ABOUT SEECEL

Established in 2009 on the initiative of eight countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo*, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey) with the full support of the European Commission and the Croatian Government represented by the Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Crafts and Croatian Chamber of Economy, South East European Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning (hereinafter: SEECEL) is continuing its development and vision of becoming the future home of Entrepreneurial Learning.

Fostering human capital development as one of the main wheels of economic growth and building an entrepreneurial society with influx of jobs is something all SEECEL member states strive to. In line with key EU policy priorities, in particular with Small Business Act for Europe (SBA), SEECEL promotes the knowledge based, conceptual and implementable solutions in the field of entrepreneurial learning as a key competence.

On the path to fulfil its vision to become an internationally recognised, trustworthy and efficient institution in the field of lifelong entrepreneurial learning with particular reference to policy and practice, data, knowledge and know-how, SEECEL was awarded with Knowledge Economy Network Best Practice Award 2012 as well with the European Projects IPA Awards 2013.

SEECEL, with the full support of all countries, was also approved for the regional infrastructure project for social infrastructure, through the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF). The project supports the preparation of technical documentation with the ultimate aim of building a future building for SEECEL located in Zagreb, Croatia. Investment for the construction of the building was planned and reserved through EU structural funds with full financial support from the Croatian Government.

The first phase of the project for preparing technical documentation is completed, resulting with an urban and architectural design of the future SEECEL building, developed by SZA Studio led by Mr Igor Franić.

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of independence

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Co-funded by the European Union

Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Crafts of the Republic of Croatia

South East European Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning

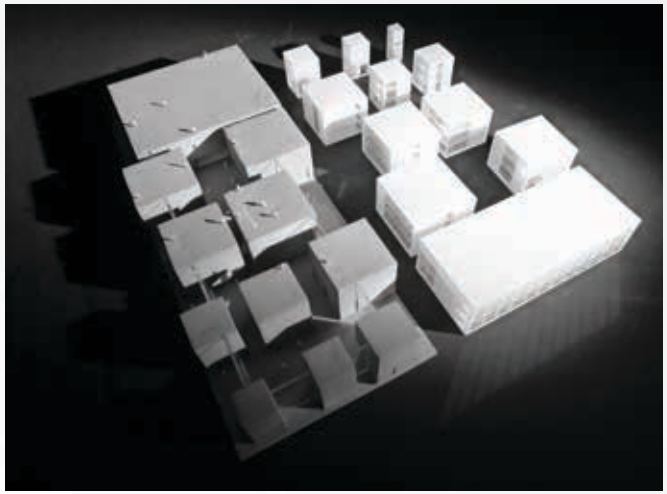
European Investment Bank

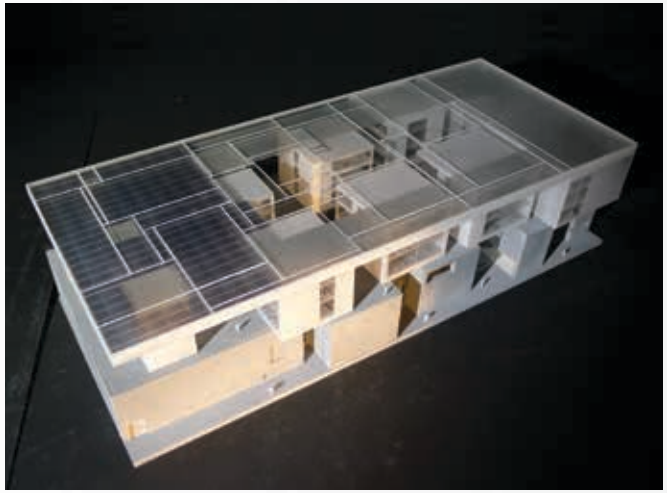
Western Balkans Investment Framework WBIF PROJECTS

COWI • IPF CONSORTIUM

HOME OF ENTREPRENEURIAL LEARNING

ARCHITECTURAL SOLUTION





A very dynamic business complex was defined by the program structure of the future SEECEL building. By interlocking three main functional elements – the office area, a training centre and hotel facilities - a living structure was obtained that covers a wide range of day-long activities.

The spatial structure of the future center consists of a dynamic, progressive sequence of volumes increasing in size. The accessibility and zoning of the various content is established by the regular structure of the growth of the enclosed volumes in a diagonal direction. The layout opens with an empty space in the entrance area, and becomes denser in the zone of internal organization. A dynamic structure that is full-empty, open-closed defines the units. The building is also vertically zoned. The upper office floors with the hotel are inversely located in relation to the first three floors. In this way, the lower openness and looseness are covered by the upper density and fullness, while on the other side all is reversed - as a mirror image. This spatial play combines all given content in a single spatially functional system. By inversely overlapping two identical layouts, an upper and lower world are obtained, vertically connected but consisting of two functional units. In the lower part there is an entrance area with catering facilities and an educational centre, with interconnected office cubicles above the third floor.

The main load-bearing structure fully follows the main structure of spatial relationships. The lower part is made of the concrete and includes reinforced concrete walls, slabs and beams. The upper part is lighter; it can be made of a concrete or steel structure that would conceptually be more appropriate. The two structures of the system partly overlap and ensure spatial structural integrity. The roof system is simple: it consists of a beam system resting on the upper cubicles.

As already mentioned, the lower part of the building is made of concrete, while the upper part is light, glassy, partly open, transparent and partly semi-transparent. The roof overhangs on almost all sides, and thus contributes to the quality of the future spaces, providing shade and less exposure of the external facade to excessive sunlight, thus conserving energy.