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SpatialPlanningSeminar (SPS)

The New Leipzig Charter – Process and Content of the political document

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Project Team

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Project Elements & Objectives at a Glance

Strategy process

- Evaluation of key policy developments relevant for the process – *ongoing*
- Scientific baseline study on themes, trends and activities – *to be published in the beginning 2021*

National and European dialogue process starting in 2018

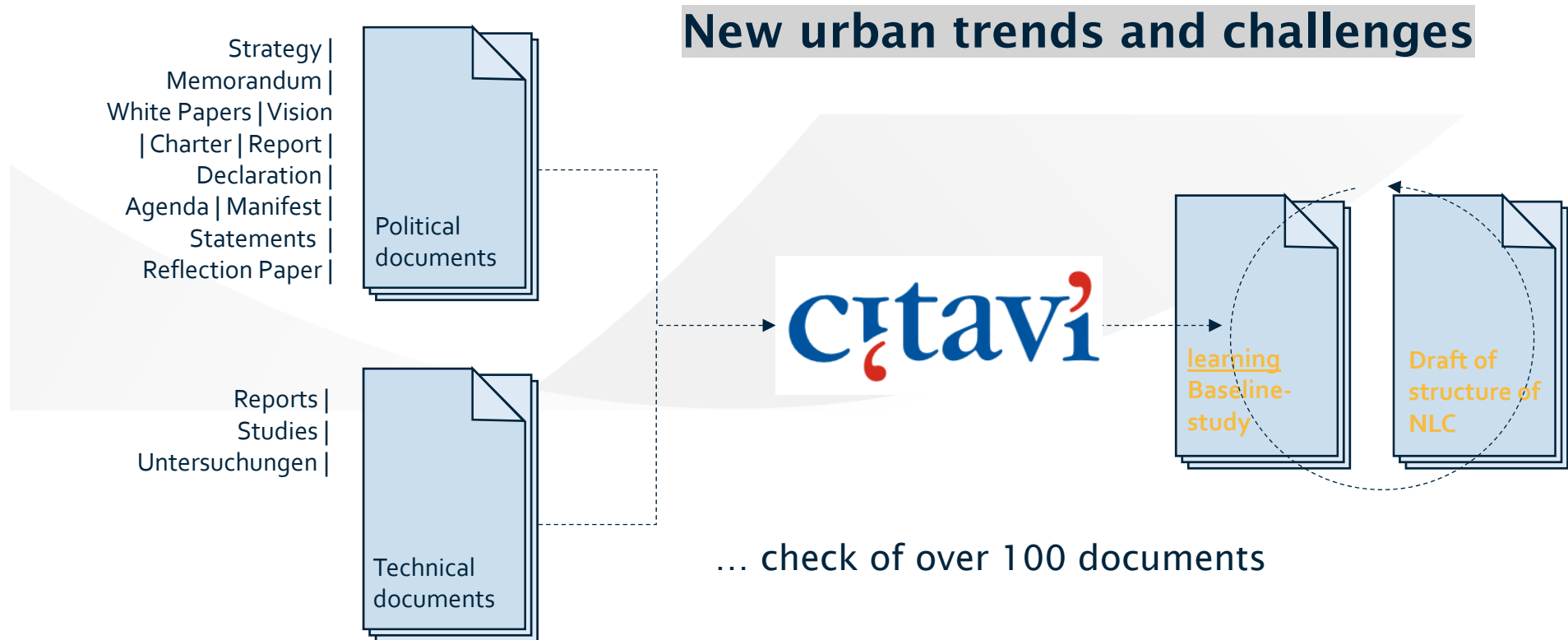
- 12 meetings held + continuous feedback in political committees (UDG, DGUM)

Activities focused on:

- Informal Ministerial Meeting 30 -11-20 in Leipzig under German EU Council Presidency + Council Conclusions (as formal framework) under German EU Council Presidency



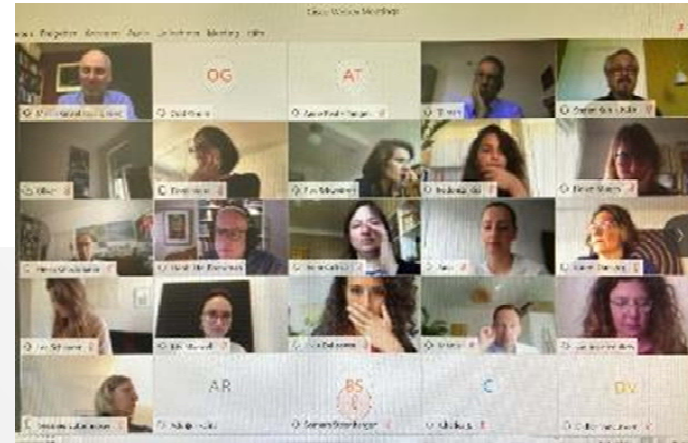
Baseline Study



Dialog Process in Germany



Dialog Process in Europe



Structure of the „New Leipzig Charter – The transformative power of cities for the common good“

A Preamble

B The transformative power of European cities

C Key principles of good urban governance

D Empowering cities to transform

Basic elements of the New Leipzig Charter

A Preamble

Effects of global trends and challenges more and more perceived locally
climate change, resource scarcity, digitalisation, migration, demographics, pandemics, globalisation

New Leipzig Charter contributes to implement objectives of global agreements
Agenda 2030, SDGs, Paris Agreement, New Urban Agenda, Green Deal

Requirements: need to strengthen framework conditions on each level
New Leipzig Charter does not address municipalities only

New Leipzig Charter emphasizes common good for better quality of life in Europe
Reducing and preventing inequalities

Basic elements of the New Leipzig Charter

B The Transformative Power of European Cities

Starting point: keeping values and use potentials of the European city

- Cultural and political tradition of democratic rights and values in cities
- Cities as places of pluralism, creativity and solidarity
- Cities as test bed for experimentation and new forms of problem solving
- Polycentric urban system with small, medium-sized and big cities and their Functional urban areas
- Compact, socially and economically mixed European city, well-developed infrastructure
- Strengthening of good urban planning and high quality public urban spaces
- *Baukultur* as the basis for integrated planning and design processes

Basic elements of the New Leipzig Charter

B The Transformative Power of European Cities

Emphasizing the resilience of cities

taking into account



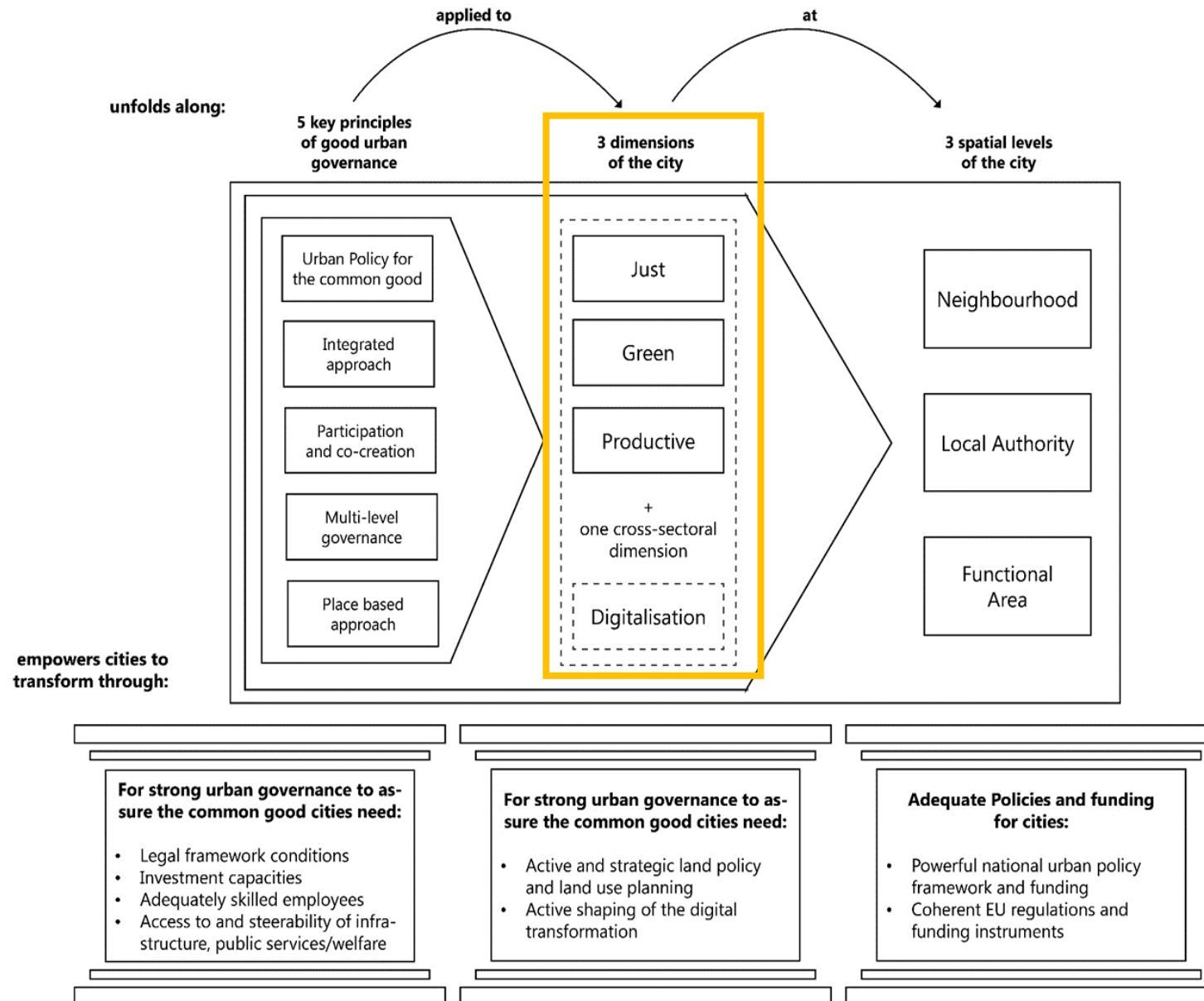
the
necessary
flexibility of
cities to
react to
external
disruptive
events

the ability to
learn from
past events
and adopt

a balanced
implementa-
tion of three
urban
dimensions

predective
planning and
risc -
scenarios
to anticipate
challenges

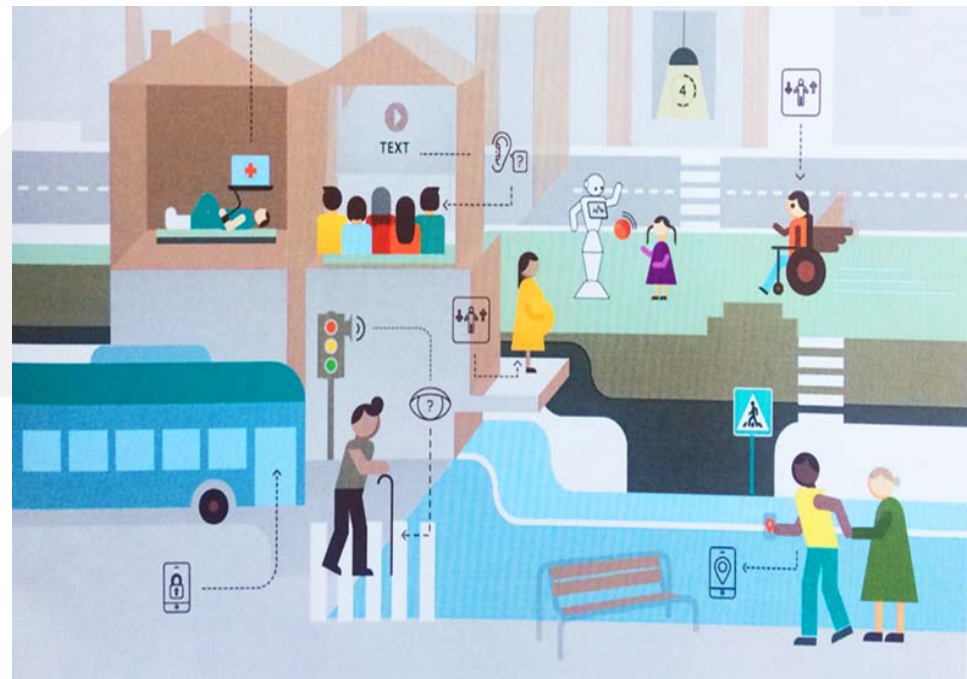
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B The Transformative Power of European Cities

core objectives of the just city

- ✓ ensure equal opportunities and environmental justice for all
- ✓ ensure equal access to public services
- ✓ ensure socially balanced, mixed and safe neighbourhoods
- ✓ ensure integration of all social groups and generations
- ✓ empower and acquire skills and education



B The Transformative Power of European Cities

core objectives of the green city

- ✓ creation of high quality urban environment (air, water, soil)
- ✓ climate neutral energy supply and energy efficiency
- ✓ shift towards innovative and efficient technologies and circular economy
- ✓ regeneration of urban ecosystems
- ✓ shift towards sustainable mobility



B The Transformative Power of European Cities

core objectives of the productive city

- ✓ diversified economy for jobs and financial base
- ✓ (inner)cities as attractive business locations
- ✓ shift towards digital, service-oriented and low-carbon economy
- ✓ changed retail sector; ensure supply of daily goods
- ✓ promoting mix of living, working, recreation, education, leisure



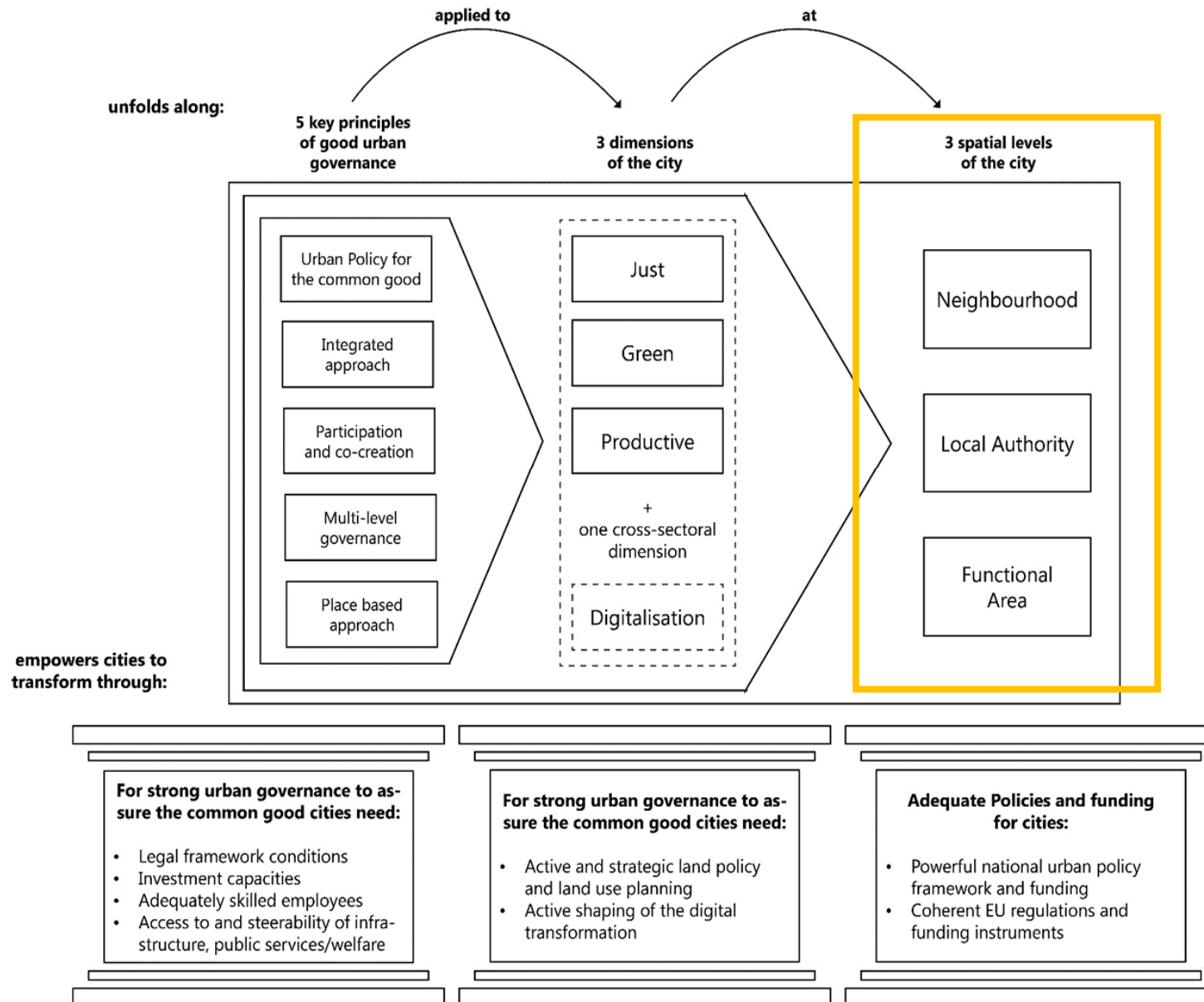
B The Transformative Power of European Cities

Cross-cutting issue and objective

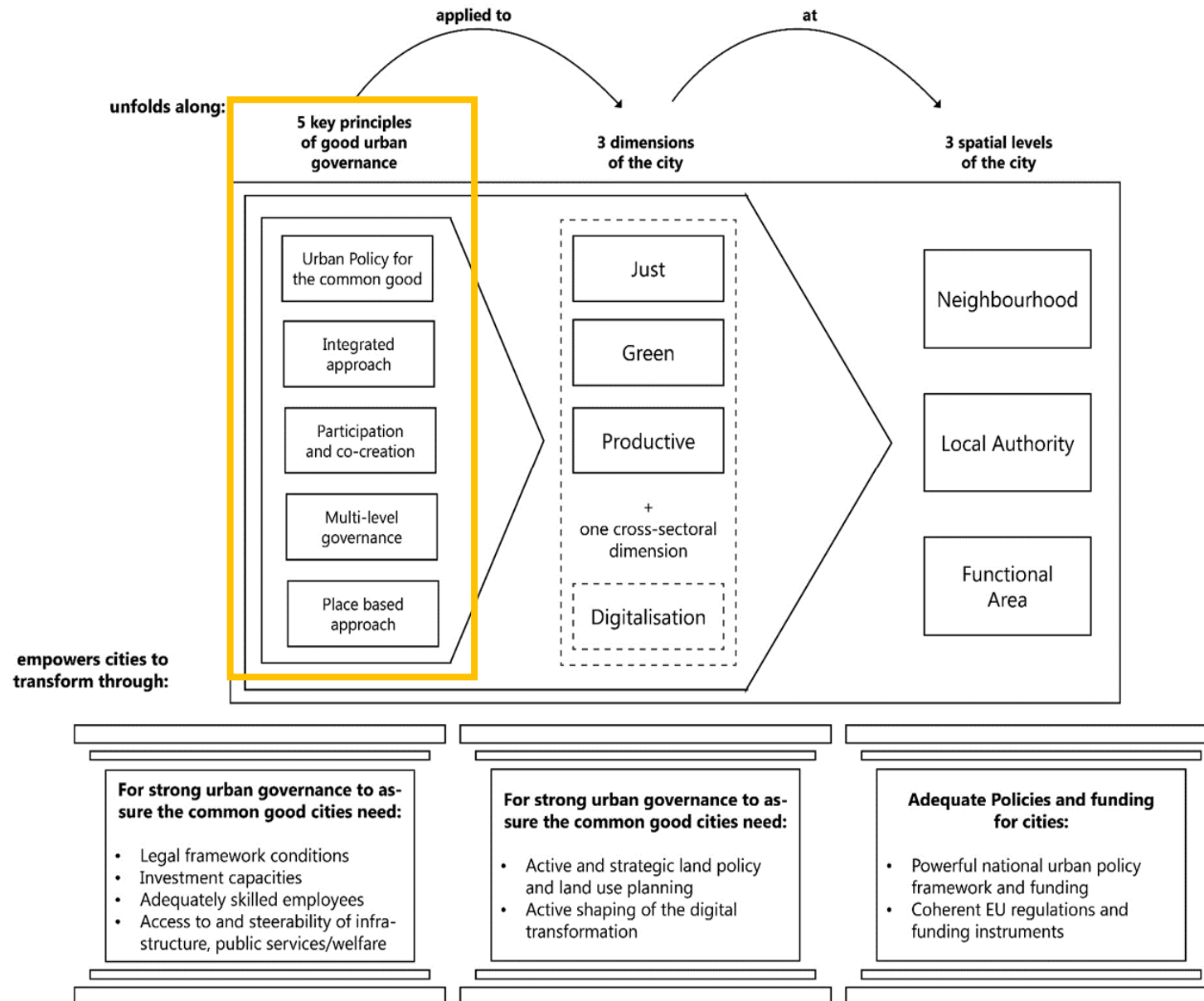
- ✓ use opportunities of digitalisation and shape it actively in an environmentally sustainable, inclusive and fair manner



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Basic elements of the New Leipzig Charter

C Key principles of good urban governance

Urban policy for the common good

- Strengthen the cohesion of urban societies including the most vulnerable
- Act in the interest of all, balance public and private interests with market mechanisms
- Safeguard accessibility and affordability of services and infrastructures for all
- Empower urban stakeholders to implement urban policy for the common good (skills and capacities)

Basic elements of the New Leipzig Charter

C Key principles of good urban governance

Integrated approach

- Necessity of promoting the integrated approach is still valid (Charter 2007)
- Balancing of conflicting interests and mutual effects of different interventions
- Assure synergies among three urban dimension and avoid conflicts of interest and dilemmata
- Need for integrated strategies for the city as a whole

Basic elements of the New Leipzig Charter

C Key principles of good urban governance

Participation & co-creation

- Involvement of general public and all urban stakeholders, also to strengthen local democracy
- Participation of key stakeholders, both governmental and non-governmental
- Test and experiment with new forms of participation like co-creation and co-design
- Co-design: involvement of inhabitants, civil society networks, community organisations and private enterprises
- This helps to share responsibilities and find innovations

Basic elements of the New Leipzig Charter

C Key principles of good urban governance

Multi-level governance

- Inclusion of multiple levels of governance (local, regional, national, European, global)
- Vertical and horizontal multi-level and multi-stakeholder cooperation
- Reference to Pact of Amsterdam and New Urban Agenda for the EU
- Bottom-up and top-down mechanisms

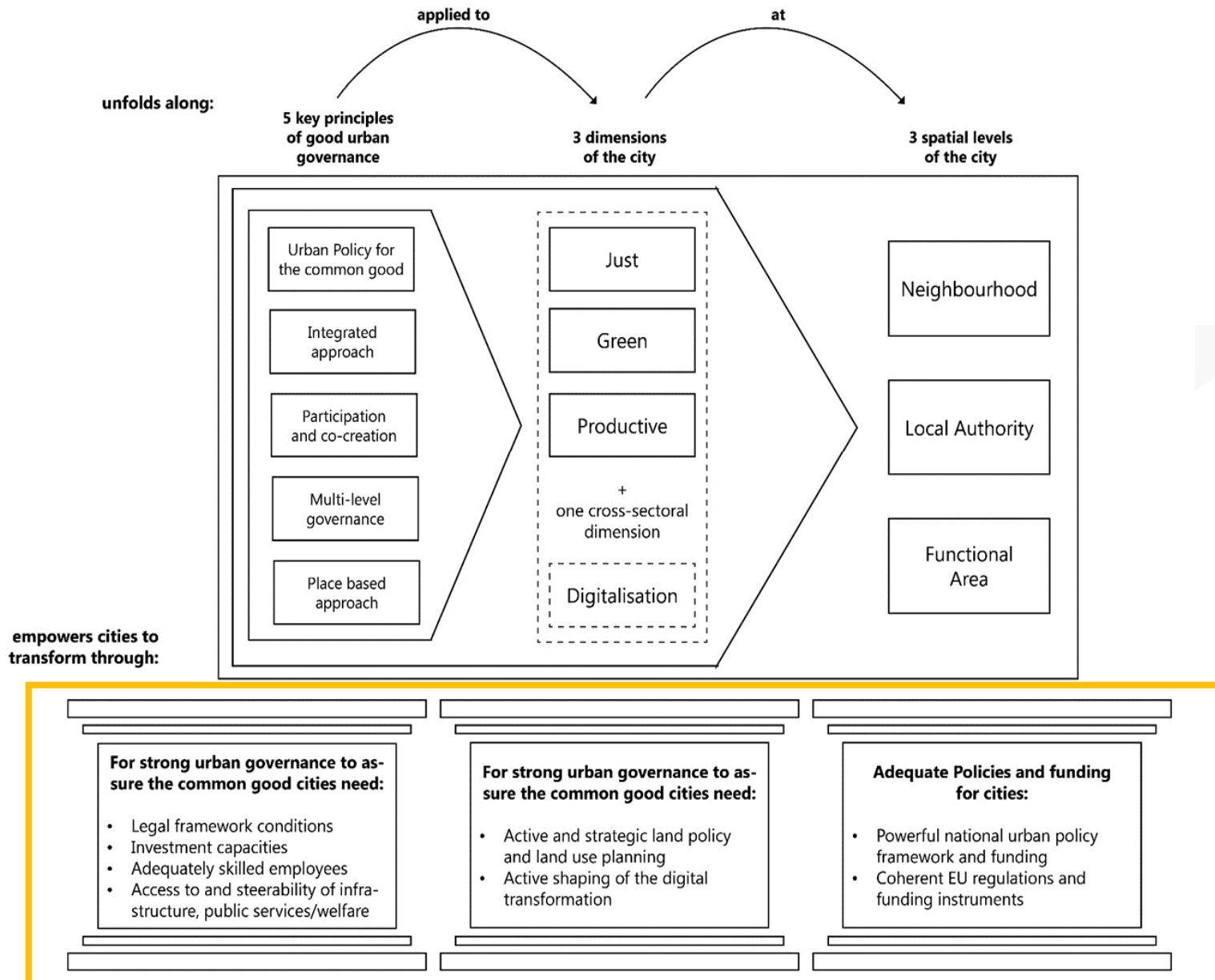
Basic elements of the New Leipzig Charter

C Key principles of good urban governance

Place-based approach

- Places as reference points for integrated development
- Sound analysis of the specific local situation, opportunities & risks; needs of inhabitants & stakeholders to create suitable measures for the given context & people
- Enabling endogenous urban transformation
- Appropriate formal and informal instruments at all three spatial levels

THE NEW LEIPZIG CHARTER



Basic elements of the New Leipzig Charter

D Empowering Cities to Transform

Cities need support from European, national and regional level to be capable to respond to current and future challenges.

Cities therefore need ...

- ... a **multi-level governance** system offering legal framework conditions
- ...adequate investment **resources** (taxes and fees, allocations)
- ... appropriately **skilled, qualified and trained employees**
- ... **access and steerability** of infrastructure, public services/welfare

Basic elements of the New Leipzig Charter

D Empowering Cities to Transform

Ensuring adequate urban policies and funding for cities through ...

Powerful national policy framework and funding

Appeal to Member States to continue or establish national urban policies:

- Enable exchange of experience and knowledge
- Act as platform for dialogue
- Offer national or regional funding programmes
- Provide incentives for innovation and room for experimentation

Basic elements of the New Leipzig Charter

D Empowering Cities to Transform

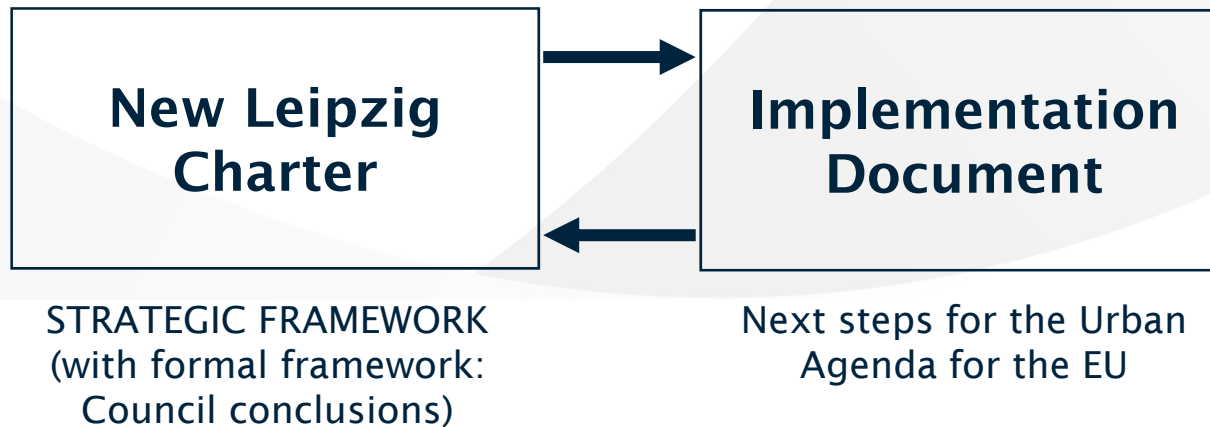
Ensuring adequate urban policies and funding for cities through ...

Coherent EU regulation and funding instruments

- Continuation of the Urban Agenda for the EU as implementing process/
tool for: better regulation, better funding and better knowledge
- Keep the urban dimension in the EU-Structural Funds (ESIF)
(flexibility and accessibility for cities and functional areas of all sizes)
- Impact assessments and support via European Urban Initiative
- Better coordination of vertical and horizontal exchange of knowledge
and expertise

Interlinking New Leipzig Charter with Urban Agenda for the EU

Elaborating a second document for implementation of principles of New Leipzig Charter and future Urban Agenda for the EU



Thank you for your attention!

https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/brochures/2020/new-leipzig-charter-the-transformative-power-of-cities-for-the-common-good

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