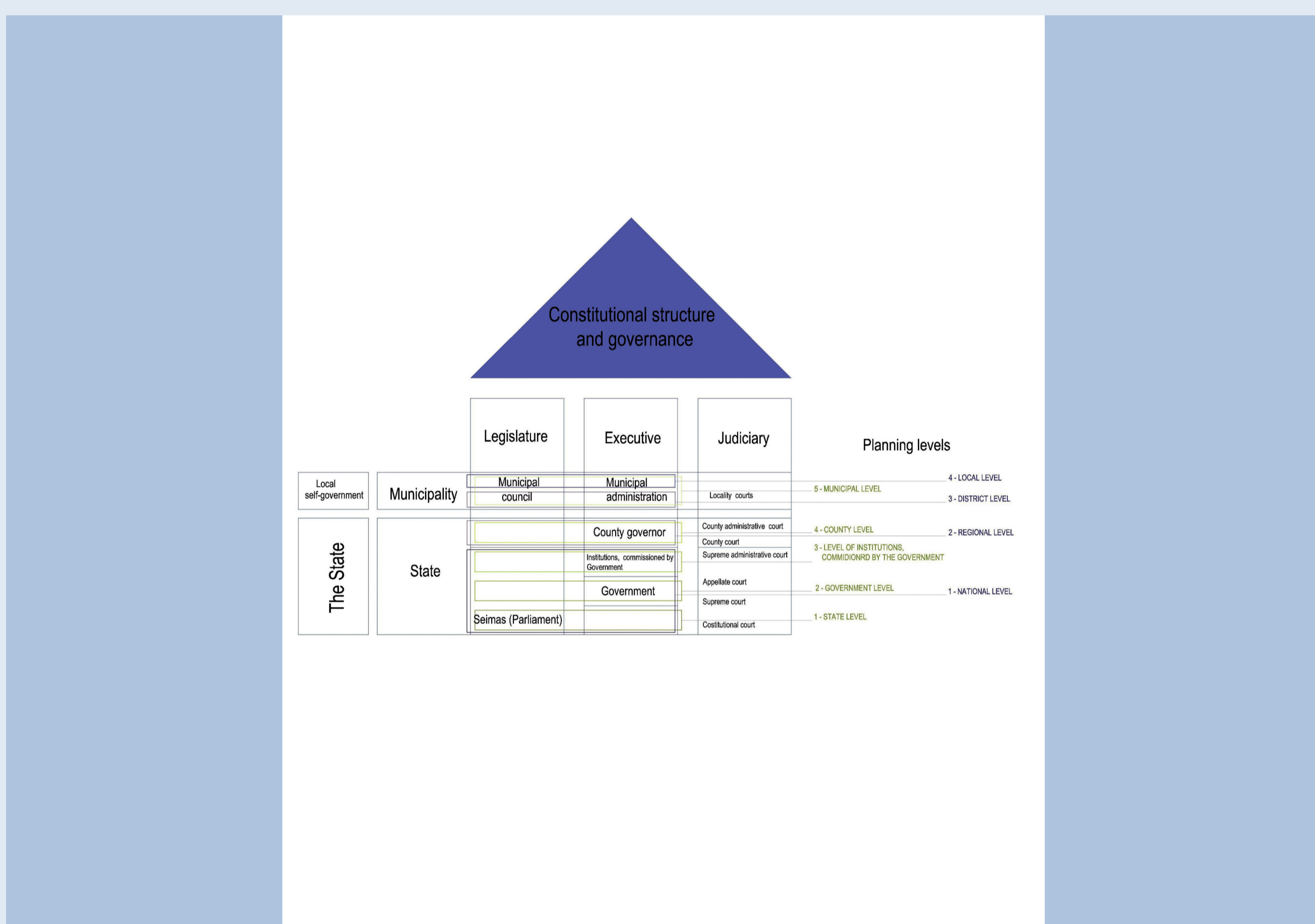


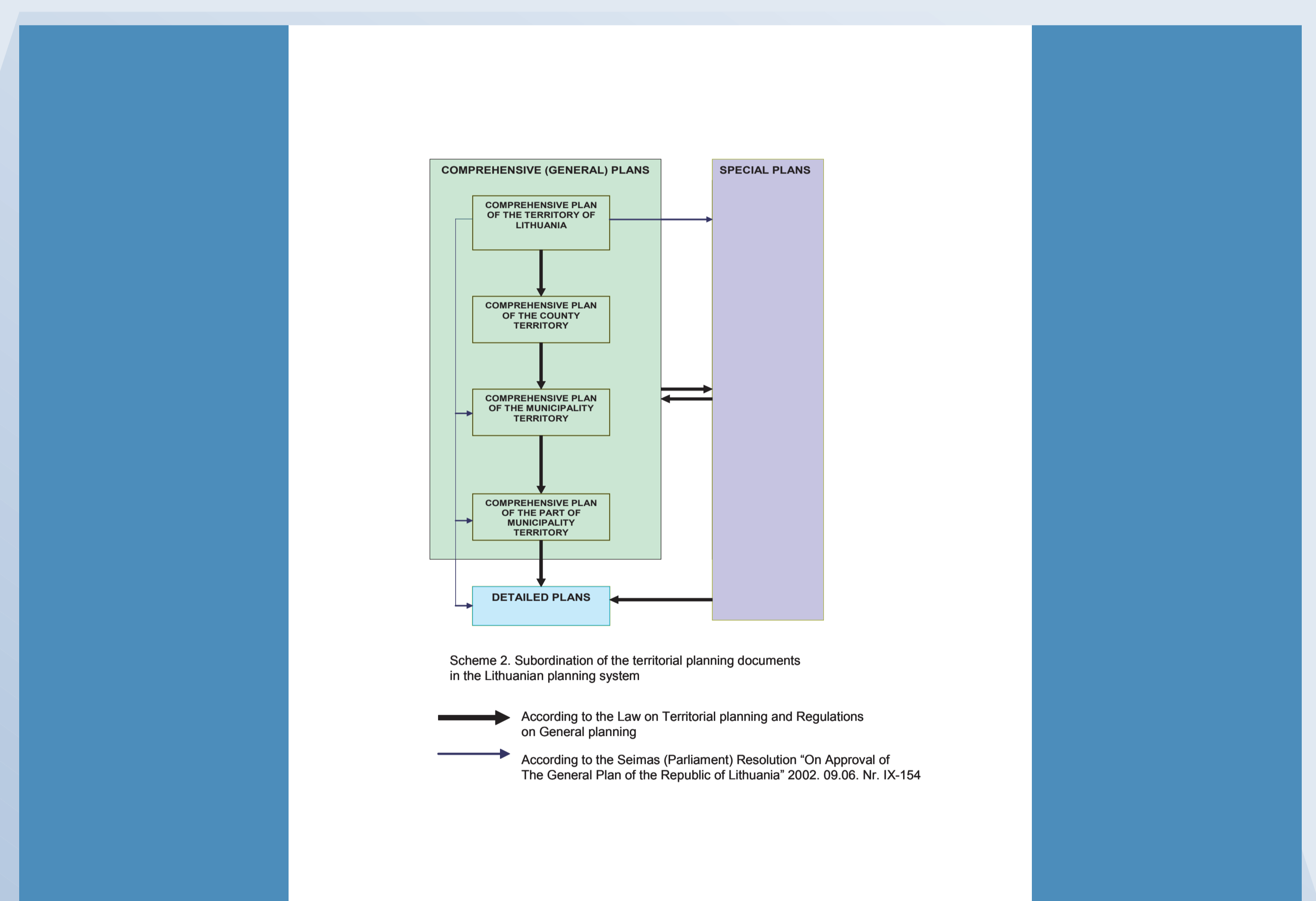


LITHUANIA

PLANNING SYSTEM



Scheme 1. Planning levels in the Lithuanian planning system



Scheme 2. Subordination of the territorial planning documents in the Lithuanian planning system

According to the Law on Territorial planning and Regulations on General planning
 According to the Seimas (Parliament) Resolution "On Approval of The General Plan of the Republic of Lithuania" 2002, 09.06. Nr. IX-154

FEATURES of territorial planning in the legal system

- ✦ The Law on Territorial Planning forms the legal basis of territorial (spatial) planning. The related Law on Regional Development and The Strategic Planning Methodology exist parallel to it.
- ✦ The post legal acts (regulations for preparation of different plans) play a very important role in planning regulation.
- ✦ The will to manage the evolution of the country according to the principle of sustainable development, dividing general (comprehensive) and special (sectorial) planning, hierarchical organisation of planning documents, "vertical" and "horizontal" coordination of the plans, publicity of planning procedure are the principles intended to embody them in to the Law on Territorial Planning.
- ✦ The detailed planning is treated as the separate planning type (neither comprehensive nor special planning). The role of private developers is very important in the detailed planning: local authorities (in the manner prescribed by the Government) can transfer the rights and duties of the organizer of detailed planning to the land owner or user.
- ✦ The hierarchy of Territorial Planning in Lithuania is, in comparison with other European countries, rather a complex one (scheme 1). The Law on Territorial Planning divides planning into the corresponding levels according to two principles of classification:
 - ✦ firstly, according to what entity approves territorial planning documents;
 - ✦ secondly, according to the size of the territory under planning as well as the level of explication of the plan.
- ✦ The comprehensive plan of the territory of Lithuania, the comprehensive plans of the territory of counties, the comprehensive plans of the territory of municipalities are the most important documents of general territorial (spatial) planning (scheme 2.).

Specific "TECHNICAL" PECULIARITIES of the legal system

- The legal system is yet relatively "shadowy". For example:
- ✦ The jurisdiction of
 - ✦ territorial planning,
 - ✦ regional development planning and
 - ✦ strategic planning
 - ✦ is defined and explained not clear enough.
 - ✦ The dividing of territorial planning in to the levels is dual and complicated in practical use (scheme 2.)
 - ✦ The aims of planning in different levels are not specified
 - ✦ The relations between comprehensive (general) and special (sectoral) planning are described contradictory (scheme 2.)
 - ✦ Some categories used in the laws are not described, some categories are (in different acts) described differently, etc.

SPECIFICS OF PLANNING PRAXIS

- ✦ Planning hierarchy practically is yet not full and not gradually developed.
- ✦ Practically most developed is the detailed planning.
- ✦ Only few municipal master planes were prepared during the last 15 years.
- ✦ The regional planning practically has not existed until now. It has started only last year.