RE-ENVISIONING CHANDIGARH

Role of urban peripheries in formation of metropolitan regions in the case of Chandigarh and its surrounding region.

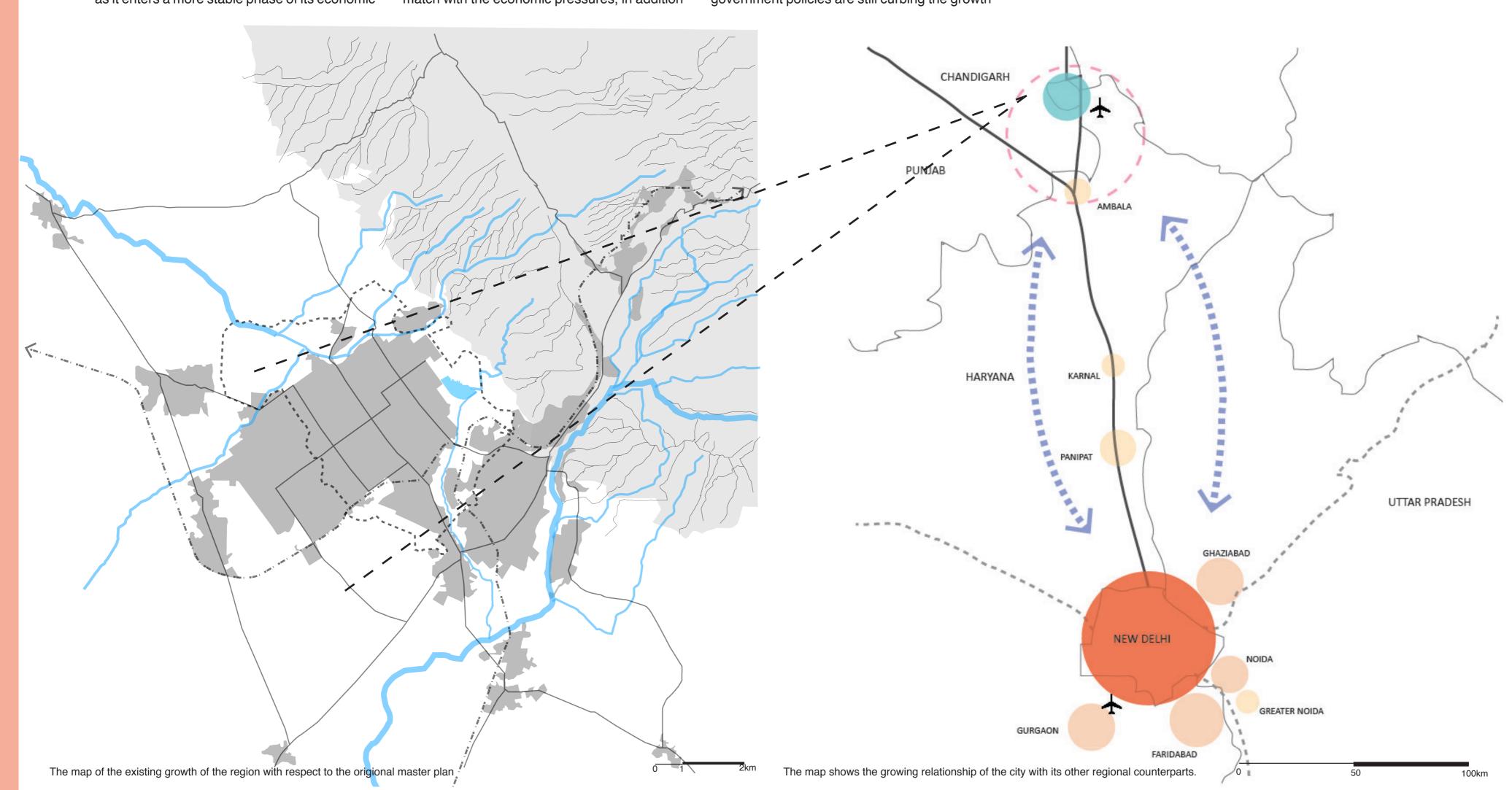
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Constantly fluctuating global economic trends are challenging the way cities are growing and creating a new socio-spatial dynamics in India. These changes in the cities are both because; the demands of a growing nation are changing, as it enters a more stable phase of its economic

and social growth and also because of India's constantly progressive position in the global market since the 1990's. Enforced government plans and policies are further adding different layers of conflicts as they are not able to match with the economic pressures, in addition

helping create a much complex and new urban pattern in the fast growing urban peripheries of these cities. With a new set of values, and demands, aspirations where the society is looking at its counter global standards, the government policies are still curbing the growth

of these urban areas and further decentralising and privatizing its resources, adding even more conflicting layers.



PROBLEM STATEMENT

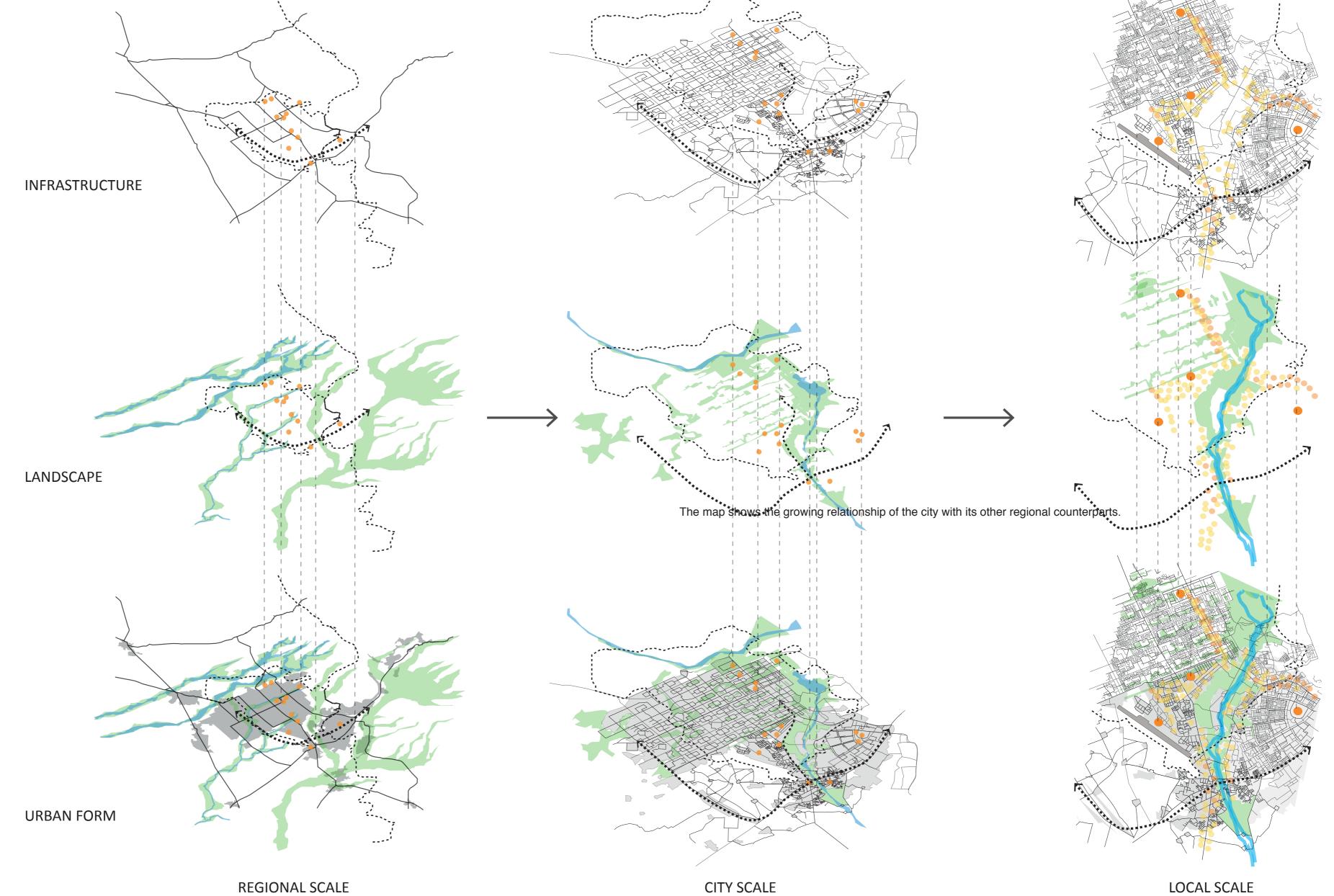
The urban peripheries, are attracting a lot more investment than the city centres for their capacities to adapt and connect. Making these areas to grow far more rapidly and unplanned, and creating

a lot more pressures on the city cores. Especially in Chandigarh region, the periphery act was established in advance, but the lack of government collaboration and understanding and fast

increase in the various actors, is creating large disparity.



What is crucial is that we simultaneously address both ends of the spectrum-Its time, we begin to engage with our metropolitan region again: think of how we can create self-sufficient neighborhoods, facilitate public transportation, how we can open up land for more affordable housing - RAHUL MEHROTRA



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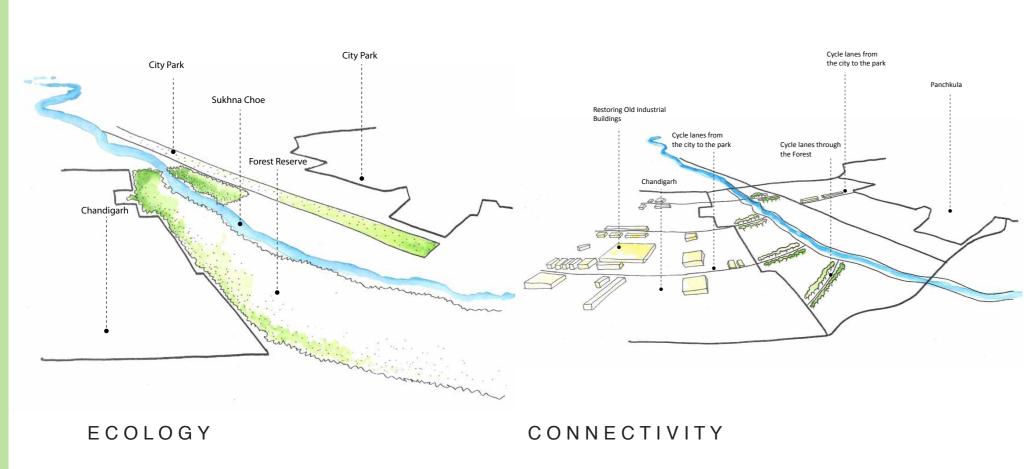
Concerns about the environment have shifted from a romantic attachment with landscape preservation to increasingly technocratic concerns that vary in scale and context from a local to a global perspective. (Davison,2010). Green infrastructure therefore represents an opportunity to re-appraise the green belts, and in some cases link them within a larger network of green infrastructure. This would steer the green belt policy towards the regions without asking central government to carry out a highly contentious reform. (Amati, M & Taylor, M,

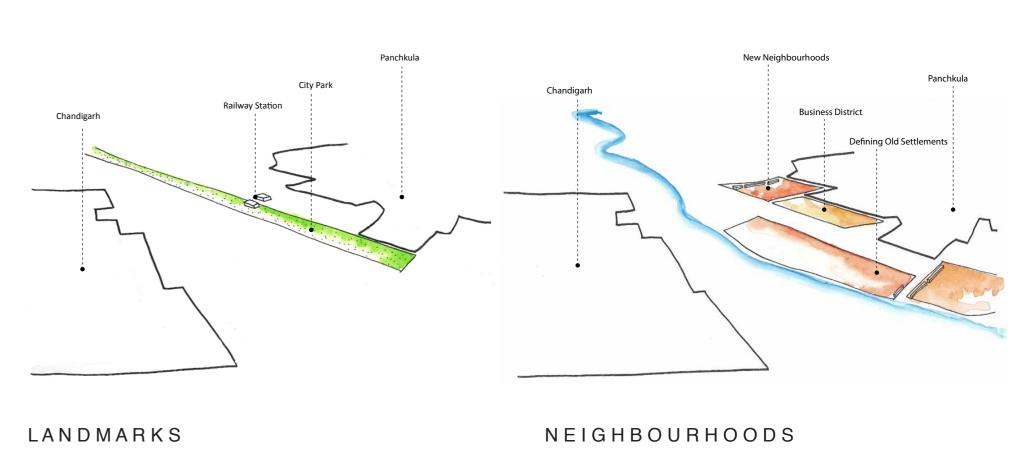
In a dynamic process of urbanisation and fast growing urban areas, it is vital to realise the value of quickly depleting green areas. Also, in the process to re-define them and give them new definations and meanings making them a valuable part of the urban areas, creating a more synergetic and comprehensive urban environment.

"The city is in itself the powerful symbol of a complex society. If visually well set forth, it can also have a strong expressive meaning." Kevin Lynch, The image of a city.











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The intervention is anchored to the preservation of the monsoon catchment zone, in order to both maintain the ground water level and in the process making more room for the water and opening the city to its periphery, of natural forest reserve and rich river.

Further, giving the old industrial zone a new well defined cultural value by connecting the city and the river through series of easily accessible network lanes. Connecting the different cities, managed by different authorities together to a common ground, of a city park.

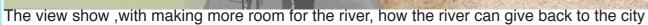
A place to gather, and socialise and interact, and closely connected to the railway station. Making is easily accessible from different parts of the region and adding to the vitality and activity of the place.

Through these interventions, the city can open out to the inherited regional values and give this depleting green belt, part of the initial masterplan desgined by Le Corbusier and tries to adapt to newer values of neo-liberal city.

In the process, giving way for more potential and well collaborated interventions and possibilties for the area as a result. Where certain areas, can gain momentum and invite more private investments and rather undefined informal settlements can become a more dignified part of the system as a result.

Resulting in a more comprehensive and collabroated process of planning helping form a newer model of livable and competitive cities.







The relationship formed by the park and the station with the rest of teh urbn fabric



The new neighbourhoods looking over to the existing urban fabric

By making more room for the river, not only can there ground water level be maintained, but also the intervention helps in giving the water belt back to the city and forming a new green infrastructure, creating a seamless connection between the different parts of the region.

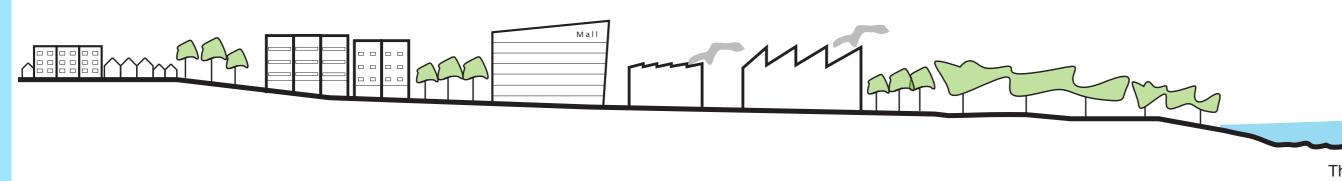
Also the area tries to give back to the city by giving more green areas to the city to spill over to, by making it part of the daily life.

The city park, is an intervention forming an anchor point to all the interventions and social meeting place for the region and opening out all the cities to its depleting green backyard.

With the strategic position of the railway station, with in the park, it helps make it more accessible form different parts and with the addition of network of bike lanes and pathways weaves it into the already existing urban fabric.

The process of intervening with in the green belt and giving it a new meaning with in context, not only deals with dealing with green infrastructure, but turning it into a process which can further help, many new investments and new more adaptive neighbourhoods can evolve as a result.

At the same time, the existing settlements with in the green belt which can find a more defined and recognised place in the process.





The urban section cutting through both the cities trying tounderstand the impact of the intervention

