Msc 1 Workshop at Faculty of Architecture on Regional Planning

Urban/regional voids
Participative planning/use-centred design
Emergence/emancipation & urban space
The everyday in longterm perspective
Small-grains at regional scale
Network cities: time space patterns

Main fields of work
Network cities: time space patterns
Small-grains at regional scale
The everyday in longterm perspective
Emergence/emancipation & urban space
Participative planning/use-centred design
Urban/regional voids (terrains vagues)

Design studio MSc1 regional planning

‘new citizenship meets regional planning’

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Interaction between social policy & spatial-engineering sectors can be improved by putting time-space patterns as a point of departure

Room for every(ones) day / All around (the clock)

Project
In 2001 the Province (regional authority) Zuid Holland started a project to connect its social policies more closely to spatial development. The hidden costs of planning failures, such as lack of space for youth, poor differentiation in housing, mobility and accessibility of job-locations, weighed heavily on the social budget in repair programs. It was therefore the department of equal opportunities that raised the question how the Province, in its role of spatial planning developer, manager as well as supervisor, could work more closely with local authorities. Rather than adding to the ever-growing list of planning criteria, a change of attitude and interdisciplinary communication was seen as more durable approach. The aim was to enhance communication between its own departments in planning processes and make better use of the many gender-criteria and -planning instruments developed in the 1980s and 1990s.

Process
- summary of relevant design criteria
- formulating ‘gender and diversity’ as accountable category in the formal procedures of the province
- design of method for interdisciplinary planning processes: ‘complementary spatial strategies’ based on time-space patterns [see textbox]
- develop and implement adequate forms of collaboration for each step: e.g. documents for consultancy, workshops and brainstorming sessions (later supported by the ‘Decision Room’ software), plan evaluation (GIA) and so on.
- collaboration with municipal planning authorities: pilot plans.
- publication of 25 ‘best practices’ at local level; distributed to all municipalities in the province.
- a training program for professionals working on their own case-studies
- a ‘DIY version’ available online to allow planning teams to consult best practices, and make use of the ‘complementary strategies method’

The project was successful in tying policies for social resilience to spatial development. However, the further impact of the project was blunted by political re-orientation, career mobility of key-personnel, and particularly the changing role of regional authorities in spatial planning. De-centralization policies shifted this role to local level, leaving less steering opportunities for the Province.

Room for every(ones) day method of complementary strategies:

1. flexible and future oriented
2. mix and cluster
3. move and reach
4. accessible and safe
5. collaboration, communication and participation

A mixing panel with which local strategies can be optimized. This allows for planning evaluations to assess social policy goals according to the spatial context: if for example (future) users are (as yet) anonymous, the criteria of 5 cannot be met and 1- the issue of flexibility deserves extra priority. Or when in a given context mixed used (2) is not allowed, accessibility (4) of surrounding services like schools and shops should get extra attention in the infrastructural design. In this way, departing from the time-space paths of (future) inhabitants, communication between social and spatial sectors becomes feasible and fruitful. This also helped to change perceptions: statistics showing the mismatch between ‘9-5’ job- and ‘8-3’ school schedules; dilemma’s of cars offering ‘coerced freedom’, varied sports facilities for different user groups.

Zuid Holland is the most densely populated province of the Netherlands and comprises the largest (southern) part of Randstad

l is quite a broad Dutch experience in theory and practice with the “Gender Impact Assessment (GIA)”, this practice did enter mainstream planning in a much more conventional way than the explicit development of mixed used (2), which is an implementation of the responsibility of the Dutch government for implementation of the regulations of the D&I assessment. This is a result of the interaction with the ‘complementary strategies method’, which was distributed to all municipalities in the province.

All around (the clock) travelling exposition presented Dutch time-based planning experiments and tools [2003 – 2007] www.overallpl.nl
PROJECT - TRANSFORMATION OF REGIONAL HOUSING TYPOLOGIES

• Province of Zuid-Holland in collaboration with Chair of Metropolitan and Regional Studies (Ir. Verena Balz)
• Research contribution to Provincial Structure Vision (planning document)

Inhabitants/Workers densities per 42 ha

- 670
- 670 - 1970
- 1970 - 3500
- 3500 - 6320
- > 6320

Province Zuid-Holland

Density of inhabitants and workers per 42 hectares, derived from basic census data on 6 postalcodes levels from 2007. The classification is based upon natural breaks based on data from the entire South Holland.

Source: Centraal Bureau voor Statistiek, kersnoepjes per postcodepunt, 2007

Criteria: Density of inhabitants and workers in South Holland

Process:
The search for regional living environments that contribute to regional and metropolitan synergies between endogenous spatial characteristics and socio-economic dynamics is processed by looking at criteria and transformational areas and judging them in combinations to seek out potentials.

Criteria - Inventorisation of existing potential of the territory of south holland and endogenous qualities.

Transformational Areas - Inventorisation of areas and locations that are available for transformation or regeneration.

Potentials - From insights into the relations between locations, conclusions can be drawn about the desirability and potential for certain forms of urbanisation. A series of potential analysis shows which locations are attractive for certain typologies based upon synergies of the urban networks, urban areas and landscapes.

Main fields of work

EU FP7 Project : Rural Futures Network
Province of Zuid Holland - research project on regional housing typologies and trends
Urban Vitality in Metropolitan regions
Urban Analysis with Geographical Information Systems
Cultural economy and night-time economy

Comparison of potential zones of 24/7 environments (vital urban areas) between the metropolitan areas of London, Copenhagen and Amsterdam

The South Wing of the Randstad Holland

Zuid-Beugel, literally South Wing, is the name given to the densely populated 60-by-40-kilometre area in the Dutch province of South Holland. The South Wing is part of the Randstad conurbation that has historically evolved around the Rijn delta and forms today, with Schiphol (one of the largest airports in Europe) and the harbour of Rotterdam an important link between European and global networks.

The South Wing area has three and half million inhabitants and one and a half million employed people, making it one of Europe’s most densely populated regions. This high population density is not concentrated in one centre, but is spread out over a large area. Few places within the urbanized area of the South Wing have a higher density than 120 inhabitants per hectare, but on the other hand, few have a lower density than 30 inhabitants per hectare. Urbanization in the South Wing has been polycentric; there are multiple centres such as The Hague and Rotterdam, and many smaller subsidiary centres.

South Holland has around 130,200 registered businesses. The province also boasts various centres of knowledge and expertise, including three universities. South Holland is the country’s most important province in terms of economy, agriculture and the provision of services.

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