



XIX Meeting of METREX Network, Nürnberg, 15-18 JUNE 2005

BUCHAREST

FEW EXPECTATIONS FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT

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THE CITY OF BUCHAREST HOLDS A TRIPLE STATUT

The biggest Urban Agglomeration of the country:

- holds structural relations with its surroundings;
- first rank in the national network of cities;
- 10% of the country population within the heart of the agglomeration.

European Metropolis:

- over 2 millions inhabitants in the city;
- good geographic positioning, at the intersection of the main Pan- European transportation corridors.

European Capital-City:

- Capital of Romania– political and administrative center;
- Important role in the Central Est European Region.



According to the map of the Pan-European Transport Corridors Network, Bucharest is an important knot of this network, being located at the crossroad of two from the longest Pan-European Corridors, to wit:

- **Corridor 4**, on the west-east direction: Berlin/Nuremberg – Prague – Budapest – Bucharest – Constanta – Istanbul/Thessaloniki, penetrates in Bucharest on the section Pitesti-Bucharest (A 1);
- **Corridor 9**, on the north-south direction: Helsinki – St. Petersburg – Kiev/Moscow – Chisinau/Odessa – Bucharest – Dimitrovgrad – Alexandropolis and is totally superposed in the area of the Municipality of Bucharest;
- **Corridor 7** – The Danube, is at about 65 km distance from Bucharest, including, also, the Danube – Black Sea Channel.



Source: TINA, 2000

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URBAN AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING CENT

Bucharest, the actual capital city of Romania, is situated in the Southern part of the country, at 64 km from the Danube, at 100 km South from the Carpathians and at 250 km from the Western side of The Black Sea.

The geographical position:

- 44°24'49" Northern latitude - the same as Beograd, Geneva, Bordeaux, Minneapolis);
- 26°05'48" Eastern longitude (the same as Helsinki, Johannesburg).



Bucharest is the first city in the hierarchy of the human settlements from Romania, as regarding as its area and population.



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Bucharest city is lying on the Romanian Plain, at the highest altitude against the sea level (around 96.3 m above). It is covered by two rivers: Dambovitza and Colentina, which are important for the comfort of the inhabitants, as well as the environmental balance of the territory. The two valleys made around the rivers, divide the city in few areas - some tablelands with meanders and terraces.





Bucharest's first documentary attestation dates from the 15th century (1459), during the reign of the Wallachian prince, Vlad Dracula the Impeller.

During his reign was established the princely residence in Bucharest, for the first time in the history – this decision had a basic role for the further development of the city.



What type of perception had the contemporary people about Bucharest?
- a city at the "gates of Orient and Occident", delightful, still keeping lots of the signs of a history, suddenly kept or rejected by the different parts of its inhabitants; a city with a special architectural style and a special way of being of its inhabitants.

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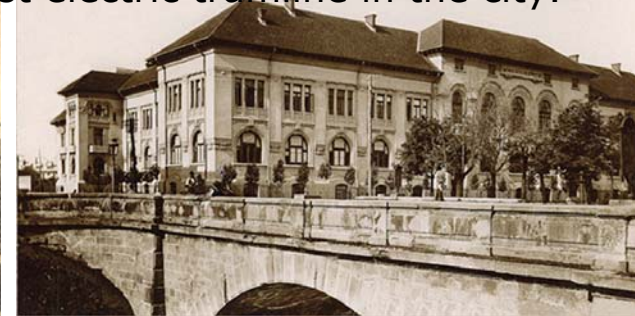
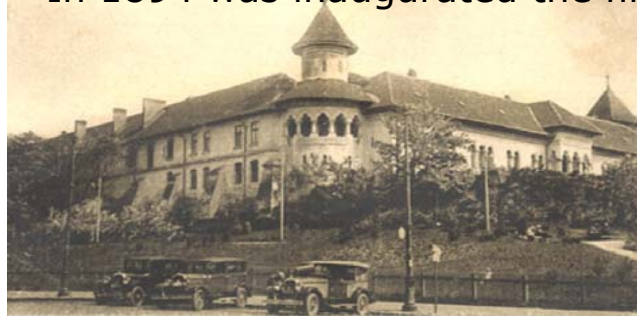


Historical landmarks for the modern Bucharest:



The moment of achievement of an independent state status, after the National Independence War in 1877, represented the moment when Bucharest became the Capital city of Romania and the starting point for a dynamic economic and social development.

- At the middle of the 19th century were made works to rectify the course and the river bed of Dâmbovită, the river which pass across the traditional core of the city and caused a lot of problems for inhabitants because of frequently floods;
- In 1869 was inaugurated the first railway on a distance of around 60 km (on the route Bucharest – Giurgiu, a town on the Danube);
- The first railway station in Bucharest was open in 1869;
- The first tram with horses was inaugurated in 1872;
- The public lighting system was inaugurated in 1882 and the first Electric Power Plant was built up in 1892;
- In 1894 was inaugurated the first electric tramline in the city.



The period between the two World Wars was the most flourish period of the modern times for Bucharest.



The year of 1921 was the starting moment for the investment of Baneasa Airport; the Society for Airline Transport was founded in 1931.

The first automatic telephone communication plant was put in operation by 1927, and the actual calling "Palace of Telephones" was inaugurated in 1933.

In the same period of time were founded many new banks and industrial plants.



The Second World War brought damages for large areas in Bucharest, destroying the most representative monuments, the urban structure of the city and the equilibrium of the local community.

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Bucharest is the most important educational and cultural center of Romania.

The most representative educational state institutions: the University of Bucharest, the University of Architecture and Urban Planning, the University for Pharmacy and Medical studies, the Polytechnic University, the Buildings and Civil Engineering Technical University, the Academy of Economic Studies and many others.



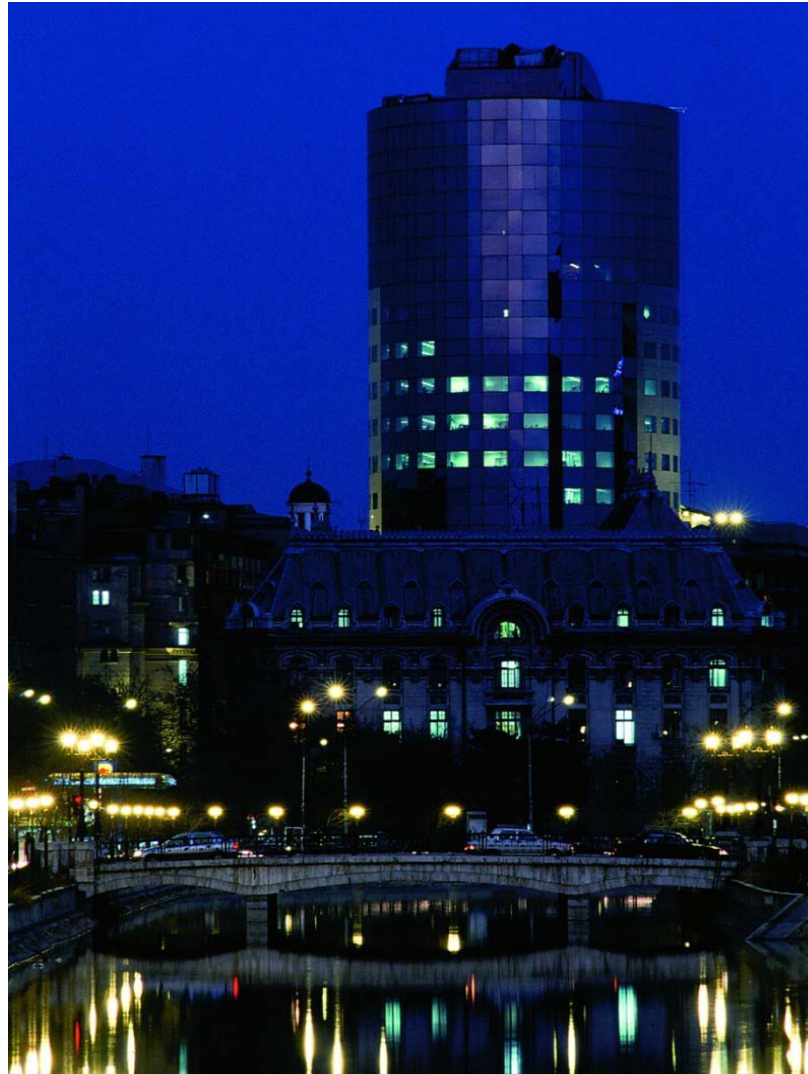
Bucharest represents the location of many important cultural entities, as the following we are mentioning: The National Theatre, The Romanian Athenaeum, The National Opera, The University Central Library, the National Museum of Art, the Romanian Peasant Museum, the Museum of Romanian village and others.



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In 1830 was initiated the People's Council (today the Local Public Administration) and, in this manner, the city was divided in five administrative areas (districts). In 1846 was drew the first Urban Plan of the Bucharest City, developed by the City Hall services.

Following the Urban Plan adopted in February 1926, Bucharest city was divided upon administrative criteria, in a central district and a outlying area. The central area (by administrative point of view) had four districts, each of them having its own local council; the rest of the territory, bordered on the edges of the fort, represent the periphery of the city.

In 1935 was finished the first structural plan of development for Bucharest city – one of the modern plan for urban development in Europe of that times.



The events from December 1989 brought major changes of the course of citizens' life, in the structure of economy and society due to decentralization processes and ownership types over the whole Romania, as well as in the urban dynamics of Bucharest.



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URBAN GENERAL PLAN (UGP)



- ▶ Refers to the horizon of the year 2025 (approved in decemb.2000);
- ▶ Oriented to the stimulation of the economic, social and spatial growth of the City and its Metropolitan Territory, in the actual international context, according to the principles of sustainable development;
- ▶ The rules and spatial regulations of the UGP took into consideration the potential of the existing resources - economic, demographic, natural as well as cultural once - maximizing the chances of the City to integrate itself into the network of European successful capital cities.

Target point of the Bucharest UGP:

**To accomplish the actual level of
the European Union countries until 2025.**

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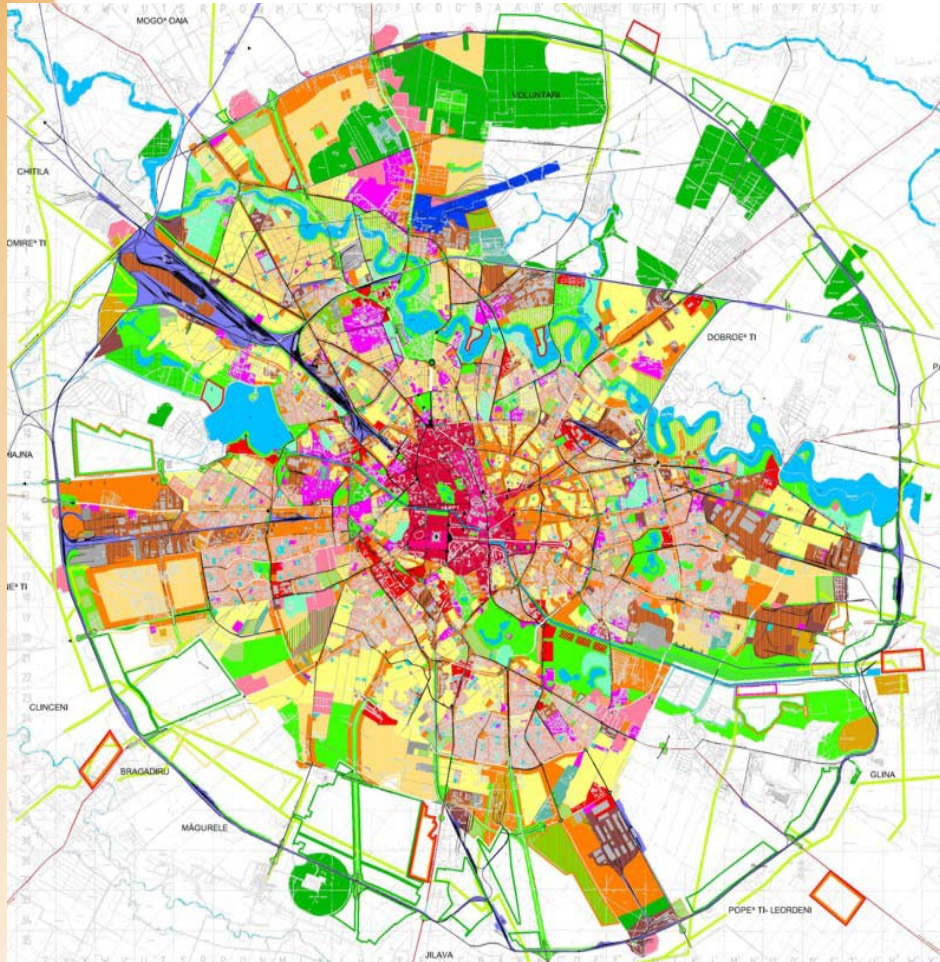
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URBAN GENERAL PLAN - THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



- ▶ A new identity for the City of Bucharest, according with its aspiration to become an European metropolis;
- ▶ A Sustained vitality and attractiveness for Bucharest as a State Capital City and a large urban human settlement;
- ▶ A new urban development according its territorial functions as an Urban Agglomeration, on one side, and the City Core of the metropolitan area, on the other one, with an active role at the regional, metropolitan and national level;
- ▶ The increasing of the quality of life for each inhabitant of the territory;
- ▶ The protection of the existing resources - natural, urban and architectural once.

TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

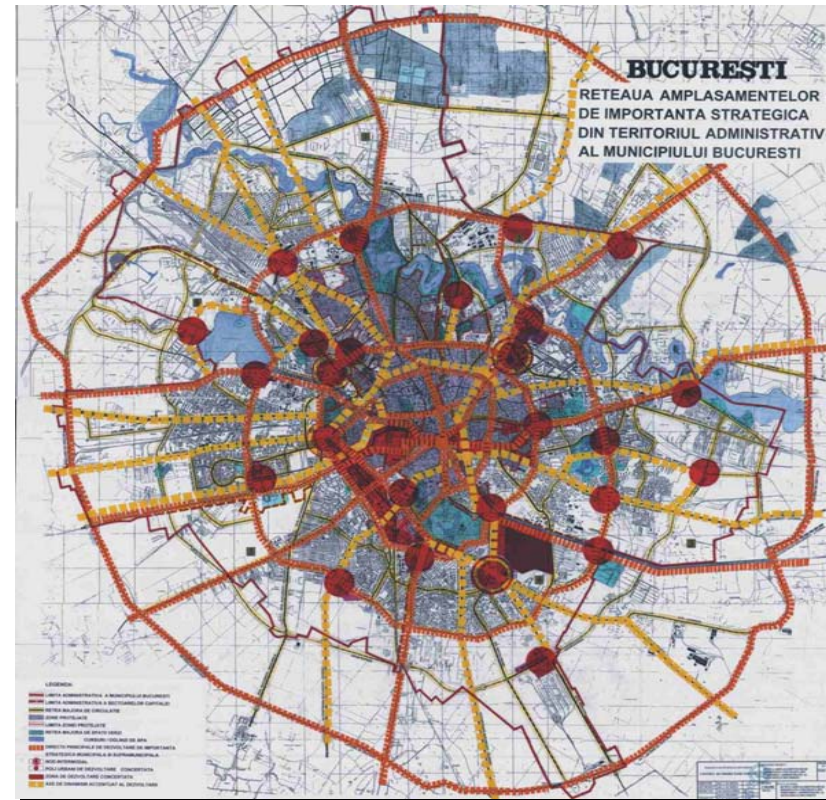
DEVELOPMENT AXES AND STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE LOCATIONS

The development of **Urban Poles / Nucleus, as locations of strategic importance**, as well as from a structural point of view and a functional one, also.

Urban Nucleus / Poles: a mix of tertiary activities, having a strategic role for the development of the city, situated in privileged locations in the terms of accessibility.

EXPECTED EFFECTS:

- ▶ the increasing of the diversity over the whole area of the city;
- ▶ the decreasing of the traffic congestion and the investment pressure over the central and protected areas;
- ▶ a more balanced urban structure of the city;
- ▶ a new modern urban image and a new urban landscape.





The Territorial Context for the Development of the Capital City

The main criteria for defining the metropolitan territory:

- ▶ Traditional;
- ▶ Spatial – Geographical;
- ▶ Social – Demographics;
- ▶ Economical – Functional.

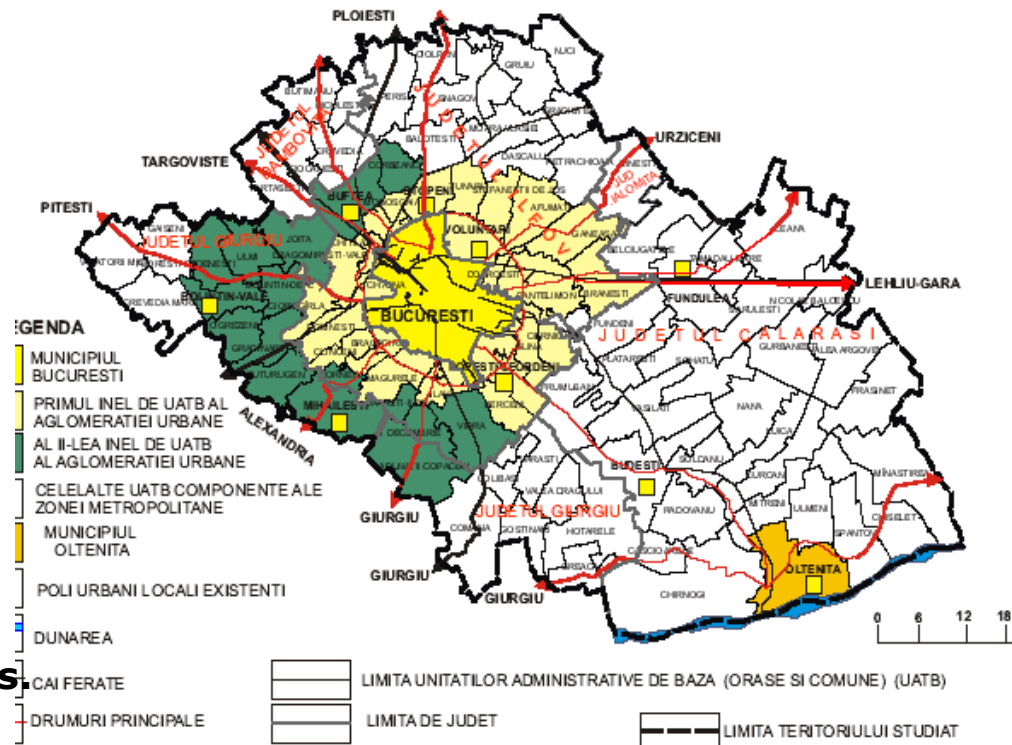
The Surface and The Population

Bucharest

6 towns = 90.000 inhbs.

87 communes = 500.000 inhbs.

AGLOMERATIA URBANA SI ZONA METROPOLITANA ALE MUNICIPIULUI BUCURESTI
ANALIZA SITUATIE EXISTENTA



The Metropolitan Area – 5,046 sq km; 2.6 million inhabitants;
The Urbanized Area – 722.7 sq km; 2.1 million inhabitants;
The City of Bucharest – 228.2 sq km; around 2 million inhabitants.



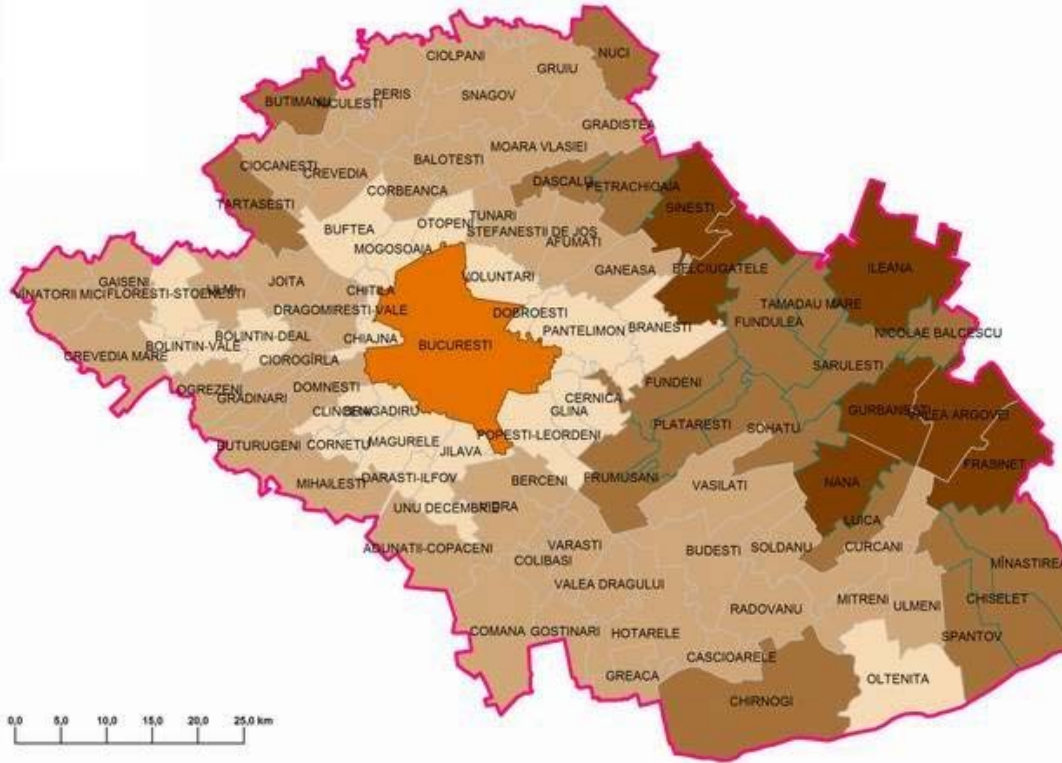
THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF THE MAB



- ▶ The decongestion of the urban core and the urban agglomeration, having a main consequence in the decreasing of the ecological pressure upon the agricultural and the natural protected areas;
- ▶ Establishing of complementary relations between the core city and the metropolitan territory, creating an integrated and functionally efficient urban system;
- ▶ Conceiving a sustainable development, which will lead to:
 - Creating of new urban nucleus and axes of development over the metropolitan territory;
 - Modernizing the infrastructure system and developing the tertiary domain of activity in all the settlements of the metropolitan area;
 - Creating a major network of transport and communications at a higher level of efficiency over the metropolitan territory;
 - Defining and creating the green-yellow belt for the city core and the metropolitan area.



THE MAIN STEPS TO DO ACCORDING TO THE MAB



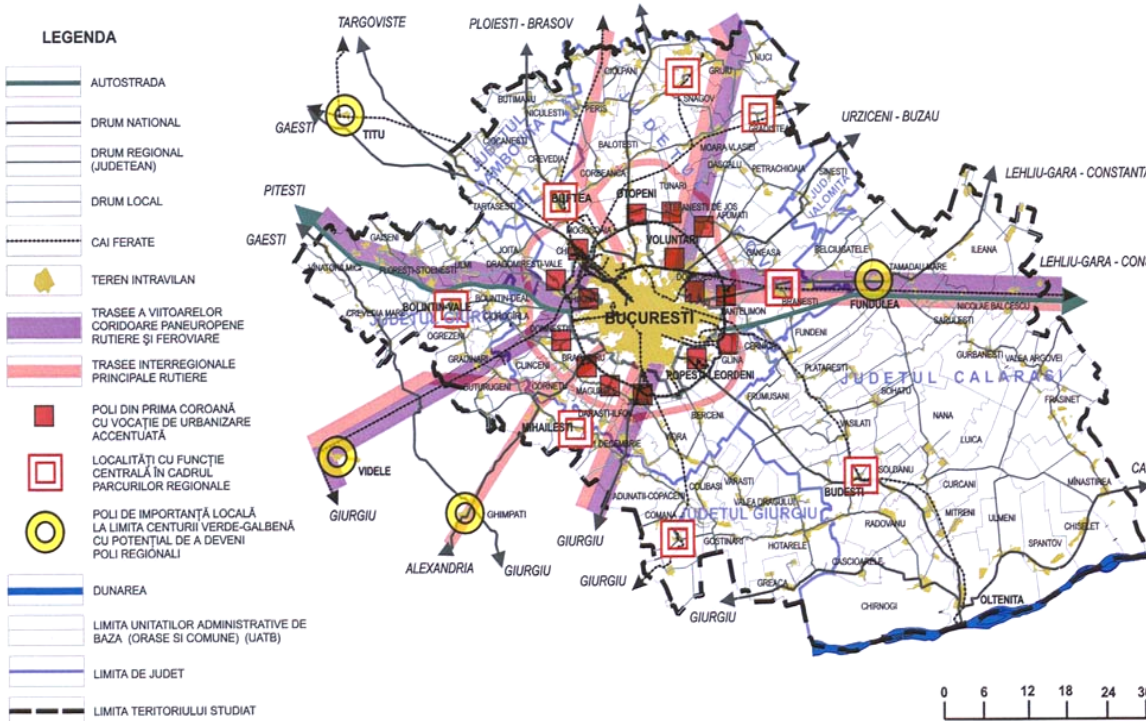
- ▶ Realizing the major infrastructure systems along the metropolitan structural development axis;
- ▶ Drawing up the planning regulations in order to form the green-yellow belt;
- ▶ Avoiding the spreading up of the metropolitan poles, at the first stages;
- ▶ Creating a set of clear rules for protection of the natural and cultural resources from the whole territory, and for increasing stability of active population.

Territorial development coordination have to be based on public participation, on the safeguarding of public interest and on the planning principles of public – private partnerships. Transparency, a good co-operation and communication among all the stakeholders existing in the territory represent the basic condition for successful of development actions.



THE STRUCTURE OF THE MAB

P.A.T.Z.. - ZONA AGLOMERATIEI URBALE SI ZONA METROPOLITANA ALE MUNICIPIULUI BUCURESTI,
ACTUALIZARE SI ANALIZA SITUATIE EXISTENTA, DIAGNOZA, REGLEMENTARI,
MODEL DIGITAL AL TERENULUI, PLAN DE ACTIUNE, PROGRAME PRIORITYRE
ETAPA CONSULTAREA POPULATIEI SI REGLEMENTARI FINALE
RETEAUA DE LOCALITATI - POTENTIAL DE DEZVOLTARE



- ▶ The “core” of the system –
- the Bucharest municipality;
- ▶ The “Little Crown” formed by
the first ring of the 12 urban
communes outlying the city;
- ▶ The Metropolitan nucleus for
development;
- ▶ The development axis along
the European transportation
corridors.



THE STRUCTURE OF THE MAB

THE SETTLEMENTS NETWORK – - THE DEVELOPMENT POLES

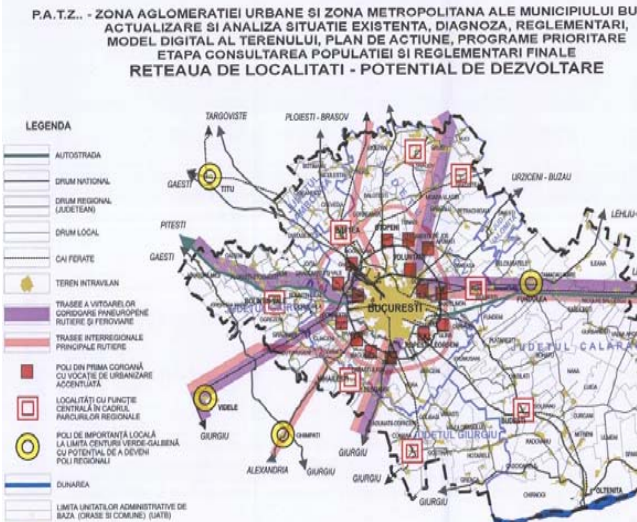
Categories:

- ▶ Poles from the first crown being cut out for marked urbanization;
- ▶ Poles having a major role within the limits of the green-yellow belt;
- ▶ Poles of local importance at the limit of the green-yellow belt;
- ▶ Poles of growth having functions of port and tourism.

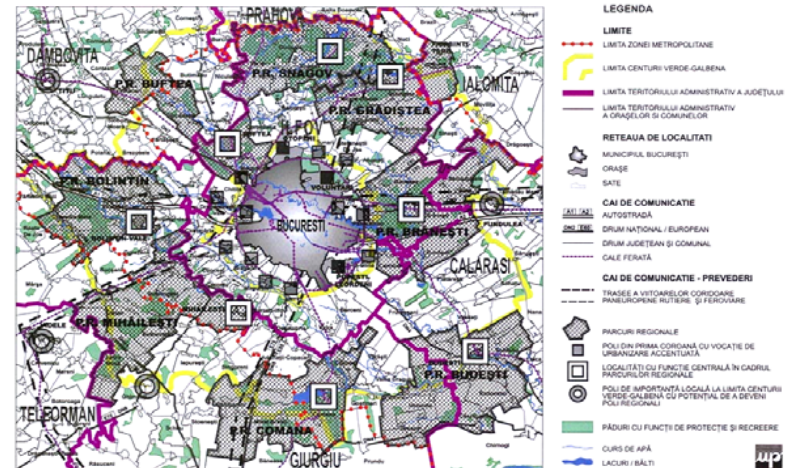
METROPOLITAN REGIONAL PARKS

(zones for cooperation between communities)

- Regional park 1: SNAGOV (27.043 ha);
- Regional park 2: GRADISTEA (27.768 ha);
- Regional park 3: BRANESTI (35.441 ha);
- Regional park 4: BUDESTI (41.865 ha);
- Regional park 5: COMANA (35.194 ha);
- Regional park 6: MIHAILESTI (33.605 ha);
- Regional park 7: BOLINTIN (23.962 ha);
- Regional park 8: BUFTEA (29.553 ha).



P.A.T.Z. - ZONA AGLOMERATIEI URABNE SI ZONA METROPOLITANA ALE MUNICIPIULUI BUCURESTI
ACTUALIZARE SI ANALIZA SITUATIEI EXISTENTE, DIAGNOZA, REGLEMENTARI, MODEL DIGITAL AL TERENULUI, PLAN DE ACTIUNE, PROGRAME PRIORITARE, ETAPA CONSULTAREA POPULATIEI SI REGLEMENTARI FINALE
PROPUNERE PRELIMINARA PARCURI REGIONALE IN ZONA METROPOLITANA

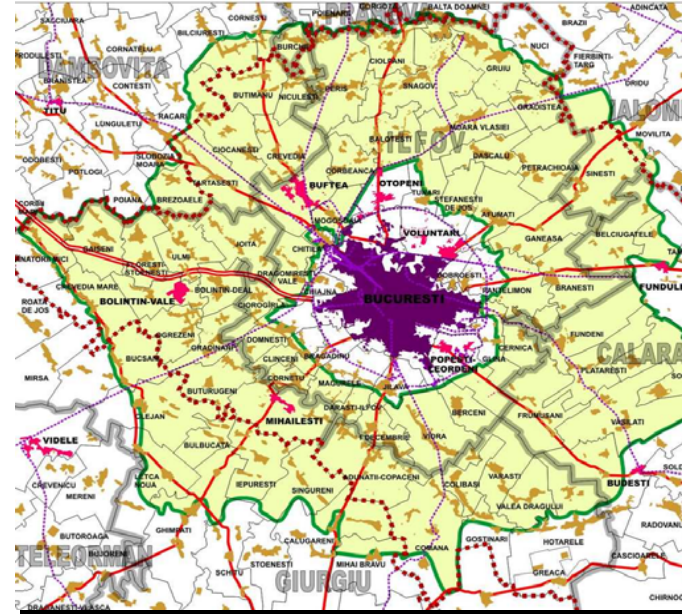




THE GREEN – YELLOW BELT

Forming the green-yellow belt around the Capital City represents an important objective of the Master Plan, regarding the connection between urban development – environment, in regard of:

- ▶ Control of the constructed areas expansion;
- ▶ Protection of the valuable traditional areas;
- ▶ Support of the urban renewal.



The land-use within the green-yellow belt limits will have the following goals:

- Ensuring the access of the urban population to the open rural space;
- Ensuring the opportunities for sports and recreation next to the urban area;
- Protection/extension of the attractive natural areas situated next to the urban areas;
- Improving the abandoned or degraded grounds;
- The equilibrated land-use for the agricultural and forest lands.



SUGGESTIONS FOR INSTITUTIONAL AND COOPERATION MANNERS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE BMA

CO-OPERATION

The main objective of co-operation is that through the functioning of the metropolitan area, the local entities create an institutional advantage which can be used for improving the quality of life and increasing their development level.

TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

- ▶ Territorial co-operation policy;
- ▶ Land – use policy;
- ▶ Dwelling policy;
- ▶ Social and economical development policy;
- ▶ Public services policy;
- ▶ Environment policy.



THE METROPOLITAN SPATIAL PLANNING

INVOLVES:

- ▶ **COMPETENCY** – Authority of adopting, implementing and safeguarding a metropolitan spatial strategy;
- ▶ **CAPABILITY** – Having the knowledge and the know-how for making well aware decisions;
- ▶ **PROCESSES** – Existence of a survey and the periodical overview of the issues with a view to the bring up to date the strategy.



The existing wonderful mix of architectural styles, cultural institutions, churches, cathedrals, monuments of architecture, terraces, bistros and restaurants, the picturesque of the streets, the courtesy and kindness of its inhabitants represent the attractiveness of contemporary Bucharest – our capital city with a special urban personality. A well balanced mixture of old and new values, of old and young urban areas, full of live and prosperity – this is the dream of the people from Bucharest for their city.



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**THANK YOU FOR
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