





PHD research Environnemental quality in neighbourhood in reconstruction

Research field : geography and land-use

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# How is climate taken into account in sustainable urban design? Focus on French urban eco design processes

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## <u>Plan</u>

- 1. French urban legislation regarding climate
- 2. Climate in the 3 French eco design processes
  - 3. Climate in 2 cities eco design processes
    - 4. Conclusion

1.French urban **legislation** regarding climate

2. Climate in the 3 french eco design processes

3. Climate in 2 cities eco design

4. Conclusion

Scales

**Global warming** challenges

## Building



Neighbourhood



## Mitigation

To reduce greenhouse gases emissions

## **Thermal regulation** (2012)

**Energy consumption** Renewable energy

## No regulation constraint

Incentive planning

Energy consumption of public lightning Traffic reduction **Public transports** 

## Adaptation

To face strong urban heat island, drought, flood, ...

## **Thermal regulation** (2012)

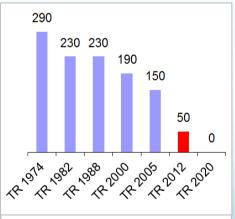
Summer confort

#### No regulation constraint

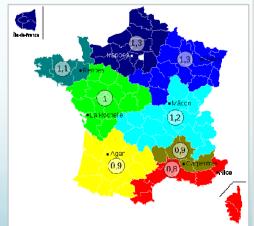
Incentive planning

Bioclimatic design (taking into account climate)





New home energy consumption (kWh/m²)



#### **Environmental laws**

2000: environmental laws constraint

urban planning

2004 : climatic plan at national scale

2010: Grenelle law 2

2012 : climatic plan at local scale

## Methodology

## Neighbourhood eco-design process: High environmental quality planning decision making tool

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Object of study: Neighbourhood eco-design processes

#### French eco design processes







## International correspondance





## 2 examples of eco design processes in cities



Research purpose: Study how climate is taken into account

Means: Analysis of methodology documents and communication documents ...

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## Design

No preset assessment

No imposed indicators



Public operator
Environmental
expertise

3 different designers

3 different approaches

3 neighbourhood scale processes



Certification environmental high quality planning (2010)

### **Project management**

Assessment of the design process

No imposed indicators



Private organisation **Technical support** 

## Recognition



**Label** Eco neighbourhood (2012)

Assessment of the final project

Numerical indicators



State Incentives

#### Flexible themes



### 7 topics

Energy and climate
Water
Transportation
Waste management
Biodiversity and landscape
Contaminated soils and brownfields
Noise



#### 3 goals / 17 topics

#### **Neighbourhood coherence**

Territory and local context

Density

Mobility and accessibility

Heritage, landscape and identity

Adaptability

#### **Natural resources**

Water

<u>Energy and climate</u>

Materials and equipment

Ecosystems et biodiversity

Natural and technological risks

Health

#### Social life

Project's economy
Diversity and use
Atmosphere and public spaces
Integration and education
Local social dynamics

### Climate → Secondary concern

« Opportunistic » topic : leans on other topics' levers of action

Climate: recent concern

## Strict assessment grid



### 4 topics / 20 commitments

#### **Quality of life**

Density
Social mix
Health and security
Architectural quality and quality of life
Local heritage

#### **Territorial development**

Economic development
Walking distance
Local consumption
Soft mobility
Digital transition

## Resources protection and climate change adaptation

Urban planning fitting climate change
Energy sobriety, renewable energy
Waste management
Water management
Biodiversity

New Label: 2012 Climate is highlighted Promotes national level considerations on local scales

## **Mitigation levers**







Energy sobriety of buildings: energy consumption
Production of renewable energy: energy production
Energy sobriety of public lightening: energy consumption
Limitation of car use: functional mix, soft mobility, public transports

- Themes focusing on GHG emissions: energy and mobility
  - Very strict: generic levers of action, shared by the three approaches.
  - Often quantifiable thanks to numerical indicators
- → Benefit from the experiment of the energy topic (older and better known)

## **Adaptation levers**







Presence of vegetation
Presence of water
Urban morphology dealing with airflows
Use of light colored materials

Presence of vegetation
Control of sunshine: level of solar radiations
on surfaces
Control of winds
Considerations of local climate
Considerations of local characteristics

Presence of vegetation: % of the surface

Presence of water: integrated

management

Limitation of the waterproofed surface:

% of the surface

- Less prescritive: variable levers
- Difficult assessment: numeric indicators are not always relevant
- Qualitative assessment
- → Difficulties to identify the levers of action: need for further expertise, taking into account local characteristics
- → Lack of expertise and knowledge about this new issue

## **Local processes : Focus on Adaptation challenge**

#### Grenoble

## **Toulouse**

2014

Currently under validation

#### **Awareness of climate concerns**

« For Toulouse Métropole, the sustainability of the city is part of a global approach taking into account climate change»

Awareness of climate concerns

« A sustainable urban planning seems to be one of the priorities in tackling climate change and adapting to it »

#### 7 themes

#### 11 targets

Wintertime comfort
Summertime comfort
Revegetation
Water cycle
Energy production means
Accessibility and parking
Reduction of urban disturbance

Development projects' localisation

Energy, air, climate

Urban and architectural density and quality
Intermodality and mobility
Public space, heritage and landscape
Water cycle
Nature in the city
Live together
Social demand and appropriation
Control over the costs and financing
Project management

2. Climate in the 3 french eco design processes

1. French urban

legislation

regarding

climate

3. Climate in 2 cities eco design processes

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Local processes enable to further take into account adaptation concerns

**Aware cities** 

A full-fledged theme: integrated approach (in opposition with national approaches)

## **Adaptation** levers and assessment

## Grenoble

## **Toulouse**

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climate

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## Adaptation SHARED levers of action → Exhaustive list

Presence of vegetation
Presence of water
Climate considerations: rain, wind, sun, humidity
Limitation of mineral
Limitation of air-conditioning (heat emission)
Materials

#### Assessment through « operational indicators »

Shaded outdoor spaces in summertime
Walls/roofs ability not to warm up urban areas
Green surfaces
Outdoor space thermal inerty
Green roofs

#### **Qualitative assessment**

Adaptation sub-topics

Limitation of urban heat island: vegetation, materials, micro urban climate concerns

Design and construction of passive public spaces: soils waterproofing, green surface, shadow, street furniture

Creation of a passive summertime and wintertime comfort : urban morphology

#### Cities have developped their own expertise and competences

- Skills improvement: specialised knowledge and accurate indicators
- Enables a better appropriation of the issue
- Can discourage cities which do not have the sufficient technical means

#### Conclusion

Legislation

**National processes** 

Local processes

AEU<sub>2</sub>



Grenoble

**Toulouse** 

1. French urban legislation regarding climate

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Climate

Neighbourhood scale



**INCENTIVE** 

**Mitigation: PRESCRIPTION** 

Adaptation: INCENTIVE, local

authorities' initiative

**Adaptation: PRESCRIPTION** 

3. Climate in 2 cities eco design processes

4. Conclusion

Adaptation → Local processes could be the solution to implement it

- Cities awareness
- Skills improvement