Partnership for sustainable growth through integrated community action

EAROPH AUSTRALIA & INDONESIA
WUF 9 Kuala Lumpur
New Towns in the perspective of the NUA

International Urban Development Association
INTA
Michel Sudarskis
Secretary General
New Towns are special

New Towns are a special category of cities, with their own characteristics and specificities

A prefiguration of sustainable urban development
New Towns are special & varied

NT varied from country to country and from time to time

- NT as a response to difficulties in managing large growing cities
- NT as a tool for the development of bare land
- NT as a "marketed product": the City as a commodity
Complexity & multi-functions
not a dormitory city nor a construction site...

A city is more than a business district
A city is more than mass housing.

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Integrated and strategic planning
at the national level
Complexity & multi-functions
not a dormitory city nor a construction site...

Integrated and strategic planning
at the regional level
New Towns epitomise partnership

Partnership needed to manage the scales factors: size of the project, duration and complexity

the *public sector* is the only one who can keep control of the project in the long term

Partnership needed to make objective programming and planning evolving over time: community, State, developers, industry, R&D (innovation)

Partnership in the delivery vehicle: State, local authorities, private sector, end-users
New New Towns

What are the alternative strategies to create more liveable and inclusive cities? Who will live there?

What will be the city of tomorrow?

How do we conceptualize, design, finance, build and govern it?

How useful is the NUA in that respect?
New new towns on the drawing boards

Huge investments are going into new New Towns and large ambitions are attached to them.

While economic factors are prevailing, new elements are needed:
integral planning, social sustainability, resilience, inclusion, jobs, local culture, climate change, innovation, residents’ participation…

Planning alone is not sufficient – co-production is needed
A new generation is on the drawing boards: issues to address

Segregation and social exclusion exacerbated by the construction of very large New Towns

The huge capital flow needed for these large settlements reduce the place of the public sector, thus of the general interest

African and South American NT are examples of privatized urban development that become enclaves next to sprawling underequipped metropolises…
A city is more than mass housing

Working example of integrated and strategic planning

Make a large place to natural and open spaces: green, blue and biodiversity corridors

Quality of the built environment

Significant effort to limit the use of private car

Social mix favoured by the variety of housing types

An example of urban co-creation with the private sector and the local community
Other success factors

Emphasis on innovation

No city is an island

Plan in the light of climate change and ecological threats - resilience

No one left behind – access to the city

Combine top down and bottom up approaches

Infrastructure and mobility for all, from the start

No universal model and no export of urban models

Exchange of experiences between New Towns
Still some unanswered questions

New neighbourhood vs new new town

New town vs urban sprawl - containment or not

Land consumption - who does less?

Role of new towns in regional / national planning policy - polycentrism, hierarchy of places, counterbalancing agglomeration growth

The risk of filling the space left open between new towns and the central area - the centre absorbed by the periphery? What about rural areas in between?