**ESPON National Seminar**

**„Sustainable Urbanisation. Beautiful, Sustainable and Inclusive Cities"**

On 20 November 2024, the Institute for Spatial Development and the Ministry of Regional Development organised the ESPON National Seminar entitled "Sustainable Urbanisation. Beautiful, Sustainable and Inclusive Cities".

The seminar took place at the premises of the Institute for Spatial Development in Brno. A total of 20 participants from local, regional and national administrations and the scientific community attended this seminar.

The seminar was welcomed by the Director of the Institute for Spatial Development, Mr. Jakub Kotrla. The opening speech was then taken by Ms. Milada Hroňková (Ministry of Regional Development), who introduced the ESPON programme. She was followed by Ms. Elena Fedrová (Institute for Spatial Development) with further information on the ESPON programme, activities of ESPON Contact Point and a presentation on the ESPON SUPER project, describing the European land take, potential urbanisation scenarios for 2050, examples of interventions at national/regional level and the success factors of each intervention.

Mr. Jakub Kotrla then made a presentation on the topic "Architecture and Building Culture Policy of the Czech Republic" (PASK), a strategic document approved by the Government of the Czech Republic that develops objectives and tasks of spatial planning and that is a basis for the preparation of the spatial development policy.

Mgr. Ilja Kocian from the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic presented the New European Bauhaus in terms of its basic principles and practice in the Czech Republic.

The seminar concluded with Ing. arch. Tomáš Pavlíček from The Brno City Chief Architect‘s Office, who shared his experience in organising architectural and urban design competitions using the regeneration of Brno brownfields as an example. During the presentation, specific architectural competitions from the Brno environment were highlighted - for example, the area of Špitálka, the New Zbrojovka Primary School and Kindergarten, the Bridge over the Svitava River, the revitalization of the Ponava area and Náměstí Míru.

After the individual presentations, a discussion took place, during which the speakers and participants exchanged their knowledge and passed on suggestions for future cooperation or activities. During the seminars, participants were offered translations of ESPON publications produced by the Institute for Spatial Development in cooperation with the Ministry of Regional Development.