

Abstract Template

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Organisation : City of Koprivnica

Short description:

The city of Koprivnica has 33.700 citizens in the area of 94 km². It is located in the north of Croatia, in the lush Drava river valley. The city traditionally relies on food processing, pharmaceutical and wood processing industries in the predominantly agricultural region. The city provides high quality of life, based on active participation of citizens in the decision-making processes.

Presentation title: **Sustainable water management in the City of Koprivnica**

Executive Summary of your Abstract:

City of Koprivnica has based its development on sustainability, ensuring maximum quality of life for its citizens and businesses in accordance with their explicit needs and priorities. The concern of citizens and businesses regarding waste water treatment was also fully considered in the construction of state-of art waste-water treatment plant. The political will of full inclusion of citizens into decision-making through Local Agenda 21 and other participatory processes has currently led to the recent decision of storm- water management in the following years.

Abstract:

The aim of this presentation is to highlight the positive experience of the city of Koprivnica in providing all citizens with access to water, replying to their essential need, given a high priority in the Local agenda 21 development plan. Relying heavily on local funds, obtained through local taxes, the City administration has recognized the need to include citizens and businesses in the decision-making processes so that the city budget is spent in accordance with publicly recognized priorities.

In a predominantly agricultural area, the constant supply of clean water and the efficient waste-water system were perceived as a development priority. With 100% of industry and 95% of households connected to water mains and waste-water system, the city is currently developing a storm- water management system. The environmental awareness campaign led in the scope of Local Agenda 21 and activities of civil society organizations have resulted in high concern of the citizens not only for immediate water supply, but also for the preservation of rich water reserves and the unique biodiversity of the nearby Drava river.

Resumé: Graduate of the Faculty of Humanities of Zagreb University, I worked as a foreign language teacher before founding an English language school in 1991. As a long-time civil society campaigner, I was appointed to the Executive board of City Council in 2001 and charged with the responsibility of chairing the City's Environmental Forum which produced Local Agenda 21 in 2008. Currently a City Councillor in the second four-year term, I work on several sustainable development projects, especially INTENSE – From Baltic to Croatia: Energy Efficiency in New Housing as well as ACTIVE ACCESS, a sustainable mobility project in the scope of IEE programme.

Further information on :www.koprivnica.hr