

Spatial planning in Flanders of the 90 's and it's achievements

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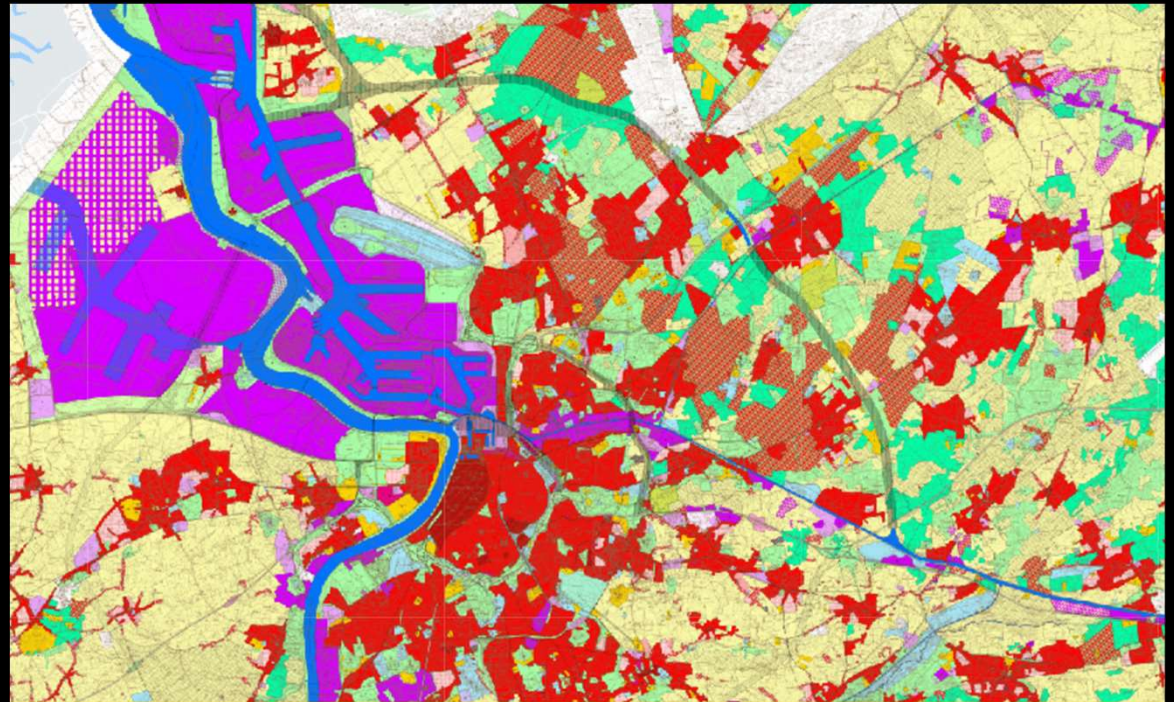
Planning Act 1962

Provides Land-Use plans on Regional and Local level.

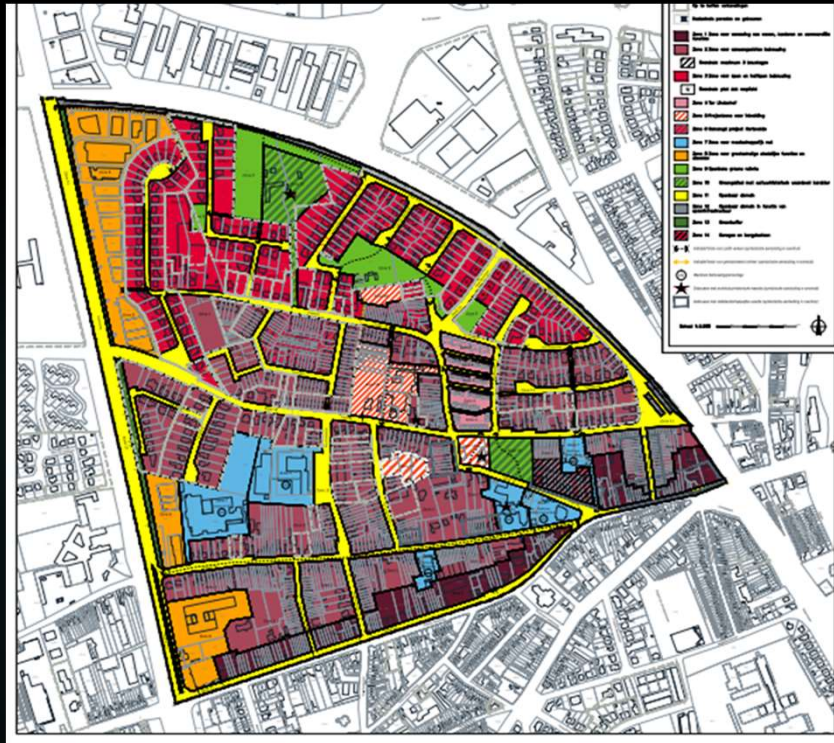
Critics:

- Static planning instruments
- Not able to deal with dynamic changes and needs of modern society
- Too rigid, they prevent economic development and they are not effective in preventing urban sprawl and the deterioration of the environment. Finally, they stimulate land speculation.
- Based on permit planning practise.

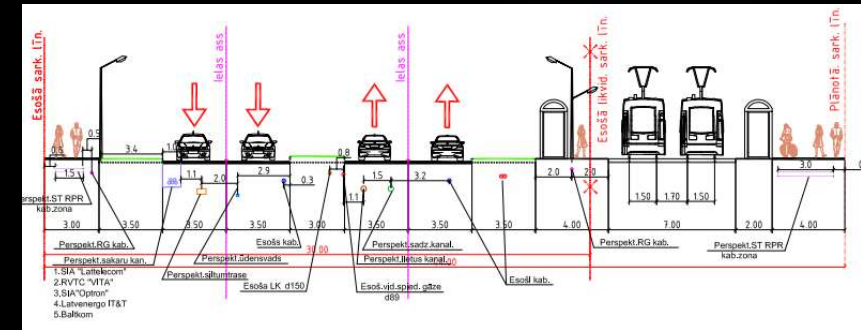
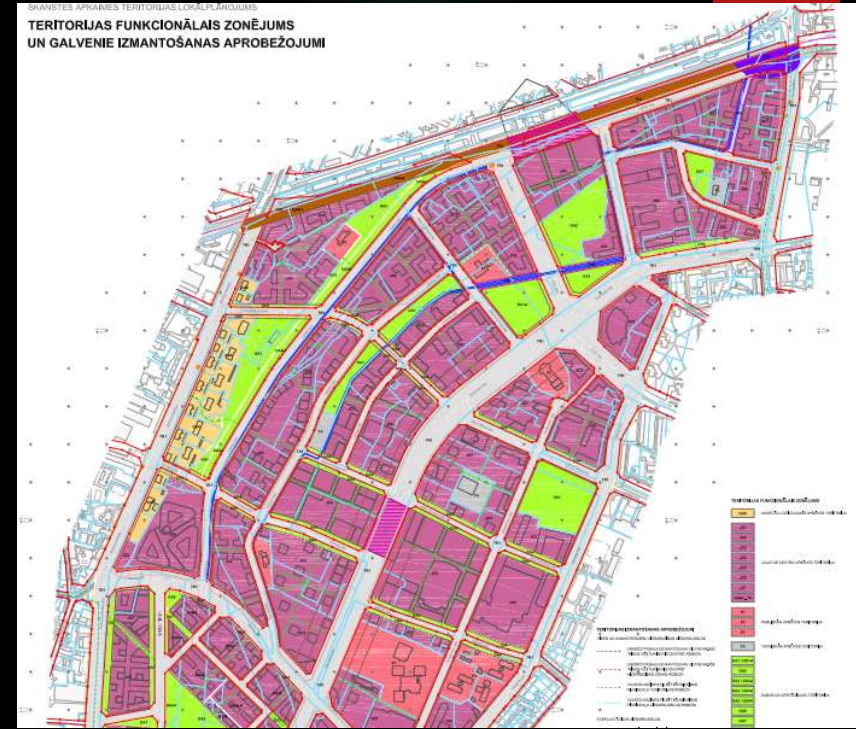
Regional Land-Use plan scale 1/25.000



Local Land-Use plans



Implementation plan, Bruges, scale: 1/1000



Skanstes lokālpārplānojums, Rīga, scale: 1/2500

1992

Two professors are commissioned to prepare the first structure plan for Flander's territory

The main inspiration for the new style of spatial planning came from Hasan Ozbekhan's argument that **one must begin with a vision of what sort of future a community wants,** rather than logically deduce the future from the past by forecasting techniques.

Ozbekhan, H. (1969) Towards a general theory of planning. In: Jantsch, E. (ed.): Perspectives of Planning. Paris: OECD, 45-155.

1992

Two professors are commissioned to prepare the first structure plan for Flander's territory

L. Albrechts: **“The “desirable future”** might (and perhaps must) be imagined as differing radically from present reality; it must represent situations which are not mere temporal extensions of the here and now; this way of thinking provoked for me a shift in planning from an ontology of ‘being’, which privileges outcome and end-state, towards an ontology of ‘becoming’, in which actions, movement, relationships, conflicts, process and emergence are emphasized”.

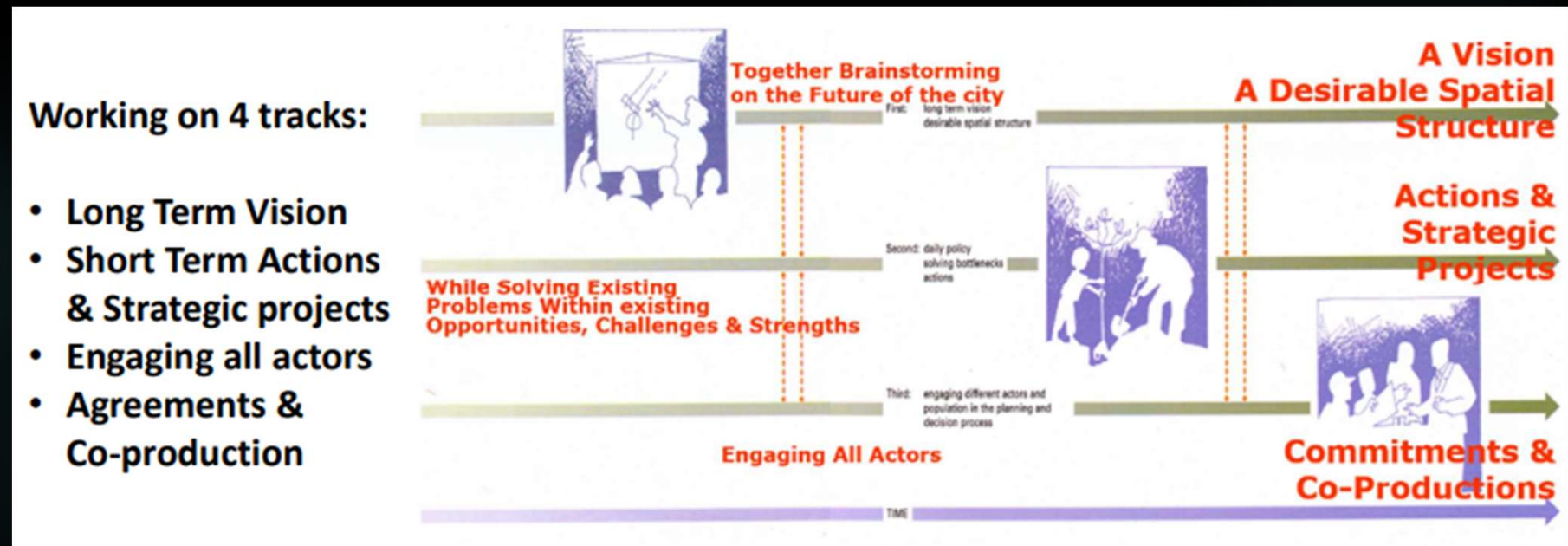
It was rooted in a belief / conviction that spatial planning had to be more pro-active and entrepreneurial in order to deal with the problems and challenges Flanders was facing.

Some issues are more important than others, and it is the selection of critical issues to focus on that constitutes the essence of strategic planning.

Relation between Strategic and Land Use plans



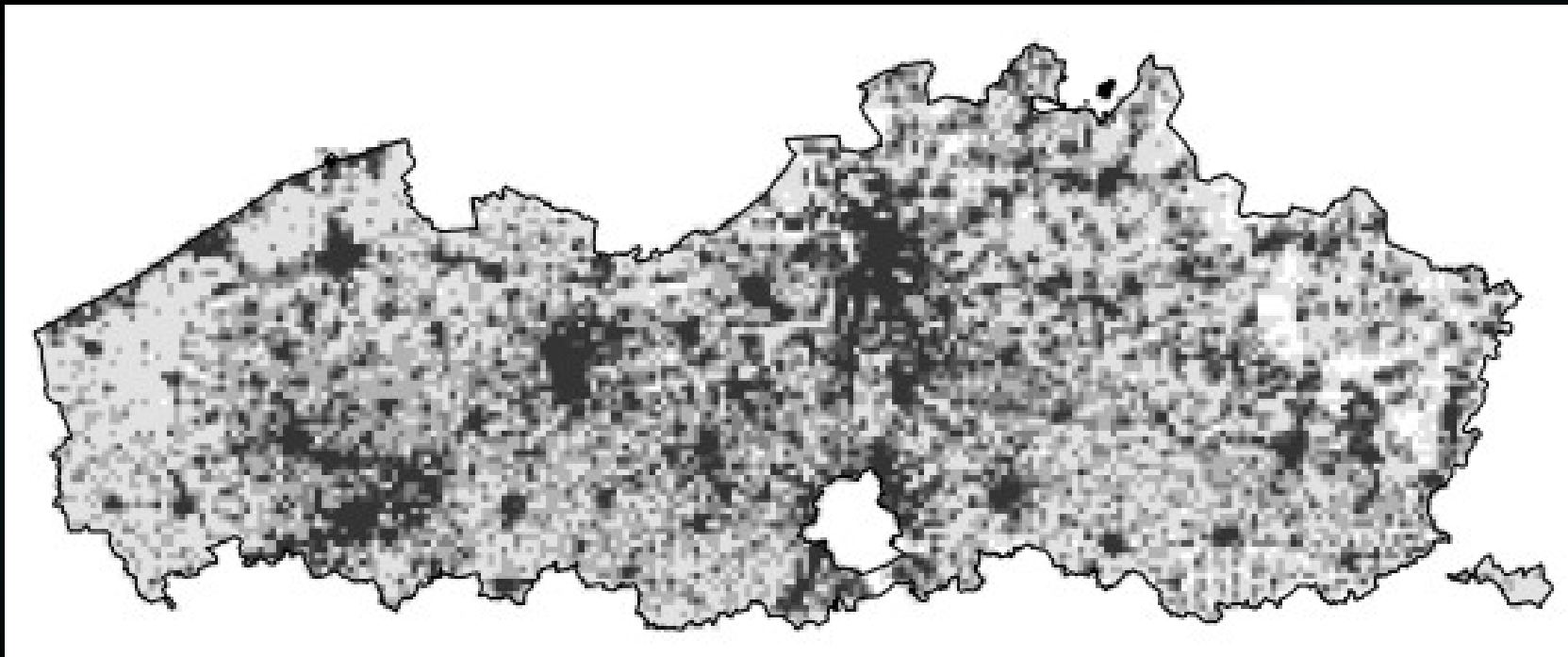
Spatial planning asks a strong commitment to engage actors in the planning process, most importantly actors vital for the implementation of the plan.



Four track model (Albrechts, Van den Broeck, 2004)

The Flanders Structure Plan (1991 – 1997)

Flanders faced a number of spatial problems :
urban sprawl, increasing congestion, dissatisfaction with public transportation, and irreconcilable spatial demands for housing, industry, agriculture and nature, that had accumulated over the years.



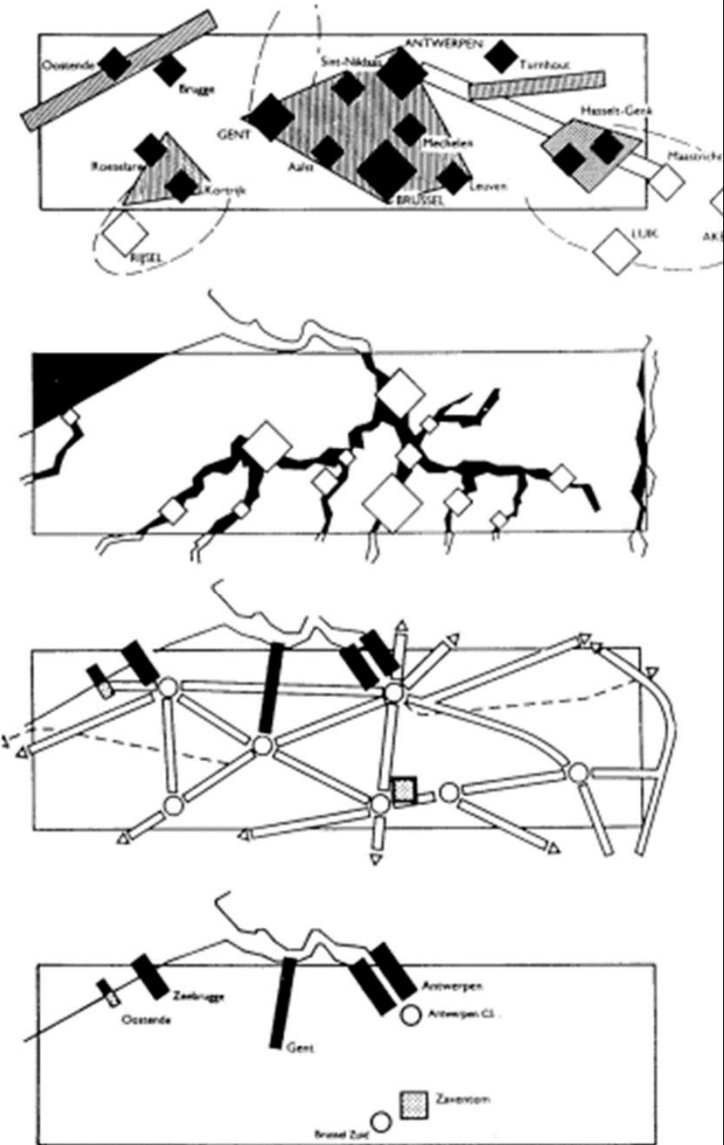
The Flanders Structure Plan (1991 – 1997)

The aim of the structure plan was to provide structuring principles that could impose some order on future urban development and reduce the fragmentation of space.

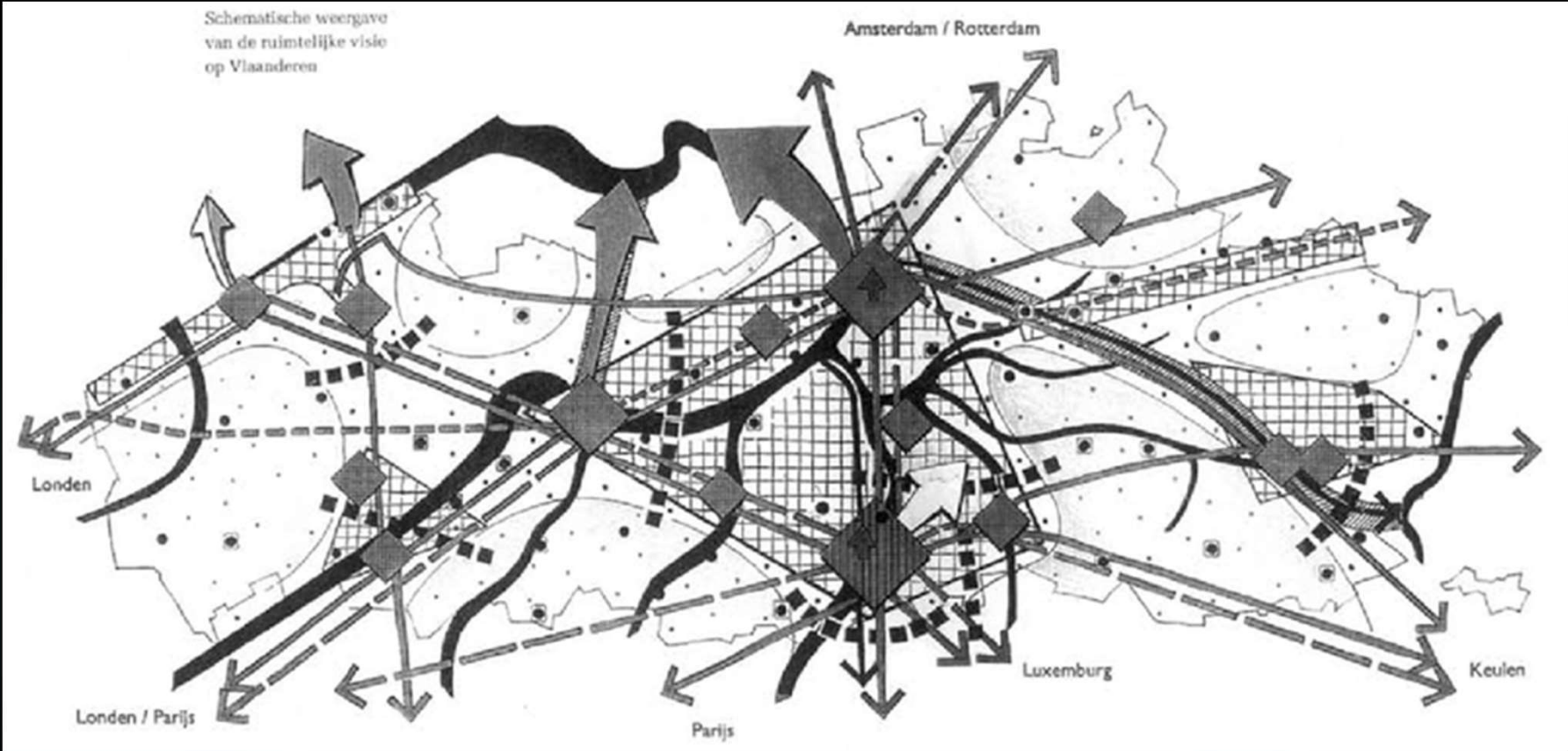
4 spatial concepts:

- deconcentrated bundling in urban networks
- nature as an ordering system
- linear infrastructure as ordering spatial structures (basis for location of activities)
- gateways as engines for development

The principle of subsidiarity is incorporated.



The Flanders Structure Plan (1991 – 1997)



The Flanders Structure Plan (1991 – 1997)

The impact

The case of Flanders illustrates how strategic spatial planning in itself is a transformative process, **seeking to transform the spatial structures as well as the existing planning culture**. It can be argued that it is the planning process rather than the structure plan itself, which has had the greatest impact on Flemish spatial planning.

Further:

- Creation of a new Planning Act (1996, 1999)
- Export of planning culture to provinces and municipalities
- Principle of subsidiarity successfully implemented
- Increase of students studying planning
- Professionalisation of civil servants and increase of jobs for planners on all levels
- Large interest from other countries
- Basis for hierarchy of roads concept in Mobility plans

Strategic Spatial Planning on Municipal level: Case of Antwerp (2003 – 2006)

Apart from a generic approach, Antwerp focused strongly on a strategic approach for specifically selected so-called strategic areas in the city. They are key areas with high potentials where action is urgent. Selection is necessary because the means are limited.

Not selected areas are managed by the Generic approach.

- the hard spine (build areas)
- the soft spine (green areas).



Selected key areas Strategic programs & projects

A specific team of planners and experts is selected for this work

The Islet

Park Spoor Noord

The Quays

Central Station forefront

Central Station backfront

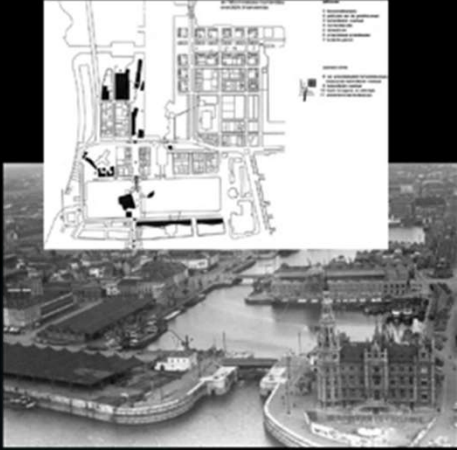
Green belt

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Strategic Spatial Planning on Municipal level:
Case of Antwerp

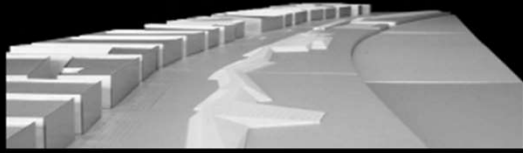
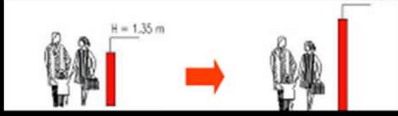
Program



The Islet



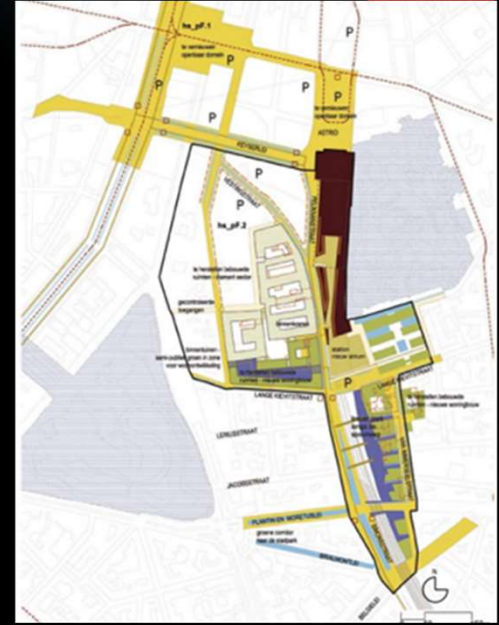
Strategic Spatial Planning on Municipal level:
Case of Antwerp



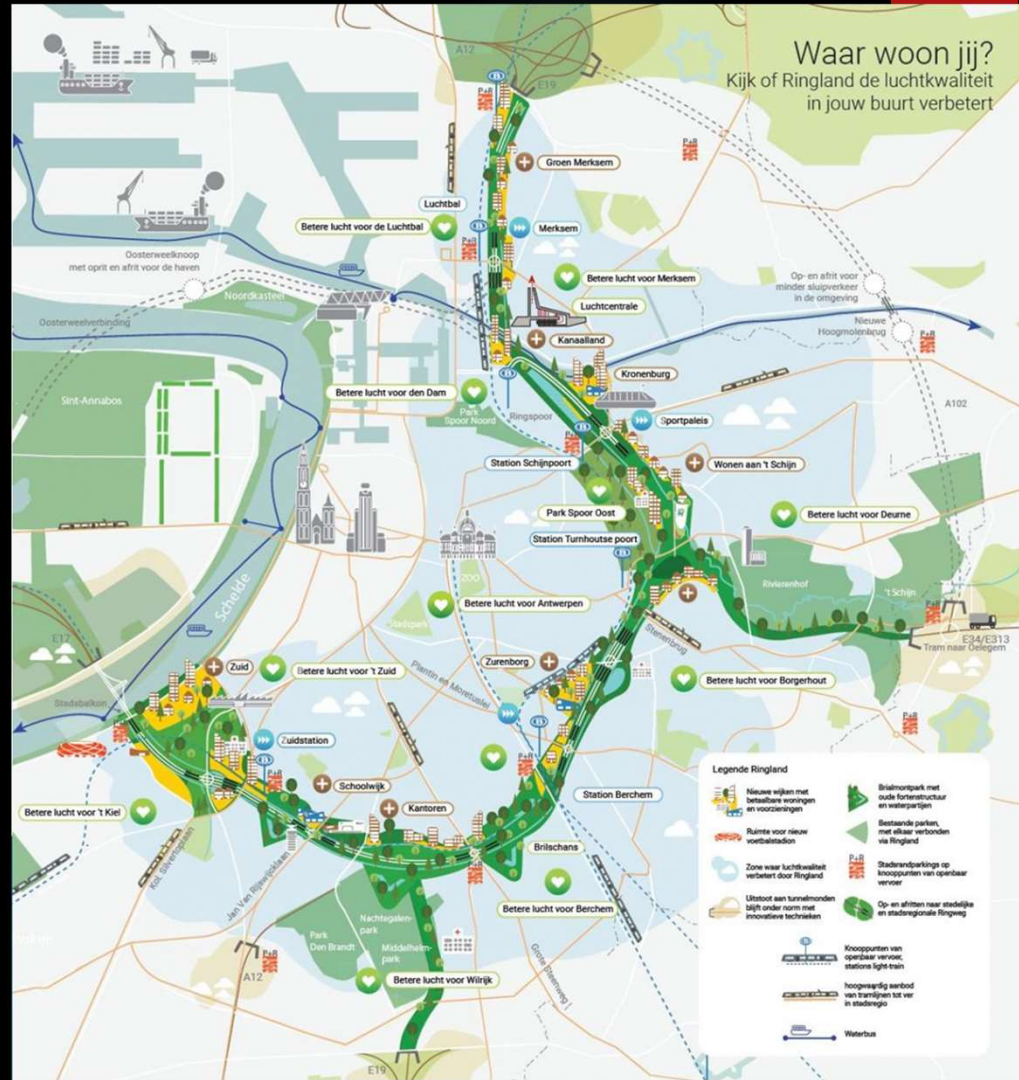
Project Quays



Strategic area Railway Station



Strategic area Motorway to Green belt



PROCESS MANAGEMENT

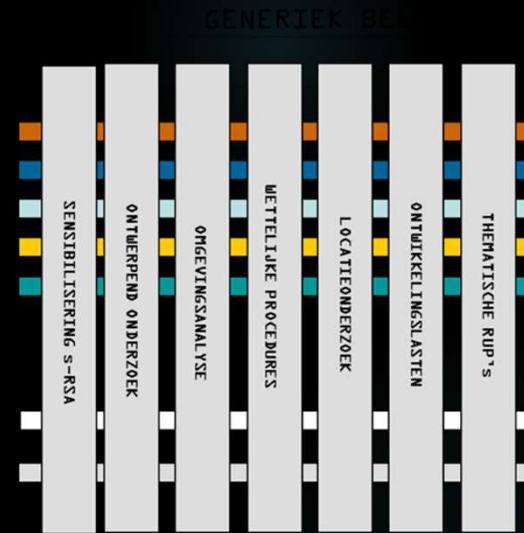
Re=organisation of city administration

Creation of autonomous agencies :

public enterprises mandated to buy, sell, let, run, build, renovate, design and to do everything that is needed to guarantee a good development and governance of the immovable properties of the city

Governance agreements;

Agreement among political parties in the coalition for each legislative period (6 years) about targets, priorities and budgets.



Strategic Spatial Planning on Municipal level:
Case of Antwerp



THANK YOU