

AR2U090 Methodology for Urbanism

Exercise 4

Connecting questions and methods

1. What are objectives of Q3? (You can derive them from the booklet and even from the title of Q3)
2. What is the main research question addressed by Q3? (This is a very general question. Examples: How to steer the development of region X towards a sustainable flood-free future? What are spatial strategies and designs that will enhance the competitiveness of region Y?)

** Note: It is too early in Q3 to formulate a definite research question. This is only an exercise. As you go along the quarter and develop an understanding of the task and the region, your research question will change!*

3. What are possible sub-research questions that will help clarify aspects of the main research question?

If you take a question like: What are spatial strategies and designs that will enhance the competitiveness of region Y. Sub-research questions are needed to clarify the main question.

For example:

- a. What is region Y? (basic characteristics like area, population, etc)
 - b. What are the main physical and economic trends in region Y?
 - c. What are main demographic and economic trends in region Y?
 - d. What are spatial strategies and designs that boost competitiveness in other regions?
 - e. What are the components of a spatial strategy?
- Etc. (you only need three sub research questions for this exercise)
4. Can you connect actions to each sub research question?

For example:

- b. What are the main physical and economic trends in region Y?
 - Mapping the region (be specific. Mapping what and how? Cities, infrastructure, main facilities, using CAD base-maps provided by the Province of X)

- **Looking into economic trends in numbers (main statistical indicators at CBS.nl. Which indicators?)**
- **Interviewing key actors (Say who: policy makers, designers, representatives of civil society)**
- **Site visit with photographic documentation**
- **Etc etc etc...**
- **Can you think of non-traditional tools that could be used here? What are designerly tools we could use?**