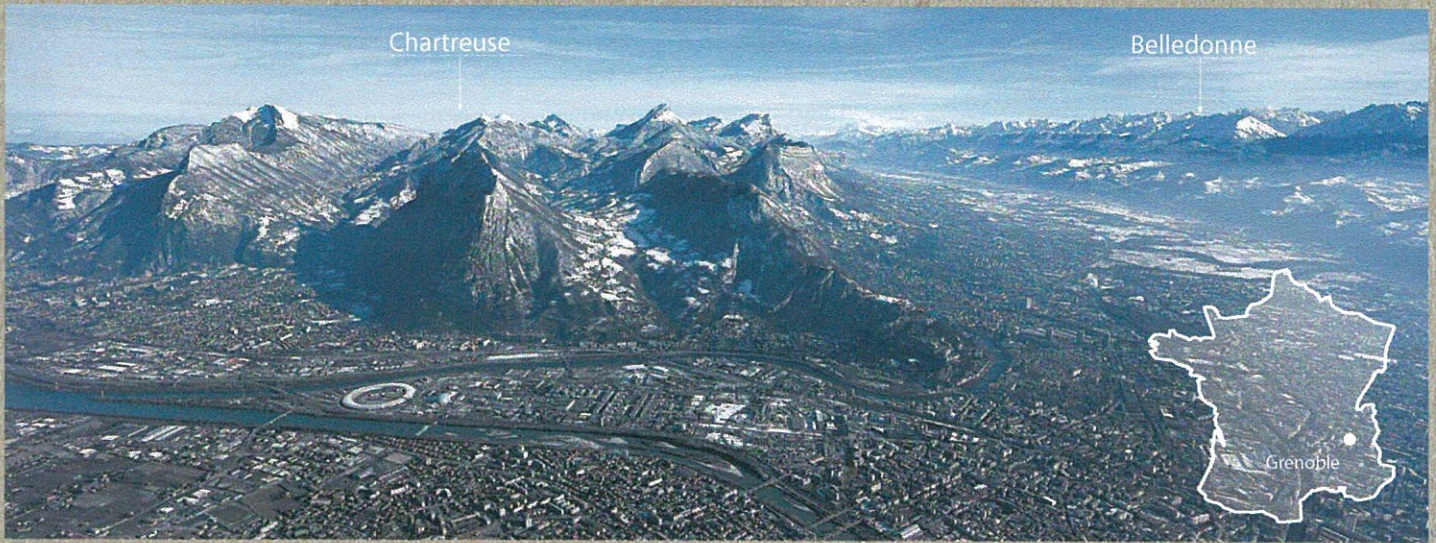


Grenoble , a compact city without available spaces



Main metropolis of the French Alps, located at the foot of the Vercors, Chartreuse and Belledonne Mountains, Grenoble is a compact city in a dense populated area, surrounded by nature. The Drac River and the Isère River constrain even a bit more a vital space which is not expansible.

Regeneration of the town on its roots, tackling the environmental issue are the challenges the city has to face from decades.

It took till the middle of the 20 th century for the population to reach 100.000 inhabitants. In the next three decades, the number rose by a further 60.000 inhabitants.

The result is clearly apparent: urban development completely fills the valley bottom. No longer restricted to just Grenoble, the sense of limitation now concerns the whole conurbation and its 450.000 inhabitants.

THE NECESSARY REGENERATION OF THE TOWN

Grenoble is taking part in the never ending process by which a city regenerates itself on its own roots.

Achievements made by architects and planners highlight possible ways of realizing a sustainable city, a place which fulfils our needs and desires without jeopardizing the environment.

Urban regeneration is always torn between preserving the past or satisfying present needs. Urban planning in Grenoble try to make a balance between:

- clear and rebuild (Vigny-Musset, Bonne, Bouchayer - Viallet ...)
- reconnect and refurbish (Villeneuve, Village Olympique, Flaubert...)
- reveal and notice (heart of town, protection area ...)

Grenoble city council intends to build the city of the future and make it an increasingly innovative sustainable city by actions such as:

- control urban development, with a constant concern for continuity between the various neighbourhoods and harmony between different architectural styles.
- protect historic buildings while investing in the best contemporary architecture. Create open spaces and natural areas, also essential to the quality of urban life.
- recognize the value of ordinary buildings and everyday spaces which are part of our heritage too and contribute to Grenoble's identity and townspeople's attachment to their neighbourhood.



> THE URBAN CHALLENGES ARE

- promoting a less space consuming town planning while harmonizing new urban design with older forms,
- irrigating the heart of the city with soft and clean transports,
- developing a clever Architecture that is able to reduce energy consumption and CO² reduction.

