BEST PRACTICE IN SPATIAL PLANNING IN SLOVENIA

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What is important about best practice:

- it arises out of firm professional starting points

- can only be created in social and legal frames in which spatial planning and also spatial and environmental values are positioned high on the value scale

In the last 2 decades, some important systemic changes were carried out in the field of spatial planning in Slovenia.

Systemic changes in last 2 decades

The number of municipalities has increased significantly:

61 in 1991

212 in 2013

Systemic changes in last 20 years

- regions have not (yet) been established

- a series of changes in spatial and sectorial legislation

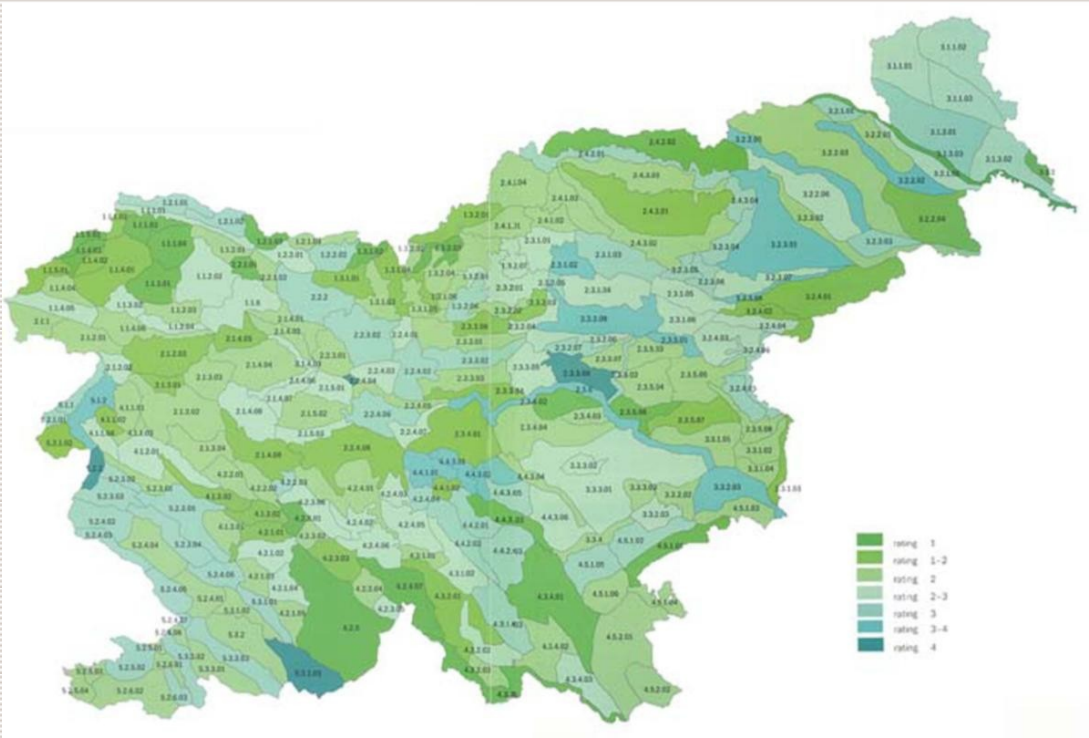
- the spatial planning sector has lost some of its competences, which resulted in fewer opportunities and less possibility for coordination and harmonization of different interests

Nevertheless, in the last 20 years we have developed and upgraded our knowledge and experiences in diverse projects.

Professional bases for Spatial Development Strategy

a) Regional Distribution of Landscape Types of Slovenia:

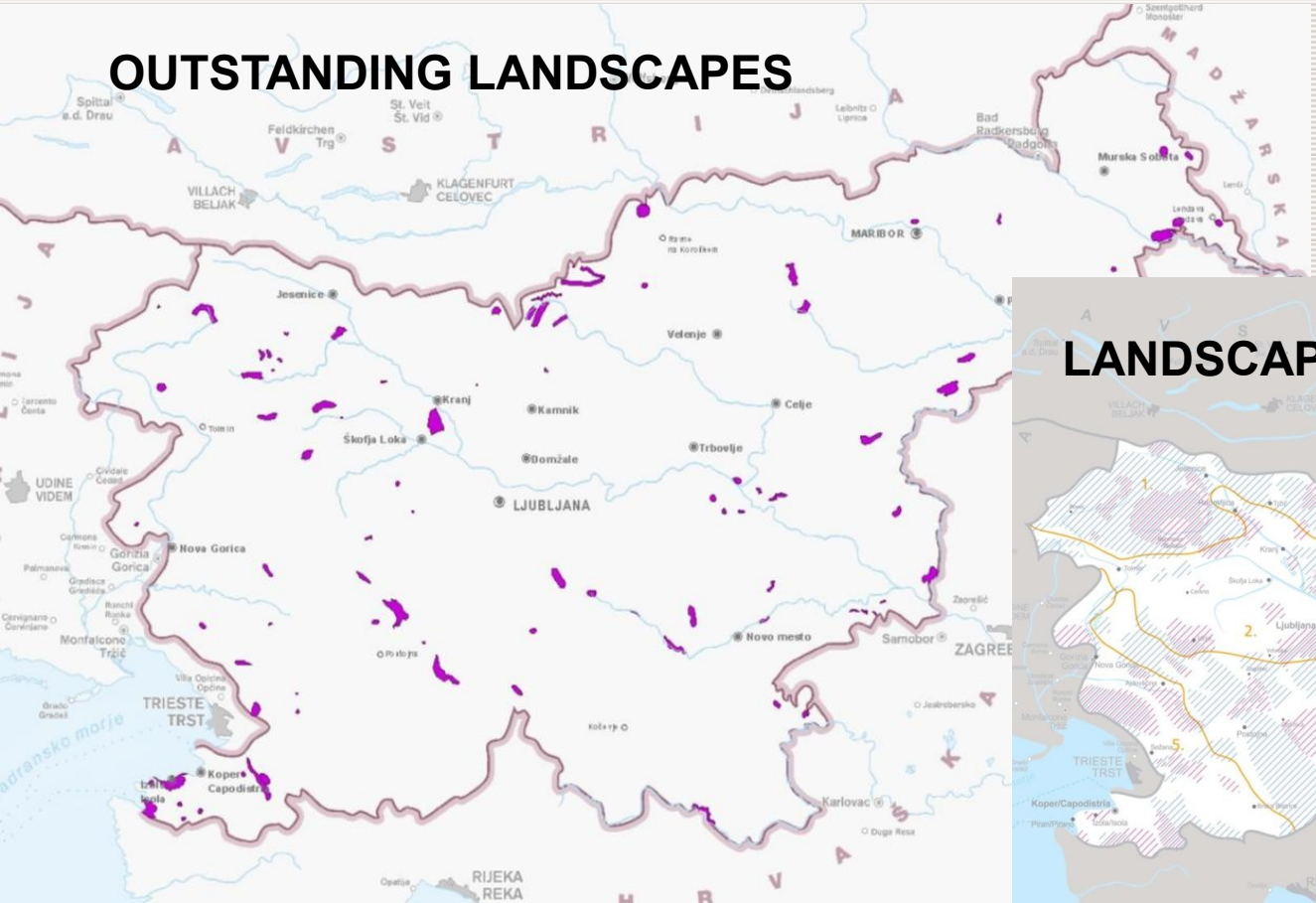
- inventorisation, evaluation and classification of Slovenian landscapes
- it defined general guidelines for spatial development of different landscapes types
- It initiated a few other projects in the field of landscape evaluation and definition of the outstanding landscapes

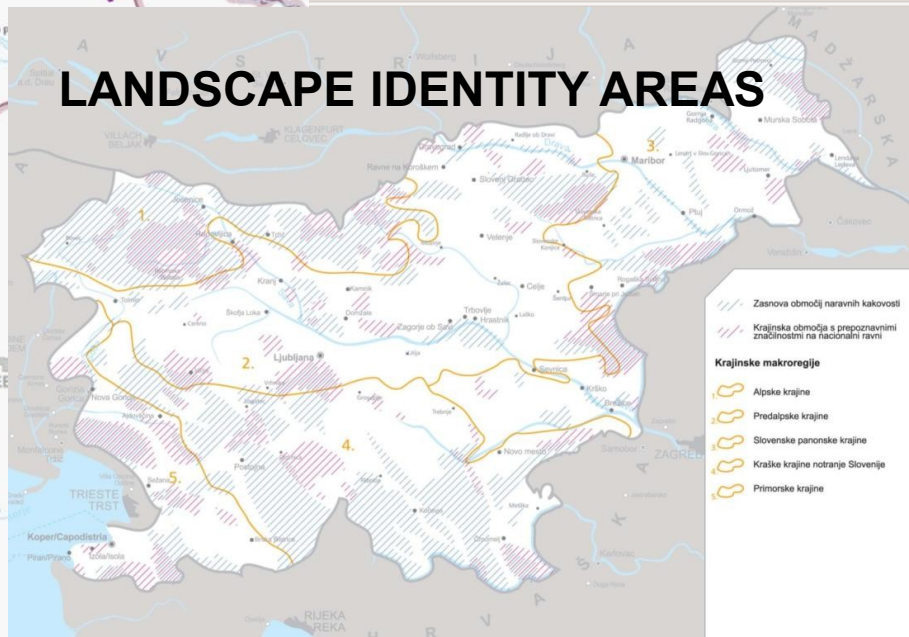


Professional bases for Spatial Development Strategy

b) Definition of outstanding landscapes of Slovenia:

- 100 small landscape areas of national or regional importance
- natural and cultural landscapes, with recognizable characteristics, symbolic meanings and inspiring values of the landscape





Professional bases for Spatial Development Strategy

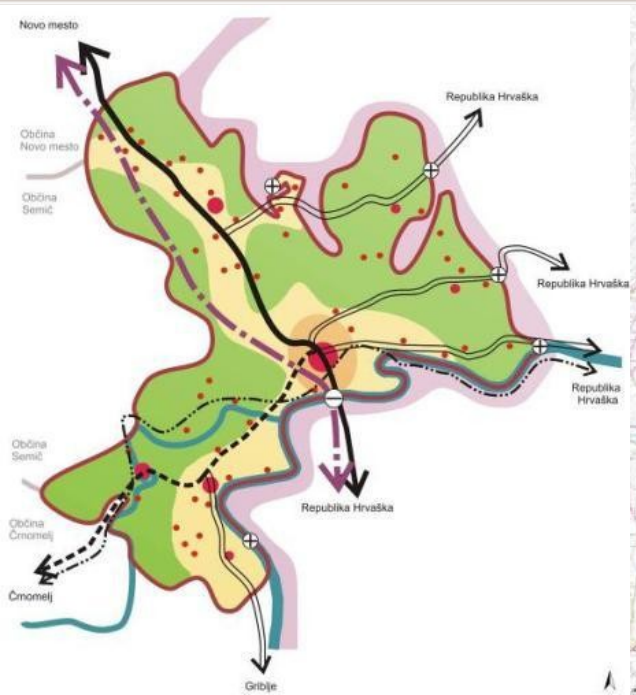
c) Environmental Vulnerability Study for the Physical Plan:

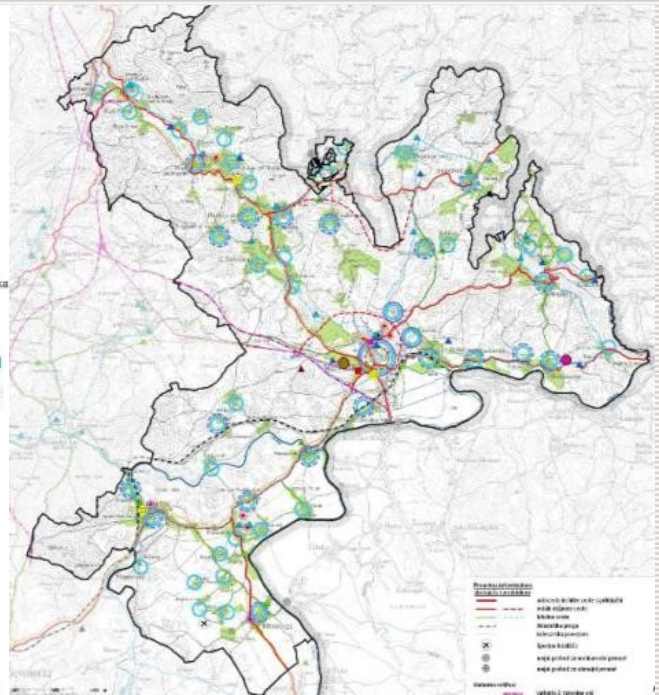
- prepared on the basis of data about the spatial and environmental characteristics and of planned activities
- used for the assessment of alternatives in the Spatial Development Strategy from environmental aspect and was made for all the activities defined in the plan

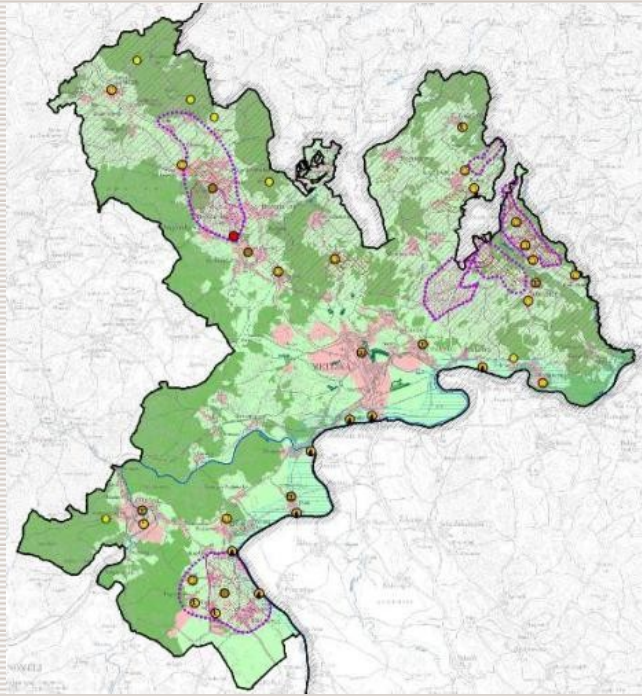
Landscape evaluation in spatial plans of municipalities

Since 2004, a new generation of spatial plans in all the municipalities has been prepared.

Urban system **Infrastructure** **Landscape**

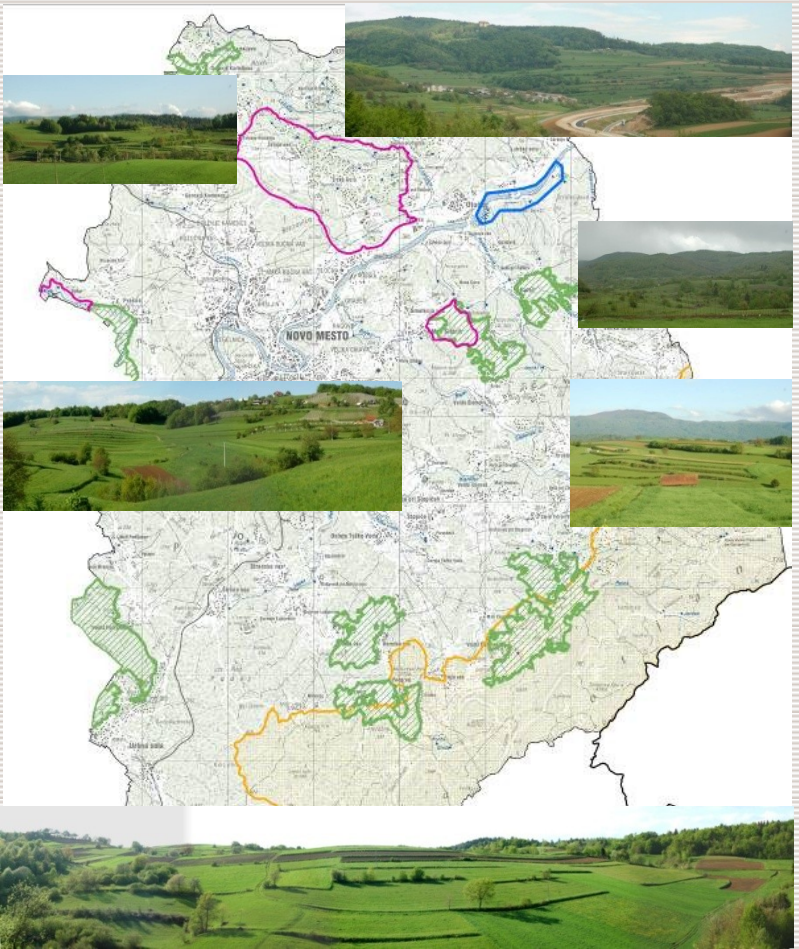




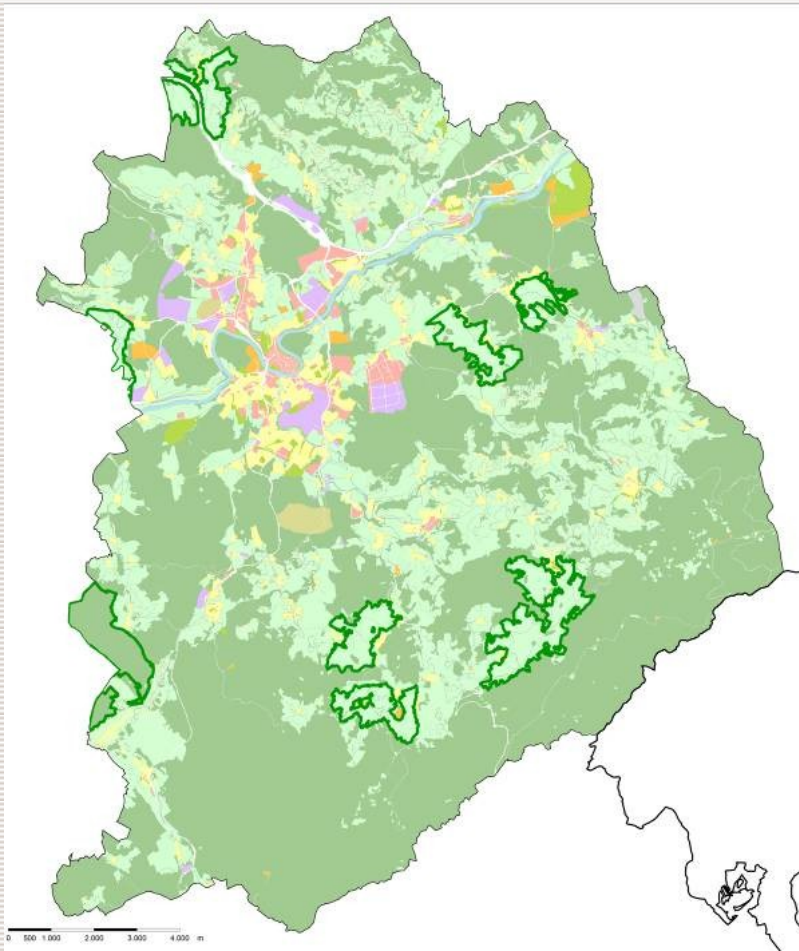


Landscape evaluation in spatial plans of municipalities

Definition of outstanding landscapes of local importance



Adoption of outstanding landscapes in municipality spatial plan



Location of infrastructural objects

Infrastructure projects usually cause fundamental changes of spatial proportions

Location of a wastewater treatment plant in an outstanding landscape:

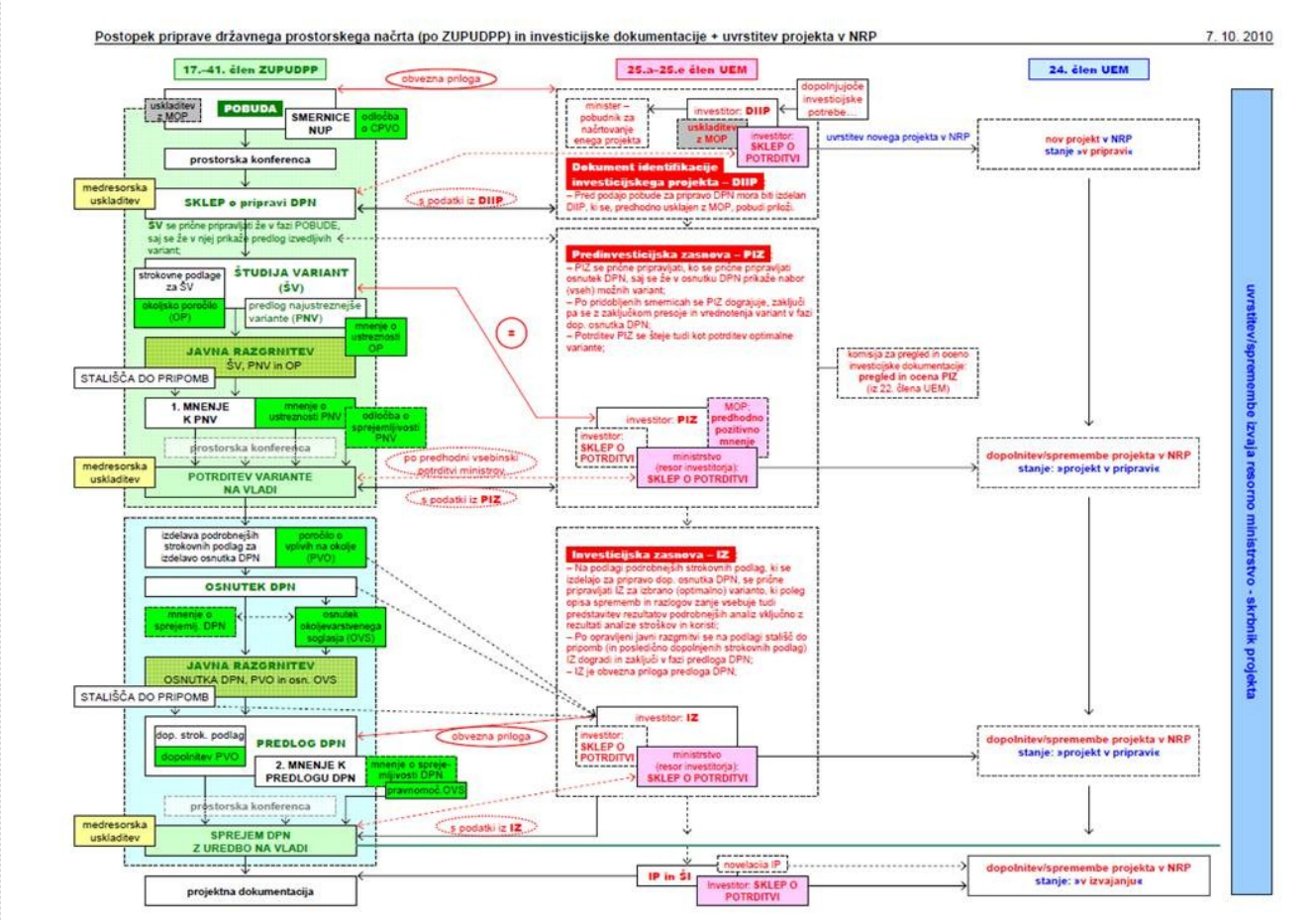
Location of infrastructural objects

Infrastructure projects usually cause fundamental changes of spatial proportions

Location of a wastewater treatment plant in an outstanding landscape:

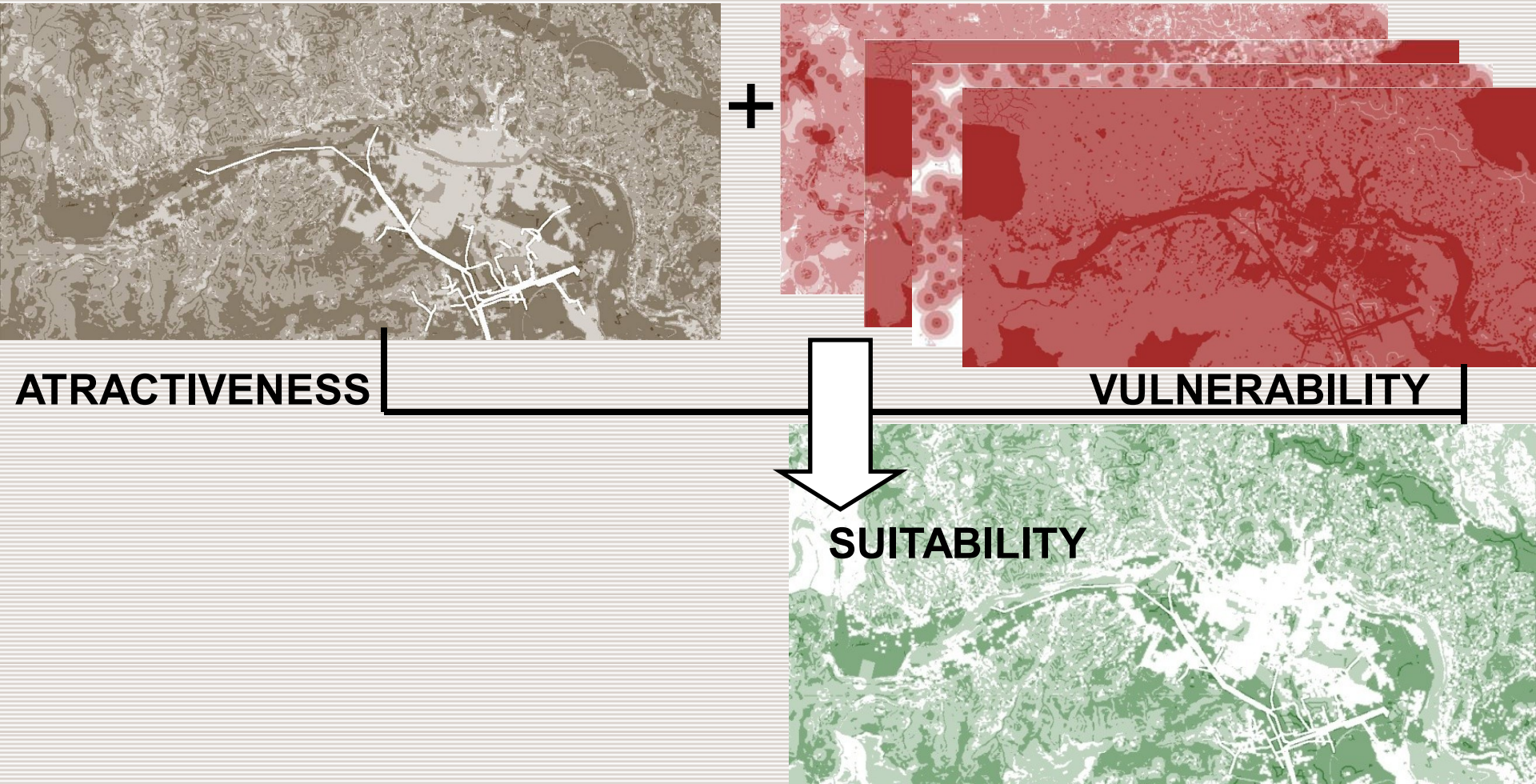
Location of infrastructural objects

- location of large scale infrastructure objects is being processed in frames of national detailed spatial plans (very complex procedures)
- usually also SEA procedures are being carried out
- comparative studies are compulsory



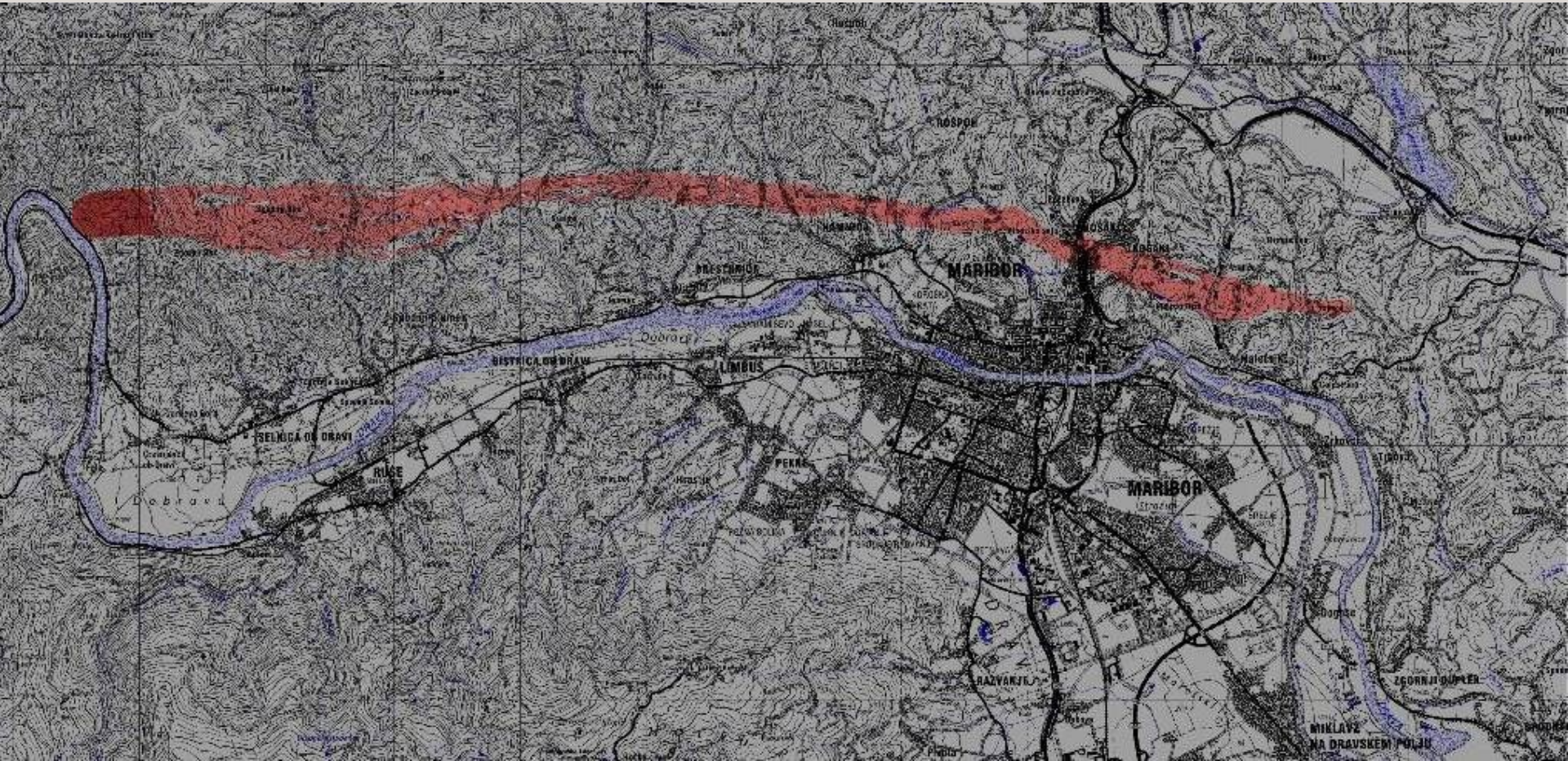
Spatial planning of infrastructural objects

By defining criteria and models, using the computer, the analytical procedures can be carried out in transparent and highly objective way.



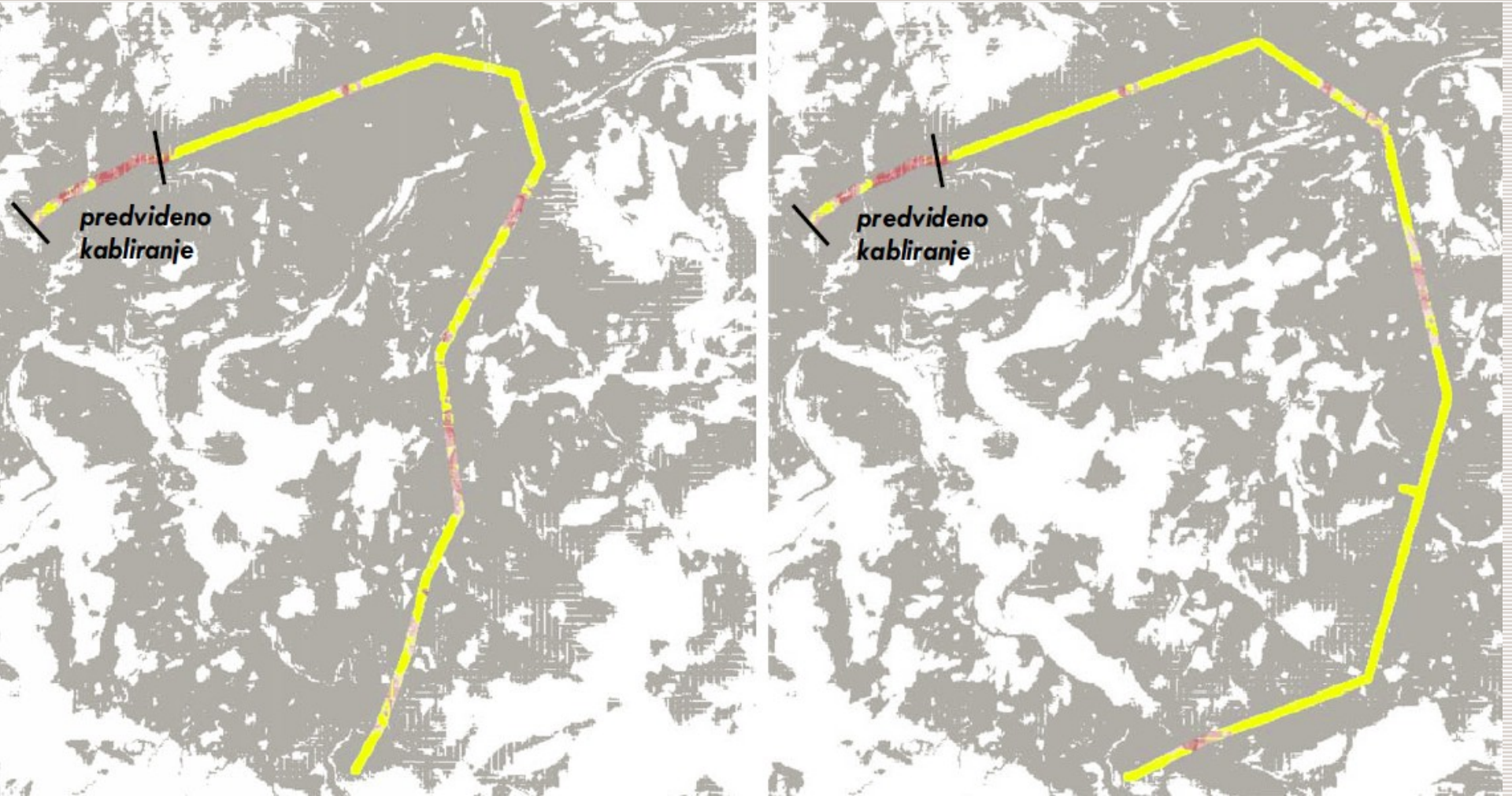
Location of infrastructural objects

Optimal corridor for electric - power line, calculated by computer



Location of infrastructural objects

Visual contacts (exposure) of the electric - power line, calculated by computer

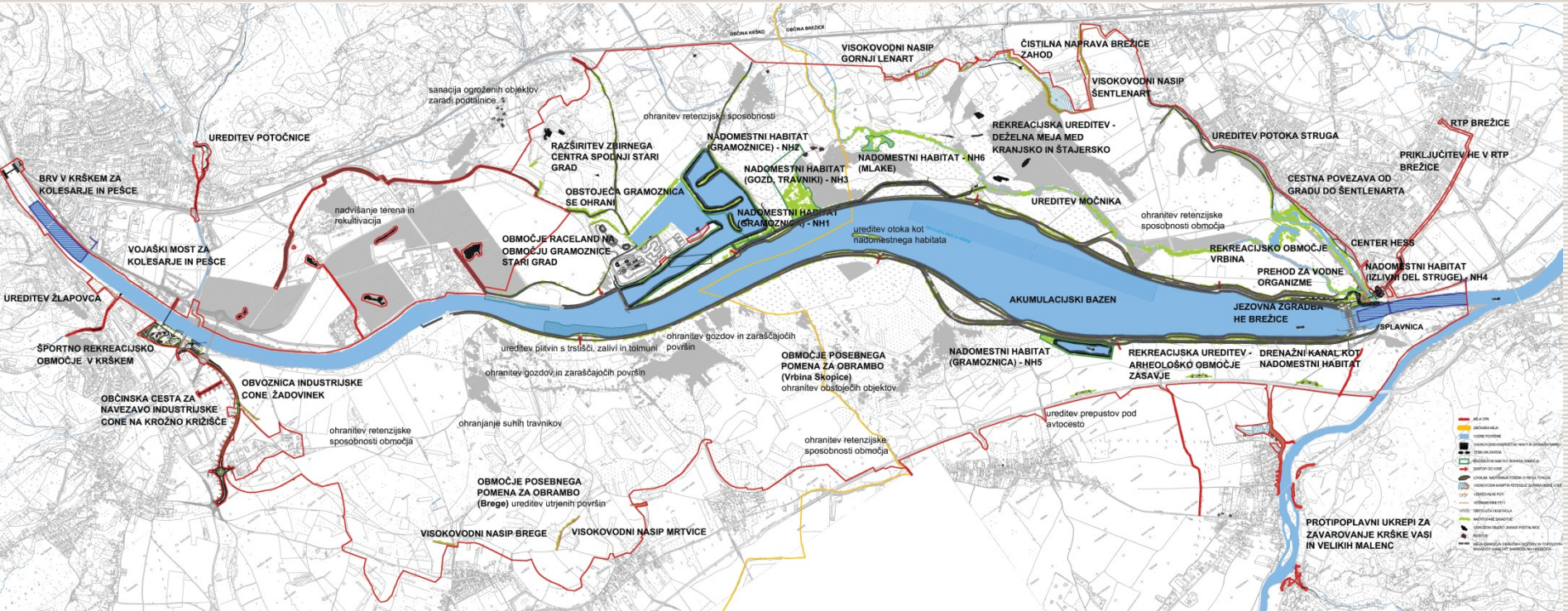


Location of infrastructural objects

Visualisation of the planned electric - power line

Location of the hydropower plant Brežice

- a part of a series of 5 HP plants on the lower Sava River
- area of 2.300 ha lies in 2 municipalities (Krško, Brežice)
- very close to the national border with Croatia



Location of the hydropower plant Brežice

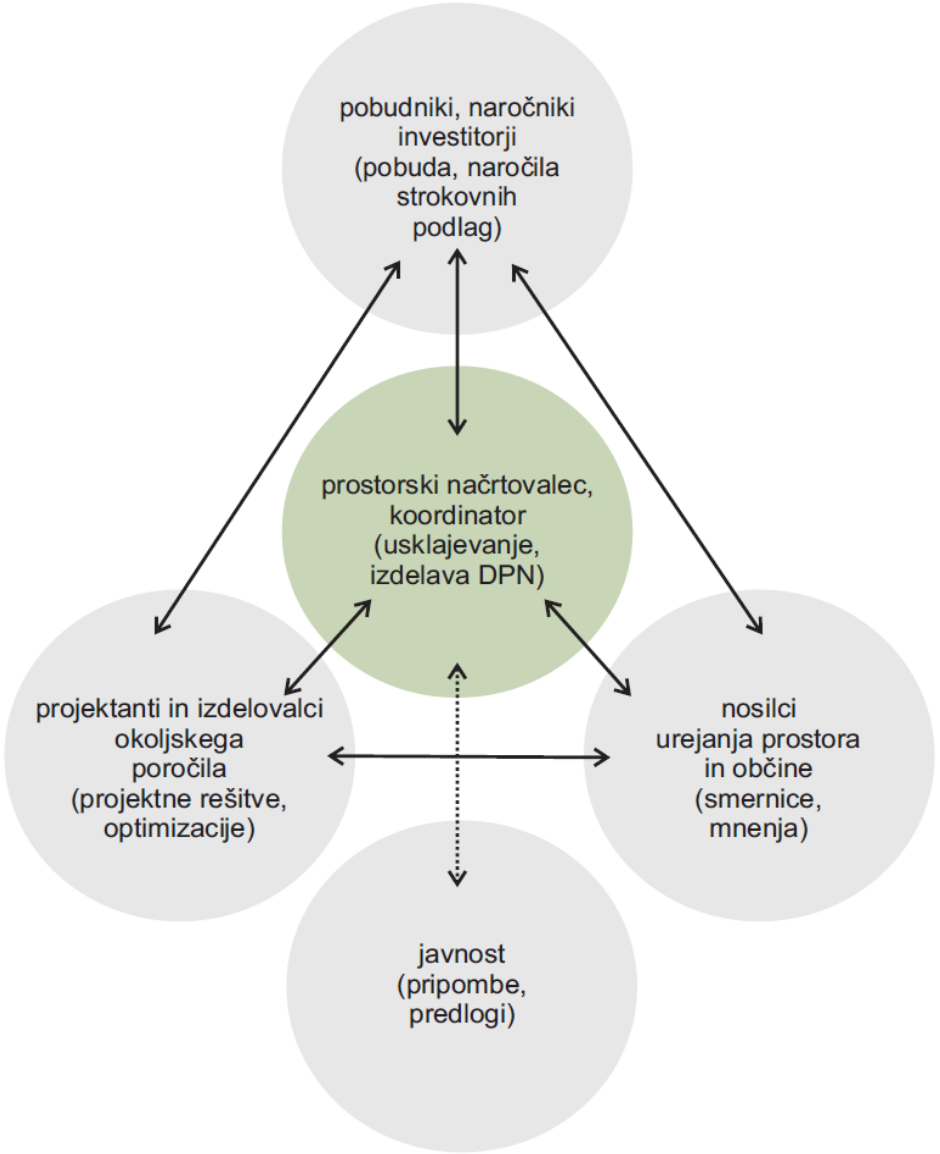
It comprises a lot of planned objects and spatial arrangements:

- dam with the power plant, basin and connected infrastructures.
- different objects and measures for flood protection,
- numerous, diverse and large compensation habitats
- visitors center
- a few recreational areas
- some new bridges over Sava river
- water stream arrangements
- bypass for the town of Krško
- wastewater treatment plant
- waste collection center
- ship passage

Location of the hydropower plant Brežice

Harmonization of numerous development needs, environmental restrictions and special demands of different stakeholders

SEA has been conducted in a transboundary context (closeness of the national border with Croatia)



Location of the hydropower plant Brežice

Preparation of this project required of all participants:

- a lot of knowledge,
- mutual respect and understanding between interdisciplinary working groups
- willingness to upgrade one's knowledge and to find innovative solutions
- extensive cooperation with the local public that was actively involved in the project

Timely and adequate response of individual sectors and authorities and their readiness to resolve problems in a proactive and constructive manner was of major importance.

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