YOUNG PLANNING PROFESSIONALS WORKSHOP
Moscow 2016
As ISOCARP and the Moscow Urban Forum have recently made an agreement which entails a Young Planning Professionals (YPPs) National Workshop, intended for Russian and international young planners and being a part of Moscow Urban Forum activities, we were lucky to have the opportunity of participating in that workshop which was held between 26th June and 2nd July 2016.

PARTICIPATING INTERNATIONAL YOUNG PLANNING PROFESSIONALS:

1. Elia Hernando
2. Evandro Holz – Brasil
3. Mihaela Brankova – Bulgaria
4. Mostafa AlBeltagy – Egypt
5. Sebastian Clausen - Germany

OBJECTIVES AND THEME OF THE WORKSHOP:

The workshop was aimed at providing young Russian and international planners responsible for, or participating in, the shaping and development of settlements, with the principles and practices of effective contemporary urbanism and practical knowledge that will be of immediate use to each participant. The objective of the workshop was to provide the participants with hands-on practical experiences.

The young professionals worked in a studio setting (Digital October), located within the Red October district in Moscow, under the guidance of the ISOCARP YPP Vice-President Piotr Lorens, alongside with Prof. Dorota Kamrowska-Zaluska (Technical University of Gdansk), Prof. Dushko Bogunovich (Institute of Technology Auckland), and Gleb Vitkov (Higher School of Economics Moscow).

The workshop entailed the elaboration of proposals for a comprehensive (strategic) urban redevelopment exercise within a Russian cities’ context undergoing complex growth and transformation processes during recent years. The project site was chosen jointly by ISOCARP and MUF, defined as the southern port area (Yuzhny Port), located northwest of Pechatniki district.
Day one – Arrival:

Sunday, 26th June 2016

Upon arrival to hotel Bagration, a meeting was held at 4:00 pm in the conference room to welcome all the participants and brief them on the objectives of the workshop and the workshop daily program and tasks.

A guided site visit was organized in the same day to allow the group to better identify the site potentials and constrains, and the surrounding land uses.

Site visit
Day two, three, and four – Workshop:

Monday, 27th June – Wednesday, 29th June 2016

Participants were divided into 3 groups, each one working in its own planning solutions for the area to be redeveloped. Each group contained at least 1 non-Russian member, and 4 or 5 Russian members, also split according to their professional background. This arrangement ensured diversity of ideas, and the opportunity to simulate a work environment in English.

In addition to the information provided by the ISOCARP team, the workshop included the presentation by municipality officials and the Russian Urban Planning Association of the Moscow government future plan for the redevelopment of the Moscow river banks, and particularly to the southern port area. Moreover, the president of the Pechatniki district association provided several detailed information regarding the local residents, as well as project processes within the municipality.

Workshop sessions would start at 9.00 am and finalized at around 11.00 pm. Work progress was monitored by the ISOCARP team and daily presentations were held for open commenting from the groups. Presentations were finally completed on time before the beginning of Moscow Urban Forum.

The resulting three planning options conducted by the YPP groups for the Yuzhny port industrial area were themed as follows:
The workshop was very productive and allowed a very fruitful exchange of planning cultures and ideas. A lot of effort, hard work, long discussions, and tutors’ comments and advices each day from the early morning until late evening yielded three planning solutions developed for the purposes of the Moscow Urban Forum that can also be applicable in future plans.

Day five – Moscow Urban Forum:

Thursday, 30th June 2016

The final task of the workshop was to present the outcomes of the group work AT the Moscow Urban Forum. Piotr Lorens, Dorota Kamrowska-Zaluska, Dushko Bogunovich, and Gleb Vitkov presented the main idea of replanning the Pechatniki area, and the members of each YPP group presented their planning solutions in a round table session, in the presence of the audience and Moscow Government representatives. The presentation was deemed successful and was applauded by everyone, also giving an opportunity for participants to develop their presentation skills.
After a successful presentation, the whole group was invited to a reception party in a venue (Garage) at Gorki park, organized by Moscow Urban Forum.

**Day six – Moscow Urban Forum, Walking tour in Moscow:**

**Friday, 1st July 2016**

The participants attended the presentations and events of Moscow Urban Forum of their interest till 5:00 pm, when part of the group gathered for a walking tour around Moscow city center organized by one of the participants – Dmitry Surkov. The day came to an end with a late dinner in one of the most famous burger restaurants in town.

The YPP program in Moscow 2016 was such a great opportunity for all participants, where new experience, knowledge and networking was gained and will be for sure useful in everyone’s careers and upcoming planning projects.

Thanks ISOCARP.