

# // ESPON SUPER

## A guide to sustainable urbanisation and land-use

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# 1

## A guide towards sustainable urbanisation and land-use. Brief introduction



# A guide to sustainable urbanisation and land use

Available at: <https://www.espon.eu/super>

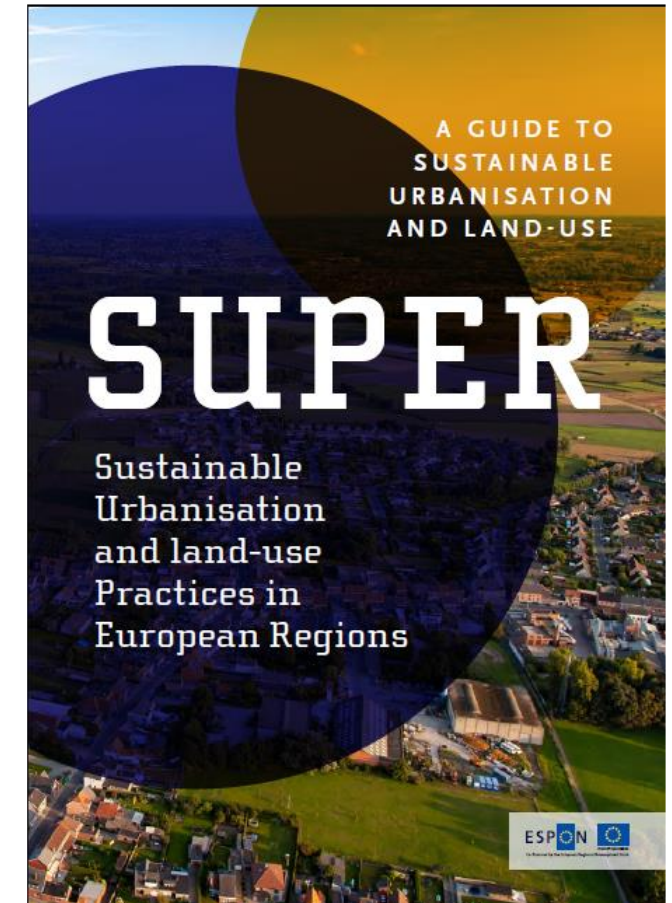
A guide for



Active at the

- Local/regional level
- National level
- EU level

Addressing all dimensions of sustainable urbanisation



# How to promote sustainable urbanization?

# Looking for examples...

Evidence collected in:

- 11 in-depth case studies
- 235 Interventions
- 59 EU policies factsheets

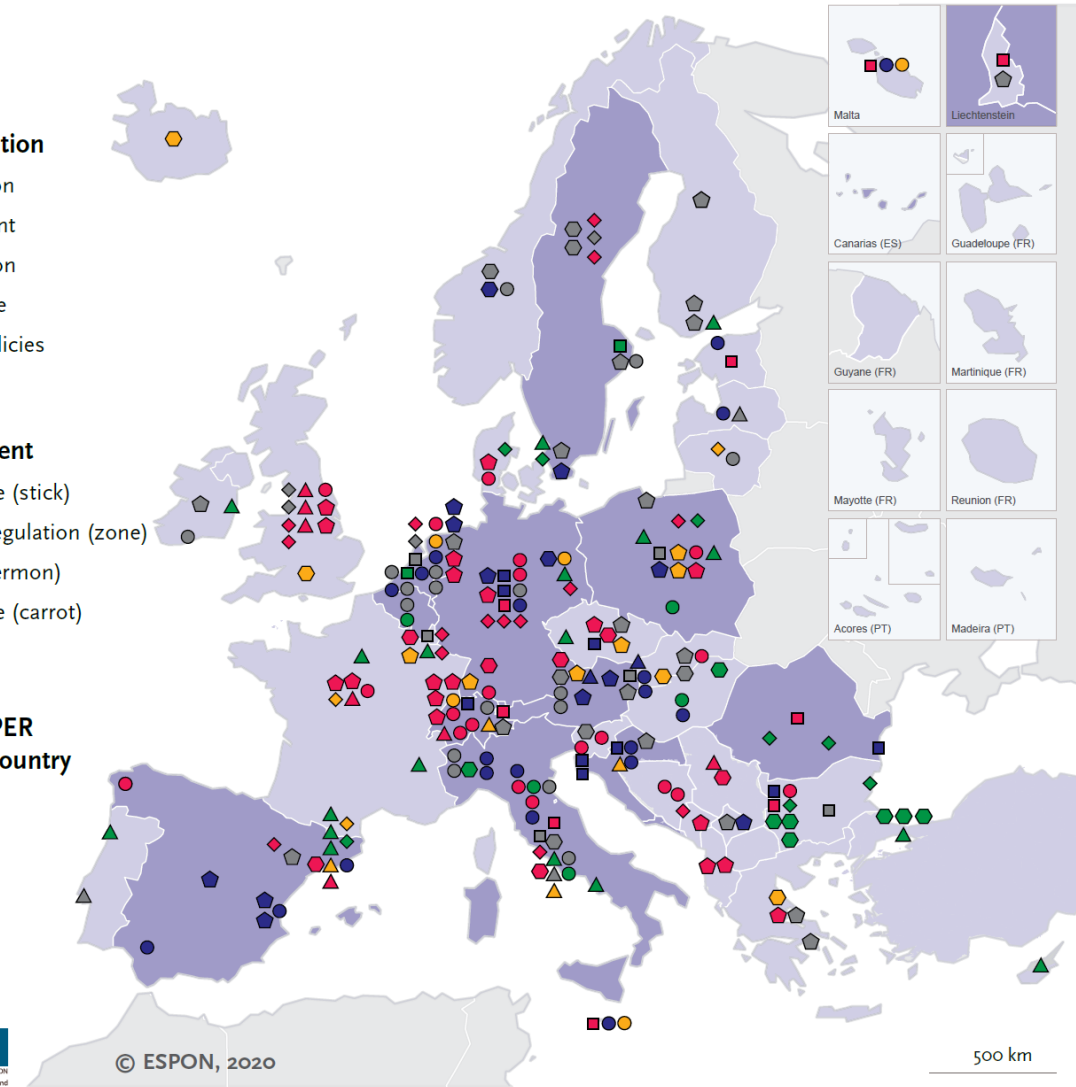
## Type of intervention

- 1 - Densification
- 2 - Containment
- △ 3 - Regeneration
- ◇ 4 - Governance
- ◇ 5 - Sectoral policies
- ◇ 6 - Others

## Type of instrument

- 1 - Legal device (stick)
- 2 - Land use regulation (zone)
- 3 - Strategy (sermon)
- 4 - Programme (carrot)
- 5 - Project

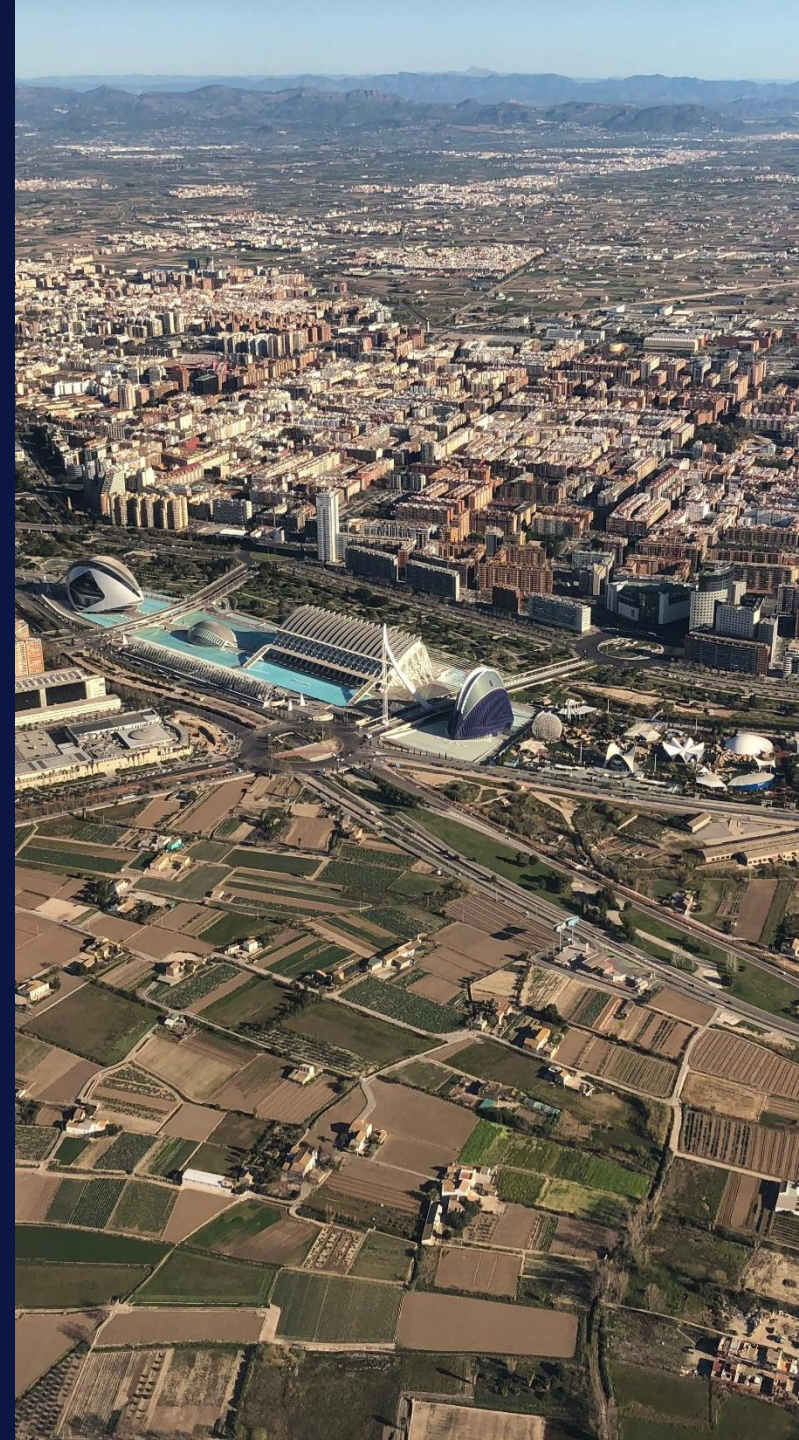
■ ESPON SUPER case study country





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## How do successful interventions look like ?





## BOX 6

# Municipal Structural Plan of the Union of Municipalities of Bassa Romagna (IT)

**Name of the intervention, location and country:**  
Municipal Structural Plan of the Union of Municipalities of Bassa Romagna, Emilia Romagna (Italy)

**Territorial level:** LAU1; **Year:** 2009

**Website link:** <http://www.labassaromagna.it/Guida-ai-Servizi/Urbanistica/Piano-Strutturale-Comunale-PSC>

**See also:** ESPON SUPER, Final Report, Annex 3.8\_IT. Available at: <https://www.espon.eu/super>



Urban Green Park, Sant'Agata Sul Santerno – Italy

### Territorial characteristics of the area:

The Union of Bassa Romagna consists of nine municipalities that share common territorial and economic challenges. It is an area characterised by intense development pressures and rampant urbanisation.

### Intervention goal and main features

The Union's Municipal Structural Plan is a strategic instrument aiming at improving spatial planning by promoting future-oriented, integrated, sustainable and effective spatial planning activities. For more than 10 years, this plan has defined the main spatial trajectory and territorial development perspectives of the Union of Bassa Romagna.

## BOX 7

# Revision of the spatial planning law in Canton Aargau (CH)

**Name of the intervention, location and country:**  
Revision of the Spatial Planning Law, Canton of Aargau (Switzerland)

**Territorial level:** NUTS3; **Year:** 2014

**Website Link:** <https://www.uvek.admin.ch/uvek/de/home/uvek/abstimmungen/abstimmung-raumplanungsgesetz.html>  
<https://www.ag.ch/de/bvu/raumentwicklung/raumentwicklung.jsp>

**See also:** ESPON SUPER, Final Report, Annex 3.4\_CH. Available at: <https://www.espon.eu/super>



Revision of the spatial planning law in Switzerland (focus on Canton Aargau)  
Source: Schweizer Luftwaffe (2011)

### Territorial characteristics of the area:

Since the 1960s, the living space per person in Switzerland has doubled to around 50 m<sup>2</sup>. Before the intervention, there were calls for a coordinated federal response to limit urbanisation.

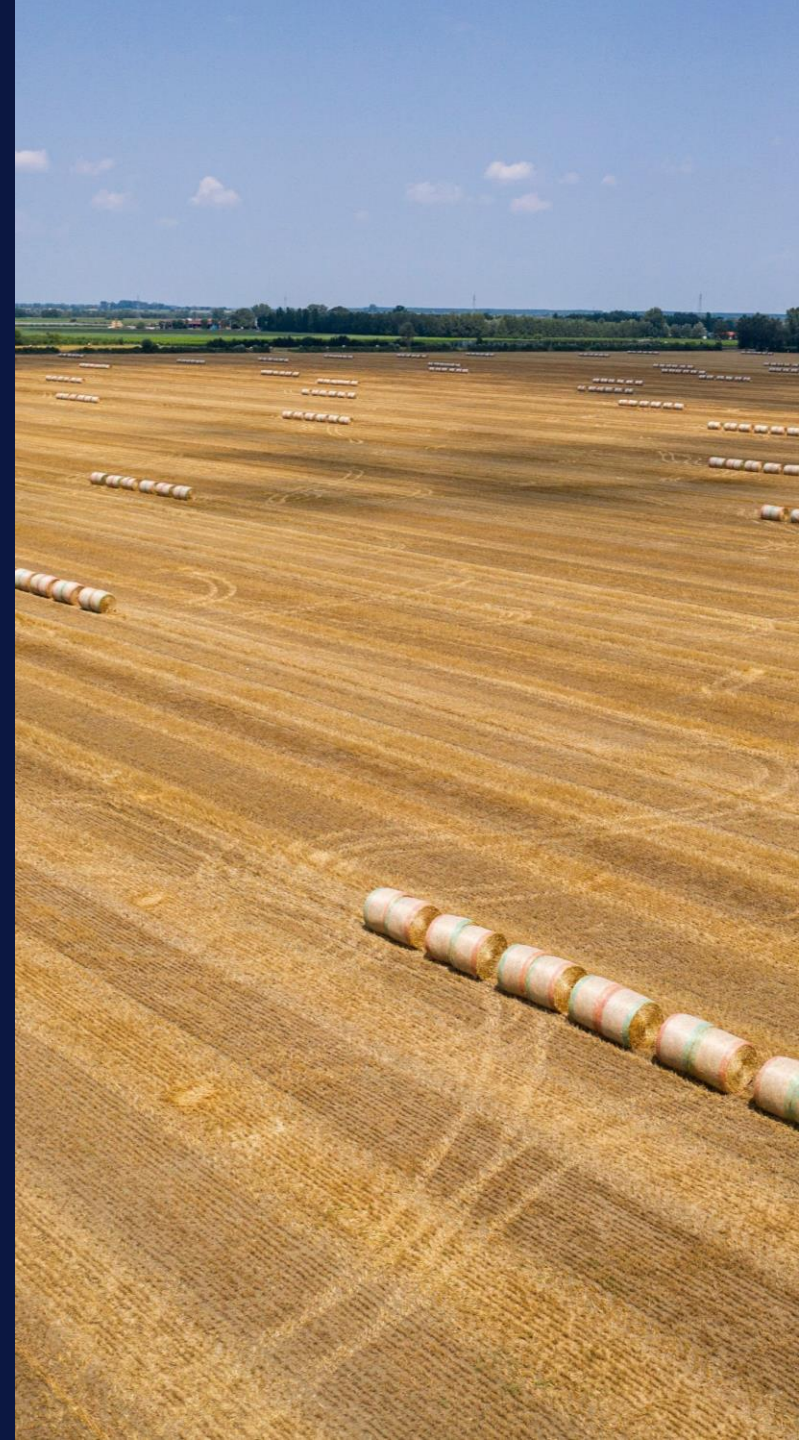
### Intervention goal and main features:

The Case concerns the revision of the Swiss Spatial Planning Law and the implications of this for the Canton of Aargau. Its aim is to control urbanisation by promoting compact settlement development. It mandates that building zones that are too large should be reduced in size and that existing reserves should be used more efficiently. In a referendum on 3 March 2013, the revision was approved with 63% of the votes.



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## Main drivers of sustainable urbanisation and land-use





# Toolbox of instruments for sustainable urbanisation

## Success factors:

- combining long-term strategy objectives with short-term needs and priorities;
- promoting innovative solutions in reducing both land use and sealing share per capita.
- Incorporation of economic priorities, environmental needs and social aspects.

## Success factors:

- support of strong political will and coordination of interventions;
- support of economic incentives, norms and monitoring measures;
- national long-term targets need to be linked to the local geographical, social and economic context.

## Success factors:

- properly designed to avoid or limit trade-offs;
- focused on few well defined specific instruments;
- activated as instruments for supporting private initiative to achieve strategy

## Success factors:

- objectives, mechanisms of implementation and instruments activated are coherent;
- laws have clear objectives (limit land consumption, protect valuable natural areas, compensations measures etc.);
- are normatively strict and binding.

## Success factors:

- support of strong political will;
- effective multilevel cooperation process: each regional and local authority is expected to follow the national guidelines;
- technical capability and financial incentives.
- effective horizontal cooperation and coordination

Sustainable urbanisation

pbl.nl

# How do successful interventions look like?

## Success factors:

- objectives, mechanisms of implementation and instruments are coherent;
- laws have clear objectives (limit land consumption, protect valuable natural areas, compensations measures etc.);
- rules are normatively strict and binding.

Rules and  
legal  
devices

Law  
regulat

# How do successful interventions look like?

*Visions  
and  
strategies*

## Success factors:

- strong political will;
- effective multilevel cooperation process;
- technical capability and financial incentives.
- effective horizontal cooperation and coordination





Programmes

**Success factors:**

- properly designed to avoid or limit side-effects and trade-offs;
- focused on few well defined specific objectives;
- activated as instruments for supporting public or private initiative to achieve strategic objectives.

**Success factors:**

- combining long-term strategy objectives with short-term needs and priorities;
- promoting innovative solutions to reduce both land use and sealing share per capita.
- Incorporation of economic priorities, environmental needs and social aspects.

Rules

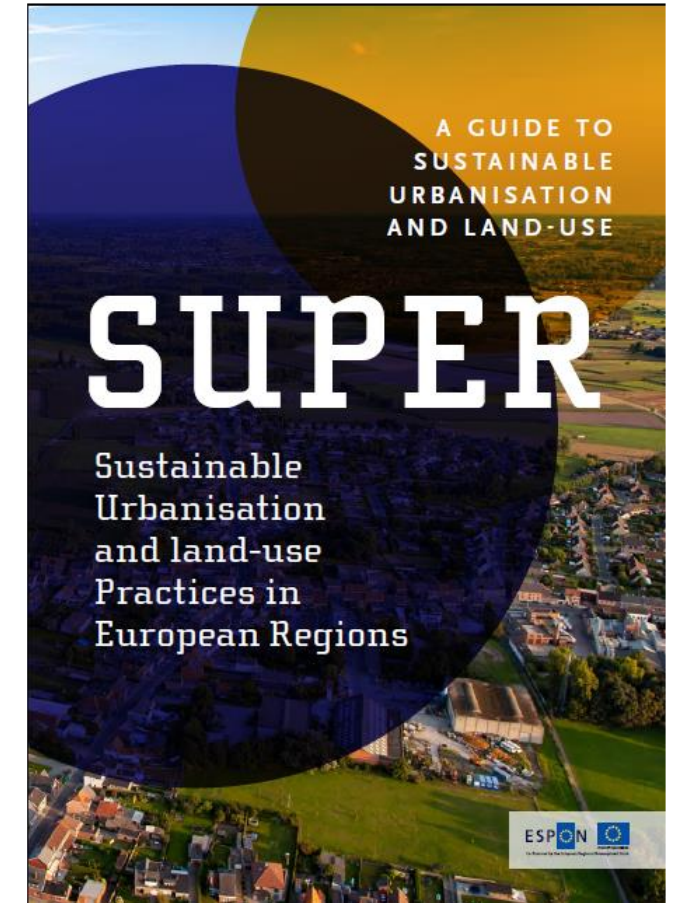
Projects

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Do you think you may use this guide in your daily practice?

Have a look  
and tell us what you think!





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Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

// Thank you 😊

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