## **COMPREHENSIVE LAND-USE MANAGEMENT**

Understanding the Interrelationship Between
Spatial Planning, Land Management and
Land Administration

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## **OBJECTIVE**

To establish a debate concerning the need to generate a thorough conceptual understanding and a valid semantic differentiation amongst the terms/policy domains: 'spatial planning', 'land management' and 'land administration'

Emphasis will be placed on the usage of the term spatial planning and its semantic perplexity



## POINT OF DEPARTURE:

## INTERRELATED YET DISTINCTIVE POLICY DOMAINS

- Wide perception amongst planners, policy-makers, land managers and surveyors that the terms 'spatial planning', 'land management' and 'land administration' are intrinsically related to one another as their functional characteristics are similarly targeted towards the management of land-use.
- However, the usage of such terms has historically been too extensive and also often, somewhat imprecise: they are either commonly portrayed as synonyms or confounded with respect to their precise aims and scope of action.

## SPATIAL PLANNING

## **POLYSEMY AND SEMANTIC PERPLEXITY**

- The usage of the term spatial planning is often polysemous. In essence, its
  multiple meanings not only relate to differences between legal
  frameworks and planning traditions but also increasingly reflect changing
  socio-cultural realities, economic climates and political agendas occurring
  within different geographies...
- Its usage also varies in accordance to specific policy development contexts, administrative scales within each country (i.e. urban, metropolitan, regional) and foremost, language:



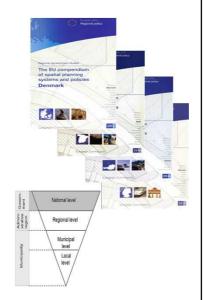
 As such, spatial planning does not precisely mean: aménagement du territoire, ordenación del territorio, town and country planning, Raumordnung, fysiskplanlægning, etc. or any other variant in Europe or former European colonies...

## SPATIAL PLANNING - TRADITIONAL VIEWS

"Spatial planning refers to the methods used largely by the **public sector** to influence the future distribution of activities in space." (CEC, 1997, p. 24)

"Spatial planning considers the interaction among policy sectors according to different territorial units, national, regional and local, across a wide range of policy sectors addressing different kinds of problems, economic, social and environmental."

(OECD, 2001, p. 11)



## **EUROPEAN SPATIAL PLANNING TRADITIONS**

#### Comprehensive-integrated

Spatial planning conducted through systematic and formal hierarchy of plans and national, regional and local levels (e.g. NL, DK, SE)

## Land-use management

Spatial planning as a technical discipline with focus on **land-use control**; highly discretionary (e.g. town and country planning)

## Regional economic

Spatial planning as policy tool in pursuit of wide economic objectives, mainly with respect to disparities in wealth, employment, etc. (FR)

#### Urbanism

Spatial planning as urban planning/design... varies within regions (e.g. Mediterranean countries)

(CEC, 1997)

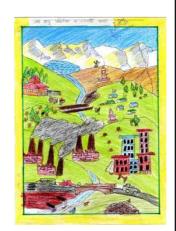
## SPATIAL PLANNING - RELATIONAL VIEWS

"...self-conscious collective efforts to re-imagine a city, urban region or wider territory and to translate the result into priorities for area investment, conservation measures, strategic infrastructure investments and principles of land use regulation. The term 'spatial' brings into focus the 'where of things' (...) the interrelations between different activities and networks in an area..."

(Healey, 2004, p. 46)

"Spatial planning is about **better place-making**(...) it involves the courageous act of looking into
the future to imagine what kind of development
we need to plan for now on behalf of society."

(Haughton et al., 2010, p.1)



# DIMENSIONS OF COMPREHENSIVE (INTEGRATED) LAND-USE MANAGEMENT?

### **STRATEGIC DIMENSION: Spatial Planning**

- Development strategies; spatial policies; place-making at different scales;
- Strategies deal less with land use or land policy per se and more with spatial development and governance.

## **MANAGEMENT DIMENSION: Land Management**

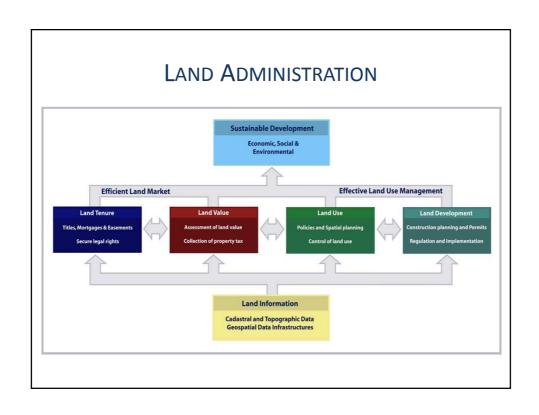
• Land policies; sectoral policies; natural resources management policies.

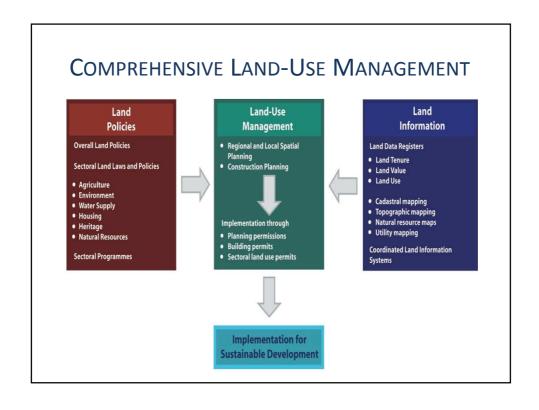
#### **ADMINISTRATIVE DIMENSION: Land Administration**

- Rights; restrictions; responsibilities
- Zoning instruments; building control instruments; implementation instruments (local plans; partial plans, etc.)

| Danish Spatial Planning |  |   |  |  |  |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|
| Policy institutions     |  |   | Policy instruments   |  |  |
| Level                   | Planning authority                               | Number of inhabitants                           | Type of plans  | Description  | Legal effect   |
| National                | Ministry of the<br>Environment,<br>Nature Agency | 5.58<br>million                                 | National<br>planning<br>reports                                      | National visions<br>negarding functional<br>physical development   | Advisory guidelines and recommendations  |
|                         |  |   | Overview of<br>national<br>interests<br>regarding<br>municipal plans | National interests<br>arising from<br>legislation, action<br>plans, sector plans and<br>agreements between<br>national authorities | Binding for local<br>authorities. The Minister<br>for the Environment has<br>the right to veto a<br>municipal plan |
|                         |  |   | Finger Plan<br>Directive for<br>Greater<br>Copenhagen                | Satutory directive<br>establishing a spatial<br>framework for the<br>whole metropolitan<br>region                                  | Binding for local authorities.   |
|                         |  |   | National<br>plaining<br>directives                                   | Maps and legal<br>provisions /circulars<br>(eg coasts, retail, etc)  | Binding for local authorities  |
| Regional                | 5<br>administrative<br>regions                   | 1,000,000<br>on average<br>(wide<br>deviations) | Regional spatial development plans                                   | Advisory and visionary plans   | Binding for local authorities  |
| Local                   | 98<br>municipal<br>councils                      | 30,000 on<br>average<br>(wide<br>deviations)    | Municipal plans  Losal plans   | Policies, maps and<br>land-use regulations<br>Maps and detailed<br>legal land-use  | Binding for local<br>authorities<br>Binding for landowners   |







## SPATIAL PLANNING INSTRUMENTS

#### National spatial planning instruments

- To identify national governments spatial planning policies and strategy
- E.g. Planning acts; national planning reports; sectoral plans; directives

#### Strategic instruments

- To identify broad spatial development patterns at the sub-national and supramunicipal levels
- Commonly tied to administrative tiers (region/province) but also to 'functional planning regions'
- E.g. Regional spatial plans; metropolitan plans

## Framework instruments (LAND MANAGEMENT)

- To identify the spatial framework and criteria for land-use regulation
- E.g. Municipal plans, master plans but also to 'functional planning areas'

#### Regulatory instruments (LAND ADMINISTRATION)

- To regulate development
- E.g. Zoning instruments; building control instruments; implementation instruments (local plans; partial plans, etc.)

## **FINAL REFLECTIONS**

## ESTABLISHING A SEMANTIC LINE OF RESEARCH

- In the field of spatial planning, land management policy and land administration instruments seem to be hierarchically embedded as policy subsets in the spatial planning system
- However, the opposite seems to occur when carrying out an analysis from the perspective of comprehensive land management: i.e. spatial planning turns out to be a policy subset!
- Hence, there is a need to open up a discussion and to create a conceptual map concerning the semantic diversity associated with these policy domains....
- Initial debate: It is crucial to **contextualise**!!! Take care of these terms and their usage in accordance with the policy domain, administrative levels/scales and geographical contexts, as well as language