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SUPER – Sustainable Urbanisation and Land-use Practices in European Regions
Spin-off concept and methodology

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EUROPEAN UNION

Co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund

Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

APPLIED RESEARCH SPIN-OFF //

SUPER – Sustainable Urbanisation and Land-use Practices in European Regions

Spin-off concept and methodology

Annex 1 // May 2021

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Table of contents

1 Introduction 6

2 Conceptual Framework 7

2.1 Understanding Policy Transfer 7

2.2 The SUPER project approach to practices 8

2.3 The Guide 9

3 Methodological protocol 11

3.1 Steps and objectives 11

3.1.1 Step 1 – Identification of needs and priorities 12

3.1.2 Step 2 – Survey activities 12

3.1.3 Step 3 – Elaboration of recommendations: Identify solutions 12

3.1.4 Step 4 - Final set of recommendations: Exploring transferability potentials and pitfalls 12

3.2 Main activities conducted 13

3.2.1 Step 1 – Identification of needs and priorities 13

3.2.2 Step 2 – Survey activities and identification of interventions 13

3.2.3 Step 3 – Elaboration of recommendations: Identify solutions 14

3.2.4 Step 4 - Final set of recommendations: Exploring transferability potentials and pitfalls 14

3.3 Main results and outputs 16

References 17

List of maps, figures, charts and tables

List of maps

Map 2.1 Interventions collected and analysed in the SUPER project 9

List of figures

Figure 3.1 Methodological protocol 11

List of tables

Table 3.1 Sustainability assessment of indicators 15

1 Introduction

The challenge of designing policies to promote sustainable urbanisation and land-use is present at spatial levels and scales, from the local level all the way up to the EU. (Sub)national spatial planning and territorial governance can play an important role in achieving a more sustainable use of land by assessing the quality and characteristics of different locations with respect to competing objectives and interests. This already occurs throughout Europe through a variety of interventions that, to varying degrees of success, steer, or attempt to steer, urbanisation and land-use.

Given that these interventions take on various guises in different national contexts, serve different substantive goals and are implemented at various levels of scale, the policy context remains highly heterogeneous and fragmented. This makes it difficult for policy and decisionmakers across Europe to navigate through existing instruments and practices and to identify what elements may be useful and fitting their own context.

The SUPER Guide to sustainable urbanisation and land-use (ESPON, 2020a) was developed by the researchers engaged in the ESPON 2020 applied research project on Sustainable Urbanisation and Land-Use Practices in European Regions (SUPER – ESPON, 2020b), to support people and institutions engaged with land-use management at various levels across Europe to promote sustainable urbanisation in their territories. It does so by bundling together experiences and analyses on sustainable urbanisation and land use practices in European regions, in so doing offering information, ideas and perspectives to help decision-makers and policymakers to proactively contribute to more equal, balanced, and sustainable territorial development.

The decision to convert land to a different use influences our quality of life and that of future generations. As the SUPER Guide shows, a large toolbox of interventions exists that can help alter prevailing land-use practices. Choosing among them is a tough decision, and implementation may require strong political commitment and bold leadership. Within this framework, the Guide constitute a form of knowledge transfer, written by experts in a way that is accessible and helpful to a wide audience. As such, their use may benefit from the support of experts, that guide the interested stakeholders in the use of the information they include and in the assessment of the relevance they entail for their domestic context.

The SUPER spin-offs flourish from this perspective, i.e. to support stakeholders in uptaking the knowledge generated in the framework of the SUPER project and applying the messages included in the SUPER Guide to their own local contexts. Within the context of the spin-offs, this Annex presents the methodology that has been applied in the spin-offs concerning Lithuania and Croatia and that, ideally, may be applied anytime one or more stakeholders are interested in exploring the added value that the results of the SUPER project may provide in relation to the achievement of a more sustainable urbanisation and land-use in the context within which they operate. After this brief introduction, the theories and concepts that underpins the spin-off activities are briefly introduced (§2), before the methodological protocol that has been followed in the study is detailed (§3).

2 Conceptual Framework

In a globalising world, many countries and regions face similar challenges. This is even truer for countries located within the European continent, often sharing a common past, joint cultural roots and a similar institutional background. As a result, governments and policy-makers increasingly look for policy solutions, ideas and 'good practice' examples from other countries, seeking to adapt them to their domestic contexts.

In this light, before presenting more in detail the methodological protocol that has been used as a basis for the activities of the SUPER spin-offs, this section will briefly introduce some of the theories and concepts that underpin these activities. In particular, the following sections will dig into the literature on policy transfer (§2.1), to then focus on how practices have been identified and collected in the ESPON SUPER project and then composed in the SUPER Guide (§2.2).

2.1 Understanding Policy Transfer

While the process of policy transfer is not new, it nonetheless appears that over the past decade or so, as technological advances have made it easier and faster for policy-makers to communicate with each other, the occurrences of policy transfer have increased. To take one example, welfare-to-work and workfare policies and programs clearly have been transferred from the United States to Britain since the early 1980s (see Dolowitz, 1997, 1998). In fact, in response to Tony Blair's and Bill Clinton's "success" in using American-style welfare-to-work programs to reduce levels of unemployment, many European governments have begun adopting British and American welfare-to-work policies themselves.

There are a number of obvious reasons for the growth in transfer. As Parsons puts it (1996, 234), as transnational corporations and institutions come to exercise more influence and power, so the capacity of policy-makers to frame their own agendas is diminished, and public policy now takes place in a world system as well as in national and regional political systems. However, global economic forces are not the only pressure toward policy transfer; the rapid growth in communications of all types makes exchange of ideas and knowledge much easier. Similarly, international organizations, such as the European Union (EU), the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, advocate, and at times enforce, similar policies across diverse countries.[1] Such processes of transnational learning (Mariussen & Virkkala, 2013), lesson-drawing (Rose, 1991), policy transfer (D. Dolowitz & Marsh, 1996; D. P. Dolowitz & Marsh, 2000) tend to be embedded in international relations or in the instruments and programmes of organisations such as the EU or the OECD, and relate to an expanding range of policy areas, involving governmental and non-state actors at multiple territorial levels.

Overall, the assumption that the dissemination of practices can lead to policy change "has become an accepted wisdom within national policies and programmes, as well as in international arenas and networks" (Bulkeley, 2006: 1030). This is evident when looking at recent European Union (EU) policy documents highlighting how the identification and dissemination of good practices is pivotal to many areas of European policy. At the same time, it led to the development of a growing body of literature within political science and international studies that directly and indirectly uses, discusses and analyses the processes involved in lesson-drawing, policy convergence, policy diffusion and policy transfer. While the terminology and focus often vary, all of these studies are concerned with the process by which knowledge about policies, administrative arrangements, institutions and ideas in one political system (past or present) is used in the development of policies, administrative arrangements, institutions and ideas in another political system. Taken together, these phenomena, by subjecting countries to similar pressures and expanding the amount of information available to policy-makers, have meant that policy-makers increasingly look to other political systems for

[1] At the same time, certain states or supranational and international organisations are keen to export their policy approaches and tools to other countries for pragmatic or normative reasons striving to project some of its policy norms and values beyond its borders. This can be exemplified by the long-standing involvement of European and American consultants in transport policies and urban planning in Latin America or the Balkans, the foreign-designed eco-cities and industrial parks in China or the increasingly prominent dialogues on regional and urban policy between the EU and the major developing countries.

knowledge and ideas about institutions, programs and policies and about how they work in other jurisdictions. In this light, to reflect on the potentials for and barriers to transferability of policies and practices is indeed a highly relevant issue.

This is certainly relevant also in relation to the promotion of more sustainable urbanisation and land-use, as a consequence of the fact that the transferability of territorial governance elements is an issue characterised by a higher degree of complexity, difficulty and risk of failure, in comparison to other policy fields (Cotella et al., 2015). Reasons behind this are primarily linked to the field of policy transfer in general, and may be referred to (i) the questionability of 'reproductive' assumptions behind the rhetoric of 'best practices transferability', especially where this concerns diversified institutional contexts (James & Lodge, 2003; Vettoretto, 2009; Stead, 2012) and (ii) the lack of verified and tested universal models for policy transfer because of the high degree of variables at stake (Dolowitz & Marsh, 2000).

Be that as it may, as territorial governance constitutes the framework within which regional policies and spatial planning activities function, the diffusion of good territorial governance lays among the aims of the EU. Whereas territorial governance has indeed several implications for the effectiveness and efficiency of the EU cohesion policy, it at the same time constitute the framework within which the interventions aimed at steering, managing and regulating urbanisation are conceived, developed and implemented, this making the study of the potentials for transferability of such interventions from one context to another an important focus of the ESPON SUPER project.

However, such a research field is mind-ravelling: territorial governance processes are intrinsically complex and made up of a lot of key dimensions and it is highly questionable whether any territorial governance practice is entirely 'good' or 'bad', being rather a mix of successful and unsuccessful elements. If so, the problem of spreading good territorial governance can be profitably defined in terms of identification and transferability of those successful elements that may promote good territorial governance in other places. According to Wolman and Page (2002), policies are made of different components that can be exchanged and, also according to the OECD (2001), the degree of transferability of components for exchange is not the same. Ideas, principles and philosophies are difficult to be transferred since it can be hard for others to make them relevant to their own situations or to use them actively in their contexts. Despite their major visibility, also programmes, institutions, modes of organisation, practitioners, and joined projects are not easily transferable since they are often too specific for particular contexts. The case is different for components such as methods, techniques, know-how and operating rules.

To support policy and decisionmakers at all territorial levels with relevant knowledge that may provide an added value in their action towards more sustainable urbanisation and land-use, the SUPER research team collected a number of territorial governance practices specifically directed towards this aim. These practices are collected in the SUPER Database, and some of them are further elaborated upon in the SUPER Guide to Sustainable Urbanisation and Land-use. This spin-off activity is an attempt to develop a sequence of steps through which interested stakeholders may learn from this knowledge, and transfer some elements from the collected practices in their own context and actions.

2.2 The SUPER project approach to practices

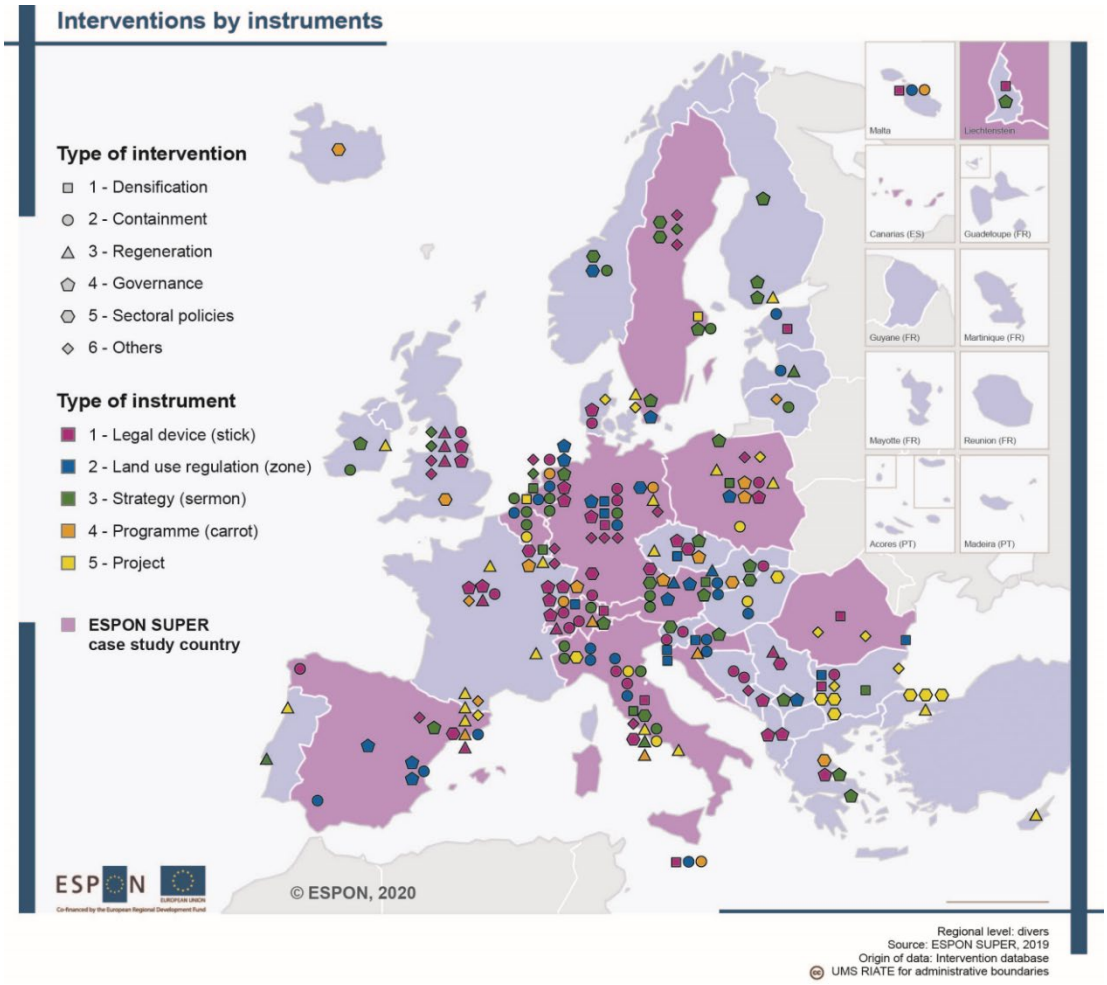
Any intervention influencing the distribution of development and land-use rights potentially falls into the scope of the SUPER project, and could have been surveyed by the research team. Four methods of data collection were employed (i) inputs provided directly by the project's consortium partners, (ii) an analysis of the ESPON COMPASS project reports, (iii) the development and distribution of an online questionnaire and (iv) literature review and targeted searching.

The third method provided the highest number of results, while the fourth one was used to fill the gaps in the obtained database. More in detail, the research team designed an online questionnaire and circulated throughout a number of channels, in order to ensure that experts from all European countries were reached. To facilitate interviewees, the survey provided the following working definition of sustainable urbanisation:

"Sustainable land use means using and managing land assets in a way that does not compromise the livelihood of future generations. It implies a balanced consideration of social, economic, and environmental goods and services provided by the land uses in a certain region. It also implies a careful consideration of long-term attributes of resilience and robustness of the underlying ecosystem."

The survey consisted in a series of questions (general or more specific) and invited interviewees to make examples and provide additional suggestions. Overall, it generated a little over 160 responses that were then compiled into a preliminary joint list with those deriving from the project partners' experience and from the analysis of the ESPON COMPASS report. The quality of the list was checked a first time for overlaps and misfit elements, leading to a reduction of the total number of entries to 185. The obtained list was then complemented by all members of the research team through target searching activity, that allowed to fill in the remaining gaps in countries at stake. At the same time, a thorough literature was performed, in order to screen the most relevant academic contributions on the matter and identify additional pivotal examples. The combination of these two activities resulted in the inclusion into the list of additional interventions, for a total of 235 interventions that, in one way or another, affect land use and thus influence its sustainability in one or more countries in Europe (Figure 2.1).

Map 2.1
Interventions collected and analysed in the SUPER project



Source: ESPON SUPER

Each of the collected interventions was further explored by reviewing available online documentation, and all this information was systematically compiled into an intervention database, using the following fields:

- **Basic information**: (1) Name of the intervention, (2) Year (or time frame), (3) Location, (4) Country, (5) Scale (on the basis of NUTS classification), (6) Type(s) of EU territory involved (Urban, Rural, Functional area, Costal area, Mountain region, Peripheral border, Cross-border, scarcely populated, Other), (7) Urban typology (if urban: Monocentric, Polycentric, Dispersed, Linear, Coastal);
- **Characteristics**: (1) Intervention inspired by the EU (Yes/No), (2) Type of intervention (Densification; Containment; Regeneration of unused/problematic sites; Governance; Sectoral Policy –

Transport; Sectoral Policy – Environment; Sectoral Policy – Rural development; Side effects) (3) Type of instrument (Legal device, Land-use regulation, Strategy, Programme, Project), (4) Status (Statutory and mandatory, Statutory and non-mandatory, Non-statutory), (5) Level of coercion (Non-binding; Self-binding; Binding for public actors; Binding for all actors);

- **Effects**: (1) Side effect or direct impact, (2) Description (in terms of scope and goals), (3) Description (in terms of how it works), (4) Degree of success – according to the goal of the intervention, (5) Degree of success with respect to sustainable urbanisation (6) Temporal sustainability: does the intervention prevent economic, social or environmental costs from being passed on to future generations? (7) Thematic sustainability: does the intervention advance values in the economic, social or environmental dimension without sacrificing those in other dimensions? (8) Institutional sustainability: is the intervention financially and politically sustainable over time? (9) Implementation quality – with respect to traditional evaluation criteria (is the intervention efficient – extent to which resources are well-spent, effective - extent to which goals were achieved, and relevant - for identified needs and problems?).

2.3 The SUPER Guide

As the ultimate purpose of the SUPER project is to provide relevant, feasible and appropriate recommendations to decision-makers and policymakers, the collected interventions were further analysed and used as the main source of inspiration for the *Guide to Sustainable Urbanization and Land Use*, a handbook supporting stakeholders setting up policy measures at local, regional and national levels. Specific guidance is provided to:

- local and subnational decision-makers on the main types of interventions available (i.e. containment, densification, regeneration, governance and sectoral policies in the field of transport, environment and rural development);
- local and subnational policymakers on the types of instruments available (i.e. visions and strategies, legal devices, land use regulations, incentives programmes and projects);
- national level actors on different policy options, the trade-offs they present in relation to the different dimensions of sustainability, and the instruments through which they can be achieved;
- EU level actors on the types of instruments available for promoting sustainable urbanization and land use (i.e. legislation, funding instruments and strategic documents, with particular attention devoted to the EU Urban Agenda SLU_NBS partnership).

It includes examples of effective policy interventions, place-based approaches, enhanced territorial cooperation and tailor-made solutions. It also provides warnings regarding pitfalls and barriers to achieving sustainable urbanization and land use, usually related to side-effects or transferability problems. Additionally, eleven textboxes, each focussing on one of the project's case studies, are placed throughout the text which show readers how interventions affect development practices in context.

3 Methodological protocol

The spin-off project was set up to investigate the applicability of the SUPER project to policy practice, and at the same time to explore what added value could the general conclusions and recommendations of the project bring to decision and policymakers active in different European contexts. Particular attention was dedicated to the SUPER Guide, and to how decision and policymakers active in the EU Member States at the different territorial levels could take inspiration from the messages it includes in their activities towards a more sustainable urbanisation and land-use.

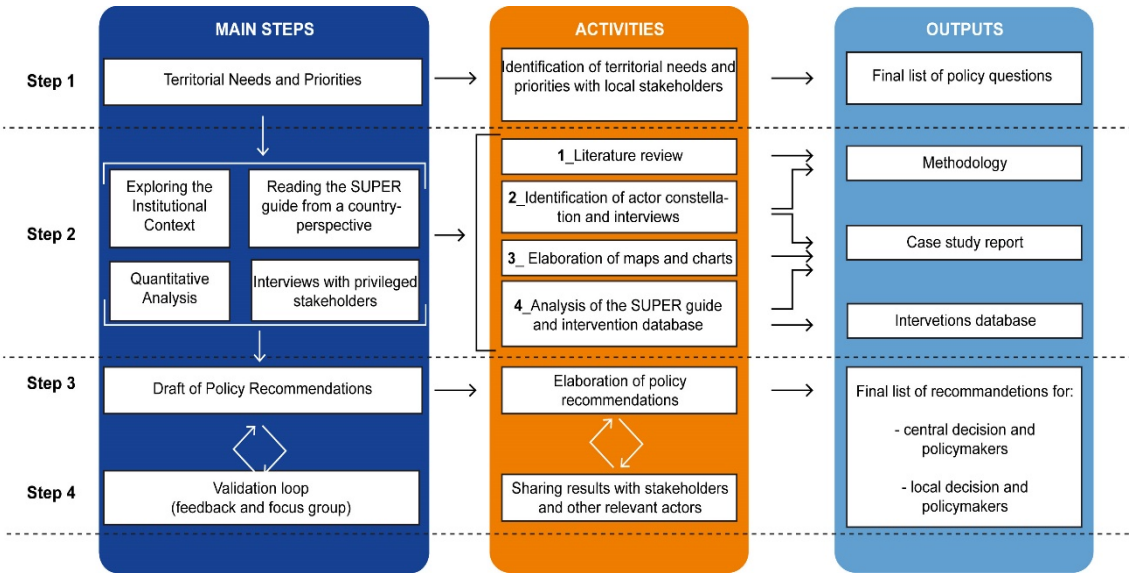
In order to do so, a methodological protocol has been set up at the start of the spin-off activity, consisting of a number of steps, actions and outcomes whose implementation in close interaction between the research team and the stakeholders could lead to a successful uptake of the knowledge produced by SUPER and its adoption in the spin-off contexts. The initial methodological protocol was then reviewed as a consequence to the continuous interaction with the stakeholders and of the comments received at various stage by ESPON, and its final version is presented in the following subsections

More in detail, the overall protocol is introduced, together with the different steps that compose it, their objectives and their interaction (§3.1). After that, the actions that should be conducted in relation to each step are detailed (§3.2). Finally, the expected outcomes of this application are listed (§3.3). Overall, the implementation of the various steps through the conduction of the listed actions should lead to the production of a number of outcomes and, altogether, to the successful identification of useful lessons collected through the super projects and their translation into the context targeted by the spin-off.

3.1 Steps and objectives

The methodological protocol consists of four distinct but interrelated steps, each presenting a specific objective. The four steps are related to each other consequentially, as well as by a number of feedback processes. At the same time, as it will be further discussed in the following subsections, each step requires the conduction of a number of activities and results in the production of one or more outputs (Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1
Methodological protocol



Source: authors' elaboration

The four steps and their objectives are presented more in detail below:

3.1.1 Step 1 – Identification of needs and priorities

Objective: identification of clear and realistic policy needs and priorities needed for the application of the SUPER guide.

The identification of clear and realistic policy needs and priorities – in relation to sustainable urbanisation and land-use as well as to the territorial characteristics of the stakeholder's context and to the institutional framework the stakeholder acts within – is a precondition for the successful application of the SUPER Guide. Based on the specific requests for applying this methodological protocol, all actors involved should come together and identify policy needs and reflects on the possibilities offered by SUPER to individuate concrete, transferable and applicable lessons and solutions.

3.1.2 Step 2 – Survey activities

Objectives: exploration of the institutional context, elaboration of quantitative data analysis, analyses of the ESPON SUPER guide and intervention database

Exploration of the institutional context – building on the policy needs and priorities identified in Step 1, the stakeholder's institutional context should be explored, together with its multilevel-governance relations. The objective is to sketch an institutional framework depicting the overall administrative organisation of the country and the position of the stakeholder within the latter, the main spatial governance and planning authorities, their power and competences, the various types of instruments they are responsible for and how the latter exert a positive or negative influence on urbanisation and land-use.

Quantitative analysis – depending on the policy needs and priorities identified in Step 1, a number of quantitative analyses should be conducted aiming at presenting selected socio-economic, territorial and morphological transformations occurred in the last two decades in the area under investigation. In general terms, this analyses should draw extensively on the data already collected and elaborated by the SUPER project and available in the ESPON Database. In specific situation, additional data collection and elaboration may be required, in order to shed light on specific contextual elements.

Reading the SUPER Guide from a country perspective – keeping in mind the policy objectives and need defined in Step 1, as well as the institutional context and quantitative analysis developed in this step, the SUPER Guide should then be analysed in order to: (i) investigate how the country urbanisation and land use developments and trends positions within the main European trends, and what interventions impact on the sustainability of urbanisation and land-use; (ii) identify and select a preliminary set of interventions from the Guide as well as from the SUPER intervention database that may provide useful reference in relation to the identified policy needs and priorities and the specific institutional framework that characterise the context at stake; (iii) explore the actual relevance of the identified interventions in relation to the territorial and institutional framework under scrutiny, identifying elements that can be "filtered-out" from them, and then "filtered-in" the different policy processes at stake.

3.1.3 Step 3 – Elaboration of recommendations: Identify solutions

Objective: identification of country-based recommendations (and warnings) in line with the policy needs and priorities identified in step 1.

Identifying site-specific and appropriate set of recommendations - the recommendations presented are a synthesis of: (i) government policy requirements and suggestions; (ii) qualitative and quantitative data indications; (iii) lessons learned and pitfalls derived from a critical reading of the SUPER guide and intervention database; (iv) a combination of opinions and suggestions made by key actors.

3.1.4 Step 4 - Final set of recommendations: Exploring transferability potentials and pitfalls

Objective: testing, validation and resetting of recommendations with key domestic stakeholders

Final recommendation approval - together with the stakeholders, the recommendations should then be validated in order to guarantee coherence and consistency with expectations, national ambitions and the numerous nuances that characterise local institutional settings. This final step involved the integration of suggestions and final considerations obtained via bilateral meetings with stakeholders and especially via one or more focus groups.

3.2 Main activities conducted

To pursue each of the Steps introduced above, a number of activities needs to be conducted, either autonomously by the research team entrusted with the spin-off step or in close connections with the stakeholder that had commissioned it as well as with a number of other relevant stakeholders active in the same institutional context.

The various activities composing each step are detailed below:

3.2.1 Step 1 – Identification of needs and priorities

This Steps occurs at the very beginning of the spin-off, and consist in the organization of a meeting in which the stakeholder commissioning the study, a representative of the ESPON EGTC and the service provider co-define the main territorial needs and priorities that will guide the study.

More in details, the stakeholder presents its policy role and they challenge they are facing in relation to the promotion of sustainable urbanisation and land-use. On this basis, it proposes a preliminary list of policy needs and priorities. This list is then further refined and articulated with the help of the service provider, that will draw on the result of the SUPER project to contribute framing the issues in a way in which the SUPER Guide may then provide added-value to.

3.2.2 Step 2 – Survey activities and identification of interventions

The second Step constitute the core of the spinoff, where the service provider acquires the necessary knowledge of the local context, that will inform the identification of relevant elements from the SUPER Guide, in turn guiding the definition of policy recommendations and warnings.

It requires the conduction of four interrelated activities:

Literature review – a thorough literature review should be conducted by the service provider, multiple types of sources like international scientific literature, ESPON reports focusing in one way or another on the context and policy area at stake (in particular, the project ESPON COMPASS – Comparative Analysis of Territorial Governance and Spatial Planning in Europe constitute a highly useful reference to get acquainted with the institutional context under scrutiny), domestic laws and regulations, spatial planning instruments at the different territorial levels and of different kind, various open source documentation and institutional websites, local blogs etc. This activity helps the service provider to sketch and understand the institutional framework that is targeted by the spin-off, to identify the main relevant actors, their competences and relations etc. This activity *de-facto* constitute a process of local knowledge transfer from the stakeholder to the service provider, with the former that should allow the latter access to all relevant materials and, when necessary to English language summaries of those materials that are available only in original language.

Identification of actors' constellation and interviews – the service provider should identify, together with the local stakeholder, a set of key actors to be engaged in the spin-off activities. The identified actors should be active at different territorial levels and in relation to different policy sectors, with a special attention to those that, within the institutional context at stake, have an influence on urbanisation and land-use. Moreover, the actor constellation should ideally (i) concern a heterogeneous sample – aiming at presenting a multiplicity of voices and evidence; (ii) allow for a balance of points of view and perspectives (public servants, private experts etc.) and (iii) cover different land-use planning levels (from central to local). Engaging with the identified actors via in-depth, semi-structured interviews, this activity offers the opportunity to deeply understand how territorial governance and spatial planning works in the context at stake, what are the main forces driving urbanisation and land-use, what are the instruments used to steer and regulate it, and what are the challenges perceived by different categories of actors in order to address land use a more sustainable way. The interviews should take place when a preliminary sketch of the institutional framework has been produced by the service provider, as a consequence of the literature review. The interviewees should be asked to answer a semi-structured list of questions prepared in advance, while at the same time by relatively free to expand the discussion in relation to their own knowledge and perspective. When possible and useful, this activity should also include the organisation of one or more focus groups involving more than one actor. Similarly, the participation of the service provider as observer to ongoing policy-processes may provide an added value to the process.

Elaboration of maps and charts – In parallel to the institutional analysis, the service provider should draw on the quantitative analyses produced in the framework of the ESPON SUPER project and on the data collected

by the project to develop a series of maps and charts. Their goal is to illustrate the main changes and trends concerning a wide range of variables (population, economic growth, employment, land use change, territorial morphology etc.), and that should contribute to further detail the urbanisation and land-use trends in the context under scrutiny and the challenges that need to be faced in order to promote a higher sustainability of the latter. The types of maps and data to be elaborated depends on the specific needs and priorities defined in Step 1, and varies from context to context. Ideally, they should all be developed on the basis of the data collected by the ESPON SUPER research team. However, in specific cases, the collection and elaboration of additional data and information may be necessary.

SUPER guide and intervention database analysis – Following the example of the ESPON SUPER database, a series of interventions should be identified, and analysed according to the same analytical categories that were used for the SUPER database. The identification of these interventions should follow a number of actions: (i) input provided directly by the stakeholder, (ii) an analysis of the ESPON COMPASS national project reports (iii) suggestions provided during the interviews (iv) literature review and targeted searching. The identified interventions should be assessed according to a list of sustainability indicators identified by the SUPER, aiming at unfolding the potential trade-offs that they entail in relation to the sustainability of urbanisation and land-use (see for example Table 3.1 built in the Lithuanian spin-off). On the basis of this analysis, the SUPER Guide and database should be searched for those interventions that may provide a contribution when aiming at answering to the identified needs and priorities, as well as provide a good fit with the institutional context at stake (this last element is particularly relevant, as it will help the process of filtering in elements from the identified interventions within the local context, minimising so the institutional adaptation costs). As mentioned about (§2.2) the SUPER project distinguishes five types of intervention according to their aims and scope (densification, regeneration, containment, governance, and sectoral policies), as well as five types of intervention according to the kind of instrument being deployed (e.g. visions and strategies, rules and legal devices, and regulations, programmes and projects). Following this classification, the service provider may be able to identify those interventions that could influence positively the sustainability of urbanisation and land-use in the context of the spin-off and in relation to the identified needs and priorities.

3.2.3 Step 3 – Elaboration of recommendations: Identify solutions

This spin-off applies the SUPER guide and database to a specific country. The objectives are: (i) to highlight if the country's development is in line with the main European trends; (ii) to select a preliminary set of examples of interventions that can be useful for the elaboration of recommendations (iii) to identify opportunities and warnings.

3.2.4 Step 4 - Final set of recommendations: Exploring transferability potentials and pitfalls

For the purposes of testing and discussing the policy recommendations, it seems useful to organise one or more meetings with key domestic stakeholders. Focus groups might be online or offline based on needs and possibilities. Methods of stakeholders' involvement might be divers (not only focus group) and the experimentation of different solutions is welcomed (for example developing meeting using Delphi method, questionnaires, etc.).In all cases, it is important that participants have the opportunity to:

- understand the set of recommendations, each participant should be aware of what the recommendations are and why have been development;
- discuss on the bases of their experiences, expectations and ambitions;
- contribute to improving the final set of recommendations.

The process of stakeholder participation might benefit from:

- an inclusive approach: all potential stakeholders should be invited or included in the process;
- peer to peer learning: there are no hierarchical mechanisms, all inviters have the same right to discuss and elaborate ideas;
- transparency: the final set of recommendations should somehow reflect the discussion with stakeholders

Table 3.1
Sustainability assessment of indicators

	Interventions	Dimensions of Sustainability																									
		Economic Sustainability								Ecological Sustainability											Social Sustainability						
		GDP, wealth	Public finance	Jobs	Accessibility	Business areas	Housing demand	Transportation costs	Energy consumption	Reducing mobility (by car)	Reducing pollution, including CO2	Green urban areas	Biodiversity	Land consumption	Natural hazards	Climate change	Consumption of resources	Renewable energy	Space for future water retention	Circular economy	Health	Affordable housing	Equity/inclusion	Public and recreational space	Variety (high-rise, suburban, etc.)	Mixed-use areas	Satisfaction with home environment
1	Regional Housing Policy	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	++	++	+	-/+	-	+/-	-	-	- -	-	-	- -	+/-	-	-	+	++	++	+/-	+	+	+
2	Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs)	+	+/-	+	++	+	+	++	+/-	++	++	+/-	+/-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+/-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+/-
3	Comprehensive plan of municipality	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+	++	++
4	National Landscape Management Plan	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	+	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	+	+
5	Lithuanian Urban development policy guidelines	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+	+	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-
6	Territorial planning norms	+	++	+	++	+	+	+/-	+/-	+	+/-	++	+	+	+/-	+/-	-	+/-	+/-	+	+	++	+	++	+/-	++	++
7	New Comprehensive Plan of the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania	++	+	+	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	++	++	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++
8	Lithuanian land law	+	+	+	+/-	+/-	++	- -	- -	+/-	-	+/-	- -	- -	-	-	- -	-	-	+/-	+	+ +	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	+/-
9	Local Action Groups	+/-	+	+/-	+	+	+/-	+/-	n.a	n.a	n.a	+/-	+/-	+/-	n.a	n.a	n.a	+/-	n.a	++	+	+	++	++	++	++	+
10	PAUPYS	++	+	++	++	++	++	++	+	+	+	++	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	n.a	+	+	++	++	++	++	++	++
11	Real Estate Tax Act	++	++	+	++	++	++	+	n.a	n.a	n.a	+/-	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	+/-	n.a	++	+	+/-	+/-	+	+	+
12	Integrated Territorial Development Programmes in Vilnius	+	+	+	+	+	+	+/-	+/-	n.a	n.a	+	n.a.	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	++	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-
13	Shopping mall - Akropolis	++	-	++	++	++	--	-	+	-	-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	+ +	- -	+/-	+/-	- -	- -	+ +	+/-	+/-	+
14	Strategic Development Plan of Kaunas City - Municipality Up To 2022	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	++	+	++	+	++	++
15	Ogmios City	+/-	+	+/-	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	++	+	++	+	++	++
16	White Bridge Project	n.a	n.a	n.a	++	+/-	+/-	n.a	n.a	n,a	n.a	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	n.a	++	++	+/-	++	++
17	Bike path and riverfront reuse in Vilnius	n.a	n.a	n.a	++	n.a	+/-	n.a	n.a	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	+/-	+/-	++	+	++	++
18	Renovation of Heritage Buildings Programme of Kaunas	+	+	+/-	++	+/-	++	+/-	++	+/-	+/-	+/-	n.a	++	n.a	n.a	+	++	n.a	+	++	+	+	++	++	++	++
19	Integrated Territorial Development Programmes	+	+	+	+	+	+	+/-	+/-	n.a	n.a	+	n.a.	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	++	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-
20	Free Economic Zone	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	-	- -	-	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	+/-	n.a	+	n.a	n.a	-	-	-	-	-
21	Marijampolė Free Economic Zone (Baltic FEZ)	++	++	++	++	++	-	++	- -	- -	- -	-	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	+	n.a	+/-	n.a	n.a	-	-	-	-	-
22	Local Action Plan for Žirmūnai triangle in Vilnius	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	n.a	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+

Source: authors' elaboration (from the Lithuania Technical Report)

3.3 Main results and outputs

The implementation of the activities presented in the section above allows for the elaboration of a number of outputs, altogether constituting the result of the spin-off activities. Ideally, these materials should provide the stakeholders that proposed the spin-off with relevant knowledge and insights to answer the identified needs and priorities and allowing them to enhance the sustainability of urbanisation and land-use in their context.

The outcomes of the spin-off are articulated as follows:

- **Main report**

It presents in a concise, yet meaningful way the main results of the spin-off, including the list of needs and priorities, the institutional framework and the results of the quantitative analysis, the identified interventions and the recommendations deriving from the latter.

- **Factsheet**

A retro-verso page, presenting the needs and priorities identified for the spin-off, together with a summary of the recommendations that were identified in response to the latter. This information is supported by one or two diagrams that exemplify particularly relevant elements of the context at stake.

- **Annex 1** - Conceptual framework and methodological protocol

It presents the analytical and procedural rationale on which basis the spin-offs' research activity has been conducted. It includes a detail of the various steps and activities that have been conducted, the objectives and the main results to be achieved.

- **Annex 2** – [Country] technical report

It presents all the elaborations produced by the service provider as a consequence of all the steps composing the methodological protocol. It includes a sections presenting all relevant maps and charts that follows the conducted quantitative analysis, as well as the list of SUPER Interventions that are relevant for the context at stake and the main recommendations and warnings that can be drawn from them.

- **Annex 3** – [Country] Intervention database

All the interventions that have been collected in the context at stake, gathered according to the same format and analytical methods that has been employed by the ESPON SUPER research team to compose the SUPER intervention database.

- **Engagement record**

A list of the actors that have been engaged throughout the research, including their role, the way they were engaged and the main elements of discussion [to be kept confidential due to GDPR regulations].

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