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A Requiem to Program-Driven Rural Land Management

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Driven by Programs

- The government reflects society
- It sets priorities
- It chooses / conceives instruments
- And applies ongoing 'technical' enhancement

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Dutch enhancements

- Request-quote declines over time (1924: 25%; 1938: 20%)
- Tenants receives rights (in 1975)
- Non-voters no longer were pro-voters (as of 1975)

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Bavarian enhancements

- Decline in decision-quota (1861: 80% of farmers, acreage, tax; 1886: 50% of farmers, acreage, tax; 1922: 33% of farmers, 50% acreage; 1954: Ministry decides, farmers manage)

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The crisis of the 1990s

- Dynamics: project goals abandoned before execution starts
- Complexity: rural challenges are not exclusively agricultural
- State of the State: new ways of government

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The wider framework

4. Rules, values and perceptions
3. Actors affecting spatial developments
2. Actors that use space
1. Physical space


Planning approach
Subject of planning
Object of planning

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Vertical vs. Horizontal

- State outside – state within
- Power – harmony
- Legal and financial – covenants
- Participation is obstruction – opportunity
- Problem starting point – one of challenges
- Linear – cyclic



Relevance to practice

- Tuning to any context may have to be replaced by fundamental reassessment
- Institutional transplantation holds danger of technical approach

