I’ve found very interesting the paper, and I’ve seen some similarities with the model in Spain, and more precisely in Catalonia, due to we have regional laws regarding urban planning. Moreover Catalonia is a smaller territory than Spain, so it’s easier to resemble Slovenia.

From the paper read I take the point that the participation approaches in master plans are much more informative and with aim of being legitimated, than a real process of collaborative decision making. As I said it’s very similar to the Catalan practice, therefore I have some questions about Slovenia that regard to some gaps also in Catalonia. The law forces to expose publicly the documents in order people can give their opinions, but how are the comments, proposals or disagreements integrated in the plans? Which professional profiles are involved in the process of spatial planning development? The paper explains that the Spatial Plan must be presented to the ministry of environment and spatial planning, in order to have their approval (it’s the same here) but I wonder which documents must be developed besides the spatial plan and the environmental study (in Catalonia it’s compulsory to present a participatory process in the first draft. The second step, must integrate, besides the spatial plan and the environmental impact study, the proposals of the participatory process, and has to be developed a social report as well as a mobility report).

On the other hand, I’ve found very interesting the research you made about the usability of the websites of the municipalities. From my experience, again, it reminded me the situation in Catalonia, except for bigger municipalities is difficult to find the information regarding the spatial plans, and is not sure that it would be updated. I was pleasantly surprised about the fact that the documents must be developed with GIS systems. That is something that we are starting to implement, but is not mainstream yet. I found it very useful that it’s easily updated. The question is if the municipalities with recent spatial plans are able, have somebody in charge, to update the planning information?

You expose that, generally, to find information about spatial plan of a municipality you highlight that people have to do an active research. It rejects the opportunity to involve people that isn’t interested a priori, but that have a lot to contribute. Usually, only people affected by the spatial plan are the ones actively involved, standing for their personal interests. How should be these other people involved? They are the ones that can assure the general interest of a spatial plan. Have you asked people that have never been involved in spatial planning process if they now the mechanisms of spatial planning process, and the aim of the plans themselves? How this people interest should be caught?

In my opinion the participatory processes shouldn’t be only related to a specific plan or action, but integrated in the common education. So as when a process is started citizens are prepared to participate and influence consequently. From my experience, the active citizen participation has a lot to do with experience. People involved in a first process, have a lot more to say if they have a second opportunity, becoming little by little influencers in urban decision making.
As I explained, the law doesn’t oblige to municipalities to develop GIS systems for the spatial plan information. However, higher level institutions are working on gathering the data in order to give the opportunity to people and municipalities to works easily with urban documents. Some examples in Catalonia are:

**Metropolitan Area of Barcelona**


**Catalonia regional government**


*Open data downloads (cad, xls)*


*Documental Repository of pdf planning documents*