

How do we judge the current status use of tools in planning?

- Very interesting experiments, but by in large, we do not know all the possibilities of current available tools.
- Long way ahead to actually make some use of the current tools for
 - Scenarios: possible futures: what may be if ...
 - Visions: desirable futures: what should be so that..
 - Stories: contingent futures: what could be if ...
- Most of the current tools have limitations (software, data infrastructure, planning traditions)

What are the requirements for the future?

- Need for more validation of the available tools that will point out for new and more developments.
- Need for new models due to many discrepancies between theory and practice in land use planning
- Need for using the tools for educating people and testing their ideas, rather than for predicting future scenarios.
- Need for cognitive research since it seems promising for helping us to improve the models.
- Need for basic typologies of future scenarios

What are the developments (tool view)?

(I)

Shift from

Tools for solving the planning problems

To

Tools for persuading and engaging “people” by translating geo-information into meaning

What are the developments (tool view)? (II)

Shift from

Assuming that people connect through common problems
(i.e. tools for finding the solution for the planning process)

To

Realising that people connect through common
interpretations of the same problem
(i.e tools for something to explore)

How to build the bridge?

(I)

Work on:

- the reduction of many discrepancies between theory and practice in land use planning, mainly because the term land use planning is a ill defined notion;
- the collective decision making in order to integrate a variety of different models and metaphors;
- the development of tools for representations of “decision” and “behaviour”;

How to build the bridge?

(II)

Work on:

- applications based on actors in land use processes OR participants in planning processes;
- narratives in planning: land use models can provide persuasive narratives;
- the integration of the 4 realms of planning:
 1. world: events
 2. land use system: changes
 3. planning system: actions
 4. model: processes