

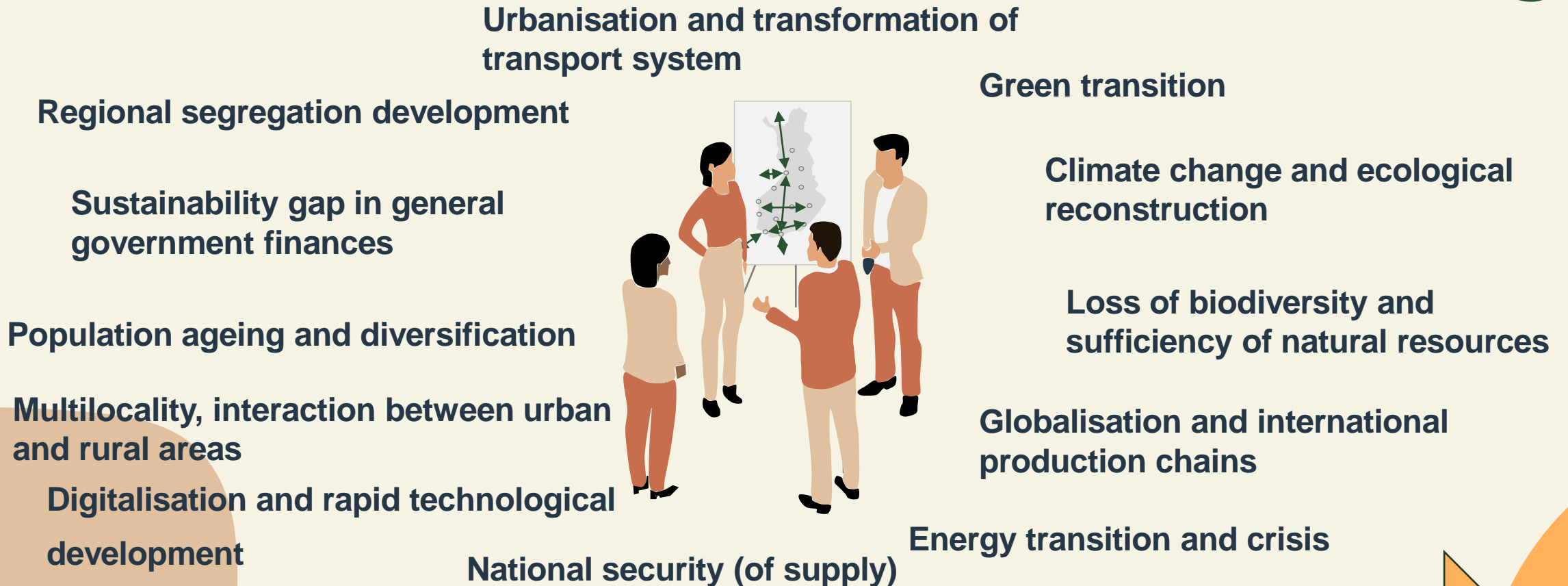


The National Land Use Guidelines of Finland

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Land use matters ! – a platform that creates the basis for living conditions, business life and environment



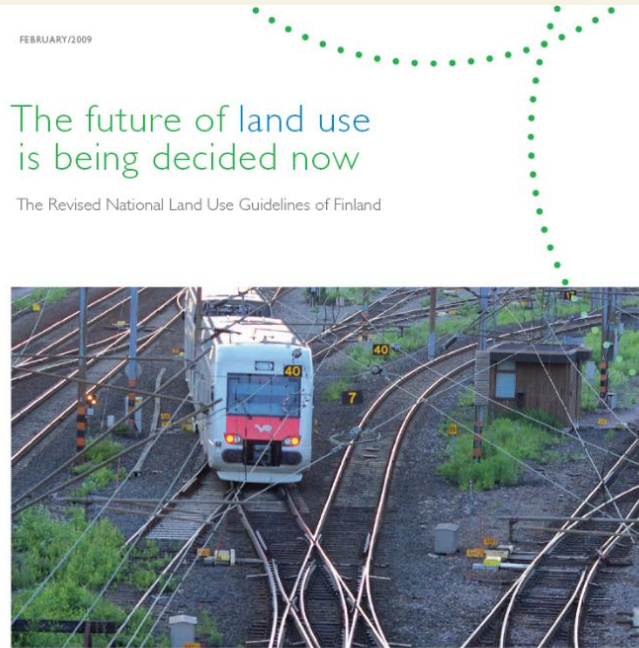
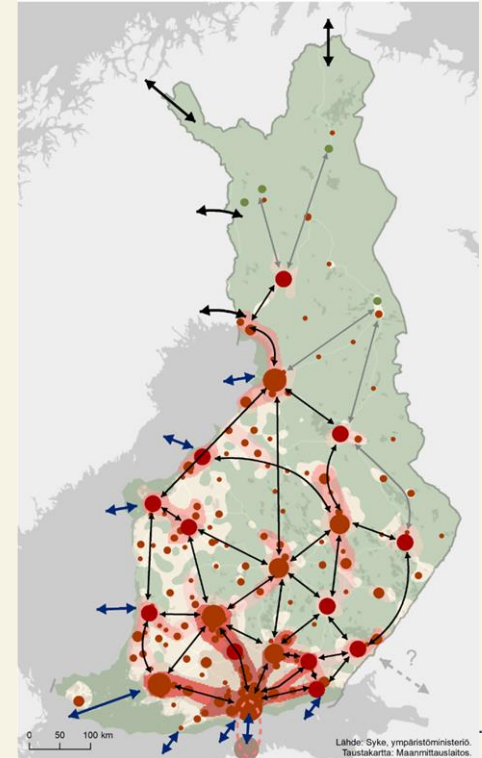
Land use planning is needed at all levels with the nerves of time and future to promote sustainable development

National land use planning and policy making, two instruments and processes

National land use guidelines, statutory planning instrument according to the Land Use Act



Development Perspectives for Land Use in Finland as an information and inspiration source



inputs

National Land Use Guidelines as a part of the planning system (based on the Land Use Act)

The Government decides after the parliamentary hearing

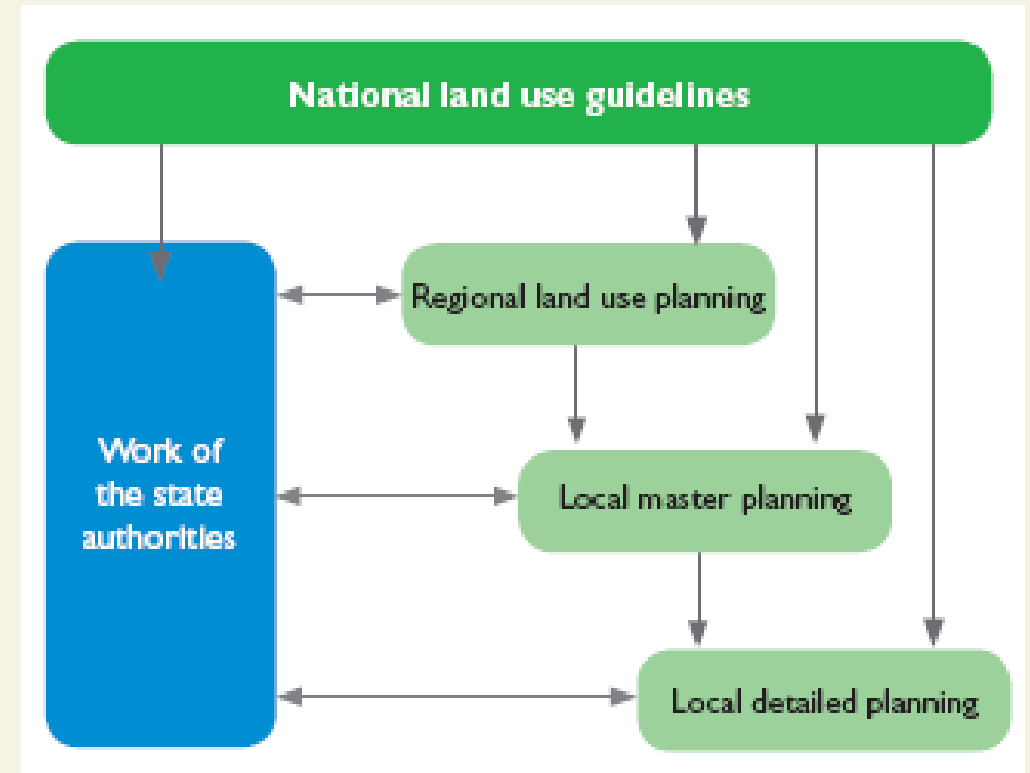
Ministry of the Environment is responsible for drafting the guidelines in collaboration with other ministries and stakeholders

Three decisions so far (2000, 2008 and 2017). Will be updated if necessary

"must be taken into account in a way that promotes their implementation"

Regional land use plans are a primary tool and "arena" for concretization

Ministry of the Environment may issue an order to achieve the guidelines (important public interest)

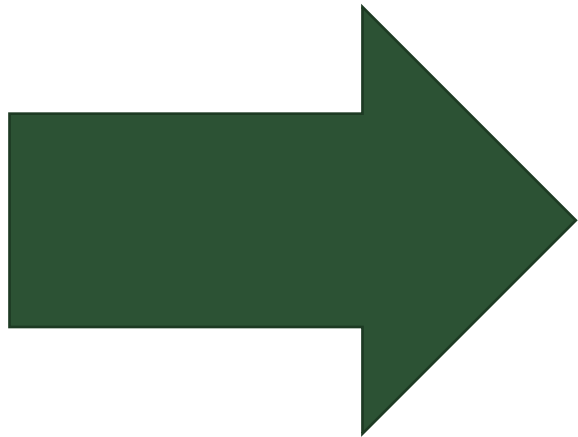


Purpose of the National Land Use Guidelines

- Determine and reconcile the national land use needs of the various sectors of the state into one coordinated national framework
- Create land use planning preconditions for implementing national projects.
- Promote the implementation of international agreements
- Ensure that the nationally important land use issues are taken into account in land use planning as well as the activities of the state authorities
- Help achieving the objectives of the Land Use Act, the most important of which are a good living environment and sustainable development
- Act as a tool in the advance guidance of land use planning in nationally important land use issues and promote the coherence and consistency of advance guidance



Content of the Government decision 2017



1. Land use solutions impact the future

- 1.1 Land use supports transition into low-carbon society
- 1.2 Biodiversity and sustainable use of cultural environments will be promoted
- 1.3 Land use creates opportunities for renewal of economic activities
- 1.4 Urbanisation offers opportunities and creates challenges

2. Starting points of the national land use guidelines

- 2.1 Legal basis for the guidelines
- 2.2 Role of the guidelines in the implementation of international agreements

3. National land use guidelines

- 3.1 Well-functioning communities and sustainable mobility
- 3.2 Efficient national transport system
- 3.3 Safe and healthy living environment
- 3.4 Vibrant natural and cultural environments and natural resources
- 3.5 Energy supply capable of renewal

4 Key impacts of the guidelines

5 Legal effects of the guidelines

6 Entry into force and implementation of the decision

What is nationally important, some emphases 1/3

1. Well-functioning communities and sustainable mobility

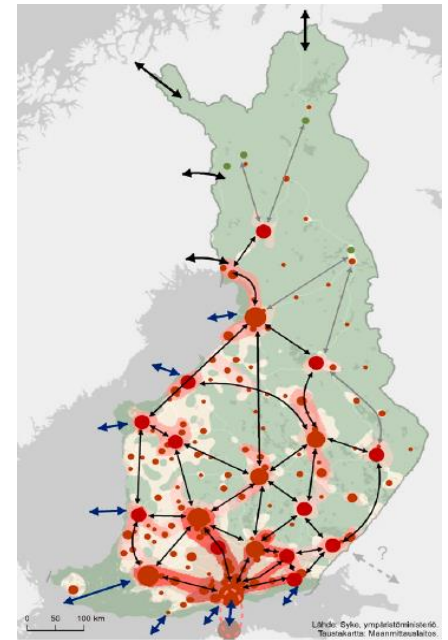
Promoting nationwide spatial structure as polycentric and networked entity based on good connections, and support the vibrancy of the various regions and the utilisation of their strengths

Creating capacities for low-carbon and resource-efficient community development based primarily on the existing structure (compact urban structure of the largest urban regions)

2. Efficient transport system

Promoting the functioning of the national transport system by primarily developing existing transport connections and networks

Safeguarding the continuity and development opportunities of internationally and nationally significant transport and communication connections



What is nationally important, some emphases 2/3

3. Safe and healthy living environment

Preparing for extreme weather events and floods and the impacts of climate change

Taking into account overall safety and security needs, particularly the needs of national defence

4. Vibrant natural and cultural environments and natural resources

Safeguarding the nationally valuable cultural environments and natural heritage values (based on national inventories)

Promoting the preservation of areas and ecological connectivities that are valuable for biodiversity



Ekologinen käytävä

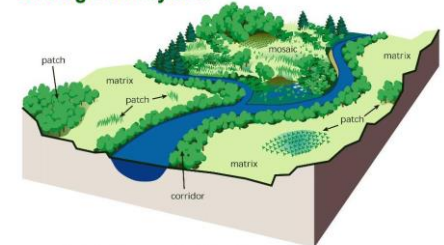


Fig. 1.4 - Spatial structure. Landscapes can be described in terms of matrix, patch, corridor, and mosaic or various scales. In Stream Corridor Restoration: Principles, Processes, and Practices, 1996. International Stream Restoration Working Group (ISRWG) (a United agencies of the US).

What is nationally important, some emphases 3

5. Energy supply capable of renewal

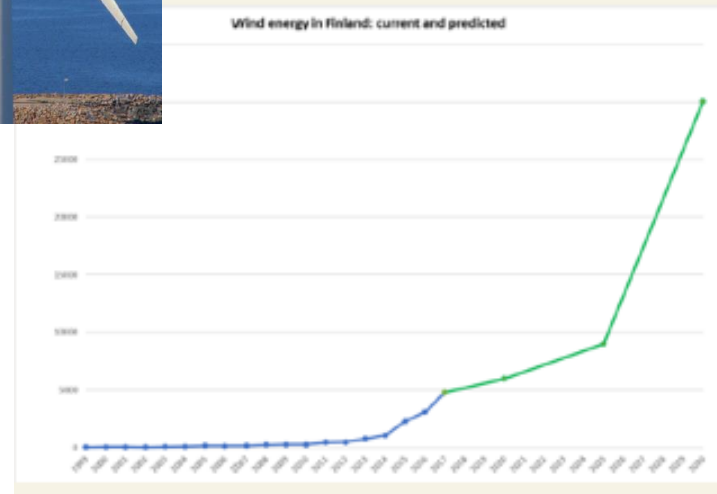
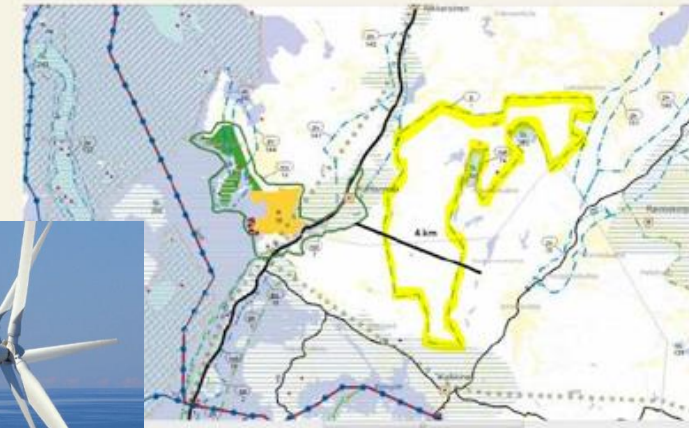
Preparing for the needs of renewable energy production and the attendant logistics solutions.

Siting wind turbines primarily in a centralised manner in units of several turbines.

Secure the routings for power lines and long-distance gas transmission pipelines that are important for energy supply

the guidelines must be implemented in such a way that they can all be realized at the same time

Regional land use plans reconcile and indicate by taking into a consideration circumstances and other needs



What issues are guidelines needed in the future, TOP 9

(inquiry 2023, choose 1-3 themes)

Themes (land use creates the conditions for and framework...)	crucial	Important
Climate change, both mitigation and adaptation	51 %	30
Loss of nature and biodiversity	48	37
National security of supply and the needs of the defense	48	40
National transport network	44	27
Cultural environments of nationally importance	36	47
National issues of energy supply and use of renewables	36	54
Sustainable use of natural resources	32	53
Environmental safety and health	31	55
Functionality of the nationwide spatial structure	31	53

Development needs, choose two (inquiry 2023)

More concrete, targeted and coordinated guidelines for the needs of time and the future

Current guidelines meet their purpose well (7%)

The goals should be partly more concrete than at present (49%)

Goals should be more mutually prioritized and coordinated (43%)

National needs and the up-to-dateness of goals should be monitored more systematically (36%)

Goals must be able to be targeted regionally and by implementing agency (28%)

The role of state authorities as implementers of goals should be enhanced (16%)

Goals must be updated more often than currently (8%)

More attention to foresight - Development Perspectives for Land Use in Finland as a “new part” of national spatial planning

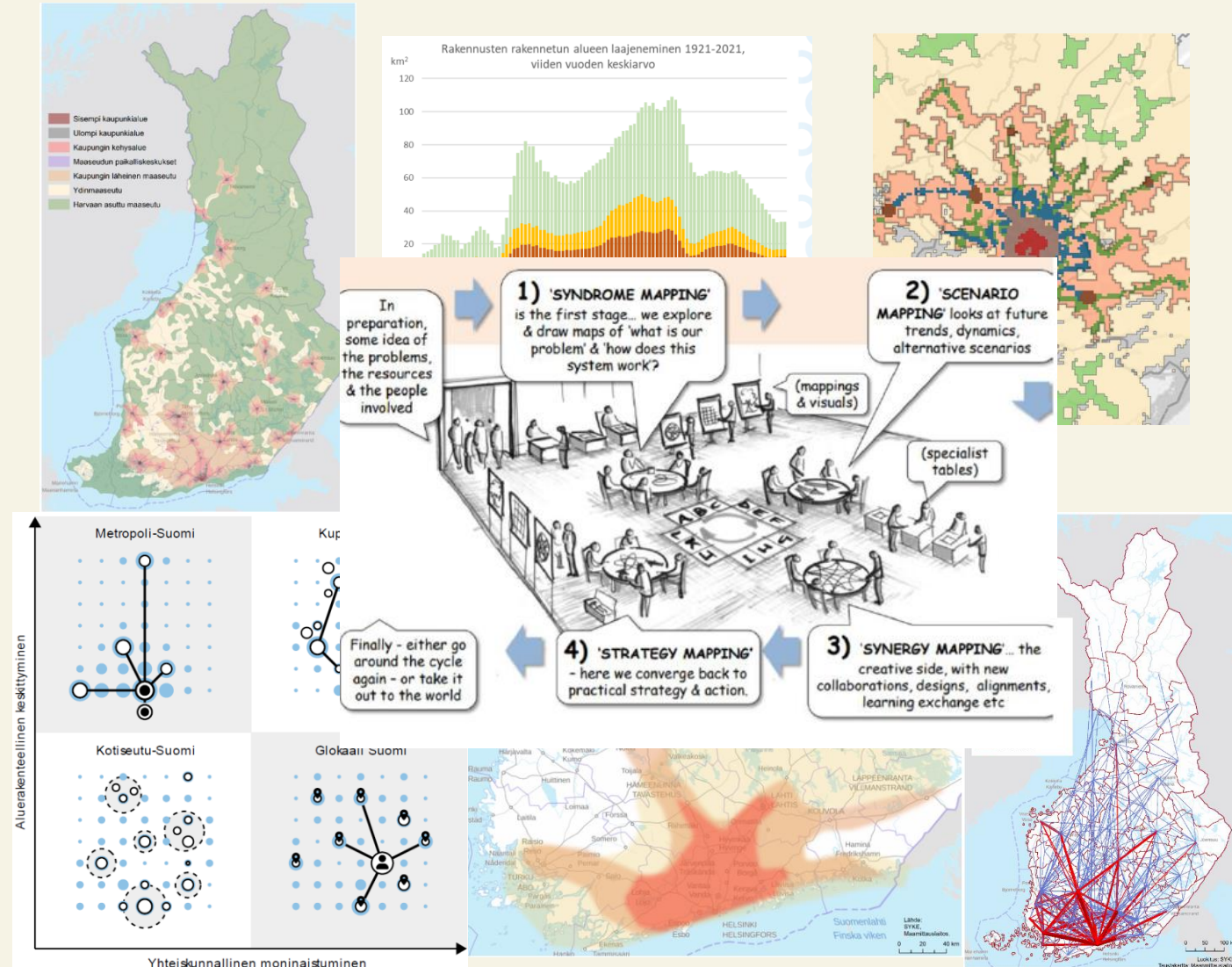
Tool for monitoring, forecasting and sustainability assessment of land use

Creates preconditions for responding to and adapting to changes in the land use

Helps different actors in society to make their activities more sustainable

Forum (situation room!) for phenomenon-based, strategic and cross-administrative **joint development**

Information and inspiration source that can be used in updating of National Land Use Guidelines, in land use planning, political decision-making and public debate etc...



Towards continuous provision of perspectives

Situation

Where are we coming from and where are we now ?

State of play and development of the spatial structure and urban form monitored by key variables

Monitored annually

Future

What is it that we need to prepare for?

Assessment of factors contributing to change, baseline scenario and other paths

Factors influencing changes are monitored annually, the scenarios are updated in year 3

Development

Which direction should the development take and how will we get there?

Assessment of scenarios with a view to sustainable development. What actions do we need?

the development scenario is updated in year 4

In four-year cycles

The baseline scenario of the regional structure in a nutshell

Urbanization

Central network

Connection needs,
functional areas

<p>Urbanization rate from 73% to 79% in 2020-2050</p>	<p>The share of jobs in urban areas will increase from 80% to 85% in 2020-2050.</p>	<p>Population growth is concentrated only in the four largest regions instead of the previous 6-8 regions</p>	<p>Metropolis development is getting stronger and the connected city network and multi-centre sub-centre structure are expanding</p>
<p>The pace of urbanization will slow down to less than half in 2020-2040.</p>	<p>Urbanization is fastest among the middle-aged, children and retired people.</p>	<p>The importance of regional centers remains strong in health, education and trade services</p>	<p>Specialized expert services are concentrated in the largest university towns</p>
<p>Connection needs are growing in the networked regional structure of Southern Finland.</p>	<p>The daily working areas of urban areas will no longer significantly expand</p>	<p>Multi-unit housing reduces the degree of urbanization by about 3% units.</p>	<p>The enlivening effect of multi-location is uneven and polarizes rural areas.</p>
<p>The need for specialized labor increases long business trips or remote work between regions.</p>	<p>Multi-location and remote work expand the areas of weekly movement, especially in southern Finland.</p>	<p>The urban-rural interaction is focused on free time, and in terms of business trips, it is bidirectional.</p>	<p>The position of many regional and small towns is weakening near big centers and without attractive factors.</p>
<p>In the transport system, the focus is more on railway projects than before.</p>	<p>The passenger car remains the main means of transportation in the majority of the country, but vehicle technology reduces the majority of emissions.</p>	<p>Land use needs, e.g. from energy production and transmission, industry and logistics</p>	<p>The use of natural resources remains intensive, but the prevention of nature loss requires extensive changes in nature conservation and management.</p>

Multi-location

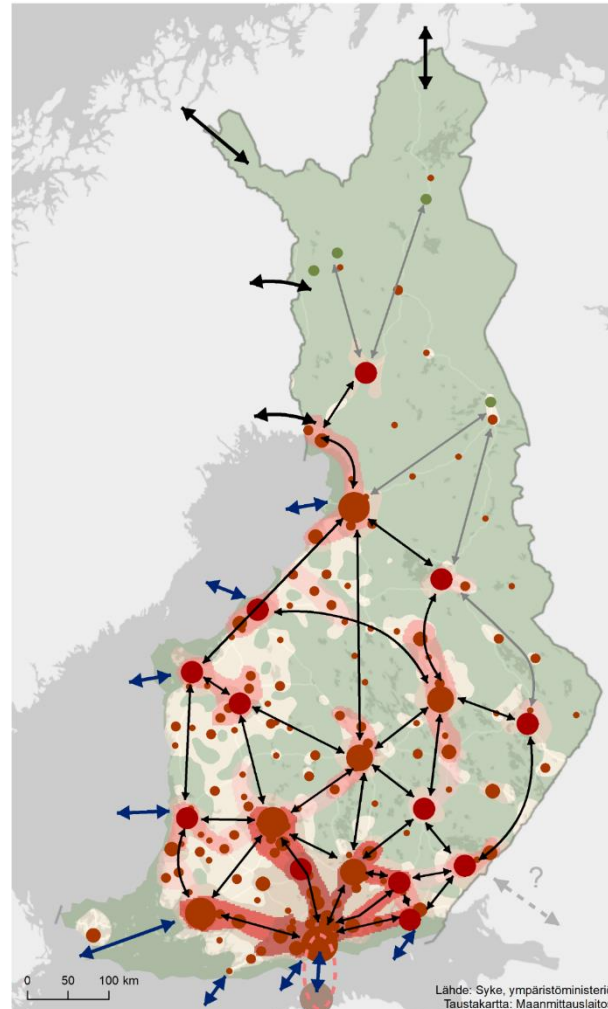
Traffic system

Land use, nature and natural resources

What issues are highlighted in the planning with regard to national security and security of supply

Balance and functionality of the national regional structure and traffic system – e.g. “In order to secure Finland's sovereignty and military integrity in particular, it is important that the regional structure is actively developed so that Eastern Finland remains viable.” “The importance of the Bay of Bothnia as a gateway to Northern Sweden and Northern Norway and the connection to the ports of Northern Norway are critical

Sustainable urban development - low-carbon economy, sustainable modes of transport, prevention of segregation, adaptation to climate change and prevention of other significant environmental hazards



Ensuring the **functioning of energy supply**: enabling the green transition, electricity transmission networks and energy self-sufficiency

Sustainable use of natural resources, mineral potential areas, groundwater and good status of waters, etc

Preservation of uniform **agricultural and forestry areas** important for regional self-sufficiency in agriculture, forestry and food production

Safeguarding the regional needs and operating conditions of **national defence and border control** (e.g. placement of wind power, taking into account regional surveillance/radar equipment)

Some remarks as a conclusion

Land use matters – the key part of all development of whole country and regions - planning should be invested in

There are national interests in land use, the promotion of which is important for the overall benefit of the entire country

Acceptance and commitment are necessary - national significance – the self-government of municipalities must be respected - together and interactively - a common and coordinated guidelines

The guidelines must be clear and impressive, Combination of visionary, strategic, framing, task setting and regulatory elements, and using these effectively

The operating environment changes quickly, guidelines must be able to be changed, nerves in time and in the future

More attention to foresight – “common situation room” – Systematic and continuous monitoring of national needs and the up-to-dateness of guidelines in close cooperation with other ministries

It is important **that we act in the same direction** – in land use planning and government actions

Planning 3.0 is a really a human kind of synergy with learning&thinking, where winners are all and whole country and each area is more like wise

“for the functioning and preparedness of society as a whole, it is important that the land use planning system is functional and planning is smooth and proactive”

Thank you

More information:

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[National Land Use Guidelines](#)
[Development perspectives](#)



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