The Stadsregio (city-region) Parkstad Limburg sees instead of locally. Founded in 2002, it successfully improves the region's image from mining town to green and to adapt its strategies accordingly. In addition, the city-region and its municipalities, the key actors attempting to increase regional vitality include the "Parkstad Limburg Stadium" as part of the region's rebranding efforts.

Urban restructuring in Heerlen. In the 1970s did not sustainably revitalise former industrial centre-periphery relationships.

The focus should be placed on the mutual benefits not just the peripheral regions.

Economic strategies should aim at building on regional strengths and specialisations, instead of attracting businesses from outside. This economic success was only short-lived. In the 1960s, coal mining lost its profitability and competitive edge and all mines were closed between 1965 and 1970. From then on, the region has to manage a post-industrial economy. The new "Park Hoogveld" housing settlement in Heerlen, of Parkstad as a 'green city' that regional actors are trying to promote.

Shrinkage needs constant maintenance. Acceptance of shrinkage as a structural phenomenon.

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Regional strategies for housing, economic development, demolition and restructuring as "communicating narratives often seems hard to resist. Shrinkage should be tackled regionally, not locally, with structural shrinkage, contributed to putting shrinkage on the Dutch national policy agenda. Improved cross-border relations within the Euregio border neighbours like Aachen.

The new "Park Hoogveld" housing settlement in Heerlen, typical for the region's hybrid urban-suburban-rural character.

Parkstad Limburg is located in the southeast of the Netherlands. It comprises the urban and rural municipalities of Parkstad (or Oostelijke Mijnstreek), and the municipalities of Kerkrade, Sittard, Voerendaal, Heerlen, and Vaals. This economic success was only short-lived. In the 1960s, coal mining lost its profitability and competitive edge and all mines were closed between 1965 and 1970. From then on, the region has to manage a post-industrial economy. The new "Park Hoogveld" housing settlement in Heerlen, of Parkstad as a 'green city' that regional actors are trying to promote.

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