

**COUNTRY** Poland  
**CASE STUDY CODE** Poland\_Good Practice\_O.10\_01

**MAIN INFORMATION**

**Title** 'Locals talking - panel discussions' during 'SPOT - Sustainable Spatial Planning of Tourism Destinations' under Erasmus+ Programme,

**Location** Lodz, Poland

**Responsible Authority** University of Lodz

**Link** <https://spot-erasmus.eu/2022/09/langhe-roero-and-monferrato-for-sustainable-tourism-locals-talking/>

**Keywords** Sustainable planning, tourism,



**IDENTIFICATION**

<b>Type</b>	Case (plan, program, project etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Stakeholders involved</b>	Public institutions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Method / Tool	<input type="checkbox"/>		Private sector	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>		Civil society organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Legal framework	<input type="checkbox"/>		Knowledge institutions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other <input type="text" value="Course"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Public or grassroots movements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Other	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Policy field</b>	Urban planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Timeline</b>	Start date	<input type="text"/>
	Mobility	<input type="checkbox"/>		End date	<input type="text"/>
	Tourism	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		On going	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Completed	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Spatial level</b>	National	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Limited	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Regional	<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeated overtime	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Local	<input type="checkbox"/>			



## CONTENT AND RESULTS

### **Purpose and context**

The aim of the 'Sustainable Spatial Planning of Tourism Destinations – SPOT' project was to develop an innovative teaching method of sustainable tourism spatial planning in a master programme and implement the method at five educational organisations involved in the project. The SPOT project was implemented by the consortium of educational and scientific institutions co-operating on a regular basis, representing various research, educational, cultural, and geographical contexts.

The overall structure includes individual panel discussions, followed by a general evaluation meeting where students present their studies, receiving feedback, comments, and questions from all local stakeholders. This approach aims to stimulate action and provide a comprehensive understanding of the planning process or problem within the case study area.

### **Problems and challenges**

Notably, professionals and non-experts exhibit fundamental differences in their perspectives on physical surroundings, approaches to problems, information sources, and issue priorities, as validated by various researchers. To accommodate these differences, the workshop comprises two distinct panel discussions: the first involves representatives from governmental institutions, municipalities, and planning authorities, termed the 'expert panel discussion'. The second features members of the local community and is referred to as the 'non-expert panel discussion.'

### **Organizing, Supporting and Funding Entities**

The "Locals Talking" panel discussion serves as a tool to extract local knowledge from stakeholders, categorized into 'experts' (professionals with official roles in the process) and 'non-experts' (those affected or benefiting personally).

### **Process (including participant recruitment & selection) and Interaction/Participation (including methods/tools) used**

During the SPOT project the students were participating in "Locals Talking" panel discussion which was an integral component of an intensive weekly course focused on a specific planning process or problem within a designated case study area. This structured meeting format involves a group of individuals knowledgeable or interested in the topic discussing it in front of an audience, with a facilitator moderating the conversation. The primary objective is to provide students with insights from local stakeholders, gaining perspectives not covered in media, and fostering a deeper understanding of real-life challenges and opportunities in the case study area. Students, assigned to study a planning process or problem beforehand, conduct theoretical and analytical research.

### **Outcomes, Effects and Lessons Learned**

The study visits were the most interesting part of the SPOT project from students' perspective. Increase the knowledge and key competencies of students in the field of sustainable planning of tourism destinations was expected. Integrated and recognised learning skills and qualifications for and innovative educational method, coherent at EU level were developed.



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The results of the project become a part of the free on-line course “Sustainable Tourism in the Baltic Sea Region” under Baltic University Programme (BUP)<sup>1</sup>. One of the key missions BUP is the creation of courses from different academic disciplines with both theoretical and practical focuses.

### **Bibliography**

Sarikaya Levent, Y., & Levent, T. (2022). Understanding perspective of local stakeholders. ‘Locals talking’ panel discussions (Workshop scenario). In T. Napierała & I. Pielesiak (Eds.), *Sustainable spatial planning of tourism destinations: Manual for teachers* (63-71). Lodz: The SPOT project.

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<sup>1</sup> See: „Sustainable spatial planning of tourism destinations” - <https://catalog.studium.uu.se/browse/bup/courses/sustainable-tourism-in-the-baltic-sea-region> [Accessed on 1.03.2024]

