



Sustainable
URBAN FRINGES
SURF

Sustainable Urban Fringe (SURF) project

**The Interreg IVB
North Sea Region
Programme**



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

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About SURF

Sustainable Urban Fringes (SURF) is a 3 year project 2009 - 2012, bringing together partners and experts from across the North Sea Region to exchange information and develop a common approach towards urban fringe development.

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Who are the Partners?

- 13 partners
- 5 countries
 - UK
 - Netherlands
 - Belgium
 - Germany
 - Sweden



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About Urban Fringes

An urban fringe is a zone of transition and interface between urban and country areas, where a broad variety of land uses and activities come together



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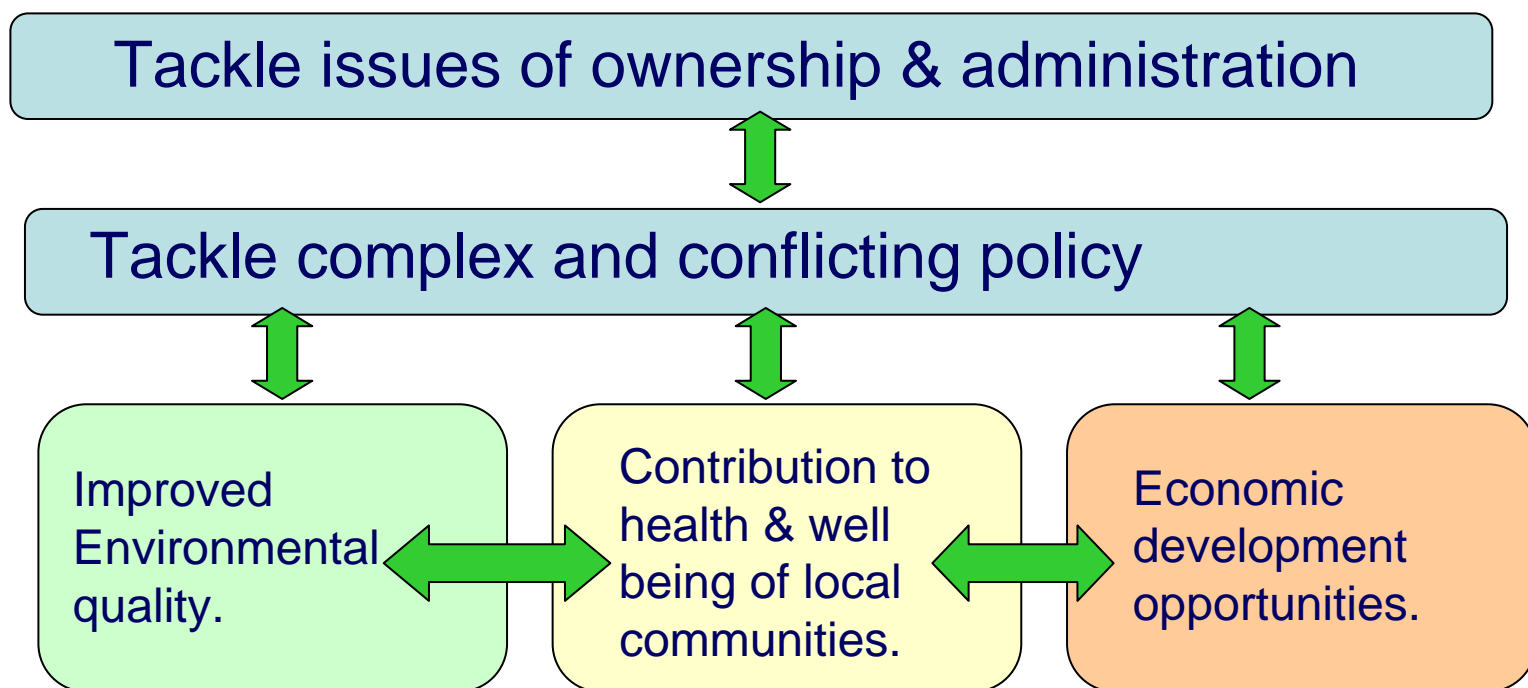
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Objectives SURF





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Project challenges

- **Challenges facing urban fringes, include:**
 - complex issues of ownership and administration
 - declining biodiversity
 - deteriorating water quality
 - low green space value
 - poor access
 - threat from growth and expansion
 - inconsistent spatial planning policy
 - Impact from changing demographics.

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Key themes for the urban fringes

1. Economy, competitiveness, enterprise

- Contribution to an areas competitiveness and sustainability.

2. Governance

3. Role and value of green spaces

- Benefits quality urban fringes bring to adjacent communities.

4. Spatial Planning & Stakeholder Engagement

- Addressing divided and uncoordinated planning responsibilities.

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What is SURF doing?

Urban Fringe information sharing

- Raising awareness of the urban fringe agenda.
- Providing a common platform to exchange knowledge, strategies, policies in dealing urban fringes.

Urban Fringe Research and Analysis

- Urban Fringe SWOT analysis & analytical framework.
- Information exchange on urban fringe policy challenges.

Urban Fringe Implementation

- Production of integrated policy guidelines.
- Production of urban fringe tool kit.

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And finally...

SURF partners are working to ensure urban fringes are recognised as valuable assets. These areas can provide a high quality environment, creating vital urban areas where people want to live work and do business.



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Find out more...

- SURF website
– www.sustainablefringes.eu

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