

Transferring the Programme of Continuous Professional Development for Landscape Architects in the Baltic Sea region



WE ARE CHANGING TO MAKE THE CHANGE AROUND US

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New opportunities for Landscape Architects in the Baltics



CPD-LA team during the meeting in Lübeck, Germany (April 2014)

CPD-LA—a short for Transferring the Programme of Continuous Professional Development for Landscape Architects in the Baltic Sea—is an EU funded initiative which aims to develop a training programme for landscape architects in Lithuania and Latvia using the experience and knowledge of German Landscape Architects Association (BDLA).

CPD-LA project

CPD-LA project started in October, 2013, and has a duration of 2 years. University's department of Urban design (Lithuania) and three associations of landscape architects (Lithuania, Latvia, Germany) will work together sharing good practices and experience in vocational education and

In April, 2014, all partners met for the second time to discuss the progress, share outcomes of training need analysis and define the training plan. Discussions were focused on how to assure the training programme is actual, not over-academical, and based on different learning methods. Partners were extremely lucky to have Ute Fischer Gäde (landscape architect and teacher at Rostock university, chairman of BDLA education committee) and Bettina Oppermann (member of Leibniz University of Hanover, former speaker of the Conference of Universities for Landscape Architectures (HKL) in Germany), and Christoph Gondesén (former Chairman of Education committee at BDLA) on board.

training (VET). Their common goal is establish a training programme supported with tools and materials for continuous professional development.

In spring of 2015 Lithuanian and Latvian associations will offer a series of trainings for landscape architects to test both the learning mate-

Representatives of BDLA shared their experience in educational initiatives in Germany. For example, Germany is working more with recognized experts presenting their knowledge and technical experience on federal and state level. It was noted, that according to German standards of Wuppertaler Kreis, a good training programme includes personal contact and capacity to apply knowledge in your practical life. These also should be key criteria to follow in CPD-LA programme.

Following the meeting, Lithuanian and Latvian partners identified "hot topics" for the training programme and will offer to test them during seminars, workshops and study trips in spring of 2015.

rials and learning methods.

The impact of the project will lead to more competitive professional services of landscape architecture in Lithuania, Latvia and throughout the EU. CPD-LA project also provides partners with the opportunities to learn and grow through networking.

Special points of interest:

- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- EDUCATION
- EVENTS
- NETWORKING

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Meet project partners:



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Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (VGTU) is one of the largest universities in Lithuania, which strives for a leading position among Baltic states in technical and engineering education and research. Faculty of Architecture is the largest institution of HE in the field of Architecture in Lithuania. Urban Design is treated as a branch of architecture with the main research and design fields of urban structure, urban space and build up area. More at www.vgtu.lt

Lithuanian Association of Landscape Architects (LALA) promotes the creative works of its members, organises exhibitions, awards, conferences and non formal education of landscape architects. LALA aims at promoting professional architecture, fostering collaboration with similar organisations, supporting education and research within the field. More at www.lkas.lt

Latvian Association of Landscape Architects (LAAL) supports landscape architects in Latvia by representing their needs in political, scientific and business areas. More at www.laab.lv

Federation of German Landscape Architects (BDLA) is the professional association of landscape architects in Germany. It looks after the concerns of its members and represents their interests to the public, as well as to governmental bodies and institutions. Among a wide range of topics, BDLA works on legal issues and PR, it is a forum and network for landscape architects and offers vocational training for members. More at www.bdla.de

Coming soon:
www.cpd-la.eu

The CPD-LA project partners tackle the problem of a missing systematic, contemporary and continuous programme for professional development of the professionals in Landscape Architecture (LA) in Lithuania and Latvia. Besides fragmented higher education programmes in landscape architecture, no VET courses are offered for LA professionals neither in the Baltic States. Therefore practicing landscape architects are constantly facing a problem of continued professional development, especially those working in smaller municipalities. CPD-LA programme along with adequate education and professional experience will create the necessary environment for professional licensing in Landscape Architecture which is currently missing in Lithuania and Latvia. This type of licensing scheme is required by International Federation of Landscape Architecture (IFLA).

LA Conference in Oslo, October 2014



Panorama of Oslo

IFLA Europe Annual Congress and thematic conference this year will be hosted by Norwegian society of landscape architects (Norske landskapsarkitekters forening). The conference calls for landscape and democracy topics to be discussed on 17-18 October, 2014, in Oslo, Norway. The confirmed agenda promises ways of materializing democracy in public streets and open spaces, sharing good practices from Norway, England and Russia.

CPD-LA partners plan to present the project and current results during the conference. Partners were running a survey to define training needs of landscape architects in Lithuania and Latvia. The survey indicated the fields of interest to keep up with market demands for professional competencies. Legal aspects and ICT skills had surprisingly high interest among landscape architects and their managers. CPD-LA will address the needs in its training programme.



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