

# Summary

**at the conclusion of the Summer School 2011  
“Sustainable Municipal Development in the South Caucasus  
– from Theory to Praxis” on 16 September**

16th September, 2011  
Tbilisi, Georgia

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The first Summer School 2011 for South Caucasus has gathered more than 40 academics and practitioners from 4 countries and five universities..

We therefore had always to take care of a balanced theoretically, practically and also geographically oriented presentations and discussions.

It seems that this approach was quite successful despite some possibilities of further improvement.

This success was only possible because all participants had contributed to the summer school in an atmosphere and style of free speeches, discussions and critics.

**Mister Akif Kerimov , Azerbaijan at the  
summer school:**

**We work for the people !!!!**

## Life is local

Municipalities are the heart of our countries and our communities.

Democracy starts on local and municipal level!

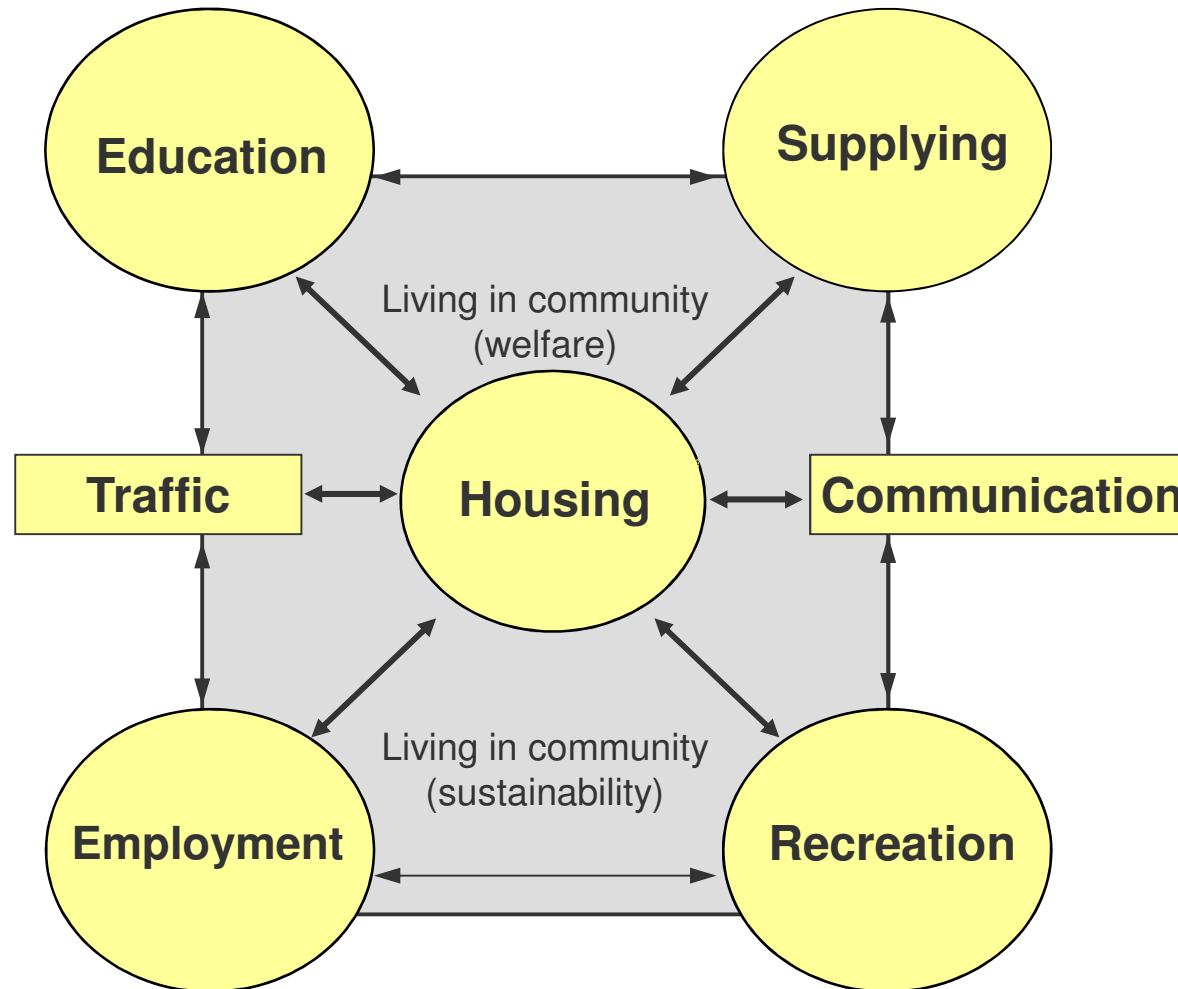
We are committed to our countries and municipalities!

## **Lessons learnt from workshop of all 3 south Caucasus countries**

There are a lot of similar political, legal, institutional, physical and even psychical challenges and there is everywhere the strong will to aim at a better future and improved sustainable development to fulfill the 7 basic functions of human life.

# Sustainable municipalities must fulfill the famous

## 7 Basic functions of human existence



## 10 conclusions of the summer school

### 1. It's all about balancing urban and rural development!

Don't forget: rural areas are not only an economic aspect. They are also part of national identity, culture and history! Remember: "If the rural areas don't breathe anymore the cities and agglomerations will suffocate". Avoid too large agglomerations!"

Each country needs a hierarchical spatial planning system and rural and urban development programmes.

## **10 conclusions of the summer school**

- 2. It's all about strengthening the local level and local power according to the principle of subsidiarity!**

How are the municipality staffs trained, how the mayors? What is the role of associations of local authorities in this field? How works a fair distribution of tax income and revenues? How self-pertaining are municipal budgets? How can local economy be improved?

## 10 conclusions of the summer school

### 3. It's all about aiming at good local and regional governance!

Is European Charter for local self-governance already fully implemented? Is the idea of self governance already in the mind of both the officials and the citizens?

## 10 conclusions of the summer school

### 4. It's all about comprehensive strategies and planning!

How can we raise interest in systematic guiding strategies and comprehensive “urban” planning instead of spontaneous planning and decisions? Whats about the role and contributions of South Caucasus universities in terms of education and research in order to find endogenous solutions? Whats about the role of universities in the field of vocational training and capacity building?

## 10 conclusions of the summer school

### 5. It's all about participation!

How can we motivate people to participate, which methods and procedures should be implemented, which capacity building and training should be provided? Which laws have to be amended?

## 10 conclusions of the summer school

### 6. It's all about sustainable land (use) management!

Do municipalities really take care of sustainable and future orientated use of land? Think about the two pillars of land policy: Allocation and Distribution. Think about the global truth: the right owner/user on the right place in the right time in the right way!

It is your home and your landscape which will be positively or negatively changed!

## 10 conclusions of the summer school

### 7. It's all about the implementation of the 3 R's: Rights, Restrictions, Responsibilities

How can broad information , better awareness and capacity building improve citizen's and business sectors commitment for a sustainable development?

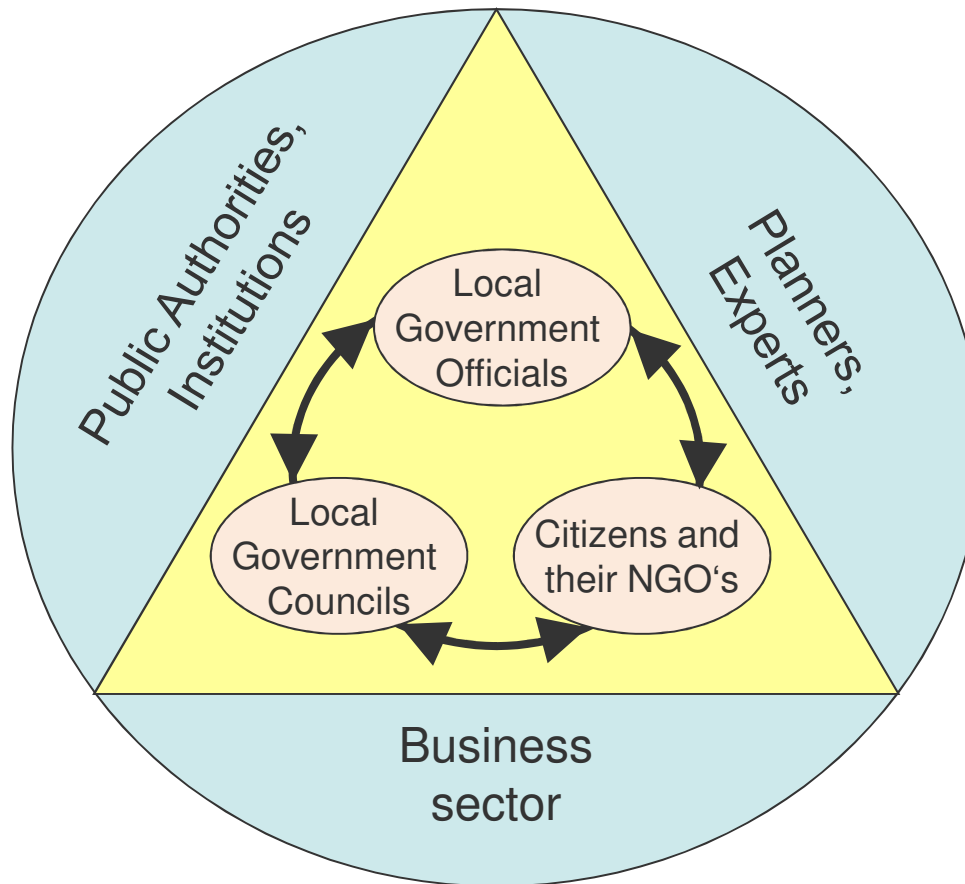
## 10 conclusions of the summer school

8. It's all about building up a civil society and so called "Citizens Municipalities" (Bürgerkommune)!

How can we achieve that citizens take more ownership in local affairs? Whats about building up a community with shared responsibility (Verantwortungsgemeinschaft)?

# Sustainable „inclusive City/municipality“

## “Nachhaltige Bürgerkommune”



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TUM,

Prof. Magel Keynote Summer School Tbilisi 12. September 2011, Institute of Geodesy, GIS and Land Management

Prof. Holger Magel

Summary Summer School Tbilisi

16. September 2011

## **10 conclusions of the summer school**

### **9. It's all about regionalization/decentralization and inter-communal perspectives and cooperation!**

Especially rural municipalities can't survive without inter-communal cooperation. We should also consider much more urban-rural-cooperation. But even cities have to build up city-networks according to the idea of polycentric structure and development.

## **10 conclusions of the summer school**

### **10. It's all about Land (FIG Slogan) because Land is Life!**

Without secure land tenure, valuation ,land administration and land register incl. cadastre no country can start with successful investments and sound land markets.

Finally a general comment to an item which is also very often discussed in German politics and business:  
**Is really all about speed???**

Please believe me: It's not speedy decision which decides about life quality. It's a profound and carefully developed participatory planning and transparent decision process that decides about sustainability. We have got too many examples of short term planning and decision making processes which have finally destroyed environment and where politicians today say: Yes we know, we are sorry, it was a political mistake!

Therefore: Mistrust the time pressure of investors and investments. Please avoid too many national, regional and local political mistakes due to a wrong understanding of supposed time pressure !

## Many thanks to all

Special thanks and compliments go to

- TSU with Rector Kvitashvili ,Prof. Salukvadze and Claudia Hipp
- GIZ with Director Homola, Dr. Nuding ,Philip Eichler and the whole team in South Caucasus
- Dr. Michael Klaus and Mayor Josef Steigenberger
- our excellent interpreters
- and to all delegates from Azerbaijan,Armenia and Georgia for their interest and engaged contributions to this **very successful summer school 2011!**

As Coorganiser and Director of TUM Institute I am very happy having been part of and having been enriched by this even historic first cross bordering South Caucasus Summer School 2011.

Will there be a Summer Scholl 2012?