

Towards a Sustainable and Liveable Desakota

Designing for sustainable industry transition
in the peri-urban territory of the Greater Bay Area

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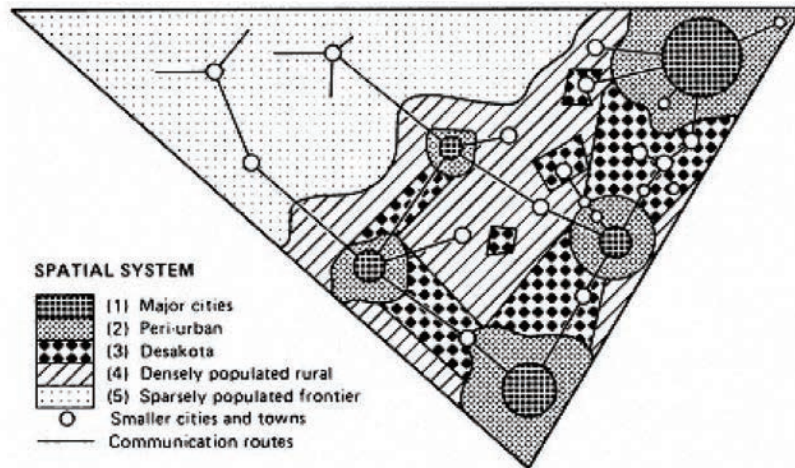
Delft University of Technology
Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment
Studio Metropolitan Ecology of Places
P5 presentation: 29/06/2023



INTRODUCTION

- Desakota in the Greater Bay Area

DESAKOTA is a term used to describe areas in the extended surroundings of large cities, in which urban and agricultural forms of land use and settlement coexist and are intensively intermingled



source: Mcgee, T. (1991). The emergence of desakota regions in Asia: expanding a hypothesis



source: image by @ZhouMini in Xiaohongshu

INTRODUCTION

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- Desakota in the Greater Bay Area



source: image by @ZhouMini in Xiaohongshu

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- Desakota in the Greater Bay Area



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INTRODUCTION

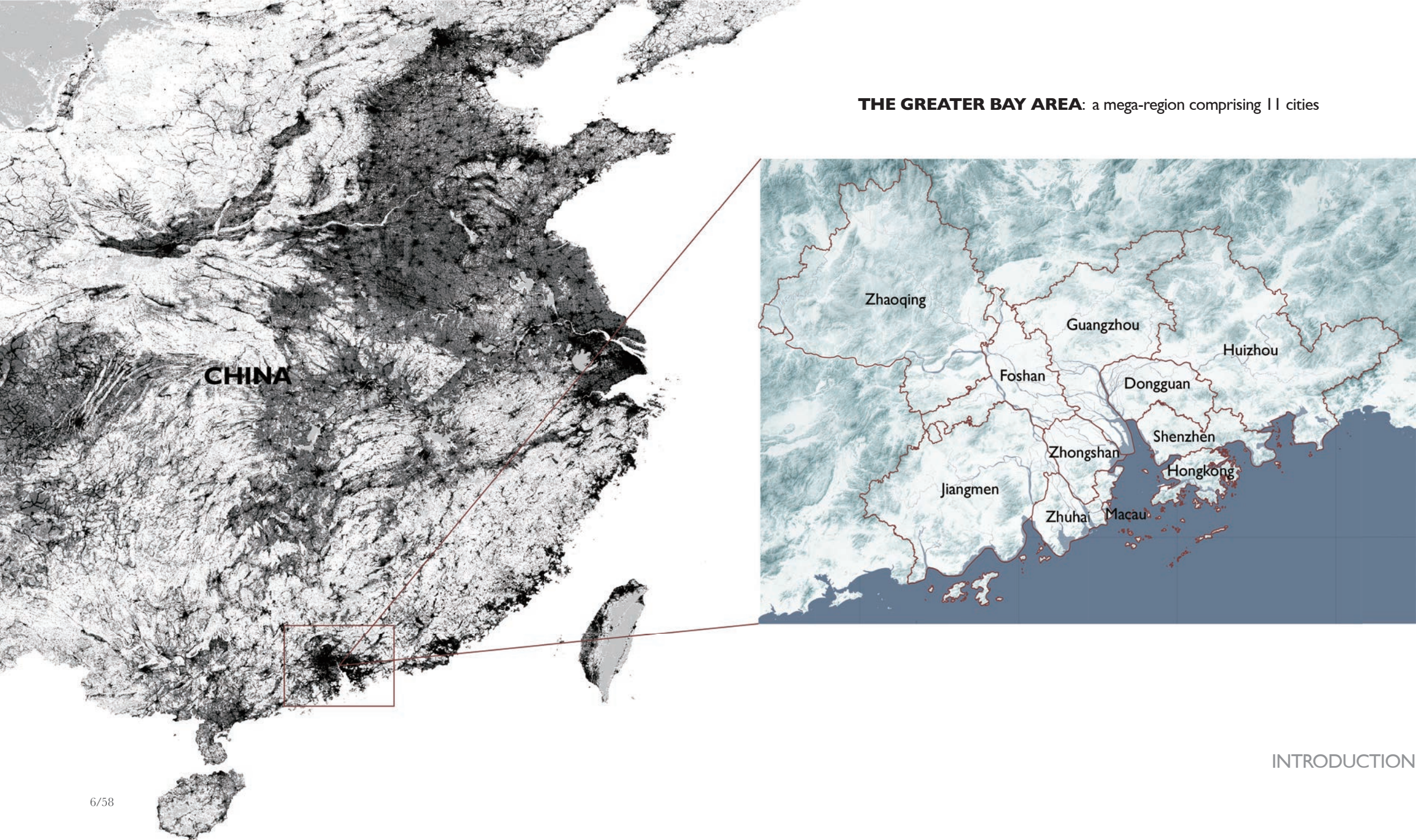
INTRODUCTION

- Desakota in the Greater Bay Area



INTRODUCTION

THE GREATER BAY AREA: a mega-region comprising 11 cities



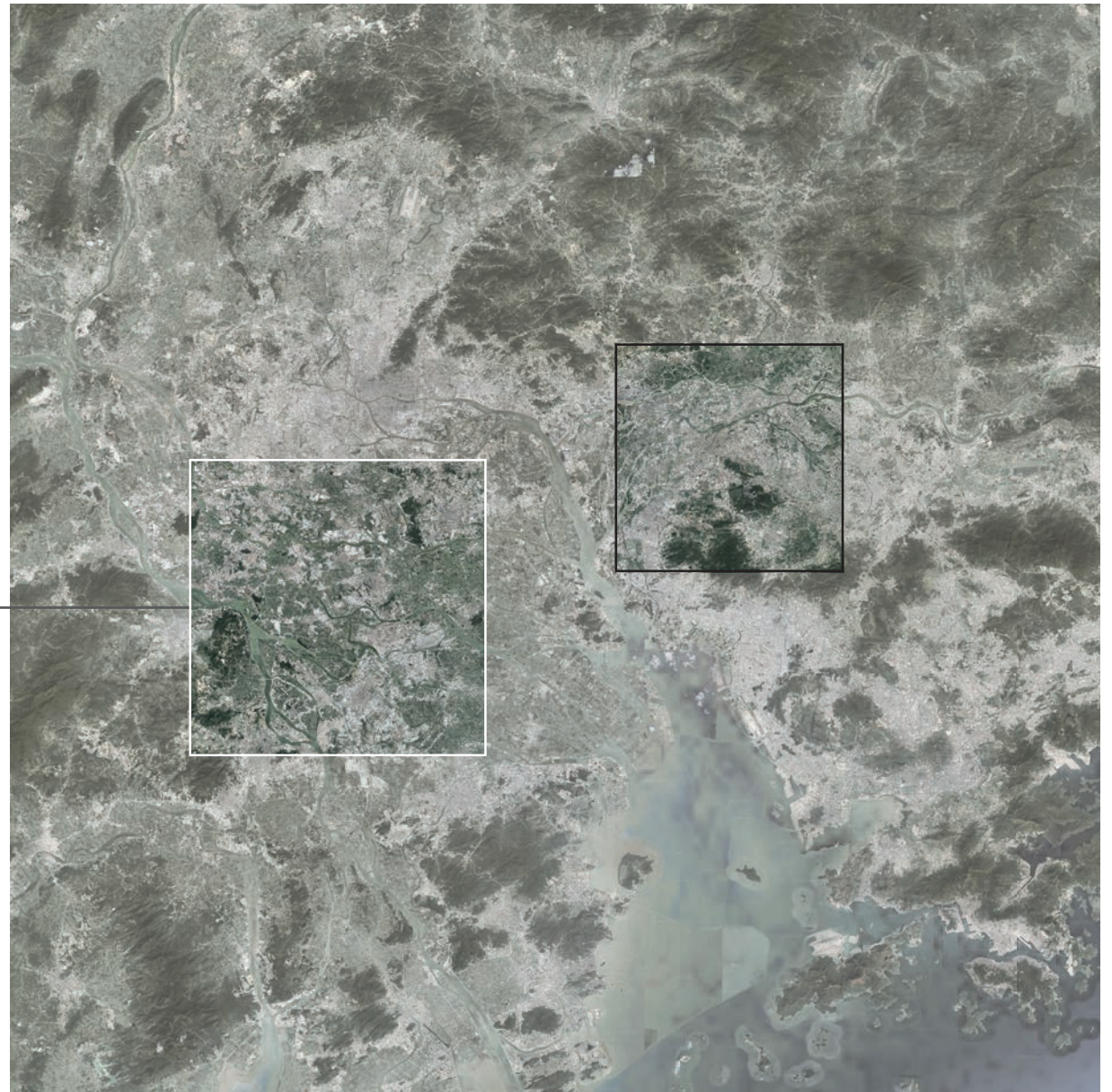
MOTIVATION

- **An Alternative Future of Desakota in the GBA**



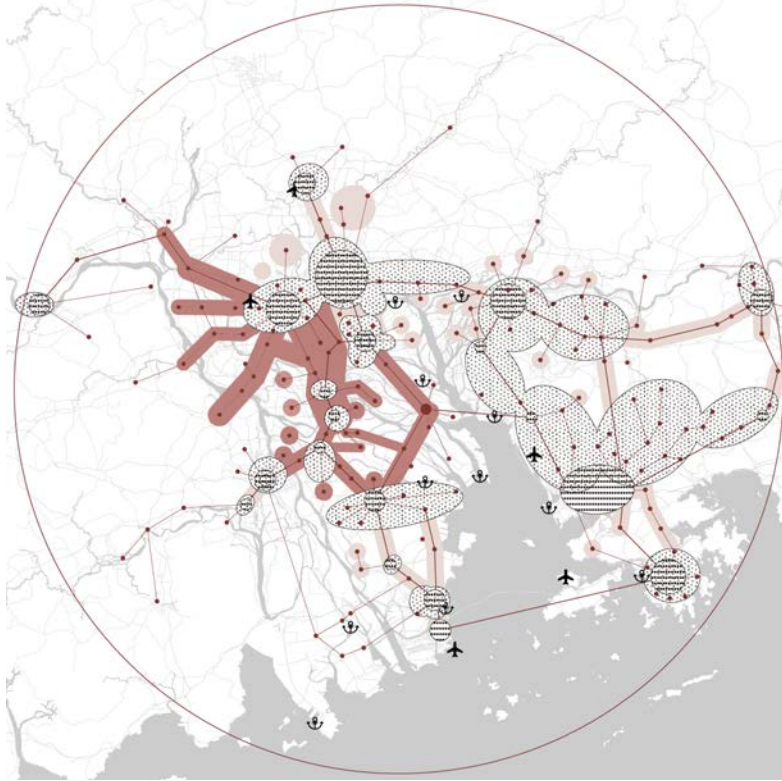
source: image from Tian, M. (2019). Seeing from Above: Observation of Contemporary Dike-Pond Landscape. 7(4), 130-138. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.15302/J-LAF-1-050004>

INTRODUCTION



CONTEXT

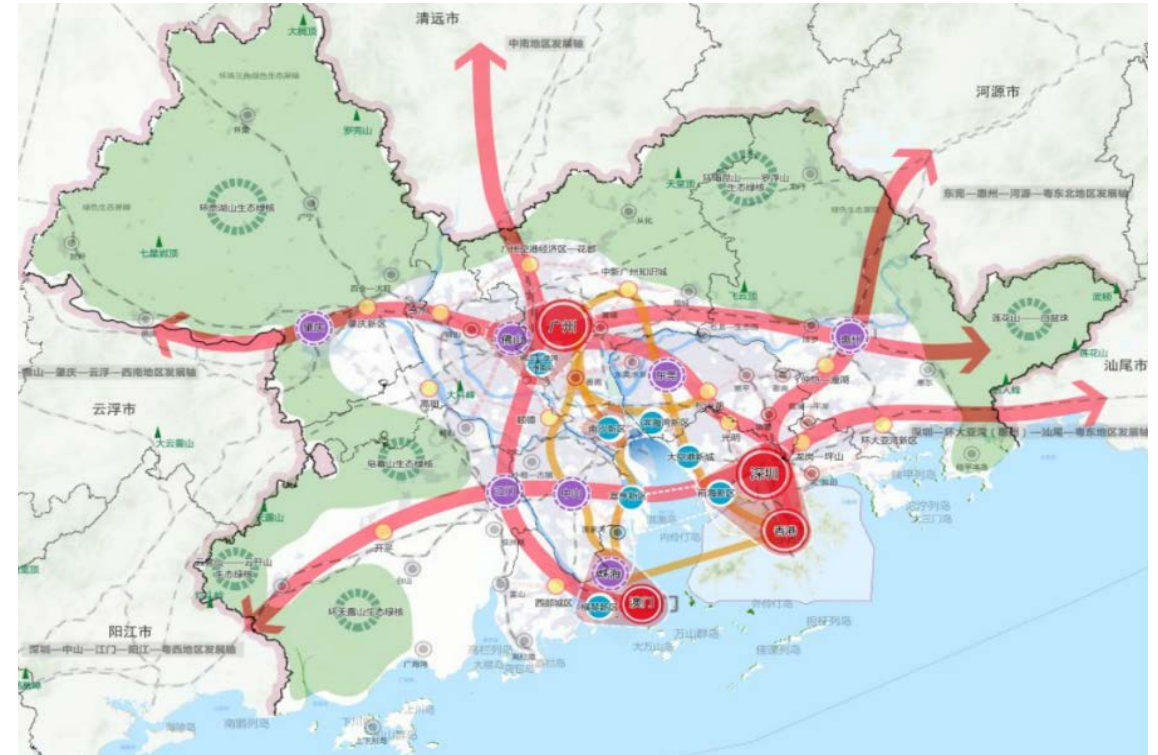
- Regional Networking & The Intensive Emergence of Dedakota in the GBA



LEGEND

- active towns
- towns
- major city
- ⊙ peri-urban area
- polycentric metropolitan region
- main communication route
- Desakota intensive region
- Desakota region

Tendency of regional integrated development (a national strategy)



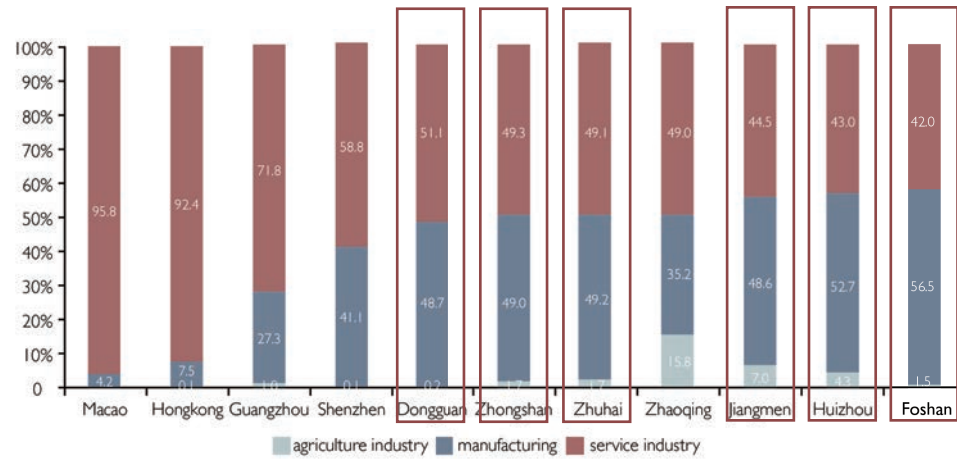
source: Territorial spatial planning of Guangdong province. (2019). Department of natural resources of Guangdong province. <http://nr.gd.gov.cn/attachment/0/413/413359/3225138.pdf>

INTRODUCTION

CONTEXT

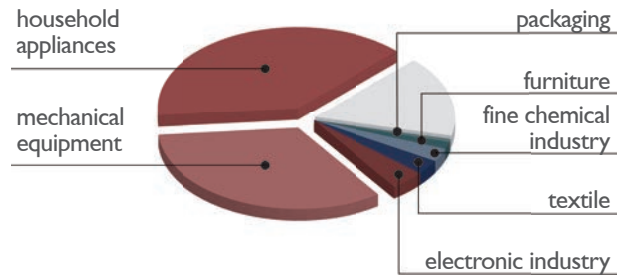
- Certain Future of Industry Transition in the Desakota

Manufacturing shift to second-tier cities



source: author's own based on the data from The GBA Fintech Report 2019: Hong Kong-Macau-Guangdong Greater Bay Area Fintech Analysis & Recommendations

Industrial structure of Desakota



GBA's Desakota area assumes more significant role in manufacturing



source: image by @ZhouMini in Xiaohongshu

INTRODUCTION

CONTEXT

- Certain Future of Industry Transition in the Desakota

Higher-end Manufacturing

Low-carbon Transition

Conversion Plan of Village-level Industrial Parks (Urban Regeneration)

GBA's Desakota area assumes more significant role of manufacturing



source: image by @ZhouMini in Xiaohongshu

INTRODUCTION

PROBLEM

- **Fragmented Open Space with Incompatible Industrial Activities**
- **Uneven Public Facilities and Uninhabitability**
- **The Loss of Identity**

Reduction of open space due to industrialisation and urbanisation:
50%



source: image from Sohu.com: https://www.sohu.com/a/431070210_612977;

Workers of manufacturing:
50% of the total population;
50% of them are migrants



source: image from BBC News Chinese: https://www.bbc.com/zhongwen/simp/china/2014/02/140220_china_migrants_workers

Old industrial parks in transition:
70%

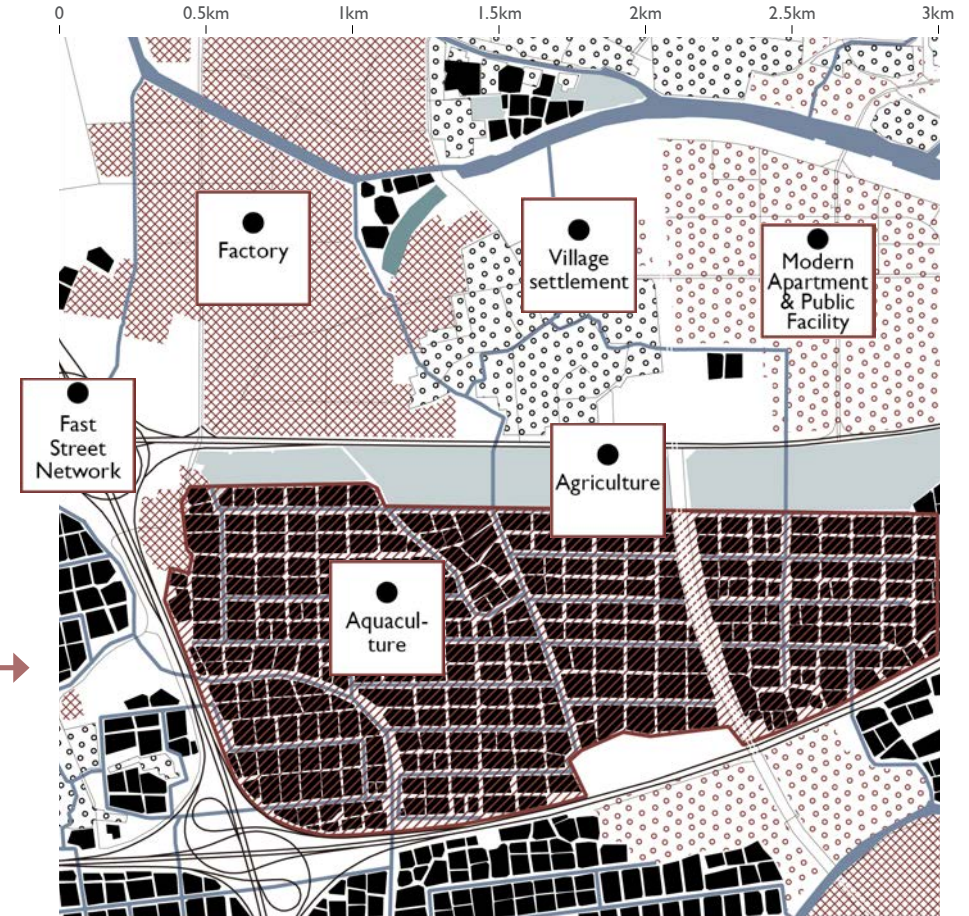
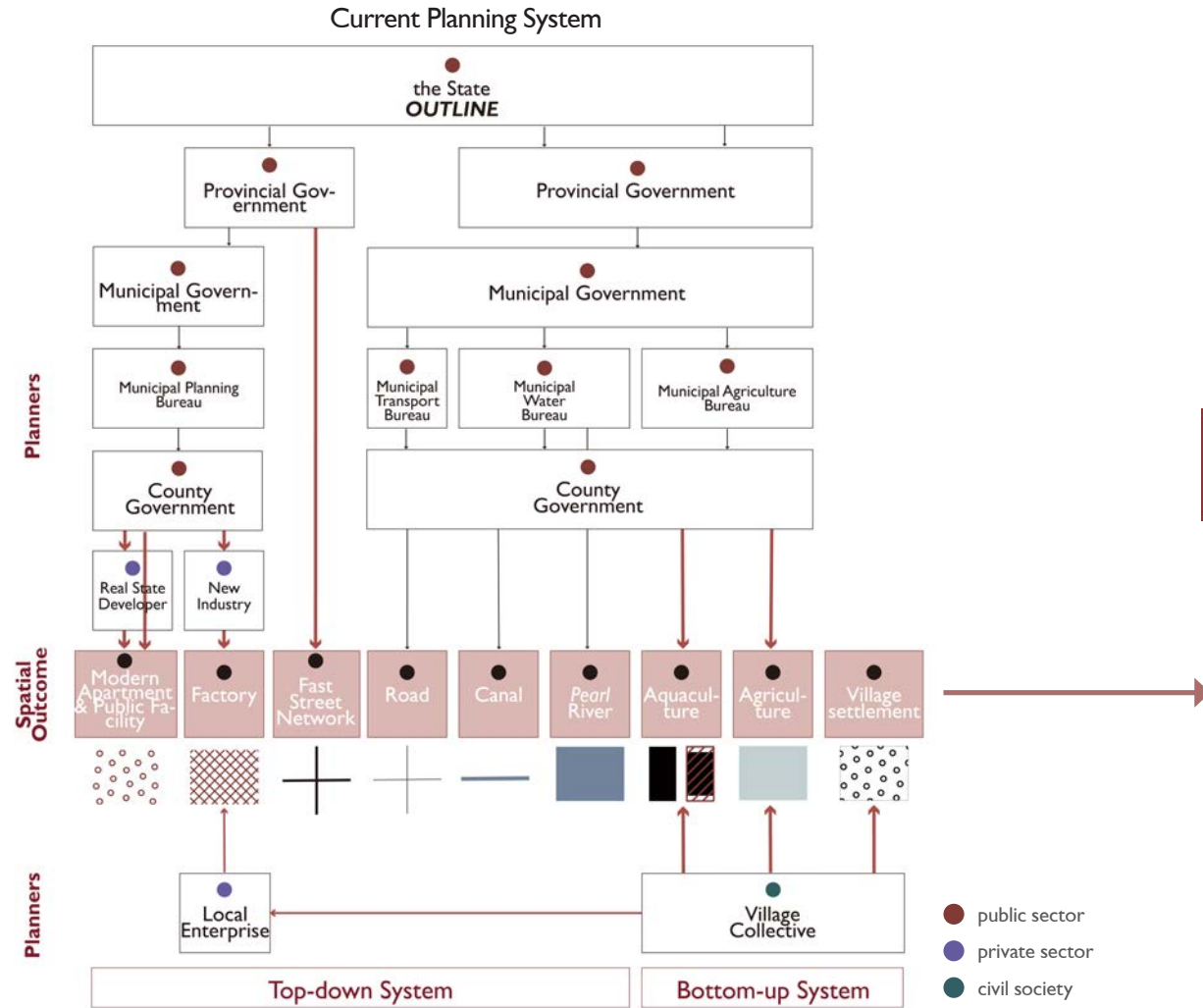


source: image from ZSBTV.com.cn: http://www.zsbtv.com.cn/a/zq/content_191503.shtml

INTRODUCTION

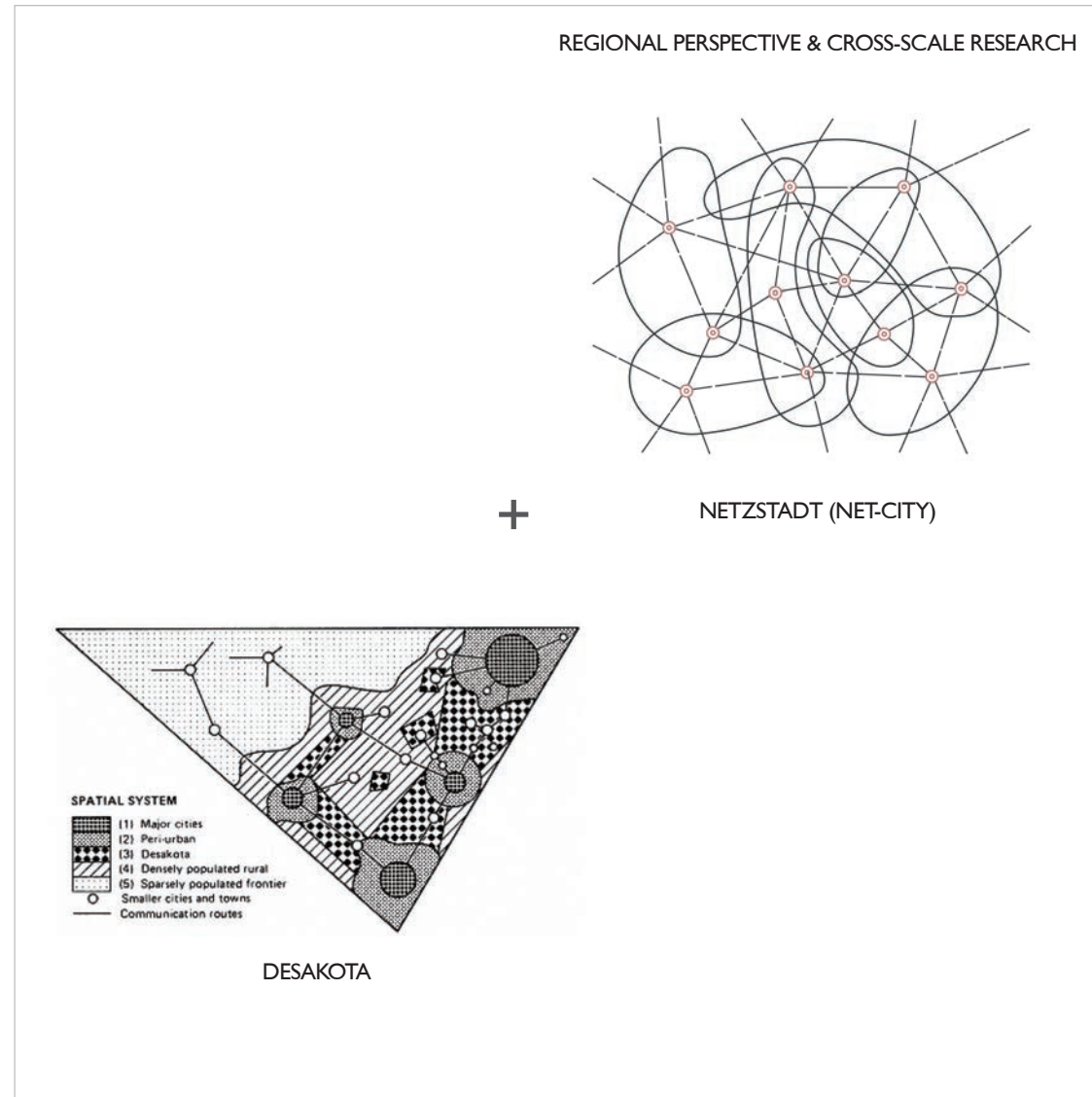
PROBLEM

- Urban-Rural Dichotomy Planning System



INTRODUCTION

THEORETICAL CONCEPTS
- To Bridge the Knowledge Gap



source: above: Oswald, F., Baccini, P., & Michaeli, M. (2003). Netzstadt. Springer Science & Business Media; below: Mcgee, T. (1991). The emergence of desakota regions in Asia: expanding a hypothesis.

RESEARCH AIM
- **Research Question**

What are the potentials of the desakota pattern to be adapted in the proposed network of the Greater Bay Area megaregion for industry transition that supports sustainable and liveable urbanisation?

RESEARCH AIM
- Objectives

1. **Identify** the current Desakota network in the GBA network

2. **Analyse** the potential and challenges of this network

3. **Understand** what development pattern and spatial qualities can this network achieve through formulating the potential

4. **Establish** a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

5. **Formulate** future recommendations & **Reflect** on the whole process

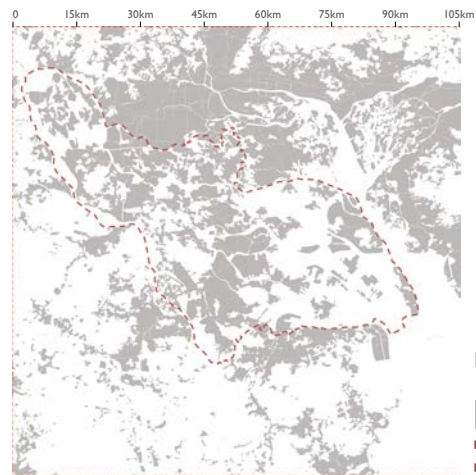
I. IDENTIFY the current Desakota network in the GBA network

DEFINING THE DESAKOTA NETWORK

- Identification of Nodes and Connections: Morphology



Waters and transport infrastructure



Settlement areas

LEGEND

- waters
- project perimeter
- railways with railway stations
- fast Street network

LEGEND

- waters
- project perimeter
- nodal areas with internal structure
- railways with railway stations
- fast Street network



I. IDENTIFY the current Desakota network in the GBA network

DEFINING THE DESAKOTA NETWORK

- Identification of Nodes and Connections: Physiology



HEATMAP OF PUBLIC SERVICES

- Project perimeter
- towns outside the project perimeter
- towns within the project perimeter
- heatmap of public facilities including parks, markets, hospitals, schools and housing

DENSITY OF WORKPLACES

- Project perimeter
- towns outside the project perimeter
- towns within the project perimeter
- density > 1
- density of workplaces = workplaces / workforce inhabitants

DENSITY OF INHABITANTS

- Project perimeter
- towns outside the project perimeter
- towns within the project perimeter
- >10000
- 4000-10000
- 2000-4000
- 1000-2000
- 0-1000
- density of inhabitants = number of inhabitants / area of town (km²)

ECONOMIC VALUE OF LAND

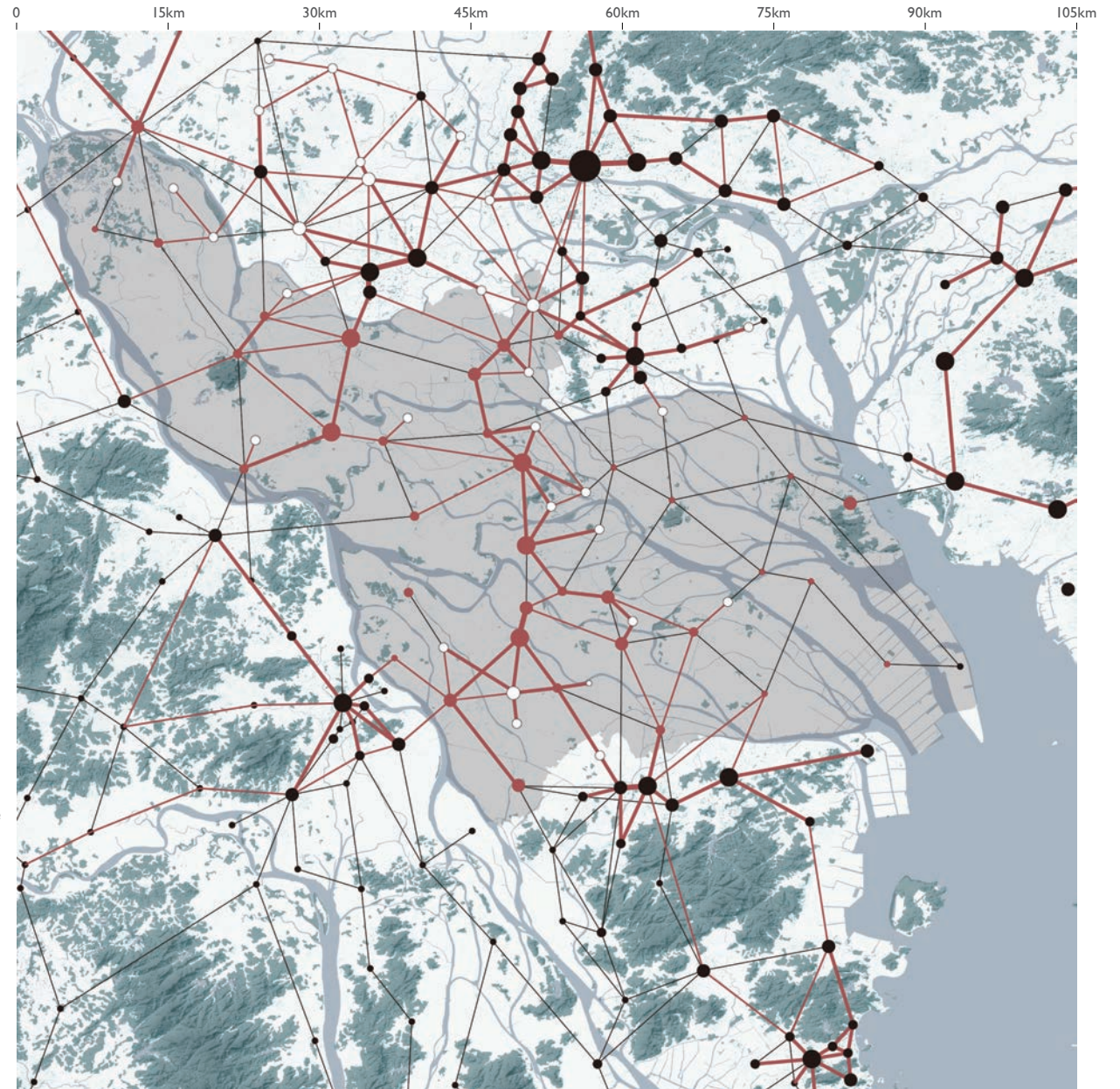
- Project perimeter
- towns outside the project perimeter
- towns within the project perimeter
- 60-80 (€8-10.6)
- 40-60 (€5.3-8)
- 20-40 (€2.6-5.3)
- <20 (€2.6)
- GDP per km² = GDP (million) / area of town (km²)

COMMUTING FLOW

- Project perimeter
- towns outside the project perimeter
- towns within the project perimeter
- 35,000
- 100 (trips)

LEGEND

- waters
- project perimeter
- mountains
- physiological nodes outside the project perimeter
- physiological nodes within the project perimeter
- nodes different from towns' center
- physical connections
- strong human flows between the towns
- lighter human flows between the towns



I. IDENTIFY the current Desakota network in the GBA network

DEFINING THE DESAKOTA NETWORK

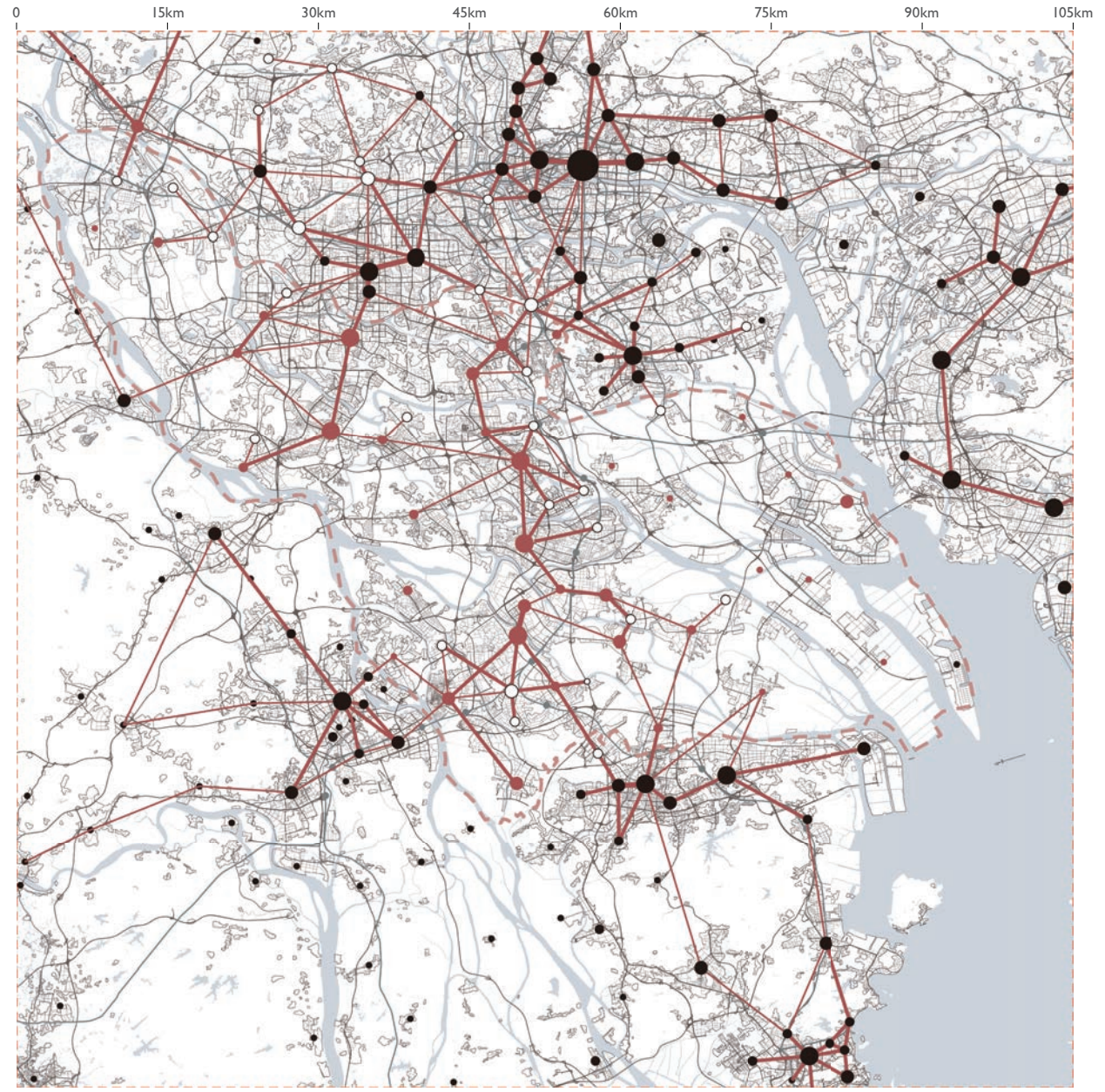
- Morphological and Physiological Network

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● L - node
urban characteristics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -high density of people: >4000/km2 -active economic activities in secondary and tertiary industry -concentration of public services -have workforce attraction and sufficient workplaces | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M - node
peri-urban characteristics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -high density of people: 2000-4000/km2 -economic activities dominated by the secondary industry -lighter concentration of public services -residential and working areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● S - node
transitional characteristics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -moderate density of people: 1000-2000/km2 -economic activities dominated by both first and secondary industry -insufficiency of public services -mixed areas for both urban and rural life | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● XS -node
rural characteristics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -less density of people: <1000/km2 -economic activities dominated by the first industry -lack of public services -concentration of village settlement |
|--|--|---|---|



LEGEND

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------------|
| waters | ● physiological nodes outside the project perimeter | — physical connections | —●— railways with railway stations |
| project perimeter | ● physiological nodes within the project perimeter | — strong human flows between the towns | — fast Street network |
| nodal areas with internal structure | ○ nodes different from towns' center | — lighter human flows between the towns | |



I. IDENTIFY the current Desakota network in the GBA network

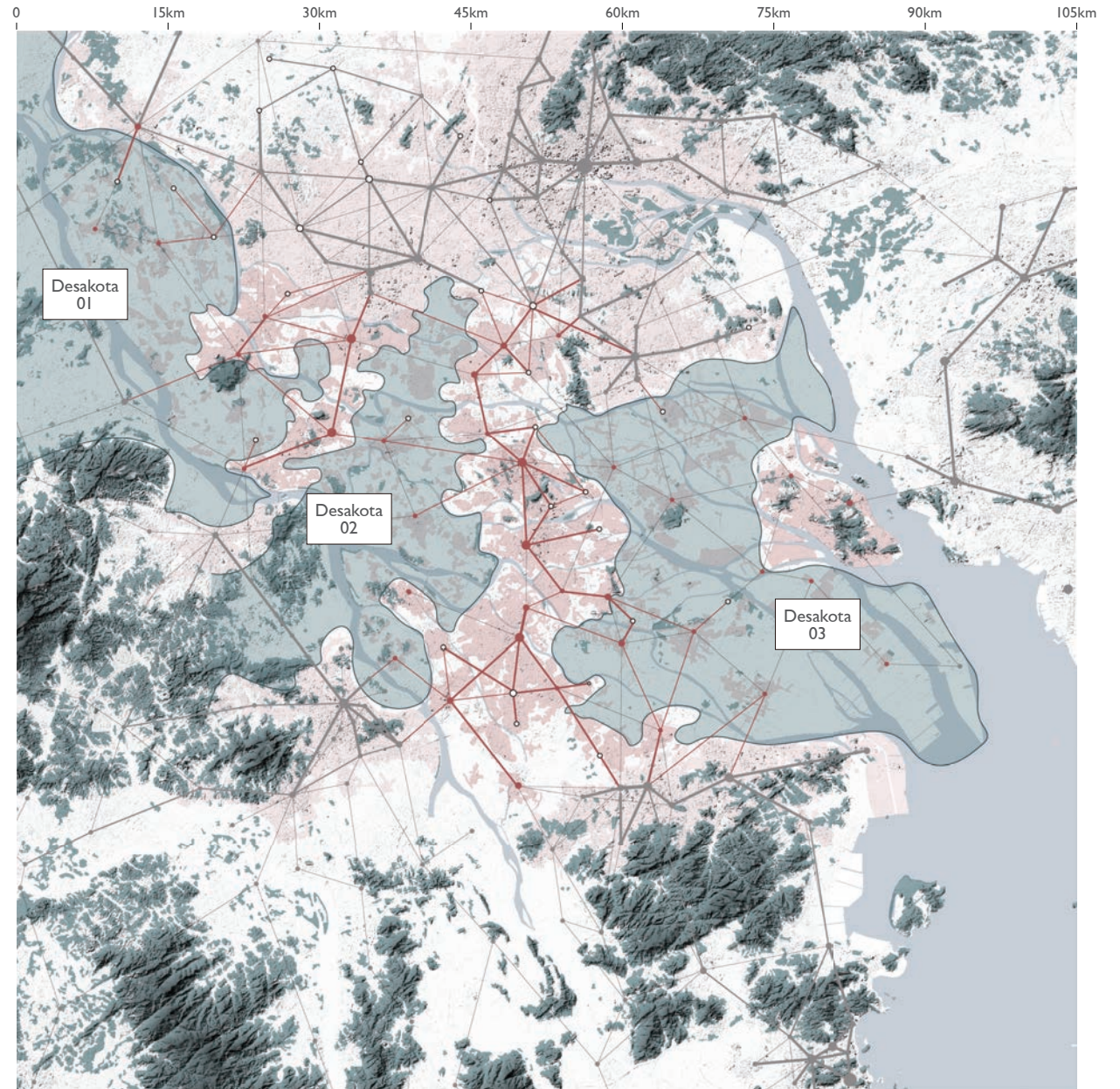
THE STRUCTURE OF DESAKOTA NETWORK

- **Conclusion**

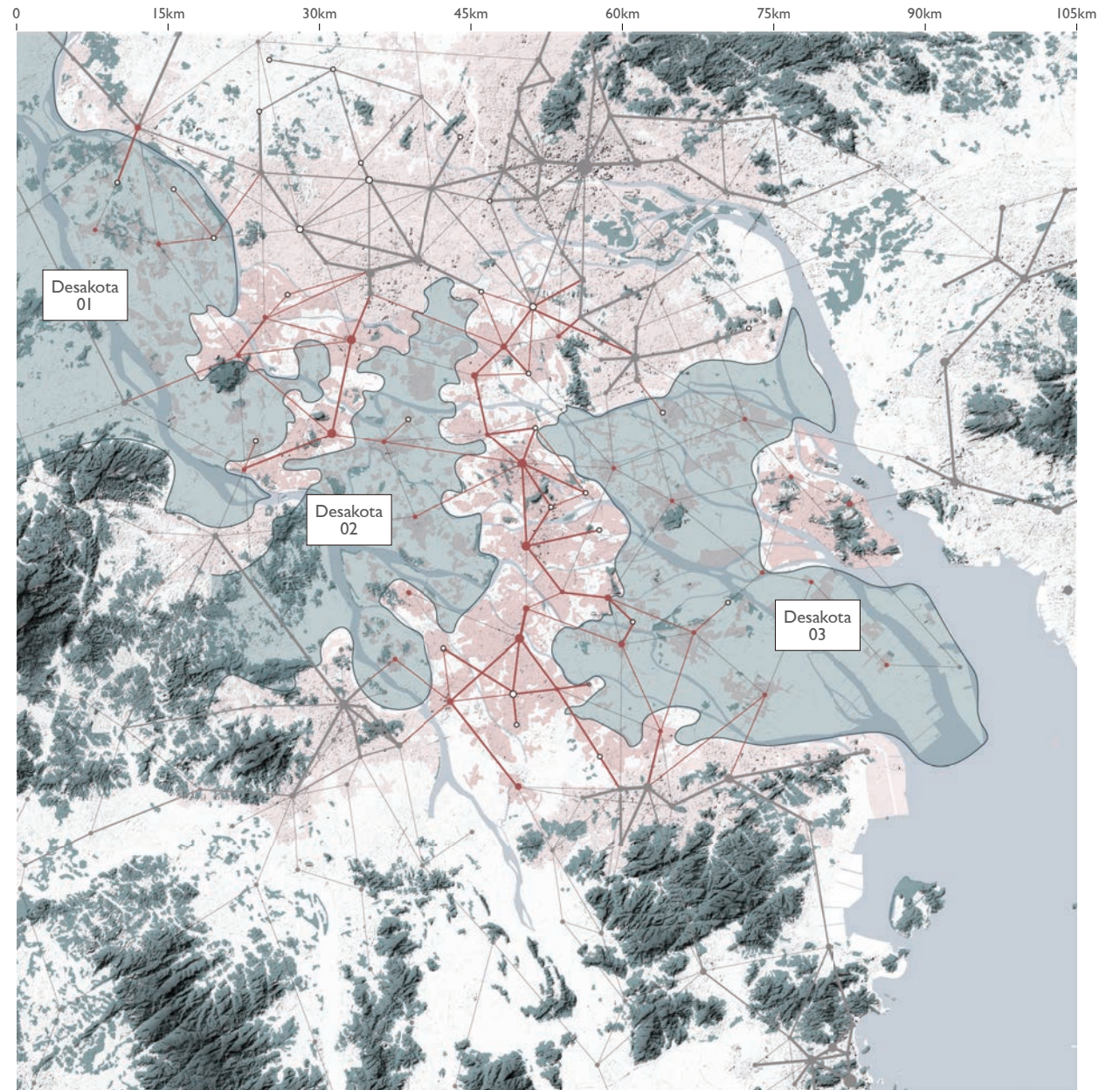
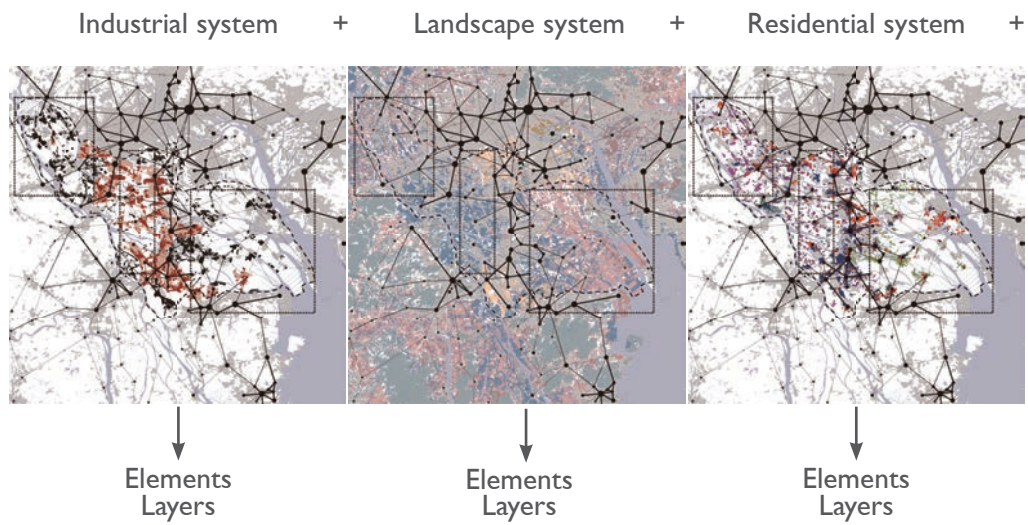
LEGEND

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
|  waters |  settlement patches |  L&M&S&XS node |  Desakota area |
|  hills |  urban areas |  connections | |

I. IDENTIFY the current Desakota network in the GBA network

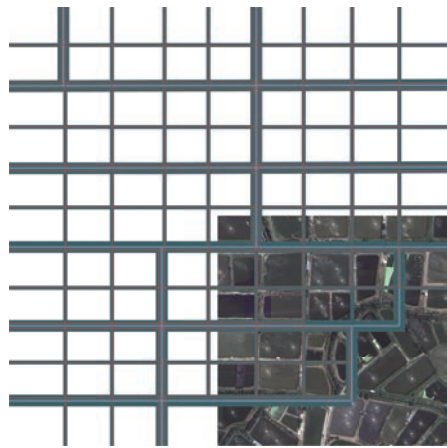


2.ANALYSE the potential and challenges of this network

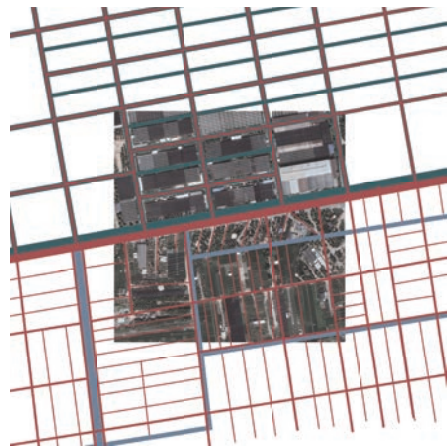


ELEMENTS AND LAYERS STUDY

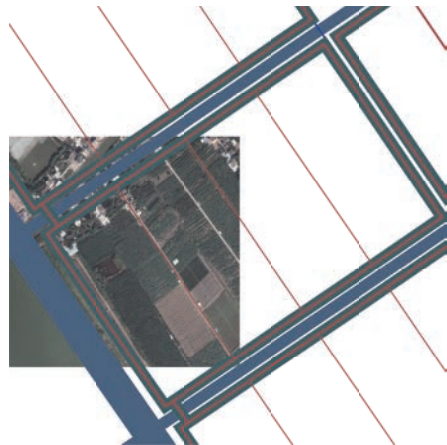
- Example: Landscape Elements & Layers



dike-fish pond



horticulture (nursery garden)

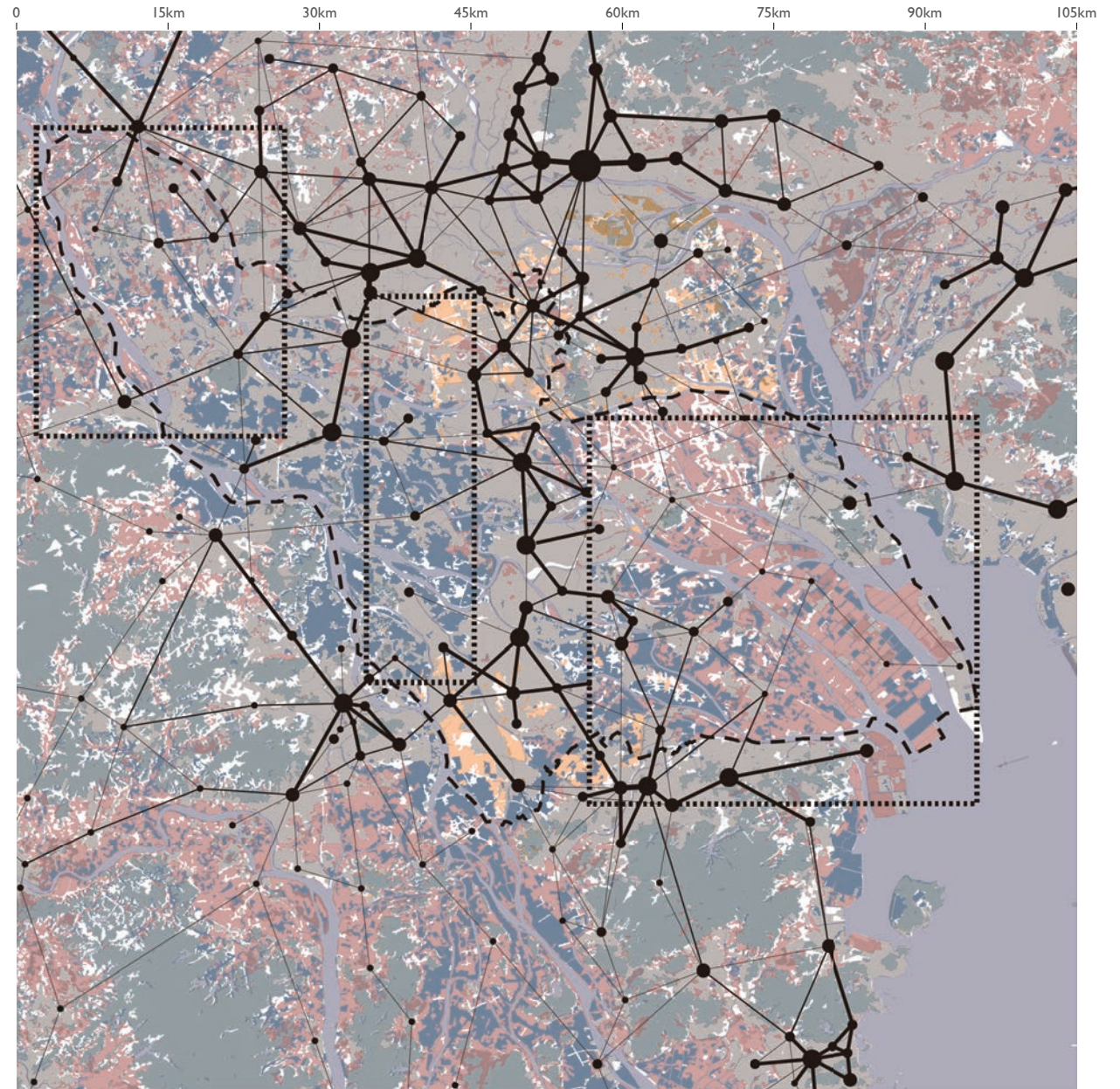


dike and arable land



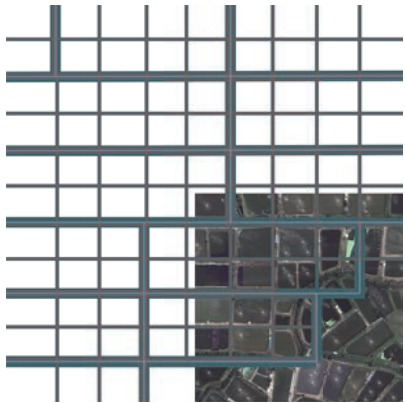
forest

2.ANALYSE the potential and challenges of this network



ELEMENTS AND LAYERS STUDY

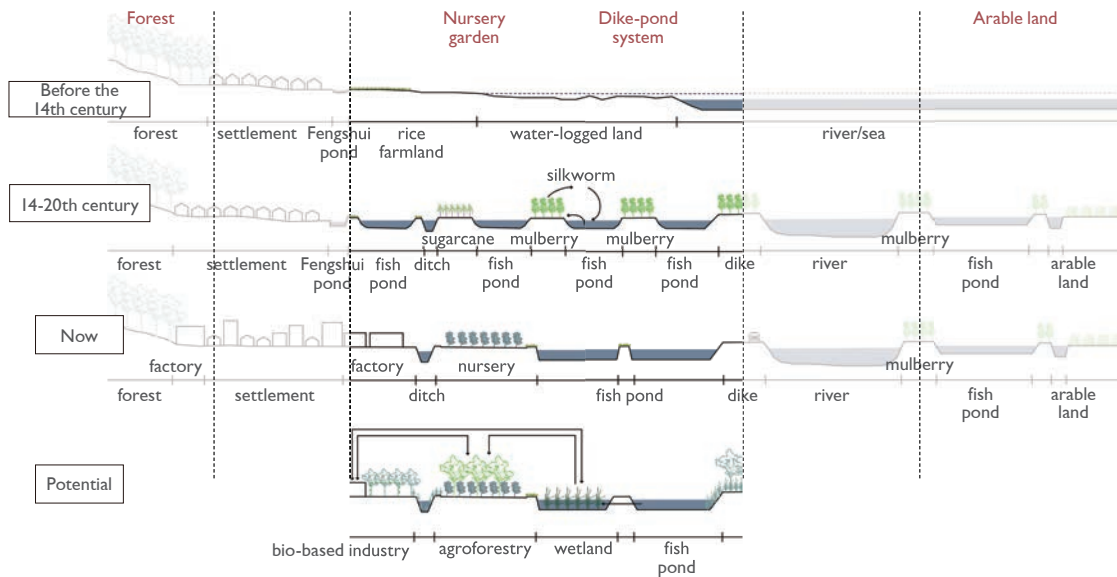
- Example: Landscape Elements & Layers



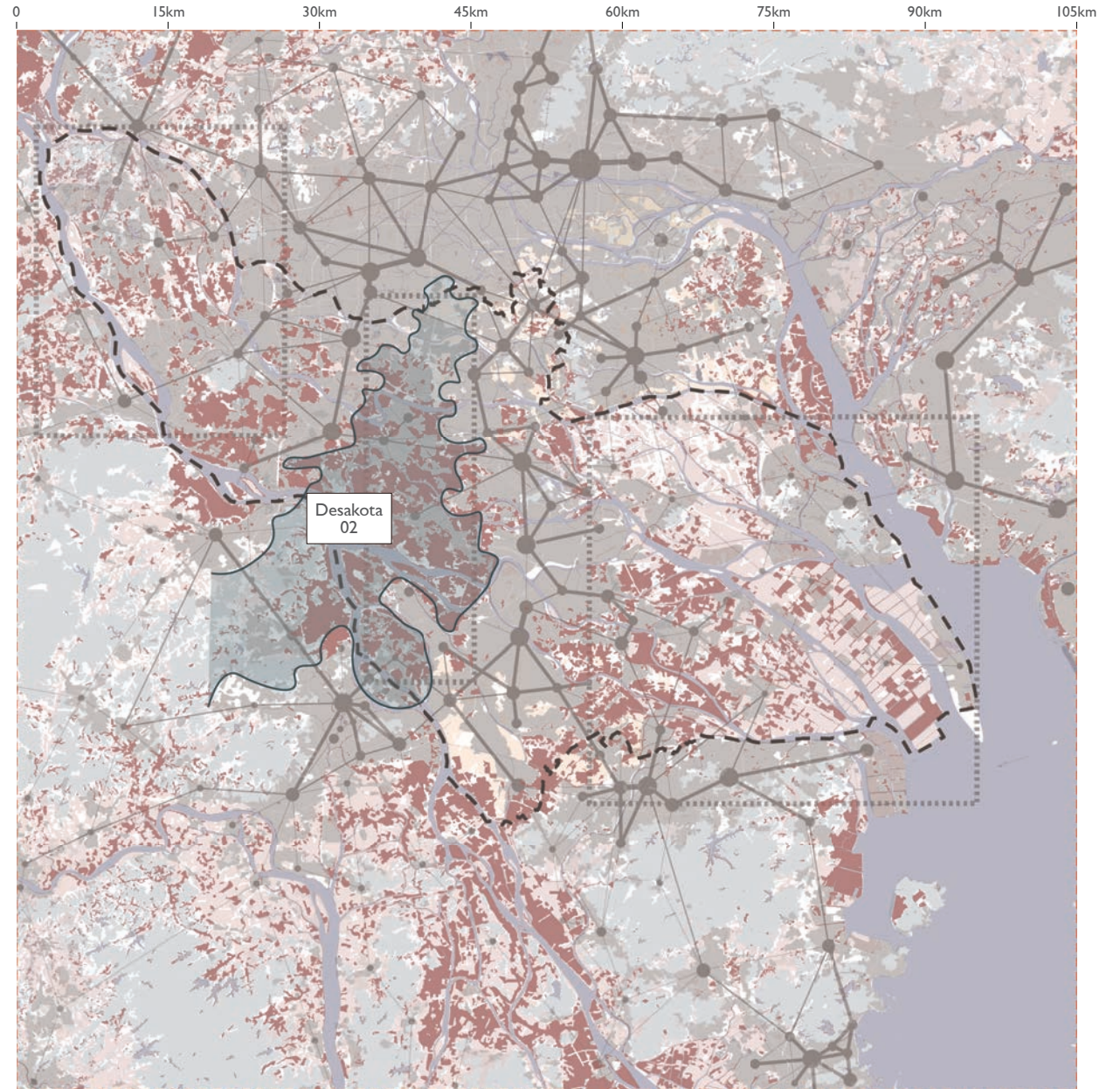
dike-fish pond



source: image by Elma Okic



2.ANALYSE the potential and challenges of this network



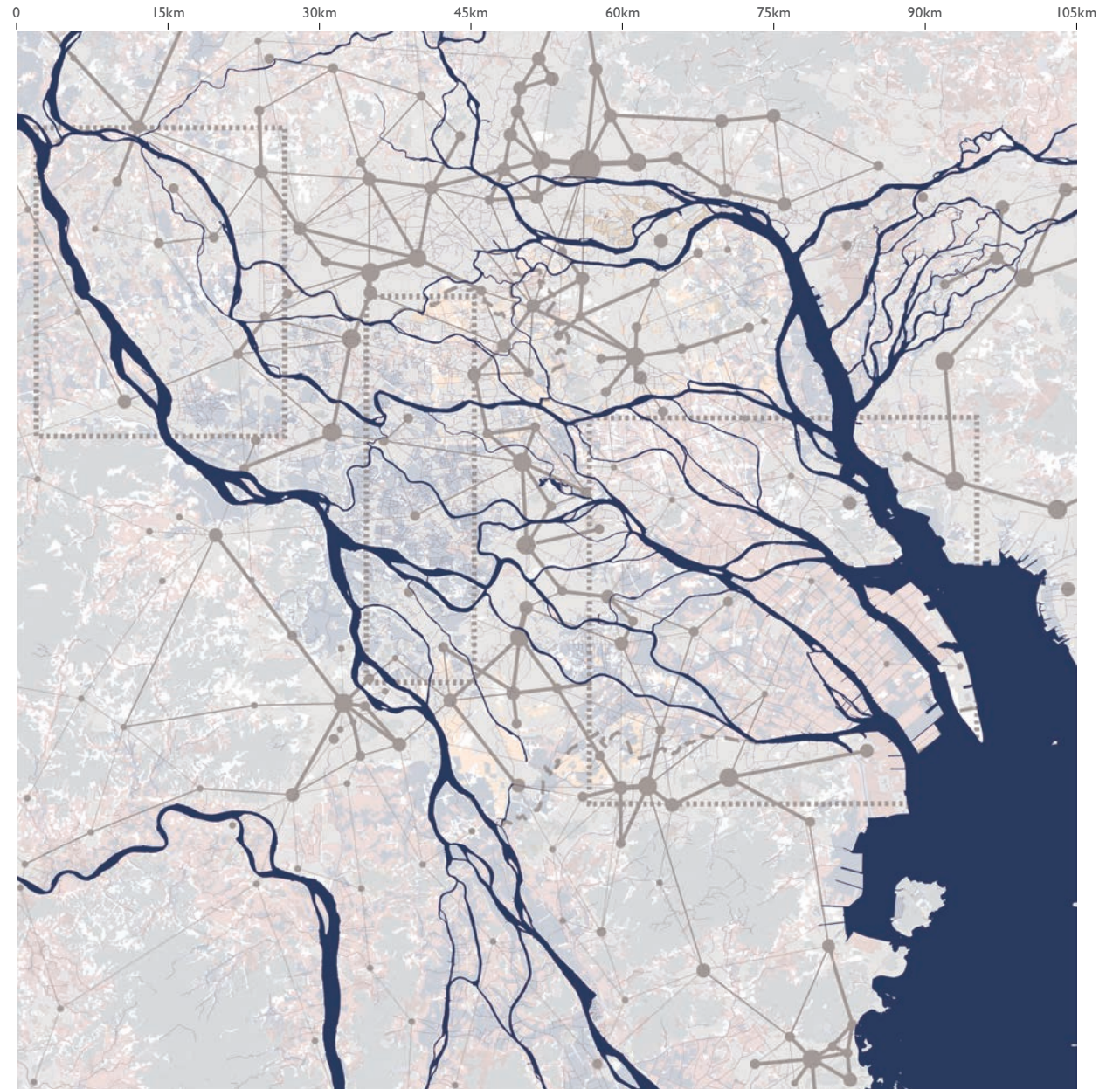
ELEMENTS AND LAYERS STUDY
- Example: Landscape System



source: image by @1016113138 in Xiaohongshu



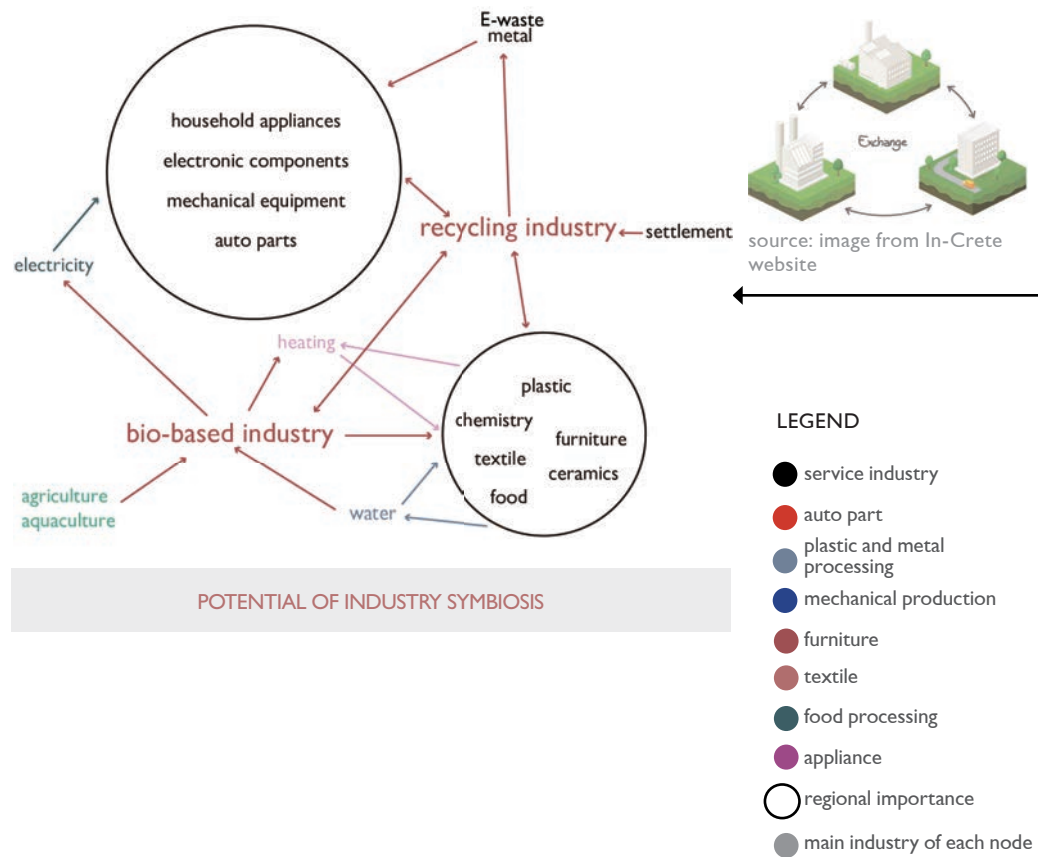
source: image by @949459555 in Xiaohongshu



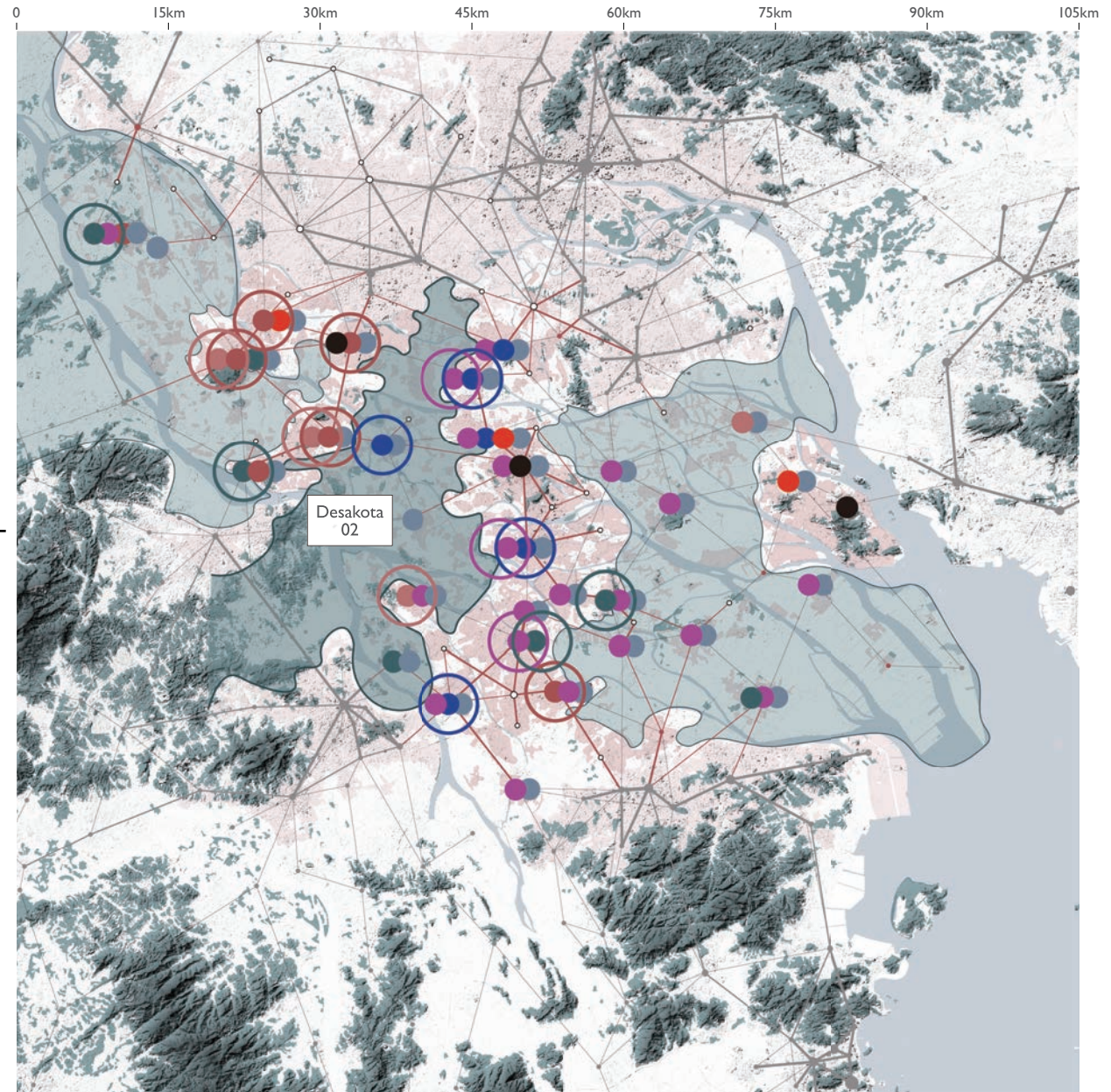
2.ANALYSE the potential and challenges of this network

CONCLUSION

- The Potential of Industrial System



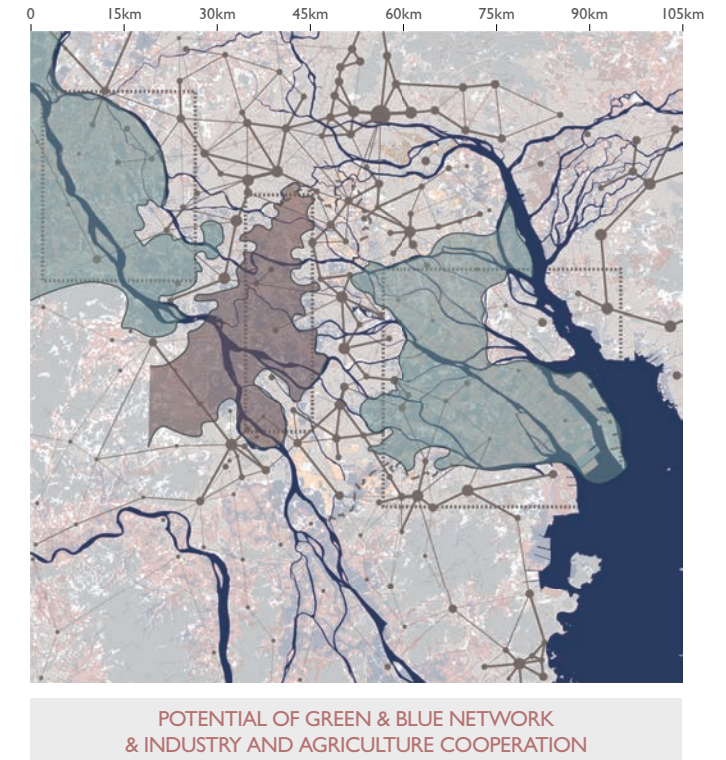
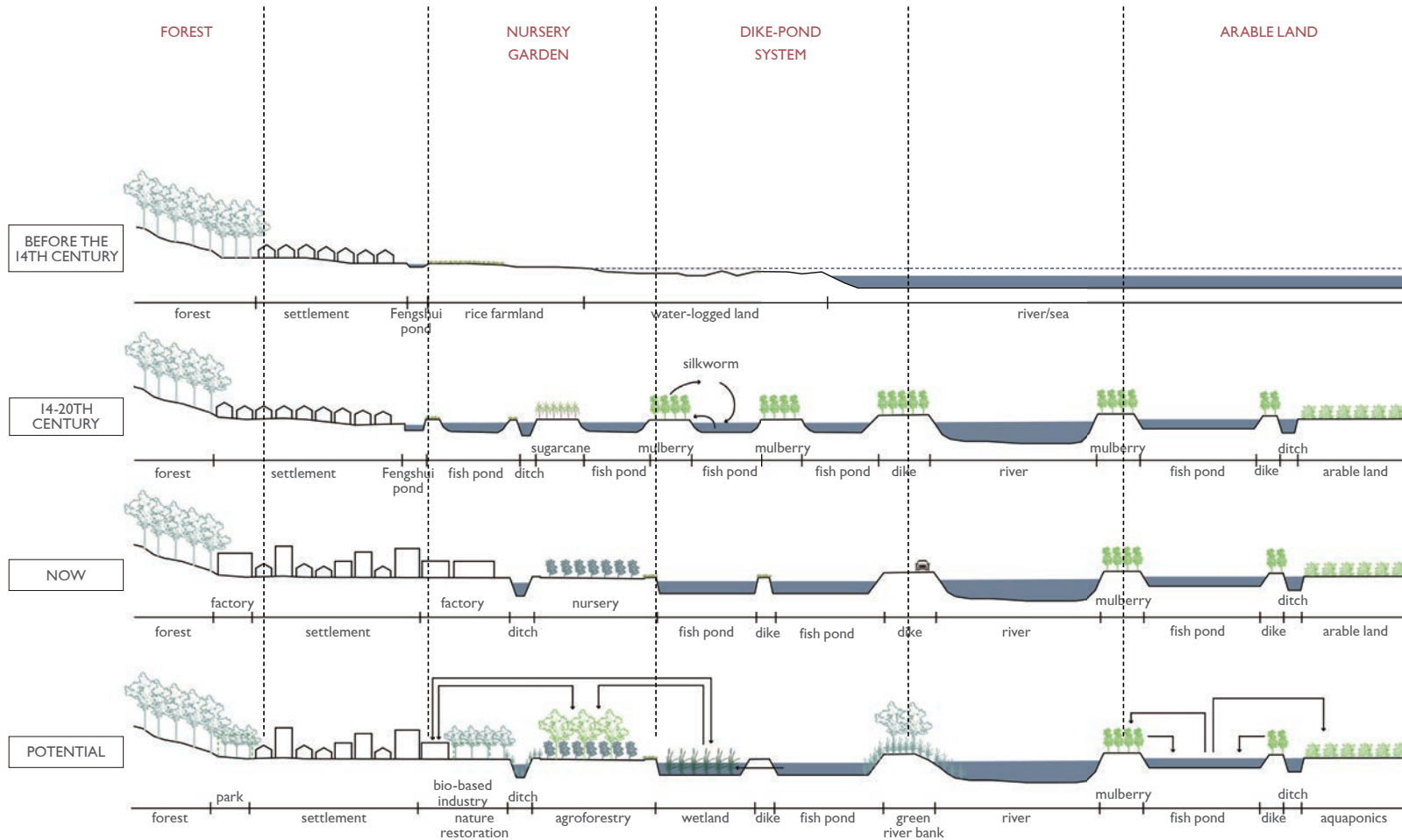
source: image from In-Crete website



2.ANALYSE the potential and challenges of this network

CONCLUSION

- The Potential of Landscape System



2.ANALYSE the potential and challenges of this network

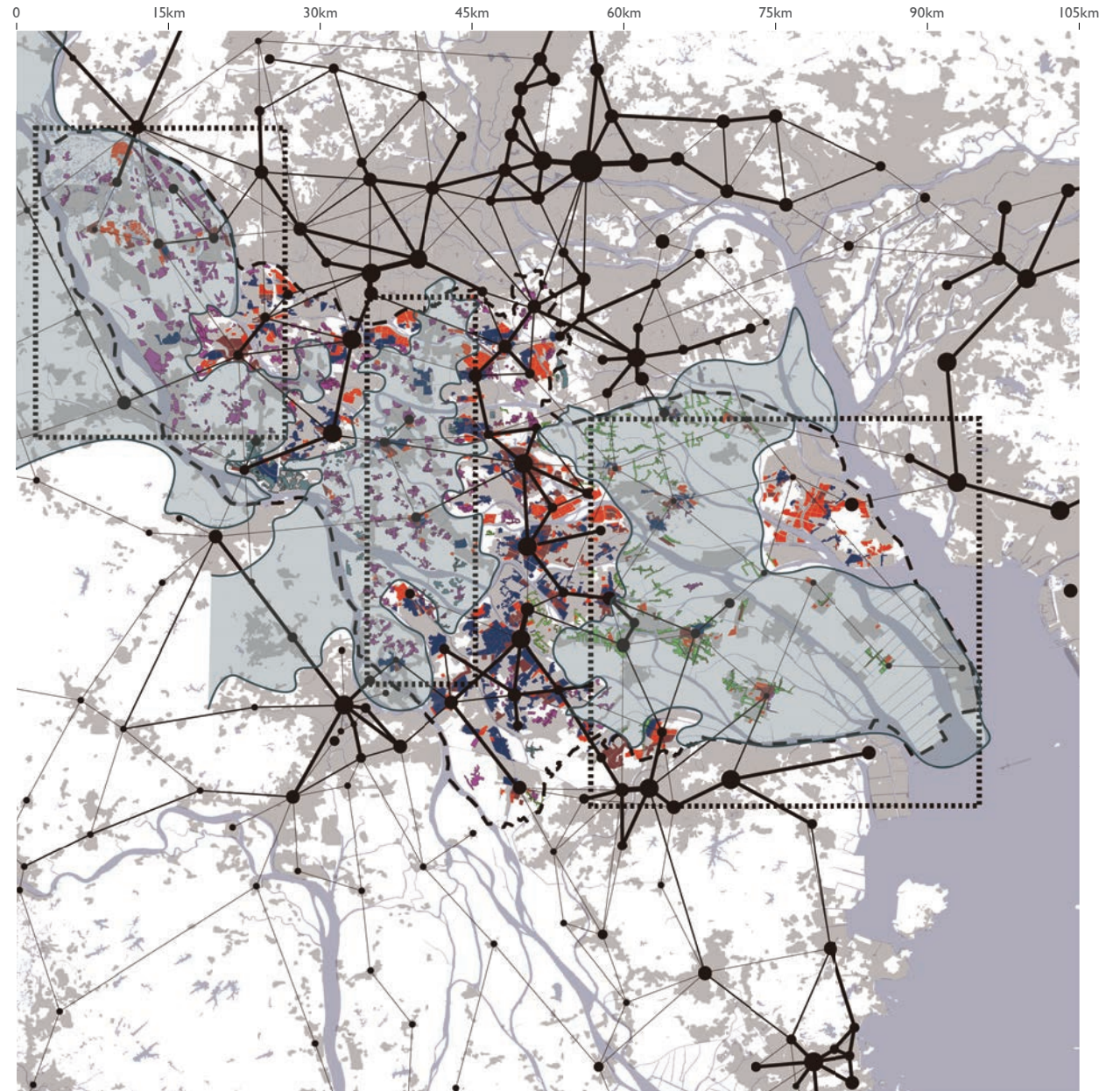
CONCLUSION

- The Potential of Living Environment



POTENTIAL OF DIVERSE SETTLEMENT CULTURE

2.ANALYSE the potential and challenges of this network



source: A: image by Mengjuan Tian: Tian, M. (2019). Seeing from Above: Observation of Contemporary Dike-Pond Landscape. 7(4), 130-138. <https://doi.org/10.15302/J-LAF-I-050004>; B: image by @635133568 in Xiaohongshu; C: image by @270207453 in Xiaohongshu; D: image from Baidu Street Map; E: image by @791326870 in Xiaohongshu; F: image by @183650159 in Xiaohongshu

CONCLUSION

- The Potential of Living Environment



POTENTIAL OF A MUTUAL COMPLEMENTARY REGIONAL COMMUNITY

LEGEND

- public buildings located within 3000x3000 km scope
- nature parks
- higher education
- culture

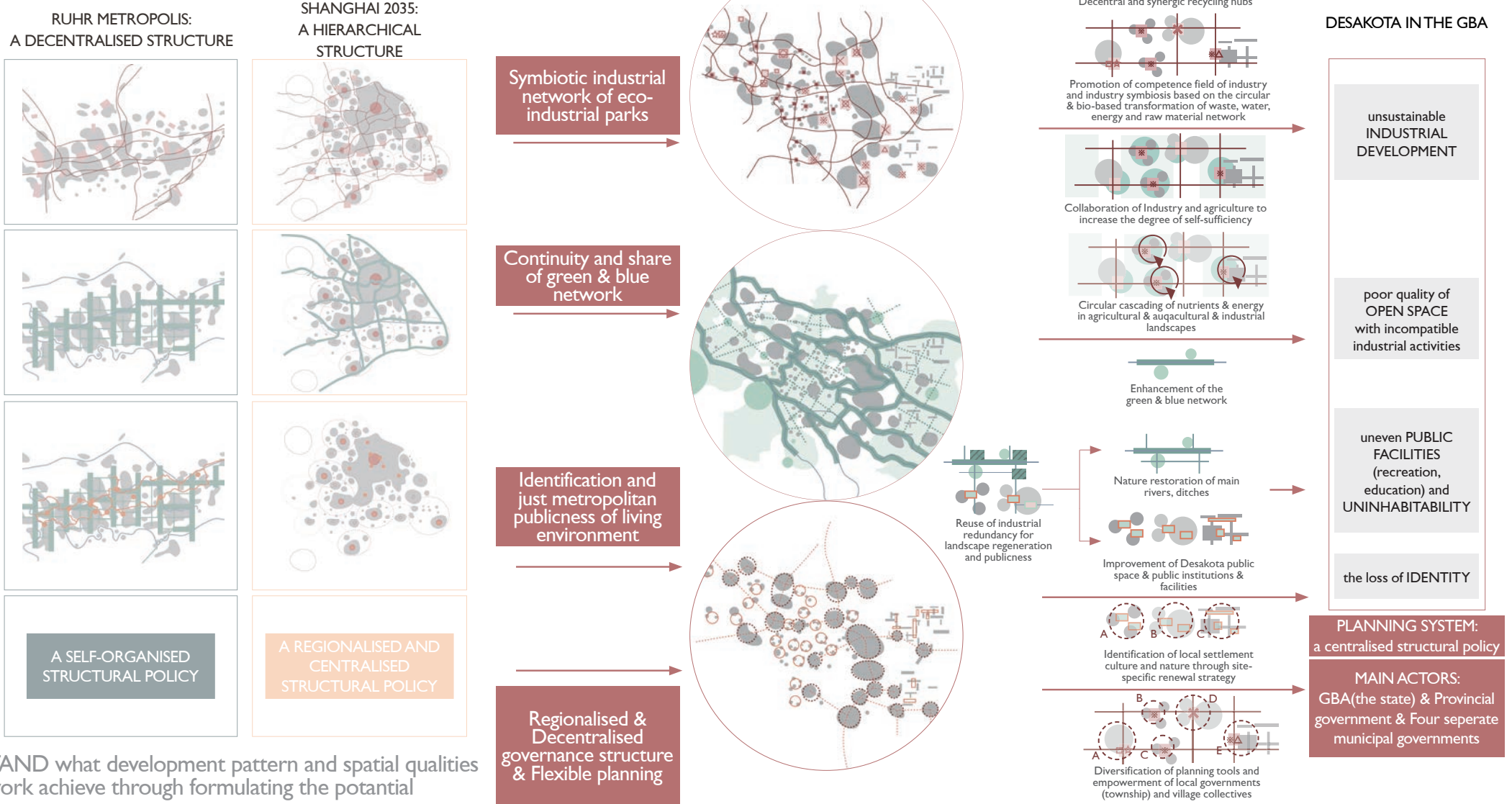


2.ANALYSE the potential and challenges of this network

3. UNDERSTAND what development pattern and spatial qualities can this network achieve through formulating the potential

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- A diverse, decentralised structure with shared green & blue network

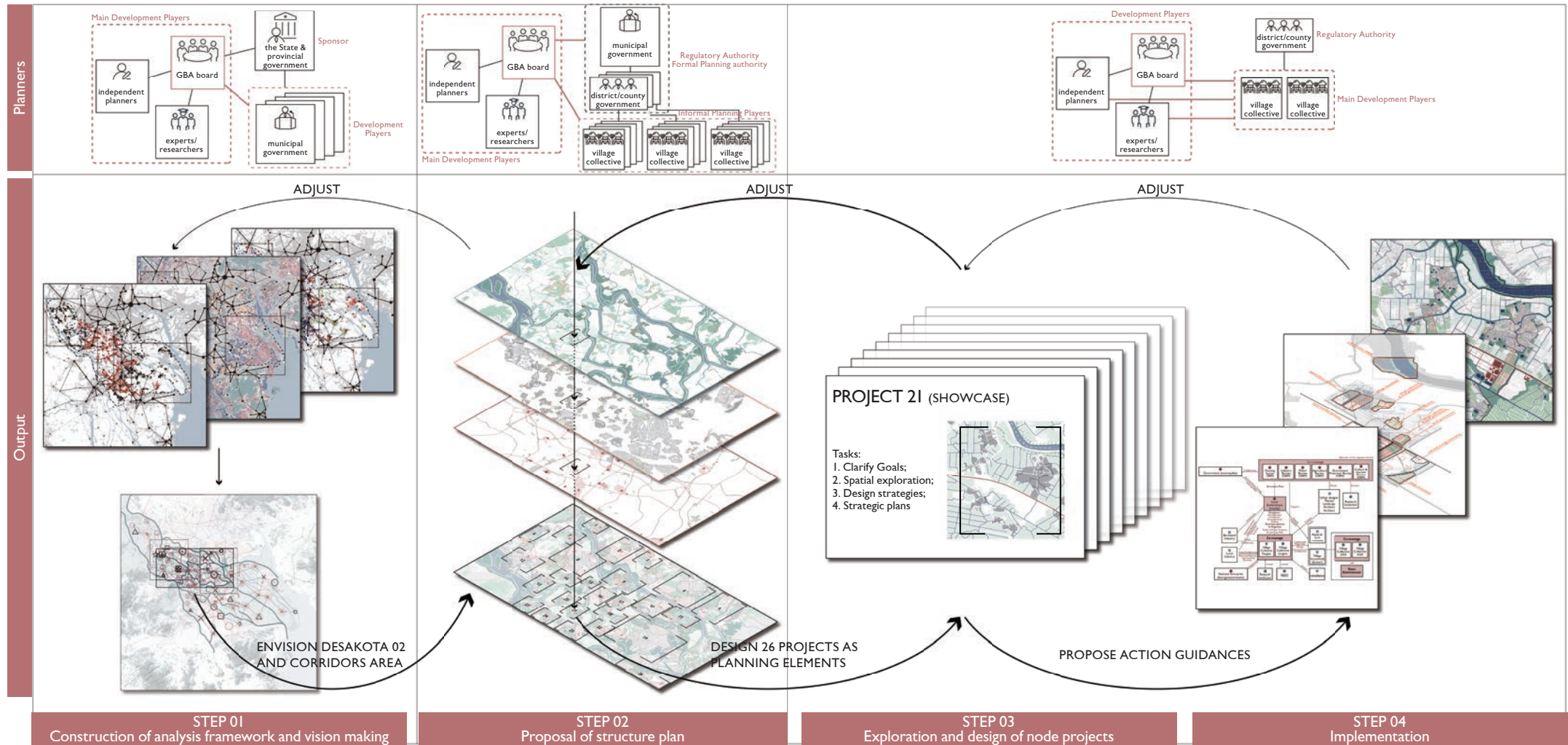


3. UNDERSTAND what development pattern and spatial qualities can this network achieve through formulating the potential

4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK

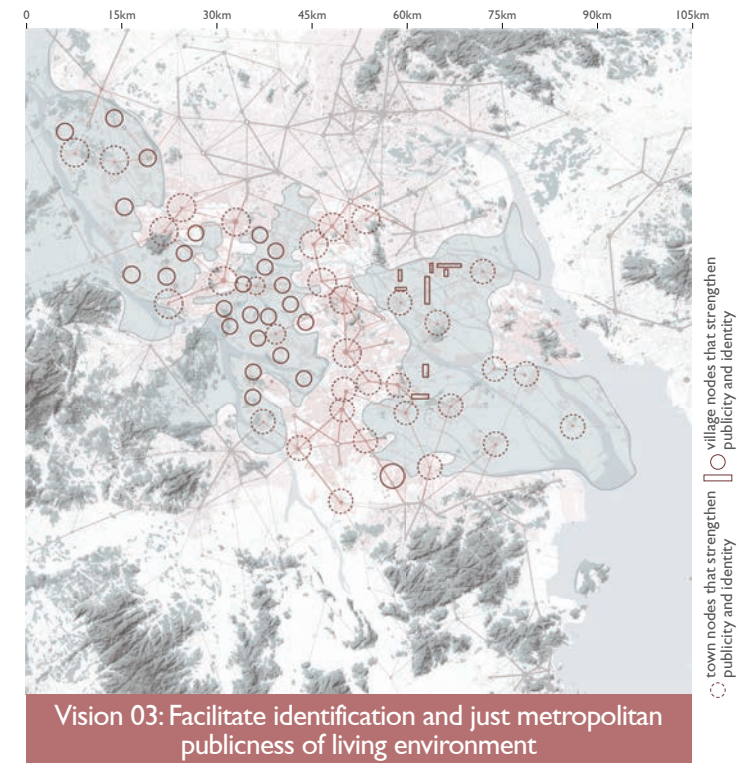
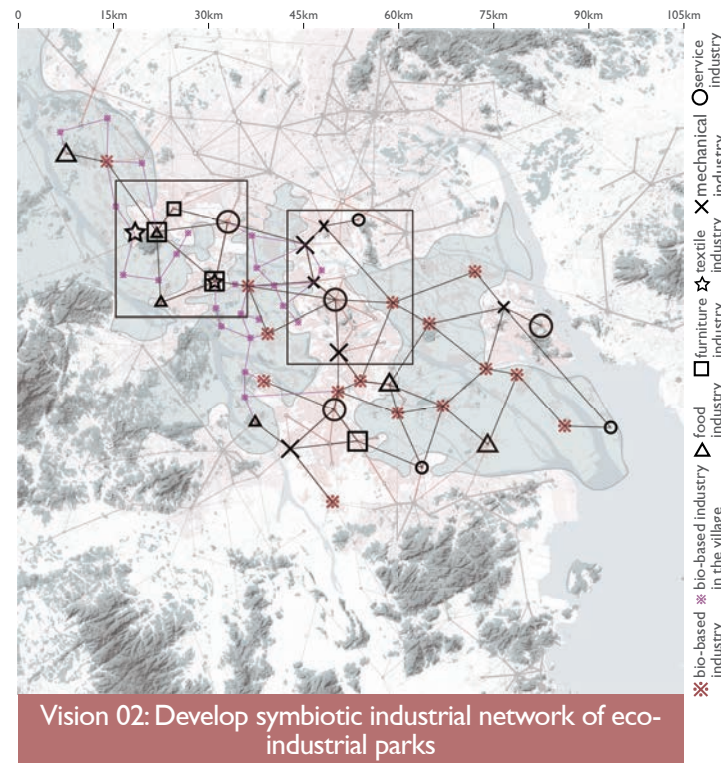
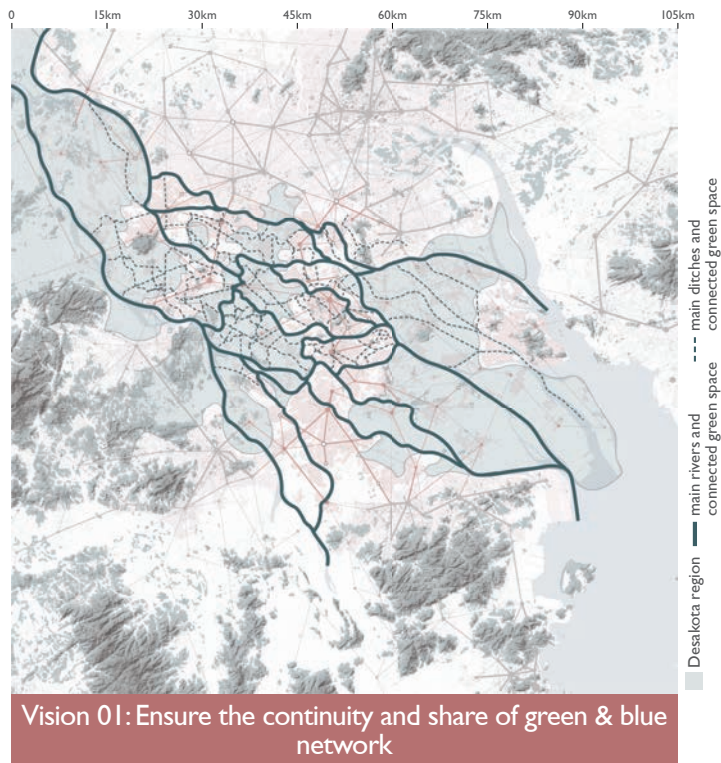
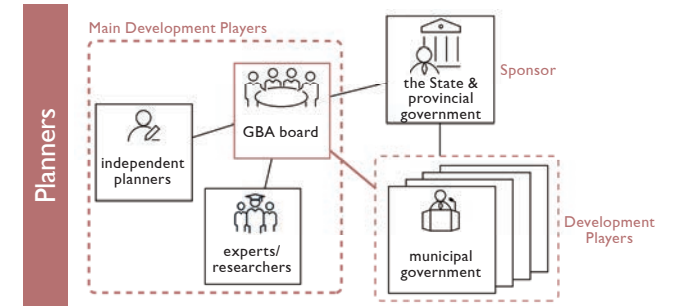
- Spatial Planning Framework of Sustainable Industry Transition in the Desakota



4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

SYNTHESISING PRINCIPLES TO THE NETWORK STRUCTURE

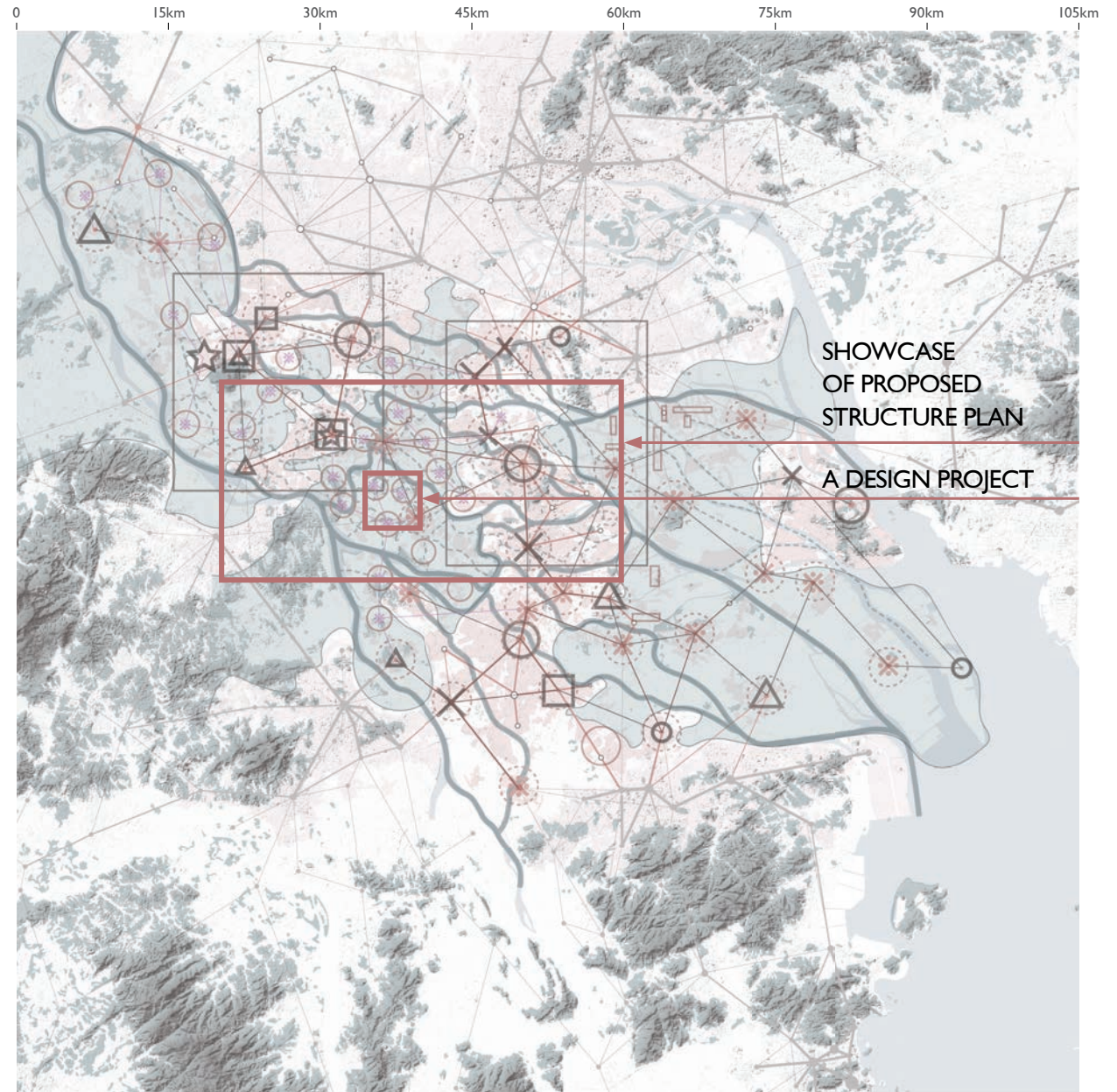
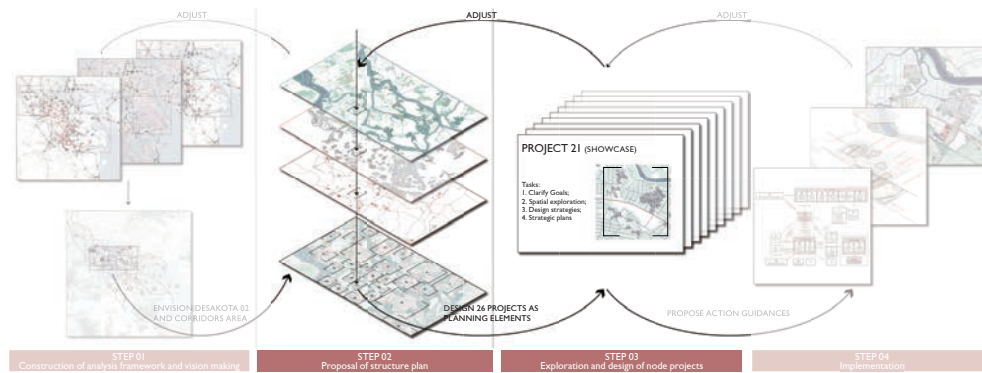
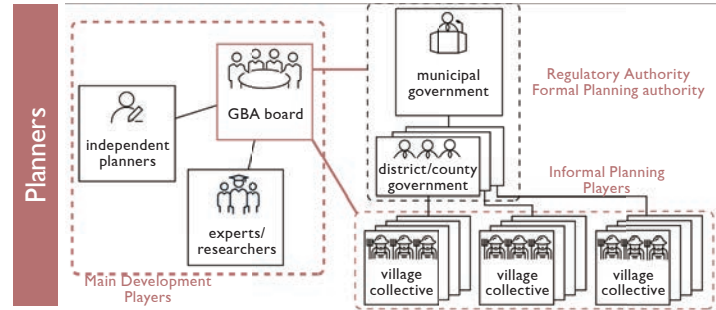
- Step 01: Vision Making



4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

ENVISIONING DESAKOTA 02 AND CORRIDORS AREA

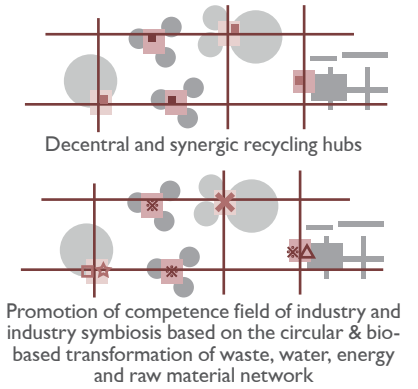
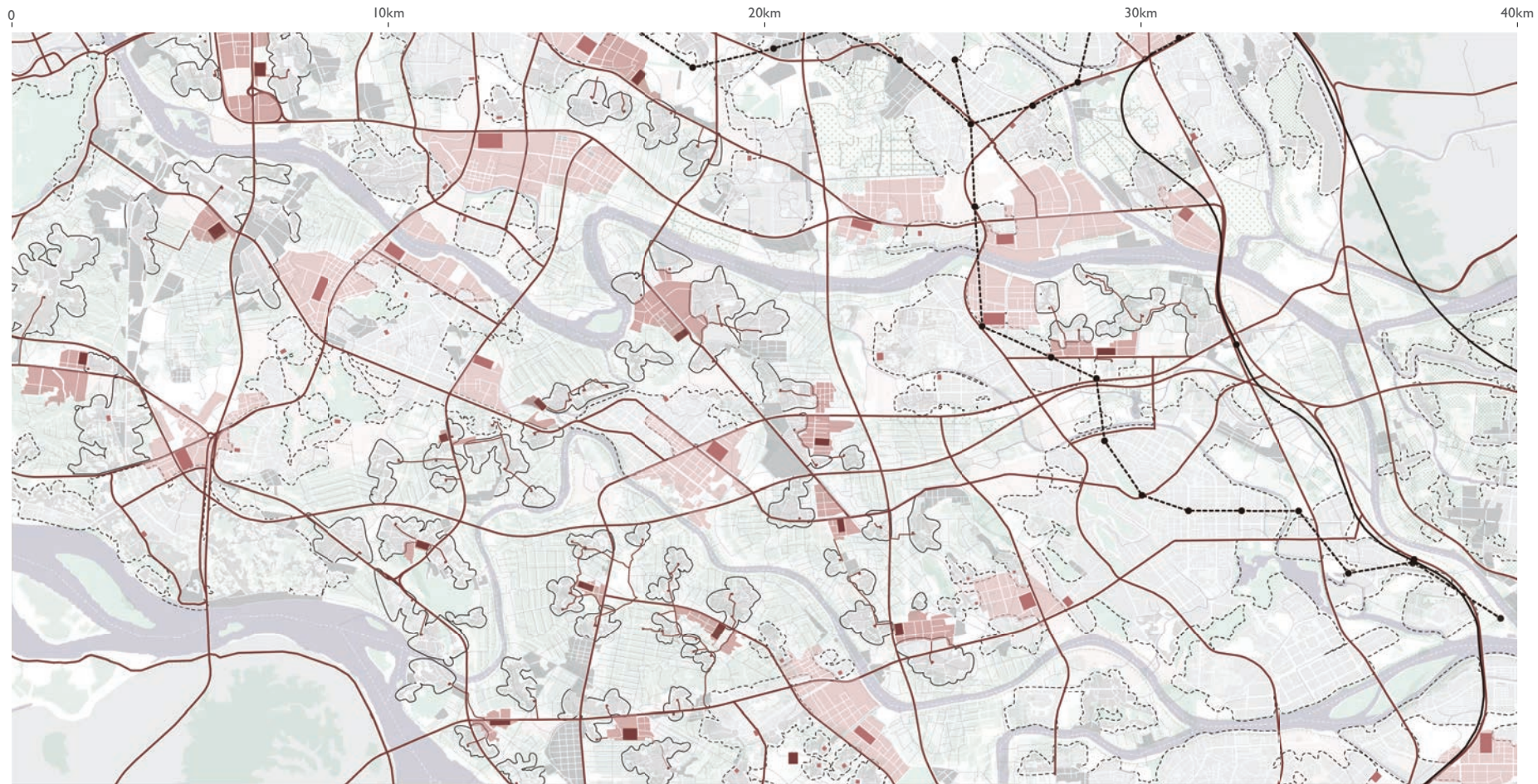
- Step 02: Proposal of Structure Plan



4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

ENVISIONING DESAKOTA 02 AND CORRIDORS AREA

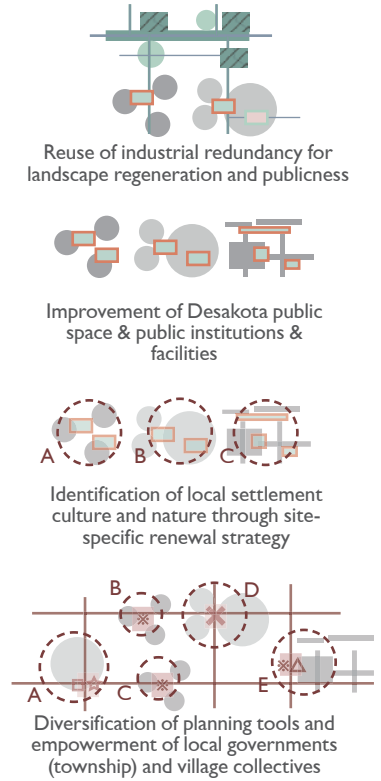
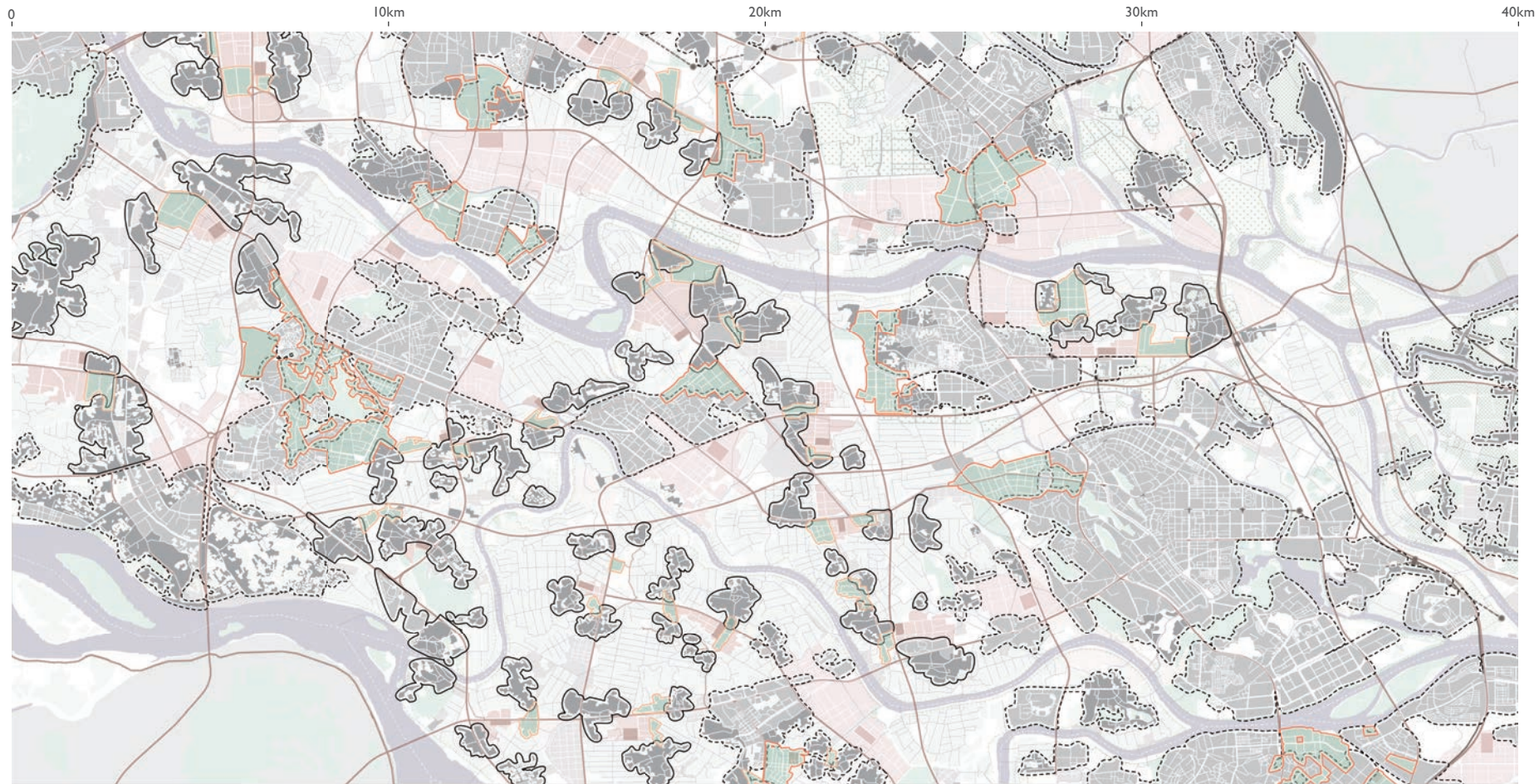
- Step 02: Industrial System of the Proposed Structure Plan



4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

ENVISIONING DESAKOTA 02 AND CORRIDORS AREA

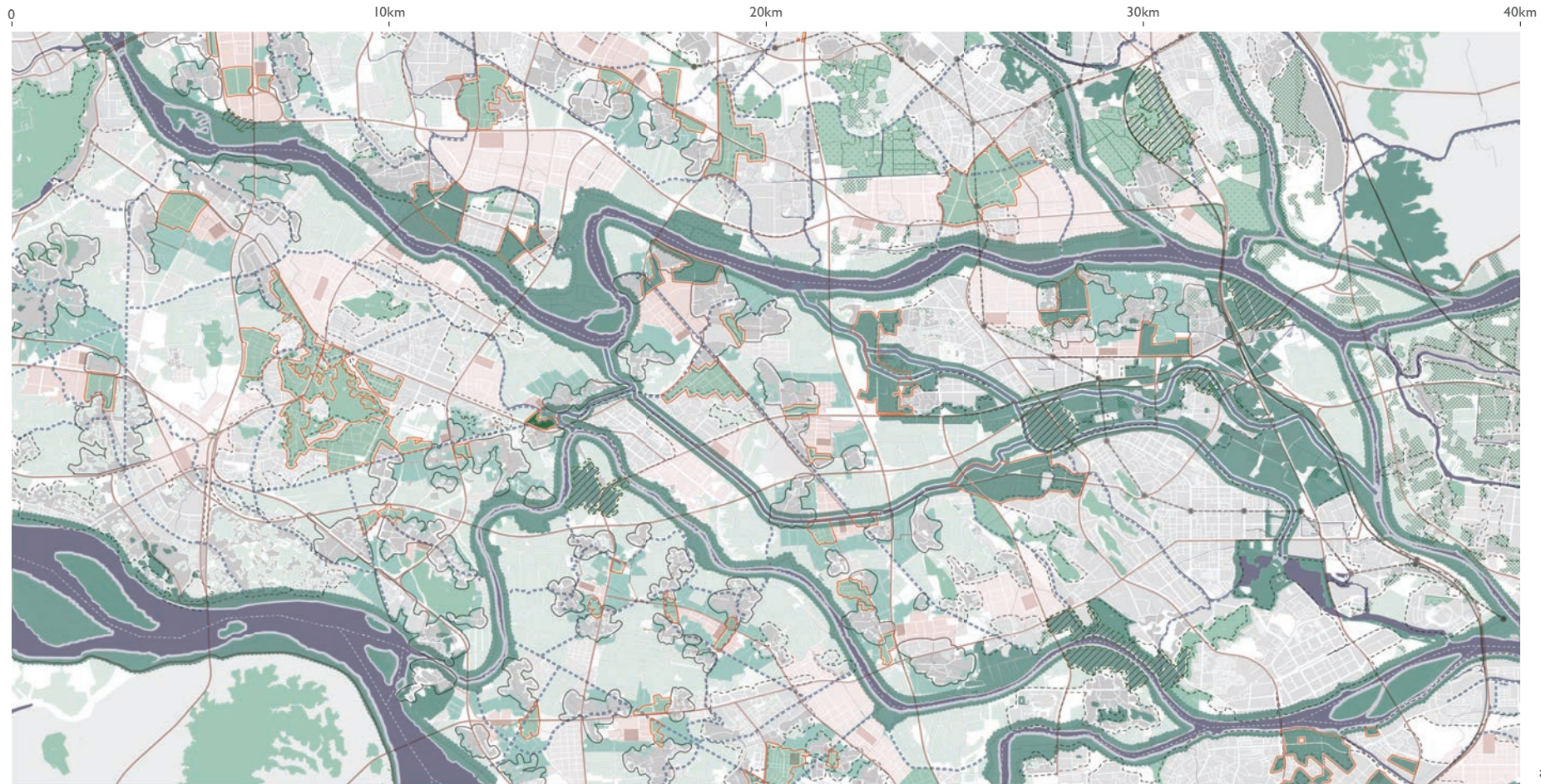
- Step 02: Living Environment of the Proposed Structure Plan



4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

ENVISIONING DESAKOTA 02 AND CORRIDORS AREA


- Step 02: Landscape System of the Proposed Structure Plan



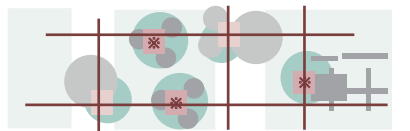
Enhancement of the green & blue network



Nature restoration of main rivers, ditches



Reuse of industrial redundancy for landscape regeneration and publicness



Collaboration of Industry and agriculture to increase the degree of self-sufficiency

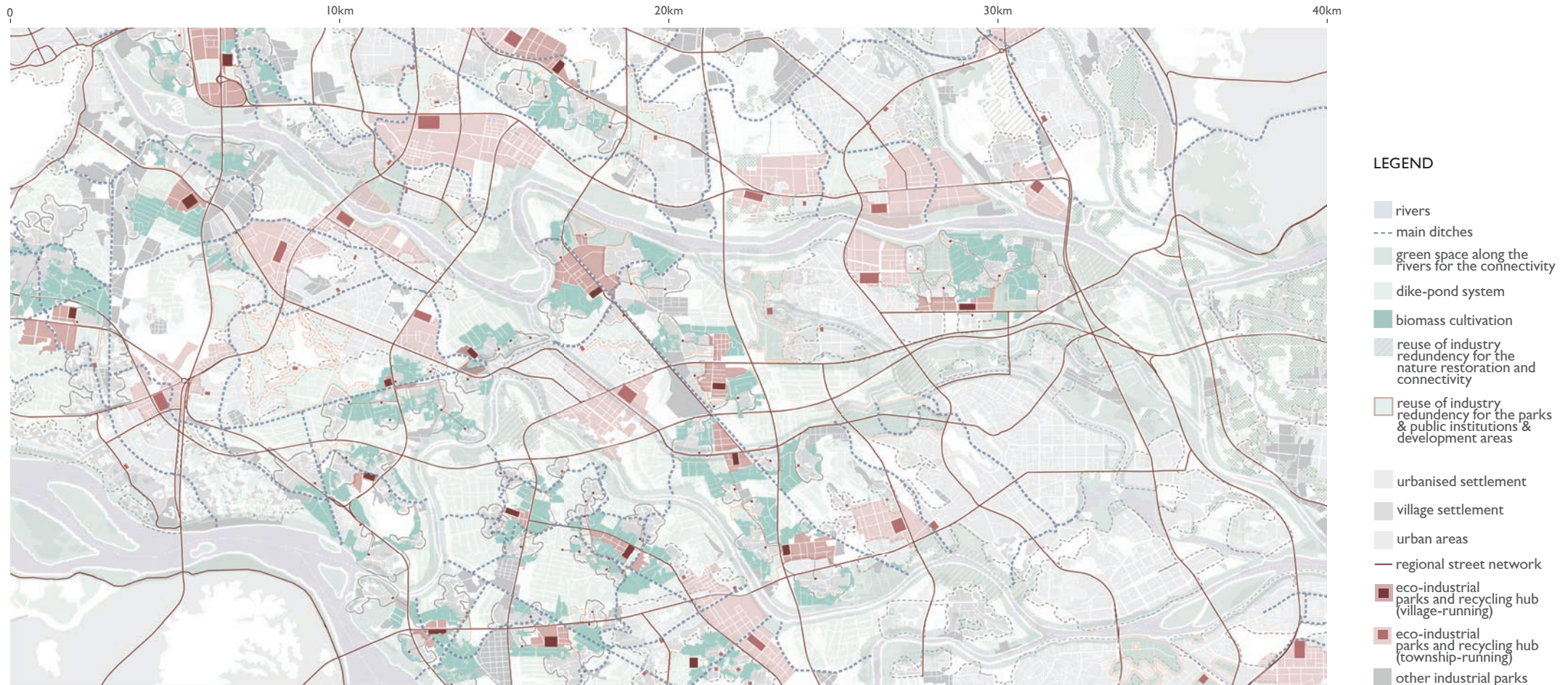


Circular cascading of nutrients & energy in agricultural & aquacultural & industrial landscapes

4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

ENVISIONING DESAKOTA 02 AND CORRIDORS AREA

- Step 02: Proposal of Structure Plan



4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

- Step 03: A Showcased Design Project

PROJECT 21 (SHOWCASE)

Tasks:

1. Clarify Goals;
2. Spatial exploration;
3. Design strategies;
4. Strategic plans

Goals Defined in the Regional Scale

1. Select industrial parks as Eco-industrial park
2. Establish resource circular flows between industry and agriculture
3. Choose appropriate industrial spaces to enhance the quality of life
4. Restore the ecology of rivers, main ditches and fish pond landscape
5. Ensure the operation of circularity by a localised governance strategy



LOCATION OF DESIGN PROJECT

4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

Current Residential system

- concentrated villages
- street network
- current public institutions

Current Landscape system

- rivers and ditches
- fish ponds
- vegetable gardens
- abandoned fish ponds

Current Industrial system

- village industrial park
- factories
- regional street network
- local street network

DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

- Step 03: Spatial Exploration of the Showcased Design Project



Hardened dike of the rivers



Ditches between fish ponds



Vegetable garden in the village



Dike- fish pond system



Vegetable garden along the fish ponds



Axis view display of landscape system

4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

- Step 03: Spatial Exploration of the Showcased Design Project



Residential building



Cultural building used as leisure place



Sports ground and square



Corner space for outdoor activities



Vegetable garden around Fengshui pond



Axis view display of residential system

4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

- Step 03: Spatial Exploration of the Showcased Design Project



1 The industrial park



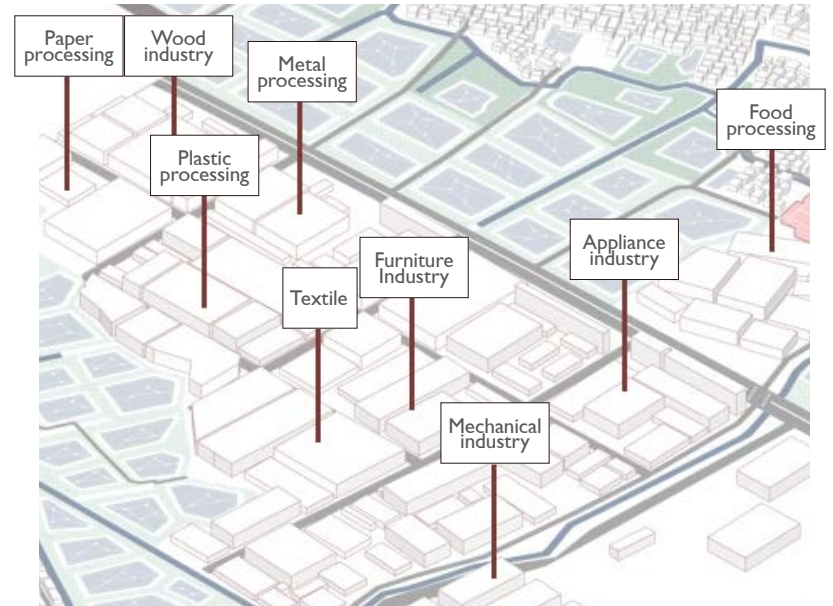
3 Polluted ditches around the factories



4 Cable setting in the fish pond



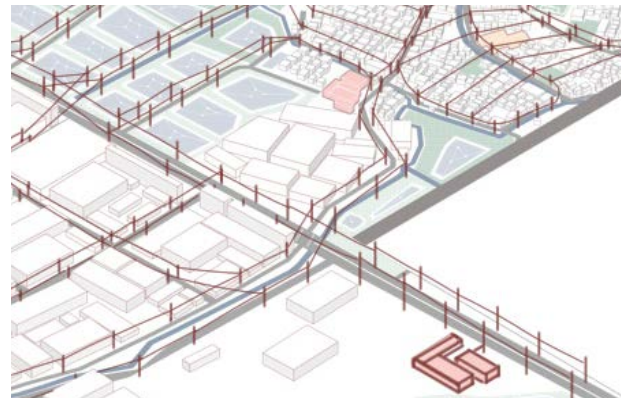
2 Village factories and motorised street



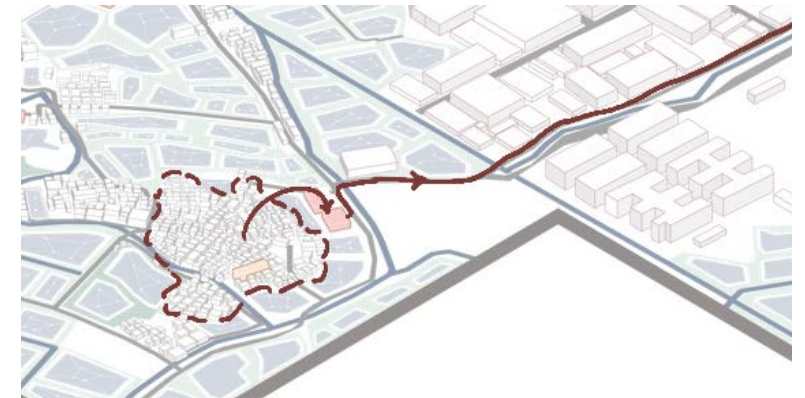
Axis view display of the industrial park



Sewer and water pipes



Power supply network and substation



Household waste collection

4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

- Step 03: Spatial & Functional Strategies of the Showcased Design Project



Proposed industrial network



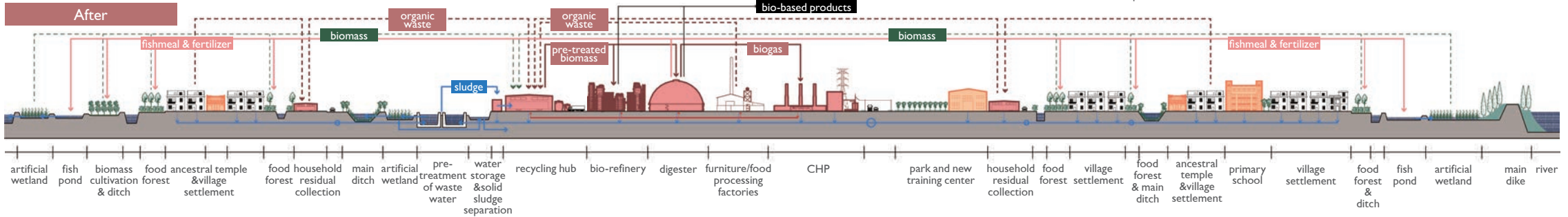
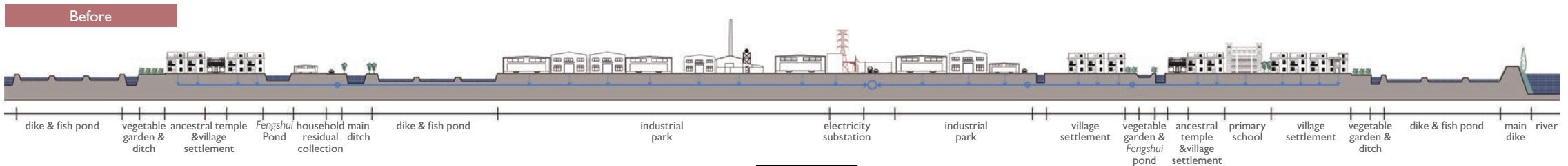
Proposed public network



Proposed landscape network



- material flow of bio-based industries
- flow of nutrients in waters
- flow of biogas residue
- - - - - → main flow of biomass
- - - - - → flow of organic waste from household and industries
- flow of heating
- flow of bio-based products to other areas



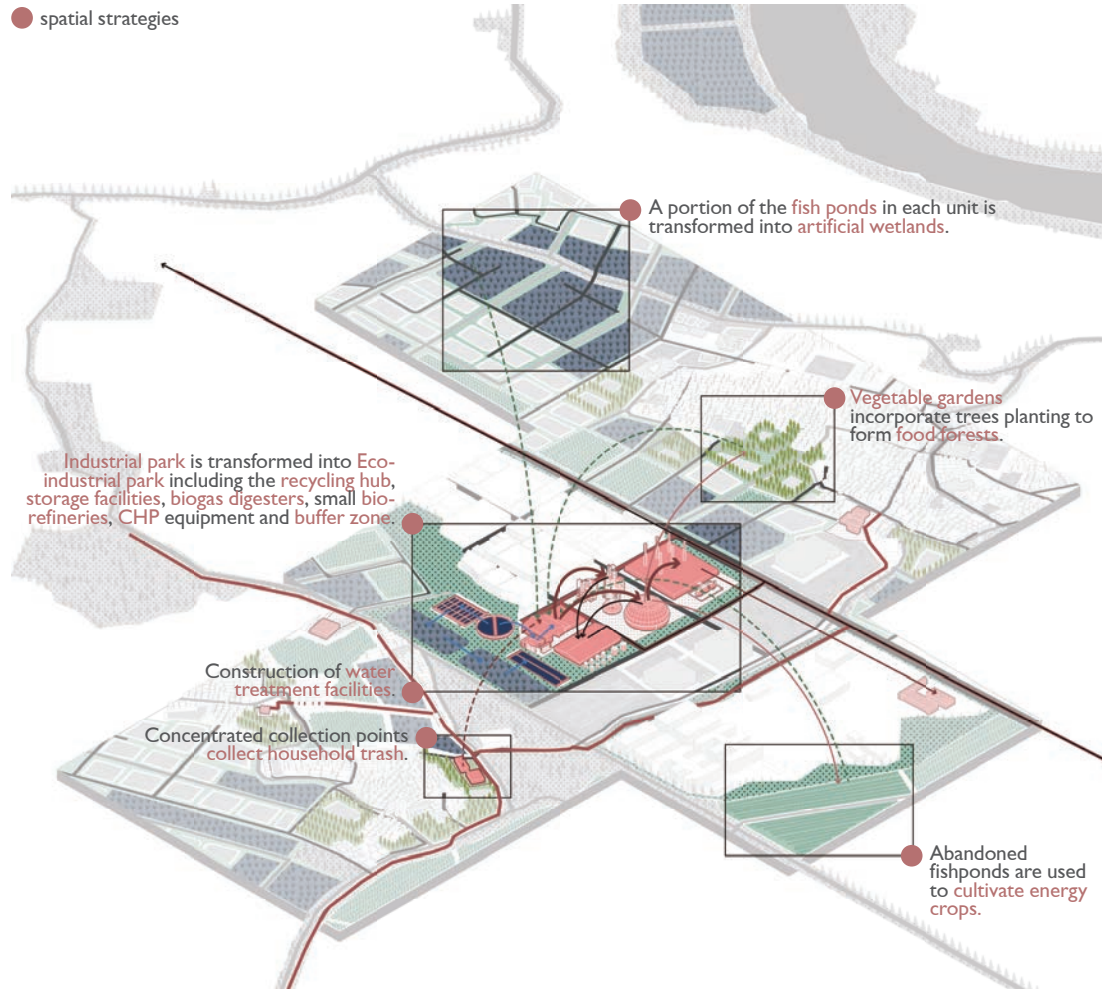
4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

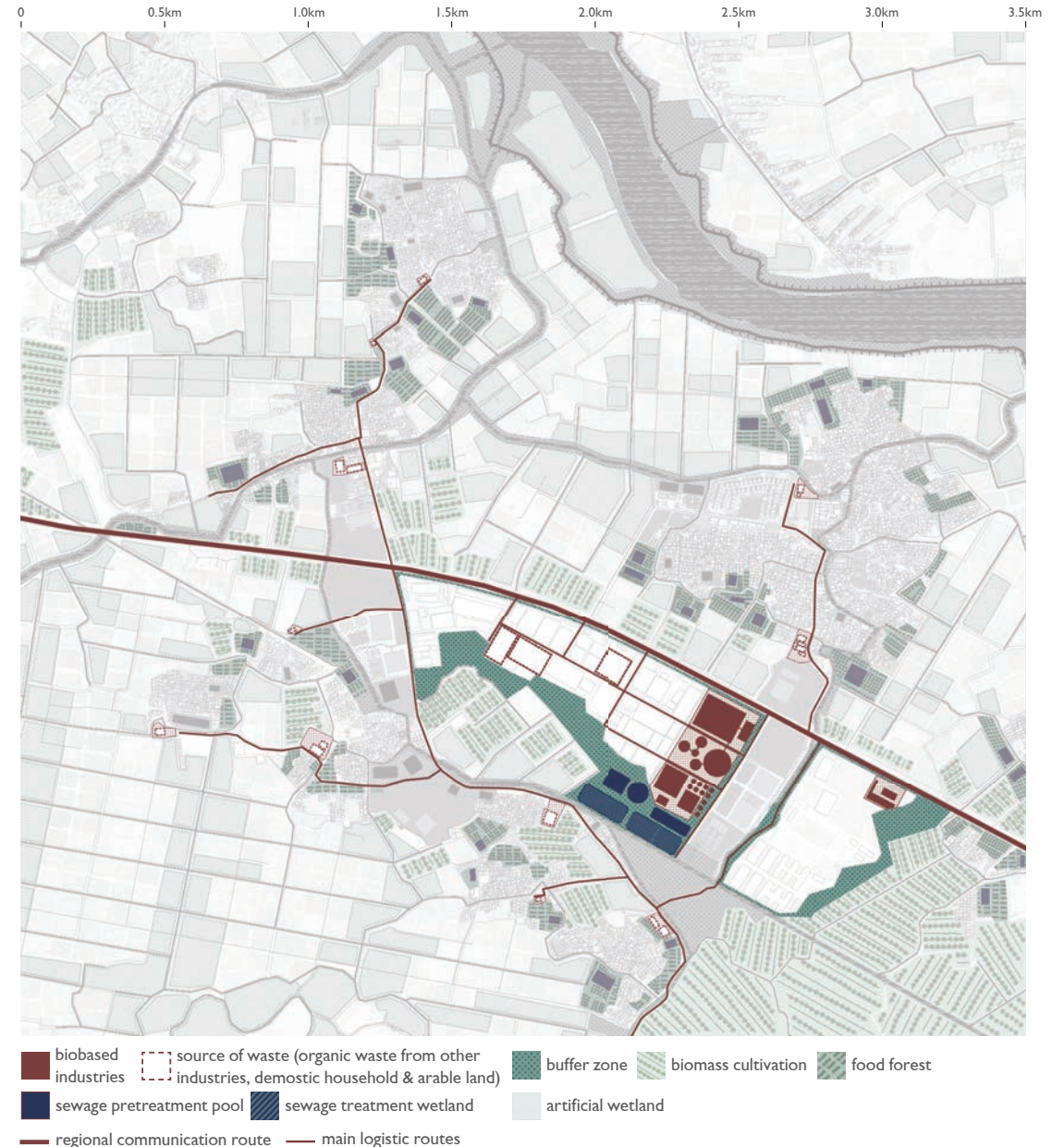
- Step 03: Demonstration of Design Strategies

GOAL 01: SYMBIOTIC INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

● spatial strategies

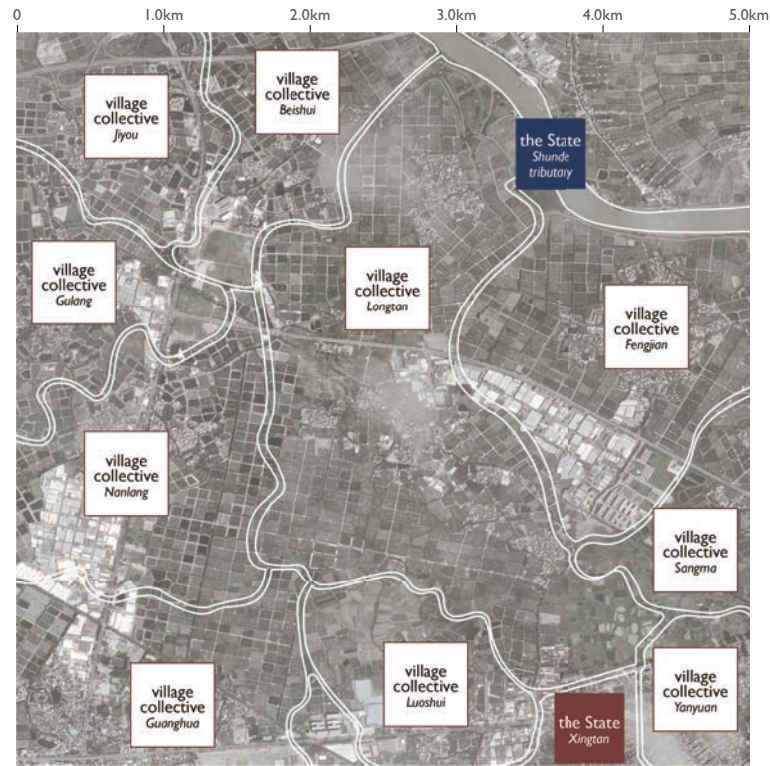


4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

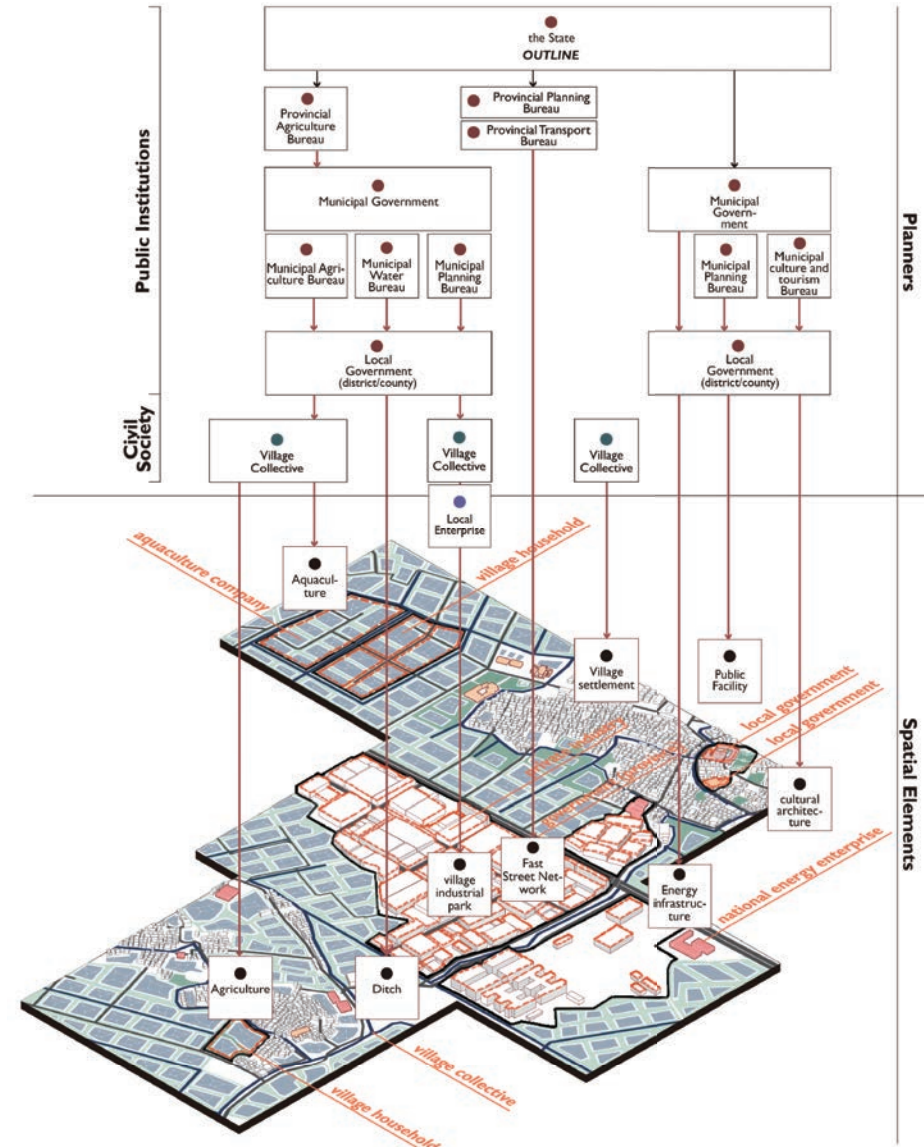


DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

- Step 03: Governance Analysis of the Showcased Design Project



Land Ownership



Planners & Operators of Each Element

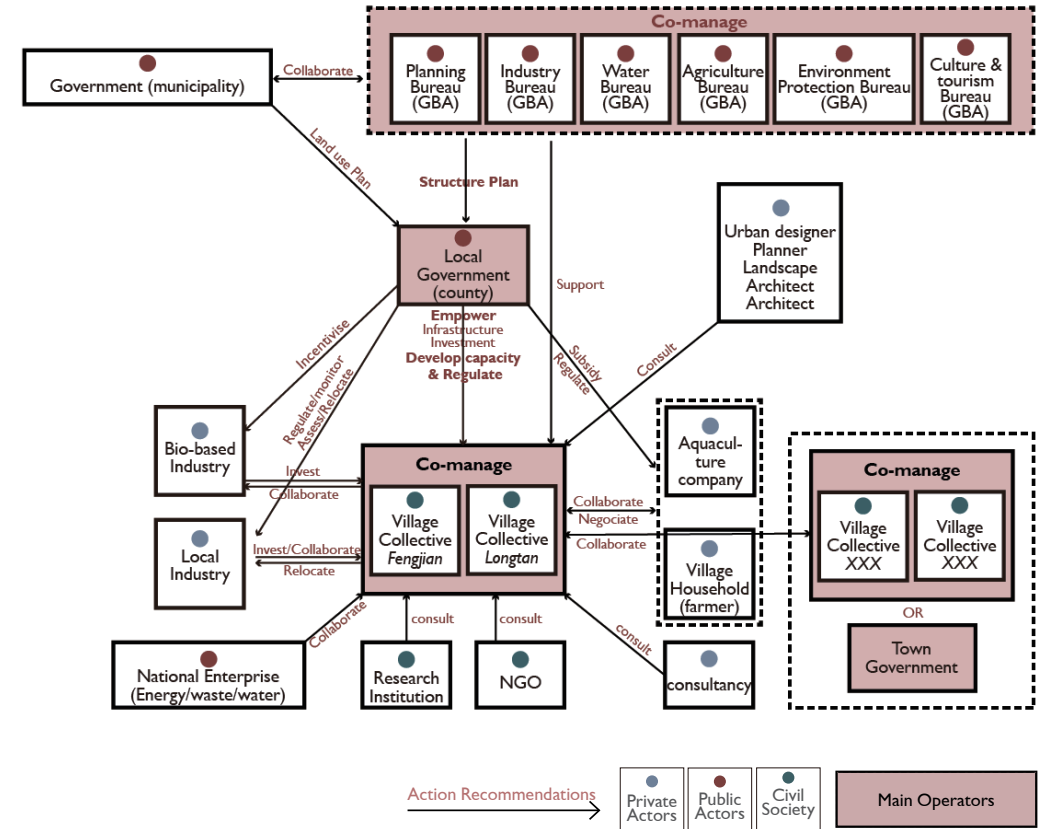
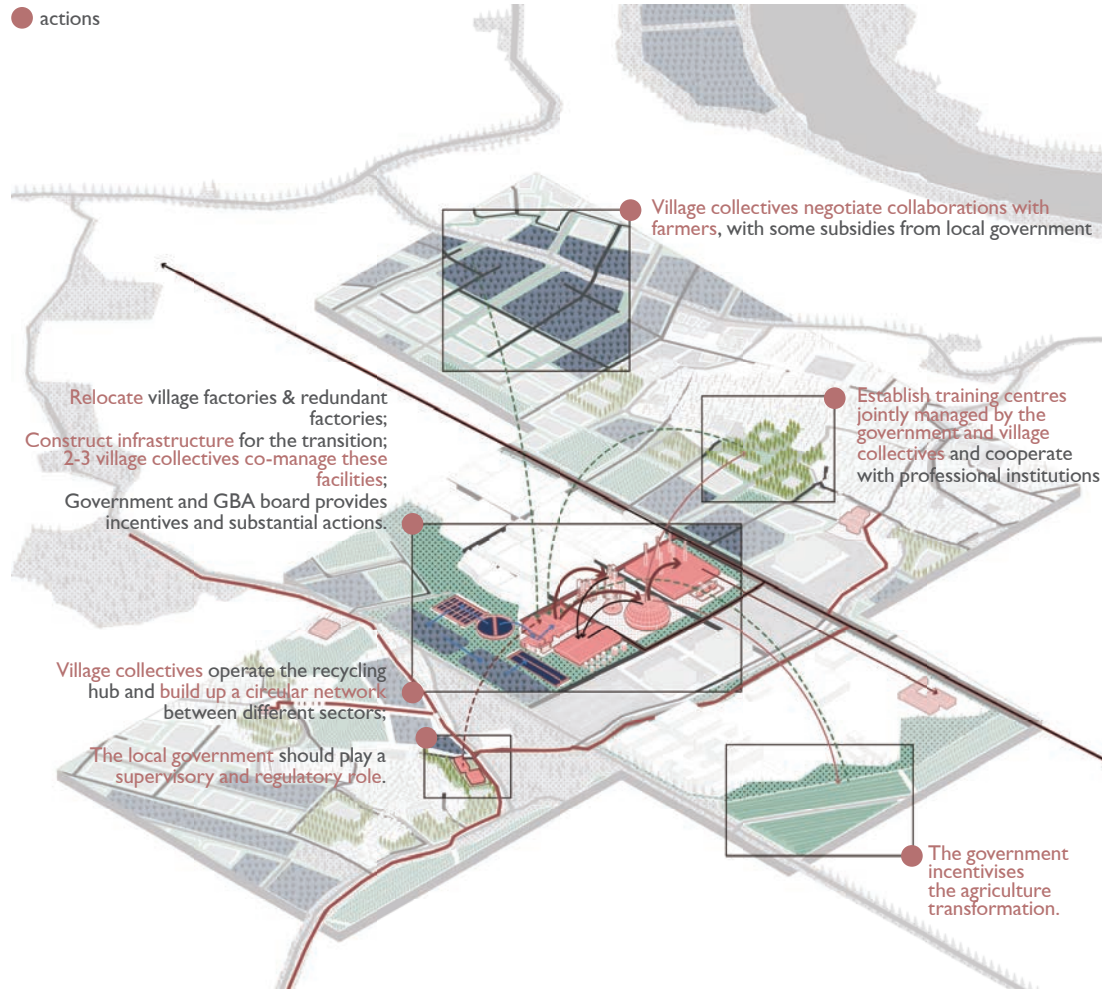
4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

- Step 03: Demonstration of Design Strategies

GOAL 01: SYMBIOTIC INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

● actions



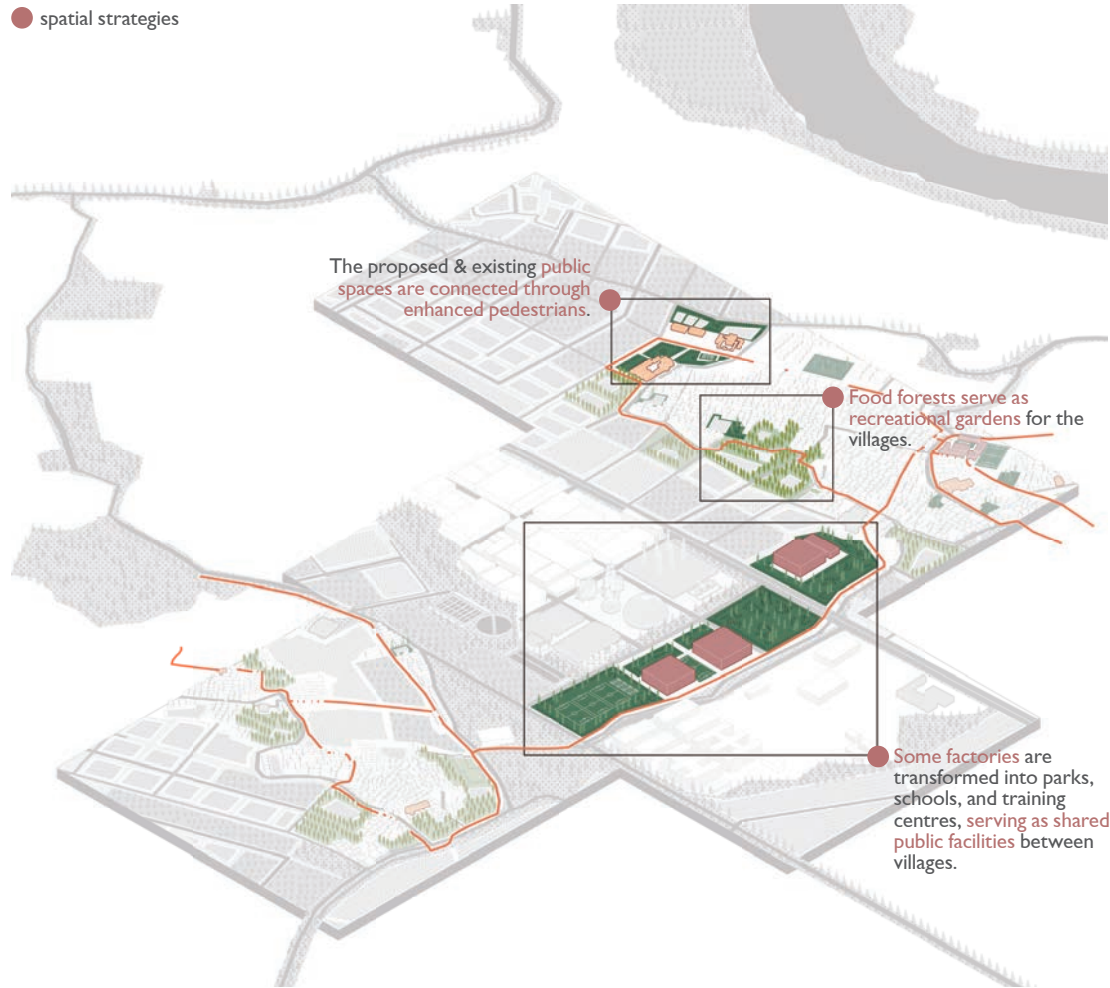
4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

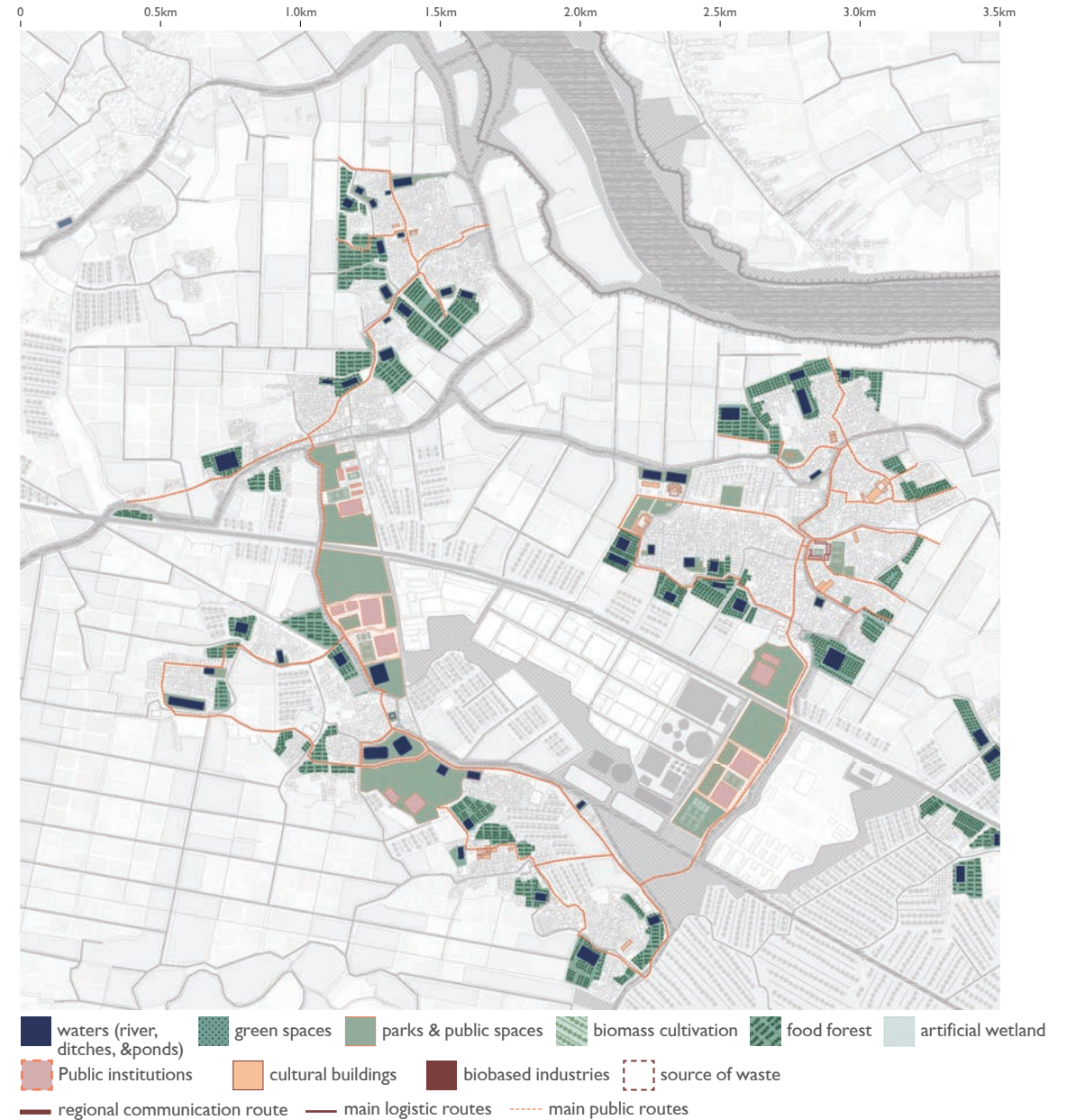
- Step 03: Demonstration of Design Strategies

GOAL 02: IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES AND PUBLIC SPACES

● spatial strategies



4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

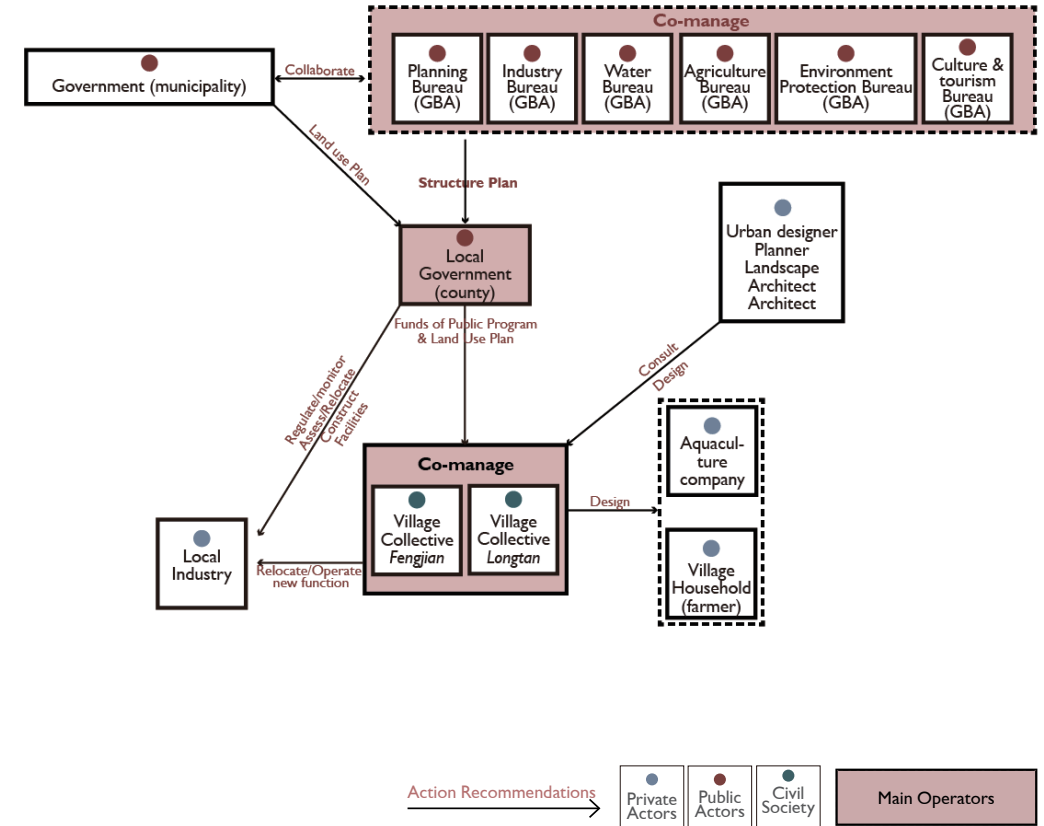
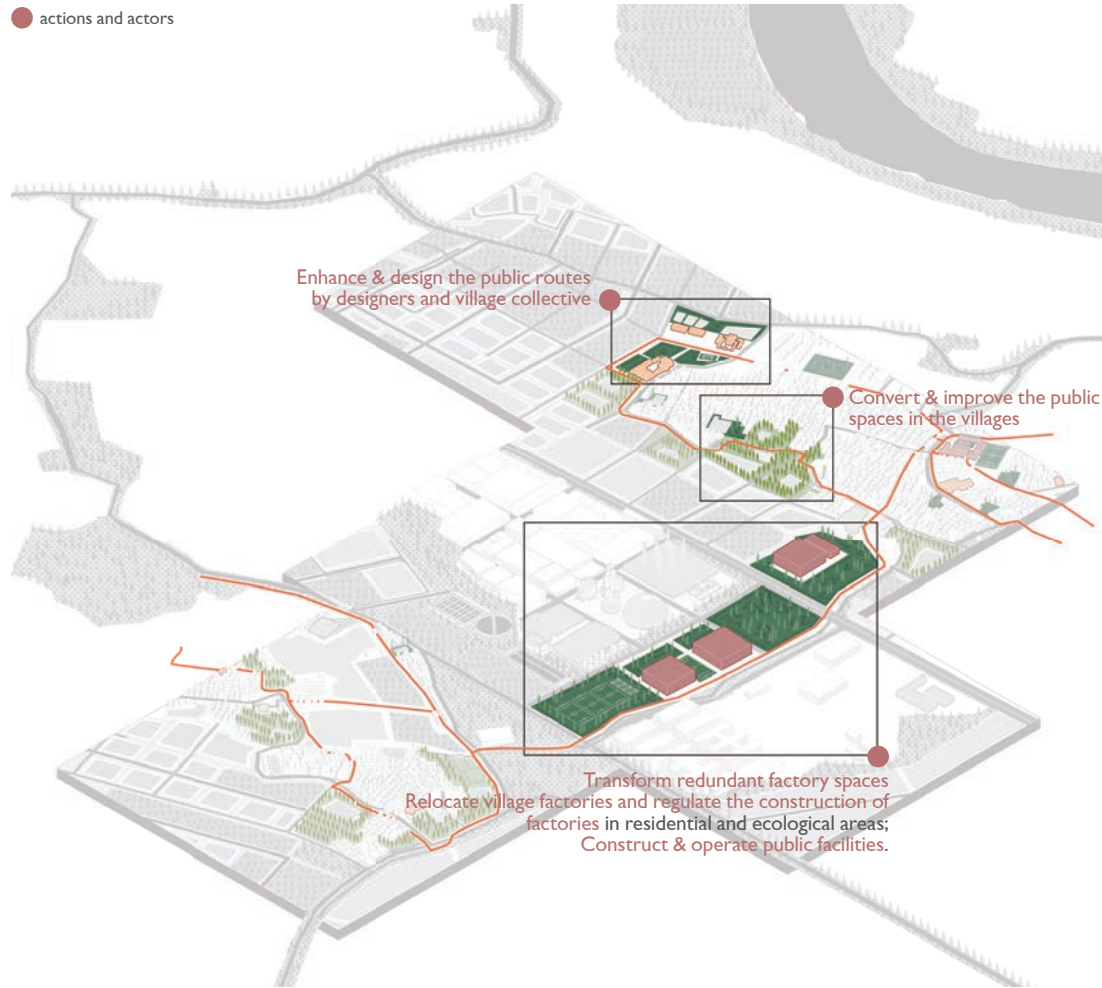


DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

- Step 03: Demonstration of Design Strategies

GOAL 02: IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES AND PUBLIC SPACES

● actions and actors



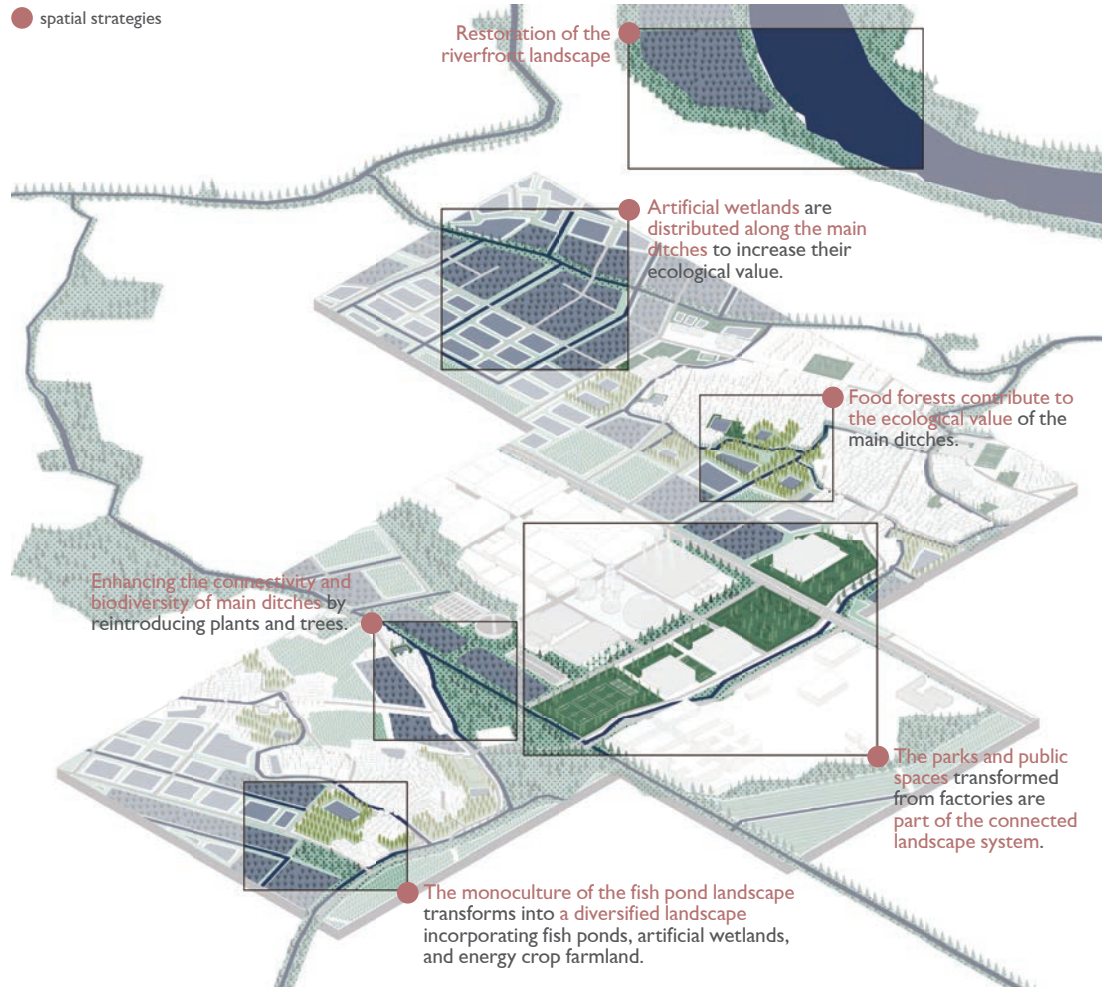
4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

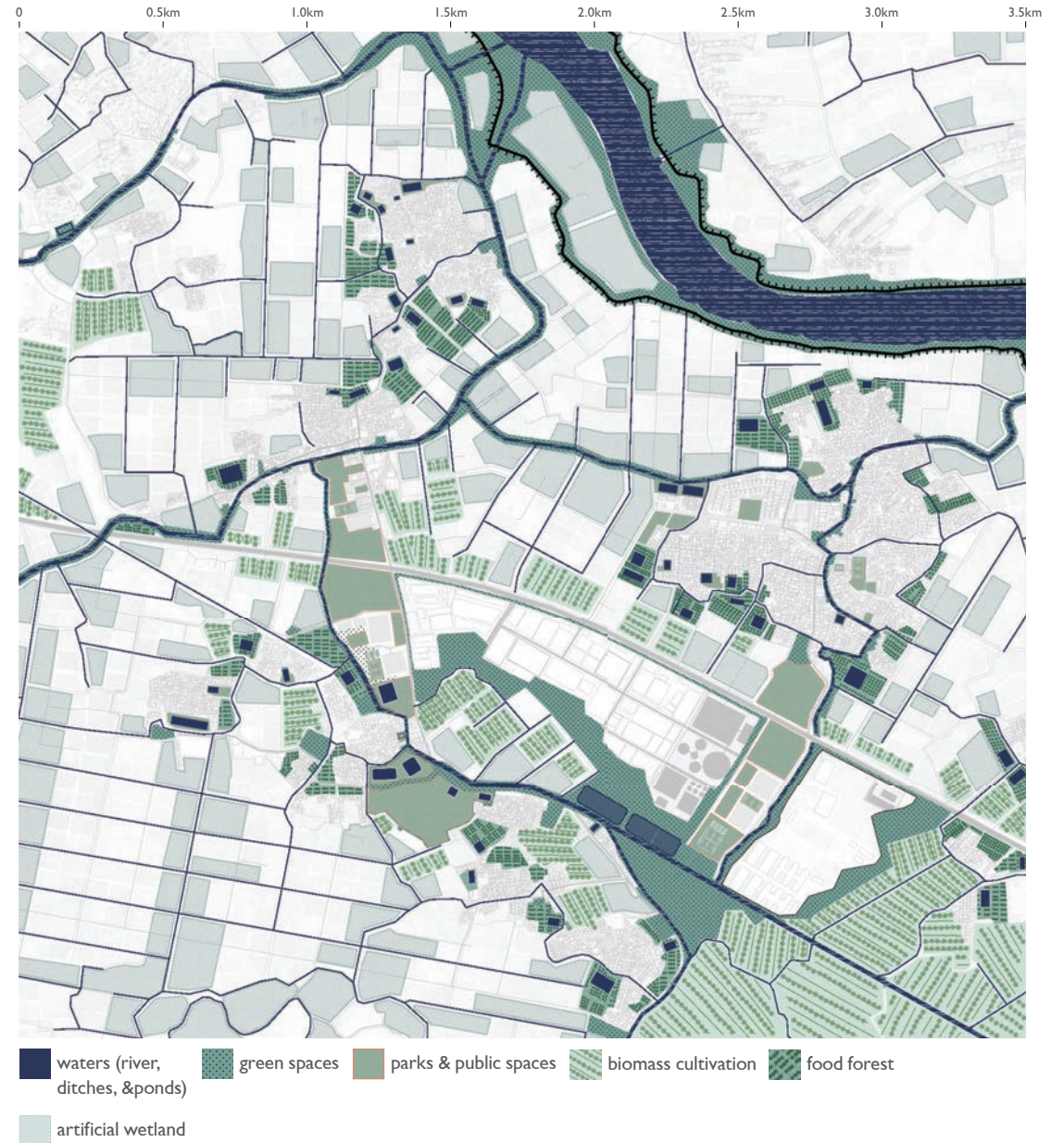
- Step 03: Demonstration of Design Strategies

GOAL 03: ENHANCEMENT OF GREEN & BLUE NETWORK

● spatial strategies



4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

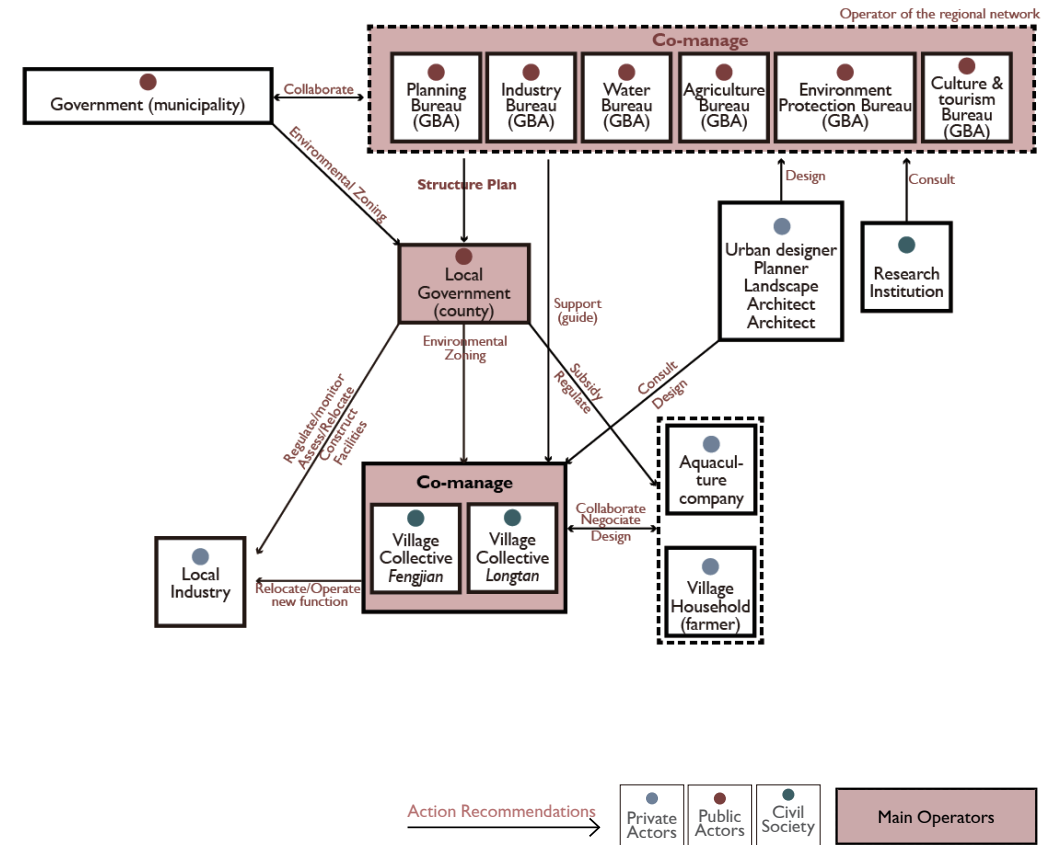
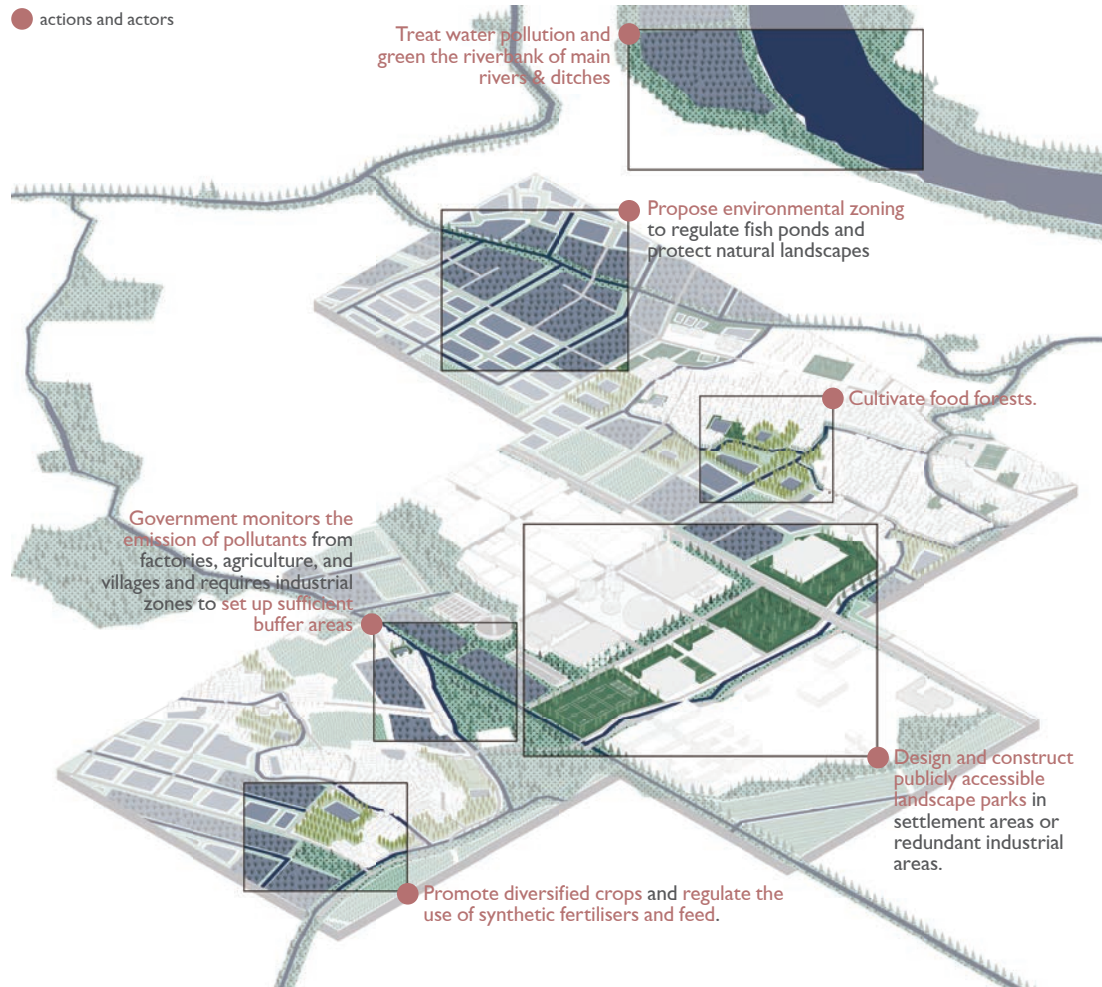


DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

- Step 03: Demonstration of Design Strategies

GOAL 03: ENHANCEMENT OF GREEN & BLUE NETWORK

● actions and actors

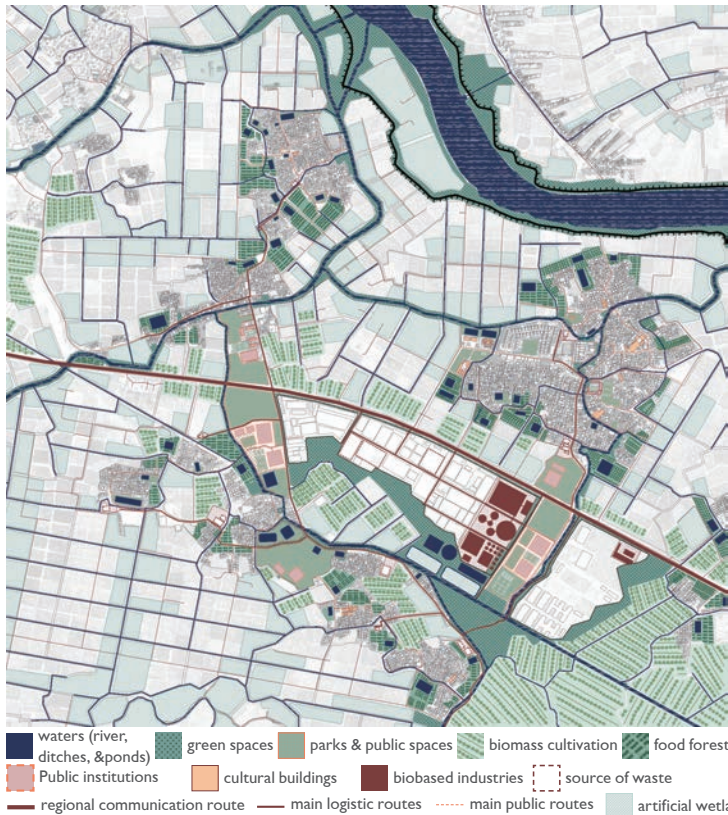


4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

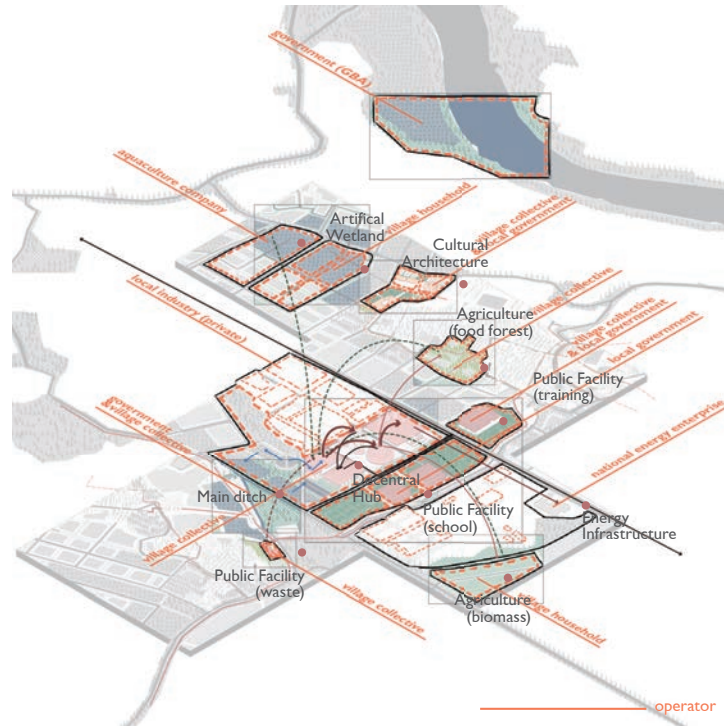
DESIGNING PROJECT AS A PLANNING ELEMENT

- Step 03: Strategic Outcomes (Implementation Guidance)

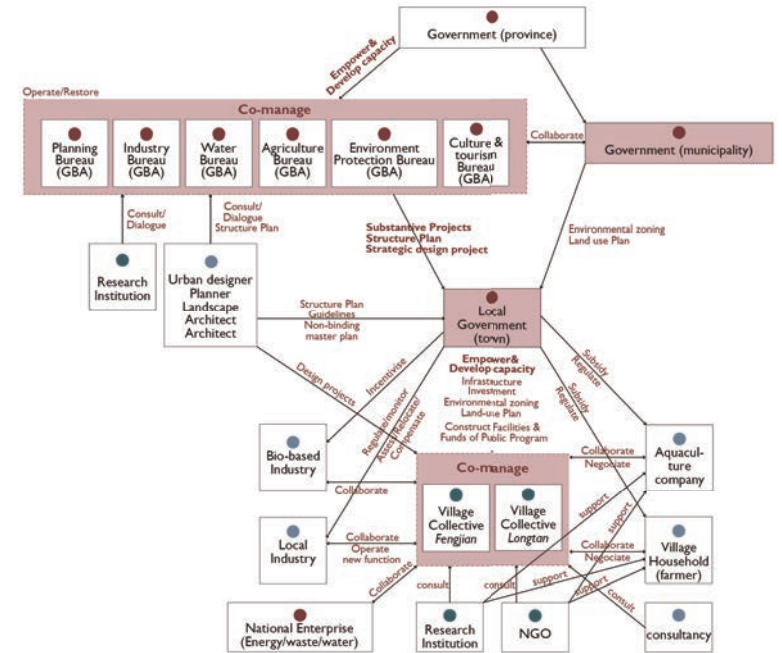
STRATEGIC PLANNING 01 - MASTER PLAN



STRATEGIC PLANNING 02 - SYSTEMATIC DIAGRAM

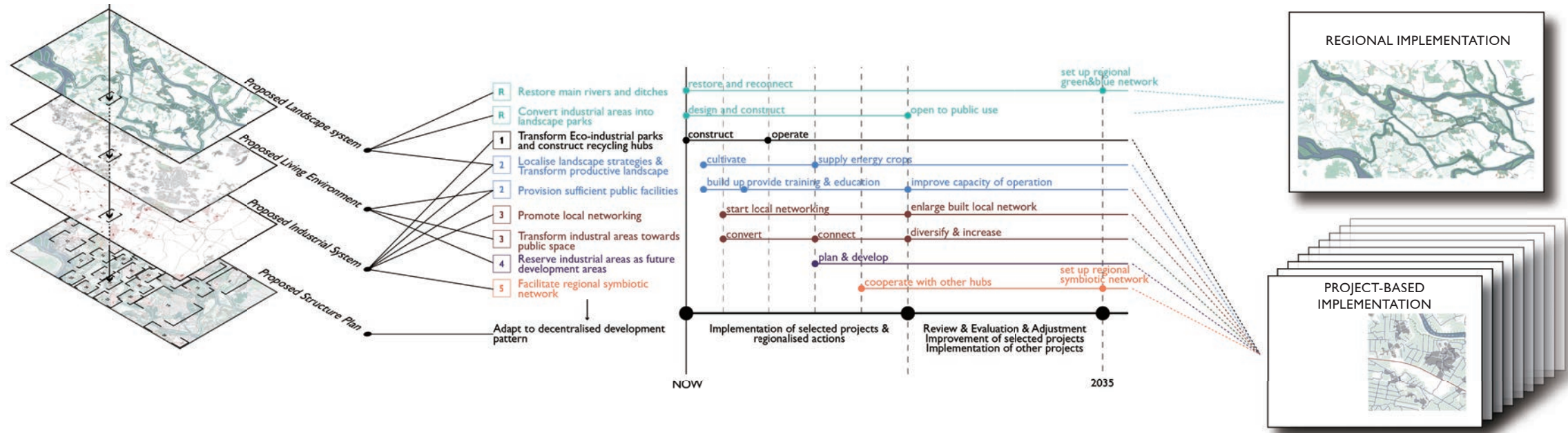


STRATEGIC PLANNING 03 - GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

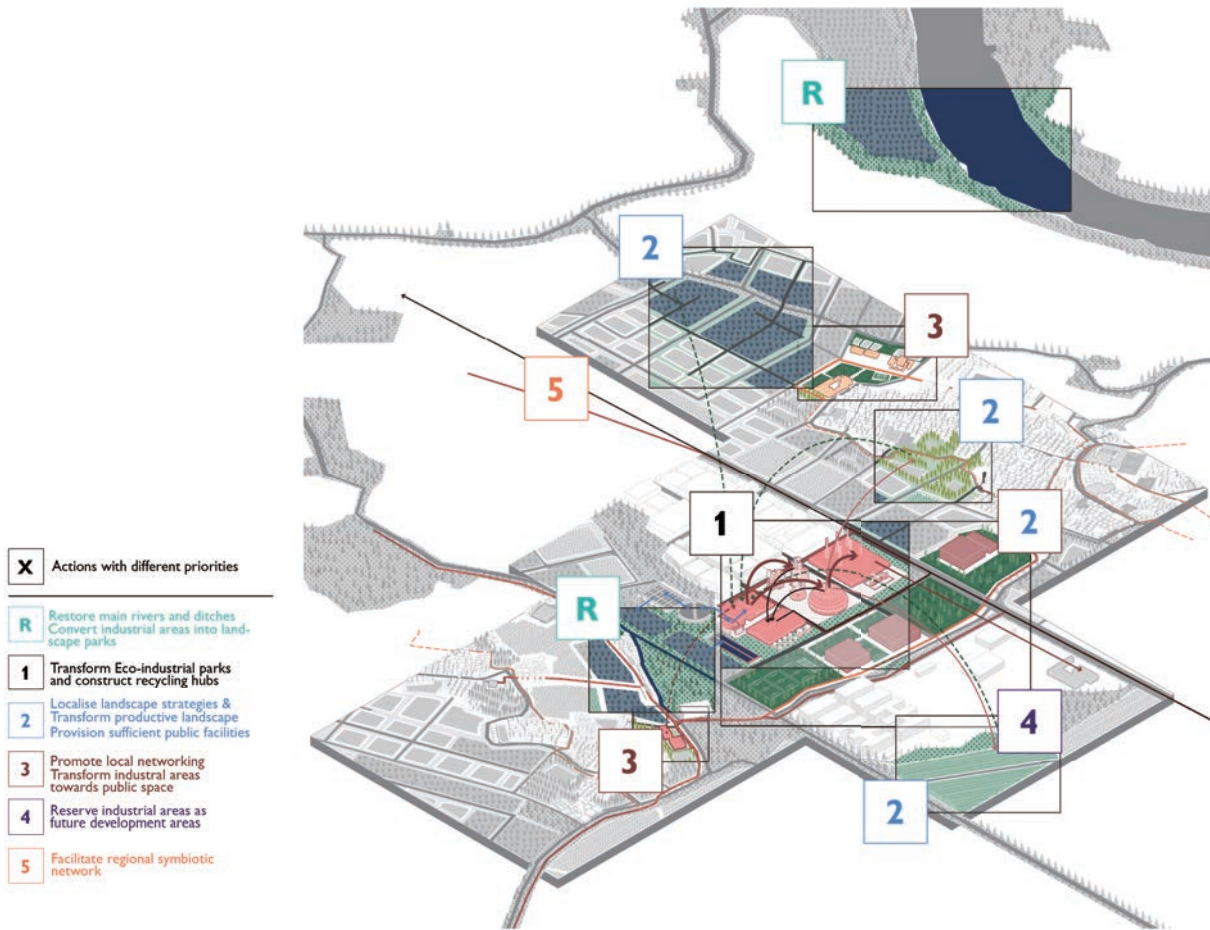
PROPOSING ACTION GUIDANCE
 - Step 04: Action Plans



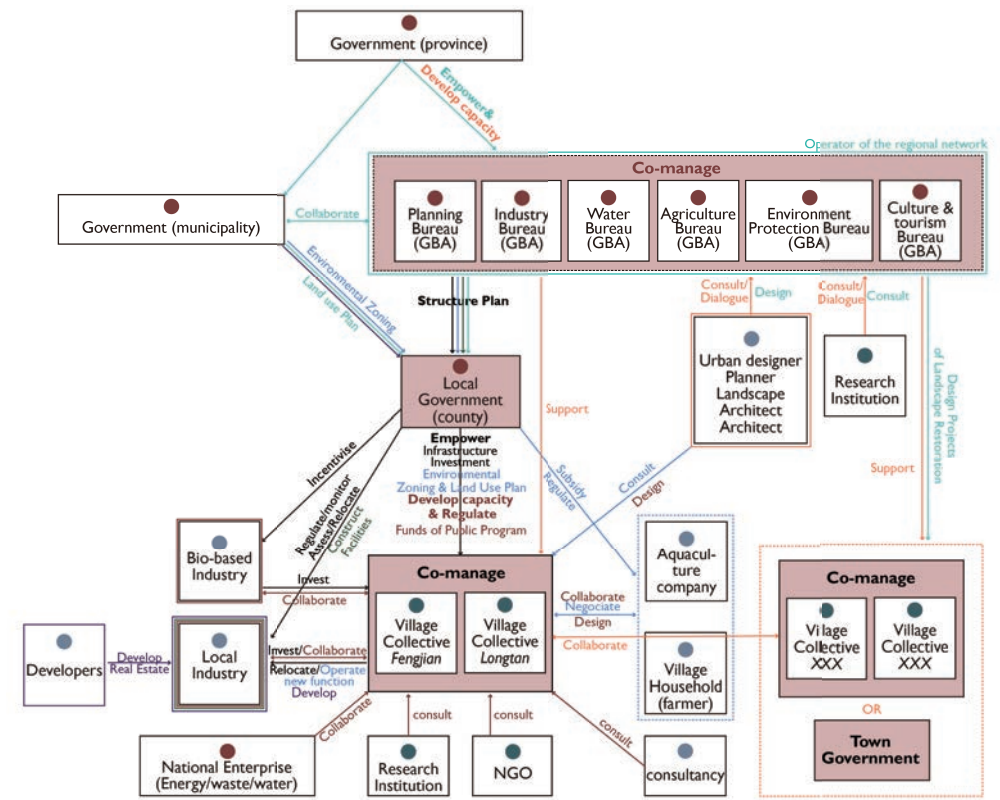
4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

PROPOSING ACTION GUIDANCE

- Step 04: Localised actions in the showcased project & Guidance for the actions of different actors with priority



- X** Actions with different priorities
- R** Restore main rivers and ditches
Convert industrial areas into landscape parks
- 1** Transform Eco-industrial parks and construct recycling hubs
- 2** Localise landscape strategies & Transform productive landscape
Provision sufficient public facilities
- 3** Promote local networking
Transform industrial areas towards public space
- 4** Reserve industrial areas as future development areas
- 5** Facilitate regional symbiotic network



4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

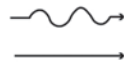
VALUING THE PROPOSED SPATIAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK - Evaluation And Answers to the Main Research Question

What are the potentials of the desakota pattern to be adapted in the proposed network of the Greater Bay Area megaregion for industry transition that supports sustainable and liveable urbanisation?

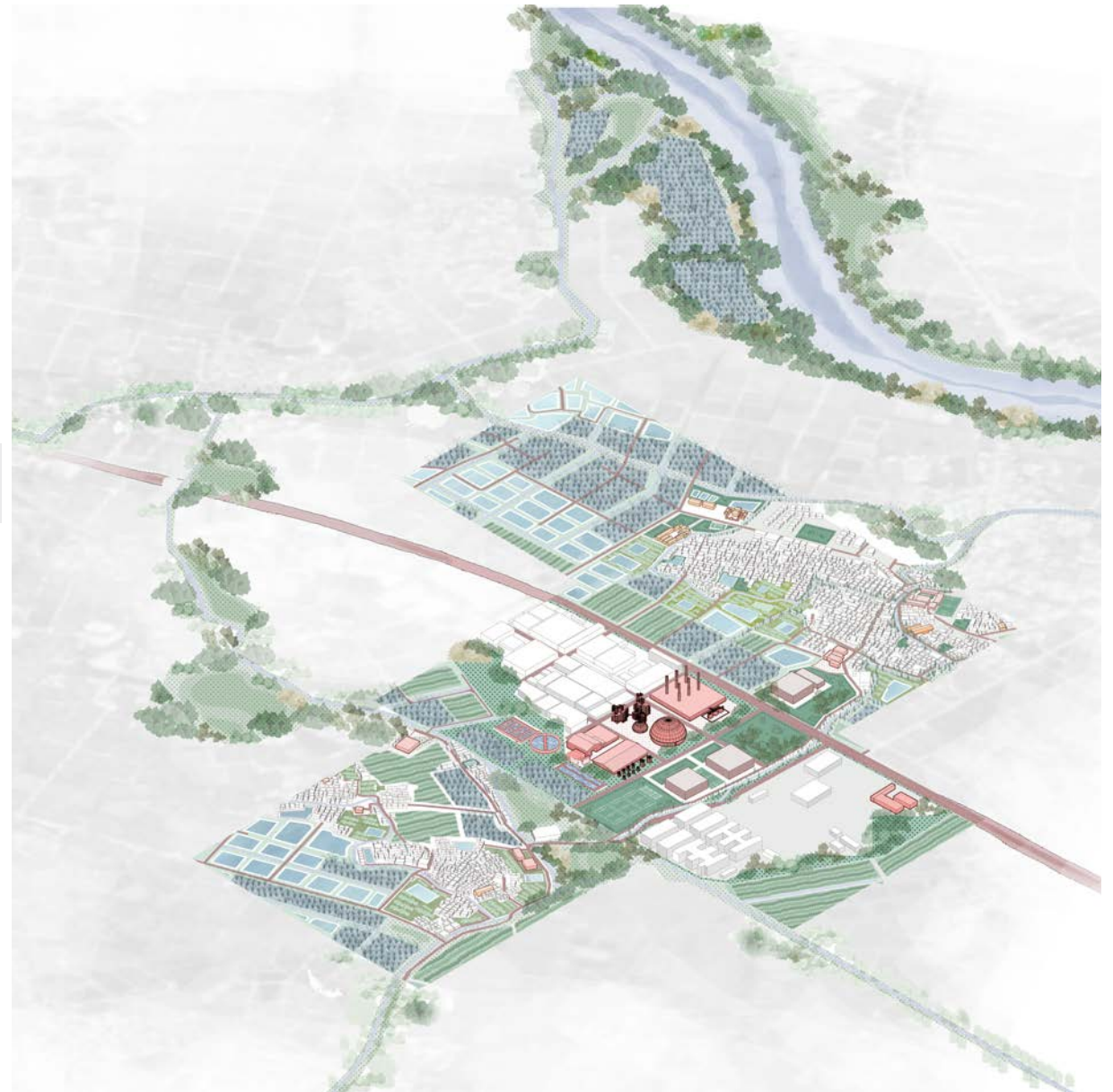
IDENTITY AND DIVERSITY



DEGREE OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY & RESOURCE EFFICIENCY



FLEXIBILITY



4. ESTABLISH a spatial planning framework to adapt this network

source: diagrams are from: Oswald, F., Baccini, P., & Michaeli, M. (2003). Netzstadt. Springer Science & Business Media.

5. FORMULATE future recommendations & REFLECT on the whole process

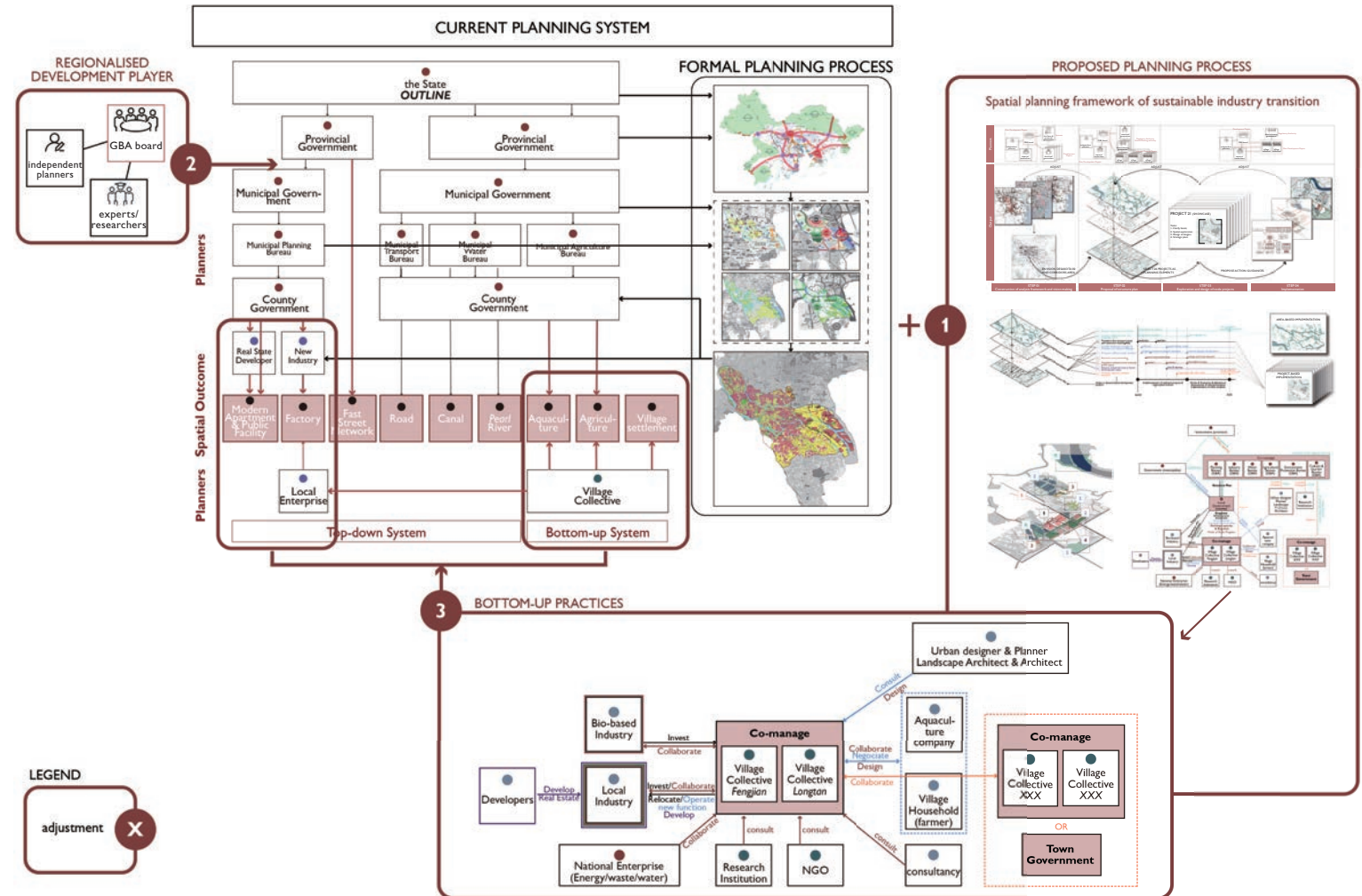
RECOMMENDATIONS

- Three Planning Recommendations to Adjust the Current Planning System

1. The recommended planning framework can be used as a special plan to promote the industrial transformation of the Desakota region, which runs parallel to formal planning documents and maintains consistency.

2. Regionalised decision-making bodies and development players, specifically the GBA board, should be empowered and pay more attention to the Desakota region.

3. The governance of the planning system should grant more autonomy to local actors at the premise of effective action guidelines and supporting formal planning processes (to prevent negative impacts from the informal practices of village collectives).



5. REFLECT on the project & FORMULATE future recommendations

REFLECTIONS

- Regarding Theory Realm

1. Apply adapted methodology combined with elemental & layer analysis (regarding data lacking);

2. Address the limitation of the Netzstadt method regarding the lack of open spaces analysis and extends its applicability beyond urban areas.

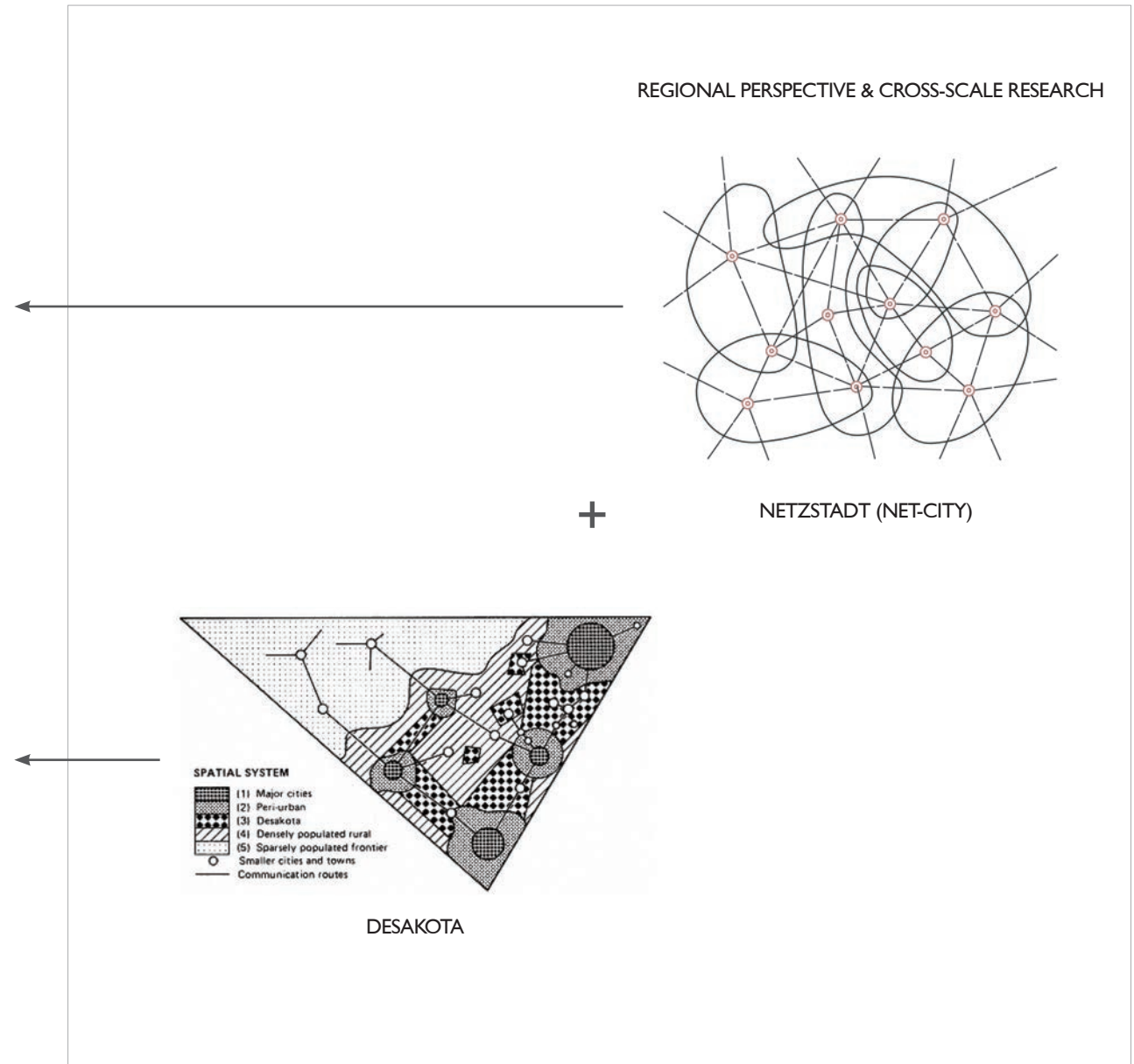
1. Propose an alternative future that considers the potential of Desakota and provide transferable knowledge (methodology, design strategy, & planning practice) to the regions with similar policy, culture and landscape condition.

2. Contribute to a finding that identifies contiguous urbanised areas evolved from Desakota traits.

3. Contribute to the spatial planning framework of Desakota that takes into account the positive role of the informal practices and propose effective regulation and guidance for these activities through regionalised governance that transcends the urban-rural dichotomy of Chinese planning system.

4. Provide a more problem-oriented and flexible planning system as a starting point. So the model proposed in this project can adapt to the different challenges through time.

5. REFLECT on the project & FORMULATE future recommendations



REFLECTIONS

- Regarding Personal Development

The role of urban planner & designer to propose the alternative futures

5. REFLECT on the project & FORMULATE future recommendations

