



**take
on
the
future**

**program and
reflections**

take on the future

critically reflecting on planning visions

10 - 11 December 2019
Rotterdam & Den Haag

the

new
planning



500 1000 1500 2000 2500 km

Image source: Project Holland, Studio Hartzema

take on the future

'Take on the future - Critically reflecting on Planning Visions' is a two-day conference in the Netherlands. This conference brings together scholars and practitioners in development policies, spatial planning and territorial governance from several European countries. It aims at identifying innovative planning approaches to a more resilient future and at debating their relevance for the recently published draft Dutch national spatial planning and environmental vision- NOVI.

Critical challenges from climate change, global economic competition, and increasing social and economic disparities create urgent demands for new territorial development tools that will ensure a resilient society. These challenges increase uncertainty and competition in society. Conventional planning tools are no longer sufficient to cope with the interconnected and cascading effects of social and spatial change. Building resilience requires integrated and adaptive action across sectors, levels of government and the public-private divide. Hence, our planning tools requires to change with the changing times.

To develop capacity for integrated and adaptive action is one of the key aims of the new Dutch national spatial vision (Nationale Omgevingsvisie, NOVI). The vision recognizes that challenges cannot be dealt with by government alone but need action by multiple actors who collectively can address diverse objectives, cultures and competences. The vision makes a need for innovative approaches that reach out to, and unify, diverse actors evident. It simultaneously raises questions about what these new takes on the future of the

country imply and how they can indeed be implemented.

This conference seeks to critically evaluate the performance of spatial planning, territorial policies and infrastructure tools in the context of multiple urgent societal challenges. It seeks to discuss how the integration of planning approaches can contribute to the implementation of a vision as NOVI. Does NOVI combine regulatory, financial, and soft planning instruments in a way that improves the efficiency and effectiveness of planning? Does it appropriately acknowledge the spatial diversity of regions? Does NOVI provide sufficiently robust guidance, while involving societal actors? What outcomes – including undesirable side-effects – can be anticipated? How can these be fostered or mitigated?

The conference 'Take on the Future' will engage scholars and practitioners in the fields of development policies, spatial planning, territorial governance and regional design from several European countries. Drawing on their knowledge and practical experience these will engage in an active dialogue about planning for a resilient society and review of NOVI.

Reflections on 'The New Planning Paradigm'

As a preparation for the conference, we developed this booklet about the New Planning directions and learnings to be circulated with the national and international stakeholders and attendees of this conference.

We invited some experts to write a short reflection on the 10 pointers towards the directions of New Planning. They reflected on these 10 pointers (version 2), with their expertise and experiences and answering these following questions

:

- 1. Which new points should be added to the list? What is still missing?**
- 2. Which points of New Planning are you already using in your practice?**
- 3. Where in the field of planning do you see interesting signs towards the new planning?**
- 4. Can you elaborate on one of the statements we wrote down (our list of ten)?**

Thanking

Han Meyer
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Gijsbert Borgman
Steeff Buijs
Michel Duinmeyer
Ron Lander

for their contribution

The Need to Scale-up

ir. Henk Hartzema
Founder & Managing Director, Studio Hartzema & FRESH

Dipl. Eng. ir. Aikaterina Myserli
Architect & Urban Planner, Studio Hartzema & FRESH

In the light of challenging conditions, rising numbers of household growth and an unavoidable climate crisis, various forms of planning and self-organization through municipal initiatives and provincial agendas have emerged in the Netherlands. For lack of a coherent framework on a high-level, all these approaches still result in increasing inefficiency and clear incoherence. In fact, the Netherlands has gradually moved from the late 1960s' highly ambitious versions of national plans towards an era of weakened national spatial planning and not rarely mis-coordinated interventions on a local scale.

Building upon this observation, we strongly advocate for a “new planning” that encourages multi-scalar approaches and interrelation between local actors and high-level decision makers. As it is already mentioned in the New Planning Dialogue document, a “sense for scales” is crucial in solving complex problems. Our years of experience in the fields of architecture, urban planning and research have shown us that an effective way to invite actors to think on different scales is to clearly indicate the consequences of a problem in multiple and -very often- “jumping” scales. To illustrate this with an example, our ongoing research on the areas of Alblasserwaard – Vifjheerenlanden has shown us that the issue of peat drainage doesn't only cause land subsidence and imperils the foundations of the houses in the area (micro-scale); it also releases huge amounts of CO₂ to the atmosphere (meso-scale) and threatens the biodiversity of the area, which includes bird species that are essential part of a global biodiversity chain (macro-scale). Communicating the extent of this problem, which otherwise would be addressed as a

local challenge, encourages the different stakeholders to think holistically and in trans-scalar terms.

Regularly within our practice we follow actor-oriented approaches in order to build coalitions with high-level decision makers and private parties (investors, companies etc.) and meet their interests without compromising on the needs of the civil society. In the process of bringing together these different parties, we also deploy scenario planning and integrated approaches. Various scenarios and options are presented and each participant has an equal say in communicating/selecting the ones that best correspond to their needs and interests. Our role as mediators in this process facilitates essentially the definition of a middle ground between all the different stakeholders.

As in 2019 we saw a lot of small municipalities merging into bigger administrative entities (e.g. the municipality of Molenlanden), we definitely see a sign for synergies between different municipalities and governance institutions in order to tackle common societal, economic and environmental challenges together. Therefore, raising the issue of better and more substantial collaboration between different administrative entities should be, in our view, an indispensable point of the new Planning paradigm; an point of exploring different references and bridging contradictions. As the scale and complexity of contemporary problems is continuously growing, it is only a matter of time until we scale-up our way of addressing urgent challenges and solving current and future problems.

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It is focused on concrete “results” and “actions” which are radical in its aim at unprecedented outcomes. It should focus on desired and integrated outcomes for society and environment. It should be prepared to create plans and allow for flexibility to deviate from them. And requires a “process design” in which there are alterations possible during the process without losing sight of goals and quality.

— Do we need this “new” attitude to act according to the changing challenges (altering the process whenever necessary) and if yes, how can we do that. How to accelerate this process?

— Interreg Europe

Putting policy into practice is focused on making a tangible difference by translating EU policy into on the ground action. Interreg projects consist of two phases: one is dedicated to knowledge exchange, sharing good practices and experiences, defining stakeholders, challenges and opportunities; the second one is the implementation of a pilot, which is being monitored and reviewed by the leading partner. The scope of the programmes is very broad and it is open for various actors from local, regional and national authorities, bodies governed by public law or private non-profit organisations.

One of the key ways in which Interreg is aiming to help European regions is to translate EU policy into practice. One of the goals of the programmes is to develop an action plan, which ensures that the knowledge shared and gained through the cooperation is put into action and the developed solutions are being implemented.

**Place: European Union / Regional
Scale: European Union
Year: 2007 (2014)**

Source:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/about-us/what-is-interreg-europe/>

— Project Holland: Designing the transformation of the Dutch territory

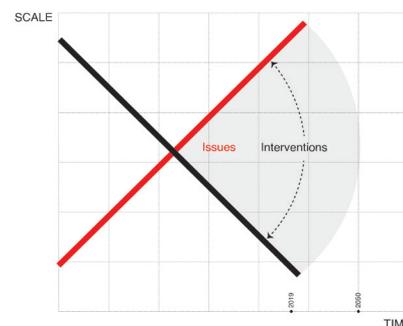
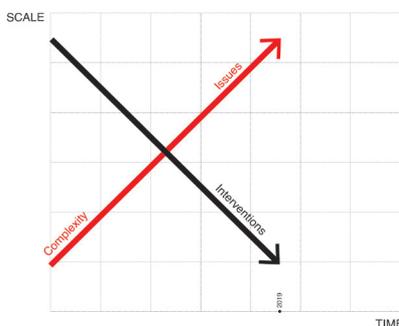
Project Holland started as a self-initiated project managed by FRESH -the newly established R&D dept. of Studio Hartzema- and focuses on landscape transformation, resilient strategies and sustainable development. After a year of research, data analysis/extraction and research by design, the built-up knowledge within the project serves now as a pool of information, data, concluding plans, new ideas and methodological frameworks that fuel actual projects of the Studio. Recent examples are the actionable strategies for afforestation and renewable energy production in Alblasserwaard, Durgerdam and Eemnes and the development of new water-related infrastructures in Rijswijk and Zwijndrecht. (still under development)

Project Holland is a research and design initiative led by FRESH/Studio Hartzema and it actively utilises interdisciplinary and multi-level research as a tool to deliver results-oriented and highly actionable spatial strategies.

**Place: Netherlands/ Randstad
Scale: National/Regional/Local (multi-scalar approach)
Year: Start; 2019, Completion: n/a**

Source:

www.projectholland.nu



Images by Studio Hartzema

Conclusive remarks

New planning is not only about using another toolkit or different structuring of planning. It is about bringing a change in the culture of planning and the planning community, and perhaps that's the most important element

#newplanningdialogue seeks an approach to systematize the innovative planning instruments to be adapted in an appropriate manner, by creating a community of pertinent organizations. Join the dialogue to opionate, influence and revolutionize the planning model and support the project by your eminent participation.

Join the dialogue

Be a part of the dialogue to opionate, influence and revolutionize the planning model and support the project by your eminent participation. Follow the link to know more about the project.

Thanking

Jaap Modder, Jelte Boeijenga, Verena Balz, David Dooghe, Paul Gerretsen, Bart Vink, Peter Pol, Ron Lander, Flip ten Cate, Michel Duinmeyer, Maarten Hajer, Jannemarie de Jonge, Henk Ovink, Alankrita Sarkar, Kasia Piskorek, Aikaterina Myserli

Deltametropolis Association

Image source: Draft National Strategy on Spatial Planning and Environment

Join "The New Planning Dialogue"

4 JUL 2019



new planning groundwork

masterclass

In 'The New Planning - groundwork' workshop, we will be debating about the fundamentals of the Dutch planning and development policies, how they have changed and whether they are adequate for our future challenges.

Highlights:

— Workshop to apprehend the inputs from the practitioners

— Henk Bouwman opening the discussion on european planning and urgencies.

01

10-11 DEC 2019



take on the future

conference

This conference provides an opportunity for critical reflection on how to achieve the goals associated with NOVI. Throughout the two days, international experts in the fields of spatial planning and territorial governance will provide their outlook on the visions for future.

Highlights:

— How to adapt in the new principles of Nationale Omgevingsvisie?
— International experts

03

1 NOV 2019



planning, policies and governance

brainstorm session

We use this session to brainstorm and discuss together with 'The New Planning' stakeholders, and to refine the directions of 'The New Planning dialogue'.

The main question to be addressed during the session- What is lacking in the current framework of planning, policies and governance?

Highlights:

— Interesting case studies
— Charter development

02

FEB 2020



regional development policies

masterclass

An european overview of the regional development policies and planning system organised by one of our partners EPRC Delft. In this masterclass we discuss the regulatory methods to change or improve the planning system of the Netherlands.

Highlights:

— International case study
— Expert interviews
— Interactive Workshop

04

APR 2020



implementing infrastructure

masterclass

After learning the ways to address at the urgencies in three masterclasses, we use the fourth one to find out the sustainable methods of implementing those plans and visions. The environmental and infrastructure planning department of University of Groningen will organize the right expert talks for this masterclass.

Highlights:

- International case study.
- Expert interviews
- Interactive Workshop

05

SEP 2020



dutch case. explicit review

peer review

We will pick one of interesting case study of spatial planning methods/ project from Dutch context and discuss the ways of learnings for other cases and the ways to improvise the project itself.

Highlights:

- One day visit to the actual site of the project or visiting the organisation of implementation.
- On-ground review and reactions from practitioners and academicians.

07

JUN 2020



international explicit review

peer review

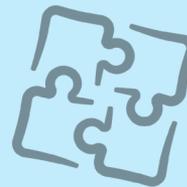
In a setting of closed round table discussion , we review and reflect on the policies, planning, projects of another country (which can be compared), in relation to the Dutch context. The first possibilities that we are thinking about are Helsinki or Paris.

Highlights:

- Excursion to another country and working with their officials to get the correct insights of the system.

06

NOV 2020



framework and application

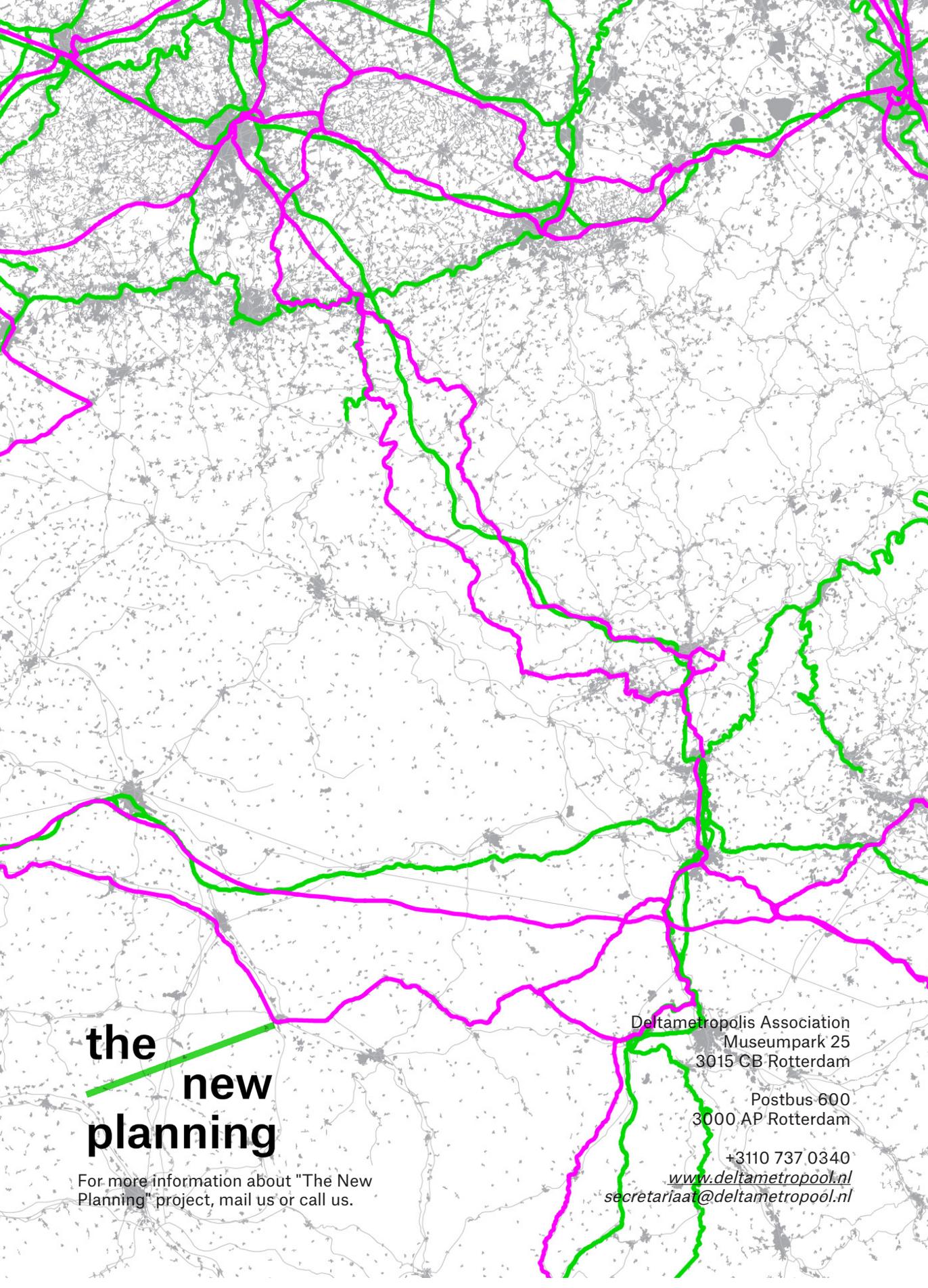
conference

In the last session of this Dialogue, we formulate a framework or guidelines together that can be useful for the practitioners to put into practice. We try and test the learnings from other seven activities in a real project scenario. Also, we contemplate the possibilities to continue this consortia discussion expanding further.

Highlights:

- Opportunity to work together with various organisation, expertise and departments in one project.

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**the
new
planning**

For more information about "The New Planning" project, mail us or call us.

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