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The form of the plan and its components

Andrea Filpa

Reflections on the organizational structure of the SP of Siena have brought out a number of requisites that the plan should have satisfied, namely: clarity of the language and of the structure of the plan, given that it is an instrument for administration and that the citizen ought to be enabled to understand it and thus to assess it; the capacity to interact with the other instruments of governing the city; the capacity to control the quality of the townplanning and architectural transformations; its coherency with the choices of vast area governance; the capacity to guarantee continuity in the urban rehabilitation activities already started. The general organizational criterion of the SP was suggested by the conviction of having to construct an instrument capable of operating in different time horizons, with correspondingly different languages and different levels of specification of choices of government, constructing relations with other acts and instruments. The starting point of the design of the SP is the city idea, having a long time horizon, estimated as 20-25 years, and which has been built up through the convergence of many different elements. The city idea summarizes the contemporaneous contribution that will accompany the temporal segment of the life of the city to be guided by the SP. Starting from the city idea, the three stages of the SP, termed political component, statutory component and strategic component, are consolidated.

The role of this component is that of rendering clear the policies and the action lines considered necessary for

giving concrete form to the city idea. The ensemble of the city

idea and of the policies and

action lines has been called the Governance project, and has been the subject of an in-depth debate with the local community. With the basic lines of the SP consolidated, a start was made on formulating the Territorial Statute, which in the spirit of Regional Law 1/05 has the task of identifying the invariables and fixing the rules of managing resources. By structural invariable is understood a particular way of being in the territory which it is believed can guarantee inalienable environmental and settlement balances not negotiable in the process of transforming the territory (the hinge elements of the identity of places as per Art. 5, 2, of LR 1/05). Identifying a structural invariable in the SP has a precise purpose: that of committing the municipal administration in managing a portion of territory in such ways as to make it an element of the collective identity. In the SP of Siena the territorial statute has been subdivided into six resource statutes, understood as ensembles of choices and rules of managing the essential resources of the territory, to be adopted as antecedents with respect to the territorial development strategies. The six resource statutes have been represented as follows: statute of the air, including matters pertaining to light, noise, electromagnetic and atmospheric pollution; statute of the water, which concerns protection of aguifers and the hydraulic risk; statute of the soil, containing the discipline of geological risk, in large part loaned from regional measures: statute of ecosystems and of the landscape, intended to

guide the coevolution of

aspects linked with

safeguarding biodiversity and the quality of the rural landscape; settlement statute, dealing with the settlement system, both from the standpoint of its physical management and from that of living/housing quality; network statute, including the functional systems of the road network, of the railway network, of the networks of the water cycle, of the wastes cycle, of the electricity and gas transport of the telecommunication network.

The statutory component fixes in substance the conditions that the strategic component has to respect in order to pursue the plan policies in a logic of sustainability of the territorial development processes. The statutory component is thus the junction point of a line which from the Governance project derives the objectives and rules of resource management, laying the foundations for the development strategies and subsequently for the project and for the transformation of the territory, in which passage the baton is handed over to the Regolamento urbanistico which will be following one another in the period when the SP is in force.

The strategic component, the most operative part of the SP, assumes as its references the supply of resources made in the factual framework, the intentions contained in the Governance project, and the objectives and rules contained in the statutory component and proposes a summary thereof expressing the territorial development strategy of the SP, understood not only as a container of the things to be done but also as the road to take with a plurality of instruments and of subjects. In this sense the SP of Siena has deemed it useful to subdivide the Strategic Component into four distinct

but complementary parts; the first two centred on the transformations to be carried out, the third one centred on the institutional and operational aspects of the implementation of the SP, and the fourth one containing the assessment apparatus.

The first part contains the territorial development strategies, and describes the overall framework of the transformations considered necessary for putting the Governance project into concrete practice in the period when the plan will be in force. The second part is dedicated to projects of UTOE (Elementary Organic Territorial Units) which refer to the parts of the city in which to carry out homogeneous strategic policies. The third part explains, with connections with the planning system with which the SP has to dialogue, both internally (RU, municipal policies and acts) and externally (regional and provincial planning and programming). This part contains perhaps one of the most original elements of the SP of Siena, namely connections with the planning of the adjoining municipalities. The strategic component concludes with the assessment apparatus of the plan, which has been developed for four complementary sectors.