Remixing the (Suburban) City – Institutional Frame, Strategies, Projects in the Vienna Region

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To understand regional development/spatial planning in the Vienna Region …

- The legal frame and the laws of regional/spatial planning are regulated by the "Lands" in Austria. In the case of Vienna and Lower Austria, they are partly completely different which complicates co-operations.

Spatial planning of the local level
- The spatial planning on the local level is part of the autonomous competence of the municipality. Provincial government supervises the spatial planning activities of the municipalities. Local development scheme (örtliches Raumordnungsprogramm), land use plan (Bebauungsplan), building regulation plan(s) (Bebauungsplan).

Vienna:
- Because of the status as a municipality and a land, Vienna has to fulfill the spatial planning on the local and the supra-local level in its autonomous competence.

To understand regional development/spatial planning in the Vienna Region …

- Due to the Austrian tax system municipalities try to improve their financial situation by creating new business and housing areas (financial compensation law, payroll (communal) tax: revenue depends on population size and number of working places).

- Favourite housing areas for Austrians are (still?) small villages near the cities, with „green” intact environment, good traffic connections – to use the economic, cultural infrastructure of the agglomeration area.
To understand regional development/spatial planning in the Vienna Region ...

- Because of the fact that Vienna is a municipality and at the same time a provincial state the co-operation on the same level (Vienna with Lower Austria or Vienna with the surrounding communes) especially with the surrounding communes is difficult.

- Vienna and the communes of Lower Austria do not have a common inter-communal planning body because of political reasons, economic prosperity and rivalry between the city and the suburban area. Regional planning and planning between the city of Vienna and the municipalities of Lower Austria were mainly based on singular projects.

Vienna region – structures for Cooperation

- The „Planungsgemeinschaft Ost (PGO)“ is platform of the federal states Vienna, Lower Austria and Burgenland to initiate and coordinate spatial-related activities. It was founded in 1978. It elaborates basic information, reports and concepts, mostly concerning the development of settlements, traffic and the preservation of green spaces.

- The association „Verein Niederösterreich – Wien, gemeinsame Ehrungsräume“ was founded in 1974, it aims at securing leisure related areas and at creating and financially subsidising leisure areas with supralocal importance.

- The Verkehrsverbund Ost-Region Ges.m.b.H. (VOR) co-ordinates tariffs, time-tables and information of public transport (train, bus, tramway, underground) of the Eastern Region of Austria and the Viennese metropolitan area (1984). Share holders: Vienna, Lower Austria, Burgenland

- A political upgrading of the intermunicipal co-operation has been realised by the institutionalisation of a common financed metropolitan area management / Stadt Umland Management (2006).

Stadt-Umland-Management Wien / NÖ

- Joint initiative of the provincial governments Vienna, Lower Austria

- „Political heads“ are the members of the provincial governments in charge of spatial planning, regional development

- Steering committee with administrative and political representatives

- Budget: approx. 200,000 € (for continuos activities)
SUM Region

„SUM region“ is not defined exactly (due to different functional linkages) ... but focused on this region.

SUM - Activities

- Cooperation and intermediation
  - activating the cooperation and harmonization of the involved Lower Austrian communities and Viennese districts and the two „Länder“ concerning regional planning matters as well as specific projects
  - mediating controversial cross-border issues
- Platform of Information
  - serving as a platform for information about topics of regional relevance
  - organizing exchange of ideas among the stakeholders with a focus on establishing an all-inclusive vision of the agglomeration
- Incentives and Management
  - designing solutions for cross-border challenges together with the stakeholders to create added regional value

Regional Development - Lower Austria

- „Rural country“
- With different problems due to the history after the 2nd world war.
- Iron Curtain (1945 – 1989)
- New challenges - EU enlargement
- Development in the „Bratislava Region“
- Population increase vs. decrease
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Population 2001 - 2031

Quelle: ÖRE/STATISTIK AUSTRIA - Bevölkerungsprognose 2006

The agglomeration area Vienna – Lower Austria

- metropolitan area with 2.6 mio inhabitants
- separated by the Danube River into „North“ and „South“
- Vienna (1.7 Mio), surrounded by 13 small towns (10,000 – 25,000), many small municipalities (> 100) and large areas of precious nature and farmland
- radial structure, continuous settlement area along some axes (esp. to the south)

The agglomeration area in Lower Austria

- Concentration in the south of Vienna
- Biggest settlement area in Lower Austria
- Highest regional tax revenue
- Decrease industrial/producing sector
- Retail, logistics most important branches
- Problems concerning environment, traffic system, „life quality“
- New challenges for politician (new initiative groups versus traditional politician system, cooperation vienna – Lower Austria)
The agglomeration area in Lower Austria

Competition city versus periphery – for example: retail

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Centre Areas in Lower Austria

www.raumordnung-noe.at

- Since December 2004 (14th amendment to the Lower Austrian Spatial Planning Act) municipalities have the possibility to zone “centre areas” in the land use plan. Zoning town centre areas is an important step towards an integrative strategy for the development of the town centre and retail structures.
- Inside centre areas – no limitation of sales area
- Inside housing area – max. 1000 m² floor space
- Periphery – max. 80 m² (except goods not relevant for centre areals like cars, furniture...)

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Urban renewal in Lower Austria

www.dorf-stadterneuerung.at

As a result of the successful programme “Village Renewal”, the programme „Urban Renewal“ was started in 1992.
- people in the towns can take part actively in the life of the town and get involved in the discussion, decision and design process.
- Main goals:
  - more life quality in the towns
  - better communication of the citizens among each other
  - Rising its attractiveness and the economic potential
  - Co-operation of town and economic acteurs
- Always 18 towns can be active in the programme Urban Renewal at the same time
- financed by the government of Lower Austria and the municipalities

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Further initiatives (Lower Austria)

- Lower Austrian cooperation platform for promoting shopping in town centres - www.nafes.at
  - Cooperation government of Lower Austria – chamber of commerce
  - Focussed on projects with „commercial background“
  - Financial support for projects financed by the government and chamber of commerce
- Housing subsidy in centre areas: housing projects in defined centre areas can gain higher housing subsidies – main goal: revitalisation of town / village centres
- Integration: Social segregation is an urgent challenge especially in old, historical centre areas in former industrialized regions. There are now a lot of Integration activities organized by NGO’s, municipalities, regions and the government of Lower Austria.

Projects (Lower Austria)

Guidance systems (Bad Voslau)

New Design public space (Guntramsdorf)

New town hall (Ebreichsdorf)

Renewable energy (Perchtoldsdorf)

Cultural events (Haag)
Projects (Lower Austria)

Multimedia library (Eggenburg)

New Design City Center (Hauptstrasse Mödling)

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Projects (Lower Austria)

New design city center with underground parking lot (Tulln)

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Projects (Lower Austria)

New event location (Burg Perchtoldsdorf)

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Projects (Lower Austria)

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Further informations....

www.stadt-umland.at
www.ppo.wien.at
www.raumordnung-nos.at
www.dorf-stadterneuerung.at
www.nafes.at
www.burg-perchtoldsdorf.at
www.multiversum-schwechat.at

Thank you for your attention

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