

# Urban planning and National Urban Policies – Key challenges towards better sustainable urban development

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# Our humanity's future



**Cities** have played a more important role in shaping the world than **empires**

– Michael Bloomberg, former Mayor of New York (in office 2002-2013)

# Urban Systems at risk. trends and challenges beyond 2050

Experiencing unstoppable urbanisation globally

Disruptive living and working conditions at all levels

Accelerating crises – not only climate crisis

- Climate Crisis impacts
  - Disruptive Migrations
  - Fragmented ecosystems
  - Unbalanced financial structures
  - Energy crisis
  - Disruptive urban development
- new climate chances  
rebalanced social context  
biodiversity renewal  
new financial paradigm  
carbon-neutral future  
urban resilience

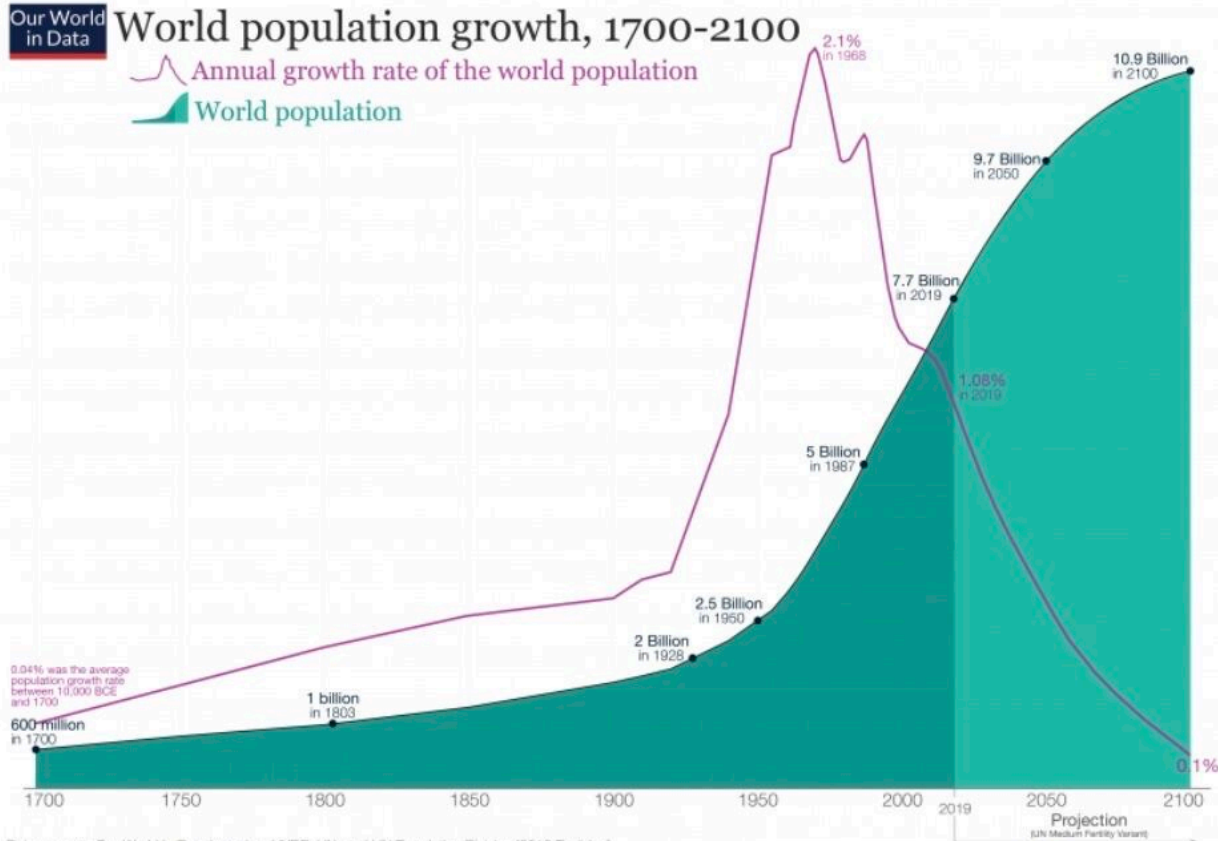
Immediate actions on territorial governance needed

# Anthropocene as main driver of accelerated transformation

A wide-angle photograph of a massive industrial mining or quarrying site. The foreground and middle ground are dominated by deep, terraced pits with distinct horizontal layers of earth and rock, showing signs of heavy excavation. A long conveyor belt system stretches across the site. In the background, several wind turbines are visible against a hazy sky. The overall scene conveys a sense of large-scale human impact on the landscape.

**ANTHROPOCENE**

# Anthropocene influencing natural resources dramatically



Data sources: Our World in Data based on HYDE, UN, and UN Population Division (2019 Revision)  
This is a visualization from OurWorldinData.org, where you find data and research on how the world is changing.

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*“Given the rate of urbanisation that we are witnessing, **humankind will have invested more money, energy and resources in building cities during the period 2000 to 2050** than it has since the beginning of human history.*

*It took us 20,000 years to reach an urban population of 3 billion, and it will take less than 50 years for that figure to double to 6 billion.*

*If those resources are used to urbanise the way we have done so during the period 1950 to 2000, then **we are truly headed for big trouble, socially, economically and environmentally.**”*

Nicholas You, 2018

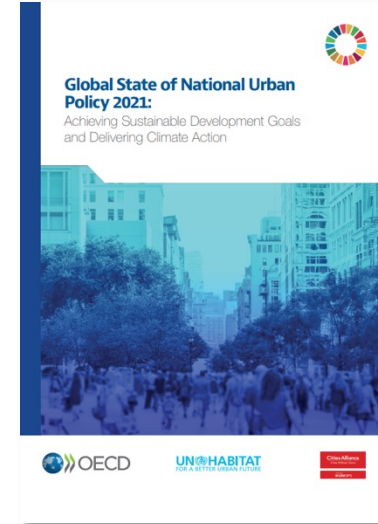
# Urban systems struggling with climate impacts towards 2050





## 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of GSNUP (2021): A refined methodology

- **Country survey** to collect first-hand information
- **162 countries worldwide** (including **86** that responded to the survey)
- Special focus: how NUP contributes to **global urban agendas** and **climate challenges**
- Collaboration with diverse institutions through the National Urban Policy Programme



### Co-author institutions:



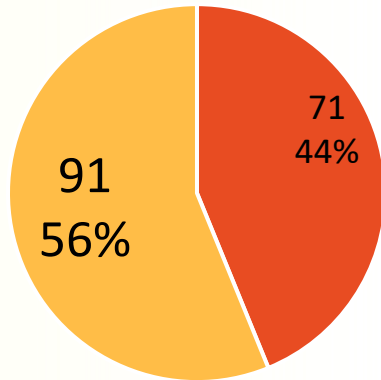
### Contributing institutions





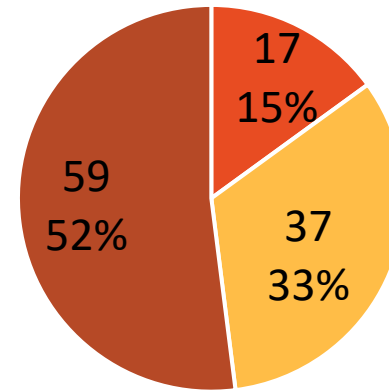
# Highlights from the GSNUP 2.0 (2021) – NUPs are more explicit and more focused on climate

**56%** in an explicit form  
(51% in 2018)



■ Explicit NUPs

**48%** with focus on climate resilience  
(from 32% in 2018)



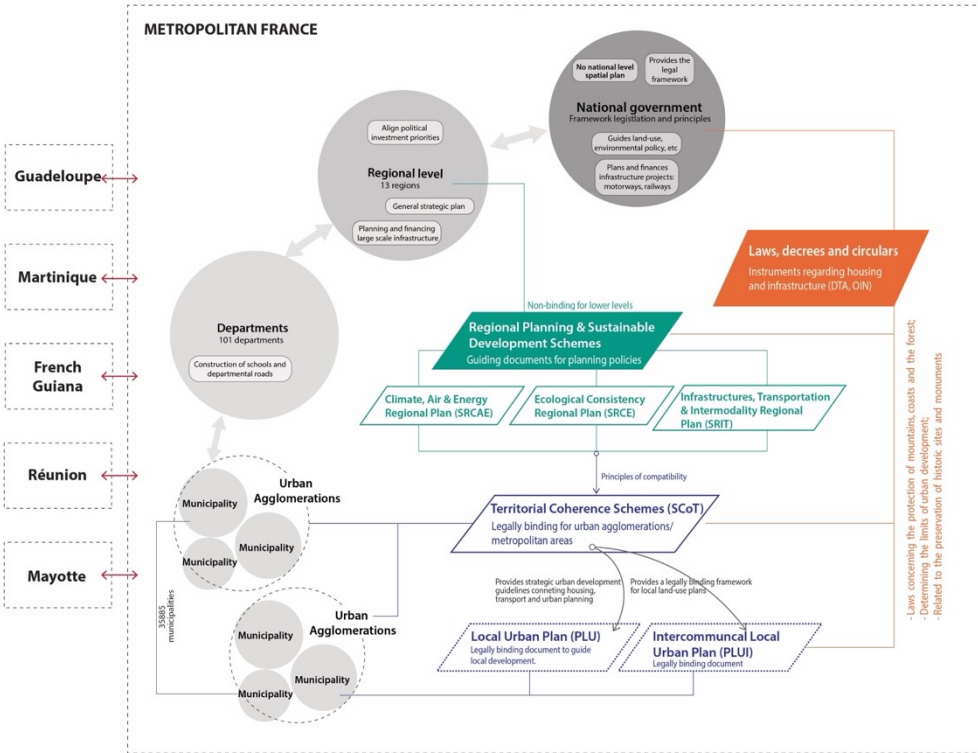
■ Extensive ■ Moderate ■ Low

Data collected from 162 countries (86 from survey responses, 76 from desk research)

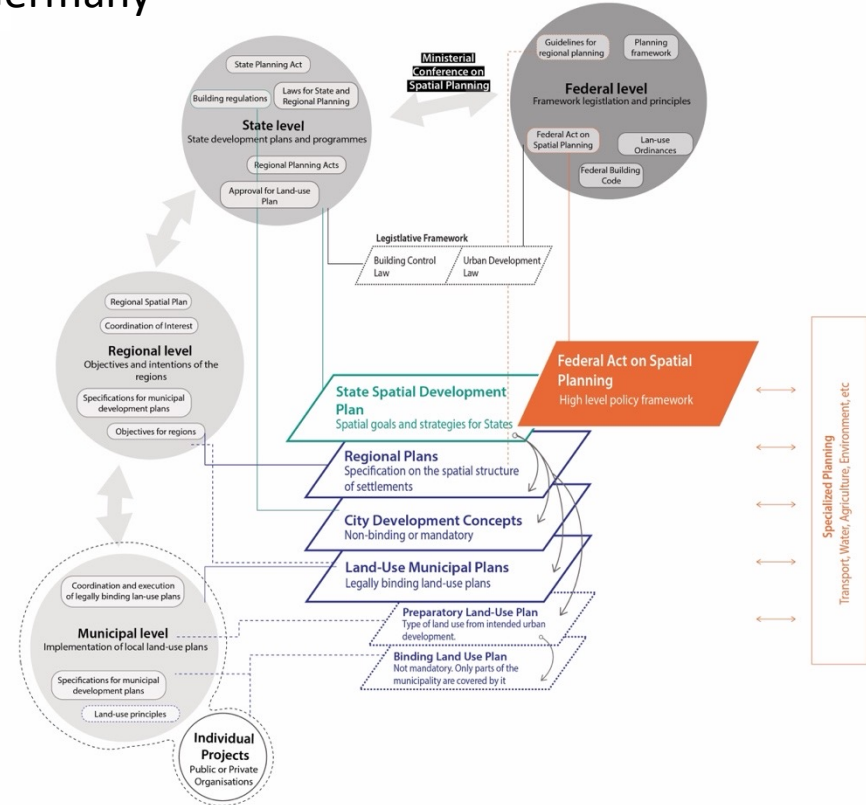


# Urban Planning Systems – France | Germany

## France

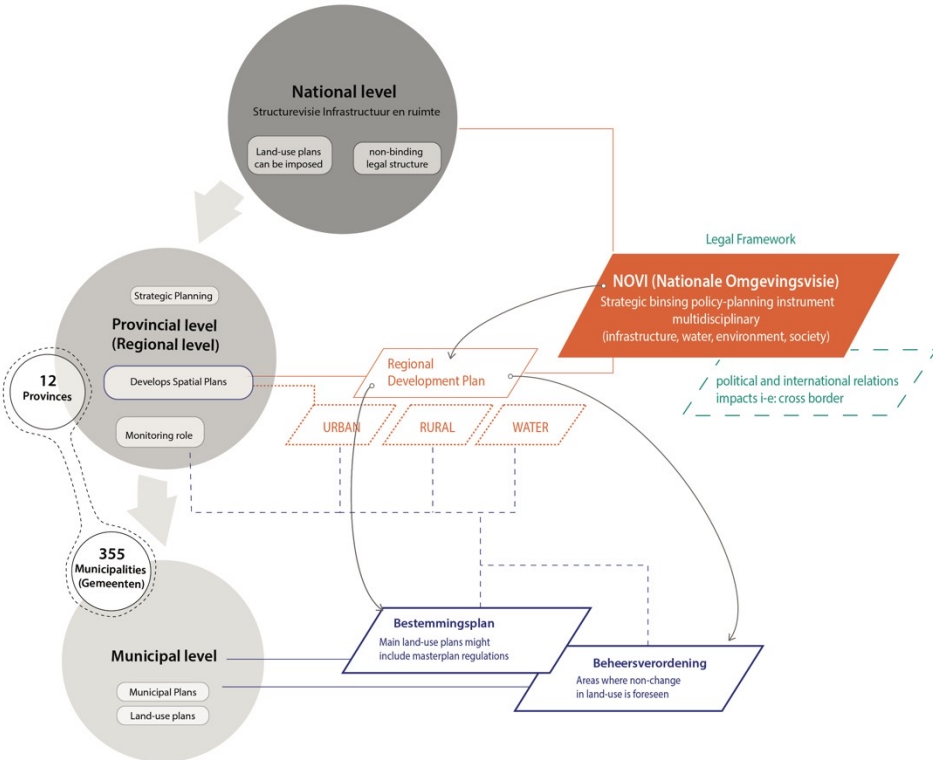


## Germany

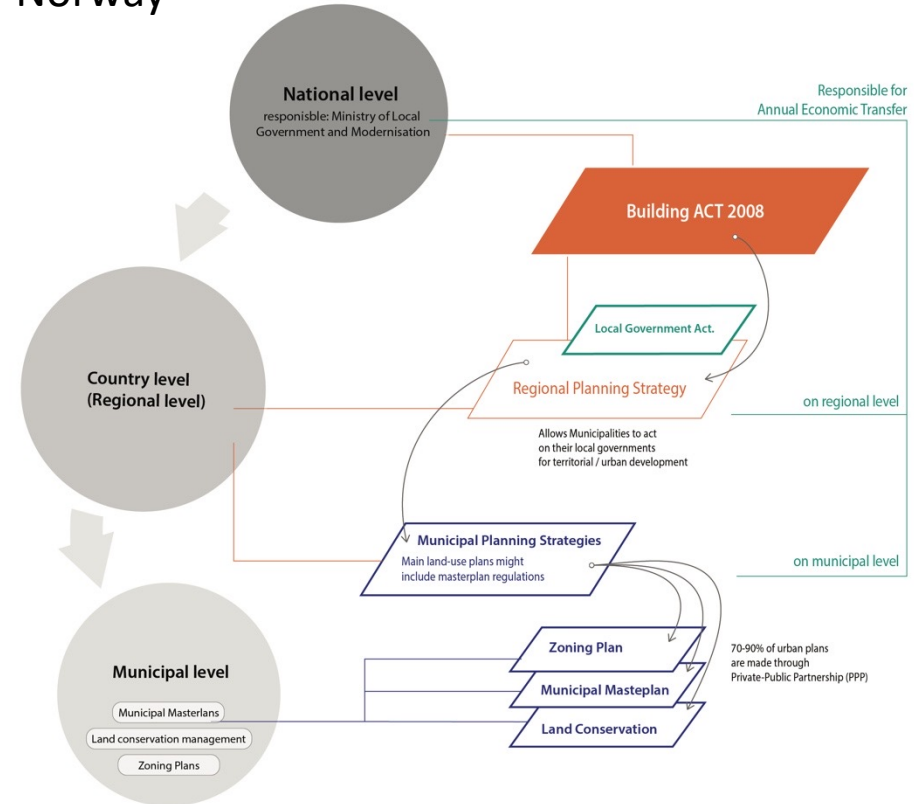


# Urban Planning Systems – The Netherlands | Norway

## The Netherlands

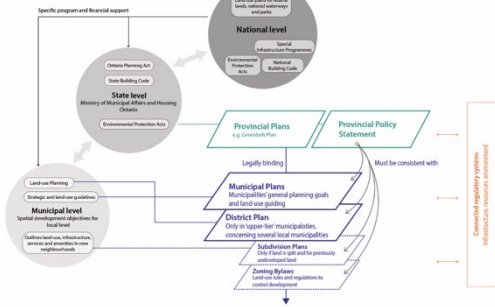


## Norway

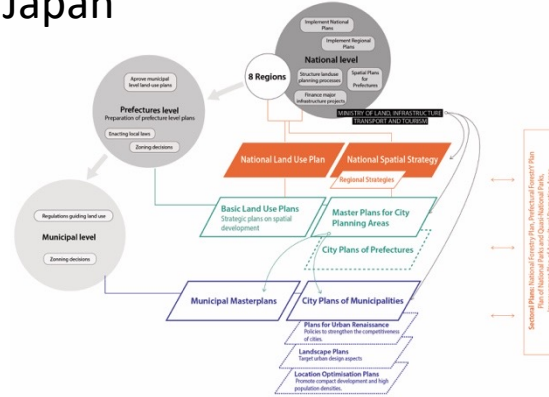


# Urban Planning Systems – others

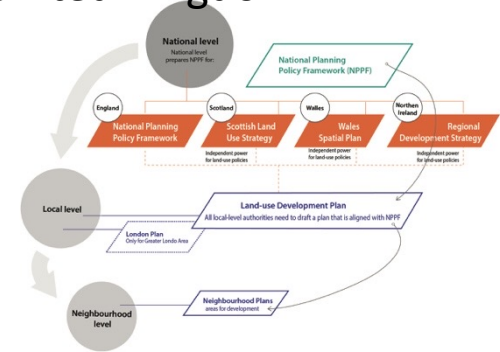
## Canada / Ontario



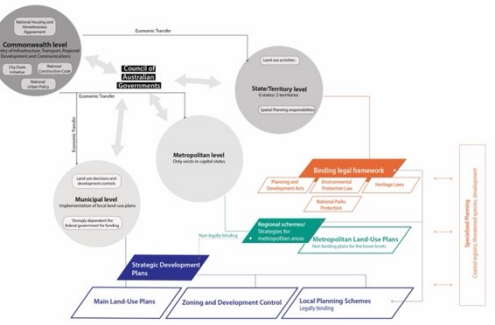
## Japan



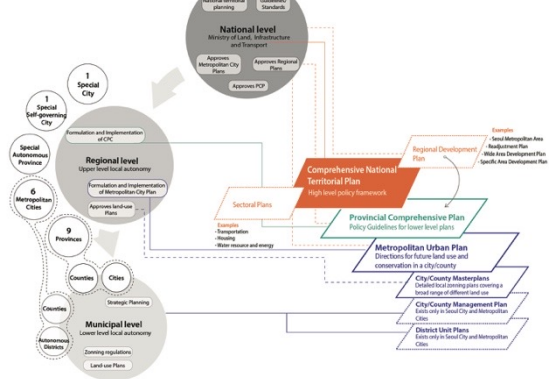
## United Kingdom



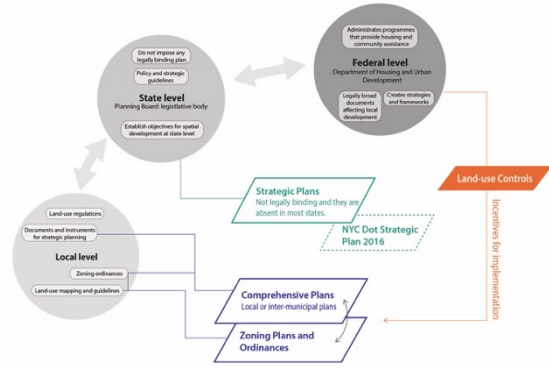
## Australia



## South Korea



## USA / New York



# Urban Planning Systems – Evaluation (2021)

- **Strong differences of territorial governance model** at national, subnational and local level, very diverse and **sometimes controversial**
  - National level strong power over planning at subnational level: eg Australia, Japan, Norway, South Korea, United Kingdom, United States (New York)
  - Planning responsibility at subnational level : Canada, France, Germany, The Netherlands
- **Current crises** not addressed
- **Environmental dimension** not always addressed
- **Decision-making structures** very different in processes / composition
- **Participation and bottom-up** processes not always included



# 11 Principles for sustainable and inclusive urban design and architecture

1. People-centrality, social responsibility and inclusivity
2. Cultural identity, values and heritage
3. Resource efficiency and circularity
4. Safety and health
5. Respect for nature and natural systems and processes
6. Climate neutrality
7. People-smartness
8. Resilience, durability, functionality and foresight
9. Affordability and accessibility
10. Inter-disciplinary cooperation and networking
11. Engagement.



# Urban Planning Systems - radical change & paradigm shift

- Emergency to **build homes for new populations and migrants**: expecting 3 billion people within 50 years = at least / 1 billion new homes within 30 years (2000 new cities) worldwide
- **Citizens-based system** with bottom-up process needed
- Urgent urban transformation with the **shift from fossil energies to renewable energies at all levels, achieving net zero cities**
- Introduction of **new forms of cooperation and governance**, administrative borders disappearing - functional areas without borders will dominate future urbanisation: urban planning agencies are a must
- **Still planning our cities and territories with principles from the 60's** - Priority to educate planners and other disciplines.

# Urban Planning Systems need radical change – CH Example

## Stratégie 1

Mettre en place des territoires d'action et renforcer le réseau polycentrique de villes et de communes

### Principes d'action valables pour toute la Suisse

- Soutenir un développement polycentrique du territoire
- Renforcer les potentiels, ne pas vouloir tout partout
- Collaborer à l'échelle des espaces fonctionnels
- Assurer la coordination avec le développement territorial européen

### Principes d'action spatialement différenciés

Planifier à l'échelle des territoires d'action (secteur central / élargi)

- Territoires d'action reposant sur de grands centres urbains

Espaces métropolitains



Région de la ville fédérale



- Territoires d'action reposant sur un réseau de villes moyennes et petites



- Territoires d'action de l'espace alpin



Renforcer la coopération au sein des espaces fonctionnels



Rechercher une collaboration entre territoires d'action reposant sur de grands centres urbains



Encourager les partenariats entre villes et agglomérations



Mettre en réseau les centres ruraux, les centres touristiques alpins et les villes



Mieux tirer profit de la dynamique transfrontalière



### Données de base

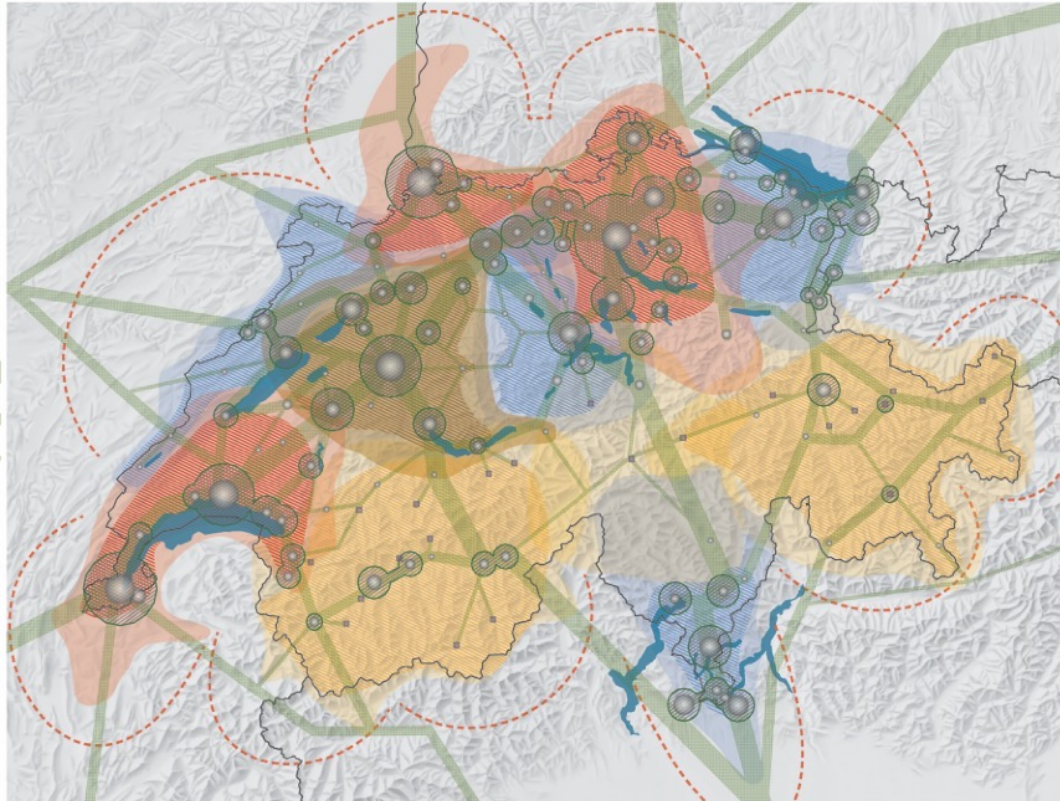
Centres métropolitains: grands, moyens et petits centres urbains; centres ruraux




Centres de grandes régions touristiques alpines





Agglomérations




Territorial Project Switzerland  
2012 / 2023

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Département fédéral de l'environnement, des transports,  
de l'énergie et de la communication DETEC

 KONFERENZ DER KANTONSREGIERUNGEN  
CONFÉRENCE DES GOUVERNEMENTS CANTONAUX  
 CONFERENZA DEI GOVERNI CANTONALI  
CONFERENZA DA LAS REGENZAS CANTUNALAS

 DTAP BPUK DCPA

 Schweizerischer Städteverband  
Union des villes suisses  
Unione delle città svizzere

 Association des  
Communes Suisses

# Urban Planning Systems need radical change – CH Example

## Stratégie 2

Mettre en valeur le milieu bâti et les paysages

### Principes d'action valables pour toute la Suisse

- Limiter l'extension du milieu bâti et développer l'urbanisation à l'intérieur du milieu bâti
- Coordonner le développement de l'urbanisation et des transports
- Maintenir et améliorer la qualité de vie dans les localités et les villes
- Valoriser le patrimoine culturel
- Protéger les terres cultivables et renforcer l'agriculture
- Coordonner utilisation du sol et lutte contre les risques naturels
- Entretien le paysage et l'intégrer dans la planification
- Coordonner les différentes fonctions de la forêt et la valoriser
- Préserver les espaces nécessaires à la biodiversité

### Principes d'action spatialement différenciés

Densifier l'espace urbain en préservant les espaces verts et la qualité du milieu bâti



Délimiter, densifier et valoriser l'espace suburbain



Contenir la consommation du sol et l'étalement urbain dans les régions soumises à une forte pression immobilière



Renforcer les centres régionaux et ménager le paysage environnant



Préserver les territoires agricoles et leur continuité



Assurer un développement touristique des régions de montagne qui respecte le paysage



Ménager et préserver les paysages particulièrement remarquables



Maintenir la diversité des fonctions dévolues aux espaces des lacs et cours d'eau



Coordonner l'urbanisation et l'entretien du paysage à l'échelle transfrontalière



Poursuivre la collaboration transfrontalière dans les domaines de la nature et du tourisme



### Données de base

Paysages de collines



Paysages de montagne et crêtes du Jura



Paysages de haute montagne



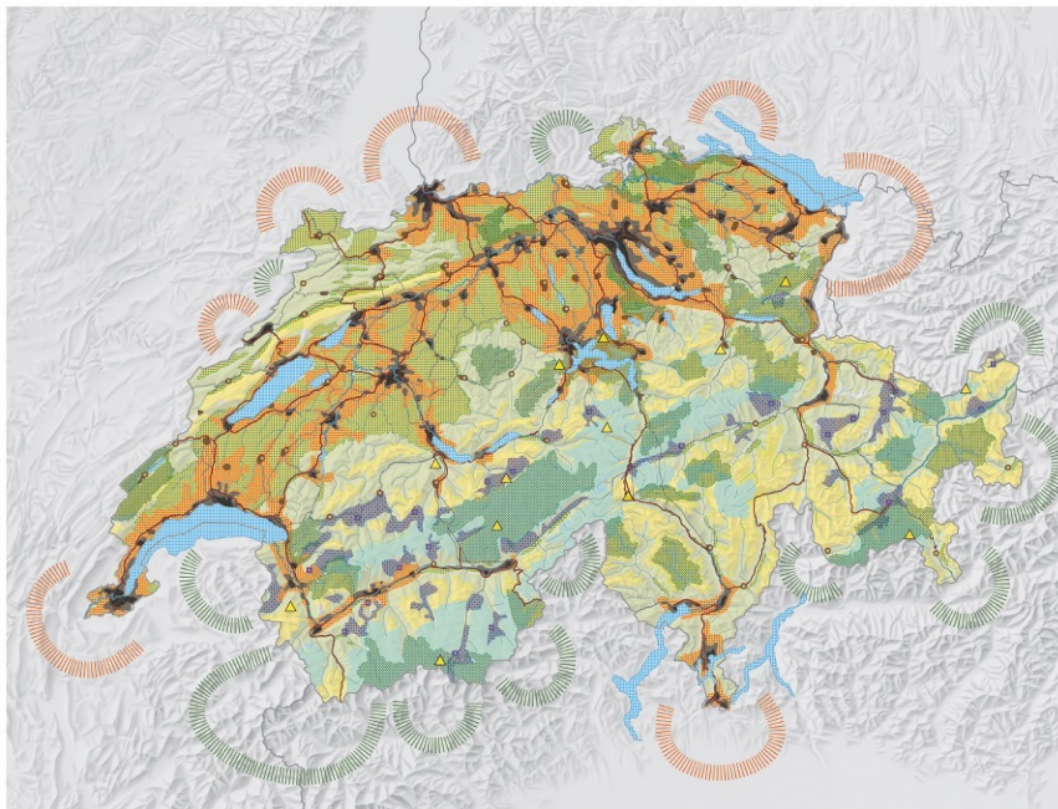
Emblèmes alpins




Réseau ferroviaire





Routes nationales




Territorial Project Switzerland  
2012 / 2023

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
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Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

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 Association des  
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# Urban Planning Systems – Need for transformation

Beyond the implementation of the **11 principles of the San Marino Declaration**:

Recommendations towards transformation of regulatory planning instruments:

- be flexible in focussing on current challenges and crises (eg energy, finance, climate)
- Adaptive and multilevel governed in their territorial decisions and operations
- Introducing new forms of cooperation and governance with bottom-up process / participation included, including urban planning agencies
- Include territorial scenarios and preparatory strategies
- Educate planners and other disciplines, also political decision-makers in sharing knowledge towards the Knowledge triangle Education | Practice | Research
- Adopt a nature and landscape-based approach in territorial instruments with the aim to achieve greening cities, carbon neutrality and circularity.

# THE CITY WE NEED NOW!

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



# TOOLKIT

 **DECADE OF >>>> ACTION**





1

## Health and Well-being

The City We Need is healthy and promotes well-being



2

## Peace and Safety

The City We Need is free from violence and fosters a culture of peace



3

## Climate Adaptation and Resilience

The City We Need is resilient, low-carbon and adapts to climate change



4

## Inclusion and Gender Equality

The City We Need is inclusive and promotes gender equality



5

## Economic Opportunities for All

The City We Need is economically vibrant and provides opportunities to all



6

## Culture and Identity

The City We Need has a strong sense of place and has room for diverse identities



7

## Local Governance

The City We Need is managed through public participation and democratically governed



8

## Urban Planning and Design

The City We Need fosters comprehensive and integrated planning and development



9

## Housing, Services and Mobility

The City We Need ensures access to housing, services and mobility



10

## Learning and Innovation

The City We Need learns and innovates

