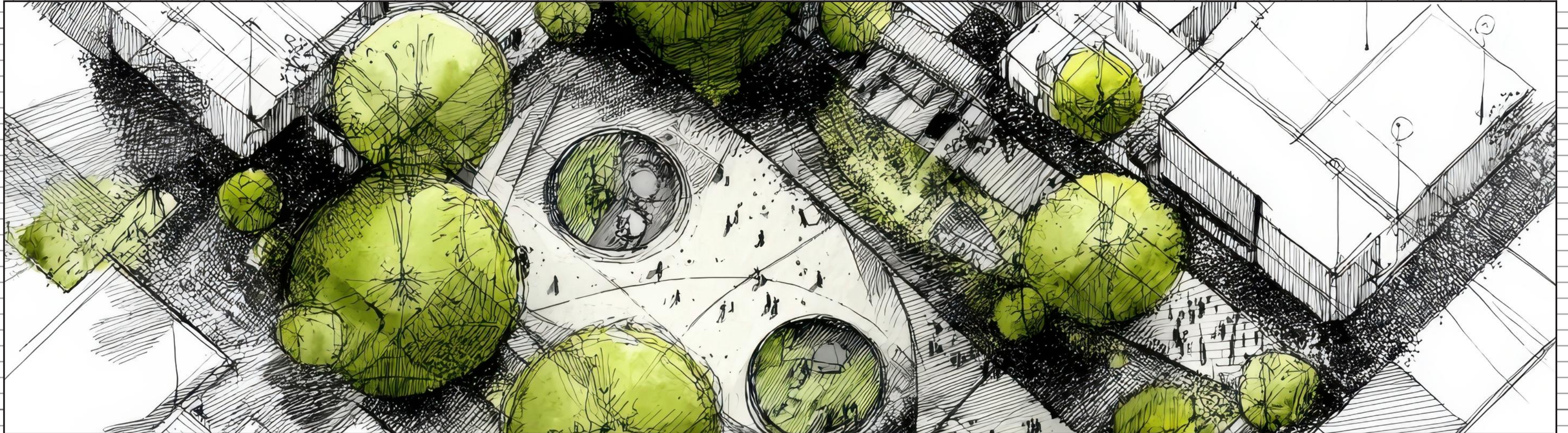


Kristina Perkov

The Role of Spatial Planning in Implementing Urban Visions



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The Role of Spatial Planning in Implementing Urban Visions

How do ambitious visions for future cities become real places?



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When we talk about future cities... what are we actually talking about?

Comparative research on future city visions

32 cities analysed

(31 European cities + Tokyo)

Amsterdam Antwerpen Barcelona Beč Birmingham
Bratislava Brisel Brno Budimpešta Dortmund
Dublin Frankfurt Kijev Kopenhagen Krakow Lille
Lisabon Łódź Ljubljana Milano Minsk Nantes Oslo
Prag Poznan Riga Rotterdam Sankt-Peterburg
Stockholm *Tokio Wroclaw Zurich

Comparative analysis focused on:

- development visions and strategic priorities
- implementation measures
- planning and policy documents
- governance and stakeholders
- planning and implementation processes

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When we talk about future cities... what are we actually talking about?

Key finding

Although every city reflects its own identity and context,
the long-term ambitions are remarkably consistent.

:: Climate resilience :: Quality of life :: Inclusion
:: Sustainable mobility :: Green infrastructure
:: Brownfield regeneration :: Innovation
:: Participation



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Why do cities need urban visions?

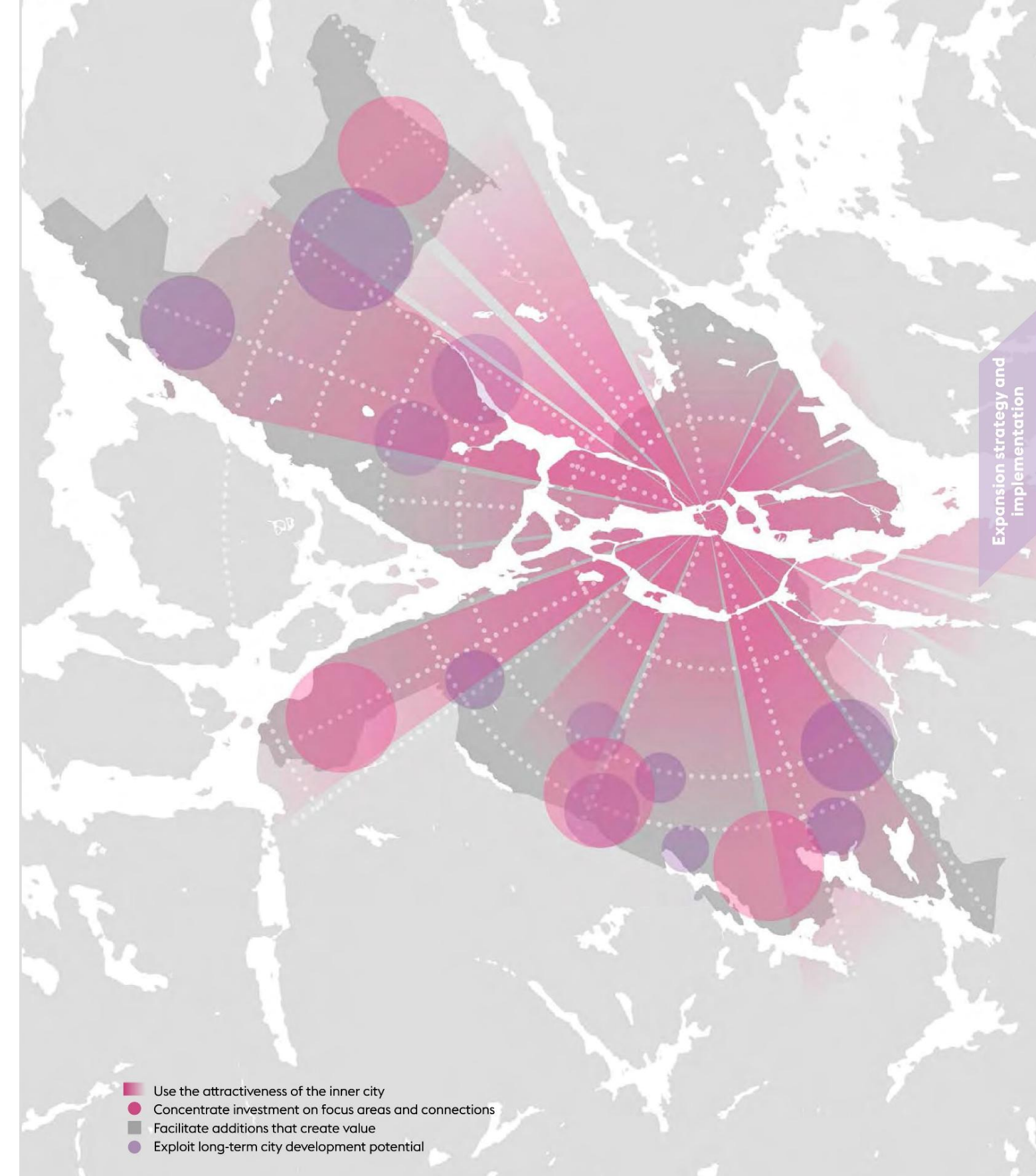
Urban visions

- ✓ provide long-term direction
- ✓ create a shared understanding
- ✓ connect different policies and sectors
- ✓ inspire action and innovation

**A vision does not predict the future.
It helps create it.**

Spatial planning concept presented in the City Master Plan.

Source: Stockholm City Plan, Stockholm City Planning Administration, 2018.



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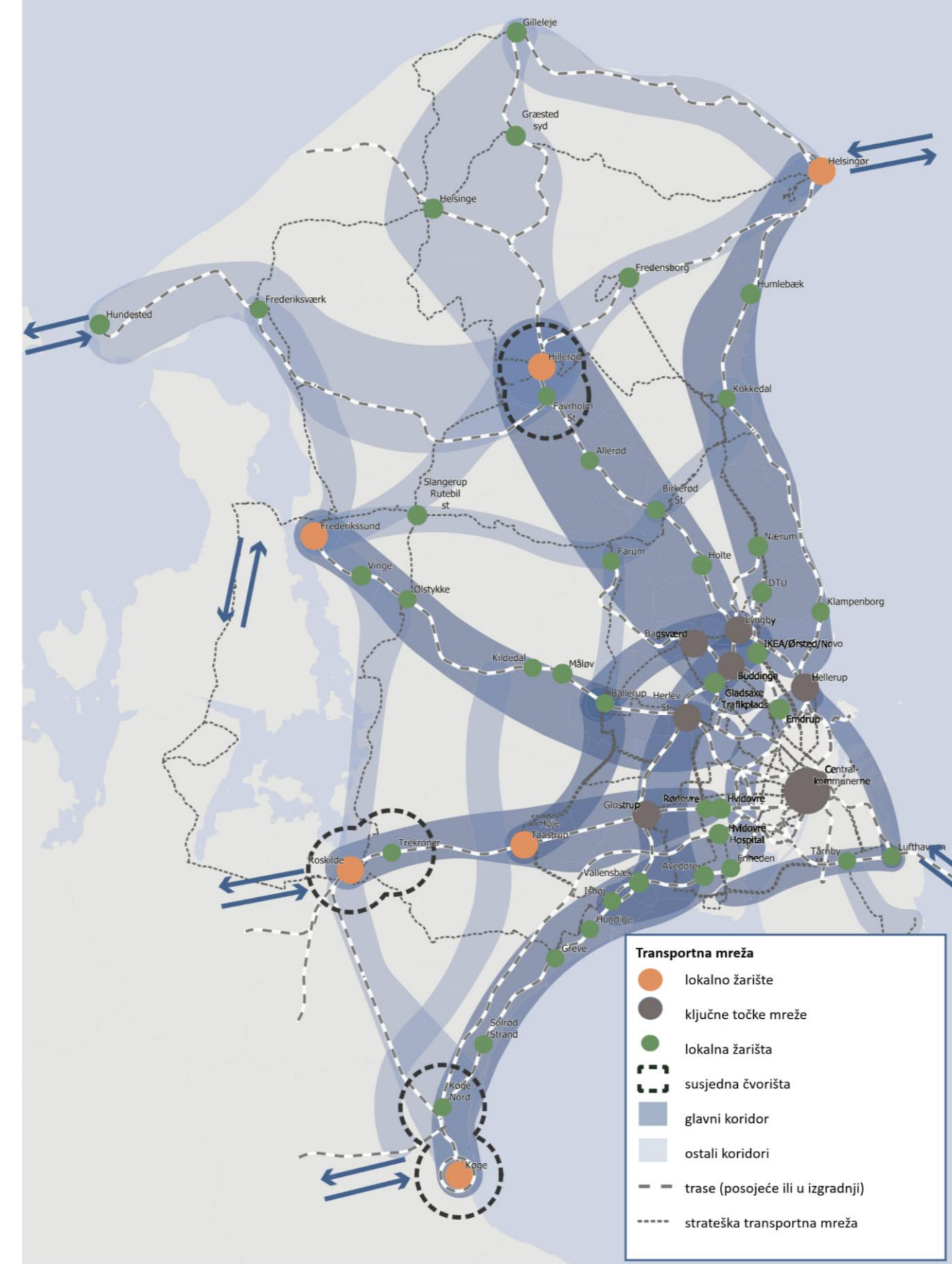
Is having a vision enough?

Vision
?
Reality

A vision inspires the future.
It does not deliver it.

Transport network of the Greater Copenhagen Region, showing the main hubs and transport corridors.

Source: Mobility and Transport Plan for the Greater Copenhagen Area, Capital Region of Denmark – Center for Regional Development, 2019.



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What does it take to turn a vision into reality?

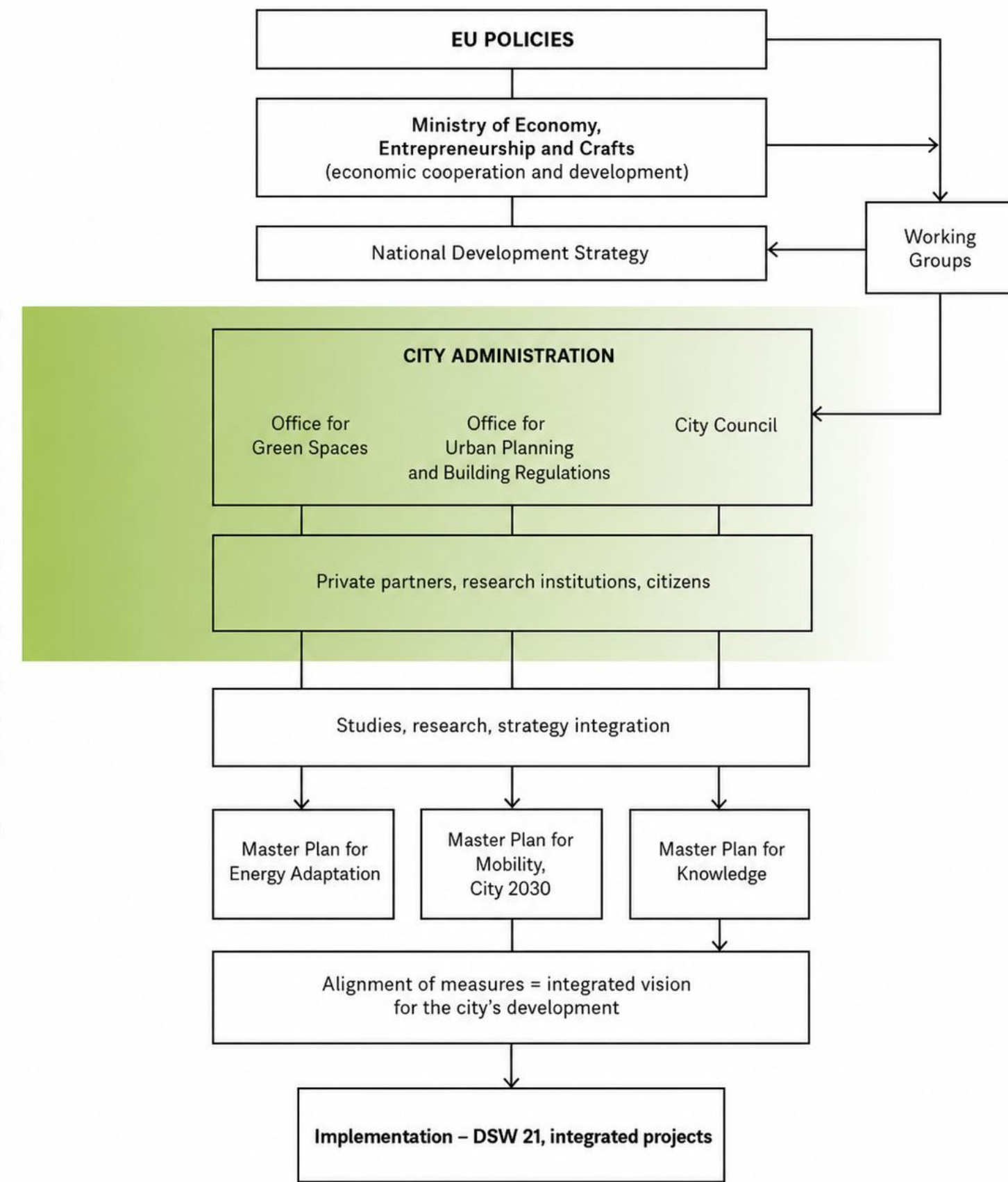
Schematic representation of the implementation framework for Dortmund's urban development vision.
 Author: Miljenko Lovre Trutina.

Successful cities do not succeed because they have better visions.

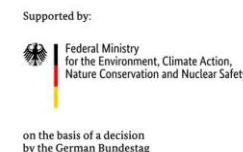
They succeed because they are better at implementing them.

Urban transformation is a collaborative process, not a linear sequence.

JOINT DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VISION



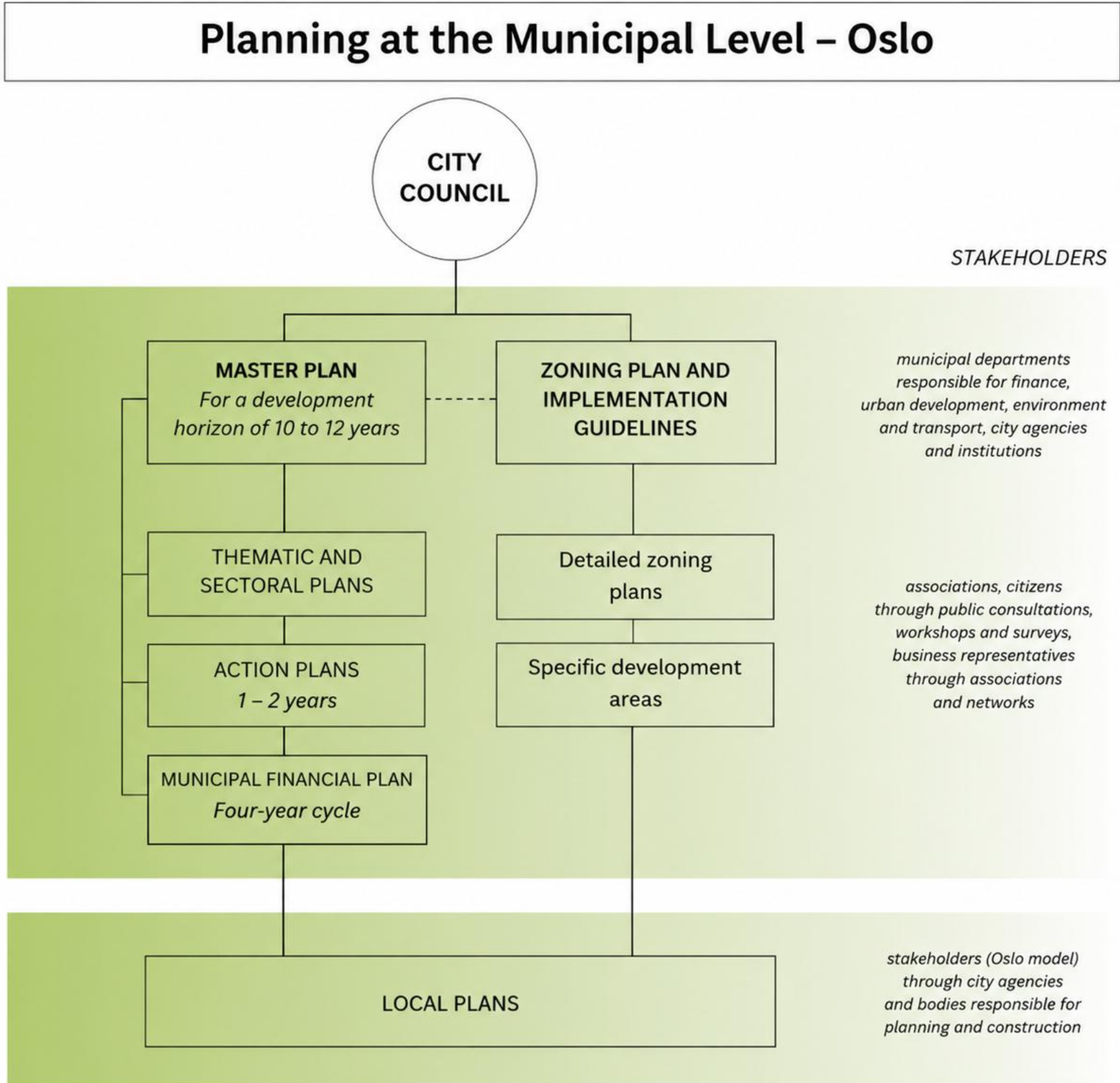
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The Role of Spatial Planning

- where visions become

spatial decisions



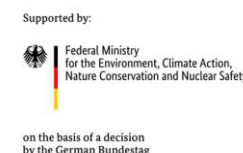
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Why is translating visions into spatial plans so challenging?

Challenge	Implication
Urban visions are often not spatially articulated	Difficult to translate strategic ambitions into spatial solutions
Spatial plans are sometimes weakly linked to development strategies	Planning and development follow different directions
Parallel planning processes	Limited coordination between sectors and institutions
Long planning procedures	Visions may become outdated before implementation
Rapid societal, environmental and technological change	Planning must remain adaptive

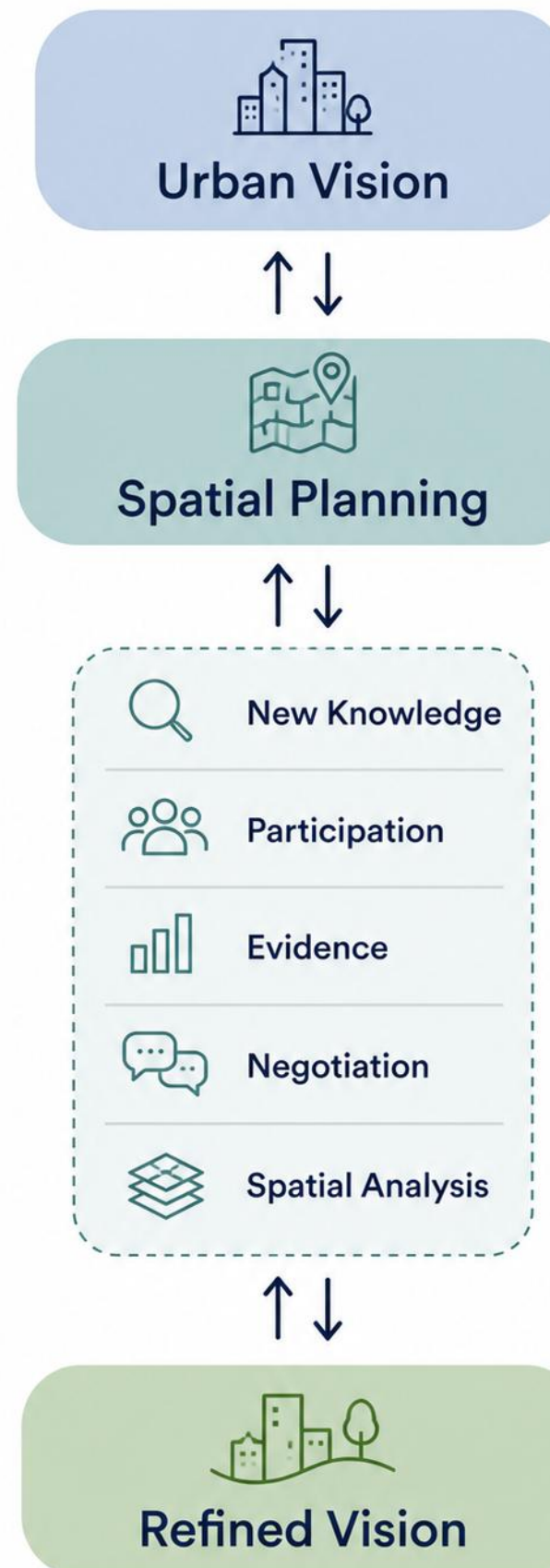
**Urban visions and spatial planning often evolve separately.
The challenge is to bring them together.**

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A Two-Way Relationship

Does the vision shape the plan...
or does the planning process
reshape the vision?



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From Vision to Implementation: A Continuous Planning Cycle

Urban visions and spatial plans should evolve together through continuous evaluation and adaptation.



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Final Reflection

**Urban visions give us direction.
Spatial planning gives that direction a place.**

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