ABSTRACT
By restructured its planning system and integrating competences of land resource and water management, environmental conservation, agriculture, as well as spatial planning, under a same Ministry of Natural Resources in 2018, China ambitioned to definitively turn the page on inconsistent and sectoral planning practices. However, existing planning instruments are still linked to administrative boundaries and remain statutory and regulatory in nature, which makes them inadequate to address complex and dynamic megacity regions that span across different administrative entities. The Yangtze River Delta megacity region is the subject of an ambitious integration plan which focuses on economic coordination and urban services, however, there is still no coherent vision on its spatial development at the territorial scale. This article presents the “Jiangnan Park,” a university-led and design-driven research project focusing on the vast triangular plain between cities of Shanghai, Hangzhou, and Suzhou. Using the encompassing metaphor of regional “park” and applying the emerging method of regional design, this project combines mapping, visualization, design strategies, and workshop techniques to elaborate a development vision for this historically and ecologically sensitive area. As a pioneering case of regional design in China, this project exemplifies how the use of cross-scale and cross-sectoral collaborative methods can inform the development of integrative strategies for complex megacity regions.

KEYWORDS
Regional Design; Territorial Spatial Planning; Collaborative Design; Jiangnan Park; Yangtze River Delta; Megacity Region
1 Chinese Spatial Planning in Transformation

Since the launch of the Ecological Civilization Construction in 2012\textsuperscript{1}, the spatial planning system of China has undergone profound reforms to address the contradictions and conflicts arisen by formerly sectored and administratively segmented urban and rural planning practices. The lack of coordination generated by this bureaucratic segmentation has been manifest in inconsistent developments such as unconnected infrastructures, fragmented open space and ecosystems, and homogenizing urban and industrial patterns\textsuperscript{1}(Fig. 1). In response, the reforms undertake a shift from a complex overlap of master plans, detailed plans, and other dozens of specialized plans into an integrated “territorial planning” (i.e., “territorial spatial planning” used in Chinese official documents) at five administrative levels\textsuperscript{2}[3] (Fig. 2).

Remarkably, the competences of land resources, water management, environmental conservation, agriculture, and spatial planning that were formerly planned and governed by distinct and sometimes competing departments are since March 17, 2018 managed by the newly created Ministry of Natural Resources as integrated territorial systems\textsuperscript{4}. Focusing in particular on ecological restoration, food security, and environmental protection, the new ministry is in charge of

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\textsuperscript{1} Initially mentioned at the 17th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) in 2007, the concept of “Ecological Civilization Construction” was officially introduced as a national agenda at the 18th National Congress of CPC in 2012, before being formally included in the Constitution of China in 2018.

\textsuperscript{2} A collage of the latest master plans at the city and county levels in the Yangtze River Delta reveals the lack of coherence with regard to open space structure at the regional scale.
planning and controlling “Three Lines” of ecological redline, permanent basic farmland redline, and urban growth boundary via quantitative assessment of environmental carrying capacity and land use suitability. For the first time in China, the planning system shifts the priority from urban growth to open space conservation. However, the method of planning via strictly controlling the three bottom lines reflects the residual statutory character of the Chinese planning system, which remains strongly informed by regulatory, normative, and top-down hierarchical principles.

In addition, plans and guidelines remain essentially bound to administrative territories, while cross-boundary areas such as watersheds or nature reserves depend on the higher-level authorities. Even though it enables more coordinated and systematic approaches, the new planning system still relies on a comprehensive process that may lack flexibility when it comes to support local bottom-up, interactive planning and governance. This is particularly the case in complex and dynamic urbanized areas, such as the Yangtze River Delta (YRD) megacity region.

次将首要任务从城市开发转移至开放空间保护。但通过严格控制“三线”的规划方法也反映出中国规划系统仍然保留了原有的法定性特征——其仍受到约束性、规范性和自上而下分级规则的深刻影响。

此外，相关规划和导则在本质上仍受制于行政区划，而流域或自然保护区等跨区域的规划则依赖于更高级别的主管机构。新规划体系下的方法更为协调、系统化，但该体系的运行仍依赖于一个综合性的规划过程，这一过程在支持地方自下而上的交互式规划和治理方面可能缺乏灵活性。此类现象在长江三角洲巨型城市区等复杂而动态的城镇化地区尤其显著。

| 上级部门 | 战略性 | 全国国土空间规划 | 协调性 | 省级国土空间规划 | 专项规划 | 市级国土空间规划 | 乡镇级国土空间规划 |
|------------|--------|-------------------|--------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 全国国土空间规划的落实 | Drafting the national level spatial planning | 国家级国土空间规划 | National-level spatial planning | 省级国土空间规划 | Provincial-level spatial planning | 市级国土空间规划 | Town-level spatial planning |
| 全国国土空间规划的落实 | Implementing the national level spatial planning | 省级国土空间规划 | Provincial-level spatial planning | 市级国土空间规划 | Prefectural-level spatial planning | 乡镇级国土空间规划 | Town-level spatial planning |
| 部分规划的细化落实 | Implementing the upper level spatial planning | 部分规划的细化落实 | Drafting the lower level spatial planning | 部分规划的细化落实 | Drafting the lower level spatial planning | 部分规划的细化落实 | Drafting the lower level spatial planning |
| 专题规划 | Specialized planning | 专题规划 | Specialized planning | 专题规划 | Specialized planning | 专题规划 | Specialized planning |

2. 在新的国土空间规划体系中，中国自然资源部主导协调跨行政层级的空间规划，但对于开放空间的规划依然局限于市级的详细规划（改绘自参考文献[3]）。

2. The new territorial planning system of China confers to the Ministry of Natural Resources the leading role in coordinating spatial development across administrative levels. However, the planning of open space remains limited to detailed plans at the prefecture level (adapted from Ref. [3]).
2 Jiangnan Region: Recent Evolution and Convergence of Regional Agendas

Covering 36,900 km² and home to 60 million people, the Jiangnan region (Taihu Basin) in the YRD can be regarded as a topical case of territorial planning challenge in China. Geographically homogenous but divided between the administrations of Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Zhejiang Provinces and a multitude of cities and towns, the region has been in past decades the scene of uncoordinated urbanization and land consumption driven by sectoral, local, and short-term ambitions. As a result, from 1985 to 2015, the share of urban land cover increased from 10% to 24%[8], impacting negatively the agricultural production capacity, the ecological value of the environment[9], and the management of water resources[10] (Fig. 3).

Several policies and plans emerged in recent years to tackle such planning issues at the regional scale. In 2014, the Taihu Basin Authority of Ministry of Water Resources developed a

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2 江南地区：区域议程的演变和融合

在中国国土空间规划面临挑战的背景下，位于长三角的江南地区（即太湖流域，面积约36,900 km²，常住人口约6000万）是一个值得关注的案例。整个地区的地理特征颇为相似，行政区划上被上海、江苏和浙江三个省市的众多城镇所分割。在过去几十年中，在各部门主导、地方性和短期的规划目标驱动下，造成了不协调的城镇化和土地消耗。这一局面导致的结果是，从1985年到2015年，该地区的城市土地覆盖率由10%增长至24%[8]，对农业生产能力、环境生态价值[9]和水资源管理造成了负面影响[10]（图3）。

政府近年来出台了多项政策与计划，以期解决区域尺度的规划问题。2014年，水利部太湖流域管理局制定了包括预防性的土地利用管控在内的综合性总体规划，以保障整个区域淡水资源的生产、储存和
comprehensive master plan including preventive land-use regulations to ensure the production, storage, and supply of fresh water throughout the entire region[11]. More recently, a national-led program for the Integrated Regional Development of the Yangtze River Delta accelerated the coordination between the different parts of the YRD megacity region[12]. Initially focused on transport, energy, and urban services (education, health, tourism, etc.), the integrated plan gained a “green character” in November 2019 with a new blueprint fixing quantified objectives of environmental protection, water quality, and green coverage rate[13]. In addition, recent initiatives start to recognize and protect the cultural-historical and ecological value of the region. Literally meaning “south of the Yangtze River,” the Jiangnan region is mostly known for its lakes, canals, polders, and iconic water towns. Suzhou’s 2014 strategic plan outlined a vision of “Jiangnan Ecological Wetland and Water Town Cultural Belt” extending from Shanghai to Zhejiang through the south of Jiangsu Province. In 2018, 14 water towns from Zhejiang and Jiangsu Provinces have joined forces to collectively apply for the UNESCO World Heritage Site nomination[14].

Even though these initiatives demonstrate the interconnectedness and convergence of spatial planning, environmental protection, and heritage conservation agendas at the regional scale, they have so far not been integrated into a coordinated strategic plan. In the absence of a common vision for the future spatial development of the region, Jiangnan’s territory remains threatened by various transformational forces. Mass housing developments, large-scale transport infrastructure, and land consolidation programs for the modernization of agriculture continue to reconfigure this sensitive region regardless of its coherence as a geographical, historical, and cultural entity.

3 Jiangnan Park: Regional Design as a Method

The reform of the planning system of China represents an undeniable progress. However, its applicability in complex and dynamic megacity regions remains challenging due to the statutory and regulatory nature of its instruments, such as the rigid land-use control principle of three bottom lines.

Perhaps lessons can be drawn from Europe, where the physical environment (characterized by a highly interconnected constellation of medium-sized cities and spread urbanization) and the need to reconvert the post-industrial economy, have motivated since the late 1990s a shift from sectorial and protective regional planning approaches to the promotion of integrative and action-based spatial planning strategies across scales[15][16]. One of the important methods elaborated in this context is regional
在区域尺度，这一以设计为主导的规划方法旨在界定具体的干预措施并协助规划落地，同时有助于推动规划机构、主管部门和地方利益相关方之间的合作，为交互式治理和多层级治理提供支持。

受欧洲先例启发，江南公园项目结合了跨尺度的愿景规划和可视化方法、跨部门策略以及基于场地的协作式途径，来检视区域设计方法在长三角巨型城市区的应用潜力。该项目起始于2017年，在10余个试点场地完成了多尺度的诠释性图绘和设计迭代过程。这些探索有助于将太湖流域的中部低海拔地带打造为一个多功能的区域性公园，并推动其发展成为长三角巨型城市区的“绿心”。

### 3.1 江南地区的跨尺度愿景规划和可视化

当地居民和日常使用者通常对大尺度区域缺乏认知，这个背景下，区域设计能够提供相关的解决方案。区域设计应用了空间表征的方法来塑造一种能够重构规划框架的区域心理意象，并通过形成共同愿景来促进介于法定性规划与战略性规划之间的跨尺度实践。

Regional design primarily deals with a regional territory, either morphological, functional or institutional, and uses visions, spatial concepts or geographic imaginaries as spatial representations for developing design solutions for particular regions (Fig. 4). The design-led approach at the regional scale is aimed not only to define physical interventions and help regional planning “fall on the ground,” but also to contribute to the collaboration among planning institutions, authorities, and local stakeholders, in order to support interactive and multi-level governance.

Inspired by the European precedents, the project of Jiangnan Park tests the potential of regional design in the YRD megacity region by combining three methods: cross-scale visioning and visualization, trans-sectoral strategies, and site-based collaborative approaches. Started in 2017 and including so far more than ten pilot sites, the project consists of an iterative process of interpretive mapping and design across scales. Together, these explorations help conceptualize the central low elevation zone of the Taihu Basin as a multifunctional regional park and envision its future development as the green heart of the YRD megacity region.

### 3.1 Visioning and Visualizing the Region across Scales

Regional design is relevant for large-scale regions that are currently absent in the imagination of their inhabitants and everyday users. Using spatial representation, the aim of regional design is to elaborate collectively a mental image of
To make the Jiangnan region perceivable and to foster a more integrated approach to its planning, the project borrows the concept of “Regional Park” to envision the future of the vast triangular plain between Shanghai, Hangzhou, and Suzhou. The use of “Park” as an encompassing metaphor to frame the qualitative regeneration of an entire region has been successfully applied in several famous metropolitan or regional projects. While the Green Belts of London and Beijing are essentially based on restrictive land-use policies, other projects such as the Randstad Green Heart (Netherlands), Emscher Park (Germany), or the Salento Provincial Park (Italy) in Europe did actively involve design-led prospections in the vision-making and implementation of their development plan [21] (Fig. 5).

The Jiangnan Park project first challenges the predefined administrative boundaries of Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Zhejiang and uses interpretive mapping at three complementary scales to visualize the region. At the regional scale, mapping is used to outline 1) how the region is framed by urban agglomerations, infrastructure, and natural borders; 2) how it is characterized by distinct sub-regional landscapes; and 3) how it can be articulated and structured by landscape and

5. A structure comparison of Jiangnan Park with exemplary metropolitan and regional projects focused on the protection of open space

![Diagram showing a structure comparison of Jiangnan Park with other projects focused on the protection of open space.](image)
infrastructural elements. Then, three transects (two north-south and one east-west) based on itinerant field studies were elaborated to describe the region in terms of not only continuities and sequences, but also interruptions, contrasts, and conflicts. Finally, a series of sample areas of 5 km × 5 km and 1 km × 1 km were selected as pilot sites to conduct deeper investigations combining fieldwork, interviews, as well as collaborative strategic planning and design explorations (Fig. 6). The selection of these sites not only reflects the desire to investigate different landscape characteristics, but also results from the opportunities offered to collaborate with local authorities. Three pilot projects were implemented basing on an active collaboration with the local government: the village of Shuangwan[24], the water town of Zhenze (Suzhou, Jiangsu Province), and the town of Shimen (Jiaxing, Zhejiang Province) which is detailed in this article. Spatially distributed and focusing alternately on towns, urban-rural edges, villages or interstitial spaces, these samples offer a representative panorama of the different conditions of the Jiangnan region and their various dynamics of transformation.

3.2 Defining Thematic Programs

The Jiangnan Park project looks at space as an integrator of multiple functions. Instead of conventional sectoral divisions, the design examined the Jiangnan area according to five overlapping thematic programs of Parkways, Productive Park, Inhabited Park, Park for Nature, and Cultural Park. For each theme, existing policies, data, and trends were screened, represented spatially in posters, and then turned into design questions and challenges (Fig. 7). Rather than resisting change, the purpose of questioning the territory is to investigate how the various transformational forces impacting the region can be dynamically aligned and balanced with the preservation and reinforcement of the unique productive, ecological, social, and cultural qualities of the Jiangnan landscape.

Specifically, Parkways explore how the existing networks of transport infrastructures (roads, canals, railways, etc.) in the...
励非机动车出行。生产性公园探讨了如何将江南地区的农业和制造业活动与当地的景观品质、居民的专业技术和需求相协调。栖居的公园探讨了如何重新配置传统和新兴的人居模式（类型、肌理等），与不断变化的周边景观形成更加丰富的互动。自然的公园这个主题则讨论了如何将影响该地区的大规模空间变化作为机遇加以利用，来恢复、提升和创造栖息地和生态系统。文化的公园则意在结合江南地区精致的生活方式和文化遗产（绘画、手工艺、音乐、建筑、美食、民俗等），引导历史保护区以外地区的空间发展。

3.3 基于场地的协作方法

与试点场地的利益相关方建立密切合作是区域设计的另一大特点。2019年8月，项目团队在石门镇举办了一场为期9天的高效率跨学科设计工作坊，参与者包括来自不同学科的专家和学生。在前期的交流中，地方政府官员和地方专家阐释了石门镇规划工作面临的挑战以及目标，随后工作坊成员前往多个典型地区进行了实地考察；通过中期汇报与评图，提出该地区在不同尺度下的设计问题和设计概念；在接下来的几天中，组织方专门在其中一个村庄举办了一次参与性的社区工作坊，并对试点场地的战略规划进行了完善。工作坊的最终成果对公众进行了开放展示，并组织学界和业界的专家共同参与了同期举办的国际论坛（图8）。

4 江南公园划定与设计

在空间层面上，项目通过三种互补的方式对江南公园进行了划定（图9）。首先，江南公园的空间边界包括山脉和湖岸等自然元素及基础设施界线，在局部地区与城市边界线重合——这些城市边缘地带若成为大型区域公园的空间框架，就要求规划人员在未来生态、农业和城市用地红线的划定工作中将其视作高品质的交互空间界面（而非刻板的技术边界）来精心设计。其次，江南公园所在的三角洲低海拔地带分布了独特的、多样化的圩田景观。圩田系统承载的景观形态是这一地区的共同基底，正因如此，这些细致的景观肌理和有机拼接的空间模式与周边按照严格分区且呈规则网格式的城市结构形成了鲜明的对

Jiangnan region can be reconfigured to enhance a multiplicity of scenic experiences and encourage soft mobility. Productive Park explores how Jiangnan's agricultural and manufacturing activities can be reconciled with the qualities of its landscape and the know-how and aspirations of its inhabitants. Inhabited Park explores how traditional and emerging settlement patterns (types, fabrics, etc.) can be reconfigured in order to develop richer interplays with their (transforming) surrounding landscape. Park for Nature explores how the massive spatial transformations affecting the region can be used as opportunities to restore, reinforce, and create habitats and ecosystems. Cultural Park explores how Jiangnan’s refined lifestyle and culture heritage (as expressed in paintings, crafts, music, architecture, food, folklore, etc.) can inform the spatial development of the region beyond the boundaries of protected historic areas.

3.3 Site-Based Collaborative Approach

A third particularity of the method resides in close collaborations with local stakeholders in a series of pilot sites. In August 2019, a nine-day intensive interdisciplinary design workshop involving experts and students from various disciplines took place in Shimen Town.

A first exchange during which local government officials and local experts explained the planning challenges and objectives of the town was followed by fieldwork in different representative areas; a mid-term review exposed design questions and concepts for the area at different scales; the following days were dedicated to a participatory community workshop in one of the villages and to the refinement of the design strategies. The workshop was concluded with a final presentation open to the public and an international seminar involving experts from academia and practice (Fig. 8).

4 Defining and Designing Jiangnan Park

Spatially, the Jiangnan Park area can be defined in three complementary ways (Fig. 9). First, it is framed by physical borders, including natural elements such as mountains and lakeshores, infrastructure lines, and more or less consolidated urban edges. To envision these urban edges as the frames of a large regional park is an invitation for planners to conceive the future red lines delineating ecological, agriculture, and urban land not as inert technical borders, but as qualitative interfaces to be carefully designed. Second, the area of Jiangnan Park is characterized by a diversified polder landscape that corresponds to the lower elevation zone of the delta. The polder system can be seen as the common denominator underpinning the
morphology of the area, explaining the fine-grained and organic mosaic spatial patterns that contrast with the strictly zoned and regularized grid structure of the surrounding cities. Third, the area is cut by a few continuous linear elements, such as the Taipu Canal and the Grand Canal. Crossing the area from border to border and endowed with a significant historical and symbolic value, these major canals have the potential to serve as spines to articulate, unify, and give structure to the entire area — similarly to the Emscher Canal in the park of the same name.

Complementarily to the spatial definition, Jiangnan Park can also be defined functionally as the green and slow counterpoint of the hectic megacity surrounding it. Drawing on its historic role as food producer for the region, Jiangnan Park can today be...
态和休闲农业的价值，但在具体的实施过程中往往流于形式。地方总体规划中的绿化方案往往仅为简单照搬国外田园乡村景观的小型人工湿地或农业示范园等设计项目，未能体现当地的景观和历史特征。鉴于此，江南公园项目中的大多数试点项目都旨在传达生产性景观的美学价值，以展现其季节性变化的同时提升地方特色。此外，项目还利用了一系列风景道路将这些特色景观串联起来，形成覆盖整个地区的主题游览路线。

通过以上在江南地区的探索可以发现，该区域的动态转型以及设计在其中发挥的作用逐渐明朗。在过去十年中，江南地区实施了各类大体量项目，包括道路修建、农田整合，以及出于规范性和未经协调的规划下的村庄拆除和重建。针对这类既有改造实践（例如，新建的省道将村庄一分为二），设计干预措施可以帮助恢复历史景观与其当代用途之间的对话。而对于正处在规划阶段的改造实践，可以通过前瞻性的设计策略协调统筹各项议程，以探索实现自然保护、遗产保护、非机动车出行等多目标的解决方案。

5 石门镇设计策略——江南地区的典型样本

2019年8月，项目团队在石门镇举办了协作式设计工作坊，这也是所有试点项目中最新的一次地方性探索。石门镇位于江南公园的中心地带，其所面临的挑战在该地区颇具代表性。工作坊成员对分别位于镇域中心和乡村地区的两个5km×5km的样本区进行了调查，并在1km×1km的局部放大区完成了更详细的设计干预。历史悠久的石门古镇中心曾因地处京杭大运河河弯地而发展壮大，但如今却随着商业的

re-conceptualized as the “green heart” of Shanghai, Suzhou, and Hangzhou, supplying their nearly 60 million inhabitants with additional resources such as clean water and air, and occasional nature getaways. While the values of ecology and agro-tourism have been widely adopted by local government plans, these have generally been implemented superficially. Rather than featuring elements of the local landscape and history, the green program of local masterplans in many cases consists of small constructed wetlands or agricultural demonstration parks inspired by imported clichés of pastoral countryside. In response, most of the pilot projects in the Jiangnan Park project set out to reveal the beauty of the productive landscape, to celebrate its seasonal changes, and to enhance local distinctions. In addition, a series of parkways can be imagined to interconnect characteristic landscapes as thematic routes across the region.

Finally, the explorations in the Jiangnan region have generated insights on the dynamics transforming the region and on the role of design. Over the past decade, the region has been the scene of massive projects for new roads, farmland consolidation, and the demolition and reconstruction of villages dictated by normative and (most often) uncoordinated agendas. When these transformations have been carried out — such as villages cut in two by new provincial roads — design interventions can help restore a dialogue between the historic landscape and its contemporary uses. Where transformations are still in the planning phase, prospective design strategies can orchestrate the alignment of agendas in order to foster synergistic solutions serving multiple purposes for nature, heritage conservation, soft mobility, etc.

5 Design Strategies for Shimen Town — A Representative Jiangnan Locality

Organized in August 2019, the collaborative design workshop in Shimen Town was the latest local exploration in a series of pilot projects. Situated in the heart of the Jiangnan Park, Shimen and the challenges it faces are representative of many localities of the region. Two 5 km × 5 km samples, focusing respectively on the urban core and the rural part of the township, were investigated and complemented by more detailed design interventions on a 1 km × 1 km zoom area. The historic town center, which developed on a bend of the Grand Canal, is today deserted by business and by the younger population who moved out to larger cities. In addition, cultural tourism struggles to grow because of the competition with more famous water towns located nearby — such as Wuzhen or Xinshi. In response, the strategy elaborated in collaboration with the local authorities
aims to revitalize Shimen as an attractive place to live in and to position it as a node within a regional network of cultural attractions.

The main proposal at the first 5 km × 5 km scale is to requalify the banks of the Grand Canal and its branches as a spine of public spaces that rearticulates the dispersed fragments of neighborhoods. In the archipelago of small islands that constitute the heart of the old town, a loop of public spaces connects...
cultural and educational facilities, while the emblematic bended waterfront on the Grand Canal is redesigned as a place for cultural exchanges, animated by floating facilities and a cruise terminal — repositioning Shimen as a halt and gateway to the Jiangnan Park (Fig. 10).

A second 5 km × 5 km sample focused on the agricultural area north of Shimen. This area is currently at the heart of a vast land consolidation program, through which old settlements are gradually demolished to reclaim farmland for diverse crop fields and orchards. The “Home in the Fields” project proposes to maintain a selection of historically and spatially interesting hamlets as the support of an integrated and authentic model of agro-tourism. Identified with the type of agriculture surrounding them, the settlements are redefined as thematic villages: “kiwi village,” “blueberry village,” “peach village,” etc. (Fig. 11). Forming together a colorful patchwork of characteristic landscapes that varies seasonally, the thematic villages in the fields are in addition crossed by parkways linking the neighboring water towns and attractions.

Presented and discussed with the local residents and authorities during a final forum, the proposals aimed firstly to raise the awareness of Shimen Town as a component of a larger and cohesive territory. The planning of localities should no longer aim for self-sufficiency or engage in competing rivalries with neighboring townships, but rather set up complementary alliances across scales. The design explorations in both the town center and the rural contexts illustrate how local needs can be addressed from the new perspectives offered by a reframing and a repositioning of Shimen as a contributor to a regional Jiangnan Park project. Conversely, the local exploration conducted in Shimen contributes, together with former pilot projects in different parts of the region, to an accumulated insight into local resources and needs. If carried out systematically, such exploratory process can inform planning decisions at the regional level from the bottom up.

6 Conclusion

The project of Jiangnan Park can be seen as a pioneering experiment of regional design in China. By visualizing the common grounds of a region and by revealing the collective aspirations of its people, regional design appears as a strategic method to catalyze the objectives of integration fostered by the recent reform of Chinese spatial planning. Yet, its implementation in China raises a number of questions.

First, why is regional design relevant in the realm of Chinese territorial planning? As the mentioned above, although the new
系统依然划分五个行政实施层级，以及通过三条控制线严格划定土地用途等。根据在江南地区的实践经验，区域尺度的共同愿景以及基于场地的空间策略可以与分级的法定规划系统交织并行、相互补充，从而使整个规划体系变得更加丰富和灵活。此外，江南公园项目中以五个主题计划形式试行的跨部门途径，可在不同尺度上对各个场地进行统一的解读和分析，进而推动生成综合性的战略规划方案。但是，考虑到规划从业者数十年以来一直在相互独立的系统中接受培训和进行实践，这种跨尺度和跨学科的规划方法颇具挑战性。

其次，愿景规划、可视化和设计技术如何助益巨型城市区的感知与规划？在本文展示的探索性项目中，将江南地区作为“公园”的隐喻有效地明确了江南文化的共同价值，并在当地规划人员、专家和镇级政府官员之间建立了共同的愿景。然而事实证明，尽管团队利用地图、拼贴画和模型等可视化材料向当地居民展示设计理念，但是这种正式的项目汇报式的沟通收效甚微。而试点项目的经验表明，在当地居民日常生活的场所举办非正式的社区工作坊，更有利于促成与居民的互动对话。另一个经验是，如果仅从字面意义上来解读当前中国绿地系统规划中的“公园”一词，不免会将其仅仅理解为城市绿色空间。公园作为一个隐喻，不足以涵盖和架构整个区域的高品质更新。为避免歧义，可考虑用“大都市景观”一词来代替“公园”。

最后，应该由谁来发起和委托区域设计项目？谁又能领导和协调整个项目流程？作为一项典型的跨国地区工作，区域设计的成功实施需要所有利益相关方的积极参与。笔者认为，由自然资源部新成立的各个地方机构（即使它们受到行政边界的限制）具有主导这样的跨省合作的潜能。最后，对区域设计方法的探索要求设计团队具备分析、沟通和设计的能力。
沟通和设计的综合能力。由此带来的对新技能的需求，应在规划机构和设计公司的工作模式中，以及在中国高等教育的设计和规划学科中予以关注，同时需鼓励跨学科交流，并改变将设计作为产品的传统观念，而应将其视为一个过程。LAF

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前一个时期的合作为新技能的培养提供了基础，而应将其视为一个过程。landscape Architecture Frontiers / Views & Criticisms

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