

TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING: A LONG AND LONELY JOURNEY?

THE SPADE METHOD HELPS SPEEDING UP THE PLANNING PROCESS AND MAKES IT MORE COLLABORATIVE.

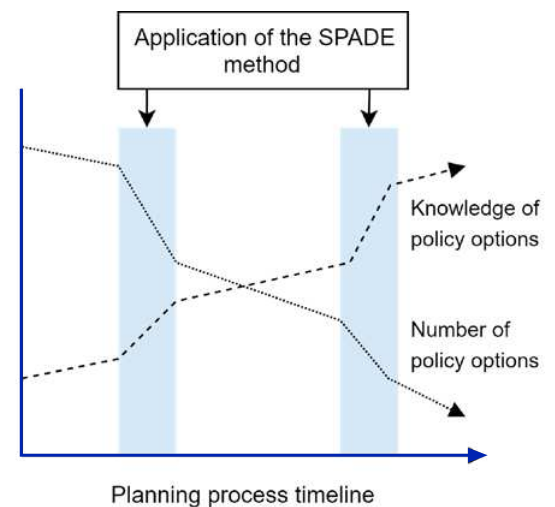
The planning of transport systems is complex, time-consuming and requires integrating both infrastructure and spatial development. The Conference of European Directors for Roads (CEDR) acknowledges the issue with the central question 'How to achieve integrated project development of infrastructure and its spatial surroundings?' The SPADE project (Assessing the added value from SPAtial DEvelopment as a factor in infrastructure planning), together with its sister projects SPINtrends and SPINdesign, provides a common framework for collaborative planning of multi-modal infrastructure and spatial development. SPADE provides a quick and easy-to-use assessment method and tool, supporting the collaboration of all involved actors.

Challenge: A well-functioning and sustainable transport system is essential for a good functioning of society, economy and environment. In the planning process for transport infrastructure and spatial development, different stakeholders (e.g. road authorities, planners, interest groups) at different spatial levels feel an on-going pressure to collaborate and to tune their planning with others. Support is required in the process of collaborative planning.

Solution: The SPADE method supports the collaborative planning process. It consists of a process and a tool. The process describes the steps needed to perform the collaborative assessment, involving stakeholders from different backgrounds, with different 'wish lists' and different planning procedures. The method can be repeated as often as necessary, to improve the assessment results and narrow the list of measures or alternatives to the most favourable ones.

The tool is a combination of different discussion formats (digital workshop or e-participation) and an assessment tool. The assessment tool combines a multi-criteria analysis (MCA) and a cost-benefit analysis (CBA). The SPADE method was successfully tested in three case studies in Austria, the Netherlands and Norway.

Method application and benefits: The SPADE method is a supplement to conventional planning procedures. It fosters a collaboration between different stakeholders at all stages of the planning process. SPADE eases the exchange of information and supports the collaborative assessment of mobility measures and policy packages beyond the classical CBA, by including qualitative aspects or criteria. All in all, the method helps simplifying and accelerating transport infrastructure and spatial planning, specifically in complex surroundings such as urban areas or corridors.



► For more information, visit www.spade-project.eu or contact the SPADE project coordinator Jan Kiel at j.kiel@panteia.nl. 



This project has received funding from the CEDR Transnational Road Research Programme

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