

# Smart Governance for Smart Region: The Yaroslavl Region Case

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## 1 ABSTRACT

As the main values of public administration could be distinguished several fundamental principles, for instance, the rule of law, expression the will of the people in terms of politics, efficiency and obtaining a preferable result of socio-economic outcome articulated as possible, in quantifiable (measurable) form. It refers to the concept of smart management or smart governing, in this case the more solutions, methods and tools are corresponding with the values the "smarter" they are. Idea of "Smart city" or "Smart region" in Russia is often associated with high quality of life, livability on par with favorable investment climate.

This paper focused on the role of public administration for creation "Smart region" and consider issues of spatial planning and management that as a tools for improving living conditions. How information about different aspects of territory can be taken into account and affect the decision making process? How existing instruments of spatial planning and development may contribute to livability and sustainability?

In this paper we follow two lines. Firstly, we try to analyze how to optimize the allocation of power and responsibility between state and municipal levels of power in Russia aimed to provide better management of the territory. Second, how to develop more flexible instruments of spatial development for some particular needs of the Yaroslavl Region.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

The Yaroslavl region is located in European part of Russia in Central Federal District and borders the Moscow region. Total area of the Yaroslavl region is 36,2 thousands of square kilometers and according to statistic data, about 1,271 thousands of people live there and 81 % of population concentrated in Yaroslavl, Rybinsk, Pereslavl-Zalessky and in 10 smaller towns. Territory of the region crossed by the Volga river with navigable waterways regulated by chain of reservoirs, included Uglichsky, Gorkovsky and Rybinsk reservoir, one of the biggest in Russia. By waterways the Yaroslavl region connected with Baltic Sea and White Sea to the North, Caspian Sea, Black Sea and sea of Azov to the South.

Federal highways Moscow - Arkhangelsk and Yaroslavl - Kostroma pass through the region, that has access to the north-west of Vologda - Cherepovets and then to St. Petersburg, Karelia, on the northern route to Arkhangelsk, in the north-eastern segment of the ring around Moscow (Vladimir, Kostroma, Tutaev, Rybinsk and Uglich), south-west direction through Moscow. Also the Northern railway and part of the Transsib pass through the region and international airport exist in the capitol of the region - Yaroslavl.

Region is specialized in the manufacturing industries, that also include, construction, transport, communications and energy production. At the same time there is a significant potential of development chemistry, high-tech engineering, (gas turbines and aircraft engines, diesel engines and equipment, electrical and instrumentation, etc.) pharmaceuticals, logistics, agricultural complex and agro-processing. Furthermore, the Yaroslavl region in several recent years demonstrates growth in number of tourists, International as well as Russian, that come to the region due to the numerous culture and historical monuments, events, nature and another attractions.

The Yaroslavl region displays good positions in ratings, for instance it took 12th place in the ranking of Russian regions for the quality of life, prepared by RIA-rating in 2013. At the same time, faced the challenge of stiff competition with another regions what measures Yaroslavl region can apply to become "smarter" in term of quality of life? If public management is concerned, all stages of decision making should be taken into account from setting the goal to monitoring the results of its implementation.

Currently in the region are implemented elements of strategic management system, includes the development of the concept of socio-economic development of the Yaroslavl region until 2025, that took eleventh place in the ranking of strategical documents "Leaders of planning", prepared by an international group of rating agencies "RAExpert". Being not only a declaration of intentions strategy provides a number of tools to

implement its priorities in practices of management, and one of the most important steps towards this is the development of spatial planning documents, designed for the regional and municipal level of public authorities. Using this instrument must be ensured unity of socio-economic spatial planning as far as this documents establish commitment to the creation of objects in accordance with the authority.