

InterLoc is a project based on municipal partnerships within the EU. The aim of the project has been to gather knowledge and making it accessible in order to facilitate cross border cooperation between local authorities.

"We use international cooperation as an everyday tool for developing our municipalities"

THEME: InterLoc Project Final Meeting

After three years of project implementation, the InterLoc project had its Final Project Meeting in Kwidzyn, Poland 6 – 7 May 2014. There was focus on preparing for the project closure 30 June 2014 and looking ahead for further international cooperation potentials.

The agenda included

Day 1

- Welcome by the host partner
- Sum-up presentation and discussions on project outputs / by Lead-Beneficiary
- Discussions on sustainability of project results
- Message from JTS and a preview on the coming South Baltic Programme 2014-2020
- Final Meeting Dinner at the Miłosna Recreational Area

Day 2

- Presentation of development ideas / by each partner
- Discussions on project ideas and possibilities future cooperation.

All 7 partner municipalities were represented at the Final Meeting which also was attended by JTS representative and the project consultant Cumuli. In total 18 persons participated in the Final Meeting.

Project output sum-up

The LB presentation provided a glimpse through the project implementation history and listed the major project outputs from each of the components (CP).

All project planned outputs have been completed and all main indicators have been reached.

In CP 2 – Communication and Dissemination – the two most important outputs are the 8 dissemination workshops and the homepage. The 8 dissemination workshops have been attended by more than 270 participants (see more in newsletter 5).

At the homepage www.interloc.eu the project experiences and results are presented focusing on easy accessibility for local authorities and public institutions wishing to start international cooperation.

In CP 3 – Develop models for international cooperation – a number of study visits have been carried out, tools for international cooperation have been developed and international cooperation experiences have been thoroughly discussed among project partners.

The study tours have involved pilot departments from all partners and have developed networks among municipal professionals and spreading international cooperation into departments which earlier only have had limited international exposure and experience (see Newsletter 2).

One of the important tools that have been developed through the project is the online seminars bringing groups of municipal

professionals closer to each other and allowing professional technical discussions through the internet (see Newsletter 3).

In CP 4 – Validation – the project experiences and models are being used for preparing SWOT analyses for international cooperation and Action Plans for International Cooperation on department level and on municipal level for each of the 7 partners (see Newsletter 4).

The Action Plans will support and guide the international cooperation among the partner municipalities and assist the pilot departments in their continued involvement in international cooperation.

Project Results Sustainability

In each of the three components there are strong sustainable project outputs mainly (1) the homepage providing easy access to a broad range of international experiences, (2) the study tour exchanges and networks established, (3) the tools for international cooperation developed and displayed at the homepage and (4) the action plans providing legitimacy and guidelines for continued international cooperation.

Message from Joint Technical Secretariat, JTS

Jakub Fedorowicz provided an encouraging message from JTS that there had been

looked very positive on the project concept and the achievements: the elaboration of tools and methods of international cooperation in order to bring more local authorities into international cooperation. He also brought the idea to follow-up on the InterLoc project, for the further development of skills for internationalisation, focusing on Internet technologies and dissemination.

Sessions on future cooperation

During day 2 all partners provided a number of project ideas and themes for continued international cooperation and possibilities for a continuation of the InterLoc concepts.

A number of technical development topics were presented and discussed for their usability as joint international cooperation projects.

The closing discussions focused both on providing frameworks for further international cooperation among technical departments (in order to spreading the international cooperation out into the corners of the partner organisations), and further international initiatives for developing IT-methods and tools for international cooperation.



International cooperation game in South Baltic area at InterLoc partner meeting, Poland 2012

