



Sustainable
URBAN FRINGES
SURF

SURF Final Conference
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Explaining SURF: the Analytical Framework

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The European Regional Development Fund



What is the Urban Fringe?

- “The last great frontier for spatial planning”
- Where the city meets the country and everybody argues about what to do
- Where the NIMBYs live – KEEP OUT!
- The citizens’ playground – LET ME IN!
- Essential support for urban living
- Important refuge for nature
- Fragmentation, incoherence, on the edge



How to approach the Urban Fringe?

- **UF Challenges**
- **UF Potentials**
- **UF Complexities**
- Growing **political attention** paid to the UF
- Plenty of policies and project interventions but little knowledge of
 - ‘What works’?
 - Is enough being done?
 - What is being overlooked?

SURF looks for evidence about better policies and interventions to create a more sustainable and competitive Urban Fringe

- **LEARNING**

- **Capitalising** on previous learning about Urban Fringes

- Exploring previous & ongoing research/ projects
- Invited experts to SURF Conferences

- Using the SURF **partner areas as laboratories** to

- Show how real these challenges/ potentials/ complexities are on the ground
- See what strategies & policies are in place and if they work
- Look for useful tools and interventions for sharing

- **DISSEMINATING**

- The **useful lessons** from SURF partners

- Try to **influence UF policies** at all levels

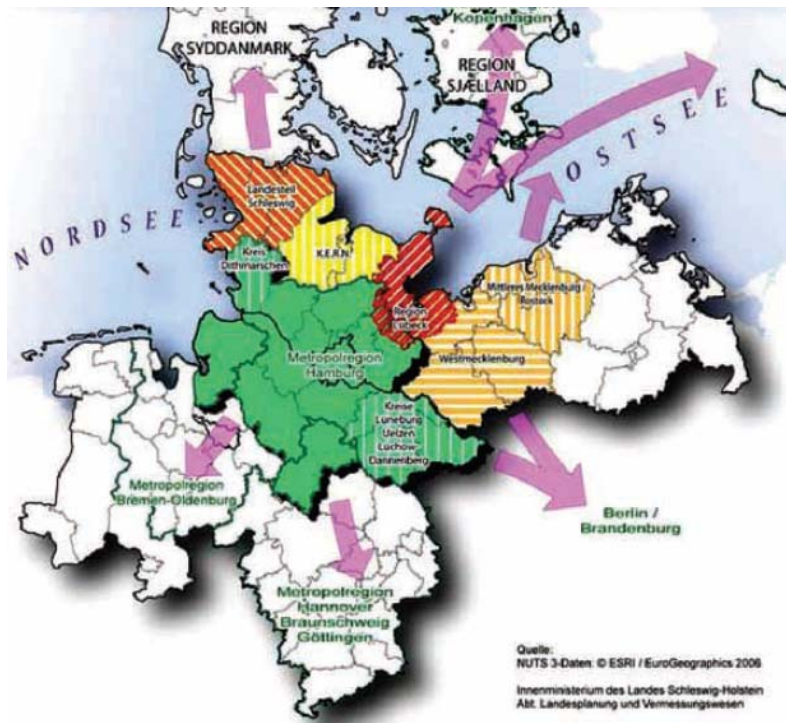
- In particular a **governance model** and a **toolkit**

- Leave a **legacy of this learning**

How did SURF go about its tasks?

Based on the commitments in the Interreg bid:

- Created a **conceptual & analytical framework**
 - Explained how to organise the various tasks
- From the CAF we produced a **road map** for future activities
 - Identified key **SURF themes** and coordinators
 - Competitiveness/ green spaces/ spatial planning/ governance
 - Mapped out key **activity phases** for partners
 - Reporting schedule at **partner conferences**
- Programmed **deliverables** & responsibilities



Example of SURF Capitalisation:

The METREX metropolitan governance network active in a SURF partner region

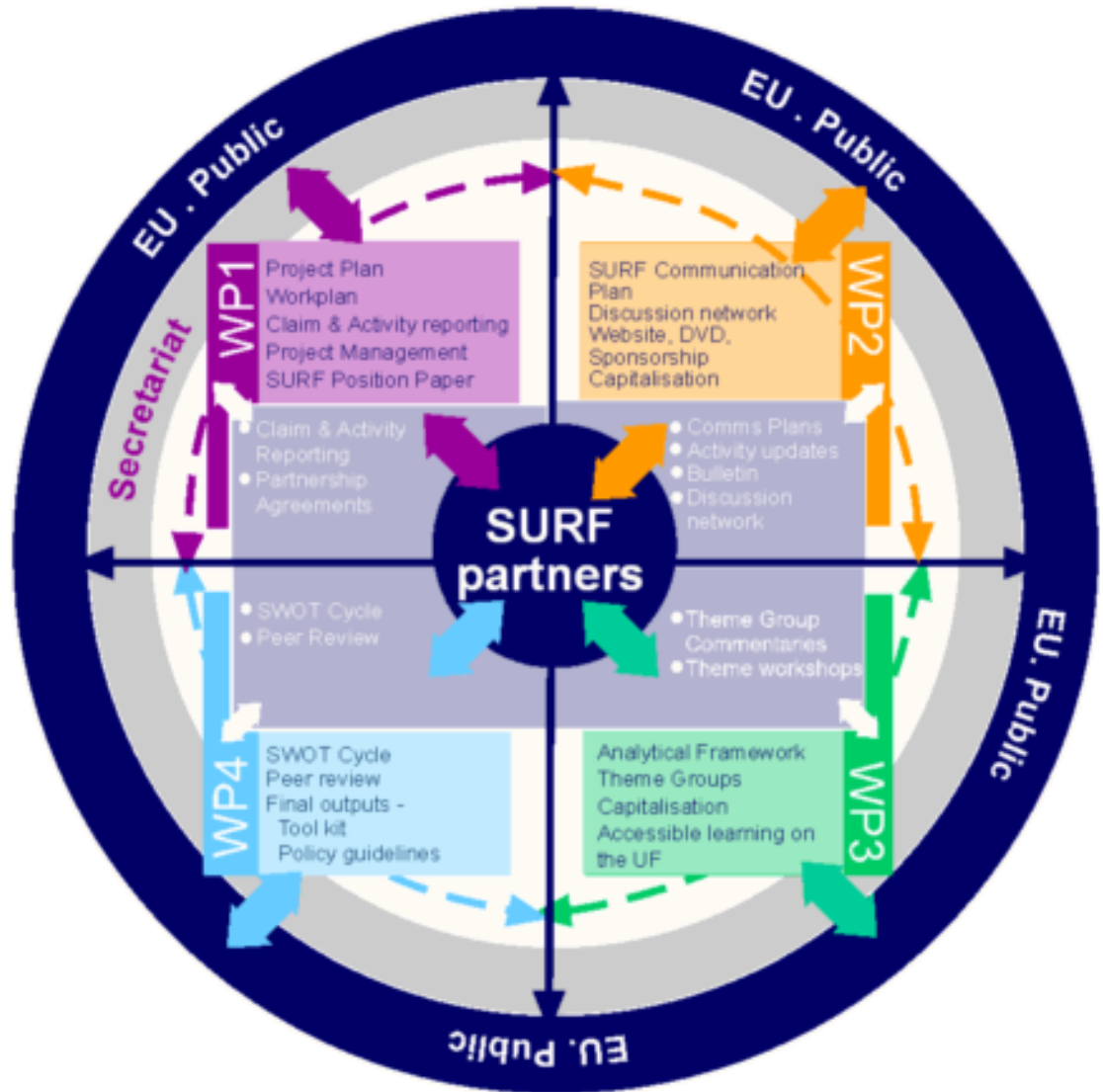
Efficient Metropolitan Governance Functioning Urban-Rural Relations

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SURF findings

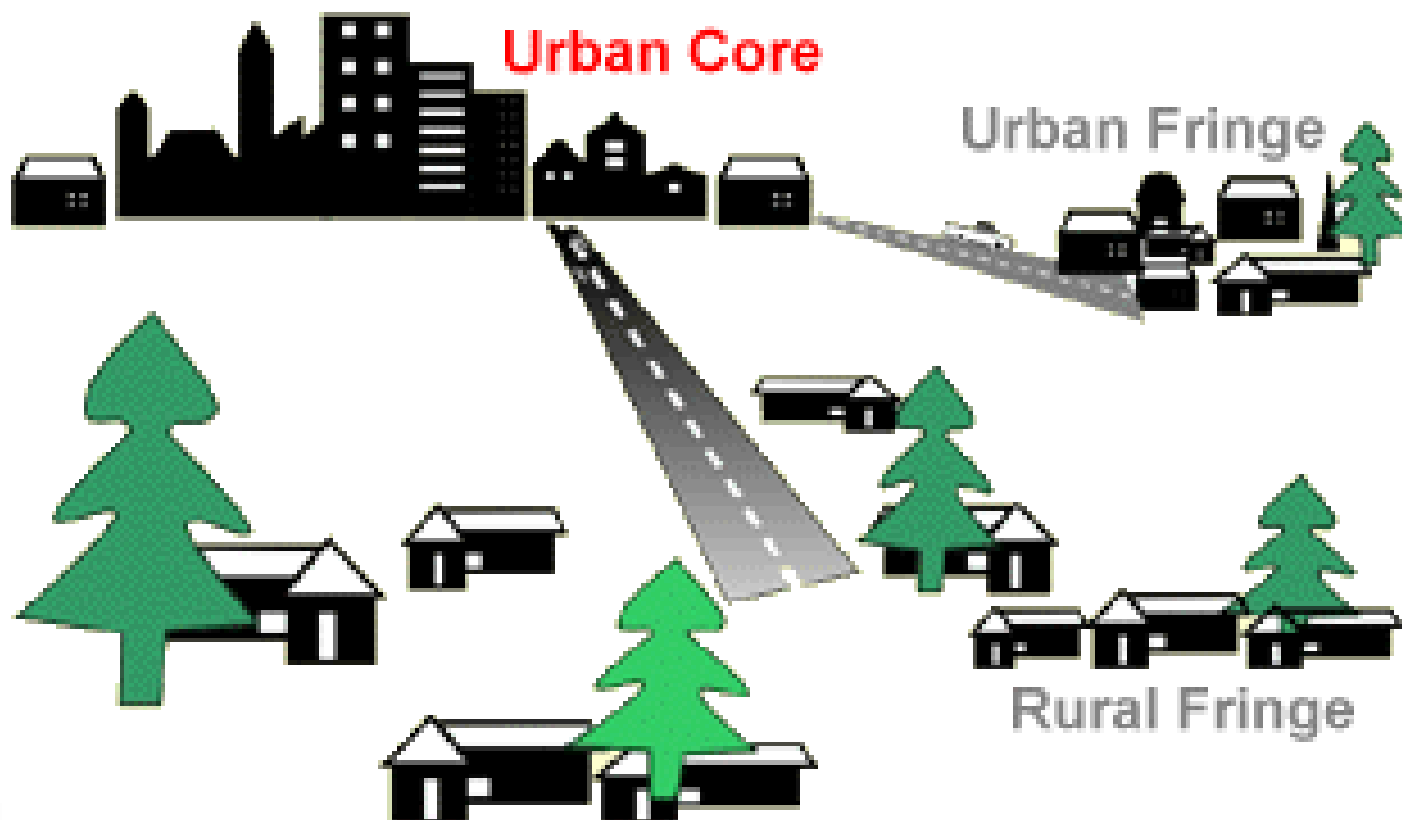
What did SURF find and does it matter?





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Where to next?



The Interreg IVB
North Sea Region
Programme



*Investing in the future by working together
for a sustainable and competitive region*

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