

Fact sheet for planning levels

Planning level		Type of plan		
Municipal Level				
		Legislature	Executive	Judiciary
State level	Federal State	Federal parliament: the Chamber of the Representatives and the Senate	Federal government	The organization of the courts and tribunals is a solely federal competence. Belgian courts and tribunals by hierarchical order: - Court of cassation - Court of appeal / Labour court / Court of assize - Court of first instance / Local criminal court
Federated entities level	Region (3)	Regional parliament	Regional government	
	Community (3)	Communitarian parliament	Communitarian government	
Provincial level	Province (10)	Provincial council	Deputation in Flanders and provincial college in Wallonia	
Municipal level	Municipality (581)	Municipal council	College of burgomaster and aldermen in Flanders and communal college in Wallonia	
Map: Spatial policy plan SPP (in Dutch: <i>Ruimtelijk structuurplan</i> (old terminology) or <i>Ruimtelijk beleidsplan</i> (new terminology)) 				

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Facts: Ruimtelijk beleidsplan of the City of Ghent ('Ruimte voor Gent. Structuurvisie 2030')

Legal basis

- Flemish Planning Decree (in Dutch: *Vlaamse Codex Ruimtelijke Ordening, VCRO, art. 2.1.1 tot 2.1.13; 2.2.3; 2.2.7; 2.2.12; 2.2.16; 2.2.18; 2.2.23*), entered into force in 2009.
- Example of Local SPP plan: adopted by the Municipal Council of the City of Ghent on 22 May 2018

Competences

- According to the Flemish Planning Act VCRO, the local authority (the municipality) has the competence to prepare, approve and modify a spatial policy plan (replacing the municipal structure plan).

Binding force

- The SPP is a flexible policy plan and not a legally binding land-use plan.
- The SPP aims to orient local guidance schemes but cannot be considered legally in the assessment of applications for planning permission.

Tasks and content

- The SPP defines the long-term territorial vision for the entire municipal territory and the operational framework for the short term.
- This territorial strategy defines the local planning objectives by laying out the desired spatial structure.
- For Ghent, the main objectives are the development of an inclusive city; balanced, climate-adapted development; and the reinforcement of public transport and cycling by radial green axes.

Process and history

- The first approved policy plan for Ghent was approved in 2003 (Ruimtelijk Structuurplan Gent – RSG)
- The analysis for the second version was undertaken between 2014 and 2017.
- The public consultation process was held between September and November 2017.
- The new and final version was approved by the City Council in 2018.

Duration of validity

- The duration is not fixed; the LLLP is valid until it is repealed.

Details of one example of a municipal policy plan



Source: Stad Gent

Notes and links

<https://omgeving.vlaanderen.be/decretale-basis-voor-het-beleidsplan-ruimte-vlaanderen-en-deprovinciale-en-gemeentelijke>

<https://stad.gent/nl/wonen-bouwen/stadsvernieuwing/toekomstvisie-voorstadsvernieuwing/ruimte-voor-gent#Publicaties>

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