

LEVEL	DEPARTMENT	PLANNING OBJECTIVE	PLANNING TOOL	KEY POWER
national level The People's Republic of China (P.R.C.)	State Council of the P.R.C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> determines fundamental principals of planning, conceives national legislation and major policies censors the "master plans"¹ of subordinate tiers of government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> legislation- Urban Planning Law, other laws and regulations censorship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> conceives legal framework for policies and legislation of subordinate tiers of government censors "master plans"¹ of the municipalities, provinces, autonomous region capitals, cities with a population of more than 1 million and cities designated by the State Council
	Ministry of Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> coordinates the regional disparity and harmonious development of society by elaborating the national long-term, programmatic planning policies for the regions, towns and cities in need of economic, social and environmental development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> urban "master plan"¹, both national and provincial "urban system plan"² national guidelines, policies, regulations for urban and village planning development strategies for the cities³ and important agglomerations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> censors the "master plans"¹ of subordinate tiers on behalf of the State Council elaborates the national and provincial "urban system plan"² on behalf of the State Council supervises the provincial Construction Offices and the construction industry participates in elaboration of national land-use planning supervises planning for historic cities and scenic spots of national importance
	Ministry of Land and Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> conserves arable land to ensure the dynamic balance of arable land, ecologically valuable land and urban expansion compiles overall planning for national land use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> national laws and regulations related to land use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> supervises the provincial Offices of Land and Resources land-use planning for specific developments monitors land resources
regional level non-existent for Shanghai, direct control by national government	-	-	-	-

city level Shanghai City	Construction Offices Construction Committee of the Municipality ³ of Shanghai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • long-term, programmatic planning for the municipality to promote economic, social and environmental development • controlling municipal infrastructure and construction projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • municipal guidelines, policies, regulations for urban and village planning • municipal development strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implements the “urban system plan” on the municipal level • supervises the Construction Bureaus • censors those “master plans”¹ which are not to be submitted to the State Council • supervises planning for historic cities and scenic spots • chooses locations for key construction projects
	Urban Planning Bureau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • guides development to realize the goal of economic, social and environmental development • drafts local planning documents and guides all construction within administrative area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • urban planning policies, local laws and regulations • urban “master plan”¹, detailed plan and urban design plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • defines borough sizes • formulates and implements urban planning policies, local law and regulations • elaborates and monitors master plan, detailed plan and urban design for specific areas • supervises subordinate planning bureaus • administrates the conservation of historic sites • issues land use permission and building permission
borough level	Urban Planning Bureau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • steers development to realize the goal of economic and social development • drafts all sorts of planning reasonably and guiding all construction specifically in administrating areas 	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • elaborates regulatory plan, site plan, community plan and urban design • supervises implementation of planning documents • checks and issues land use and building permits

¹ “Master plan” in the Chinese meaning of the word refers to an overall allocative plan- not an urban design document.

² “Urban system plan” defines the size and function of urban settlements for both big cities and rural areas as well as their relationship with each other.

³ Refers to the four “principal cities”-Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing and Tianjin- municipalities that are controlled directly by the central government.