the playground for children, greenery renewal, the small scale architecture (benches, cycle racks) and the new electro-infrastructure for public lighting was realized. Moreover the new traffic regulations solving the conflicts among pedestrian and cars have been applied. The new lighting and paving of the scare will be realized the early next year. This renovated open public spaces will create the attractive leisure area for the district inhabitants, other adjacent city districts and whole Presov area.
2. Description of project

Renewal of open space was realized through the following steps:

Construction of the playground for children and relevant terrain works - the first step of the revitalization in 2010, in total 19 366€ from the UrbSpace project.

Greenery renewal and other related terrain works – the complete greenery renewal, the new electro-infrastructure for public lighting and related terrain works with the costs 96.750,38 EUR (paid by city of Presov) were realized in 2011.

The small scale architecture (benches, cycle racks) in total 30 000€ from the UrbSpace project in 2011.

Moreover the new traffic regulations solving the conflicts among pedestrian and cars have been
applied. The new lighting and paving of the scare will be realized by the Municipality the early next year (2012).

Picture 4: Visualization of the new playground and its realisation as part of the reconstruction

Revitalised urban space will become a part of system of Presov city recreational space not only for the inhabitants of the housing district but the vicinity of the commercial complex will attract to this renewed open spaces much more inhabitants from the Presov city.

3. Transnational added value

Identification of the most acute problems in the areas of the environment; criminality prevention; accessibility aspects for community groups with specific needs with attention to movement safety; respecting the historical assets of the territory has been undertaken using the participatory approach. City Presov pilot project realization will be the good example of investment strengthening the local natural environment.

A transnational added value will be in sharing experience and know how transfer in these fields:

• renewal of neighbourhoods with high density prefabricated blocks of flats
• methods of successful public participation at planning and implementation
• Involvement of local communities and associations in empowering actions and cultural
activities:

- Support of the civil culture to let citizens understand the importance of the proper use of open spaces
- sustainable model of green recreational areas management
- systematic approach to pedestrian environment improvement and accessibility
- local natural and cultural heritage interpretation

4. Sustainability of the investment

Sustainability as long-term vision of space. At regional level the creation of such a green space will contribute to the creation of a relax area for inhabitants, essential for a sustainable land use and biodiversity conservation. At the local scale, the high quality urban space with the use functions for different users (children, parents, adolescents, elderly people, etc.) will attract the local inhabitants to spend their spare time outdoor which create closer relationship to the environment, as well as is creating the local community.

After the end of the project UrbSpace, the Municipality of Presov will be financially and technically responsible for the sustaining of the investment. The town unit responsible for the greenery areas - Municipal Authority for Roads and Greenery Management in Presov - will be responsible for the day-to-day technical maintenance of the open space.

Attractiveness of nature at neighbourhood of intensive housing area is very important for citizens to their identification with place of living. More attractive public space is more used and this means more safe and less costs of maintenance.

5. Foreseen impacts and leverage effect

The local inhabitants of Presov district II. will directly benefit from improvement of physical environment for leisure and sports adjacent to high density housing area. Revitalized urban space will become a part of system of Presov city recreational space not only for the inhabitants of the housing district but the vicinity of the commercial complex will attract to this renewed open spaces much more inhabitants from the Presov city.

The pilot project can serve as an example in several aspects. In the planning phase the actual know-how of public participation at planning of public spaces was used. The principle was to start from, broader context in time and place – considering in the same time the heritage and history of the
place as well as connectivity and relations with its surrounding. The step by step implementation will be done with active involvement of community members to raise their relationship to the place and to each other.

Picture 6: After the new traffic regulation, the new possibilities for children playing appear
Design and realization characteristics (some pictures and photos)

Picture 7: Playground for children – construction works in 2010

Picture 8, 9: Informational board, playground and planted trees and shrubs in 2011, bench with the application of the children drawings competition
Media coverage (examples):

Prešovské priestory / Public Spaces of Prešov
nové podoby verejných priestorov mesta

otok 6. September 2011

Peď mať pravdu

Peďovania sa v tejto dobe čerstvo a v radeň dôchodčích slúži vočia projektu verejných priestorov. 

PrešovSKÉ PRIESTORY / PUBLIC SPACES OF PREŠOV

Výstava 30. novembra 2011 sa uchádza o realizáciu ideálneho priestoru, na ktorý sa budú dostať všetci obyvatelia Prešovskej metropolitnej oblasti. 

Výstava sa koná v rámci výstavy "Urban Space 2011" v Národnom múzeu v Bratislave. 

Výstava Prístorov je prvým krokom k realizácii projektu, ktorý sa snaží vytvoriť nové verejné priestory v Prešove.

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