# BESTSDI – Regional ERASMUS + Project for Improvement of Academic Education in Spatial Data Infrastructure

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Abstract

Efficient usage of spatial information is nowadays an indicator of a society's development level. Knowledge and skills tied to usage of spatial information incorporated in the spatial data infrastructure (SDI) concept are a new paradigm of geodetic, but also other professions associated with spatial information. The Western Balkans Academic Education Evolution and Professionals' Sustainable Training for Spatial Data Infrastructures (BESTSDI) project was launched within the Erasmus+ programme (Key Action 2: Capacity building in higher education) to modernize, standardize and raise the level of SDI academic education at universities in South-East Europe.

The objective of the BESTSDI project is to improve curricula at partner universities by introducing concepts of spatial data infrastructures (SDI) and e-government, as well as extended concepts like smart cities, smart environment, digital single market, etc. based on SDI. Project courses are going to address two types of students, namely students specializing in fundamental geospatial data management (for instance in geodesy, geoinformatics, etc.) and students at other faculties utilizing SDI concepts, for instance urban planners, environmental engineers and students in forestry, geography or agriculture.

The Faculty of Geodesy of the University of Zagreb applied for the project with partners Catholic University Leuven (B), University of Split (HR), Ss. Cyril and Methodius University Skopje (MK), Bochum University of Applied Sciences (D), Polytechnic University of Tirana (AL),  Agricultural University of Tirana (AL), University of Banja Luka (BiH), University of Mostar (BiH), University of Sarajevo (BiH), University of Tuzla (BiH), University for Business and Technology Prishtina (XK), University of Montenegro (MN), University of Belgrade (RS), University of Novi Sad (RS) and University of Prizren „Ukshin Hoti" (XK), as well as associated partners Federal Administration for Geodetic and Real Property Affairs of FBIH (BiH), Republic Administration for Geodetic and Real Property Affairs of RS (BiH) and Real Estate Cadastre Agency of Republic of Macedonia (MK).

Keywords: BESTSDI, spatial data infrastructure, academic education, Southeast Europe