

Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



Graduation Plan: All tracks

The graduation plan consists of at least the following data/segments:

Personal information	
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Studio	
Name / Theme	Complex Cities
Teachers / tutors	Vincent Nadin Daan Zandbelt Michiel van Dongen
Argumentation of choice of the studio	Complex Cities researches international planning systems, governance, and methodologies for comparisons, which is related to the project

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Learning international lessons: the Dutch spatial planning system in transition
Goal	
Location:	NL, DK, EN, JP, CA, OR and NZ Netherlands, Denmark, England, Japan, California, Oregon and New Zealand
The posed problem,	NOVI (the national environmental planning strategy for 2018) has the potential to become an important milestone in the current transition of Dutch spatial planning. What the final product will contain is yet to be defined; which gives the opportunity to step outside the national borders and learn lessons of innovation from other governments of other countries on how to achieve aimed objectives of NOVI, categorised in content, process and product, within the framework of global, political and social transitions.

<p>research questions and</p>	<p>What lessons can the Dutch government learn from other governments of different countries based on innovation in content, process and product, to achieve the objectives of the National Environmental Planning Strategy (NOVI) ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does the national planning system of the Netherlands compare to other planning systems? 2. What innovation can be found related to NOVI's content objectives? 3. What innovation can be found related to NOVI's process objectives? 4. What innovation can be found related to NOVI's product objectives? 5. What is the level of applicability of the lessons learned from these innovations for the NOVI?
<p>design assignment in which these result.</p>	<p>The methodology adopts a modular approach, which entails that each part of the methodology receives its own end product. This approach is chosen to be able to present the ministry products with specific sources of information or a specific level of applicability.</p> <p>THEORY: Theory paper which offers an analysis of the transitions which have taken place within national spatial planning. It researches the different periods, including the academic criticism it received and the driving forces which instigated changes to the planning system.</p> <p>COMPARATIVE STUDY: Catalogue of analysis demonstrating the position of the Netherlands in the world of spatial planning, including conclusions which shows the essence of the situation. This essence of the catalogue is applicability & comparability, highlighting the Netherlands in each analysis. Each location is summarized as itself but the</p>

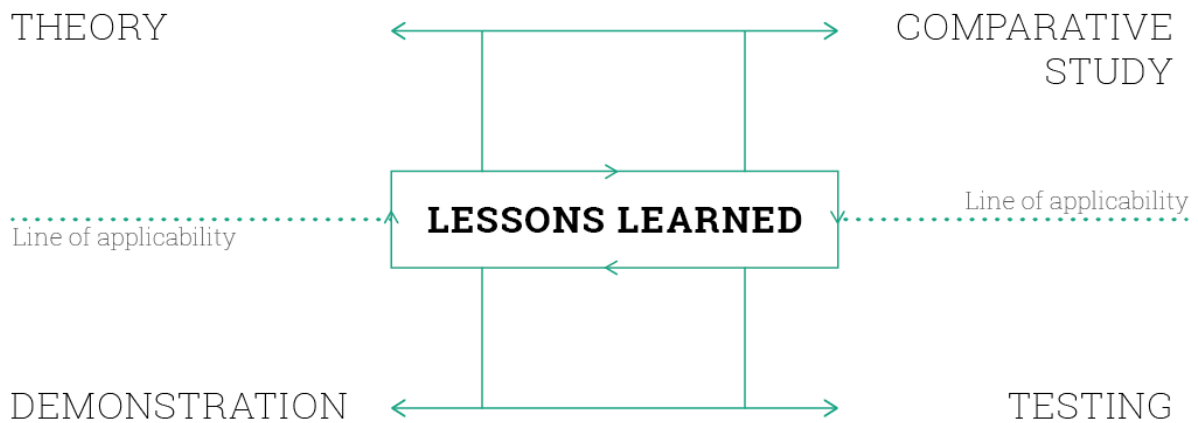
focus lies on creating analyses that can be compared when the locations are brought together. When highlighting special cases, a reflection is made within the Dutch context.

DEMONSTRATION: A research by design booklet, filled with illustrative drawings, maps, schemes and phrases in which the innovations of the countries are replicated and applied on the Dutch situation, based on content, process and product recommendations.

TESTING: A logbook collecting the reflections and commentary given by the experts and how it affected the project

Process

Method description



THEORY

The foundation of the research approach is the THEORY. The theoretical framework has three main functions in the process and is interwoven through the entire process, with an extra weight on the problem analysis. The most general function is that it acts as a justification of the methodology as a whole. It supports each step by substantiation of academic literature. This played a crucial role in the problem analysis as seen above but also for the comparative study. The second function is to understand general key models and concepts in (national) spatial planning systems. Key definitions, general concepts, types of categorizations, types of planning systems, etc in planning needed to be understood entering this project to understand the basics in each step. The third main function is the formulation of criteria and variables for comparison. The theoretical framework offers a basis for the filtering of criteria needed to make choices throughout the process. Examples are the criteria for comparison in the comparative study or the criteria for testing.

COMPARATIVE STUDY

The COMPARATIVE STUDY is an extensive study in which the Dutch national spatial planning system is compared with other national planning systems, based on their context and national Planning systems. Concepts like policy transfer, planning culture and methodologies for comparison are important in understanding comparative studies. It is defined as 'the desire to know how others make and implement policy and to see whether there are policies and practices that might be borrowed from other places' (Booth, 2011:14). International comparative studies have been popular within the profession of spatial planning, 'From the outset, modern urban planning has shown a strong internationalist spirit...despite obvious problems produced by language differences and distance' (Ward, 2002, p. 5).

The objective of this comparative study is to inquire what conditions have given rise to an innovative aspect of a planning system and to investigate whether those conditions are applicable for the Dutch situation. By answering this question, the government is helped in achieving its objectives based on content, process and product. The criteria needed for the comparative study are two-fold. On one hand criteria for the variables for the comparison are named and categorised, on the other hand the criteria for the choices of the locations are set. Both sets of criteria together lead to a set of observations, which allow for personal subjective conclusions.

DEMONSTRATION

Within the theory and comparative study, several filters of applicability have already taken place (see figure 24). Within the theory, there has been a differentiation between particular concepts and universal concepts, as well as indications of policy divergence and convergence. These form a general filter of certain concepts and policies that could be applied to the Dutch situation. Also, the comparative study separates the context from the planning system as another general filter. The demonstration phase passes through the most important filters of applicability by taking the conclusions of the theory and comparative study and dividing it into two sub-phases: replication and application.

TESTING

To test the conclusions of the demonstration phase, the product will be reflected and validated by three different groups; International experts, national experts, and the NOVI project team. This network of experts is created with the help of the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment and the TU Delft. The testing takes place on two levels of applicability: reflection and validation. In 'reflection', the (interim) conclusions of the replication and application of the demonstration phase are offered to the experts, and ask for commentary (either in written or verbal form). Afterwards, in validation, the final conclusions are sent and asked if the reflection offered has been interpreted and understood correctly and if the experts support the final conclusions. This is done to generate a broader justification for the work done to generate a certain value for the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment

Literature and general practical preference

For a full list see attachment below

Reflection

Relevance

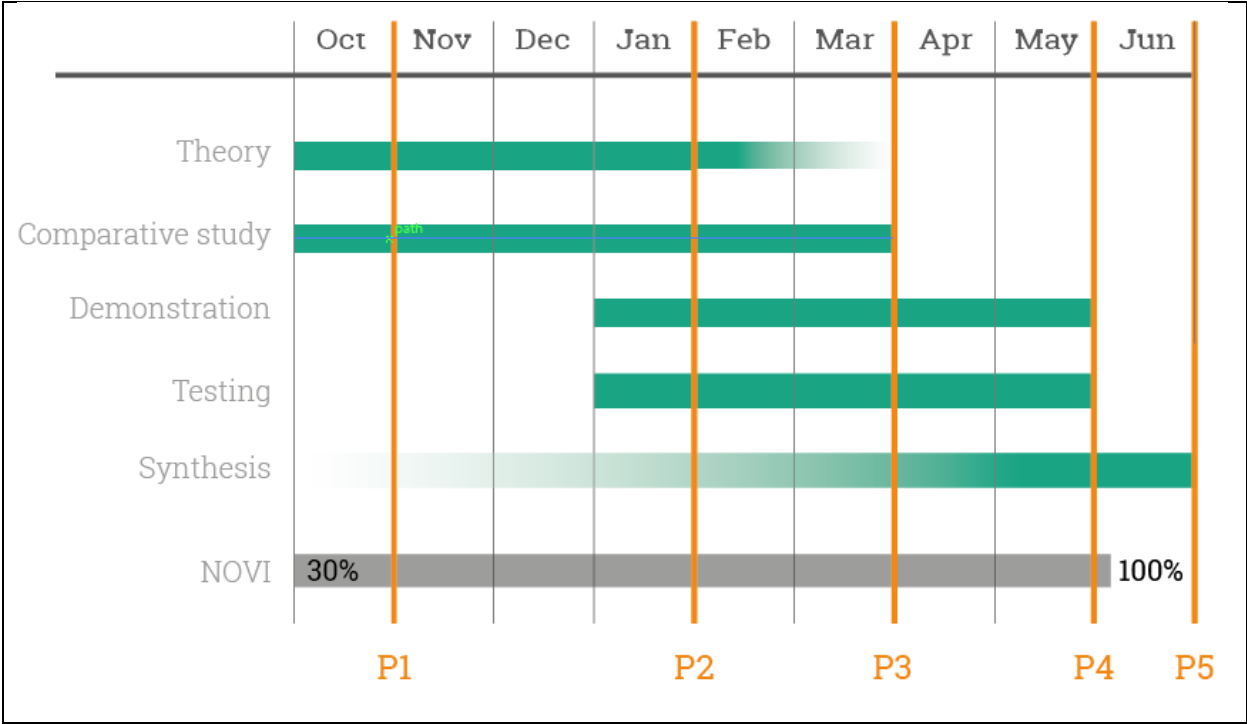
SOCIETAL RELEVANCE

As mentioned in the problem analysis, the society is claiming and receiving a more important role in the choices of the national government. They are invited more often to join in this open planning process that the government is trying to create but there is still a big gap between the citizen and the national government. On the other hand, citizens are now often not waiting for the government to tell them what to do but have developed a sense of taking care of themselves and their living environment, but are faced with unnecessary legal issues which makes it very difficult for them to realise their ideas. This group of citizens is very important to the national government as they can provide insight to the struggles and the limitations of the current situation and how it needs to be adapted. By giving the national government recommendations of planning & design tools, instruments and methods; integrated in a form of adaptive planning while being the strong connection between the global and local scale, with a strong process of citizen participation and co-creation, the society can embrace this new role which it has had trouble with to give a concrete form.

SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

This project aims to add to the academic knowledge of international planning systems and comparative studies. It researches the tension between planning transitions and planning cultures, which changes are possible and which aren't, as well as the applicability and comparability of a comparative study. Important is the understanding and the performance of spatial structures, especially in the change of focus from spatial content to more abstract aims like economic competitiveness. A strong methodology for these comparisons is crucial, in the context of increasing global integration. It also aims to discover innovation (through the comparative study and literature) in large-scaled planning systems. The main innovations are in policy integration and comprehensiveness of a certain strategy, multi-level governance systems and citizen participation, and the national strategy as a communication system. The complexity of spatial relationships is growing larger and the classic institutional system of the Netherlands can't deal with it in the same manner. The rediscovery of the national Dutch role of spatial planning coincides with the timeline of this project.

Time planning



Attachment: Literature list

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