



Light House Projects Ghent



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Co-funded by the European Union



The Ghent Light Plans

Aim: valorisation of the city by light

- creating a pleasant atmosphere and safety
- reducing energy consumption
- reducing light pollution
- designed to emphasize the introvert, sober characteristics of the city





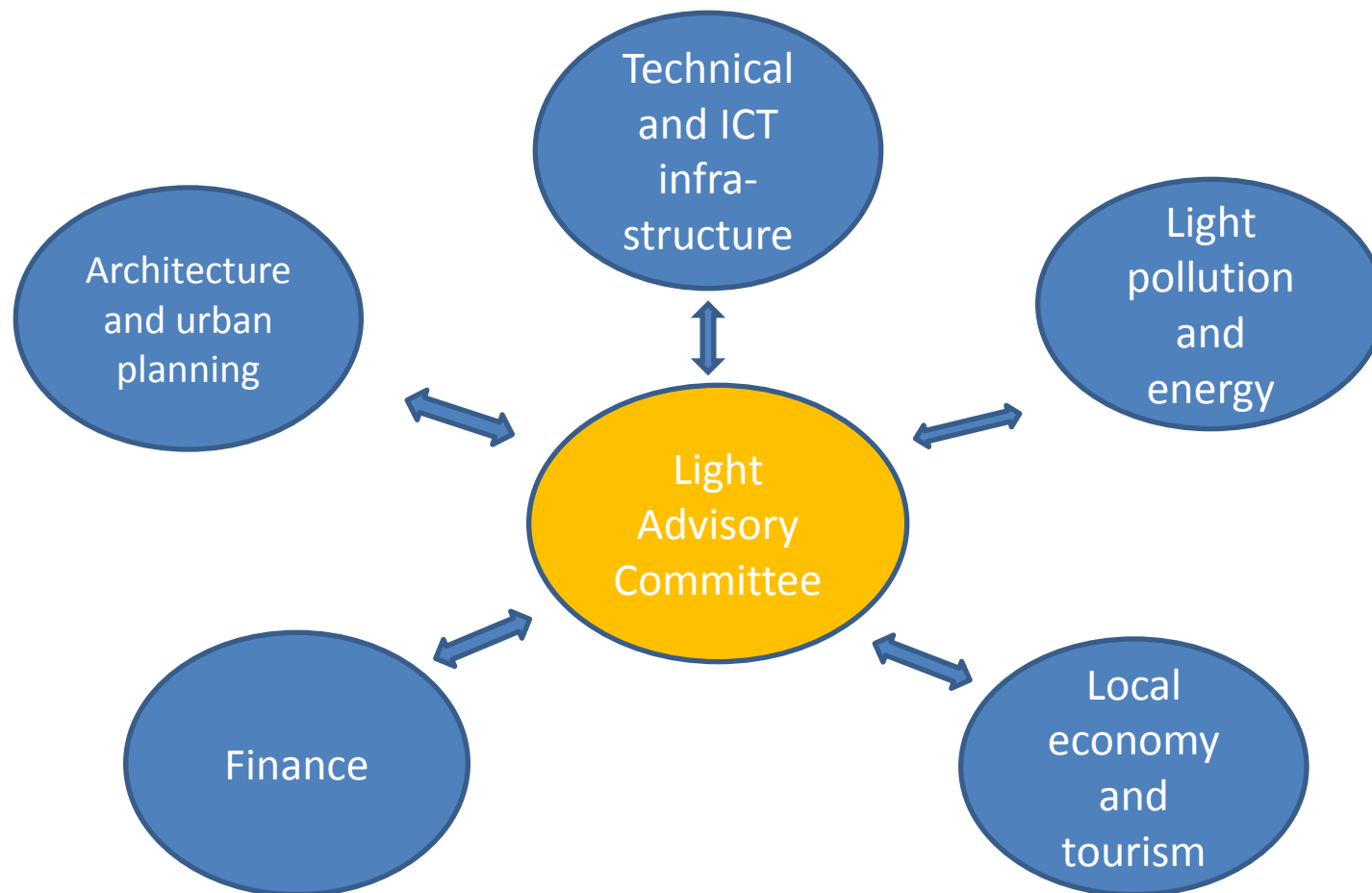




Actors

- Light engineers and financial experts
- Grid operator Eandis
- People responsible for monument care
- Urban planners
- Mobility department
- Shop keepers, business associations, NGO's
- Ghent residents

Integrated approach



Budget

Energy use Public lighting

- 12% of energy use of the City as organization
- Yearly cost of 3 M€ or 22% of the total energy costs

How much cost the Light Plans?

- Lightplan I and II: 500.000€/year since 1998
- Accelerated remediation project: 3,3M€ 2010-2012, ROI 5year

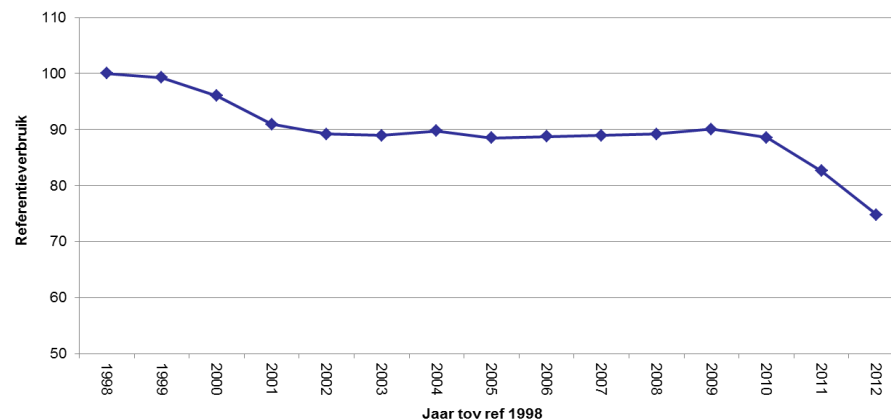
How was it financed?

- Flemish government: Mercuriusproject (1999-2009): 422.500 €
- EFRO: Liveable City project: 25.000 €
- Rest: City of Ghent

Results

- More agreeable city, nice to live in
- EE of 31.797.314 kWh since 1998
- 3.888.065 € or 260.000 € /year
- Zero CO2 since 2008 (green power)
- Goals 2020 already reached
- Large effect on tourism, local shops/restaurants/cafes
- Positive effect on bikers, pedestrians
- Grow of supporting tools: GIS-website
- Grow of side effects: Ghent Light festival

Verhouding verbruik tov 1998



Key elements of success

- Advisory committee: broad support of stakeholders
- Negotiations with businesses
- Car free zone as starting point
- Link with agreeable space for bikers and pedestrians
- Light as tool to shape the city ecologically, socially and economically : innovative
- GIS tool to lower threshold for understanding the purposes of the Light Plans

Problems along the way

- Slow process technically:
 - Large impact on infrastructure
 - Local grid operator has many clients to serve
- Shopkeepers with flashy promotion lights versus sober light plan:
 - Convinced through negotiations and concrete realizations

Other things that need to be mentioned

- National and international recognition
- 3 Michelin stars
- City People Light Award 2004
- 3rd most authentic destination (The National Geographic Traveler magazine, 2008)
- European Climate Star Award 2009 (Climate Alliance).
- 7th in the list of must-see cities 2011:
called “Europe's best kept secret” (Lonely Planet Travel guide 2011 edition)

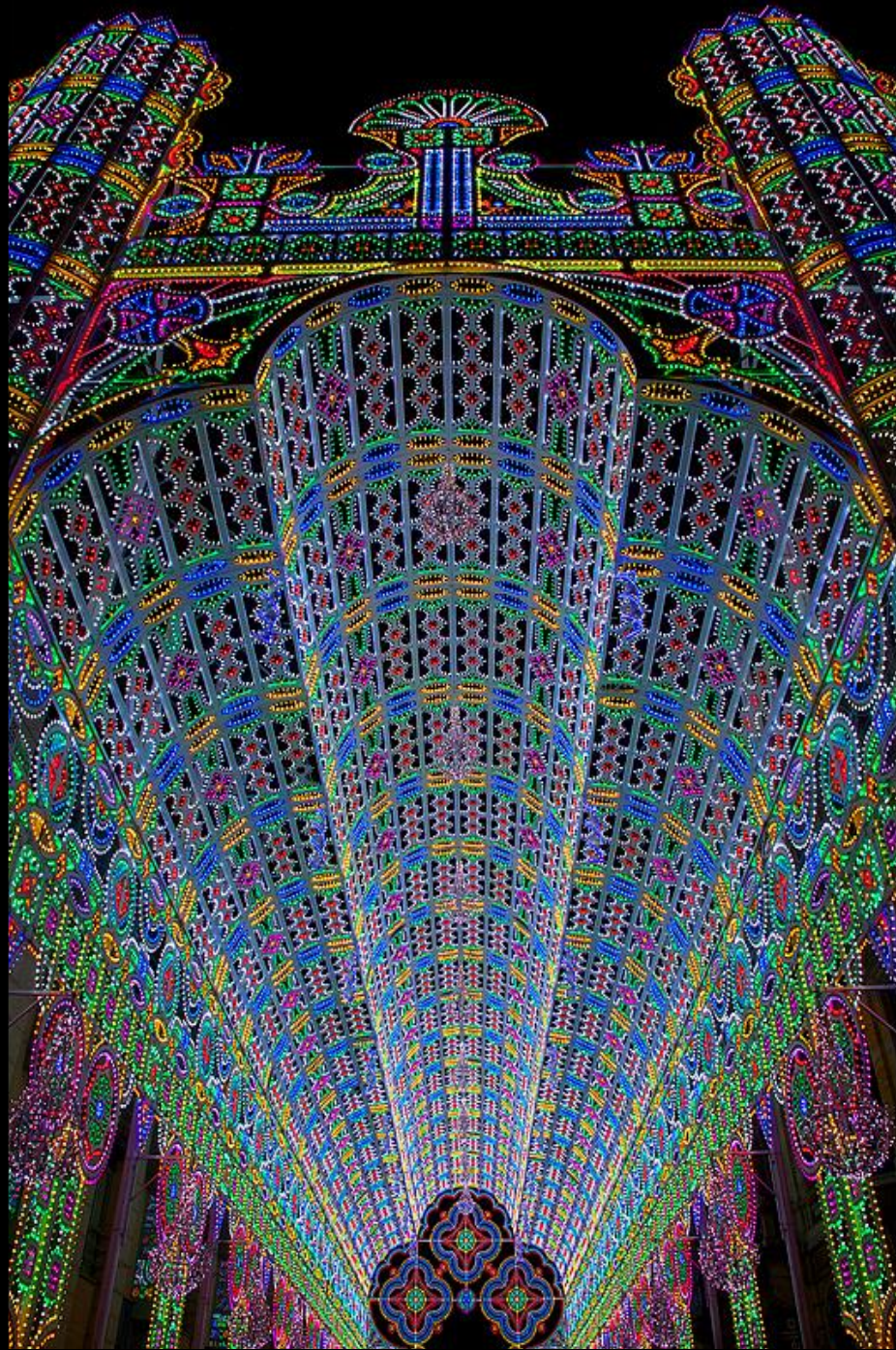


LICHT
FESTIVAL
GENT

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