



Purple

*Managing the Urban Rural Interface
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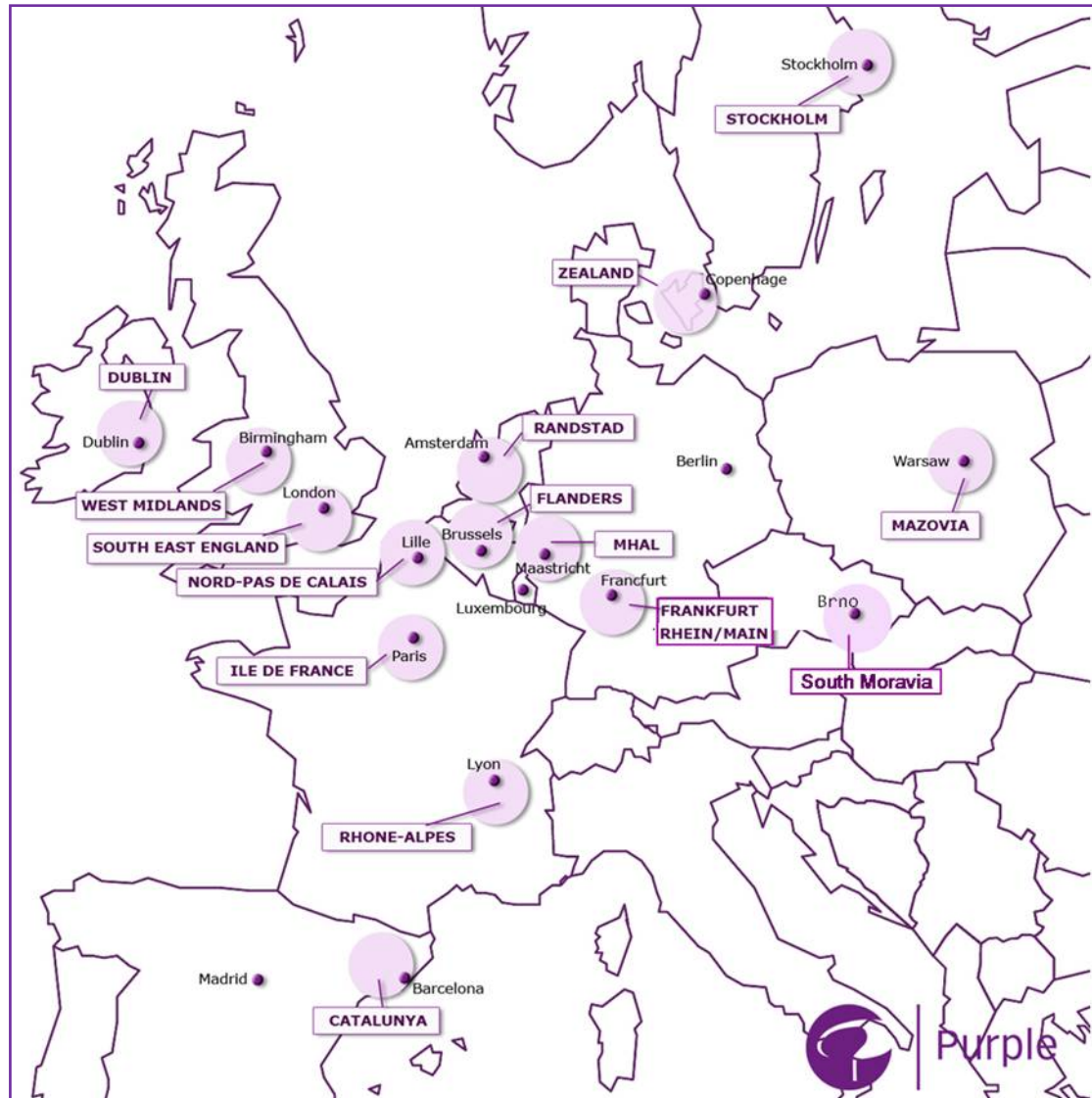
Peri-Urban Regions Platform Europe

Bridging the gap between research and policy making in peri-urban regions

Hilary Lowson, PURPLE network



PURPLE regions





Characteristics

- Proximity to cities
- Mixed commercial development (eg businesses, services and logistics)
- Housing, shops, hospitals, schools
- Mixed land use – farming and food production and open space
- Attractive and convenient place to live and work
- Resources (eg water, aggregates)
- Major infrastructure (transport, energy, waste)

.....Need for integrated policies

.....Need for balanced development

What is policy?

- A framework for action
- A set of decisions around a public issue
- The translation of a government's political vision into programmes and actions to achieve result
- A set of inter-related decisions taken by public authorities concerning the selection of goals and the means of achieving them.



The gap

Speak different languages, have different goals,
different incentives and reward systems,
different definitions of success,
and work to different timeframes...

Policy context in peri-urban regions and *the role of research*

- Need for economic growth – but ‘sustainable’
- Legal limitations/constraints – working with political and policy cycles
- Multi-level governance and shared responsibility – different tiers and different roles/interests
- Managing policy conflicts, ensuring policy integration
- Achievable policies in a timescale and to a budget
- Financial squeeze - being smarter – eg doing more with the same, or less
- Managing a public interface eg quality of life expectations, nimbyism
- Need for future-proofing - what is on the horizon?

*Information and analysis which can underpin policy decisions
–adding credibility*

*Knowledge and evidence that works (or translates) in the real world
– not academic theory*

Scenario planning for alternative possibilities



Possible solutions

- Developing a peri-urban research network
- Annual meetings between researchers and policy makers
- PURPLE members on research project steering groups
- Researchers seek PURPLE endorsement of their proposals at an early stage of development.
- Policy makers, as potential beneficiaries, involved in project evaluation



*Peri-Urban Regions
Platform Europe*

PLUREL
Institute

www.purple-eu.org

[**hilary.lowson@gmail.com**](mailto:hilary.lowson@gmail.com)

Thank you for your attention

