SPIMA
Spatial dynamics and strategic planning in metropolitan areas

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Why SPIMA project?

Initiated by 10 cities involved in
EUROCITIES Working Group
Metropolitan Areas

- Working Group created in 2011
- MAIA Study in 2013
- Topic: Metropolitan governance
Metropolisation phenomenon

- Urbanization
- Governance models
  No “one size fits all”
- “Ad hoc” solutions
Main research questions

1) What are the **success criteria** for governance and strategic planning at FUA level

→ What **works better** and in which **context**? In-depth studies?

2) **How the EU could foster** more sustainable metropolitan development

- EU Urban Agenda
- Cohesion policy instruments: ERDF, ITI ...
SPIMA project

Stakeholder cities:
- Lille
- Vienna
- Lyon
- Turin
- Terrassa
- Oslo/Akershus (lead)
- Prague
- Brno
- Zurich
- Brussels

Research Partners:
- Wageningen University and Research (NL)
- Norwegian Institute for Urban Research (NR)
- Metropolitan Research Institute (HU)

Funding:
- EU ESPON
- Duration: 12 months (2017-2018)
SPIMA research & Key findings
The issue: Metropolitan Development?

- Urban developments across administrative borders: “De facto city” versus “De jure city”
- Traditional spatial planning fragmented across municipalities
- Lack of shared governance at metropolitan scale of planning
Key question

How the traditional planning practices shall respond to the challenges caused by urbanization beyond a single administrative authority?
• Definition and delineating of the MAs
• Urban trends and spatial dynamics
• Current challenges and institutional frameworks
• Success factors, incentives and policy tools
• Common approach for extrapolation (Typology)
• Policy implications
• Guidelines and recommendations for cities
MA definition and scale

• Understanding the territory: where people live, work and commute
• Governance process: Institutional arrangements between administrative bodies (formal/informal, semi-formal..)
• No single definition of a metropolitan area...that matches the urbanization trends, administrative borders, planning practices and perceptions of actors
• Delineations of MAs vary in scale: larger, smaller or similar to their FUAs, inter-regional, regional, inter-municipal etc.
Tailor-made approach to delineate metropolitan areas

SPIMA Metropolitan Development Area (MDA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDA &amp; FUAs</th>
<th>Larger than FUA</th>
<th>Similar to FUA</th>
<th>Similar to FUA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zurich</td>
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563 (Inter-cantonal) 135 (Inter-regional) 515 (ITI)
Urban trends and spatial dynamics

- Most areas represent polycentric development
- Increasing urbanization
- Population growth with exceptions
- Fragmented population distribution core cities-suburbia
- Generation of growth poles
- Fragmented land use patterns
- Mobility and accessibility not fully efficient

Additional data in trends between the MUA, FUA and MDA (LAU2 level) to analyse relevant urban indicators.
Current challenges in Metropolitan governance

51 challenges in 8 categories

- **Transport:** ensuring efficient transport infrastructure
- **Institutional:** the need for multilevel collaboration, political commitment and metropolitan governance level
- **Spatial:** achieving a shared spatial vision on efficient land use
- **Suburbanization:** expansion of urban areas
- **Affordable housing:** provision of housing
Metropolitan areas
spatial development challenges

Strategic locations, urban sprawl, jobs and housing, connected suburbs, regional infrastructures, amenities, mobility, environment, local government finance, actors’ involvement

Governance of spatial planning

Strategic planning
Statutory planning
Collaborative planning

Sustainable metropolitan development
Formal, Informal or Semi-formal MAs?

- The formal status of the metropolitan area is not critical for effective metropolitan governance.
- Recognition and embedment of the MA in the national/regional policy is a key incentive.
Governmental levels in MA planning
Collaborative arrangements

Collaborations within Metropolitan areas

- Thematic-sectoral
- Inter-regional
- Cross-municipal
- Inter-municipal unions

Brussels
Zurich
Prague
Oslo
Vienna
Terrassa
Brno
Turin
Lille
Lyon
Key success factors

• Engaging political leaders, gaining commitment support at all governance levels
• Policy framework for MA development
• Funding (national, regional, EU (ITIs))
• Common benefits of collaboration in developments (growth poles & shared services)
• Bottom-up initiatives
Recommendations and key messages
Future Metropolitan Governance

• MA - clusters of administrative & functional areas
• A “problem owner” and recognition of MAs
• Shared vision on strategic plans
• Multilevel collaboration: between governments (vertically) and across policy sectors (horizontally)
• Political representation and legitimacy
• Setting different foci: strategic, statutory and collaborative spatial planning
• EU policy framework for MA
Towards a Metropolitan planning approach

SPIMA Guidelines for policy makers & planners:

Eight “action areas” and policy tools to support planning and governance of metropolitan areas
Current progress in MPA

• In the ten stakeholder areas no consistent metropolitan planning approach: in exceptional cases defined metropolitan area

• Different progress is achieved: legal frameworks and bottom up initiatives.
SPIMA in a nutshell

• Definition of Metropolitan area: MDA delineation
• Metropolitan scale embedded in spatial planning
• Addressing spatial dynamics: urban growth and suburbanization
• Key challenges: transport, multilevel cooperation, shared vision and strategy, lack of political commitment
• Institutional frameworks: formal, semi-formal or informal
• Recommendation: Shared governance allowing interactions between levels of government and policy issues
• Mix of policy tools to MPA: strategic, coordinative, structural, financial and collaborative.
Recommendations for Brussels Metropolitan area
Bussels MA: inter-regional scale (three regions)

- Core City administrative area
- **MUA** (Morphological Urban Area)
  = Dense urban space
- **FUA** (Functional Urban Area)
  = Commuting area
- **MDA** (Metropolitan Development Area)
  = spatial dynamics of 135 LAUs
- **Communauté Métropolitaine de Bruxelles**
  = 111 municipalities (94 ZoneRER + 17)
Priorities, issues, opportunities and incentives

### Strategic priorities
- **Sustainable urban development:** better services, environment and economic opportunities
- **Mobility** sustainability factor
- **Housing:** housing affordability

### Challenges
- **Shared vision** to manage population growth and needs

### Opportunities and incentives
- The 3 new regional strategic plans
- European funds

#### Strategic priorities
- Sustainable Development
- Development of new housing areas and affordable housing
- Development of facilities in an user-friendly sustainable and attractive environment
- Development of sectors and services for stimulating jobs, economy and education
- Improving mobility as a sustainability factor for urban development.

#### Challenges
- Shared vision to manage population growth and needs

#### Opportunities
- Attractive European capital
- Culture and identity
- Education: schools and universities
- Research and innovation infrastructure
- Favourable businesses environment
- Current bottom-up networks to build upon
- Strategic position of the core urban area

#### Incentives
- New framework regulation for inter-regional-metropolitan collaboration
- BCR regional authority is proactive towards MA planning approach and collaboration
- Regional Strategic plan
- Availability of knowledge and expertise
- Access to European institutions and funds
- Participation in European networks
- Active involvement in European projects
Analysis of Brussels Metropolitan Area

Recommendations
- Developing shared governance between regional and local authorities
- Further define the MA status
- Create pre-conditions for long term collaboration at inter-regional level:
  - Bottom up initiatives to create common benefits
  - Gaining political commitment
  - Enhancing the role of strategic planning

Policy tools
- Fostering cooperation: 3 Regions
- Clear coordination process
- Developing inter-regional institutional framework for MPA
Workshop discussions
Applying the SPIMA guidelines

2 parallelle discussies:

**Vraag:** Hoe kan de planning en het bestuur van het grootstedelijk gebied van Brussel verbeterd worden?

a) **UITDAGINGEN** bij het plannen van het grootstedelijk gebied
Moderator: Jan Zaman, Departement Omgeving
Bruno Bianchet, ESPON Belgian Contact Point

b) **GOVERNANCE** van het grootstedelijk gebied:
Moderator: Alfredo Corbalan, perspective.brussels, Anneloes Van Noordt, Departement Omgeving
Thank you / Merci / Dank u

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