

## ENGLISH ABSTRACTS OF KEY ARTICLES

This issue of UPSD is mainly devoted to the disastrous deluges in the Czech Republic earlier this year. We have tried to react as soon as the periodicity of this magazine made it possible, focusing on the revitalization and renewal programmes in affected territories rather than the damages, widely commented elsewhere. Also, precautionary measures and ways of flood protection are discussed from the viewpoints of physical planning and spatial development.

Two of the opening articles give our readers information of the Ministry of Regional Development's Planning Department, on a physical planning documentation update programme in afflicted areas, concentrating on flood protection and possible transfers of state-owned land to Municipalities or private entities.

### **Protection and Development of Deluged Towns, by Miloslav Konvička**

Rather ironically, a book called *The Town and the Flood: Strategy and Development Thereafter* was published this year. The team of writers was led by Miloslav Konvička, an urban planner of the Brno Technical University. Based on a grant project supervised by Mr Konvička, the publication describes the after-deluge strategies of the model locations of Olomouc, Přerov, Kroměříž, Uherské Hradiště, and Hodonín. Our article brings a digest and adds the latest knowledge of this year's floods. Though the above grant project has been mentioned in earlier issues of UPSD (1/2000, 6/2000, 2/2001), in order to clearly organize the facts we dare repeat some of the previously published statements.

### **The Deluge Protection Concept of the City of Olomouc, by Jana Zimová & Miloslav Dvořák**

Like many other Moravian towns and cities, Olomouc was struck by a flood in July 1997. One third of the city's area was deluged, urging thus a crucial reconsideration of the city's protection system. It was clear that the protection of the city's urbanized areas had to be based on controlled spatial development and efficient constructional and environmental measures. As the draft of the Master Plan of the Olomouc area was being discussed before the disastrous floods of 1997, the comments could flexibly react to the new situation. However, some urbanized areas are still not sufficiently protected from water, not even under the conditions of the Master Plan, approved to in 1998.

## OPINIONS & DISCUSSIONS

### **České Budějovice After the Flood, an Interview with the Deputy Mayor**

The city of České Budějovice was heavily hit by the August flood. Except for the embankments of the Vltava and Malše rivers, however, virtually no damages can be seen anymore. UPSD has asked the Deputy Mayor, Mr Vladimír Kostka, to present his immediate experience of the renewal of the city, its buildings, infrastructure, and transportation.

### **Deluges and Physical Planning, by Šárka Štenclová & Karel Vepřek**

An important element of the EU physical planning policy, this article describes the role of physical planning in the efforts to minimize periodical deluges. The relation between the urbanization process and deluges is analysed through two case studies of specific locations. Despite the diversity of the mentioned tools of protection, some general conclusions are outlined. In any case, urban planners and hydrologists have to see to sophisticated, accessible, and precisely followed hydrological documents in physical planning proceedings.

### **Compensatory Houses for the Inhabitants of Blatná, by Václav Štěpán**

The article describes an example of making new housing in return for that destroyed by flood. Suitable location was promptly found, the Master Plan was amended, the location plan was designed, and a supplier of apposite houses was chosen in a tender. The example of Blatná shows efficient co-operation among administration authorities, physical planners, and private businesses.

### **Deluges: How to Reduce Consequences, an Interview with Jiří Löw**

One of our editors, deputy of the South Moravian Region, and a councillor of Brno, Jiří Löw was questioned in the 3/2001 issue of this magazine, talking about various urban planning problems of the city of Brno. Interviewed again, Mr Löw is now answering questions related to the devastating floods in our country and to possible remedies of the detriments man has done to Nature. As an esteemed expert in this field, his opinions can be extensively interesting for any urban planner.