

Surveyors - the Resurgence of Spatial Planning and Decision Making in Una - Sana Canton

Muris Mureškić (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Key words: Geoinformation/GI; Informal settlements; Land management; Legislation; Spatial planning; Young surveyor; Keyword 1; Keyword 2; Keyword 3

SUMMARY

Bosnia and Herzegovina, the industrial engine of former Yugoslavia has been rich with coal, hydroelectric potential and crude petroleum. The northwest area, Una-Sana Canton, defined as the borderland where many battles were fought, regardless of who participated in them, has missed the chance for significant development in the past. Due to its unfavorable terrain, this region was very difficult to conquer for the Romans, Ottomans, Austro-Hungarians, Axis powers and others in the 1992-95 war. Even in Tito's communism, the famous "Cazin Revolt" arose because of the unfair and forced way of purchasing agricultural products. The population that rebelled was quickly defeated by the Yugoslav Army and as a punishment there were no investments in this region furthermore. The current political situation in Bosnia with diverse nationalities and the Dayton Agreement is a perfect excuse for the lack of investment and progress of the peripheral parts of the country. Regardless of the proximity to Europe, all those battles have left their mark. The surveyors of Una - Sana Canton are taking actions to catch the last train towards The European Union. Construction sites and the demand for new houses and buildings has increased drastically with the development of tourism. The decision to stop informal constructions, while implementing regulations and legal procedures, protecting the natural resources and limiting political impact, heavily depends on spatial planning. The ultimate goal is to control the development. Adoption of the Spatial plan of Una - Sana Canton in 2024 has been a milestone. It changed the perspective and the mindsets of all parties included, setting us on a faster pace for achieving sustainable development and environmental protection. The Spatial plan was the first step as the surveyors continue to work on improvements. Gathering high value data, implementing new regulations, spatial analyses, exposure of data, data transparency and affordable housing are underdeveloped in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the surveyors of Una – Sana Canton are aiming to lead the way.

Surveyors - the Resurgence of Spatial Planning and Decision Making in Una - Sana Canton (13838)
Muris Mureškić (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

FIG Congress 2026
The Future We Want - The SDGs and Beyond
Cape Town, South Africa, 24–29 May 2026