

A resilient perspective in the evaluation of land-use policies

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The paper will present a part of a two years research project – Sustainable Land-Use Policies for Resilient Cities (SUPER-CITIES), integrated in the Urban-net European network. The project aims at evaluating how land-use policies can promote and improve urban resilience. The paper starts with a literature review on urban resilience and a discussion on the main attributes related to this concept. In the second part, a methodological framework to evaluate urban policies from a resilience perspective is proposed. This methodology will be applied to the different case studies considered in the research in the next stages of the project. The case studies embrace very different contexts in terms of land-use patterns and different policy instruments. Thus, the methodology follows a general sequential framework in order to be sufficiently flexible for its broader applicability. The main steps of the framework are: first, the identification of the main territorial issue at stake; second, the identification of the concerns expressed in planning documents; third, the identification of the policies/measures explored in the document; fourth, the selection of the policies/measures able to be evaluated under the framework of the resilience concept; fifth, the identification of the resilience attributes and formulation of the evaluation questions; sixth, the selection of the relevant dimensions of resilience and measurement of the corresponding indicators (at both PPPP formulation and implementation phases); and finally, synthesis and conclusions through a critical appraisal of the applicability and usefulness of the resilience concept. An application to the Portuguese context will be presented as an illustrative case.

Keywords: urban resilience, land-use policies, urban planning