



Ministry of Smart
Administration and Regional
Development
Republic of Latvia

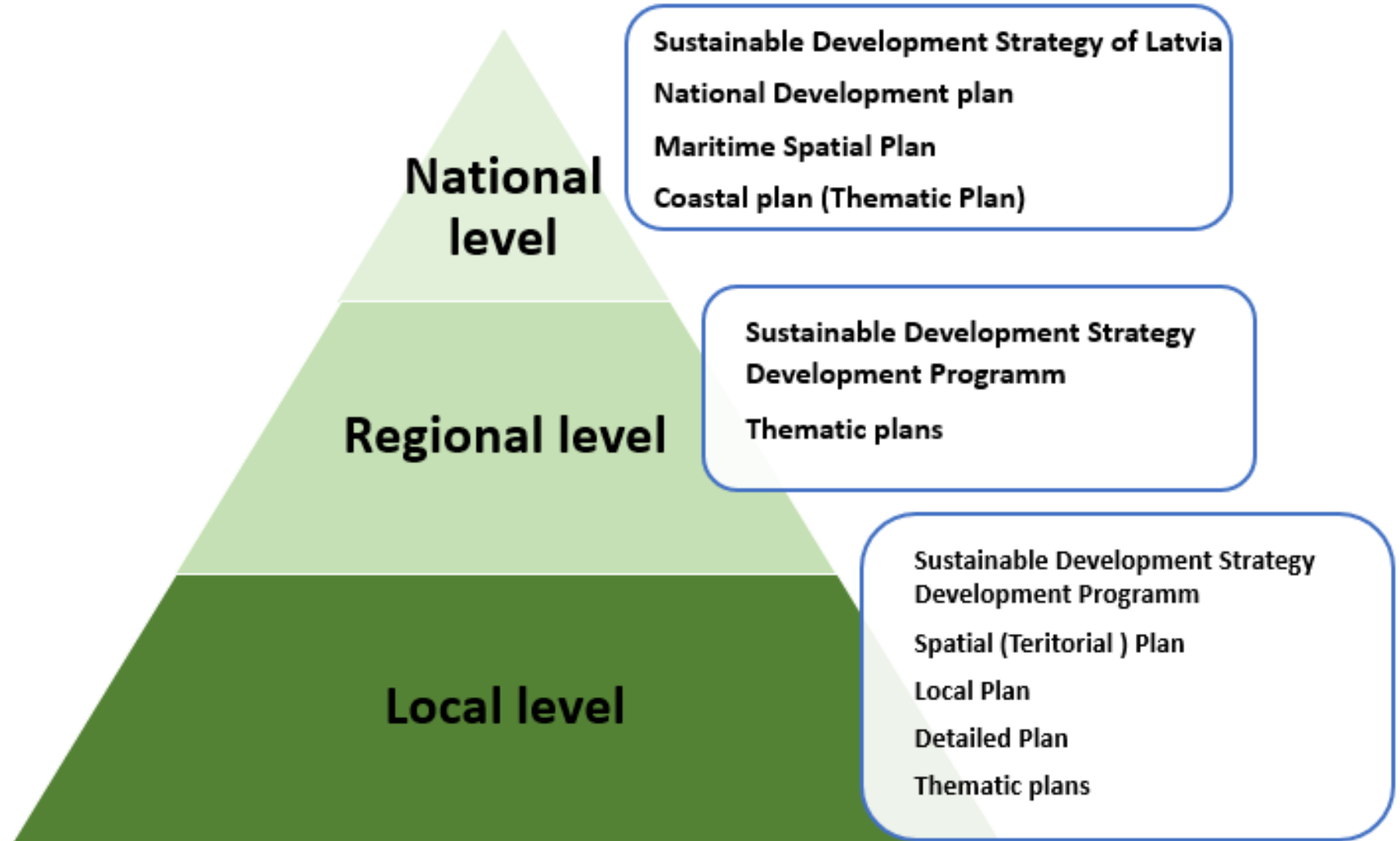
National Spatial planning in Latvia

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Spatial planning hierarchy in Latvia

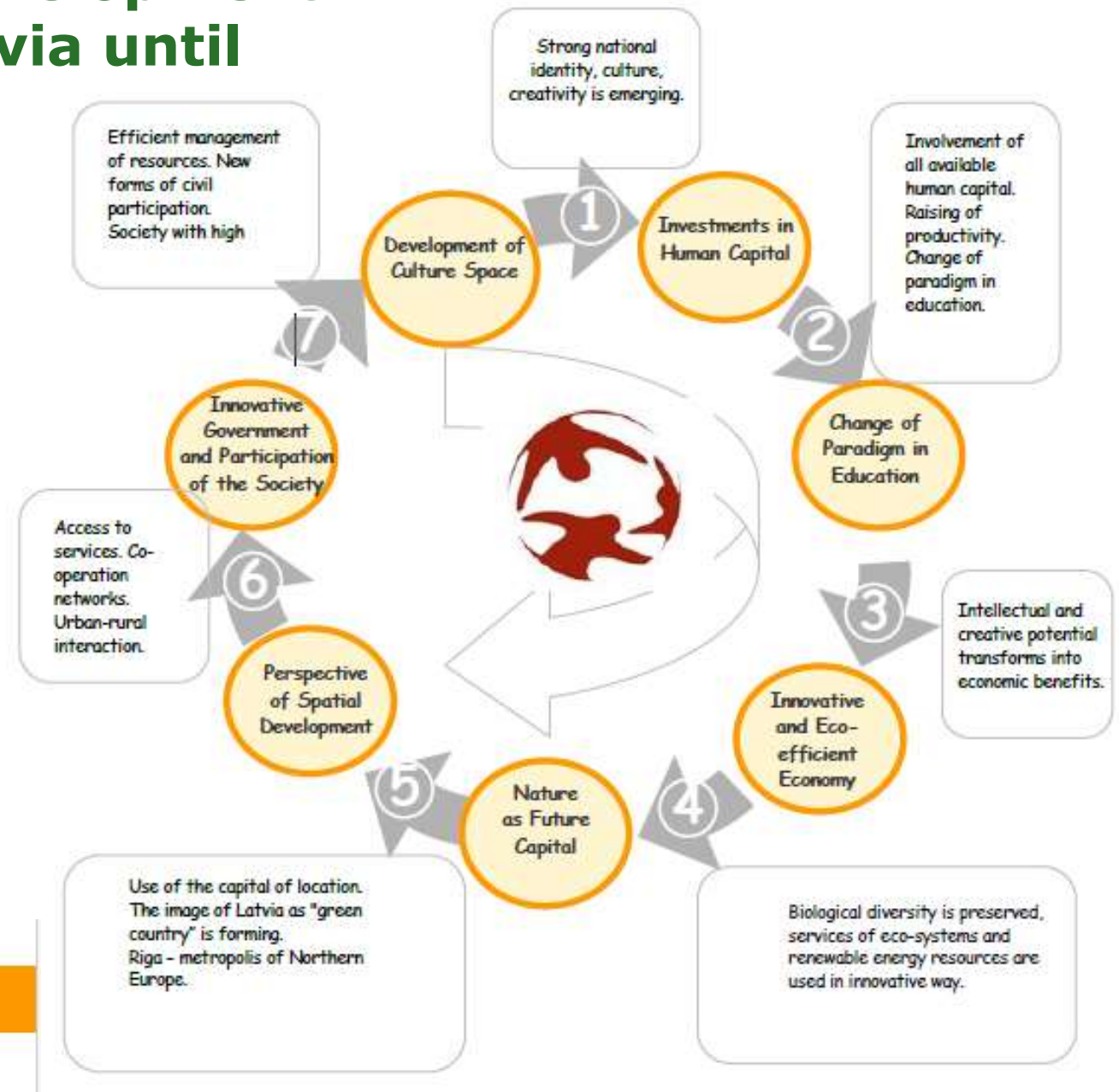




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Sustainable development strategy of Latvia until 2030

- ✓ Adopted by Parliament on June 2010
- ✓ Basis for development planning and spatial planning documents in all levels
- ✓ Sets priorities, development directions, objectives, directions for actions and possible solutions





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Spatial development perspective

Determines policy directions for sustainable and balanced development of the state territory, attaining full use of the economic potential of regions, improvement of the quality of life of inhabitants, preservation and skill-full use of natural and cultural and historical values. Emphasis on three main aspects:



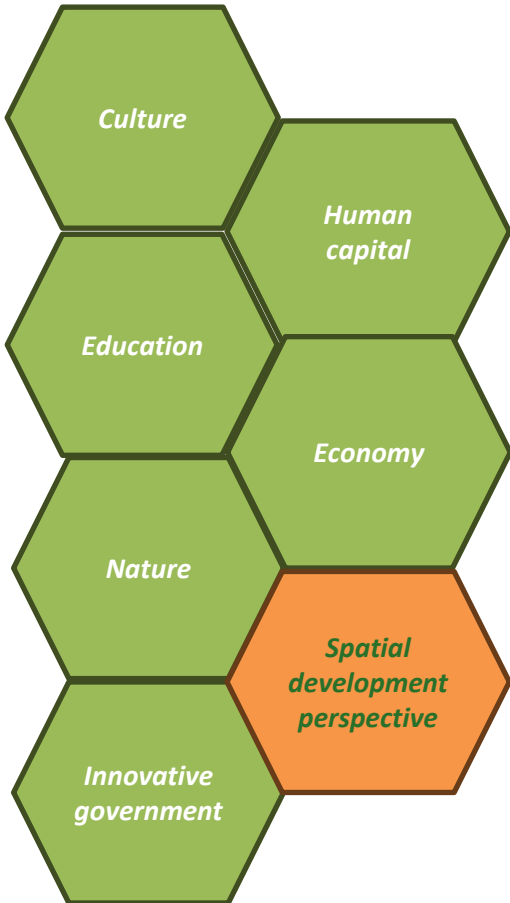
accessibility and mobility possibilities;



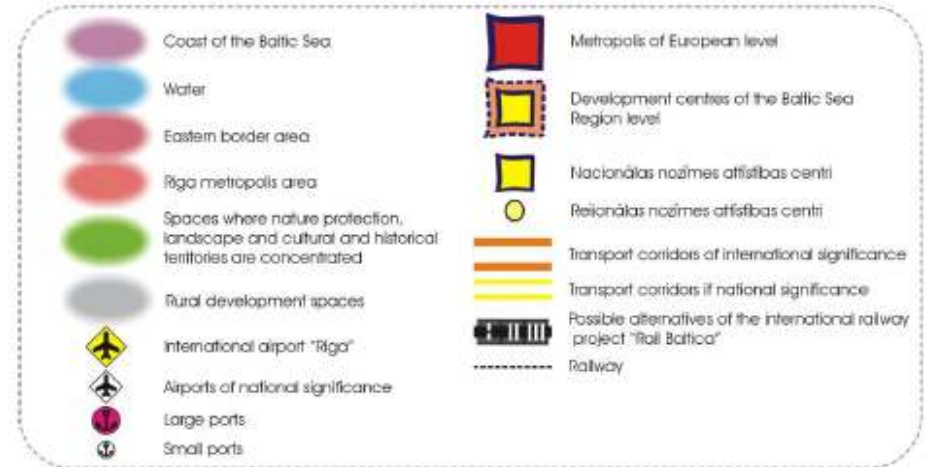
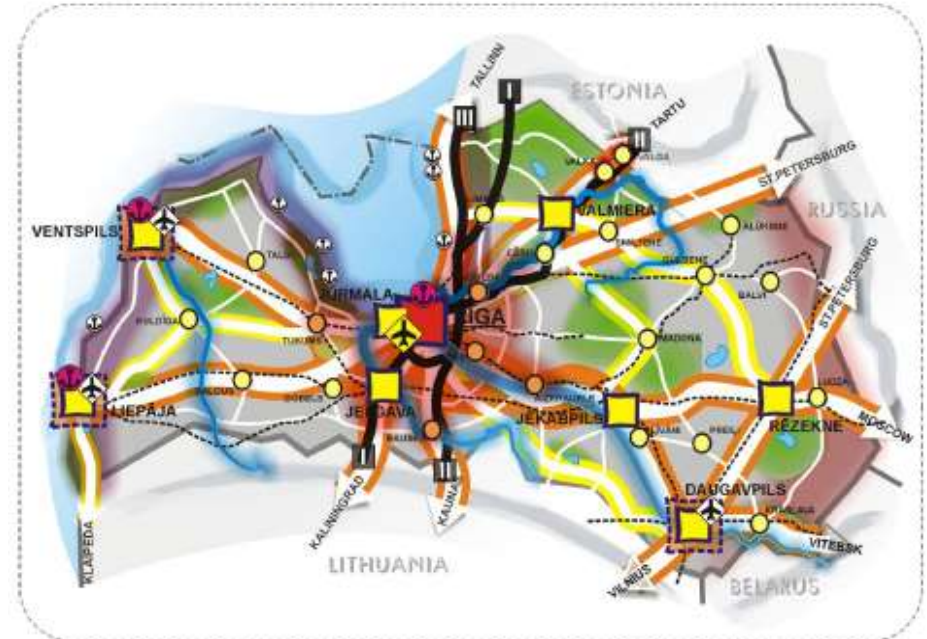
settlement as the economic development, human life work environment;



spaces of national interest – unique specific territories, which are significant for the development of the whole country.



Future Spatial Structure of Latvia

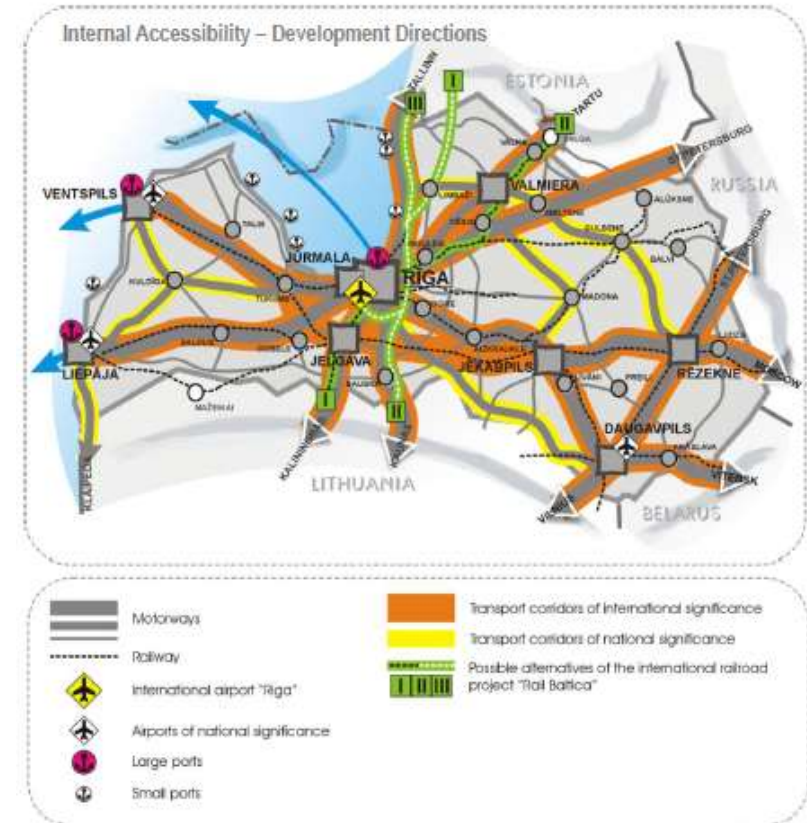




Accessibility and transport

Implemented through:

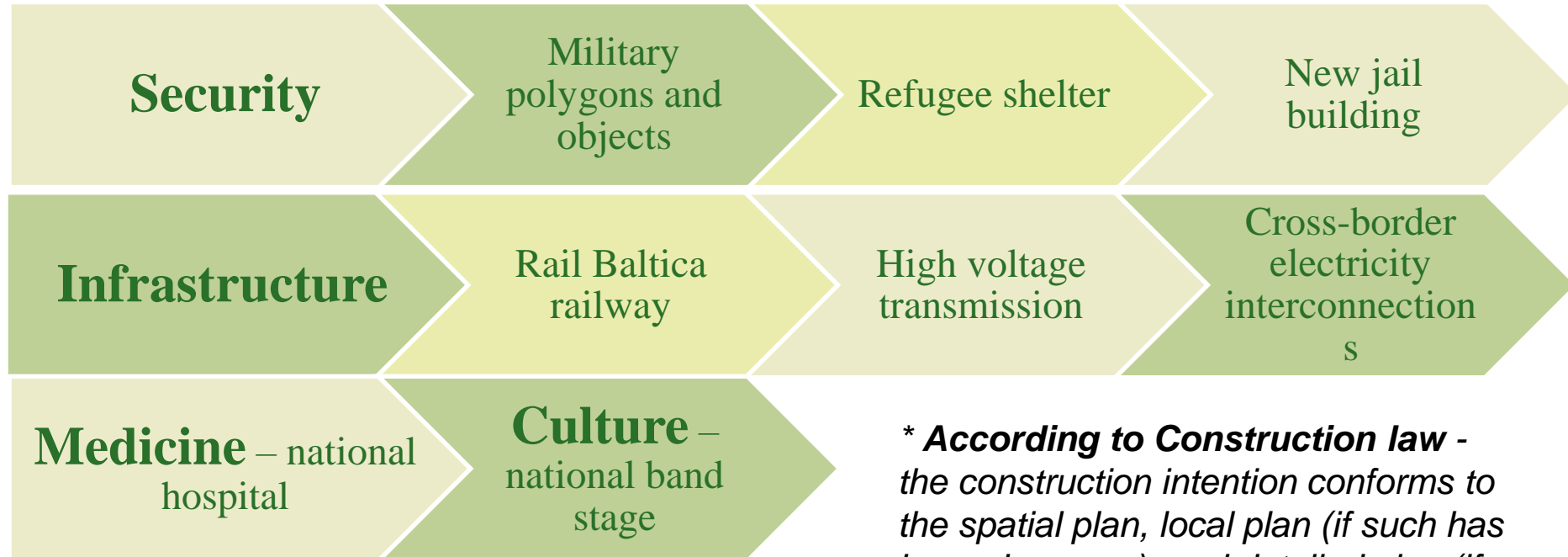
- **National Development plan**
- Policy planning documents:
 - **National Transport strategy**
 - **Port development programmes**
- **Rail Baltica** example – object of National interest
 - Sectoral ministries can prepare proposals and, in accordance with the procedures laid down in laws and regulations, advance them for defining objects of national interest and, if necessary, develop thematic plans
 - **Overrules local level spatial plan**



**Monitoring within mid-term (7 years) policy planning process –
midterm reviews, ex-post evaluation of policy indicators**



Examples of objects of National interest*



*** According to Construction law -** the construction intention conforms to the spatial plan, local plan (if such has been drawn up), and detailed plan (if such is necessary in accordance with laws and regulations) of a local government, **except when a construction intention is related to an object of national interest**

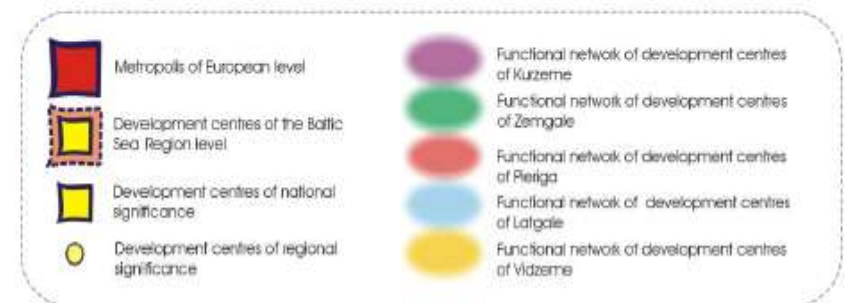
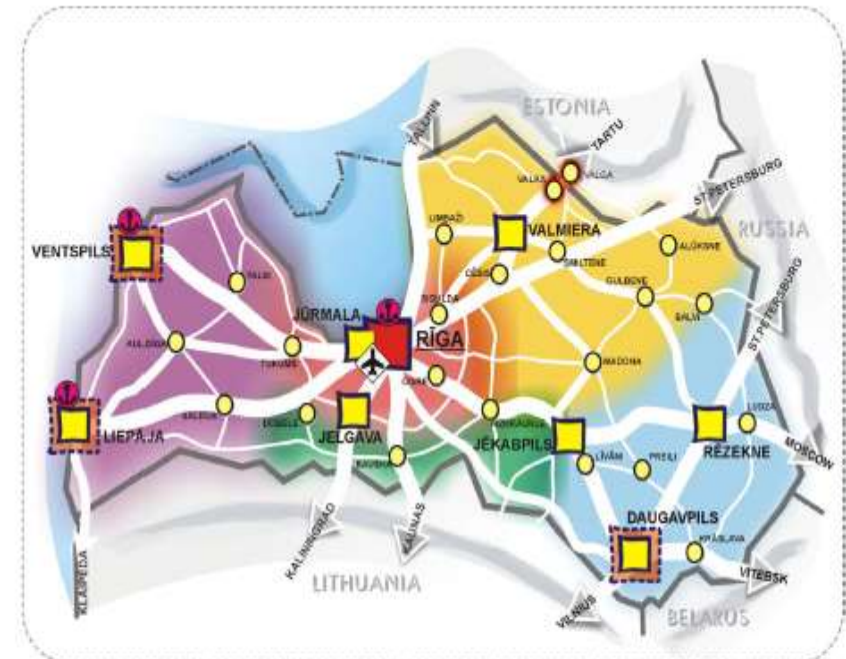


Urban-rural and functional territories

Implemented through:

- **National Development plan**
- Policy planning documents:
 - **Regional policy strategy**
 - **Land management strategy** (expired in 2014 new expected by 2026)
- National **Operational programmes for EU funds**

Development Centres and Functional Networks



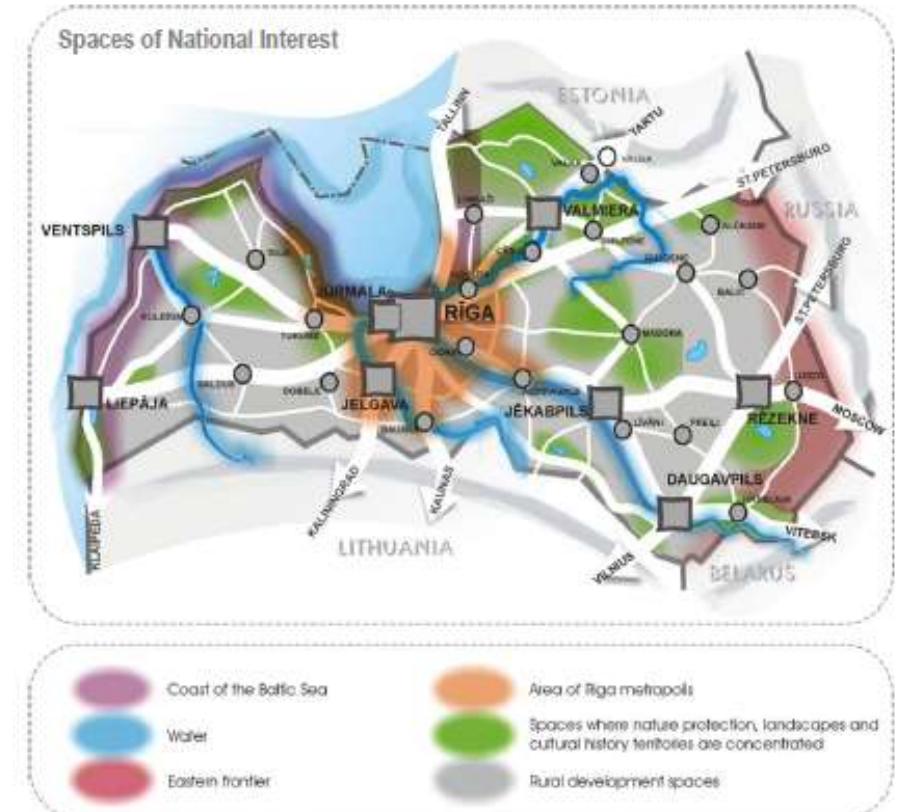
**Monitoring within mid-term (7 years) policy planning process –
midterm reviews, ex-post evaluation of policy indicators**



Spaces of National interest

Implemented through:

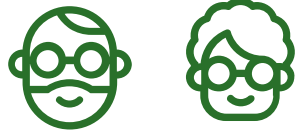
- **Long term thematic plan for public infrastructure development on the Baltic sea coast (2016-2030)**
- **Eastern Border action plan (2025-2027)**
- **Landscape policy implementation plan (2024-2027)**
- **Sustainable development strategies of Planning regions**
- Formal governance mechanism – **Riga Metropolis cooperation working party** (since 2024)
- **River management plans** (according to WFD)
- Legislation and individual rules
 - **Specially protected area management system**
 - **Protection of cultural heritage**



Monitoring within short, mid and long-term (3-7, more than 12 years) policy planning process – midterm reviews, ex-post evaluation of policy indicators



Applicability to local level



Sustainable development strategy of local government: spatial structure to be detailed in spatial development strategy, including guidance for land use.



Spatial plan of local government: land use and zoning should be compliant with Sustainable development strategy and should not contradict laws and regulations of higher hierarchy.



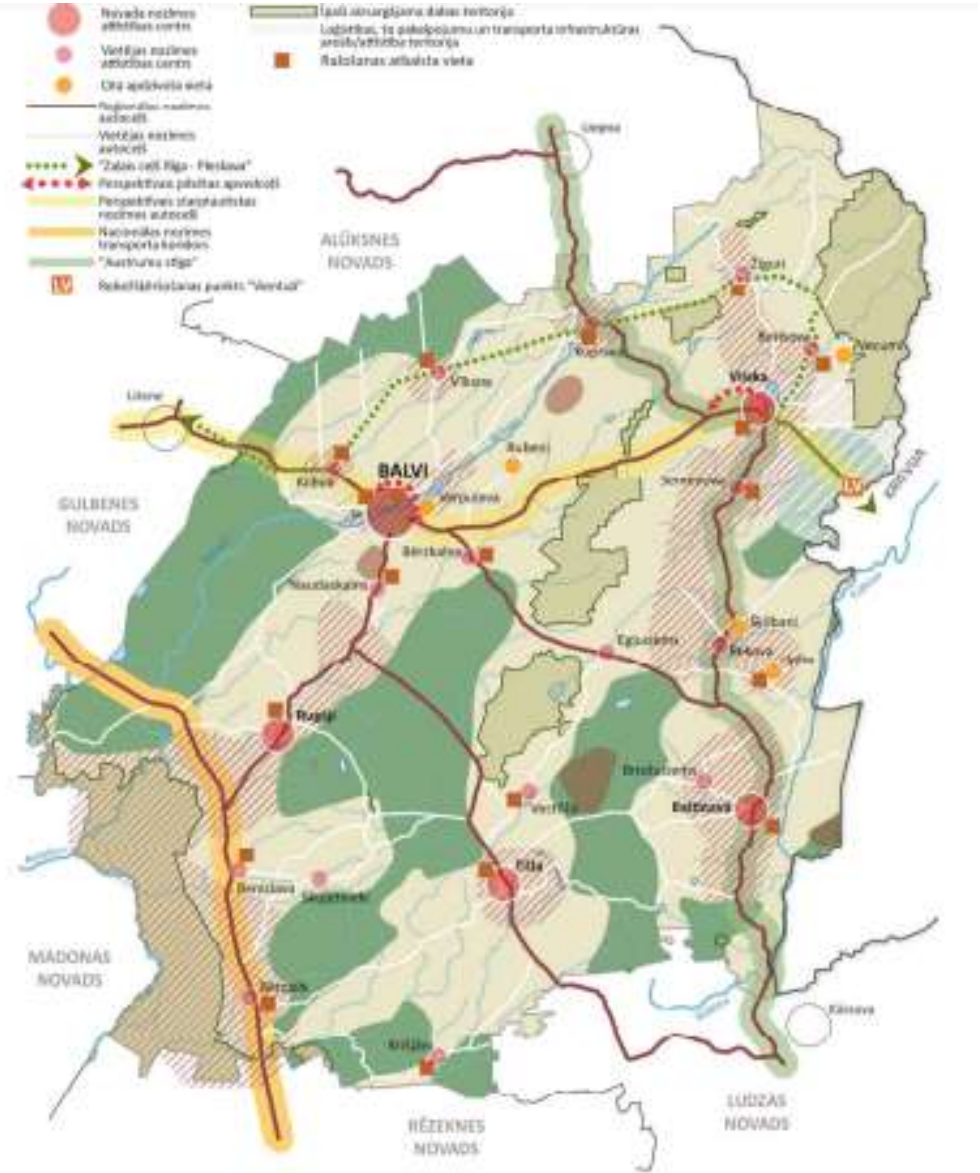
Spatial (Territorial) Plan

Grafic part

Approve with
local
government
binding
regulations

Regulations on territory
use and building

Explanatory part



BALVU NOVADA TĒLPISKĀ STRUKTŪRA



Reacting to new challenges

On national policy level – spatial distribution often missing

*On local level – new functions for local governments –
continued capacity building needed*

*Adaptation
to the
climate
change*

*Energy
independence*

*Sustainable
mobility*

*Security and
resilience*

*Nature
Restoration
law and green
infrastructure*

Latvia 2050 in process...



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[The Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional
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