

INTEGRATED APPROACH TO LAND MANAGEMENT AS A PRINCIPLE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Responsible land management is a key factor to ensuring sustainable development in Europe and to maintaining a balance between societal demands and the supply of natural capital

Why we need to act?

Land is a finite resource. A strategic approach to developing settlement patterns is needed as part of moving to an efficient use of Europe's land resource. Economic growth is coupled with resource consumption and hence land use and indeed consumption. Balancing demand for land and land availability in both urban and rural areas contributes to balancing demand of and supply for natural resources and ecosystem services. Research to understand the highly complex and dynamic issues in land management should strengthen our ability to cope with present and future resource stewardship challenges.

What we will gain?

Land management operates across multiple scales and crosses many territorial aspects. Much contemporary research on Land Management is fragmented across disciplinary boundaries within countries and often duplicated across countries with a consequent waste of resources. An integrated approach to land management, reflecting best practice, would be more likely if future practice was based on integrated research and co-operation of multi-national partners and organizations. Such Innovation and research should be focused not only on spatial planning and technical aspects but also on socio- economic impacts as well as preserving Europe's natural capital. Much contemporary research is fragmented within countries and often duplicated across countries with the consequent waste of resources. An integrated approach to land management should be based on integrated research and co-operation of partners, countries and organizations to ensure wide take up of best practice.

Key research areas

INSPIRATION's bottom up and demand-driven approach has identified research is needed to address the following issues.

- Achieving sustainable and effective land management given Europe's diversity of administrative and planning systems through introducing a generic European land use planning procedure supported by a comprehensive knowledge base about non- spatial issues such as conflict resolution, social cohesion, economic equality and honouring cultural heritage.
- Spatial planning and land management practices that account for climate change to ensure administrative, technical and societal preparedness for extreme weather and related hazards.
- Growing urbanisation and the related changes requires an innovative urban policies ensuring quality of life in European cities and increasing urban attractiveness. Research is required to understand and assess the patterns of urbanisation including urban sprawl, urban- rural partnerships, etc.
- Better understanding of the urban- rural interdependencies will contribute to efficient rural land management, development of sustainable agriculture, support preservation of nature and biodiversity and will provide options to deal with urban sprawl and rural depopulation.

How to become active?

Contact your INSPIRATION national contact at www.inspiration-agenda.eu for further information for a systemic approach on natural resources demand for goods and services supply.



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