

The influence of a problem solving training on shared mental models of spatial planners

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ABSTRACT

Shared mental models of spatial planners

A methodology for spatial planners was developed to support very complex cooperative problem solving processes in this field. Learning and training this methodology should improve shared mental models of best practise and shared awareness of work processes. This should lead to more efficient cooperation and better results for planning teams. We compared trained teams of students with novices in an experimental study. The activities of the planning teams, interview protocols, and the work results were observed and analysed. The methodological training improved the degree of matching between mental models within the teams and the work results. New theoretical assumptions about the role of shared mental models for complex work processes have been developed.

Keywords

Shared mental model – complex problem solving – spatial planning

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