



SISEMINISTEERIUM
Estonian Ministry of the Interior

LIVING CITIES

City planning and regional development in Estonia

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City regions

- ◆ Estonia: one area with one bigger centre
- ◆ 12 bigger city regions
- ◆ Low density population
- ◆ Transport: from East to West



Developments bigger than developments, politics or any planning

- ◆ From one system to another
- ◆ Demographic change



Planning: everything is new for everyone

- ◆ Private owners
- ◆ Local governments
- ◆ Democratic decision making
- ◆ Citizen
- ◆ Economical and social change

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Dramatic change: lessons learnt

- ◆ Planning is needed
- ◆ Even in cities planning is a good tool
- ◆ EU - territorial cohesion
- ◆ Time is money
- ◆ Close or faraway?



Challenges for cities

- ◆ Small-scale private ownerships
- ◆ Huge buildings from soviet times
- ◆ Small changes during 1990-s
- ◆ Monofunctional areas
- ◆ Energy
- ◆ Public transport, transport
- ◆ Cars (lots of, really)

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Challenges in regional development

- ◆ Bigger cities: boom
- ◆ Smaller cities lost their central position
- ◆ Small cities and centers near bigger ones (Keila, Elva)
- ◆ Supermarkets, no small enterprises



Possibilities?

- ◆ SME-s
- ◆ Creative industries
- ◆ Distance working
- ◆ Planning: energy + fast transport
- ◆ Living standard
- ◆ Kids

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Territorial cohesion

- ◆ Where are we?
- ◆ How long does it take?
- ◆ What services can we afford?
- ◆ What does it cost for tax payers and nature?
- ◆ How would we like to see it - actually?



Planning Q-s

- ◆ Raison d'être
- ◆ City-to-city regions
- ◆ Climate change
- ◆ Energy
- ◆ Water
- ◆ Young people

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Preparing for the new demographic situation

Empty flats

Aging population

One-person-families

Economical change

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Planning for the green age

- ◆ Tight city centers
- ◆ “City as countryside” planning debates
- ◆ Parks or forests?
- ◆ Place for families
- ◆ Travel less, think more
- ◆ Use the possibilities! (there are always some)

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What is the planning area for one city?

- ◆ City?
- ◆ City + surrounding areas?
- ◆ City to city?
- ◆ Border to border?
- ◆ Cross-border areas?
- ◆ And what are main planning questions?