

Urban Economics & Planning

The development of New Towns

E.Professor Dr.Luigi van Leeuwen

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Outline of the Lecture

- Introduction
- Urban Economics
- Good Governance
- Local Leadership & Creative Entrepreneurship
- National & Regional Influence
- Physical Planning:
 - Xiamen – Five Years Plan
 - Zoetermeer – Masterplan 2025
- People's Participation

Introduction

- 1966 Member City Council of Rotterdam
- 1970 Executive Regional Council Rijnmond
- 1975 Mayor of Capelle aan den Yssel
- 1988 Mayor of Zoetermeer
- 1994 Professor Local Taxation, Rotterdam
- 1998 Professor Local Public Finance, Tilburg University
- 2005 Mayor of Wassenaar
- 2008 Consultant Public & Private Sector

The Kingdom of the Netherlands

- One of the 27 European Union States
- The Nation – State (16 mln Inhabitants)
- 12 Provinces
- 418 Municipalities:
 - 25 municipalities > 100.000 Inhabitants
 - City of Zoetermeer: 121.500

What is a City?

- 'A settlement that generates its economic growth from its own local economy' (Jacobs)
- Economies of scale:
 - Input sharing
 - Labor market pooling
 - Knowledge-spillovers
- Diseconomies of scale:
 - Congestion forces
 - Disamenities

Vision & Objectives

- Vision & Objectives of Economic Policies:
 - Institutional position of cities & regions:
 - Power & Finance
 - Economic well-being of the community:
 - Jobs -- Tax base -- Quality of life
- Local Leadership:
 - The role of Places as Incubators of Creativity, Innovation, and New Firms and Industries
 - 3 T's of development: Technology, Talent, Tolerance (Richard Florida)

Organizing Capacity

- Organizing Capacity:
 - Bridge between vision and implementation
- Public Policy:
 - Intentional Use of the Powers of Government to Effect a societal outcome
 - Stimulate Business-Clubs
- Quality of Place:
 - What's there?
 - Who's there?
 - What's going on?

Entrepreneurship Policy

- ‘... often aims to catalyze better governance, for instance, by fostering networks of potential customers and service providers...’
- ‘Governance refers to conscious collective action that extends beyond government, deploying, for instance, the capacities of businesses, community groups, and academic institutions to bring about such an outcome’ (David M. Hart)

Good Governance

- World Bank defines GG:
- Livability (Quality of Life)
- Competitiveness
- Good Governance & Management:
 - Inclusion & representation of all groups in the urban society, as well as accountability, integrity, and transparency of local government actions in pursuit of shared goals
- Bankability (Sound Finance)

Local, Regional & National Policymakers

- Local Policymakers:
 - Municipal Council
 - Executive of Mayor & Aldermen (Vice-Mayors)
 - Management Team
- Provincial & Regional Policymakers
- National Policymakers:
 - Department of Infrastructure & Environment
 - Department of Home Affairs & Housing

Physical Planning

- National White Paper on Urbanization:
 - New Towns in the Netherlands
 - City of Zoetermeer, a new town since the 60's
- Provincial Physical Plan
- Regional Structure Plan
- Local Destination Plans
- Finance:
 - National Allowances & Loans
 - Local: Yield (selling of land) & Taxation

CHAMPS:

China's 20 fastest-growing cities

- Xiamen & other 19 cities in China's central provinces with large rural populations
- Growth potential till 2020: 27%
- Gap of average incomes between the richest 20 cities and the Champs will fall from 42%(2009) to 15%(2020)

Business-opportunity ranking 2009

Nr 1

- Economy Suzhou
- Consumer Guanzhou
- Logistics Guanzhou
- IT connect. Shantoo
- Education Huaian
- Wages Shanghai
- Health Care Hengyang
- Pollution Haikou

Xiamen

- 7
- 16
- 18
- 10
- >30
- >30
- >30
- 2

Xiamen 5- Years Plan

- Xiamen Special Economic Zone (>17% annual growth in GDP)
- Plan:
 - Innovative: Change & Create
 - Livable: UN Habitat Award
 - Safe: Safe & Healthy Living Environment
 - Civil: Culture is the Soft Power of the City
 - Happiness: Xiamen is a Happy place to live in

Zoetermeer Masterplan 2025

- Objectives:
 - Stabilizing of the Population (130.000)
 - 25.000 more Jobs
 - Doubling the Value of the City
 - 30 Minutes Travel Time to the G4 cities (Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague & Utrecht)
 - Improving Social Structure
 - Extending Cultural Facilities
- Special attention:
 - ICT
 - Pressure-groups
 - Leisure

People's Participation

- Choice & Voice
- Every four years Local Council Elections
- The right to complain over plans
- The right to propose ideas:
 - Social Internet gives everybody the opportunity to give his or her ideas in an early stage of the planning-process; cheap & easy!

Conclusions

- Xiamen & Zoetermeer can profit of each others knowledge in the field of urban development