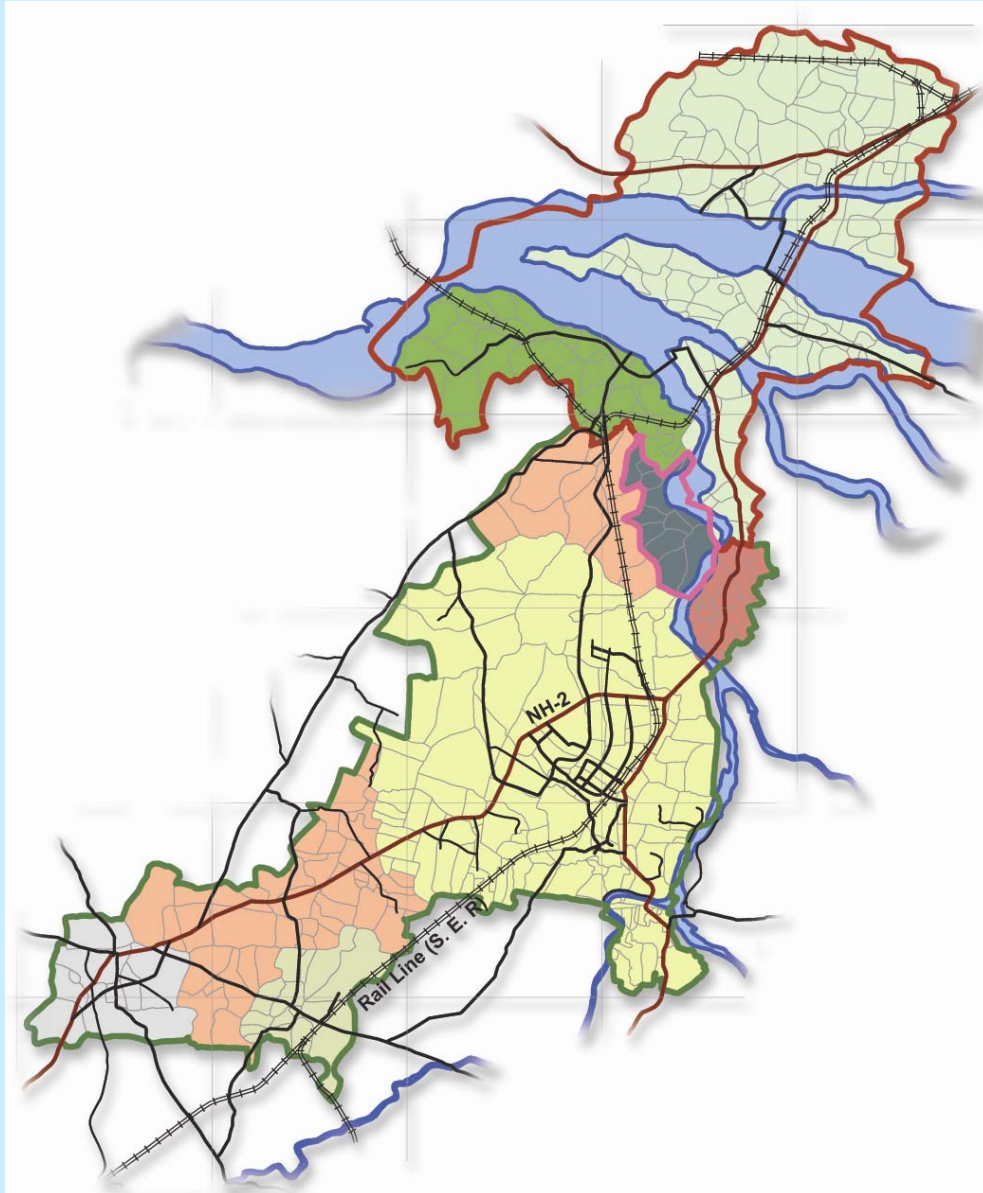


Perspective Plan – VISION 2030 and Comprehensive Development Plan
for Bhubaneswar – Cuttack Urban Complex:
A Concept Paper



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Background

The Government of Orissa under the **Orissa Technology Mission** initiated a proposal towards making a Development Plan for their Capital Region. This was followed by an interactive process between **Department of Architecture & Regional Planning IIT Kharagpur** and Government of Orissa. Eventually, a memorandum of understanding was signed where The Housing and Urban Development Department, Government of Orissa assigned the task of preparing Perspective Plan Vision 2030 and Comprehensive Development Plan for Bhubaneswar - Cuttack Urban Complex, to the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning IIT Kharagpur, for the holistic and integrated development for the region. This concept paper is being initiated to invite inputs from the stakeholders as a first step towards participatory planning process.

Planning Region

Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Urban Complex comprises two major urban centers namely Cuttack, the erstwhile state capital and Bhubaneswar, the present state capital. The former is a traditional Indian town organically developed over time, while the latter was conceived as a modern new town based on neighborhood planning concept by the internationally acclaimed urban planner, Otto. H. Koenigsbarger. In and around Bhubaneswar and Cuttack, few Class II and Class III towns have flourished having strategic importance in the functioning of the Bhubaneswar – Cuttack Urban Complex, namely Khurda, Jatani and Choudwar. The total planning area stretches over an area of 720 sq. km. with a total population of 1.58 million (Census, 2001)

Cuttack, with an area of 195 sq.km and population of 0.64 million, had been the nerve center for trade and commerce for the state. The port of Paradeep, located 70 kms away from the city of Cuttack provides an excellent opportunity as industrial destination based on port transshipment functions. It has been noticed that during the last decade the growth of Cuttack city is slow due to its spatial restrictions on its future growth directions as well as its unplanned city structure.

The Bhubaneswar region, conceived after independence, has experienced tremendous growth. Administrative and institutional activities have contributed to the increase in the volume of trade and commerce activity.

Bhubaneswar, well connected with the city of Cuttack (30 kms) through rail and road linkages (NH-5 and Howrah-Chennai Rail route), has tremendous potential to act as a complimentary growth center to Kolkata in the Eastern Region for trade and commerce. Moreover, the ancient temples and religious monuments dating from 3rd century B.C. to 15th century A.D. as well as the proximity to the historical cities of Puri and Konark offers tremendous opportunity to develop Bhubaneswar – Cuttack Urban Complex as a strategic node for tourist destinations. The emergence of new academic and other institutional activities, corporate functions will further add to this growth momentum. In 2001, the population of Bhubaneswar was 0.74 million, housing nearly 11 percent of the urban population in the State. The city having an area of 332 sq.km, is bounded by River Daya and River Kuakha in the south and west respectively. Nandan Kanan, a famous wild life sanctuary is located in the north of the city, whereas reserve forests lie on the west.

The present and future of Bhubaneswar – Cuttack Urban Complex is intertwined with the level of overall development of the state. A brief look into the demographic and socio-economic profile of the state

indicates that this state is one of the least urbanized among the major states of India (14.7 % of the state population resides in urban areas). 70 percent of the state population is engaged in agrarian activities. However, the state has the third lowest population growth rate among all the states. The literacy rate is marginally lower than the national mark.

Development of Bhubaneswar – Cuttack Urban Complex, if efficiently and equitably managed, will trigger collateral development of its adjoining hinterland, which in turn would help raise the level of overall welfare in this part of the region.

The anticipated growth in the coming years with their physical manifestation and growing urban population are likely to exert tremendous pressure on the existing resources, necessitating planned interventions in the region.

Significance of the study area

- ❑ Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Urban Complex being the hub of commercial, political, administrative and socio-cultural activities of Orissa has a rich potential for development.
- ❑ Recording a relatively high urban growth, this urban complex plays an important role in bringing economic as well as social development for the state and the region.
- ❑ During past decades, Bhubaneswar Cuttack region served as the nerve centre of ideas, actions, governance, business, industry, education, health, sports and culture. It is also an important centre of tourism embracing cultural heritage relating to three important religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism) and spreads the message of secularism for the rest of the world.
- ❑ Endowed with natural setting, this region is also linked with rich Bio-diversity of the state as well as the Nation.
- ❑ The per capita state domestic product in 1998-99 was Rs.5,264 compared to the national average of Rs. 9,647 (at 1993-94 prices).

With such background and potentialities for development, this region stands at a major crossroad. The Perspective Plan Vision document and CDP will thus be an attempt to analyse such vital issues and frame realistic guidelines and action plans for achieving a balanced and planned development.

VISION-2030

The Vision for the planning area perceived around the following core ideas:

1. Cuttack and Bhubaneswar as twin cities in COMPLEMENTARY role.
2. Transformation of the Bhubaneswar - Cuttack Urban Complex to a world class urban centre as an important gate way for national and international investments.
3. Promotion of cultural, built and natural heritage in a sustainable manner.

The road map to achieve the vision will include the following;

- ❑ To generate higher service facilities for attracting various developmental activities, investors and industrial houses.
- ❑ To generate facilities and activities to support small investor, informal sectors and slum inhabitants and rural migrants
- ❑ To improve the Transport Network system for faster communication and high standard linkages between the growth centers and their rural hinterlands.
- ❑ To provide decent housing for all sections of people living in the region
- ❑ To transform the whole region to a pollution free zone with conservation of bio- diversity and environment.
- ❑ To manage the natural and human resources for followed development.

- To frame land policies and development proposals for eradicating bottlenecks for future development.
- To formulate a Disaster Management Policies to tackle natural hazards.
- To provide high levels of physical and social infrastructure ensuring safe drinking water, improved sanitation, well distributed education, health, recreation and cultural facilities.
- To convert the region to a learning and cultural centre for the state as well as nation.
- To transform the region to a hub of tourism through preserving and promoting the rich cultural heritage, with high standard facilities and convenience.
- To design an effective development control mechanism with a high value of public serviceability.
- To reenergize the institutional and administrative system to manage future urban development in the region.

Suggestive Projects

- Zones for multiplex, Retail-malls and theme parks for outdoor recreation
- Film city development with ample natural resources and back up from Orissan film industry with necessary infrastructure
- Logistic Hub for the prime urban centers
- Textile parks with cottages and medium scale industries for local specialized weaving art.
- Development of another major Railway Station, to cater to the trains for Western Orissa
- Circular Trains for cheaper mass transportation within urban areas
- Upgrading the existing Airport for tourists and higher officials for government and private sectors in the capital city
- Multi level Freeways for better accessibility with all roadside modern facilities (Private Sector participation)
- World Class Club-towns
- Flood management plan for Cuttack with innovative technology (Venice Model)
- Garland Lake System to develop and protect the water bodies in the region
- Major organized open spaces like, urban squares, ceremonial / recreational grounds, and permanent fair grounds as image developers
- Health city/ Education city/ Software parks etc (new urban districts)
- Waterfront development with landscape conservation
- Travel Circuit (Architecture/Archeology/Religious) with facilities like “Palace on Wheels” for international and national tourists
- “Utkal Sanskriti Prangan” – A representational centre of traditional art and culture, craft, cuisine, living style, fair and facilities of Orissa at Bhubaneswar.
- Development of Traditional Art Village (Paper/Cloth/Silver/Pottery) in the line of “Arts Acre” in the peri-urban areas of Bhubaneswar
- Adventure tourism for Reserve forest/ Nature Study camp areas for rare natural species zone
- Development of Nature Corridors –to provide a feel of flora and fauna in the urban setup
- Area development of Lingaraj temple and Bindu Sagar with new allied activities

Development Goals

- ❑ Socially Beneficial
- ❑ Regionally Contextual
- ❑ Environmentally sustainable
- ❑ Financially Viable
- ❑ Institutionally Executable
- ❑ Politically Acceptable

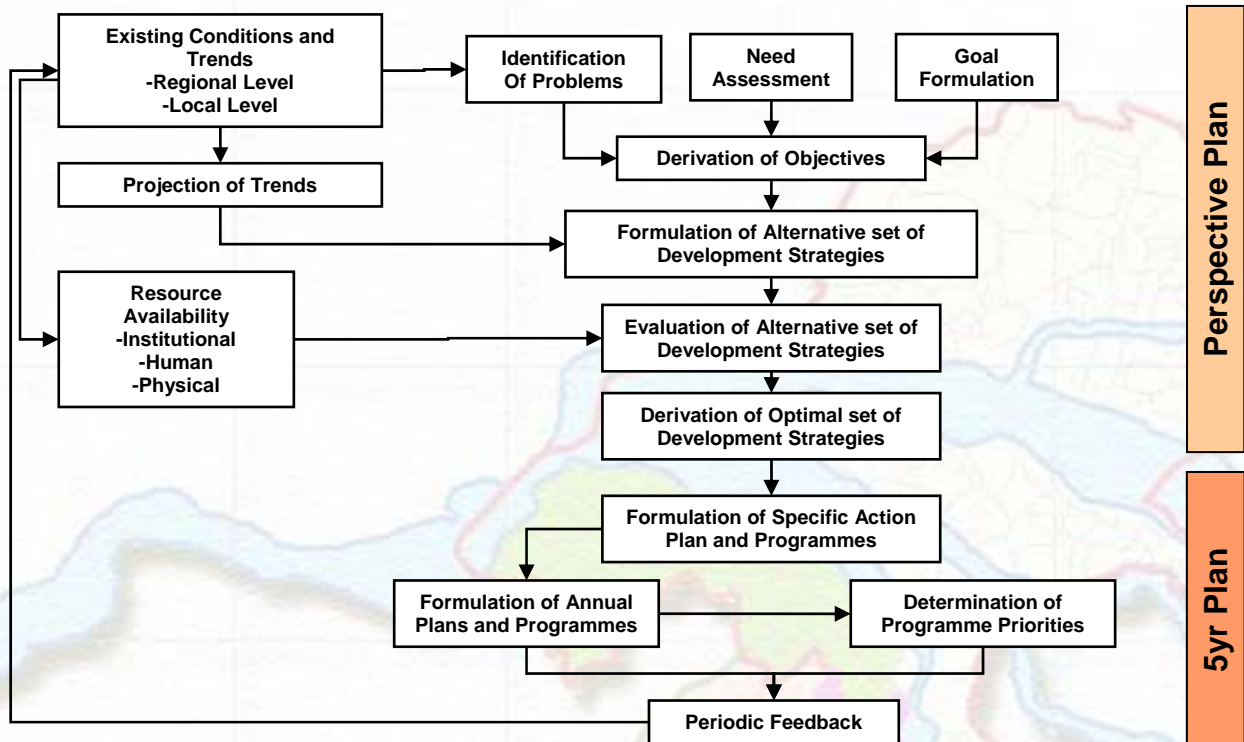
Contents of Perspective Plan

- Existing characteristics and potentials of region
 - Settlement Systems
 - Demography
 - Economic Base and Employment
 - Resource and Environmental Sustainability
 - Physical and Social Infrastructure
 - Housing and Slums
- Identification of policy issues through Participatory Approach
- Projected requirements and assessment of deficiencies
- Evaluation of alternative set of Development Strategies
- Future Growth Direction
- Investment Programmes and Priorities
- Development Management and Capacity Building

Contents of Comprehensive Development Plan

- Translation of broad level strategies into implementable medium term planning proposals
- Further necessary details and intended actions in form of strategies and physical proposals for various policies given in the Perspective Plan
- Elaboration on
 - Identification of the thrust areas
 - Phasing of development
 - Implementation strategies
 - Resource mobilization
 - Prioritization of the development initiatives
 - Generating awareness on benefits of development

Conceptual Framework



Major Stakeholders

- The People
- Govt. of Orissa, Directorate of Town Planning
- Bhubaneswar Development Authority
- Cuttack Development Authority
- Municipalities and Corporations
- Zilla Parishads
- District Functionaries
- Representatives of Industries and Chamber of Commerce
- Foreign Investors
- Representatives of NGOs and CBOs
- Other Government Departments – GSI, ASI, IMD, ORSAC etc
- Interest Groups like BDA, CDA, Directorate of T&CP
- Developers & Entrepreneurs
- Government Departments
- Administrators & Judiciaries
- Funding Agencies
- N.G.O's & Academic Institutions
- Eminent Experts – Technocrats, Scientists, Intellectuals

❑ Media

❑ IIT Kharagpur – Planning Consultant

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