Towards a Spatial Vision for SA: why, what, who, how?

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Why?
Changing trajectory of development - pace, form, location

1. **Growth**: realising economic opportunities

2. **Equity**: stimulating development in areas of concentrated poverty & reducing spatial inequalities

3. **Environmental**: protecting sensitive areas & making more efficient use of resources

4. **Governance**: coordinating public policies & investment

5. **Place-shaping**: creating well-functioning, quality places

6. **Connecting** different places: interactions, flows
   - Improving how SA functions as a place

What? Elements of a spatial vision

1. Strategic idea, orientation, framework, context for investment decisions
2. Supporting processes, techniques, instruments
- General principles:
  - Spatial justice/efficiency/sustainability/quality
  - 3 D's (WDR 2009)
  - Collaboration vs competition
  - Balanced development vs concentration
  - Cost-effectiveness & leverage

What?

- Spatial concepts
  - Growth poles; nodes; agglomeration
  - Industrial complexes; clusters
  - Corridors; networks; connectivity;
  - Gateways; border zones
  - City-region; polycentric region
- Spatial images: maps, diagrams
- Scale: transnational-national-regional-local

Who? Audience/participants

- Multiple agents/actors
  - 'Planning' departments/commission
  - Other government departments
  - State owned enterprises
  - Private sector
    - Developers, investors, financiers, firms
  - Social partners, NGOs, pressure groups,
  - Neighbouring governments; international donors
  - Professional associations, communities, media

How does it induce change & shape future action?

- Control & regulation
  - Property rights, development control, compliance
  - Powerful but reactive & negative

- Positive planning
  1. Strategic ideas and information based on evidence and understanding; raising awareness, reducing risks
  2. State land, investment in infrastructure, development subsidies & incentives, industrial policy
  3. Working together: institutional alliances, coalition building, mutual learning, negotiation, joint strategic projects

Conclusions

- Not just a technical process

- Dependent on selectivity and focus

- Requires astute judgement and creativity to make a compelling case

- And considerable organisation