Title: **Multi-identity planning process in a studio course; How to combine different ideologies/identities in integrative coherent planning?**

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Abstract

The planning process as is developed in a planning studio is a demonstration of a micro-cosmos of diver's concepts dealing with ideologies and identities seeking for acknowledgment and spatial recognition. In a modern world of multi and dynamic identities aspire of self-recognition of regions, towns and communities, a place-base identity becomes a core aspect, where dynamic identities and ideologies are something that we need to take into planning consideration. The planning process needs to give present solutions to places situated in a dynamic process of change. Where their place-base identity and self- recognition are changing, and the future of identity/identities is steel unclear.

These are the questions we asked in a metropolitan planning studio that give our students a chance to translate and transform their conceptual ideas to spatial policy plans. One of the aspects that considerably stick-out is the complex thinking of iterative top-down Bottom-up approaches. This approach can create a multi-dimension and coherent planning alternatives (where most of the alternatives combination are possible), and spatial solutions may arise from communities along their changing processes.

In this paper we present two alternatives spatial plan development in a studio course based on planning proses that embrace this line of thinking. The first alternative is based on an ARCView GIS model builder that assist in creating spatial locations in a region were each town and village can define their own spatial future and still be a part of a collective ideology. The second alternative simulates spatial locations for a mixture of future identities based on present identities and the different route each identity may take during its growth process and possibilities of identity that changes in time. The results of these two research planning processes were non-conventional, highly dynamic, aspire with complex plans, aside of highly applicability and flexibility addressing wide range of ideologies and identities.

Introduction

This article discusses the outcome of a regional planning studio that deals mainly with the development of a long term comprehensive of a regional plan (50 years forward), and offers a multi-identity planning process developed by several student teams and allows reference for different and diverse communities and identities. This process displays product that combines conceptual pluralism and regional perspective of a bottom up planning approach based upon the integration of spatial information technology and multi-parametric analysis of regional planning.

In this course the students are dealing with a comprehensive planning which addresses complex and integrated questions of development, conservation, spatial justice, economy, transport, employment, demographics, and more. This is an intensive course that requires a high investment both on methodology and technic in a limited period of time. The course is built upon five phases: phase 1 reviews the current situation, Phase 2, individual planning concept development based on their ideological perceptions. Phase 3, students' team work for a comprehensive regional program development, Phase 4, students' team work for developing the spatial plan, and Phase 5, evaluation of the diverse spatial plans using by using analytical and political tools.

The studio methodology allows students to address different aspects of comprehensive spatial planning as part of their training as planners and as part of the formulation of a "professional voice" and planner identity. The students are required to develop a working model which answers their "professional voice" along with reference to the characteristics and constraints of reality. The planning work of is done in a given area, and each student's team provides an alternative. In the last part of the course, all the alternatives are being evaluated by the students and the pros and cons of each alternative and discussed.

A number of student teams have dealt with the planning dilemma that relates to the inflexibility of the planning process of representing multi-identities or societies/communities, and the difficulty of addressing differences between groups, types of identities or communities. Criticism in planning intensified as far as the real world has become more pluralistic, diverse and multi-cultural.

The question to address is - is it possible to combine differences between communities and types of identities that characterize the complexity and the pluralistic world where we live today in a coherent planning process which places the principle of multi-culturalism as a working model premise?

1.1 Multicultural premise in planning

In a global and dynamic world, one of the known trends is the growth of multicultural society. This trend is a challenge for planning. In the past, planning succeeded by characterizing uniform local cultural characteristics of a region, or characterize nationality with a common direction, alignment and commitment of a common vision. Today such definitions are much less common and much less agreed in a multicultural society, which is composed from a mosaic of communities.

Each community has its unique identity and unique needs for fulfilling its vision and goals. Communities need space and amenities for fulfilling shared values, but even communities with similar goals and vision will require different needs due to spatial differences and difference in local authority policy (Walters & Brown, 2004). The processes of creating a multicultural society are increasing, and the spatial outcomes are segregation, on the one hand, and integration on the other hand (Burayidi, 2000). However, both need a planning process which will identify its uniqueness in the first place, and addresses this uniqueness in a comprehensive plan (Hague, & Jenkins, 2005; Devine-Wright, 2009).

This Spatial diversity corresponds with the theories of multiculturalism (Goldberg, 1994; Sandercock & Lysiottis 1998), individualism (Healey, 1997; Bellah, et al., 2007), pluralism (Davidoff, 1965; Hayden, 1994), & cosmopolitan (Binnie, et al., 2006; Bloomfield & Bianchini, 2003). These theories point to the advantage of variety. However, in contrast to these theories that modern societies aim to adopt, we identify a lack of planning tools addressing multiculturalism, pluralism and individualism at the regional level.

Few cities, especially world cities, have succeeded in providing multiculturalism and hyper-diverse life for their population. Most regions and cities prefer to differentiate themselves from other regions and adapt homogeneous identity.

Therefore, planning is obligated to mitigate the negative elements and develop positive aspects of diversity. The negative aspects refer to aspects of segregation and closings, and positive aspects refer to the opening of possibilities, variety, choice, and the possibility of self-determination and self-expression. Under this approach, the goal of the studio planning process is to provide the optimal combination of diversity, on the one hand, and not to impose pluralism on the other hand.

1.2. Multicultural planning model in planning studio

Diversity and variety are addressed in planning by refining the diversity of land use. There is an increasing of urban usages in all planning fields: green areas of different types, residential textures, density levels and urban fabric types, variety of public service and mixed uses. This

increases the variety of types of usages as an outcome of the need to address more complex existence and a need for unique policy in a growing number of land parcels.

Currently there is a shift in the way urban planning process is developed around the world. This change occurs due to several transformation and changes: for example, technology change, such as implementing the GIS platform in planning (Talen, 2000). Development of new methods for planning as the Form-Based Code (FBC) that comes as an alternative to conventional zoning planning. At its base is the idea of a neighborhood or city as a whole, rather than its division by specific land uses (Parolek, et. al., 2008,). The Buffalo Green Code developed for using a new approach to guiding development. This new approach is called "Place-Base Planning", a way to shape the city by concentrating on the look and potential of places, their form and their character, instead of focusing only on conventional categories of land use. Using this code will map the entire city by type of place. This will be followed by a comprehensive zoning ordinance that will create a new set of rules to encourage development that fits with the desired character of the place (http://www.buffalogreencode.com/what-is-place-based-planning/)

As can be seen the studio projects reacts to these changes in the planning field, especially in a studio program. For example, the change in planning terminology developed as an outcome of a top-down planning thinking. The diversity in urban usages increases the variety of zoning types that serves as an answer to a complex wide variety of laws and building regulations. The planning process tries to cope with the wide variety of laws and regulation by developing innovative and creative terminology for those land use types. This zoning terminology is inherently general and relates to a wide variety of regions and plans. This terminology is not built to address place based planning. Zoning terminology in most planning processes is not an outcome of a bottom-up process but rather a given as a fact. Zoning terminology assumes that its richness of land uses can cope with the variety and complexity of the reality, and if not, the plan will reduce the variety to the existing terminology.

A bottom-up - place based planning process that addresses the existing and future variety in a specific area requires a different model of zoning; a model which will be flexible enough to develop appropriate spatial policy for different communities and different ideologies. But despite the high level of flexibility, the model should be generic based on space-based analysis. These specifications require a new planning model.

Classic Planning model is built as a double funnel or a sand clock. First, the information and knowledge are collected about the region. This Knowledge is being abstracted and simplified for representation of the urban systems. This knowledge is further being abstracted into planning principles, alternatives and finally a chosen alternative. The chosen alternative undergoes a process of expansion, deepening and developing of policy measures and spatial details which mature the process to a complete comprehensive plan (Altshuler, 1966; Hax, & Majluf, 1996; Chadwick, 2013).

To produce bottom-up planning that address's variety of identities and different ideologies, the "narrow waist" of the planning process should be expanded. Instead of single chosen

alternative, multiple alternatives should be reflected throughout the planning process taking place side by side from initial stages of data collection towards development of a comprehensive plan.

Different alternatives fits different ideologies and identities, provides a plan for the exact identity it serves. All plans have their own internal logic but at the same time an overall view that incorporates and integrates a comprehensive plan at a spatial level and a conceptual level.

This place based planning process creates a mosaic of programs at different levels, so every level will provide harmonious plan. The outcome plans will expose all communities and local identities, and in addition create links between communities and regions, between neighbors and similar neighbors at the same time.

Different levels of the region plan will address: a). the relationship between nearby places that share community life, and b). ideological or conceptual system between distant places. The last is similar to the concept of an ecological corridor that connects regions and creates ecosystem. This principle will be used to connect places of common ground ideology in the formation of an ideo-system which might be a knowledge base of similar conceptions.

This planning approach is based upon the use of GIS spatial information technology as an integral part of the planning process. This technology enables the development of multiple local plans of different characteristics and policy, in one region, and creates mutual connections between them. Spatial information systems are able to contain hundreds of attributes of information for all spatial objects and examine spatial adjustments between objects depending on spatial and functional relationship. A resembles approach can be seen at the “Bottom-Up GIS (BUGIS)” model developed by Talen, (2000), were understanding of residents perceptions and preferences of local issues is based on a GIS planning analysis of spatial complexity, spatial context, interactivity and interconnection.

This place based planning process fits ideology to an identity with an appropriate set of policies of its own and for neighboring communities. The methodology is based upon the development of an identity matrix and a generator/influences matrix, which defies the development characteristics for different ideology and identity as well as the mutual influences between different identities and between identities and their surroundings. The methodology may be expressed as a rigid and not flexible enough, however, the actual the reference to a wide variety of different parameters allows extensive and complex variation of the land uses, a view to the feature that encourage the plan flexibility.

Parallel to the development of the influence matrix generator, an extensive set of typical identities is being formed, as part of the planning process. This planning model concept allows representation of each identity's needs in the matrix. The set of identities represents the diversity of population in the region and also addresses future variations. Future variation of identities is being set according to current trends of global societies.

Major trends that have been introduced to the influence matrix generator represents a strengthening of self-definition based on nationality, religion, language, gender, education, economic capital, sexual orientation, marital status, and geographic identity. These processes increase the range of properties needs of society. It can be argued that the system is too rigid and categorically defines characteristics for existing and future identities; however, the opposite is true. The development of various land-use policies for an extensive set of typical identities increases the diversity across the region. This is a bottom-up planning which relates to the characteristics of the public in a complex and profound way. Furthermore, this type of planning creates a wide variety of residential, employment, education, amenities and leisure spaces and places. This variety fits the needs of the place, and also enables wide choices for future communities.

Bottom-up planning has an added benefit at the regional level. The classification and characterization of identities allow identifying opportunities and conflicts, communities' synergistic elements and possible collaborations. Identify opportunities, conflicts, synergies and potential collaborations during the planning process allows conflicts mitigation and region management in a way that encourage cooperation by development. These elements play a significant role in regional planning process that allows and supports a variety, and copes with regional challenges of economies of scale, efficient transportation, employment mix, variety of services and optimal spatial management.

The next chapter will demonstrate this place based planning methodology by demonstrating two examples of the studio course student's plans. The plans were conducted in different years and in different regions of Israel and illustrate each in its own way, the principles presented above.

2. Description of the planning process

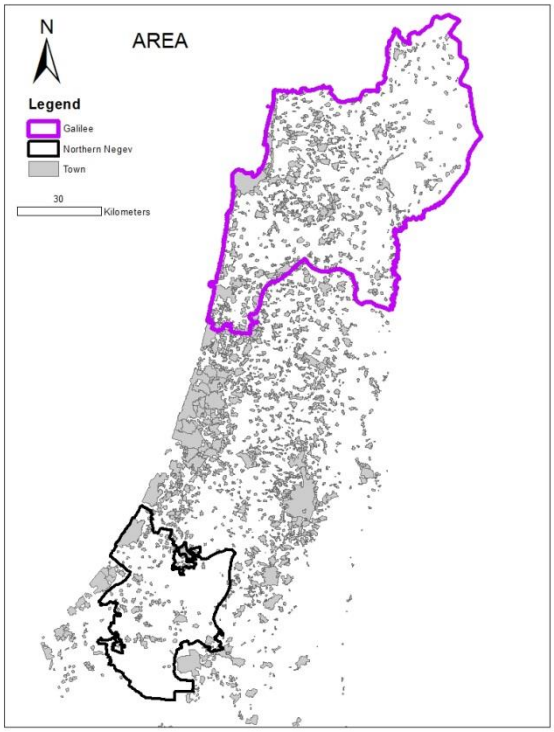
2.1. Two planning areas

The presented alternative plans are located in heterogeneous area, at the outskirts of metropolitan core areas, one at the north of Israel, the Galilee area, and the second at the southern area of Israel, called the Northern Negev region (see Figure 1). The Galilee area is characterized as a rural region having small Jewish and Arab towns, with traditional employment system of agriculture and traditional industry and rural villages. The Northern Negev region is characterized as an intermediate region between main three Metropolitan areas of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Beer-sheba, characterized by small and medium cities, traditional employment and life-style, diverse communities of Jews, Arabs and ultra-religious Jews.

Motivation for both planning process comes from a critical approach to the existing statutory planning that chose to ignore the variety of population and residence types in the alternative areas. The existing statutory plan defines most of the areas as rural, and ignores the complexity and uniqueness nature of both regions. The spatial policy suffered from a lack of reference of the

distinctive features that creates identity and internal unity. Towns and villages in these regions were scattered and separated with an absent of unique identity.

Figure1: areal map of the two alternative plans. המפה עוד תשתנה



2.2. Definition of existing and future identities in both regions

The first stage in the planning process includes definition of different identities and distinction between the identities in the region. In both alternatives current planning needs of various communities were examined and defined, however, in different routes.

The Galilee alternative plan provides a unique planning statement and individual treatment for each settlement in the space and the multi-dimensional connection between them. The idea was to create alternatives for people searching for a different lifestyle, and to provide a generic solution for the types of settlements that people are looking for. The models provide solutions for the differences that were identified, between the 'needs' and the 'wants' of people in search of alternatives to the conventional urban lifestyle. With that, the main emphasis was on developing models that offers the conditions that required for specific lifestyles which will provide maximum flexibility to the residents in accordance to their wants and needs. The idea was to categorize the existing settlements according to the model that was environmentally- and space-wise as the most appropriate.

Different community types were defined by their different characteristics of: population size, self-sufficiency ability, self-organization level, mix of employment types and typical local economy. The result was based on four different types of towns:

1) Ecological - According to research, ecological towns are viable only with small populations (up to 1000 residents). The distances to the city can be long because most of the residents work within the settlement. Also ,being located close to environmentally sensitive areas is based on the idea that these settlements have minimal environmental impact, and tourism makes up a significant part of their income.

2) Cooperative - distances from the city can be long because the towns can provide work ,food (from agriculture) and services.

3) Coexistence -the same as house in the countryside- Requires a community apparatus that is more complex and requires for employment in the settlement.

4) Country side - House in the countryside - The town can be larger, closer to the city and to employment centers

Each combination displayed different level of performance in each characteristic as can be seen in figure 2a.

The Negev alternative plan the students identified six different generic personal Identities in the region having different needs and characteristics. Identity characteristics were defined as parameters in multi-parametric matrix, for example: Jubel (identity) - a student and a farmer son, deliberating between staying and living in the farm or leaving the farm; Phatma- a yang Bedouin women; J'aklin- a single mother living in a small traditional town; Oleg- immigrant from former SSSR, work as an engineer; Raz- gay person how tries finding suitable community for his modern family; Sara-Rivka- ultra-orthodox women, a mother of five who works as a programmer. Each of these generic identities provided with possible future development of these identities as can be seen in figure 2b. Each of the ideologies and identities also have spatial characteristics such as transportation accessibility, access to employment; and social characteristics such as nationality, religion, gender, language, identity, education, marital status, economic capital and more.

This identity analysis has characterized the variety of present communities and their future development needs. The place-based planning process tries to cope with a range of future possibilities such as: strengthening existing traditional elements, or providing a mix of traditional and modern life, or drastic change and abandonment of social tradition and adoption of some of existing trends in Israeli society and a global perspectives.

The analysis refers to current trends in Israeli society and global trends which will be intensified in the future such as women's employment, the growth of a new family types, the blurring of gender, individualism, liberalism and education.

Each of the identities/idiologies has undergone a similar expansion process that tried to outline the future possibilities. Obviously this process cannot predict all directions of personal development, but the excruciating in this kind of thinking creates a vast mosaic of various mixtures which may characterize the majority of the population.

The next step of the planning process, includes characterization of the towns and villages which will provide the needs of the different communities such as: town size and type, occupations structure, social structure, regional identity and relationship to the natural environment are providing the basic elements of the identity matrix generator.

Figure 2: Ideologies in the Galilee and identities possible future development in the Northern Negev area

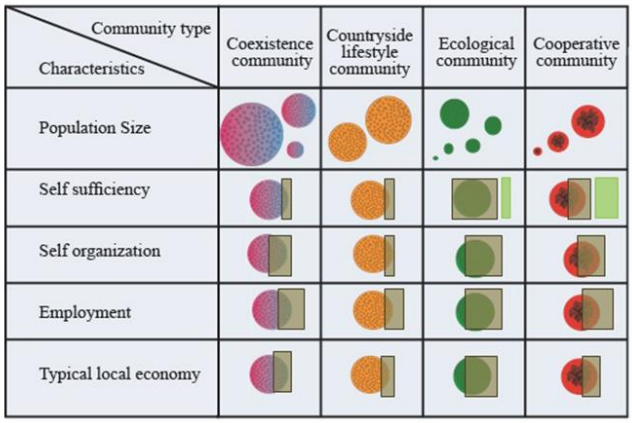


Figure 2a displays the categories of cities and towns the Galilee.

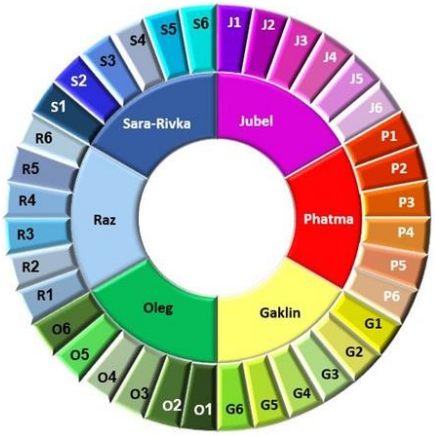


Figure 2b displays 6 main identities in the north Negev area and the possible future development these identities into 36 sub-identities

2.3. Development of identity matrix generator

The second stage of the methodology is based upon a generator of ideologies, and their characteristics of transportation accessibility, access to employment; and social characteristics such as nationality, religion, gender, language, identity, education, marital status, economic capital are translating to define the spatial environment for each community and type of: housing, employment, social relationship and spatial relationships between the different ideologies. These matrices are known as the '*identity matrix generator'*. The matrix contains ideology's types, which were identified in the first stage and future ideologies which were developed based on social trends. The Galilee alternative have developed the generator according to geographical characteristics, (see figure 3); and the northern Negev alternative have developed the generator according to social indicators (see figure 4).

To address the characteristics of each existing and future identity, towns and villages that may provide an opportune environment for communities and different ideologies were identified. This matching process was accompanied by a development of policy measures for required adjustments, which included an establishment of specialized employment centers, establishment of educational institutions; Entertainment directed toward the needs of types and communities. Policy measures also include an establishment of new settlements designated if required.

The implementation of this methodology for large area includes hundreds of different kinds of settlements has allowed specific reference to versatile ideologies, and different communities received an individual and specific planning (see Figure 5). Spatial distribution of towns and villages allowed a versatile identities mix for different communities and complex spatial pattern and differentiated spatial policy for different types of ideologies.

Figure 3: identity matrix generator for the Galilee Alternative

distance from protected areas	Distance from employment centers	Distance from the city	Population size	
X	-	5 km <	1000 >	Cooperative
3 km >	-	5 km <	400 >	Ecology
-	5 km >	5 km >	2000 >	House in the countryside
-	7 km >	5 km >	500-200	Coexistence

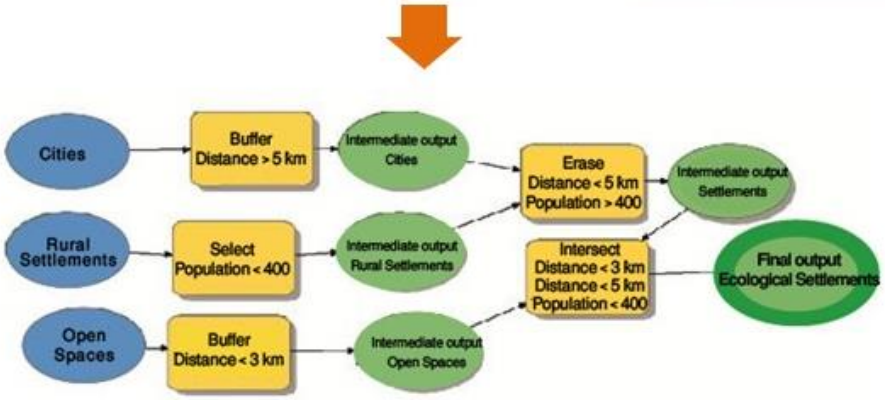
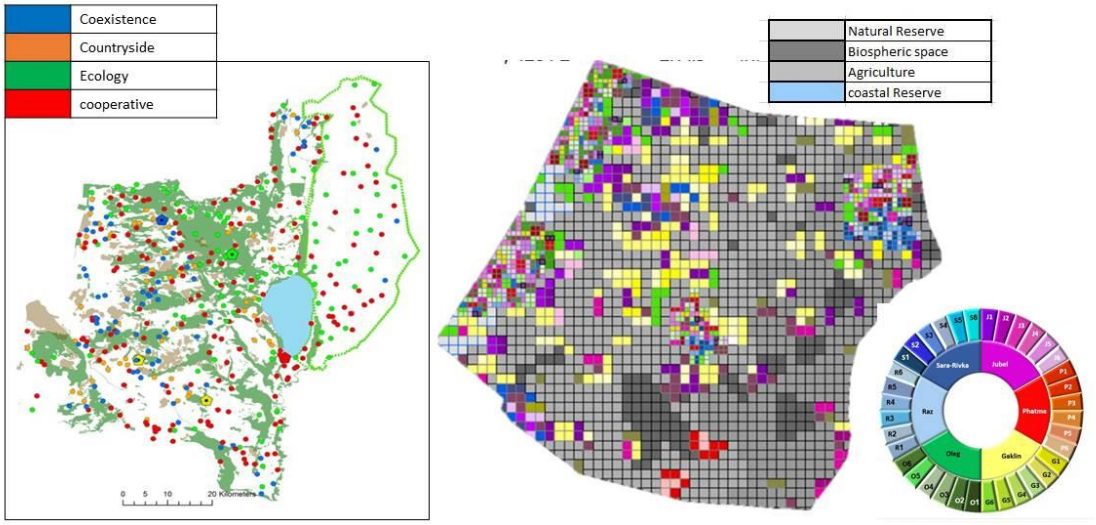


Figure 4: identity matrix generator in the Northern Negev Alternative

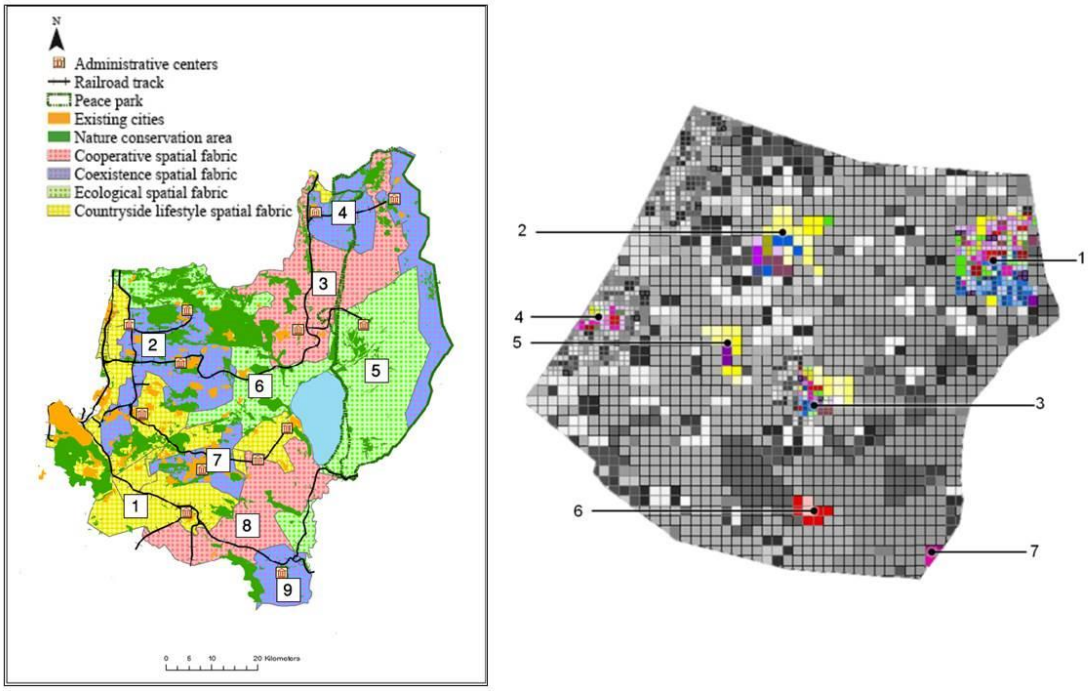
Identity	Approximate Town Size	Community Type	Residential Type	Profession	Environment
G1	medium	traditional	small app	services	suburb
G2	very large	close	small app	industry	suburb
G3	large	open	medium app	academy	city
G4	medium	medium	house	tourism	town
G5	small	traditional	medium app	free profession	village
G6	very large	individual	medium app	free profession	metro
P1	small	close	medium app	free profession	village
P2	small	traditional	house	agriculture	farm
P3	large	open	large app	academy	city
P4	large or very large	multi	medium app	tourism	city
P5	very large	open	medium app	hitec	metro
P6	very large	individual	small app	cleantec	city
S1	very large	close	large app	hitec	city
S2	metro	individual	small app	services	metro
S3	very large	open	medium app	free profession	city
S4	large	multi	medium app	academy	town
S5	very large	traditional	large app	industry	city
S6	large	individual	small app	academy	town
J1	very small	individual	house	tourism	village
J2	very small	open	farm	agriculture	village
J3	large	close	small app	hitec	city
J4	medium	multi	medium app	academy	town
J5	medium	individual	cottege	free profession	town
J6	very small or very large	multi	medium app	services	suburb
R1	small	individual	cottege	agriculture	farm
R2	very large	multi	medium app	free profession	city
R3	very large	open	large app	services	metro
R4	small	open	cottege	tourism	village
R5	very small	close	cottege	free profession	village
R6	large	individual	medium app	academy	town
O1	very large	individual	large app	hitec	city
O2	metro	multi	small app	academy	metro
O3	very large	open	large app	services	city
O4	very small	individual	cottege	free profession	village
O5	very large	traditional	small app	industry	city
O6	metro	close	medium app	cleantec	metro

Figure 5: spatial patterns of ideologies in the Galilee and the Northeren Negev alternatives



This pattern has supported a complex sub-regional division which provided opportunities for regional collaboration and cooperation, conflict recession, identifying opportunities and synergies between localities and communities. The product of this analysis allowed examining the spatial role of different communities in future situation (see Figure 6).

Figure 6: subdivision of spatial fabrics in the Galilee and opportunities and conflicts in the Negev



The Galilee alternative is addressing the northern part of Israel and defines the core areas which will assist in connecting towns and villages of similar characteristics and empower them in elements of economics of scale, transportation efficiency, employment mix, and more:

1. Core area for community towns in Carmiel
2. four 4. Core areas of mixed community towns in Maalot Tarshiha, Massada and Bet Shean
3. 7. and 8. are Core areas for agriculture based villages in Kryat Shmona, Shfaram and Kafar Kama
   5. and 6. are Core areas for ecological villages in Kazrin and Tiberious

The Negev Alternative is addressing the southern part of Israel and is pointing out opportunities and conflicts in that area

1. Religious – Secular conflict in the town of Bet Shemes
2. Social decline in an too homogeneous town of Kiryat Malahi
3. Social opportunity in a heterogeneous town near agricultural landscape of Kiryat Gat
4. Opportunity for heterogeneous town on a sea-shore in Ashkelon
5. Social conflict between old conceptions and new ones in the village of Nehora.
6. Opportunity for spatial interaction in new Bedouin village
7. Opportunity of ecological communities

This section indicates the possibility of exposing insights of the analysis related to the performance characteristics of the area, such as: problems, conflicts and synergies.

2. Discussion and conclusion

Both plans relate to the tension between planning at the individual level (community, ideology) integrated into a comprehensive planning. Both alternative plans indicate that vital and extensive information, that relates to ideologies and regional way of life, may be lost in a classic comprehensive planning approach, information that deals with the needs and desires of the individual.

Both alternative plans began by assuming that this information needs to be at the core of the planning process, and future approach to planning decision making and planning models should keep this information throughout the planning process up to the formulation of the plan (Ho, & Dey, 2010).

In both alternative plans, planning policy relates differently to various ideologies, and regional policies that point out on the different characteristics of the land uses in every location in the region taking into account the characteristics of existing and future types of ideologies in the

region. The plans tells personal stories about various ideologies found in the region, trying to deal with the different paths each identity will take in the future, by drawing alternative paths of diverse personal development of various identities according to global and local trends.

Future relationship between identities and between communities in the region is defined by the influence matrix generator. This generator defines the relationship between characteristics and the different ideologies and different types of towns/villages in the regions. This generator is a Geo-Social matrix that addresses the spatial needs of various ideologies such as: settlement size, proximity to employment, proximity to services, closeness to nature and more.

This planning methodology enables multi-resolution observation of the process. The methodology allows zoom in over different types of communities, and examining the conditions for their flourish, identify conflicts, regional opportunities and ways to resolve/Mitigate between communities in controversy. The methodology allows zoom out on overall connections and relations between communities, and address mutual influences. This multi-resolution observation provides multi-level solutions of spatial conflicts and identify spatial opportunities.

Such detailed approach to the characters of each identity can operate and manage due to use of Geographic Information Systems and the ability to manage and control hundreds, thousands or even more features in an attribute table. Attribute table allows a multi-parametric approach for all different identities with no need to reduce parameters. In the case presented here different identities were characterized by 17 different characteristics concerning in a variety of spaces: personal, cultural, social and spatial. This data have not been analyzed in a processed that lowered the number of variables, such as Cluster Analysis or Factor Analysis, on the contrary, processing the data increased the variance, and the analysis enhances and enriches the data.

Analysis of the spatial distribution of identities has identified spatial conflicts and opportunities, addressing and presenting a complete picture of the region and the policies derived for different identities. This multi-parametric analysis produced two very different alternative plans in their spatial structure however, similar in the way they address different identities.

Both alternative plans represent a vast variety of towns and village types, having complex spatial pattern which supports a variety of ideologies. Mapping the spatial distribution of different types of towns and village allows planners to connect and link communities of similar characteristics or complement characteristics.

This identification allows creating a regional planning dimension of connectors, bridges and links based on relationships, opportunities, conflicts and complementarity of diverse issues, that allows tailoring specific planning solutions as appropriate.

This regional dimension is based on the complex layout of towns and villages, and deals with questions of economies of scale and efficiency on the one hand and spatial diversity benefits management, conflict management, spatial opportunities arising from the diversity and complementarity of community needs of different housing types on the other.

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