



## THE STATE OF NATIONAL URBAN POLICY IN SPAIN

Name of national urban policy	<i>Spanish Strategy on Local Urban Sustainability (Estrategia Española de Sostenibilidad Urbana y Local or EESUL)</i>
Date of national urban policy	2011
Explicit or partial	Explicit
Legal status (e.g. act of the legislature, executive order, administrative guidance, etc.)	National strategy
Previous/secondary policies	<i>Housing Plan (2005)</i>
Stage of development	Implementation
How developed (e.g. through a participatory/stakeholder process, or act of parliament, etc.)	Stakeholder participation
Implementing body	Ministry of Development
Government system	Federal
Type of national urban agency	General national planning authority
Implementation mechanism (e.g. committee, involvement of multiple agencies, national-local co-ordination)	No information available

### Current national urban policy

Spain produced a national urban policy, the *Spanish Strategy on Local Urban Sustainability (Estrategia Española de Sostenibilidad Urbana y Local or EESUL)* in 2011 (OECD, 2015). It provides general guidelines and specific measures for each of six thematic areas:

1. **urban form and urban planning instruments**, including urban revitalisation and mixed use;
2. **accessibility, mobility and sustainable transport**;
3. **urban management, governance and citizen participation**;
4. **building construction**;
5. **mitigation and adaptation to climate change**; and
6. **urban-rural relationships**.

Overarching these themes are principles including managing urban growth, integrating transport and land-use planning, horizontal and vertical governance, managing the metabolism and environmental impact of cities, and pursuing a territorial approach to planning (Spain Ministry of Development, 2011). Spain also has strong sectoral policies that guide urban development, including the *Housing Plan (2005)* (UN-Habitat, 2015).

## Areas covered by current urban policy

Sector	Sectoral representation in the Spanish Strategy on Local Urban Sustainability
Economic development	Moderate
Spatial structure	Extensive
Human development	Moderate
Environmental sustainability	Extensive
Climate resilience	Extensive

## Specific issues covered by current national urban policy

The Spanish Strategy on Local Urban Sustainability includes the following characteristics:

Criteria for national urban policies	Appears in the policy
Responds to population dynamics	X
Promotes a territorial approach (in particular urban-rural linkages)	X
Addresses the urban systems (from large to medium and small cities) and the connectivity among cities	X
Prepares for infrastructure and services in cities (including public space)	X
Promotes urban land-use efficiency	X
Enhances environmental sustainability and resilience to climate change	X
Develops effective urban governance systems (horizontal co-ordination and vertical alignment)	X
Promotes effective municipal finance systems	
Supports partnership and co-operation between urban actors	X
Safeguards inclusiveness and participation in the process and outcomes (inequity, segregation, safety, etc.)	X
Ensures robust and comparable urban scale data	X

## Bibliography

OECD (2015), "Regional Outlook Survey Results: Spain", unpublished.

Spanish Ministry of Development (2011), *Estrategia Española de Sostenibilidad Urbana y Local* [Spanish Strategy on Local Urban Sustainability], [www.fomento.gob.es/NR/rdonlyres/1668CD1E-0B11-4C9E-84E2-E664DD3464C1/111503/EESULWEB2011.pdf](http://www.fomento.gob.es/NR/rdonlyres/1668CD1E-0B11-4C9E-84E2-E664DD3464C1/111503/EESULWEB2011.pdf) (accessed 16 June 2016).

UN-Habitat (2017, forthcoming), "NUP Regional Report: Western and Eastern Europe and North America." Nairobi: UN Habitat.