The Globalisation of Landscape Planning CARL STEINITZ

Carl Steintz, Professor, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, United States of America. Email: steinitz@gsd.harvard.edu Many devices which work on a small scale do not work on a large scale. (Galileo)

Using a case study, this paper examines the following questions: Who should make a landscape plan? At which scales? For whom? At the local level? At the regional level? At the global level? At all levels? Simultaneously? How?

Global, regional and local aspects of landscape planning are very different. Each band needs different education, different styles of working, different knowledge and different experience, albeit with fuzzy boundaries and overlapping issues and characteristics.

If you think only globally, you and your landscape plans can become authoritarian. And if you see it only locally, it can be chaotic. The balancing concept, the thing that allows people to act locally, nationally and globally, is the idea of risk.

From my experiences, I recommend that you consider action in the middle range, at the regional level. It may be the most complicated level of landscape planning, because you will need to be influenced both by global and local issues.