Metropolitan governance and planning

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- SPIMA – a general overview
- A metropolitan planning approach - 8 action areas
- Policy advise on metropolitan governance and planning
- Key success factors
- Case study - Zurich
SPIMA – a framework for a metropolitan planning approach based on the analysis of 10 metropolitan areas

- Definitions and spatial characteristics for delineating MAs
- Urban trends and spatial dynamics
- Current challenges and institutional frameworks
- Success factors, incentives and policy tools
- Common approach for extrapolation
- Policy implications
- Guidelines with recommendations
Shared governance

- Based on recognition of interdependencies among actors
- Bridges fragmented institutional structures and helps addressing complex challenges
- Implemented by utilizing organized forms of structured interplays, based on horizontal and vertical collaboration
- Actors cooperate under conditions involving mutual interests and on equal basis
- Effectiveness depends on level of cooperation, willingness and commitment of actors
- Requires sufficient capacities to reach agreements
The Urban Development Network

Inspire, innovate and exchange

A metropolitan planning approach (MPA) – 8 action areas

- Synergy and complementarity between sectoral issues
- Strengthening coordination between administrative levels
- Preventing duplication of planning efforts and investment
- Achieving greater understanding among multiple actors of potential mutual benefits
- Strengthening knowledge-based decision-making
Set of policy tools for implementing MPA

- Strategic - developing joint strategies
- Coordinative – establishment of coordinating bodies
- Structural – formalization of competences, responsibilities, relationships across governmental structures
- Procedural – setting legal, mandatory mechanisms for metropolitan planning
- Collaborative – establishment of collaborative processes between actors
Key observations and policy advise on metropolitan governance and planning I

• The number of players defines the need for coordination

• 3 types of metropolitan status: formal, semi-formal and informal

• Formalisation of the metropolitan area is not in itself sufficient

• More important:
  - Clearly defined policy objectives
  - Clear division of responsibilities
  - Suitable planning tools
  - Administrative and financial capacities
Key observations and policy advise on metropolitan governance and planning II

- Metropolitan governance is achieved when a metropolitan planning is a competence of a specific organizational structure, whether a formal or informal one

- Metropolitan planning approach should be embedded in routine planning and governance practices rather than “stand-alone” systems

- Metropolitan planning approach requires an interplay between different institutional structures (vertical and horizontal coordination) coordinated by a single metropolitan body or through shared governance

- There is no “one-size-fits-all” model, national and local institutional context matters
Understanding the suitable institutional arrangements

- National context:
  - The constitution and the legal framework
  - The degree of decentralization and division of administrative responsibilities for spatial planning among government levels
  - The inter-governmental fiscal system and tax system
  - The interaction between local and higher level governments in spatial planning

- Local context:
  - Size of the area
  - Political system of local administration
  - Political commitment and support
  - Decision-making structure and culture
  - Cooperation practice with local inhabitants
  - Local financing system
Role of national governments

- Establishing overarching policy framework and guidance
  - Enhance the involvement of regional and local authorities
  - Guiding mechanism for the definition of metropolitan areas, their functions and vision for the future
  - Official recognition of the metropolitan areas and their competences in the overall planning and governance system

- Policy tools: legal, financial, capacity-building

- Neutral mediator to resolve conflicts of interests that cannot be resolved locally/regionally

- Oversight of the use of public financing
Key success factors I

- Achieving a common understanding between actors on mutual benefits and interdependencies is more important than establishing legal and financial frameworks.

- Combining top-down incentives with bottom-up collaboration initiatives.

- Setting the “rules of the game”: combining shared governance in spatial planning with the establishment of more restrictive/legal mechanisms for growth management (e.g. land-use, infrastructure development, environment protection and social services).

- Ensuring collaboration between the relevant planning authorities at national, regional and local levels.
Key success factors II

- Fine-tuning cooperation takes time: start with commonly recognizable issues for most actors (e.g. transport)

- Engaging political leaders and gaining support from higher levels of government

- Involvement of a wider range of stakeholders: businesses

- Working towards a “minimum gain for all” when negotiation and compromise is needed

- Ensuring transparency in the collaboration processes

- Creating common funds and agencies for supporting the metropolitan scale planning that can enable expertise and financial incentives to be applied (EU and/ or national sources)
Case study – Zurich MA

- Main challenges – population growth, urban densification and sprawl, ageing

- Collaboration based on Swiss Spatial concept (2011) and Planning act

- Debate about introducing mandatory planning in “functional areas”

3,03 mio, 8 cantons, 268 municipalities 900 thous. jobs
Case study – Zurich MA

- Metropolitan cooperation started within “public transport association”
- Metropolitan area association founded in 2009
- Zurich planning authorities play the leading role
- Status of metropolitan area – semi-formal (based on inter-cantonal agreements)
- Metropolitan approach implemented through:
  - Inter-cantonal strategy (METRO-ROK-ZH)
  - Cantonal structure plans (approval at federal level) and local land-use plans
Case study - Zurich

- Key success factors (by stakeholders):
  - Political leadership, support and commitment
  - Policy and legislative framework for MA development
- Next steps:
  - Developing the role of in promoting communication among agencies
  - Acquiring federal support
  - Identification of relevant spatial planning tools for implementation
Thank you!

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