

# Growing beyond borders & closing the loop

Adaptive spatial vision enabling inclusive growth beyond borders

Luxembourg is the fastest growing economy in Europe. A spatial vision for 2050 will mean to frame the spatial development as both, a factor and a product of a long-term vision addressing the sectors energy, mobility, buildings, food, industry and finance. The spatial vision and the socio-economic development vision are mutually related and thus must be regarded in a holistic and integrated way.

In order to plan resilient cities and territories capable not only of adapting to the effects of climate change, but also of continuing to prosper, the spatial vision for a zero-carbon and resilient Luxembourg needs to propose an experimental and innovative approach to accompany the process towards a strong and robust development framework. Today, the complexity of territorial socio-economic systems and the reduced predictability of events oblige planning to adopt an empirical attitude and to proceed with incremental transformations.

The Transformation Framework for Luxembourg in Transition will draw on the past experiences of the various members of the group – KCAP with its long term experience in urban and spatial planning in different cultural contexts and ambition to work across borders. Philippe Cabane, Urbane Strategien with his in particular knowledge in cross border developments and Arup with the specific knowledge having developed on a global scale with the C40, Ellen McArthur and Rockefeller partnerships, and also on a local scale in various European cities like Milano, Brussels, Madrid, Berlin, London etc.

The Transition Framework will observe the main socio-demographic, environmental, economic and cultural trends in the territory and around and will identify alternative future development scenarios on the basis of which to identify opportunities for action. The construction of actions and possibly prototypes, capable of responding in an integrated, flexible and redundant way to the challenges of resilience, will take place through a dialogue with the territory, the institutions and actors operating in it as well as in the neighboring territories, economies. Circularity and resilience can only be realised by integrating the several systems fostering a maximum synergies among the different territories, environments, economies and social systems. Therefore, the proposal imagines a project of virtuous territory capable of promoting integrated sustainable planning on a global scale.

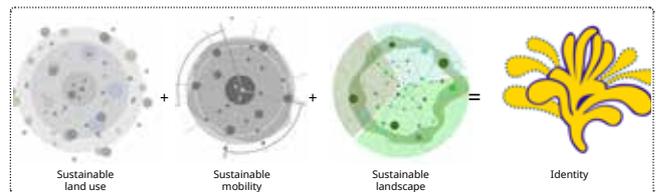
The management of the Covid-a9 emergency has shown that we need to collaborate across borders, combine forces and knowledge but operate as well locally if certain phenomena's and specific situations ask for. We have learned that we need to look local, regional, national and global in parallel and integrate urban and natural systems to a maximum. The evaluation of a possible path of decarbonisation of

the city and country represents a key impulse to give Luxembourg the tools for a dialogue with global cities and countries that are already systematically facing the challenges that the future development of humanity imposes on us. Luxembourg can take a guiding position herein. On the level of mobility and accessibility we are seeking a new spatial strategy that aims to stimulate a future low carbon / resilient region of Luxembourg (2050) while at the same time reconciling the tension between transport infra/ ecology and providing resilience to future pandemics.

Luxembourg, in its specific role as one main European player inserted in a cross border situation with Belgium, Germany and France and the The Netherlands, has the possibility, responsibility to develop a specific circular and resilient environmental framework to be an exemplar for pushing decarbonisation at a territorial level and become a powerful symbol of change.

We believe that the transformation will need to start **NOW** and needs a consistent, plausible and cohesive framework that is adaptive and deeply localised. Yet it will need to blur "territorial borders" to be able to provide a new way of spatial development that is applicable "beyond boundaries", crucial for a country that is highly networked and embedded in Europe. Providing territorial conditions guaranteeing the transition to a zero-carbon and resilient society creating values for an egalitarian and fair coexistence of mankind and nature.

VISION FRAMEWORK FOR QUALITY BRUSSELS 2040



**Luxembourg, with its inter territorial spatial as well as political position will play a major role in the transformation to a zero-carbon and resilient Future of Europe and the entire globe!**