

### **The VI annual Lithuanian Urban Forum**

**Lithuanian Urban Forum was established in 2007. Forum mission:** To enhance the balanced and sustainable development of cities and towns as well as boroughs of Lithuania by means of improving the system of territorial planning, supporting coordination and public dialog on long term development priorities, and creating and promoting up to date standards of planning. **Forum goals:** To give a comprehensive look at the problems of urban modernization the renovation of urban structures, public places in accordance with the principles of sustainable development.

To discuss the following topics:

- How to keep Lithuanian cities, towns and villages, attractive and viable, to improve people's living conditions, to use natural, cultural and energy resources rationally and prudently;
- How to stop urban incoherence and the "ageing" of inner areas;
- What Lithuanian urban policy and spatial planning system should be, so that they ensure sustainable development, allowed to concentrate financial resources, to promote actions and efforts in the efficient modernization of residential areas and housing?

Forum organizers: Ministry of Environment of Republic of Lithuania; Vilnius Gediminas Technical University; the Association of Lithuanian Real Estate Development; the Architects Association of Lithuania; Lithuanian Builders Association; Kaunas University of Technology; Klaipėda University.

**TOPICS OF THE VI URBAN FORUM:** The core theme of the Forum was “Modern cities and towns: present situation, development tendencies, vision”. Other topics where discussed:

- \* *Urban policy trends and shrinking towns, ageing population demography impacts;*
- \* *Economical use and consumption of natural resources and energy; renovation of urban areas, public spaces; conversion of industrial territories, urban infrastructure modernisation;*
- \* *Financial economic measures and mechanisms for dealing with priority urban tasks; impacts to urban development*
- \* *Improvement of the legal base of territorial planning.*

Nearly 300 participants – representatives of governmental institutions, municipalities, universities; planning and design companies, researches as well as students, public, interested in town planning participated in Forum. Paulius KULIKAUSKAS, Inter-Regional Advisor of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme presented UN policy/ approach trends on sustainable urban development. Marius Narmontas– Director of Territorial Planning, Urban Development and Architecture Department, Ministry of Environment presented EU policy on urban development, new challenge on 2050 do not use any sq meter for construction. Architects Dalia Bardauskiene and Mindaugas Pakalnis put attention on the existing urban trends, demographich situation and sustainable development vision in Lithuania.



























