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A vision for historic estates

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In the coming period we will be working on an immovable heritage plan for historic estates. An immovable heritage guideline plan is a fairly recent instrument with which we want to preserve and develop heritage for the future. After two successful predecessors (a master plan for the marl quarries in Riemst and a master plan for the standard tree orchards in Haspengouw) we are starting up a third plan. Today, 5 November, the kick-off of the new real estate design plan for historic estates is on the program. With the kick-off, we want to bring the project to the attention and stimulate enthusiasm around the theme. Via (online) workshops - the first in a whole series - we also gauge the expectations of various partners.

Ready, set, go!

The immovable heritage guideline for historic estates received the green light from Minister Matthias Diependaele during the summer of 2020. The ambition is to work with the owners of country houses and estates to find solutions for the management of this special heritage. In addition, policy domains and levels must also be viewed across borders.

The participative working method, which is characteristic of the real estate guideline plans, results in a supported vision of historic estates. This vision will start from the existing heritage values, but will have an eye for needs and expectations that exist in other areas. On this basis, concrete actions can then be taken to ensure the preservation and further development of estates.

Focus on the Bulskampveld region

The historical estates immovable heritage plan is a thematic plan that aims to provide solutions that are relevant to all estates in Flanders. Nevertheless, the real estate development plan mainly focuses on the Bulskampveld region, located between Bruges and Ghent. In concrete terms, we are building on the results and the network that have been built up within the area within the framework of the Interreg project Innocastle (<https://www.efro-projecten.be/nl/zoek-een-europees-project/innocastle-581/?zoekterm=CANAPE>). This European project provides a number of suggestions for future policy, which will be further investigated and elaborated within the immovable heritage guideline plan.

The HOGENT-KASK made an illuminating video about the Innocastle project (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7pKm2k3FA74&feature=youtu.be&ab_channel=Innocastle).