INVITATION LSE PBL I&M SEMINAR
THE TALE OF TWO REGIONS
A COMPARISON BETWEEN THE METROPOLITAN AREAS OF SOUTH EAST ENGLAND AND THE RANDSTAD HOLLAND

1 september 2011*

How can European cities establish a healthier metabolism, while still maintaining economic growth? How can regional authorities promote access to both jobs and green for all income groups? How should planners respond to moderate economic growth or even decline? Making metropolitan areas more viable and more sustainable requires us to connect our thinking of the regional economy with its social capital and culture. How can we make cities with a ‘regional DNA’ better? What can we learn from our neighbours?

Over a period of eighteen months, the London School of Economics, the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency and the Directorate General for National Spatial Planning of the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment (DGR) have performed research in these questions, comparing London and the Randstad. By presenting facts and figures on London and the Randstad, and by positioning them in the context of analysis and explorative thinking about what makes cities strong, we hope to inspire debate on the future of the regional metropolis.

Ricky Burdett, professor of Urban Studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science, Director of LSE Cities and the Urban Age programme, will hand over the results to the Queen’s Commissioner in the Province of Zuid-Holland Jan Franssen. In the following programme we aim to present our findings and open up a discussion on Making Cities.

Chaired by Henk Ovink, Deputy Director General and Director of National Spatial Planning at the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment.

*Participants are asked to register at: marja.jongeneel@minvrom.nl
PROGRAMME

12h00  ›  Welcome and sandwiches

12h45  ›  Moderator Henk Ovink opens

13h00  ›  Jan Franssen to accept research publication

13h15  ›  Presentations of the research highlights
  Ricky Burdett on Comparing London and the Randstad
  Wouter Vanstiphout on The death and life of great urban concepts
  Maarten Hajer on Governance in the Sustainable City

14h00  ›  Direct response to presentations by
  Jaap Modder, Chairman of the Arnhem Nijmegen City Region
  Jean Francois Guet, Research manager of CERTU
  Paul Gerretsen, Vereniging Deltametropool

14h30  ›  Forum discussion with Peter Swinnen (Vlaams Bouwmeester),
  Winy Maas (architect, landscape architect, urbanist and professor),
  Jean Francois Guet and Paul Gerretsen
  Which issues matter most? Which way forward with Dutch cities?

15h00  ›  Forum discussion with Gary Rohrbacher (Assistant Professor in Architecture,
            University of Kentucky), Pierre Laconte (Foundation for the Urban Environment
            (FFUE), European Environment Agency (EEA), Akademie der Künste (Berlin)),
            Rients Dijkstra (principal of Maxwan Architects and urbanists) Peter Swinnen and
            other ‘guest critics’/audience:
            Do we have the answers to the issues? What regional urban research is still missing?

15h30  ›  Henk Ovink concludes on research agenda and adjourns

Drinks