



The role of cities in integrated regional development

Urban sprawl continues to be a predominant trend in European spatial development. Cities function as motors for social and economic development and are vital for common integrated planning. They are also basic service providers for the whole region.

It is essential that urban development and planning goes hand in hand with integrated development of the hinterland.

As a result of all these problems, surrounding municipalities should be integrated more into the general development and urban planning in the future.

Therefore this network intends to define common strategies in developing “master plans for cities and their surroundings” including not only strategic measures but also the implementation by concrete pilot projects.

Main issues

- Land use policies and instruments for integrated urban / regional planning.
- Definition of new financial instruments to meet the multiple tasks and projects of general interest.
- Identification of successful regional structures as basis for a city-hinterland cooperation.
- Participation of relevant key actors by (re-)defining the criteria for integrated regional development.
- Improving the competencies of political players and the relevant key actors with implementing integrated interventions of urban development.



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