Dealing with developments after the Spatial Planning Key Decision process of “Room for the River” A case study research about Kampen and Zutphen

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The municipalities of Kampen and Zutphen have used public participation as input for their latest changes of regional plans. These changes in plans were inspired by developments and plans that could be exchanged with measures that were included in the Spatial Planning Key Decision (SPKD) ‘Room for the River’. In the new ideas the reservation of areas on the long run is not longer necessary. As a result urban and infrastructure developments are possible at the short term (before 2015). The project in Kampen meets the preconditions and therefore the plan has a good opportunity to be exchanged with the approved SPKD plan. The plan of Zutphen doesn’t meet the terms of reference. That leads to discussion between the Ministry of Spatial Planning, Housing and the Environment and the Ministry of Traffic, Public works and Water Management. The former prefers more flexibility about the terms of reference. The latter is reserved because it might lead to uncontrolled developments in other Space for the River projects. Before the 1st of January 2009, the latest, the government will decide if the municipality plans will be exchanged. In this study the process, society, instruments and technology of the plan have been analyzed. Within these categories, points of interest and solutions are formulated. One of the conclusions of the research is that the coordination between spatial planning and water management could be improved, for instance because of lacks in application of general instruments and concepts.