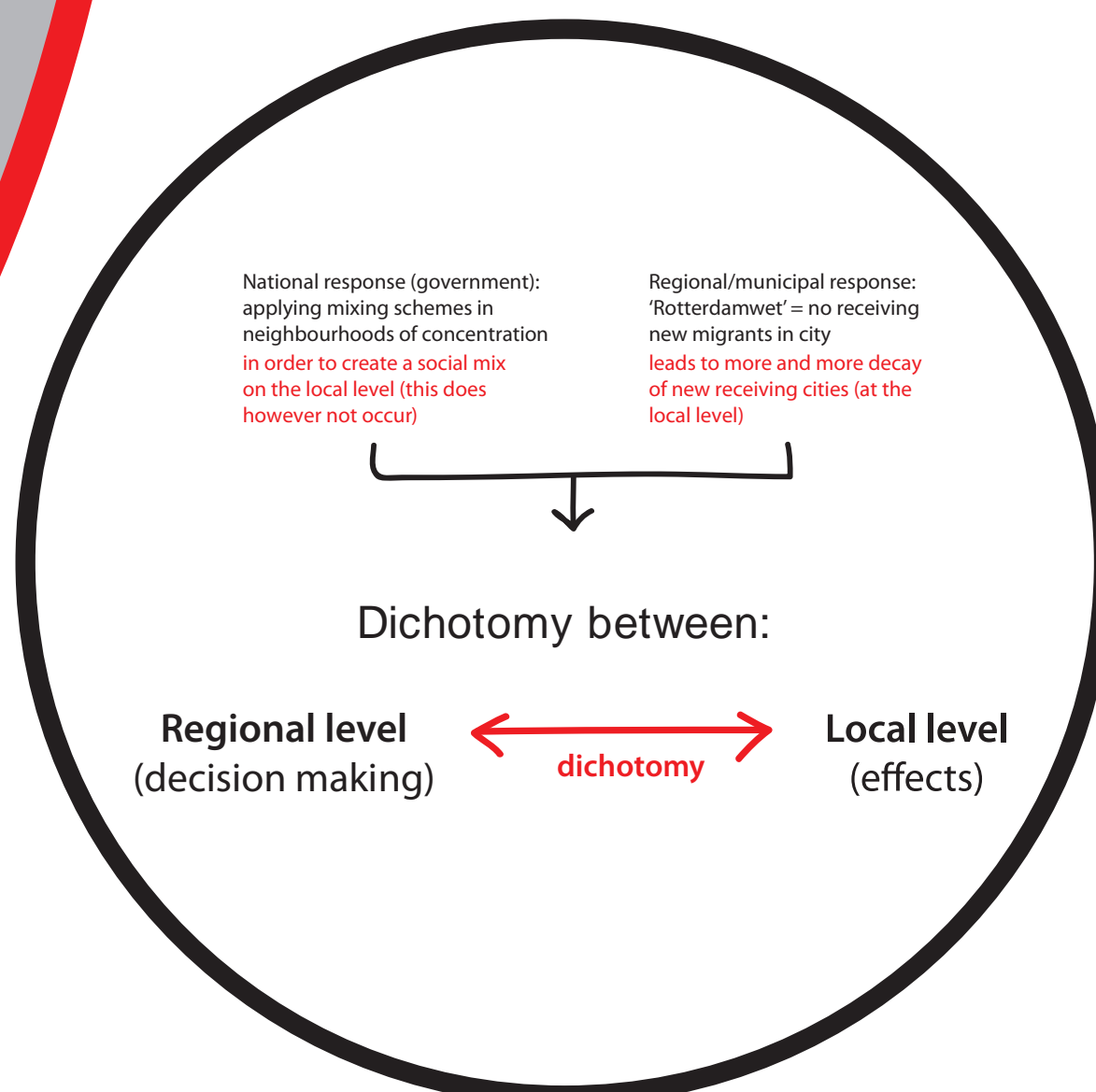


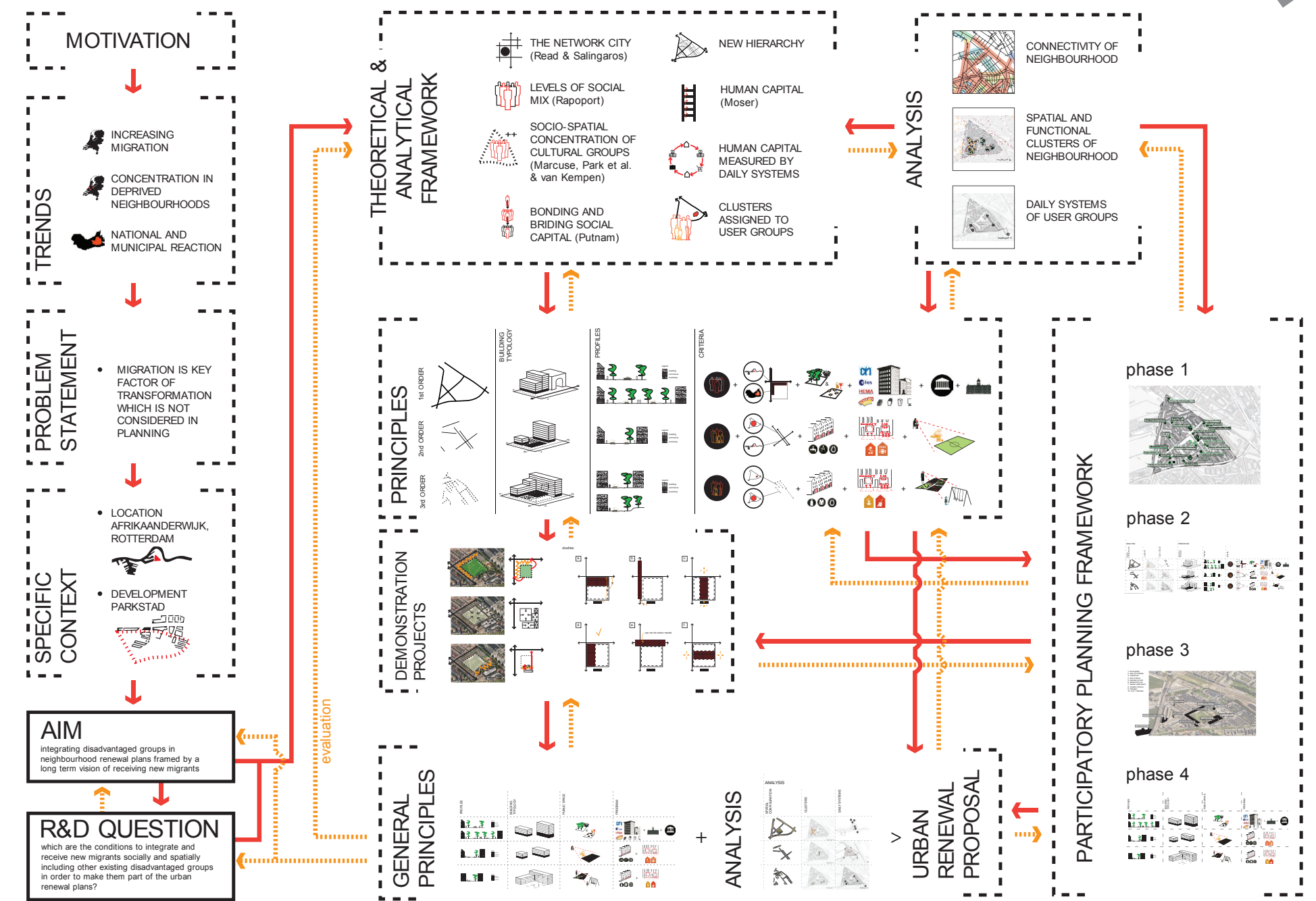
Is integration and empowerment of the excluded needed?

A review on the socio-spatial integration and empowerment of (arriving) migrants and other disadvantaged groups in urban restructuring plans in the Netherlands.

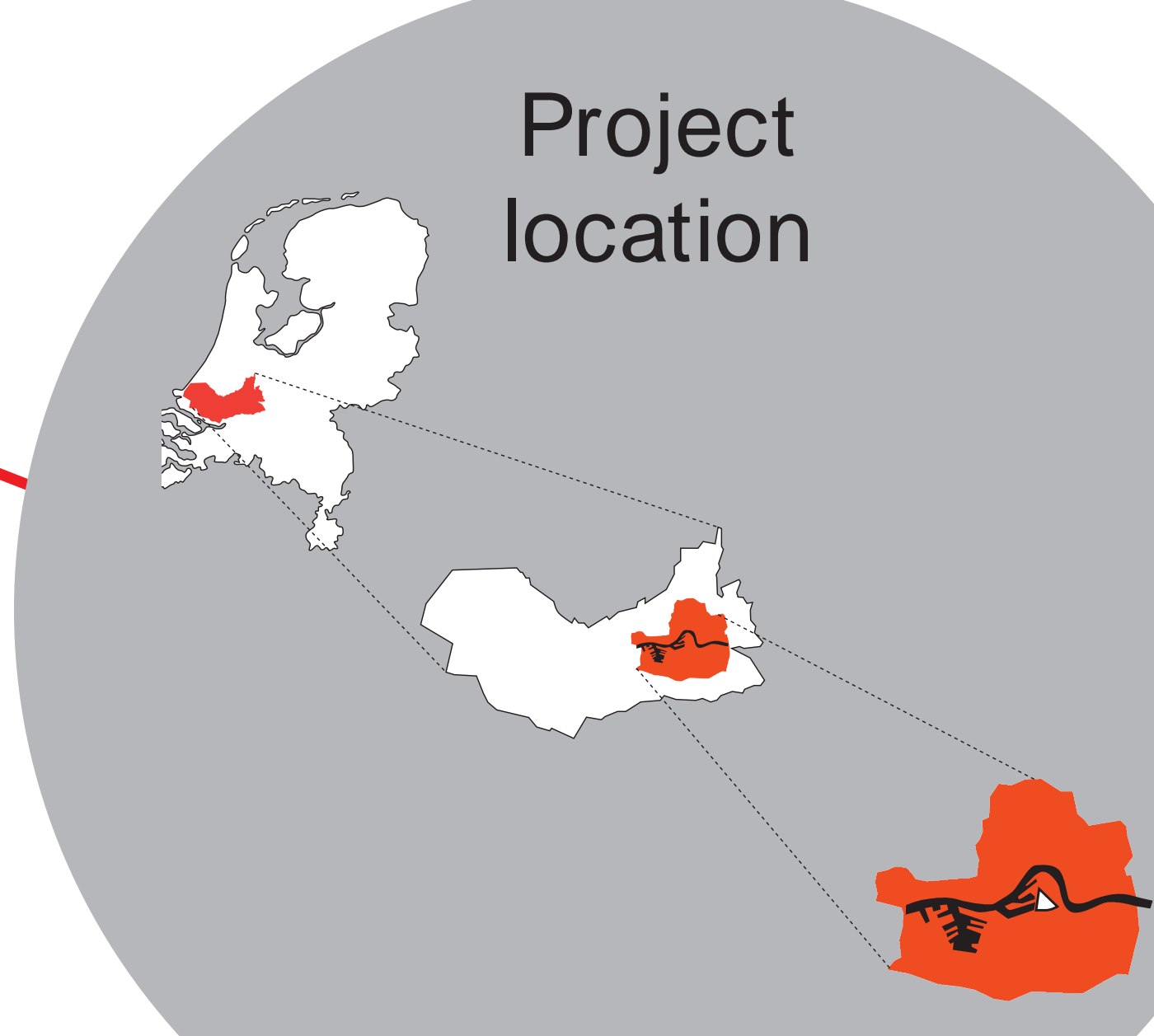
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Methodology



Project location



Not only in the Netherlands but worldwide the number of migrants is growing. Nowadays almost 216 million people live outside their country of origin. In the Netherlands the number in-migration is much higher than the out-migration. Most of the migrants in the Netherlands originate from Turkey, Suriname and Morocco.

In the year 2007 the Netherlands retained 1.7 million migrants. According to the Central Bureau of Statistics this number will grow to 2.2 million in the year 2025. As differences in economic circumstances between the rich West and other developing countries in Africa and Asia are very large and remain high in the foreseeable future, the expectations are that the migration pressure from these regions to Europe will also remain high. The number of migrants who come to the Netherlands will therefore also increase as a result of the migration pressure. The CBS expects that from the year 2015 the migration to the Netherlands will stabilize at an average of about 125,000 people per year. From these facts we can conclude that the inflow of migrants will be a constant factor in the future of the Netherlands.

The largest groups of migrants are very strongly concentrated in the four big cities: Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague and Utrecht. A large number of these migrants live in post-war neighbourhoods. The main cause of this is the housing offer in these neighbourhoods. A great number of the houses in these areas are in the social rent sector, which is by far the main housing provider for new migrants and also for their offspring. The expectation for the future is that these cities will remain the major attractors of new migrants. Therefore these cities will also experience the largest migration pressure.

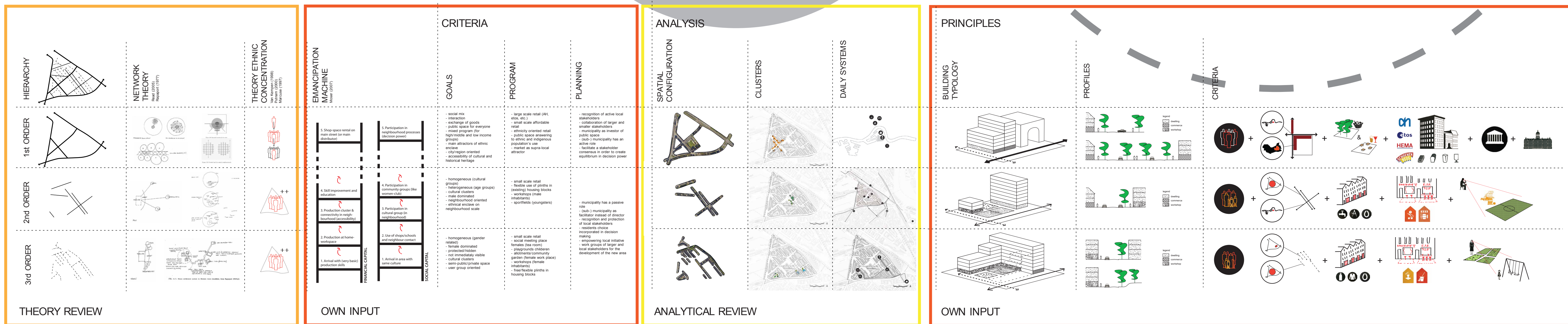
Since the year 1997 the Dutch housing policy introduced mixing schemes to break open this concentration. By building new dwellings for high and middle income groups in neighbourhoods of concentration they hope to eventually create a social mix. Recent studies have now however shown that this social mix does not occur. Even if different communities live in the same neighbourhood, it doesn't mean that they interact socially with each other.

Next to the governmental policy there is also at the same time a municipal response to the ethnic concentration. The municipality of Rotterdam introduced a selective migration policy in the year 2006. This law was introduced when the municipality found out that in only a few years half of their population would be from a non-Western origin. The selective migration policy denies groups that have lived less than seven years in the city or region, and that earn less than 110% of the minimum wage to live in the city. This basically includes all new migrants.

So we can conclude that at the moment there is a dichotomy between the regional level of decision making, and the local level where the effects of these decisions become visible.

Resulting from this, the problem statement of this project is:
Migration is a key factor of transformation (of the local scale) which is not considered in urban renewal planning.

Proposed instrument



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