Designing Integrated Sustainable Urban Strategies

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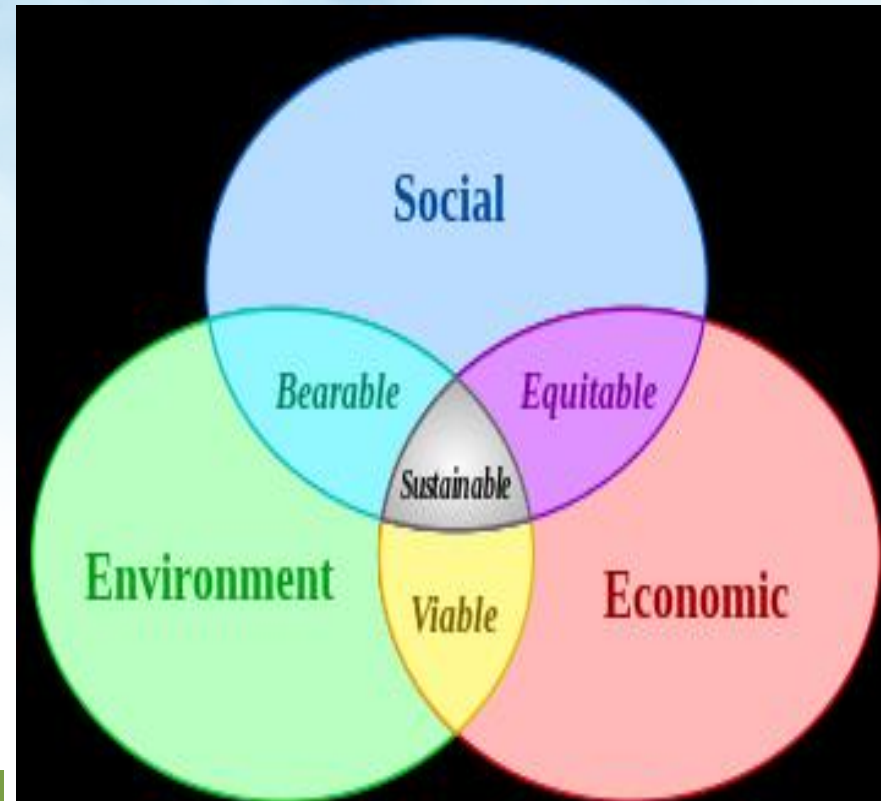
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The dimensions of the sustainability

Sustainability is still a key-principle
For effective planning processes and
good projects' design.

Sustainability should build upon more
dimensions and open to new aspects
Besides the classic and very valid:

Society, Economy and Environment

Sustainability into practice

- How do we make sustainable choices in planning processes or in designing projects?

- Let's keep in mind when we operate planning choices that sustainability is a multi-dimensional concept!

Society, Economy and Environement

Continued community participation has the proposed solutions/projects involved the community (**Community Dimension)**

Equitable sharing and distribution of project benefits - have the projects/solutions incorporated mechanisms that guarantee equitable access to and distribution of project benefits on a continuous basis? **(Equity Dimension)**

Continued flow of net benefits - have been properly weighted all the cost and benefits under varying conditions of the proposed solutions/projects? Do They guarantee an acceptable level of financial and economic return ? **(Economic Dimension)**

Maintenance of environmental stability have the projects/solutions considered environmental implications so that negative impacts on environment are either avoided or mitigated during the life of the project? **(Environmental Dimension)**

But even more…

Continued operation and maintenance of proposed solutions - Can the potential solution/project receive necessary support (both budgetary and institutional) to enable it to achieve expected results? **(Logistics Dimension)**

Institutional stability - have the projects/solutions considered adequately the governance requirements and thus made provisions so that management support to project operations continue, during the life of the project ? **(Governance Dimension)**
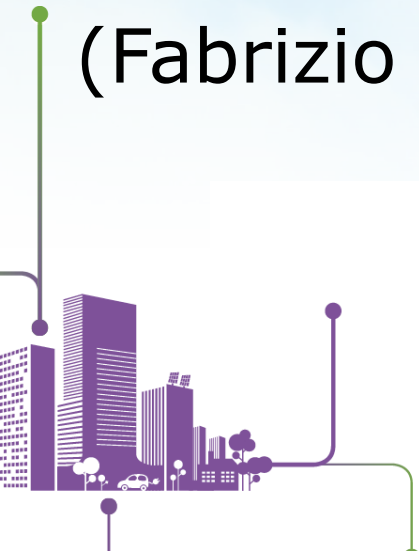
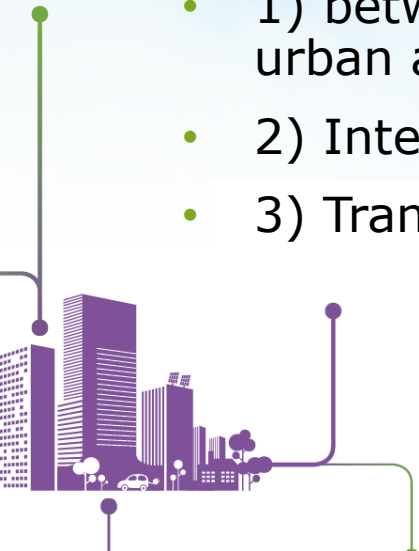# Place and Territory matter in pursuing an integrated approach!

'The further away one is from places, the less chance there is to achieve integration'

(Fabrizio Barca)

Integration in a nutshell

- Horizontal: between policy sectors, answering to the need of coordinating different, conflicting, divergent policy fields

- Vertical: between the different layers of government, looking for schemes sustaining multi-level governance approaches

- Territorial:

- 1) between neighbouring cities, aiming for cooperation in functional urban areas (metropolitan scale coordination)

- 2) Inter-regional (large scale coordination)

- 3) Trans-regional (e.g Danube Strategy)

Historical background

PROGRAMMES	CEC KEY DOCUMENTS	AGENDAS - GUIDELINES	
URBAN PILOT PROJECTS 1989-1999 (UPP, art.10 ERDF)	Towards an Urban Agenda in the European Union (CEC, 1997)		1999
URBAN I 1994-1999	Sustainable Urban Development in the European Union: A Framework for Action (CEC, 1998)	ESDP – European Spatial Development Perspectives (1999)	
URBAN II 2000-2006		Lille Agenda ("Multiannual Programme of Co-operation in Urban Affairs within the European Union", French Presidency, 2000)	
URBACT I 2002-2006	Third Report on Economic and Social Cohesion (CEC, 2004)	Urban Acquis (Dutch Presidency 2004)	
URBACT II 2007-2013	Cohesion policy and cities: urban contribution to growth and jobs in the regions (CEC, 2006)	Bristol Accord (British Presidency 2005)	
JESSICA 2009	Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion (CEC 2008)	Leipzig Charter (German Presidency 2007)	
URBACT III 2014-2020	AN AGENDA FOR A REFORMED COHESION POLICY A place-based approach to meeting European Union challenges and expectations (2009)	Toledo Declaration (Spanish Presidency, 2010)	
CLLD (Community Led Development)		Territorial Agenda of the European Union 2020 Towards an Inclusive, Smart and Sustainable Europe of Diverse Regions (Hungarian Presidency 2001)	2020
CLLDS (Community Led Local Development Strategies)	Cities of tomorrow - Challenges, visions, ways forward (CEC 2011)		
ITI (Integrated Territorial Investments)		Pact of Amsterdam (2016)	

INTEGRATION THROUGH AREA BASED APPROACH

INTEGRATED TERRITORIAL APPROACH

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

POLYCENTRIC AND BALANCED TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT

URBAN REGENERATION/RENEWAL HELPED BY FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

INTEGRATION OF SOCIAL ECONOMIC AND TERRRITORIAL DIMENSION

TERRITORIAL COHESION

SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

INCLUSIVE & SMART

SOCIAL INNOVATION IN PLANNING PRACTICES

PLACE BASED APPROACH

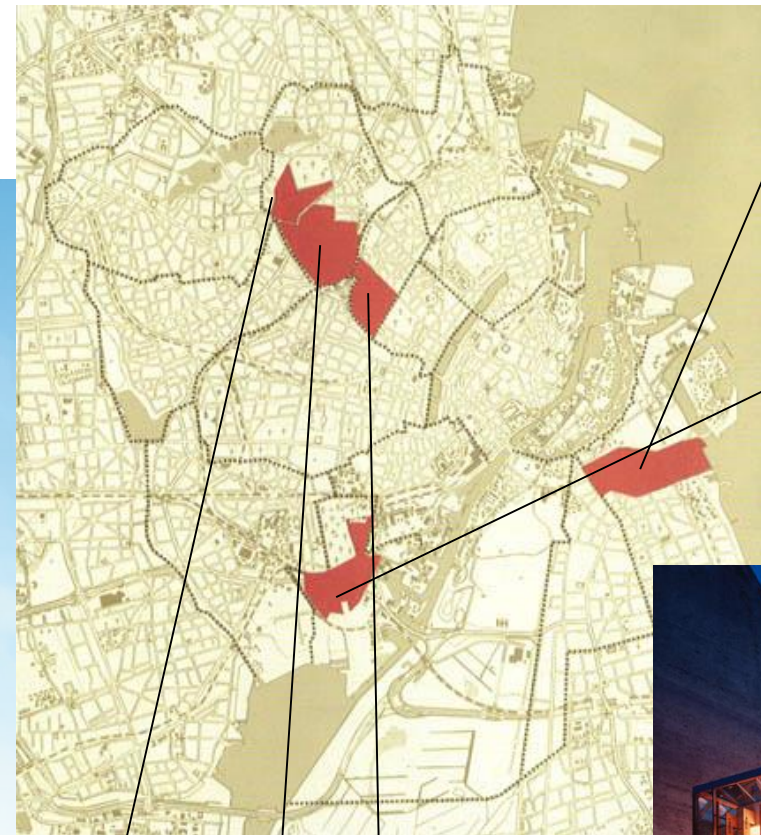# Old style science park vs new style knowledge district

- Science 'Valley'
- Out of town
- Poor public transport links, extensive car parking
- New build Property development but poor energy standards
- Half let, not much science
- All ERDF, mostly physical

NOT INTEGRATED!

- New style knowledge district linked to 3S regional level
- Mixed use development
- Coworking spaces,
- Incubation, finance, and SME support
- Clubs, cafes, bars, restaurants
- Walking, cycling, tram,
- Creches and local services
- University design and technology departments relocated
- New intermediary agency between city, university with businesses on board
- ESF and ERDF useful combinations

European Commission

Holmbladsgade

Kongens Enghave

Femkanten

Nørdvest

Norrebro park

A good example of sustainability and integrative approach

Holmbladsgade – Copenhagen
KVARTELOEFT URP

PROBLEMS	FIELDS OF ACTION
housing stock in the area is generally run-down	Social and economical regeneration: involving local private firms
frequently changing residents	Elastic Labour Market : to create sinergy between firms and public institutions (PPP)
Growing rate of unemployment/lack of professional training	
lack of "elbow room" and good outdoor options, such as open spaces, squares and public playgrounds	Regenerating through cultural, leisure and sport initiatives: events, multi-culty meetings, promoting intercultural dialogue (Kulturkafee project)
Many people in the Holmbladsgade-area, for one reason or another, need to be integrated into the local community.	Physical environment (square, streets): Improving and living public spaces
Many refugees, immigrants, lonely people and people outside the labour market live in the area.	

Holmbladsgade - Copenhagen

"the line for what constitutes general issues and problems that can only be solved at local or central government level and for what constitutes local issues that may, to a greater extent, be left to local decision making is fluid and must be defined during the process in a dialogue between the local area and the municipality" (Kvarterløftssekretariatet, 2001).

Integration & fluidity

Kvarterløft are the rhird generation of *URPs* inDanmark:

1° generation: demolition and reconstruction
2° generation: more participation, but gentrification

3° generation: trial neighbourhood regeneration projects e holistic urban renewal.

Not all projects have the **RIGHT SCALE:**
Choosing right scale projects for the neighbourhood

LOCAL CLARIFICATION, that is Defining the process through a collectivistic approach

LOCAL ROOTING that is the right projrct at the right place = sustainability

Holmbladsgade - Copenhagen

European Commission

Coproduction: URBACT's cyclical model

What makes a good strategy?

- The strategy needs to be seen as a policy instrument not an admin exercise.

- Involving the key stakeholders from the outset

- Robust analysis based on evidence

- Ensure a clear objectives and results – the changed situation in the future that you seek to achieve

- Setting priorities for investment and identifying links to priorities in Operational Programmes

- Ensure that you have cofinancing for the actions (national local)

- Propose a framework for delivery, governance, project selection

- Measurement: defining output and result indicators

- Anticipate risks - e.g. delays in procurement, cofinancing unravelling

Results: Measuring success

- Results and result indicators - using participative methods to develop indicators with local groups so that ownership of success stays in the community (URBACT Together)

- Work to frame indicators in a meaningful way

- Monitoring and review –

- Make monitoring the target the core work of the stakeholder group

- Be aware of unintended consequences (creaming, parking, teaching to the test, postcode lotteries)

Key take-aways

- Be participative **- Nothing about us without us** – always involve target communities (whether residents, users or businesses)

- Be **integrated** in vertical, horizontal and territorial sense

- Focus on objectives and measureable **results**

Thank you

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