

Alps 2050

Common spatial perspectives for the Alpine area.
Towards a common vision

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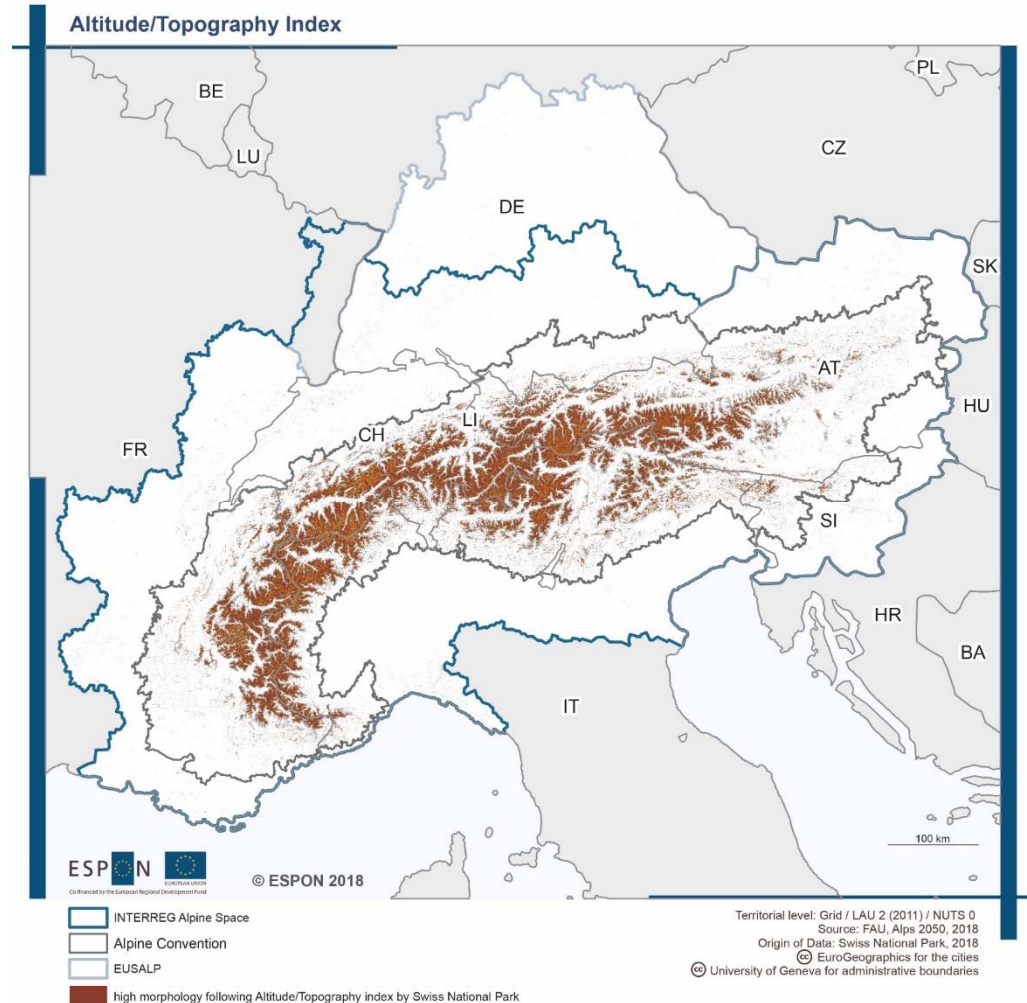
I. The Project

Alps 2050

The project

Main objectives:

- A territorial **vision** and common spatial perspectives for the Alpine area until 2050.
- Effective solutions for a balanced **sustainable development** as well as help to strengthen informal and formal **cooperation** between actors
- **Guidelines** for the development of spatial perspectives and a spatial vision on the transnational level
- **Spatial focus:** Alpine region on the transnational level



The project

- **Stakeholders** develop the project idea and objectives: Leadpartner DE, partners from AT, CH, FR, IT, LI, SI and Alpine Convention
- The **programme** ESPON finances the project and coordinating the process
- **Research consortium:** Leadpartner DE, partners/subcontractors from AT, CH, FR, IT, SIThe **programme** ESPON finances the project and coordinating the process
- **Timing:** Nov 2017- Nov 2018
<https://www.espon.eu/Alps2050>



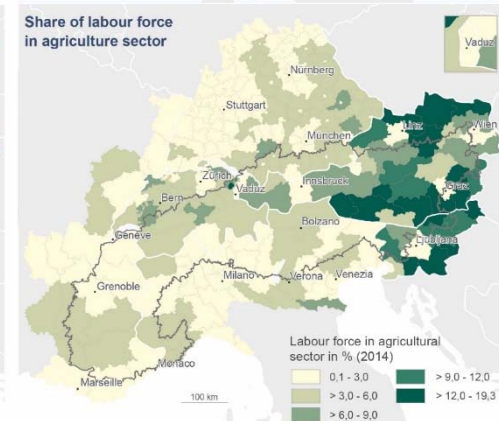
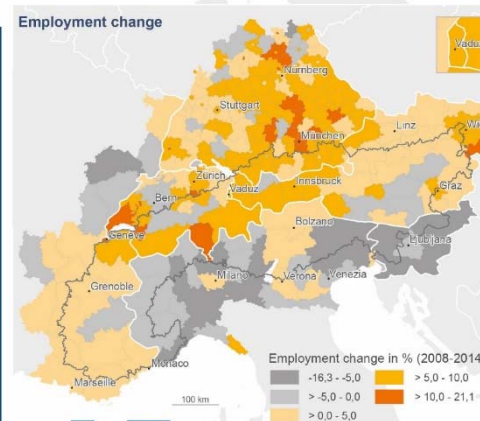
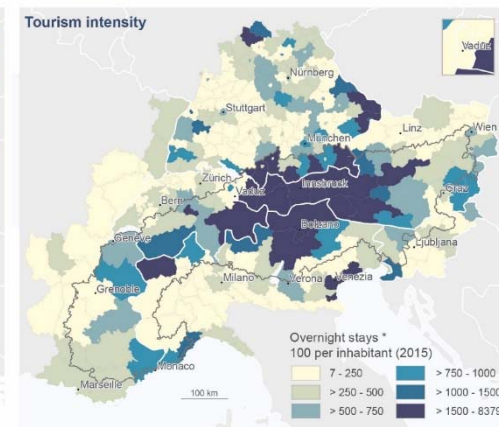
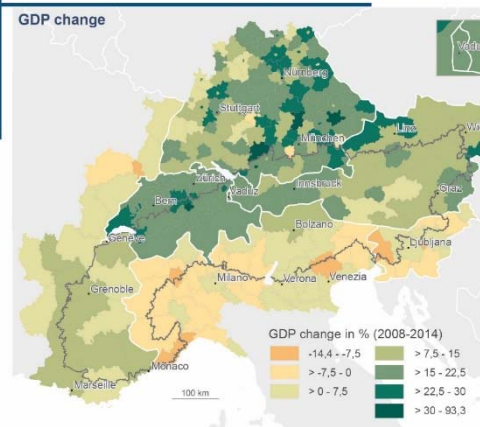
II. Territorial analyses

Alps 2050

Economic Patterns

- The territorial analyses display very diverse patterns and sectoral complexity
 - On the left hand side, two maps with spatial patterns of a **North-South divide**: the trends in employment and in GDP (economic strength)
 - The map on tourism intensity based on overnight stays (upper right hand side) shows a **‘central-peripheral pattern’** showing the relative importance of the tourism economy in the inner Alpine areas
 - **East-West gradient** for the share of labour in the agricultural sector

Spatial patterns and trends in different economic sectors

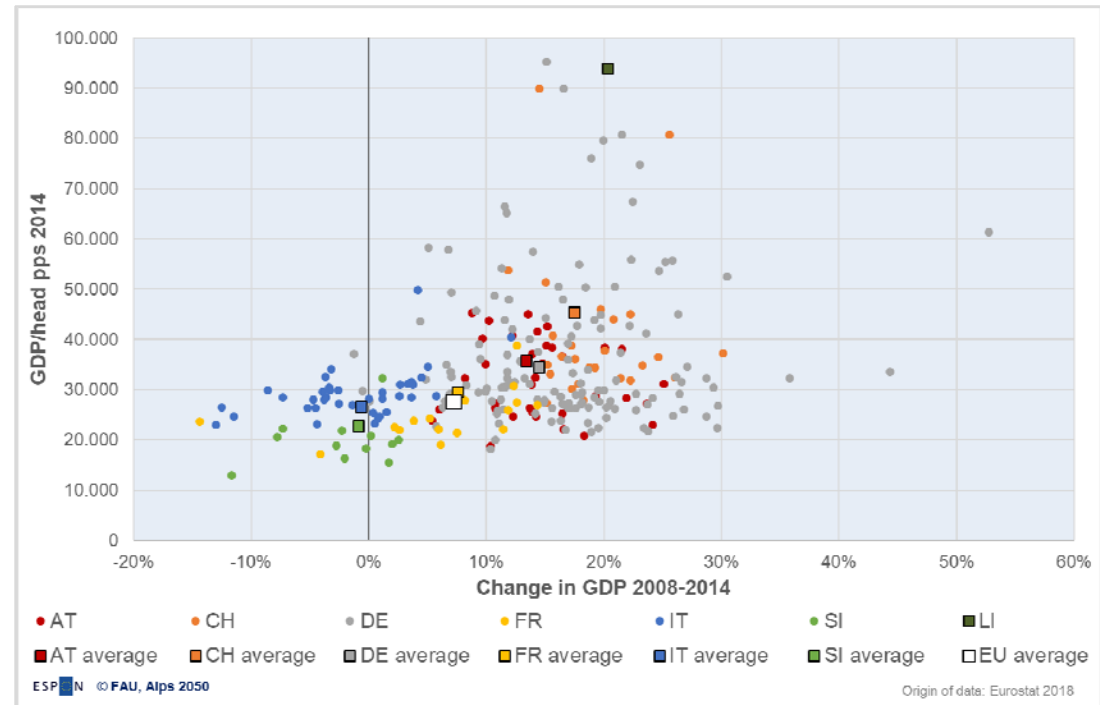


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Territorial level: NUTS 3 (2013)
Source: FAU & Eurac Research, Alps 2050, 2018
Origin of Data: Eurostat & National Statistical Offices, 2018
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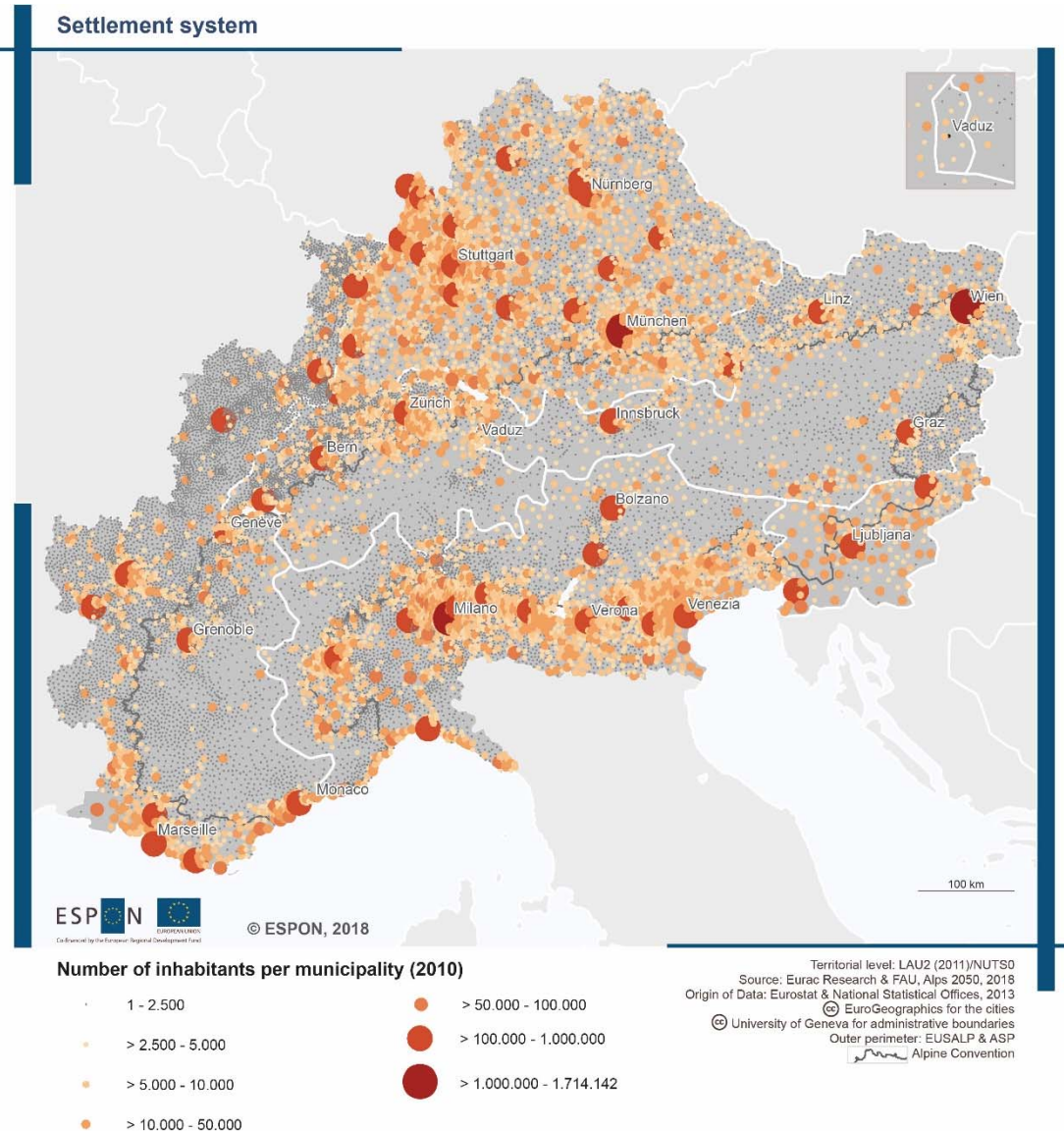
Economic development

- High relevance of **national differences** in GDP level and development: NUTS3 regions of each country make up a kind of a 'cloud' that can immediately be differentiated from other countries.
- Belonging to a specific nation-state determines the economic level and path to a high extent.
- The data do not reveal a urban-rural antagonism: Metropolitan regions tend to perform with more positive values, but there are very successful rural regions, too.



Settlement system

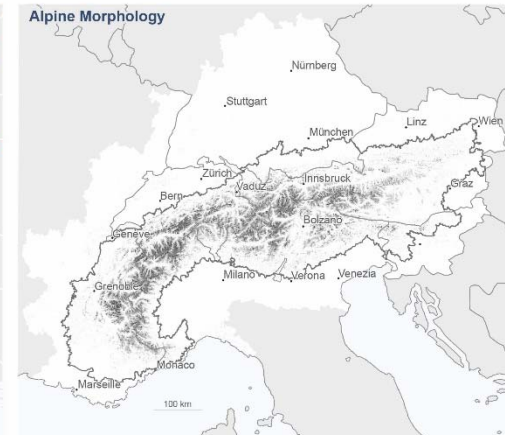
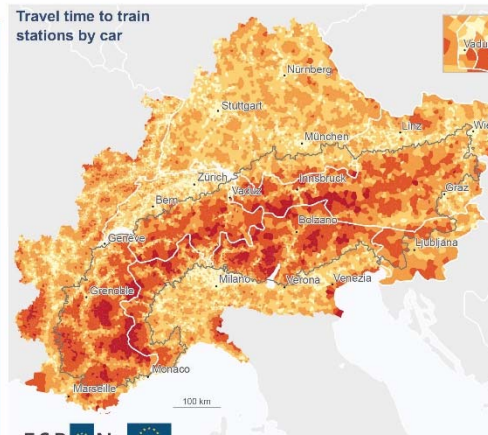
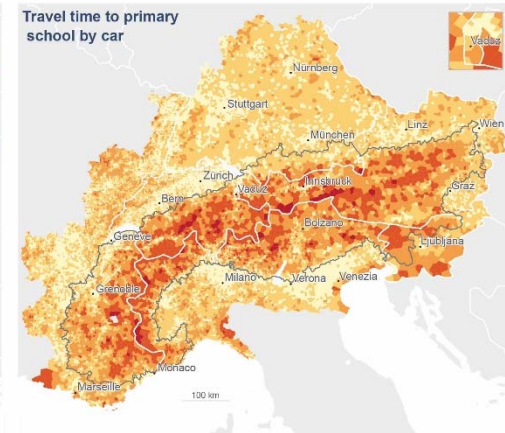
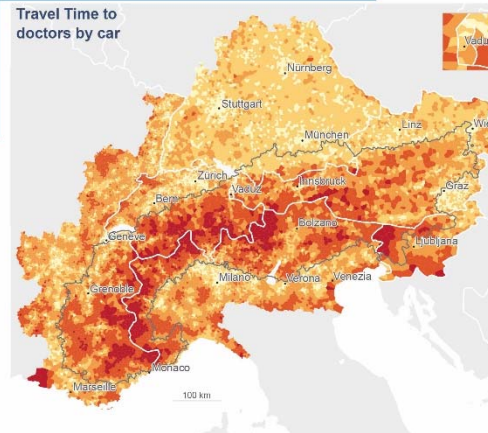
- Within the mountainous areas the municipalities are *smaller* than beyond
- Within the mountainous areas the map illustrates the importance of *valleys* for settlements
- The map illustrates different *political / administrative contexts* (minimum size of municipalities in different countries).



Services of general interest

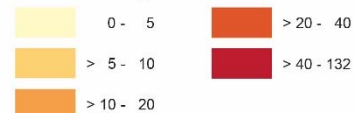
- The accessibility to different services of general interests – doctors, primary schools and train stations – shows similar spatial patterns.
- There are lower values of accessibility for *inner-Alpine* than for the more urbanized and *pre-Alpine* areas – due to population density, transport infrastructure and investment schemes.

Services of general interest



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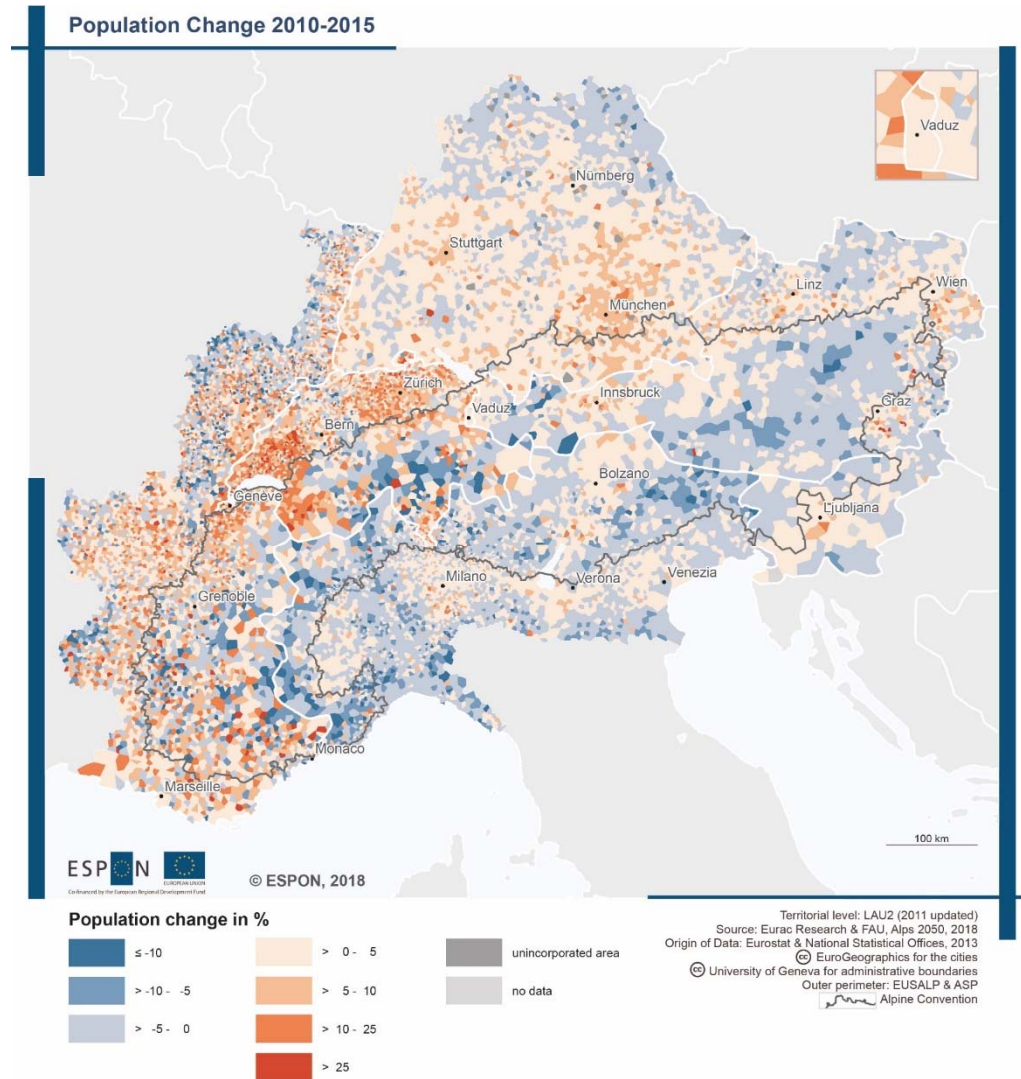
Travel Time by car in minutes



Territorial level: LAU2 (2011)
Source: RRG & FAU, Alps 2050, 2018
Origin of Data: ESPON Profecy, 2017; Swiss National Park, 2018
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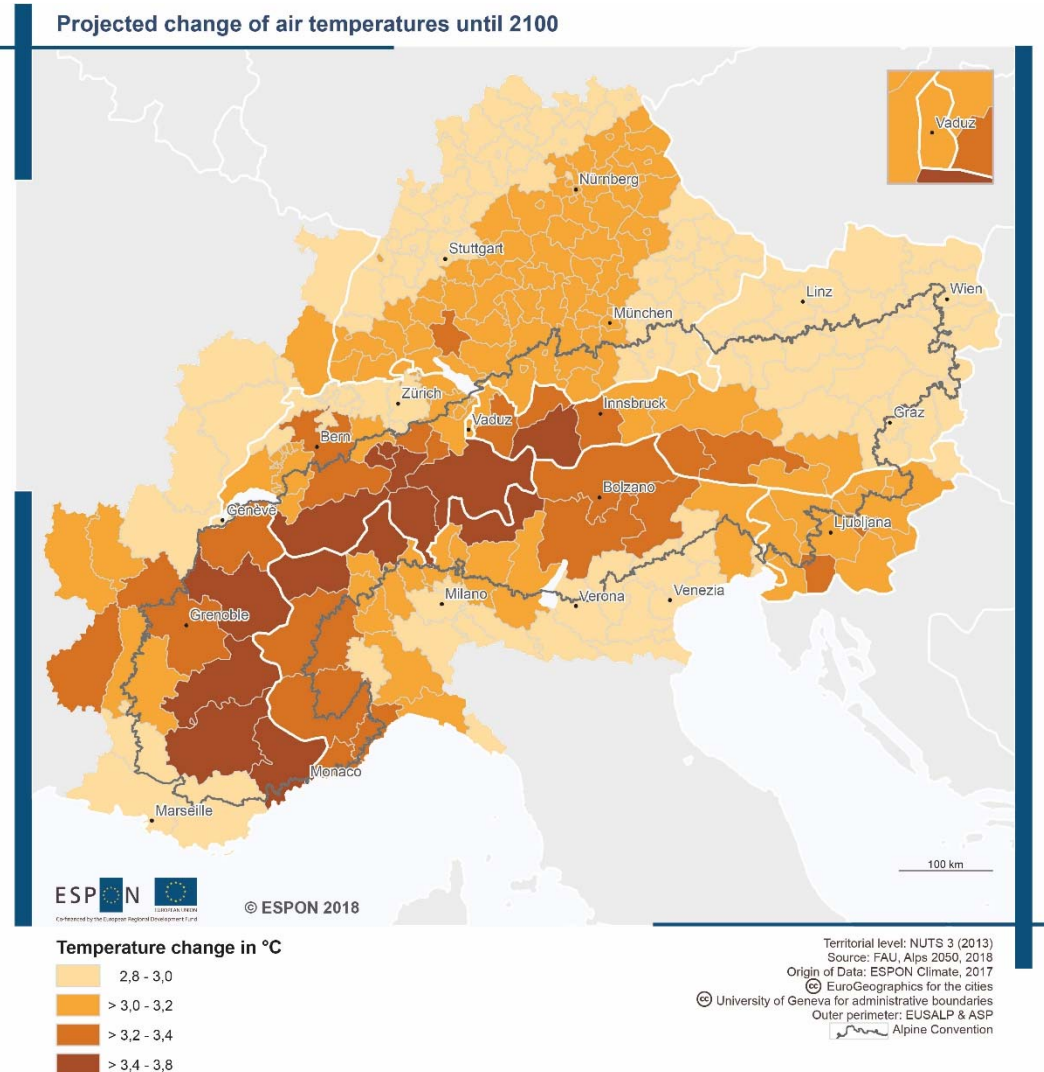
Demographic development

- Metropolises and the larger cities are almost always the centre of growth trends, i.e. trend of metropolisation
- The patterns in rural areas are much more diverse
- Large differences between the Alpine countries
- The importance of valleys, corridors (Inn, High Rhine, Brenner etc.) is very visible



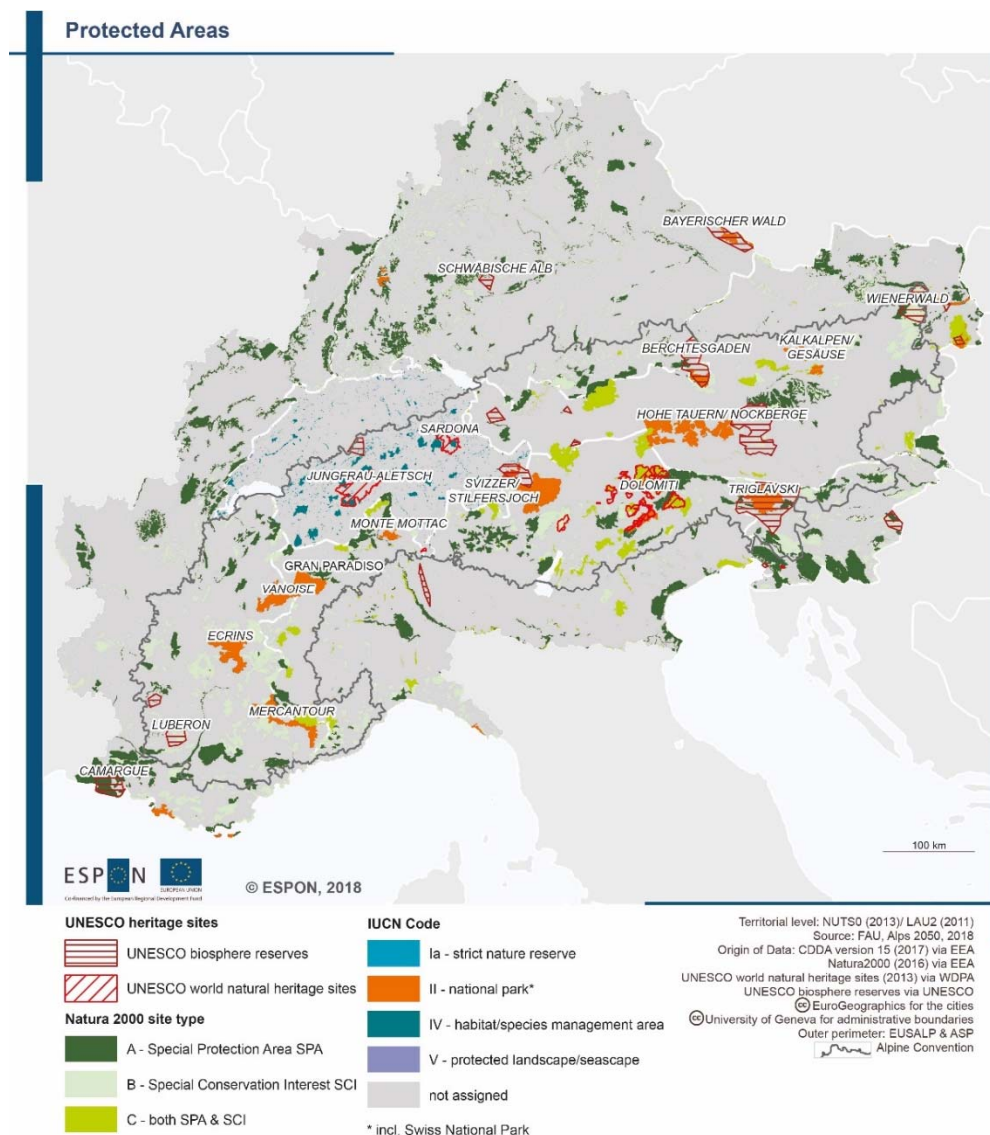
Climate change

- The projected changes of the (air) temperature
 - higher increases in the inner-Alpine areas than in the area of the spaces beyond the mountain topography;
 - In particular, the South-Western side of the Alpine mountain range is characterized by the highest changes in annual mean temperature,
 - Climate change adaption comprises measures concerning disaster risk management, touristic adaption strategies, new energy concepts etc.



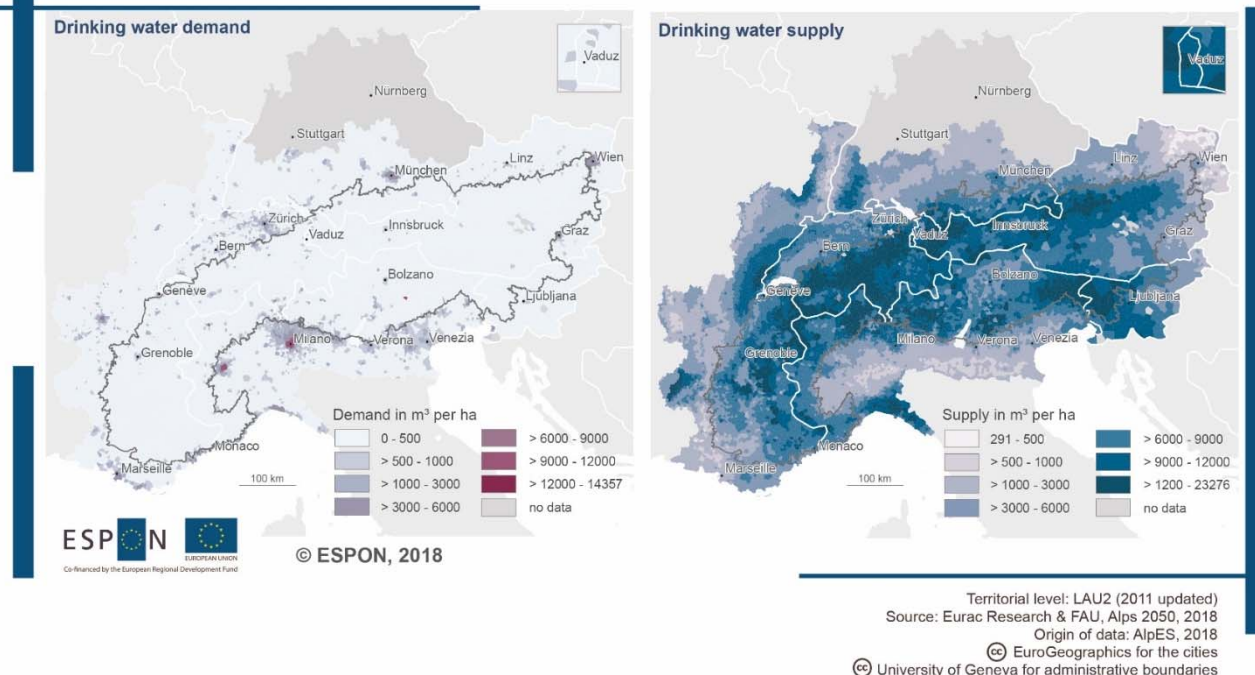
Protected areas

- overview of the main existing protected areas
- clear differences between national protection regimes
- few cross-border formats
- ecological connectivity major concern: enduring sufficiently large functional ecological systems by – ideally – connecting in a way that flora and fauna can inter-exchange.



Eco-system services

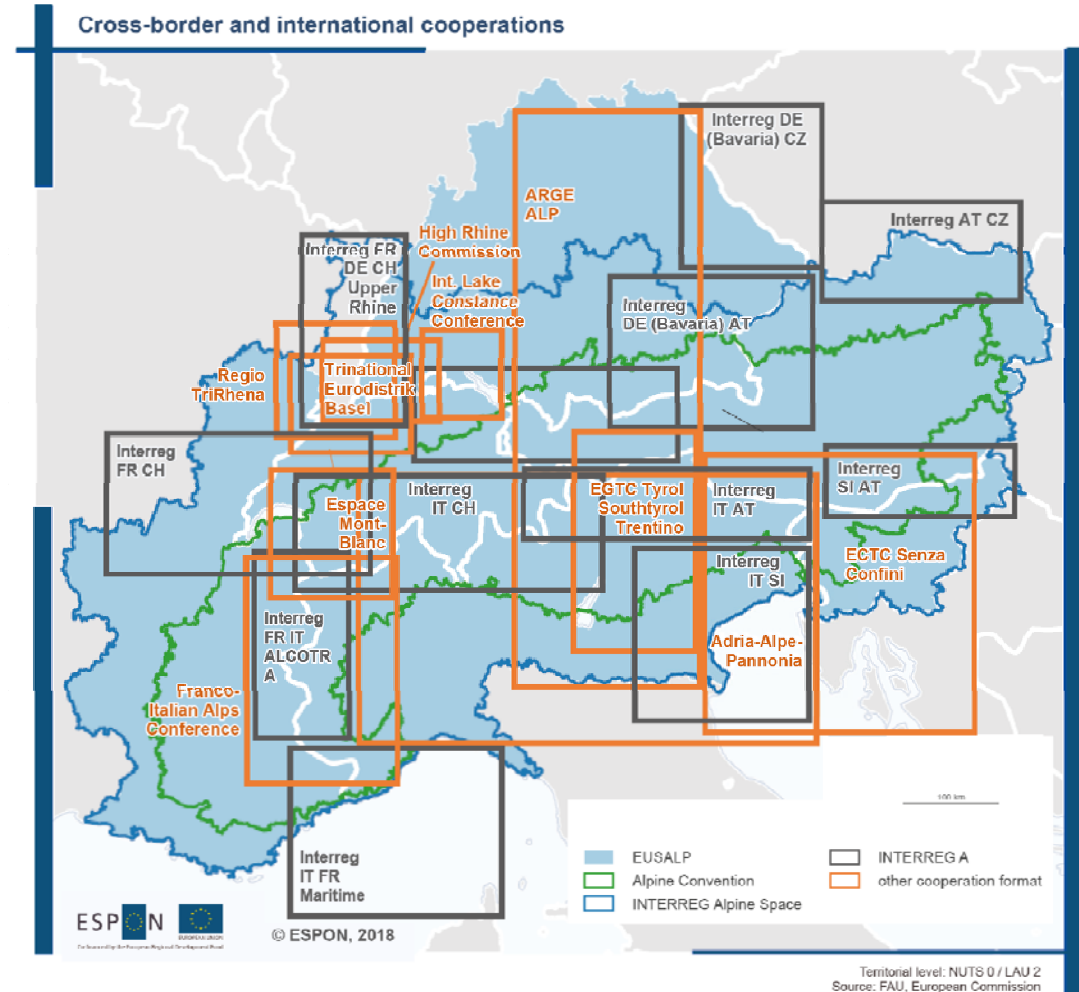
Eco-system services - Drinking water



- The concept reflects on the benefits that humans gain from the natural environment in daily life.
- built on functioning eco-systems like forest, grassland, or aquatic eco systems, and they are important in terms of drinking water or leisure supply.
- Map illustrates the drastic difference in the supply-and-demand-relation through the example of drinking water.

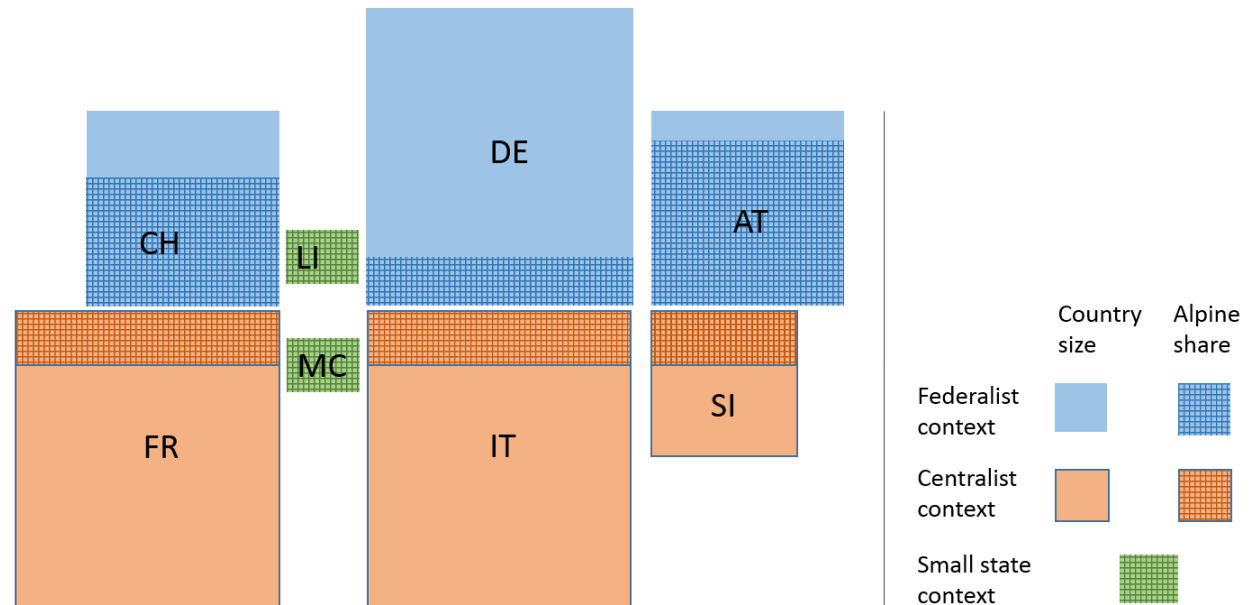
Governance (I)

- **institutional diversity** in the Alpine region, including EU and domestic instruments as well as cross-border programmes for many issues of regional policy and spatial development.
- **long-standing experience** in territorial cooperation, going back at least to the 1970s
- Importance of **instrumental ‘softness’**



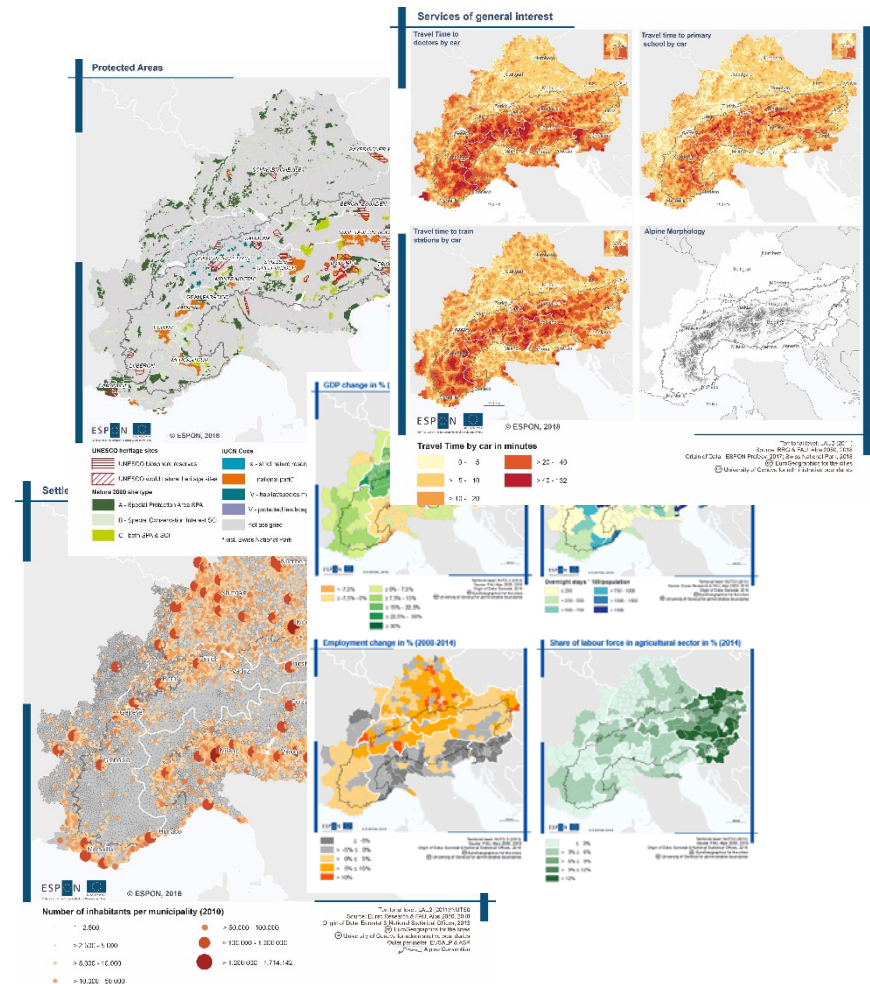
Governance (II)

- **The domestic scale** differences of the involved countries with regard to
- country size
- the share of the mountainous areas
- the politico-administrative contexts ('planning cultures')



Territorial analyses – summary

- many positive trends (above average socio-economic performance in most of its parts, impressive diversity and density of territorial cooperation etc.)
- considerable challenges of spatial development – in particular
 - Lacking coherence, linkages and strategic orientation between its different types of territories
 - Considerable challenges of sustainable development



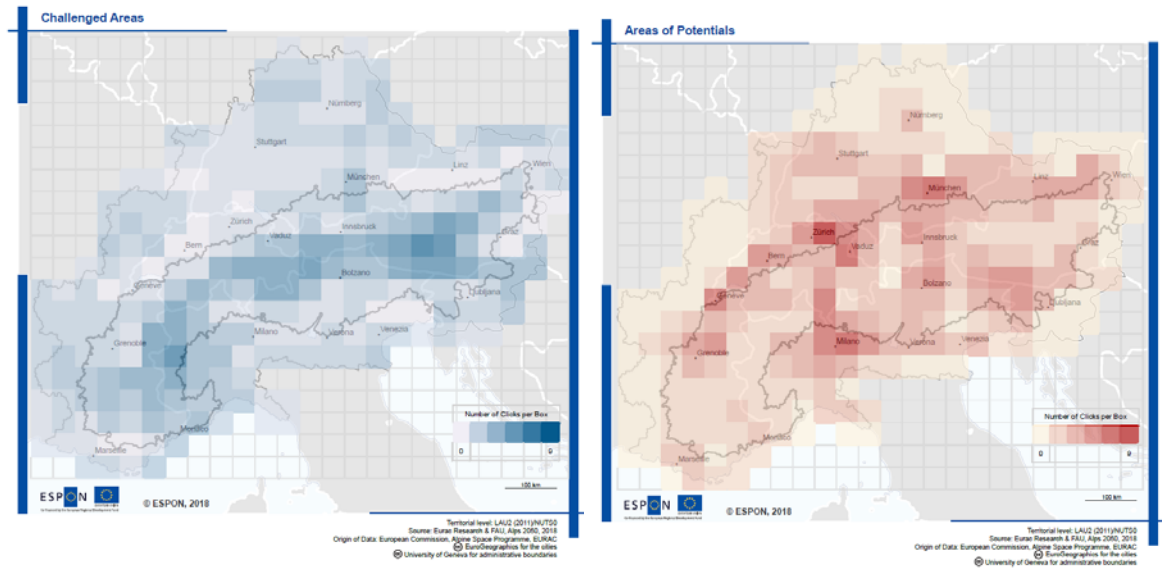
III. Perspectives, scenarios and a vision

Alps 2050

Scenarios and Perspectives

Future oriented approach based on

- **Trends from territorial evidence**
- **Participatory elements**, in particular Delphi study, expert workshop, steering group committee feedback loops
- Technique of **contrast scenarios**

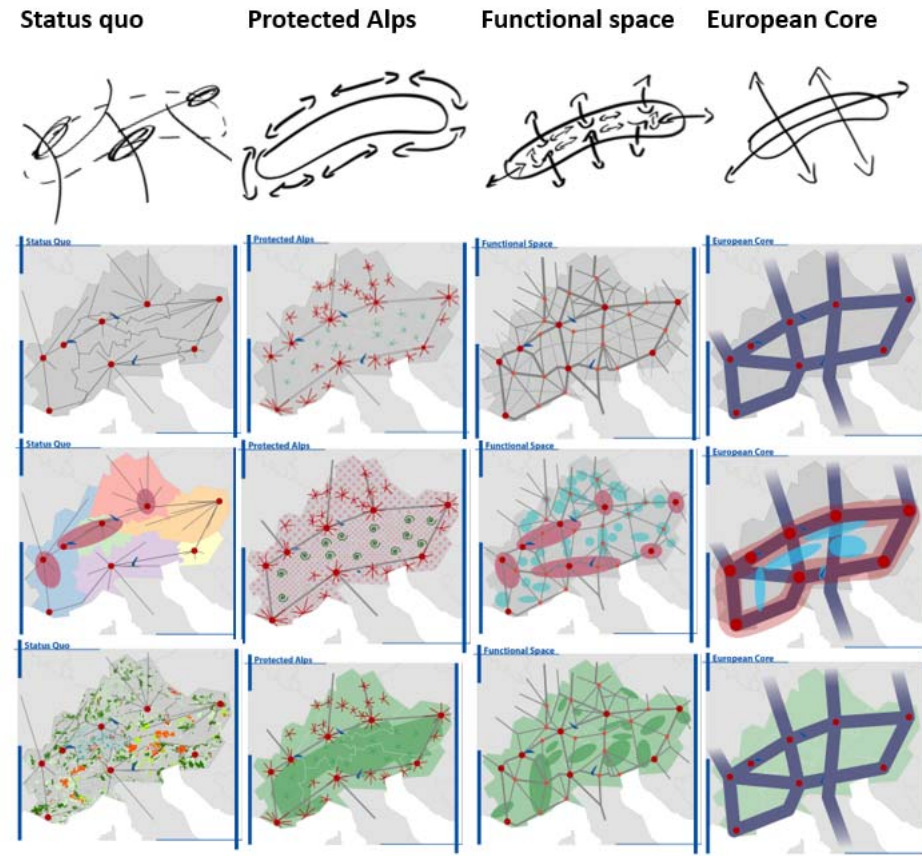


Scenarios and Perspectives

- **Scenarios** express different general priorities and reflect the participatory input
- Technique of **contrast scenarios** highlights underlying political process
- **Perspectives** concretise the scenarios in a more sectoral manner

Perspectives

Scenarios



Scenarios and Perspectives

Scenario 1 – Status quo

- hitherto dominant trends will be carried forward, mainly based on domestic politics
- overall positive trend in economic development, but only limited success in achieving sustainable development, dispersed spatial trends

Status quo



Scenarios and Perspectives

Scenario 1 – Status quo

Scenario 2 – Protected Alps

- necessity to protect the inner-Alpine mountainous areas as a precious and vulnerable natural and cultural heritage – rather restrictive coordination of touristic demand, transport needs, settlement growth etc.
- ‘metropolitan ring’ surrounding the Alps must not question sustainable development within the Alps

Status quo



Protected Alps



Scenarios and Perspectives

Scenario 1 – Status quo

Scenario 2 – Protected Alps

Scenario 3 – Functional space

- necessity to improve linkages between the different subregions, i.e. between mountainous and pre-Alpine parts and across national boundaries
- Removing barriers and enhancing functional links (e.g. for labour markets, budget organisation, public services)
- smart spatial development strategies overcome existing frictions with innovative political agreements and with adequate infrastructure investments

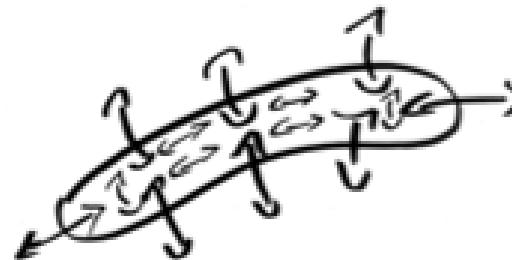
Status quo



Protected Alps



Functional space



Scenarios and Perspectives

Scenario 1 – Status quo

Scenario 2 – Protected Alps

Scenario 3 – Functional space

Scenario 4 – European core

- position of the Alpine region in the centre of Europe causes the need for transit flows to ensure European economic prospering
- metropolitan 'hubs' and the major corridors as basis for successful spatial development
- attracting skilled labour force and entrepreneurial investments is as important as to ensure good transport and economic flows on the Alpine and European level

Status quo



Protected Alps



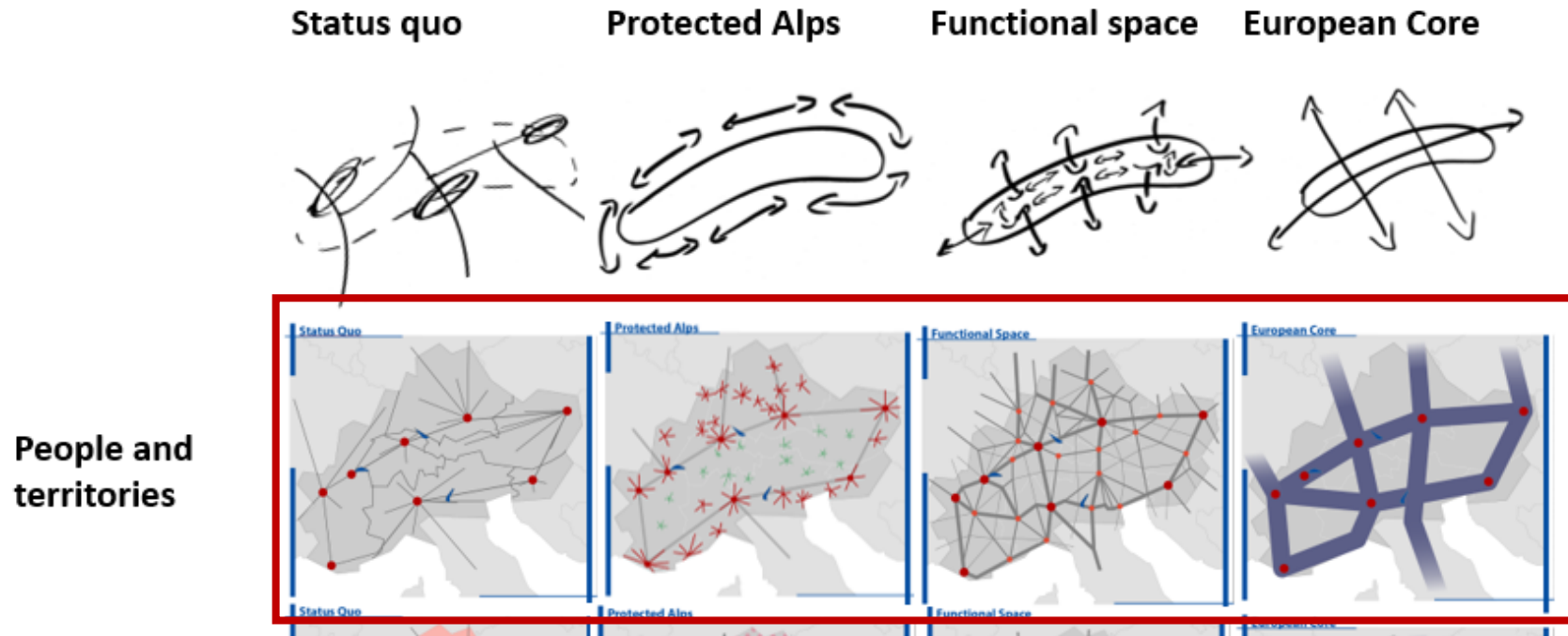
Functional space



European Core



Scenarios



- **Status quo:** territorial frictions increase
- **Protected Alps:** limit growth dynamics in the inner-Alpine area, make pre-Alpine development more sustainable
- **Functional space:** mitigate border effects, allowing stronger functional linkages
- **European Core:** develop 'hub qualities', ensuring flows on a large scale

Scenarios

Status quo

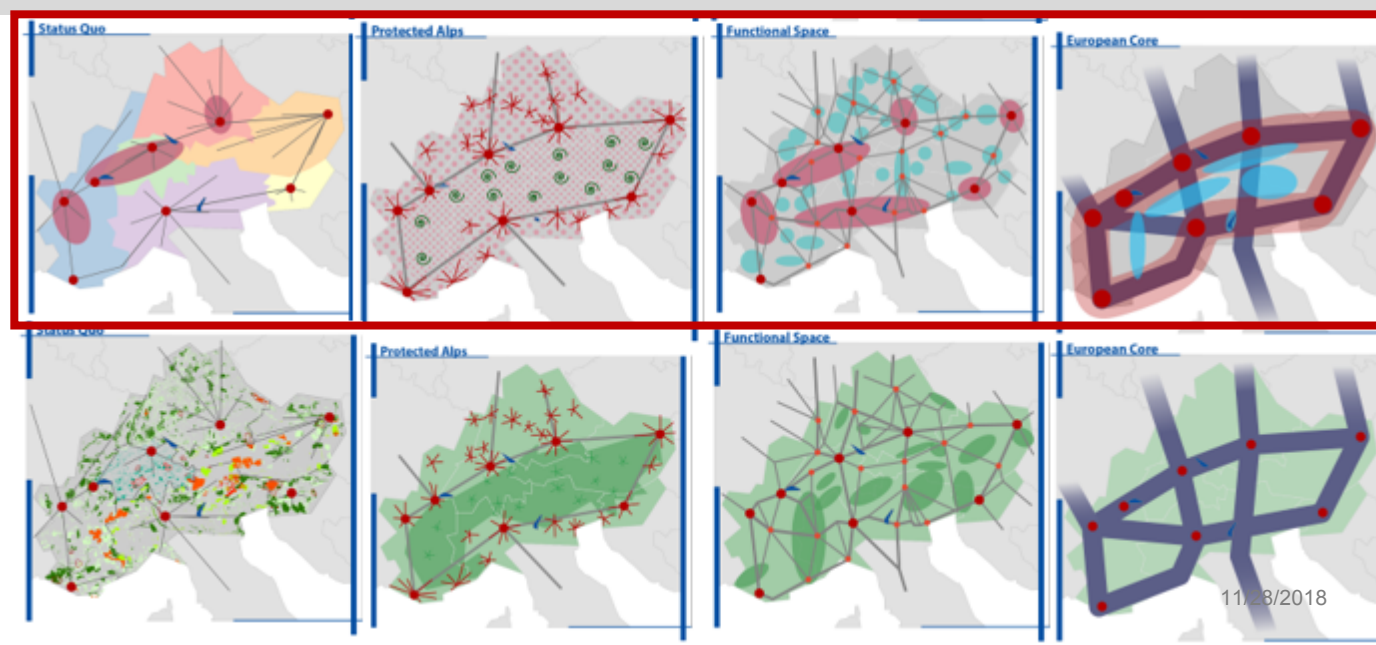
Protected Alps

Functional space

European Core



- **Status quo:** economic growth performance with strong metropolisation trends
- **Protected Alps:** green economy, post-growth approach and endogenous potential focus
- **Functional space:** balancing endogenous potential and competitiveness
- **European Core:** developing unique assets and overcome bottlenecks on a global scale



Scenarios

Status quo

Protected Alps

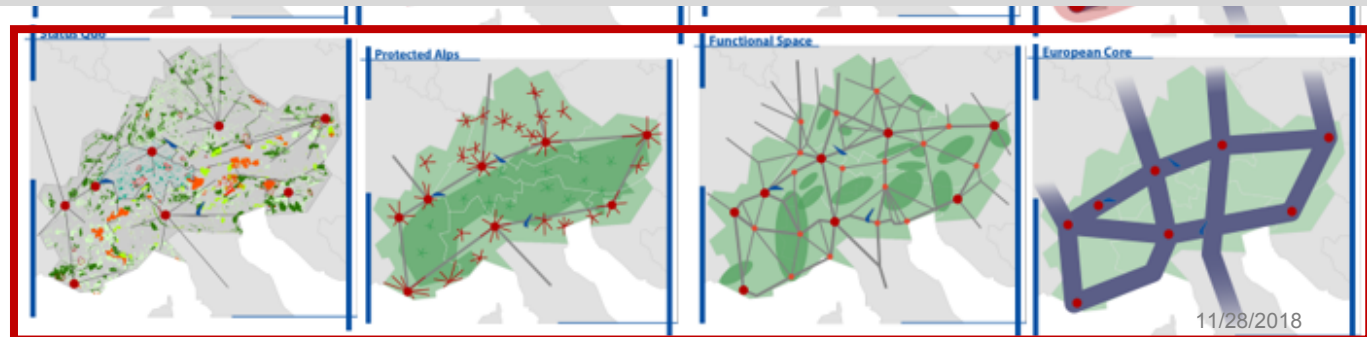
Functional space

European Core



- **Status quo:** ongoing fragmentation and increased climate change issues
- **Protected Alps:** harmonised connectivity, climate adaptation priority
- **Functional space:** reorganisation of eco-system services, cross-border area management
- **European Core:** focus on unique landscape and eco-system services from a European perspective

Environment



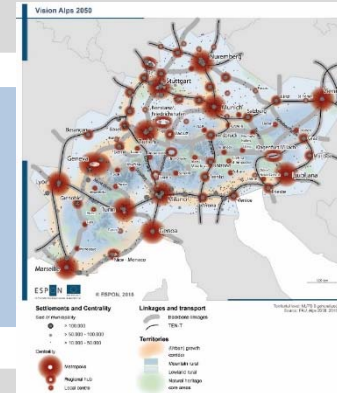
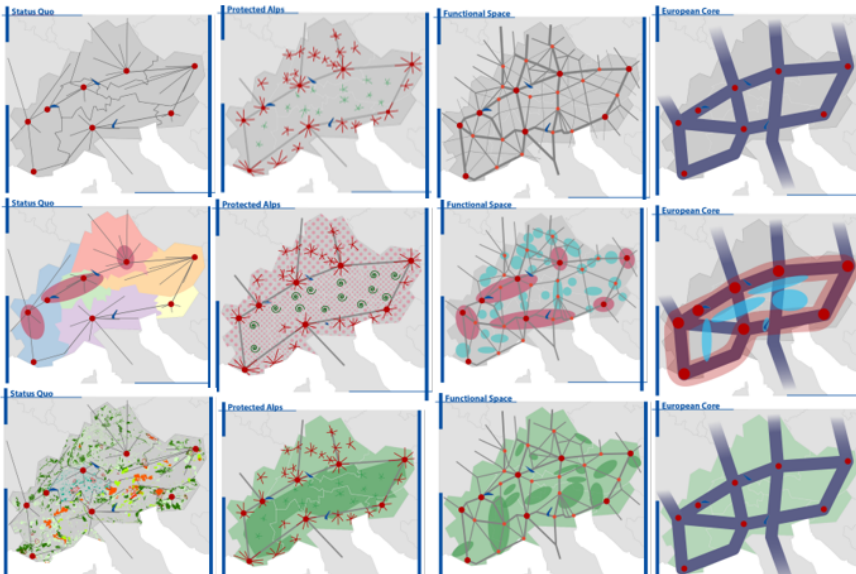
From debate to development

Economic
policy

Environmental
policy

Spatial
development

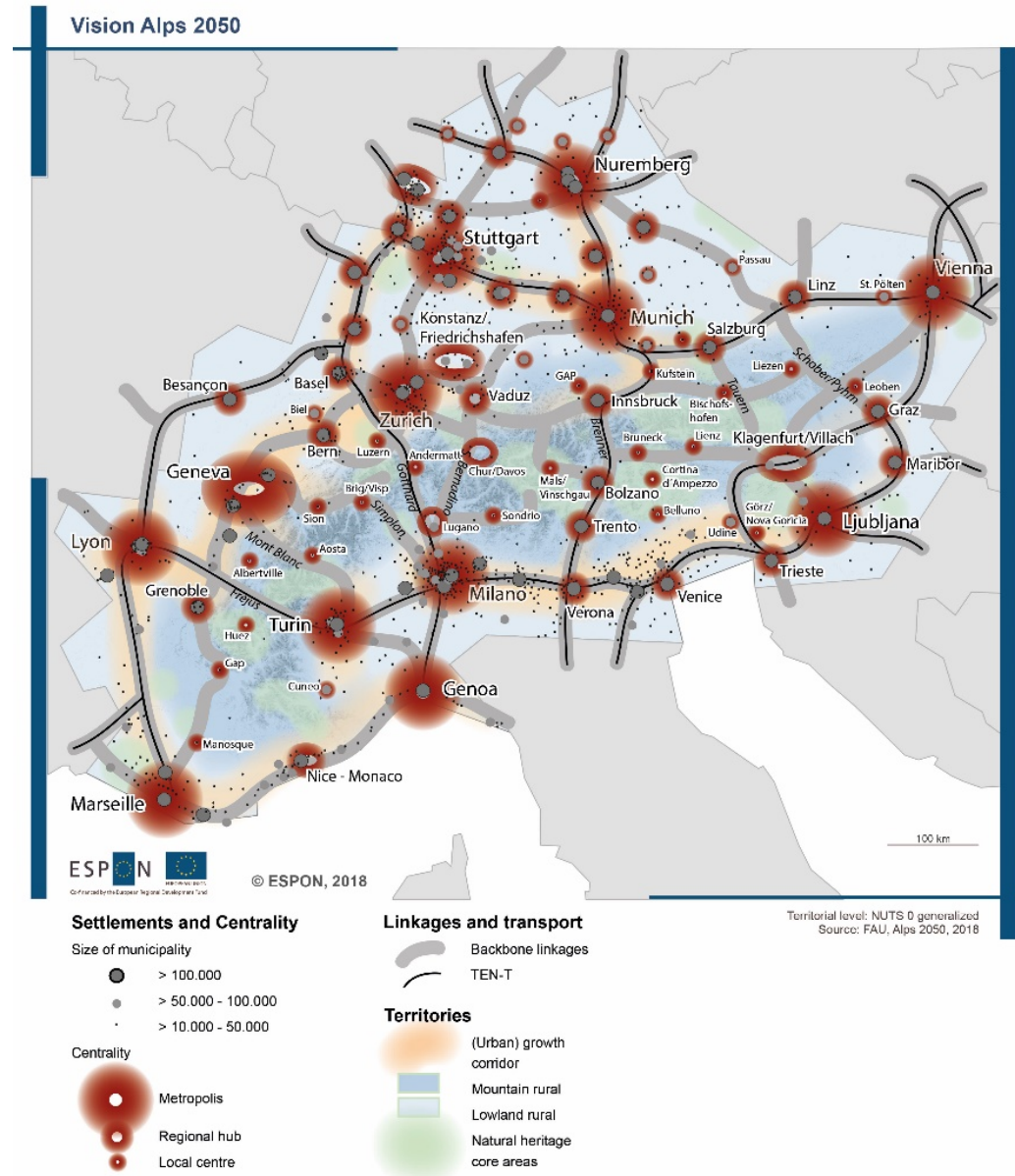
Transport
policy



Towards a common vision

The vision:

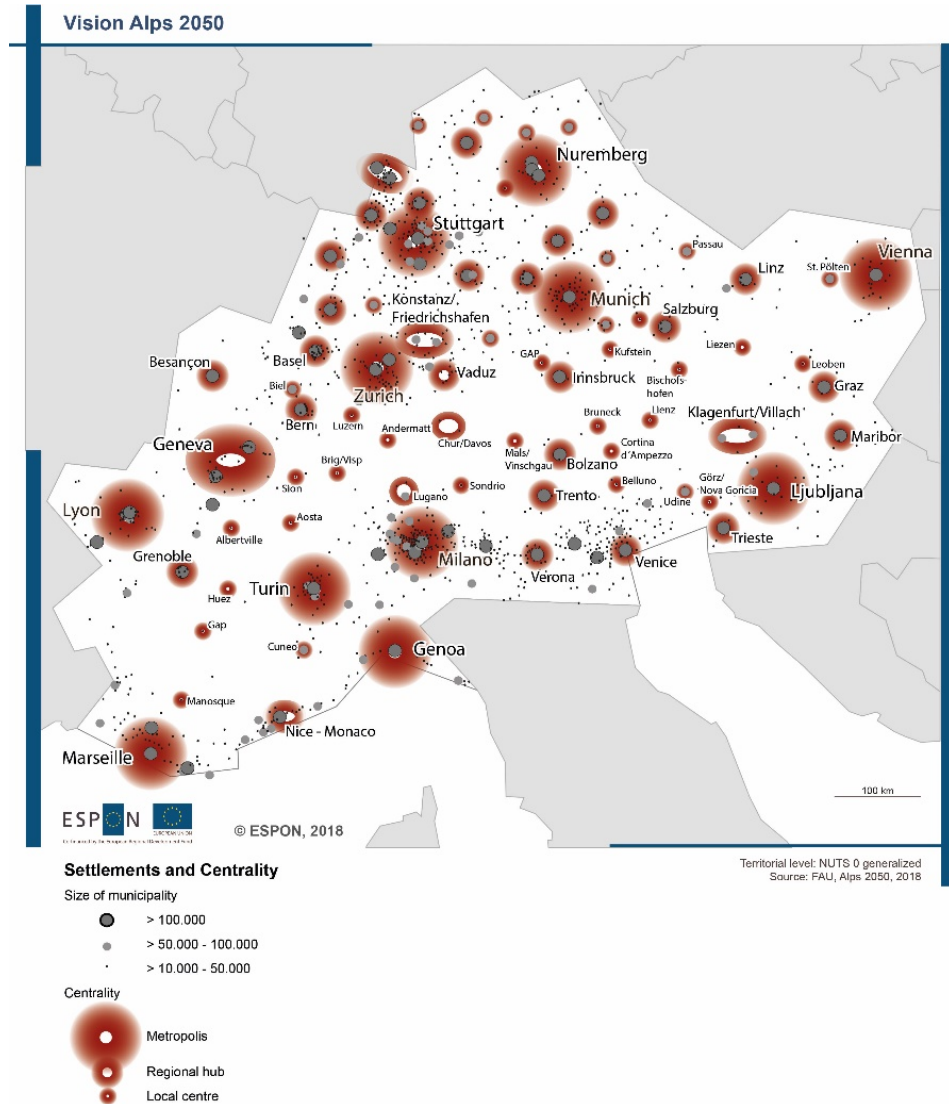
- A draft document as basis for further political concretisation
- Aiming at a common space on the transnational scale, comprising both mountainous and lowland parts that are based on a joint inter-related spatial organisation.
- Aiming at balanced spatial development based on sustainability, safeguarding a good quality of life and an efficient management approach of governance.
- Based on three layers – settlement system, linkages and territories



Towards a common vision

Settlement system

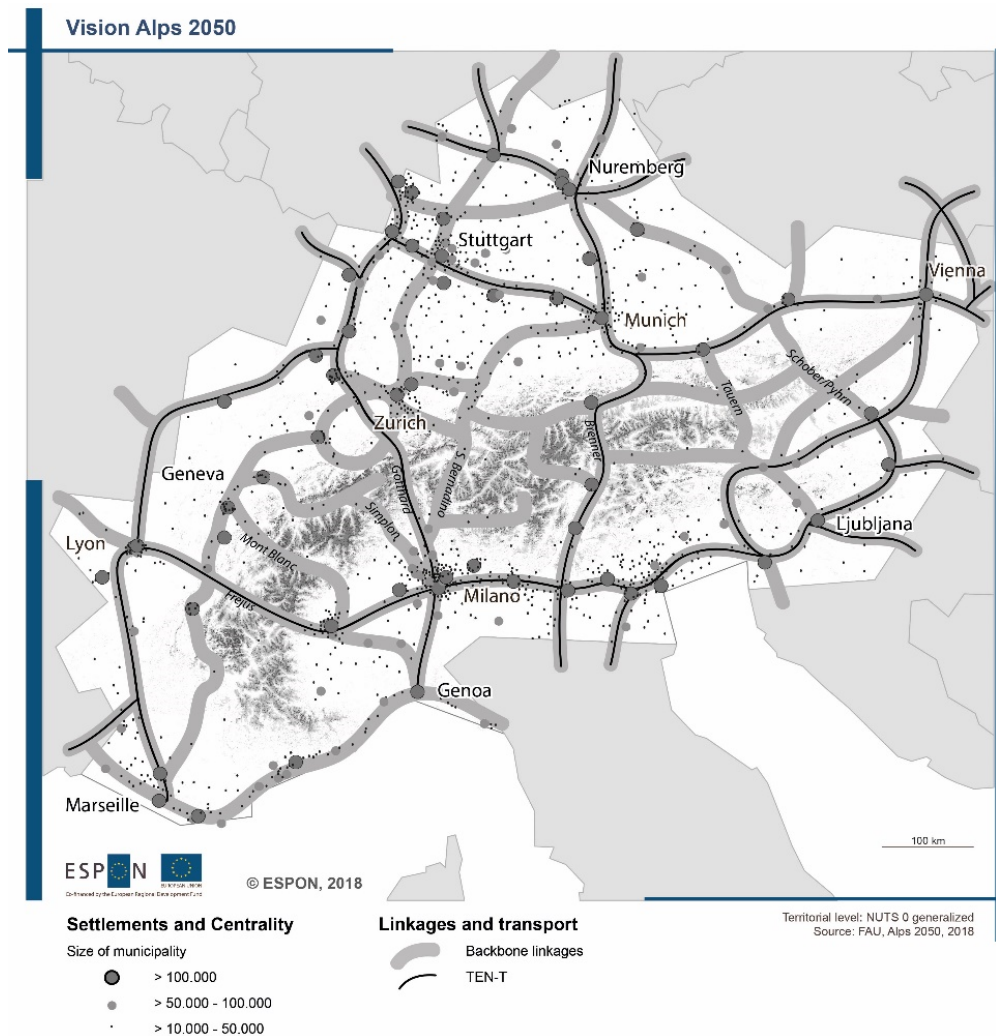
- Developing a settlement system on the transnational scale, based on
 - **Metropolises:** hosting economic headquarter and innovation functions and large scale political decision-making, gateways for incoming professionals
 - **Regional hubs:** hosting important functions in economy and policy for the larger region, safeguarding a critical mass of high ranking R&D infrastructure, a complete offer of services of public interest and the potential for development without affecting rural spaces nearby ('decentral centrality'),
 - **Local centres** with a high importance for rural spaces, in particular with regard to services of public interest and for economic incentives.



Towards a common vision

Linkages

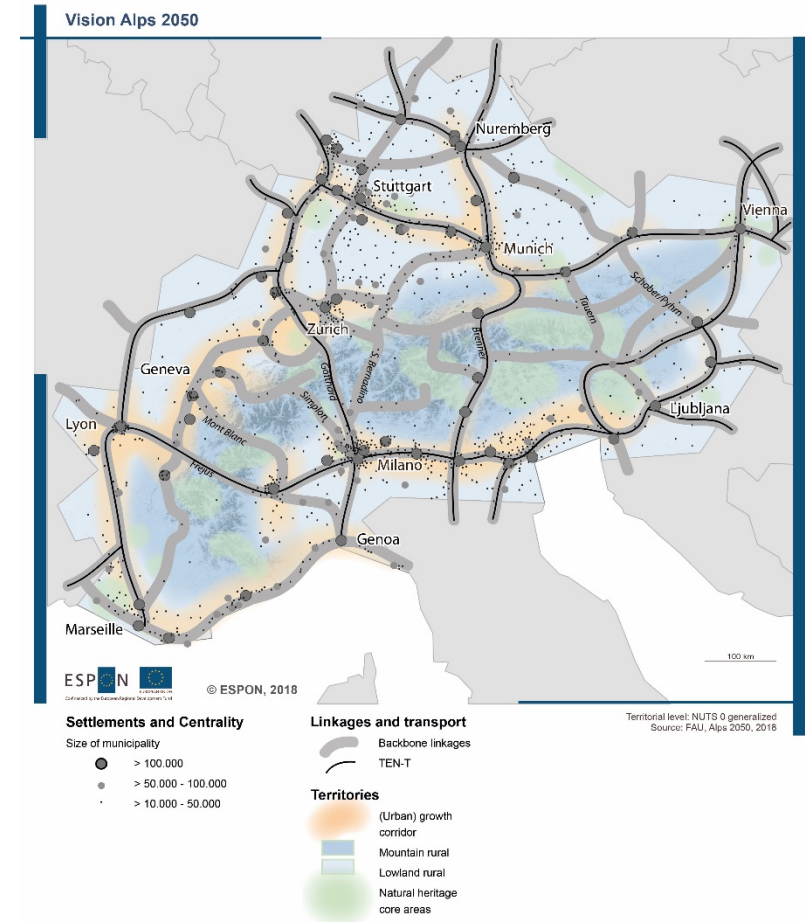
- Developing flows and functions across borders in a sustainable way
 - Backbone linkages:** The (inter-) regional axes further strengthen the existing transport and settlement systems, taking into account of the morphological structure - ensuring efficient spatial structures
 - TEN-T:** Many of the backbone linkages host the TEN-T infrastructure. It is important to implement the investment measures that were decided on the European and transnational level.



Towards a common vision

Territories

- defining relations between urban and rural as well as between inner-Alpine and pre-Alpine spaces and across boundaries:
 - **(Urban) growth corridors:** Concentrating growth dynamics in order to avoid settlement sprawl and to achieve an efficient spatial organisation
 - **Mountain rural:** ensuring public services, supporting rural innovation systems, comprising technological, agricultural and touristic dynamics
 - **Lowland rural:** Developing endogenous potentials and developing fruitful linkages to the metropolises and other centres
 - **Natural heritage core areas:** Protecting, developing and connecting natural heritage, taking into account touristic potentials wherever reasonable (in the map based on existing UNESCO sites and national parks).



IV. Group discussions at the flip chart

Alps 2050

Group discussions at the flip chart

Main insights

missing connection to intl. commitments

STABLE SITUATION (?) THE SAME NETWORKS (DESSO HUBS)

Tunneling to implement necessary steps to position the Alps in the given scenario's
focus on metropol cities and their connections → rural regions not considered
tourism in future? → strong economic factor
how business developers can use these studies/scenarios → are there any factors?
urbanisation
More obvious after you're over there
NATIONAL SIGNS FOR GAP: WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS?

Implications

public transport in the Alps → how it will work out?
Climate Change: visions too enthusiastic
What can we do against global warming?
Keep appropriate mix of public interest without losing public budget
we need solutions/strategies in conflict of interest → areas
Less aware conscious Tourism for surrounding as mountain belt
rethink how important winter/summer tourism is really?
3D landscape model open platform

Main insights

- City axis (Brenner, Italy)
- Drinking water (Supply vs. demand)
- Climate change: differing temperatures

Implications

- winter tourism → summer more important
↳ impact on local economies (Innsbruck)
- transport: connections are important for social/econ. impact
- distance to public service: changing with transport
- sustainable private transportation
- develop public transp. sector → already known habit
- decarbonisation

Main insights

difficult to decide stand the report so quickly

role ecosystem service to metropolitan area
(air, economy, soil)

not new - but surprising "axis" transport (solidarity in transport flow)
by challenges

fragmentation in planning → protected areas very much "done"

need common vision on main challenges & opportunities
Brenner tunnel difficult to discuss

Implications

are there solutions? development of rural area

EV / non-motorised states
CH

important to work together

freedom important
soft planning
multi-level governance
to stay connected
need access
important
contributes cities on important

how can we make solutions more solid & permanent

may lead to cultural conflicts

important to put the vision together

less traffic
more public transport

11/28/2018

Group discussions at the flip chart

Main insights

- Climate change is getting serious (no more skiing winter holidays)
- no cross-border protection areas
- cooperation should be obvious
- bureaucracy does not go cross-border
- is a barrier
- 4 scenarios

implications

- climate change needs to be tackled by cities
- reduce CO₂ emissions
- artificial snow is not the solution
- settlement problems
- ~~less~~ more public transport in rural areas
- ~~cost~~ ~~attractive~~ not reduce mobility
- cross-border linkage of transport
- bring in stakeholders from the public (private)
- New cross-border ministry for nature protection
- reduce bureaucratic barriers decentralise / more power to municipalities

Main insights

- rising temperatures
- climate change
- need of changes in transport
- territorial definition of the project
- alpine identity beyond regions
- Baukultur / urban sprawl (avoid)

implications

- change of winter activities
- lower emissions through sustainable transport
- Which level of implementation?
- is it possible to develop something locally?

Main insights

- not many changes in analysis
- more connection between regions
- necessary, national belonging too strong in economy
- nothing surprising in maps
- most important issue: water management
- Dream: one big protected/green area

implications

Using a protecting?

- more interrelations
- Connection and linkages between regions is most important (for economy and demographic dev)
- Green perspective improve not only environment but also economy (tourism)
- overcome dilemma between (economic) dev. and connection and environmental issues/pollution
- ⇒ balance of interlinking regions and protection %

11/28/2018

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Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence