

Governing the transition to smart urban green

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What is the main challenge for a transition to smart urban green?

European Landscape Convention

- Reflect on protection of values of ordinary landscapes (urban and rural)
- Integrating different interests and perspectives
- Stakeholder (citizen) participation
- Inclusion of expert and local knowledge

Conceptual questions

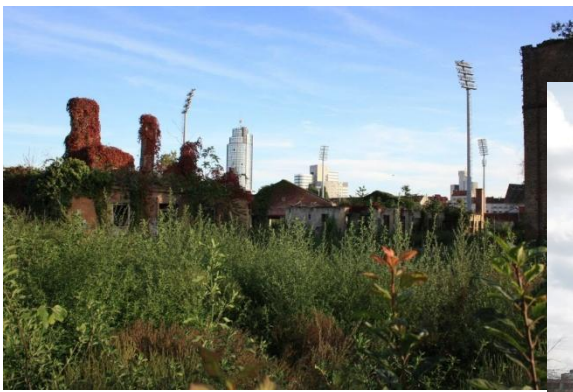
- What is (urban) landscape?
- Who decides what landscapes are (in)attractive?
- What is governance?
- What are the limitations in current governance
- How could we overcome these?



In what ways are two of these urban landscapes similar and different from the third?

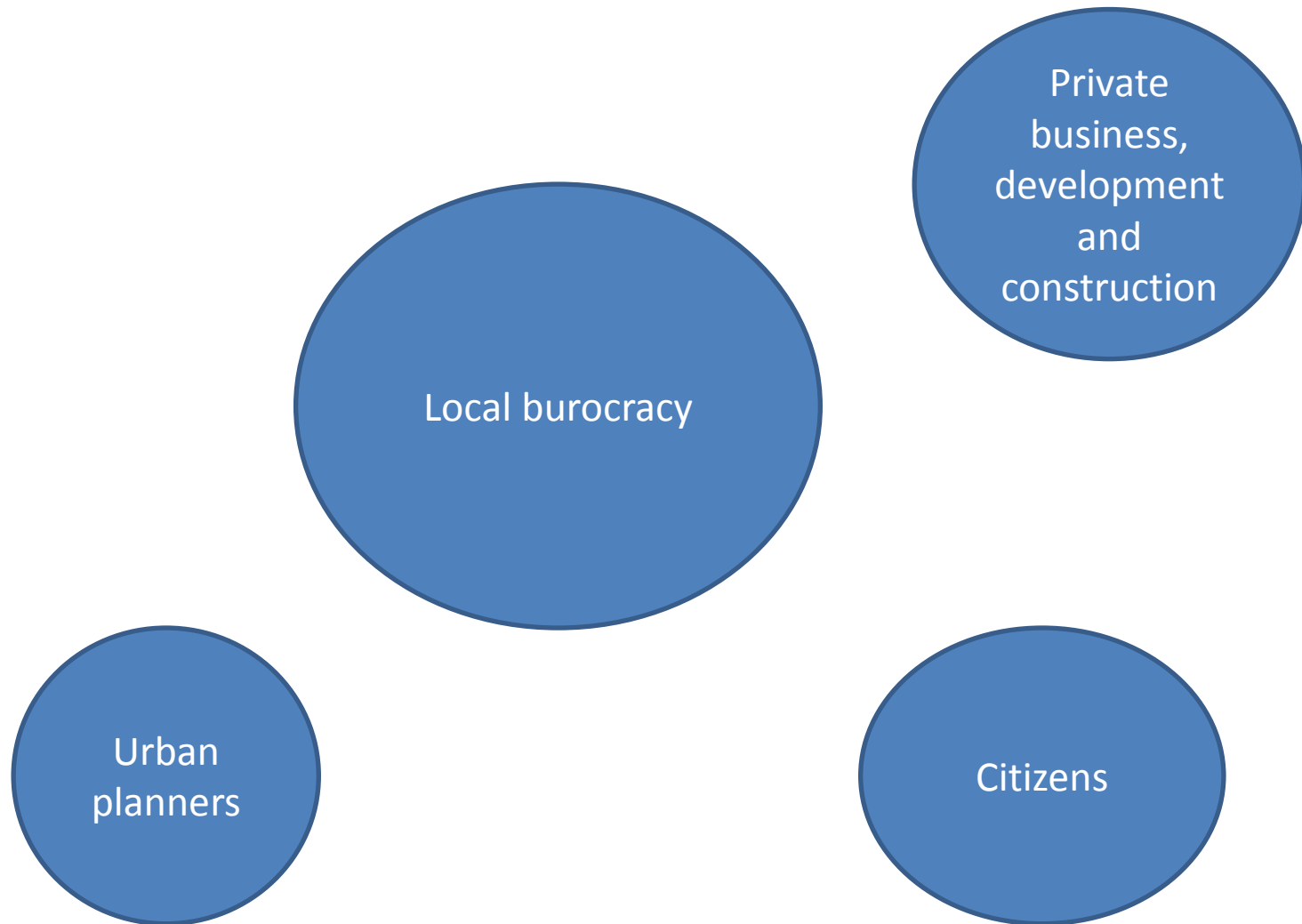
In what ways are two of these urban landscapes similar and different from the third?

- Green
- For living
- Organized
- Human intervention
- Capital investments
- Unnatural
- Secure /friendly
- Triggers imagination
- Stone
- For recreation
- Chaos
- No intervention
- No investment
- Natural
- Dodgy
- Does not trigger any imagination



What is attractive?
Who decides?

4 key actors at local level



4 types of governance

(Hisschemoller 1993, Hisschemoller and Hoppe 1996)

- Rule (experts decide)
- Negotiation (advocacy coalitions)
- Accommodation (pacification of conflict)
- Learning

	Rule	Negotiation	Accommodati on	Learning
Power differences	High	Low	Medium	Change
Power of expertise	High	Low	High	Low
Stakeholder participation	Low	High	Medium	High
New actors / new knowledge	No	No	No	Yes
Type of problem	Structured	Moderately structured	Ill-structured	Unstructured

Two critical dimensions

Values

No



Yes

Knowledge

No



Yes

**Unstructured
problem**

LEARNING

ACCOMMODATION

**Ill-structured
problem**

**Moderately
structured problem**

NEGOTIATION

RULE

Structured problem

Role of expertise

- Ruling: Experts take actual decisions, based on actual divisions between fields of expertise
- Negotiation: Experts take sides with different interests (knowledge as ammunition)
- Accommodation: moderating value conflict
- Learning: they support signalling and recognition of new knowledge

Political economy of urban landscapes

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- Local bureaucracies decide, they take into account the views of (local) business (developers and construction), spatial planners and citizens,
- Local administrations are interested in income and in avoiding costs,
- Investments lead to income, public services bring costs,
- Bureaucrasies rely on a stable network of private actors
- Development brings income, housing and employment, which is in the public interest
- Citizen opposition brings cost, they defend particular interests (NIMBY)

Political economy of urban landscapes

II

- Urban planners have specific expertise, which can be used to discourage public participation
- Idem for political (elected) representatives

In conclusion (Hypothesis)

- There is a natural coalition between local bureaucracies and (local) business,
- Unless specific local conditions necessitate a coalition
bureaucracy and citizens
 - Economic / population decline
 - Not attractive for newcomers

How to overcome limitations?

- Aim 1: Integration
 - Of spatial and landscape functions
 - Of knowledge from different disciplines
 - Of administrative procedures

- Aim 2: Participation
 - Taking local knowledge seriously
 - Avoiding participation paradox
 - New business models for green and blue

Conclusion

Local governments need to work together with their citizens in coproducing the quality of urban landscapes and therefore recognize the routines, practices, vested interests and power relations that form a barrier for such a coalition

A shift in coalitions (and in the institutions that enable these) is the main challenge for a sustainability transition to smart urban green