

From degradation to regeneration

Focal points of complexity approach in healing degraded lands



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What this is about ?



- **What are we talking about** - a book, methodical material, another study in this field where much has already been said?
- **Why handbook?**
 - Something unspoken, unclear to others, ...?
 - VS Formal Project Requirements?
- **WHAT NEW WE CAN TELL ?**
- **Why is it complicated?**
- **And do we complicate everything under the sign of complexity?**

What is inherent in methodologies / research?



Different topics



Focusing on good examples, giving recommendations, different depth of presentation



No evaluation - what lessons learned from the projects themselves



Does not reflect the concept of brownfields in its versatility



There are various existing understandings of concepts with similar semantic meanings



Methodologies do not give an answer - what and how to do

Problem of degradation



- Many concepts / little explanations / each have nuances, sometimes essential
- Traditionally urban context - urban does not embrace diversity
- The complexity of degradation as a phenomenon has a tendency towards simplification
- Lack of criteria and regulation - left to planner / researcher interpretation

Problem of degradation



Degradēto teritoriju atjaunošanas procesu bieži vien kavē zināšanu, pieredzes, kā arī kopīgās izpratnes trūkums par ekonomiskām, sociālām un vides priekšrocībām, ko sniedz degradētās vides sakārtošana.

Degradēto teritoriju atjaunošanas procesā izšķiroša nozīme ir ciešai sadarbībai un partnerībai starp dažādiem attīstības dalībniekiem

What is degradation



- Long-term process of decreasing land / territory / space social, economic, environmental values due to various factors
- Brownfield - result of degradation process
- The definitions of brownfields (that is, the result of a process) are different and often refer to certain criteria that characterize it:
 - affected by previous use of the site and adjacent areas;
 - abandoned or unused;
 - are contaminated or treated as such;
 - mainly located in developed urban environment;
 - interventions can be returned to useful use

In our view, this is a narrower view of brownfields

Problem of regeneration



- There is a tendency to use interchangeably sanitation/remediation/revitalisation/regeneration
- Regeneration as a process is structured into components, each providing a methodology for what to do
- Different approaches are goal oriented - what you want to regenerate / achieve
- Focus more on the physical environment and less on the social environment / social change in itself? /
- Regeneration approaches / examples are a direction, but the path must be found by themselves

What is regeneration



- The brownfield restoration process, which includes a set of measures
- Result of regeneration - new land use (for previous or new purpose)
- The process has different meanings, depending on the methods used and the traditions of understanding: RENEWAL, REMEDIATION, CLEANING, RESTORATION, REVITALIZATION, RECOVERY.
- Regeneration is a specifically managed, inclusive, integrated enhancement of the area's ability to self-regenerate, including aspects of the biological environment, economic capacity, social potential and physical quality.

Complexity - a problem ?



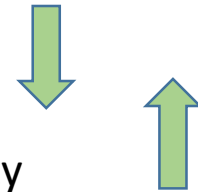
Runājot par vides transformāciju, lietderīgi atzīmēt piecus komplicētības atslēgas konceptus:

- sistēmas
- nelinearitāte
- adaptācija
- tīklojums
- pašpārvalde

Complexity - a problem ?



- Two Related Processes: Degradation - Regeneration (D-R) are of different vectors
- Degradation is a process of loosing quality
- Regeneration is a process of restoring quality
- Both include economic, environmental, social, physical, management components that are not always evaluated in different approaches from aspect of complexly



D-R



- D-R has no definition, no regulation, dependence on desire and understanding
- D-R is a marked shift in the time dimension - we have to deal with what was before what remains, respecting the past, respecting the present and thinking about the future
- The D-R process has a distinct local context - even more than global implementation approaches to the process
- D-R processes are scalable and require the right scale solution
- As complex processes, D-Rs are viewed in a spatial context that includes relationships, including space-time
- Includes quantifications and qualitative characteristics that are not always in a clear balance
- Regeneration is not always associated with degradation in its classic (more general) sense
- As a process of spatial management, it is an integrated perspective that should cover and align economic, environmental, physical and social aspects

Whether we have the answers to the challenges of complexity



- No, because the interplay between degradation and regeneration processes is site-oriented in their solutions
- Yes, because we can develop approaches to deal with existing situations in principle
- Examples, experience, theory can only give direction to specific place-planning processes, which in turn produce uniqueness and new theory

Book/manual/research writing experience

- Vadlīnijas. Degradēto teritoriju remediācija. Izpēte. Plānošana. Izmantošana, LLU, 2019
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- Rīgas ainavu izdalīšana, analīze un novērtēšana, LU, ...
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- AINAVU TEMATISKAIS PLĀNOJUMS, Rīgas dome, 2016
- Integrēta un uz līdzdalību balstīta plānošana degradēto teritoriju revitalizācijai, Balticurbanlab, 2018
- DEGRADĒTO TERITORIJU IZPĒTE RĪGAS PILSĒTĀ, Grupa93, 2006
- Planning Systems and Legislation for Brownfield Development in the Central Baltic Countries, Nordregio, 2017
- Degradētās teritorijas. Rokasgrāmata. Starpdisciplinārs mācību līdzeklis degradēto teritoriju atjaunošanai, VŠB, 2010
- Čekstere, A., Smirnova, O. Vides un ilgtspējīgas attīstības mācīšanās rokasgrāmata studentiem, 2011
- ZAĻAS PILSĒTVIDES PLĀNOŠANA. INFORMATĪVI IZGLĪTOJOŠS MATERIĀLS PAŠVALDĪBU ATTĪSTĪBAS PLĀNOTĀJIEM, ZPR, 2013
- ... ???

Thank you for your attention!

