SUNDGAU IN-BETWEEL

ETH Studio Basel

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SUNDGAU IN-BETWEEN

chances of low density



content

localisation

where is the Sundgau? vastness Sundgau In-Between the hilly landscape between Rhine and III the hilly landscape between Birsig and Rhine- Rhone Canal

organisation

political authorities tendencies of decentralisation planning instruments planning institutions

uniformity

landscape shaped by agriculture agriculture dominated by monucultures a uniform region small rural villages grid of similar small villages

empty region

lack of social institutions lack of infratructure no public transport small village communities critical dimension for a village

past and present development

growth phases typologies of village expansion and sites along rivers and streams population is growing process of urban growth future sprawl of villages existing political trials for a solution

strategy

plan of politics organisation a rural park and a densification area

rural park

a rural park for exclusive housing tools to shape the rural park via romana state of the art and landscape design exclusive housing visualisation of exclusive housing

densification

promotion of growth through interventions planning of growth zoom-in Waldighoffen new building approach







localisation

where is the Sundgau? vastness Sundgau In-Between the hilly landscape between Rhine and III the hilly landscape between Birsig and Rhine- Rhone Canal



The *Sundgau* is a territory situated in the south of *Alsace*. It is a hilly region, bounded in the south by the Swiss border and the foothills of the Jura, in the east by the valley of the Rhine, to the north by Mulhouse and the potassium-rich basin of Alsace, and to the west by the Belfort Gap.

The name *Sundgau* derives from Alemannic German and means South County (Sund: South, Gau: County).

The region has a very intense history. It is formed by many changes between the alemannic and frankish culture during the past few centuries. The main inheritance from this changes is the bilingualism of the native people.

Different efforts to create an identifying community can be observed. Nevertheless the Sundgau doesn't stand for any famous brand such as the region of Bordeaux or the Normandie.



FRANCE

DEUTSCHLAND

FREIBURG

SCHWARTNELD

VOSGES

BELFORT

MULHOUSE

ALTKIRCH





JURA

SCHWEIZ











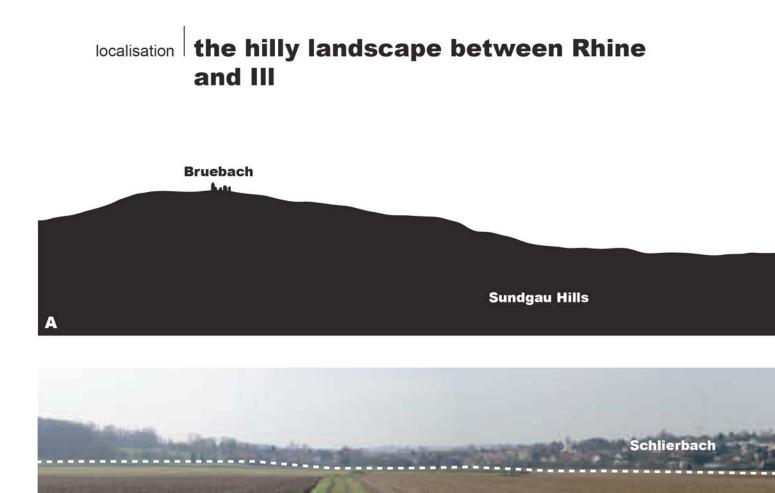
Iocalisation Sundgau In-Between

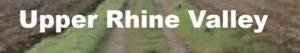
Our research area is the south-eastern part of the greater geographic region *Sundgau*. We defined it by four geographic borders and the relative closeness to the city of Basel. The *"Sundgau In-Between"* is characterised by its vast landscape and rolling hills. The region is shaped by the little streams between the hills.

The river III is the most significant in Alsace, bordering *"Sund-gau In-Between"* in the west. Its source is at Winkel in the foothills of the Jura.



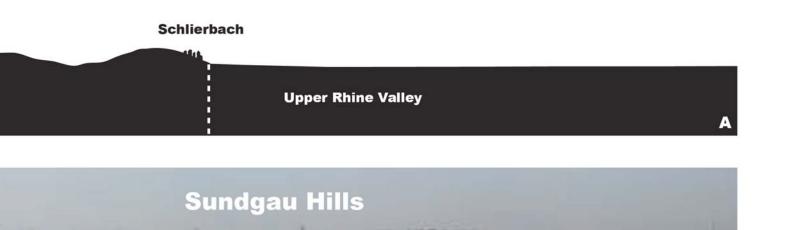














Sundgau Hills

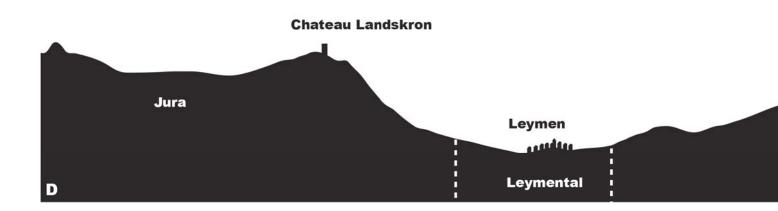




localisation the hilly landscape between Birsig and **Rhine- Rhone Canal**



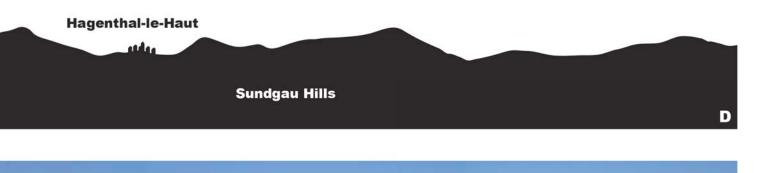














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C



organisation

political authorities tendencies of decentralisation planning instruments planning institutions



organisation **political authorities**

Post war France was managed by a centralised administration with the concentration of power in the capital Paris. Since 1982, the administration is in a process of decentralisation. The *Régions* and *Départements* were transformed from purely supervisory and administrative institutions into executive authorities. The aim is creating a *démocratie de proximité*. This process continues until today.

état -	FRANCE
président	parlament

responsabilities

police justice defence foreign politics economic politics

région - ALSACE	
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conseil régional

responsabilities

président

président

economical and social development tourism transport ecology lycées, professional education

département HAUT-RHIN

conseil général

responsabilities

collèges school transport culture and patrimony streets rural developement

arrondissement and canton

no elected representatives only administrative functions

commune

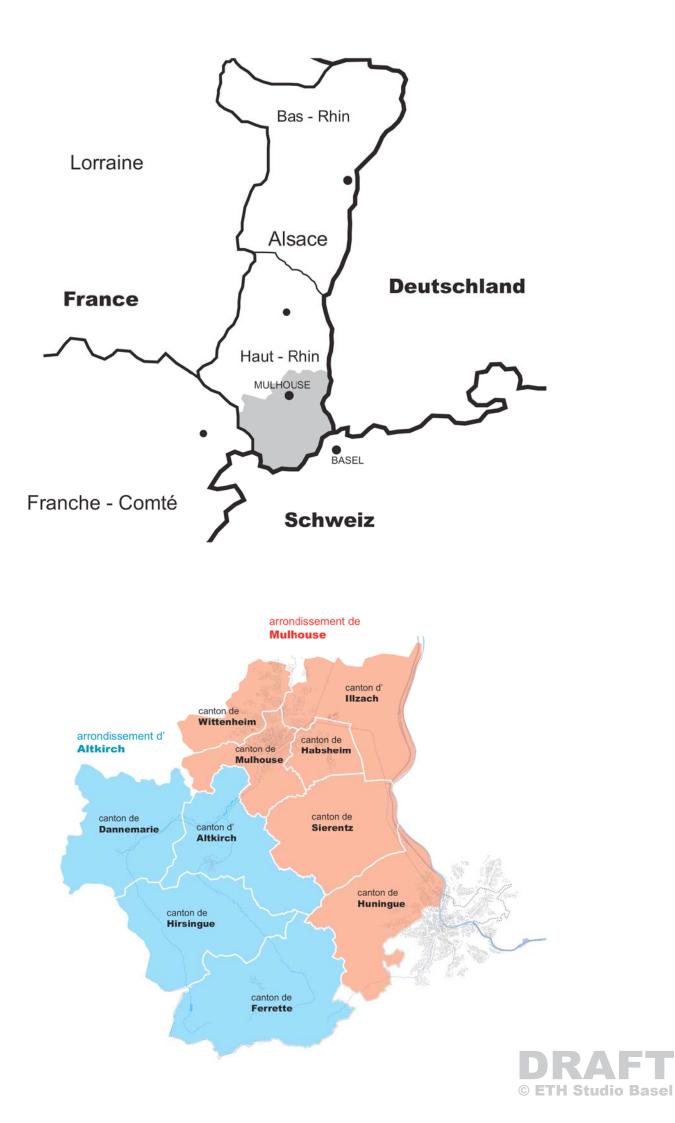
conseil municipal

maire

responsabilities

primary schools zoneplan POS/ PLU local streets état cilvile wastewater, trash





organisation tendencies of decentralisation

The *communauté de communes* was created by a status of the French Parliament enacted on February 6, 1992. It is defined by the *Code général des collectivités territoriales* :

"It is a public establishment of inter-communal cooperation formed by several communes, which cover a connected territory without enclave. It builts a space of solidarity with a joint project of economical development and spatial planning."¹

¹Guide pratique de l'intercommunalité, p. 41

Besides these three conditions the participating communes have to choose another obligatory governmental responsability

- protection and valuation of the environment
- housing politics and living conditions
- creation, administration and maintenance of garbage collection
- construction, maintenance and functioning of cultural, sportive and primary shool infrastructure

delegates are elected by the especial municipal of

The delegates are elected by the conseil municipal of every commune.

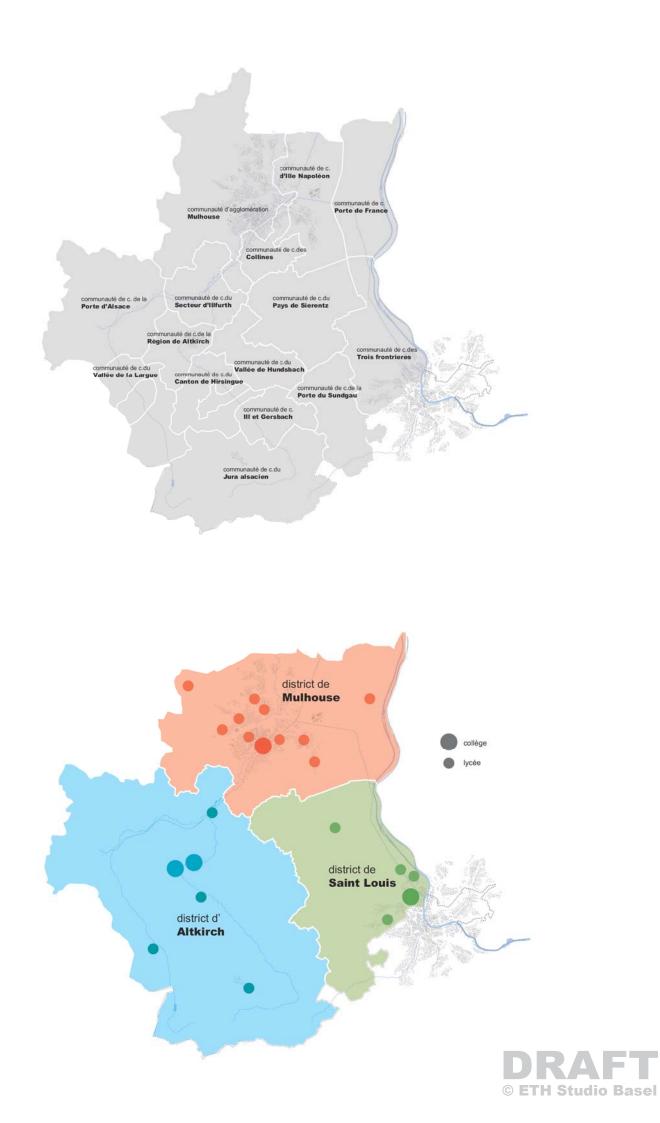
communauté de communes

economical development valuation of the environment protection of the enviroment housing politics living conditions cultural, sportive and primary shool infrastructure garbage collection

school system

Another type of organisation is the school system. The primary schools are managed by the communes, while collèges and lycées are organized by the département respectively the région





organisation planning instruments

The central document for urban planning is the *SCOT* (Schéma de Coherence territoriale). It was introduced in the year 2000 and replaced the *SD* (Schéma Directeur). It contains the urban orientations in a large scale of a certain region. This region is defined by a syndicate of communes. This syndicate doesn't have to refer to a political subdivision. Nine of them exist in Alsace. The *SCOT* lasts for ten years after being ratified by every participating commune.

It contains a diagnose and an analyse of the present enviromental situation written down in a *PADD* (Projet d'aménagement et development durable). The second part ist the *DOG* (Document d'orientation), which is the basis for a sustainable development. It also ensures the coherence between policy and the local urban plans.

SCOT Schéma de Coherence territoriale

guideline for sustainable development organisation of space balance between urban an natural area protection zones building land amount for every commune legally mandatory

Urban planning on a smaller scale is the *PLU (Plan Local d'Urbanisme)*. It is elaborated by every commune and replaces the former *POS* (Plan d'occupation Sols). It consists of an analyse and a diagnose of the environment, followed by the *PADD*. Every *PLU* has to fulfill the guidelines of the *SCOT*. The main use is a zone plan with precise definitions of building codes. Small communes don't establish a *PLU*, they only use a *Carte communale*, which is more or less a zone plan.

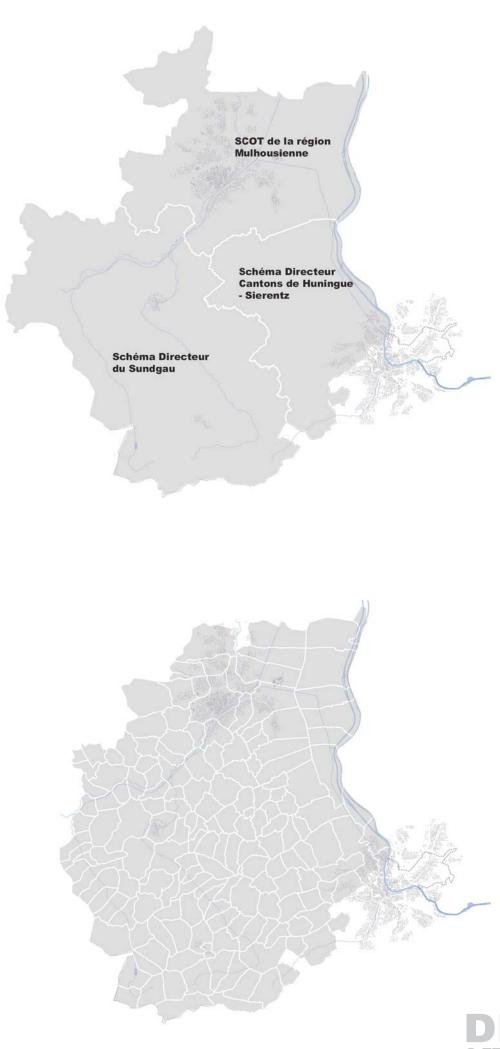
PLU Plan Local d'Urbanisme

commune analyse of commune guidelines for urban planning zone plan legally mandatory

Carte Communale

zone plan







organisation planning institutions

A new kind of urban planning has been established in 1999 with the creation of the *Pays*. It is a collaboration of several *Communauté de Communes*. They work together for a sustainable development of the territory. The main tool is the *Charte*, which consists of very general guidelines. It lasts for 10 years.

The difference to a *SCOT/PLU* is, that it's not legally mandatory. Anyhow it has a certain indirect power, because the projects mentioned in the charte are normally subsidized by the *Département*.

The elaboration of the charte is done by the *Conseil de Dévelopment*, with the help of the *Département* and the *Région*. The participation of representatives of economy and society in this *Conseil de Dévelopment* is an important part of the *Charte*. It mainly consists of a detailed analyse and a plan of politics. The *Charte* shall give new impulses to a region.

The communauté de communes are also elaborating *Chartes*, but in a smaller scale.

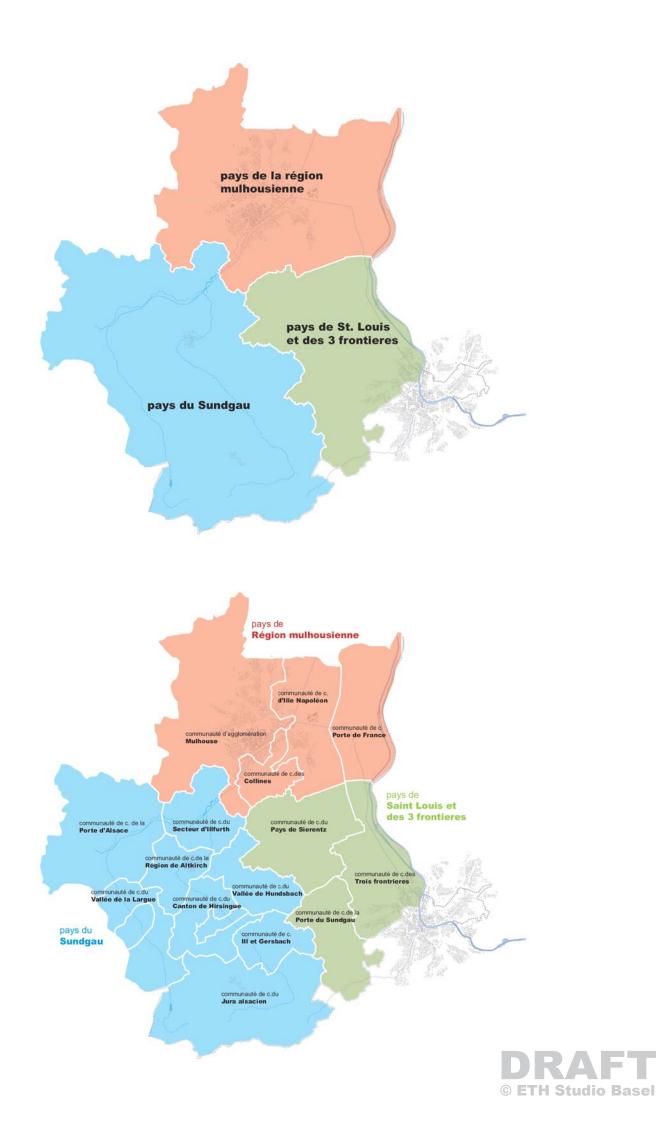
Pays

syndicat des communes charte diagnose of territoy fundamental orientations of the pays coherence

Communaté de communes

syndicat des communes charte







uniformity

landscape shaped by agriculture agriculture dominated by monocultures a uniform region small rural villages grid of similar small villages



uniformity landscape shaped by agriculture



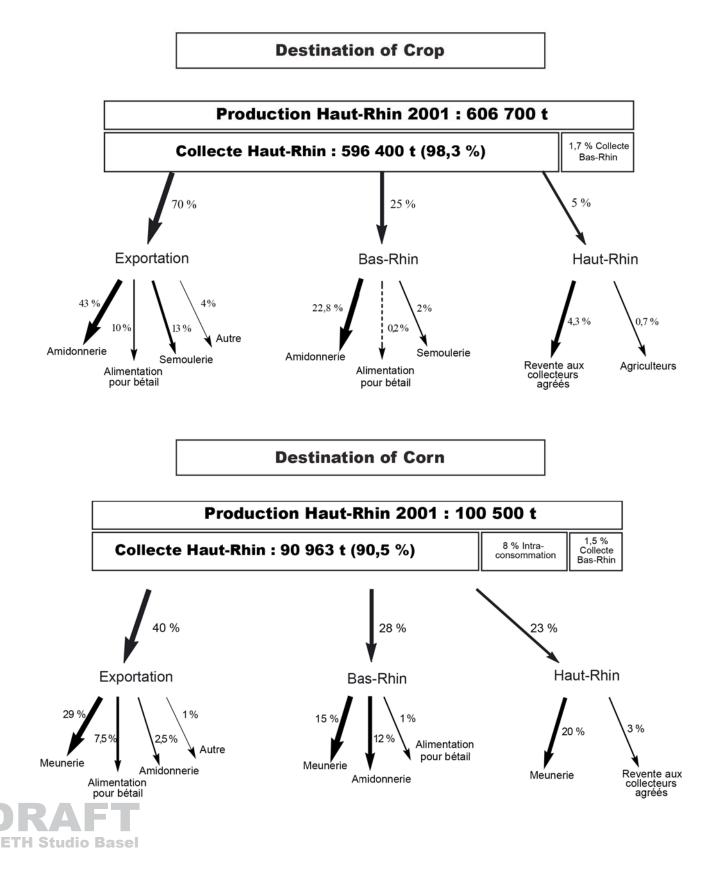


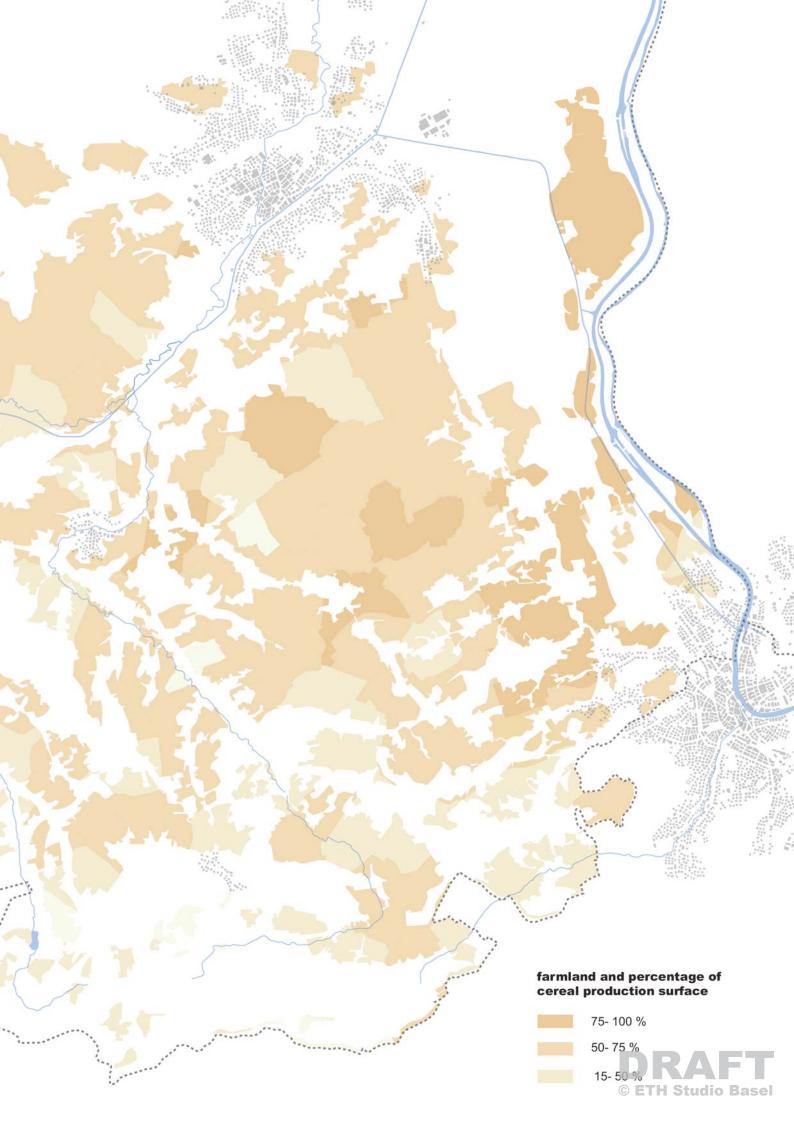




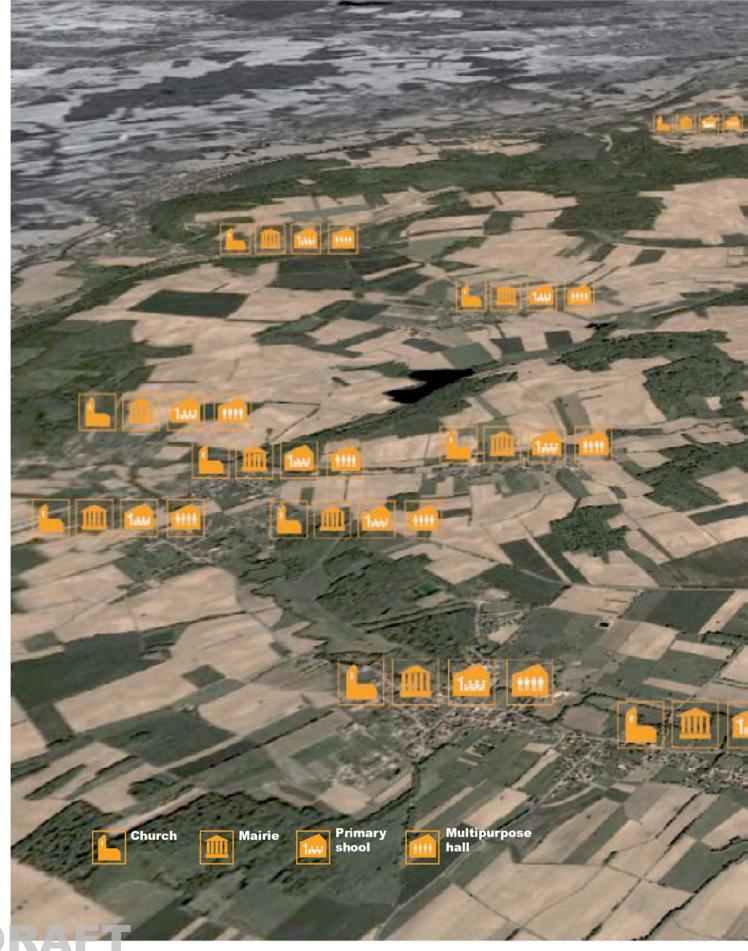
uniformity agriculture dominated by monocultures

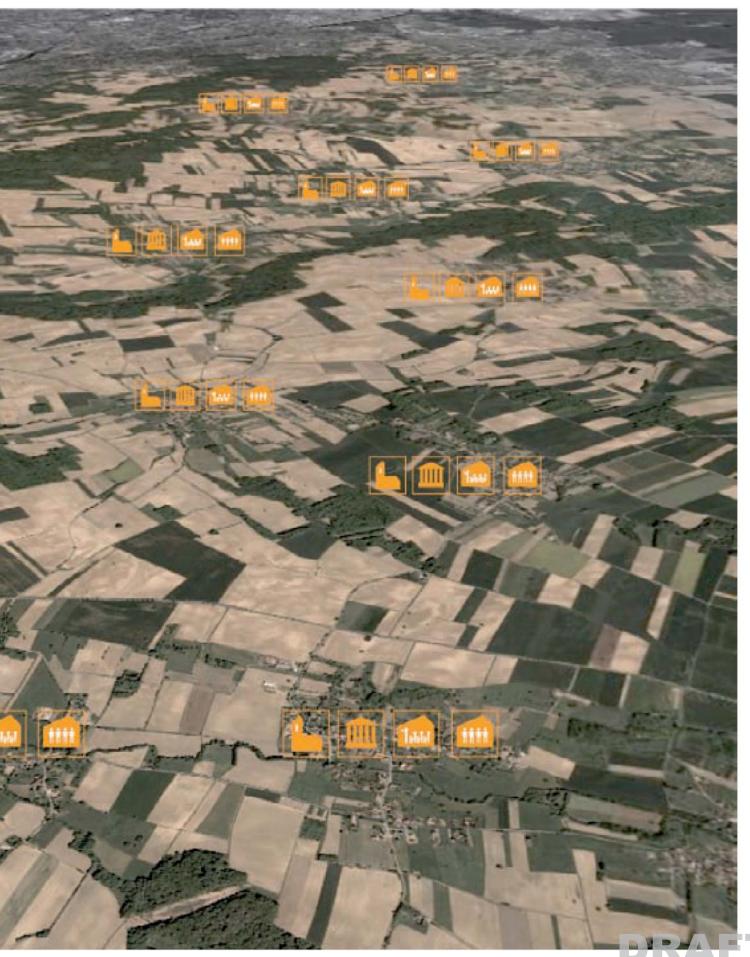
The *"Sundgau In-Between"* is primarily an agricultural region. It forms part of an important agricultural region with the name *Sundgau*, one of nine in the *Département Haut-Rhin*. 36 % of the total cereal production land of *Haut-Rhin* are situated in this area. The production is characterised by large cereal monocultures. The products don't stay within the region and are mainly used for exportation.





uniformity a uniform region



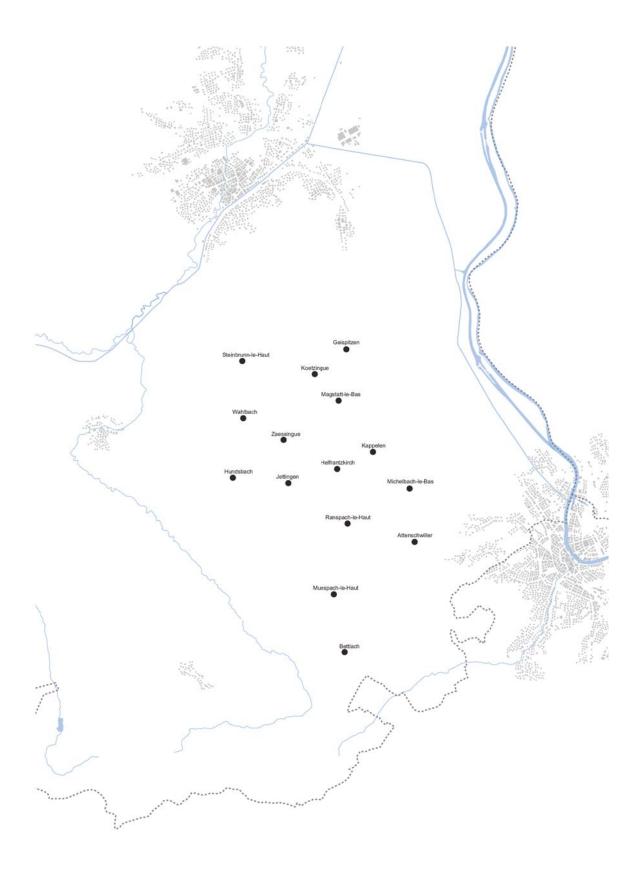


uniformity small rural villages





uniformity grid of similar small villages





01

Attenschwiller

Bettlach

288

Geispitzen

418

836

Helfrantzkirch

794

224

Hundsbach

Jettingen

502

Kappelen

517

Koetzingue

491

Magstatt-le-Bas

414

Michelbach-le-Bas

724

Steinbrunn-le-Haut

539

Muespach-le-Haut

810

Wahlbach

232

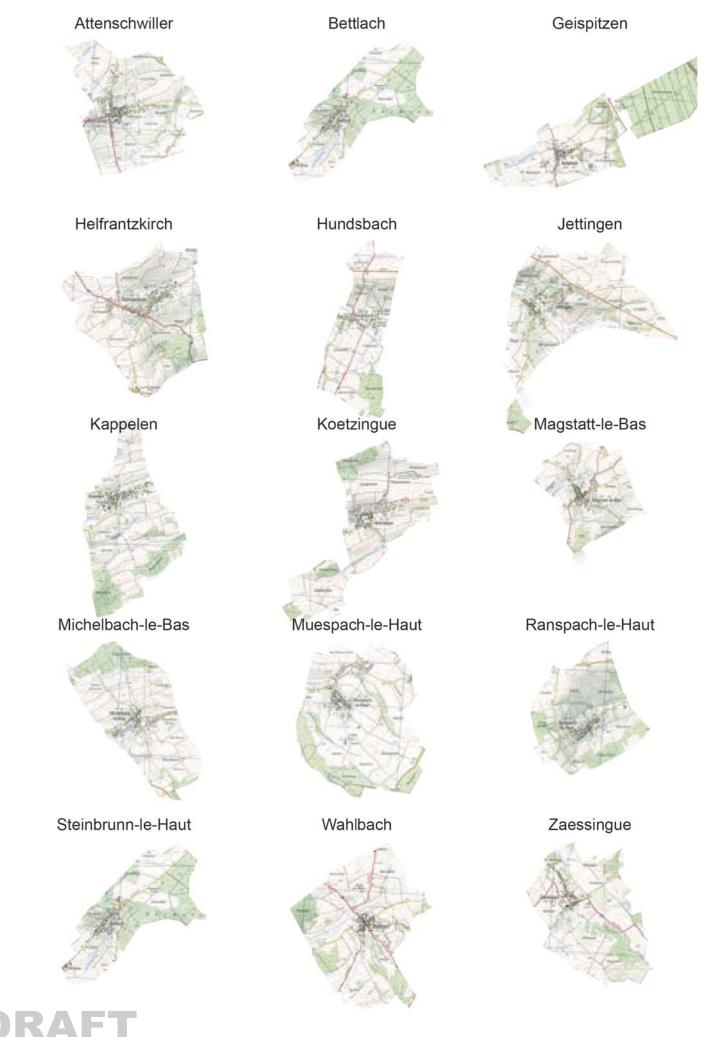
Ranspach-le-Haut

660

Zaessingue

257





Attenschwiller



Bettlach





Jettingen



Hundsbach



Kappelen

Koetzingue





Michelbach-le-Bas



Muespach-le-Haut



Ranspach-le-Haut



Steinbrunn-le-Haut





Wahlbach







Attenschwiller



Helfrantzkirch



Bettlach

Hundsbach



Jettingen



Kappelen



Koetzingue



Magstatt-le-Bas



Michelbach-le-Bas



Muespach-le-Haut



Ranspach-le-Haut



Steinbrunn-le-Haut





Wahlbach



Zaessingue





Attenschwiller

Bettlach

Geispitzen



Helfrantzkirch







Jettingen



Kappelen



Koetzingue



Magstatt-le-Bas



Michelbach-le-Bas



Muespach-le-Haut



Ranspach-le-Haut



Steinbrunn-le-Haut





Wahlbach





Zaessingue







Helfrantzkirch

Hundsbach



Kappelen





Magstatt-le-Bas

Jettingen



Michelbach-le-Bas



Muespach-le-Haut



Ranspach-le-Haut



Steinbrunn-le-Haut







Wahlbach







Hundsbach

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Magstatt-le-Bas



Michelbach-le-Bas



Steinbrunn-le-Haut





Wahlbach





Zaessingue



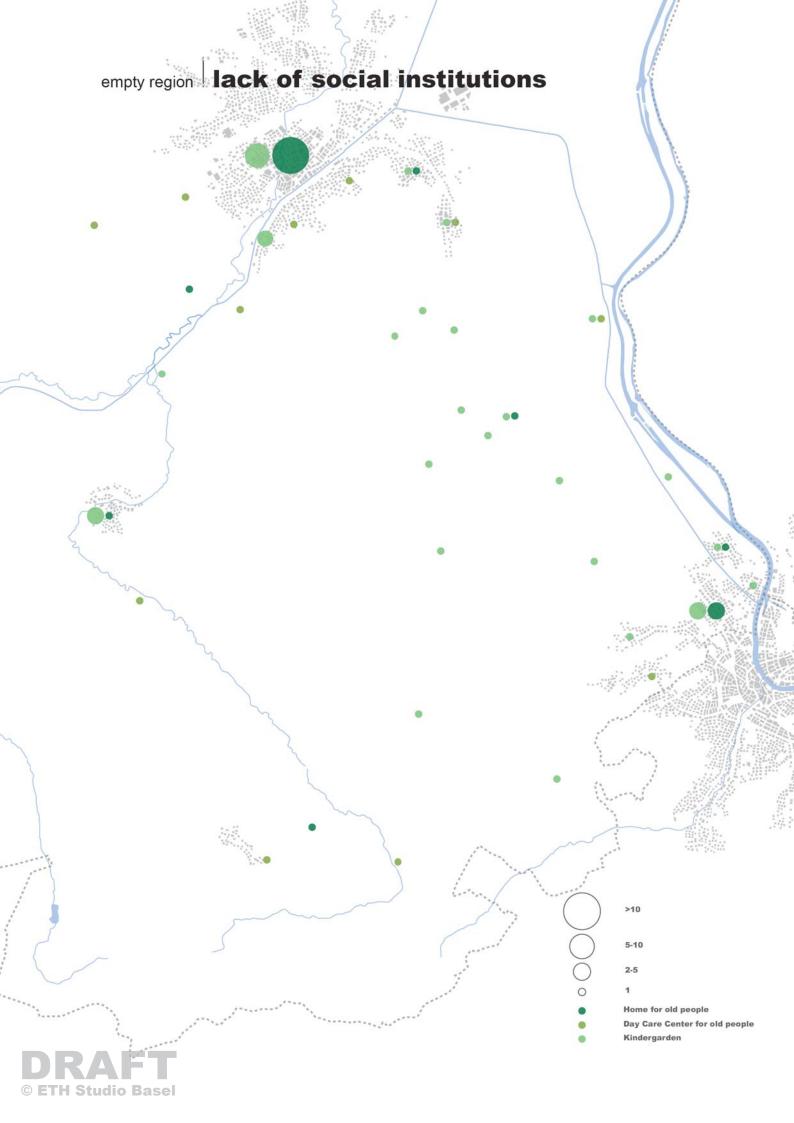


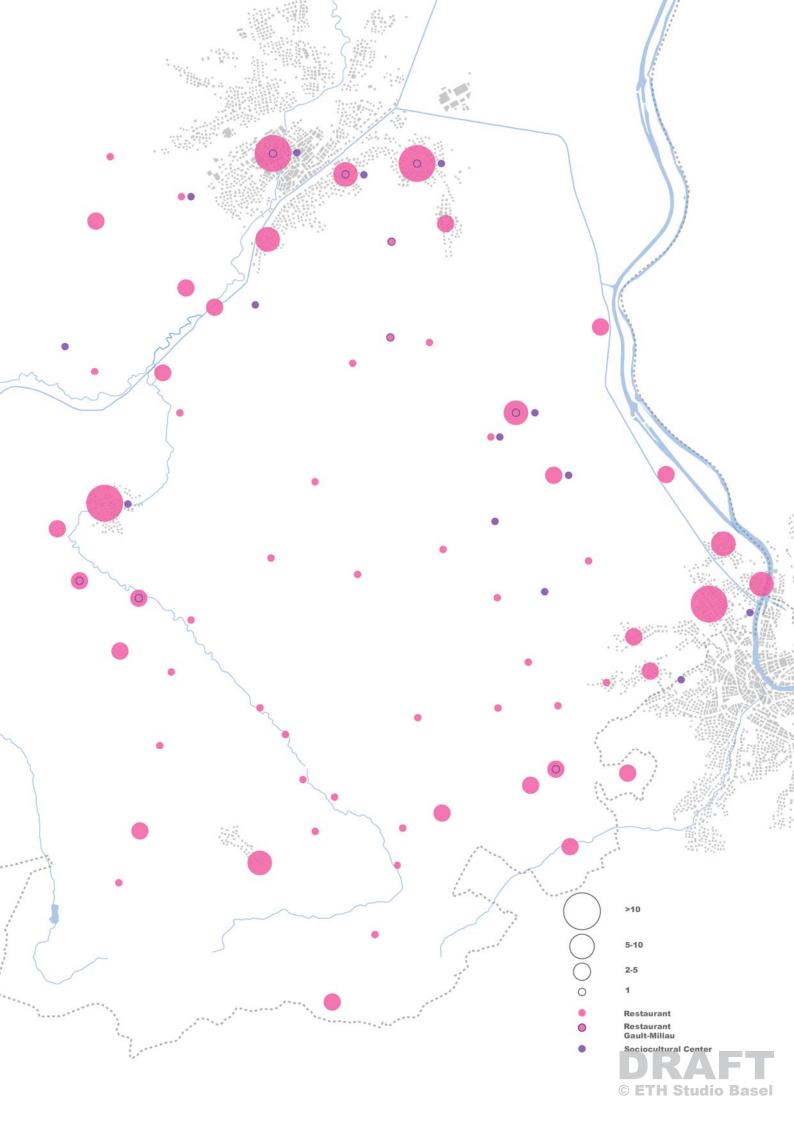


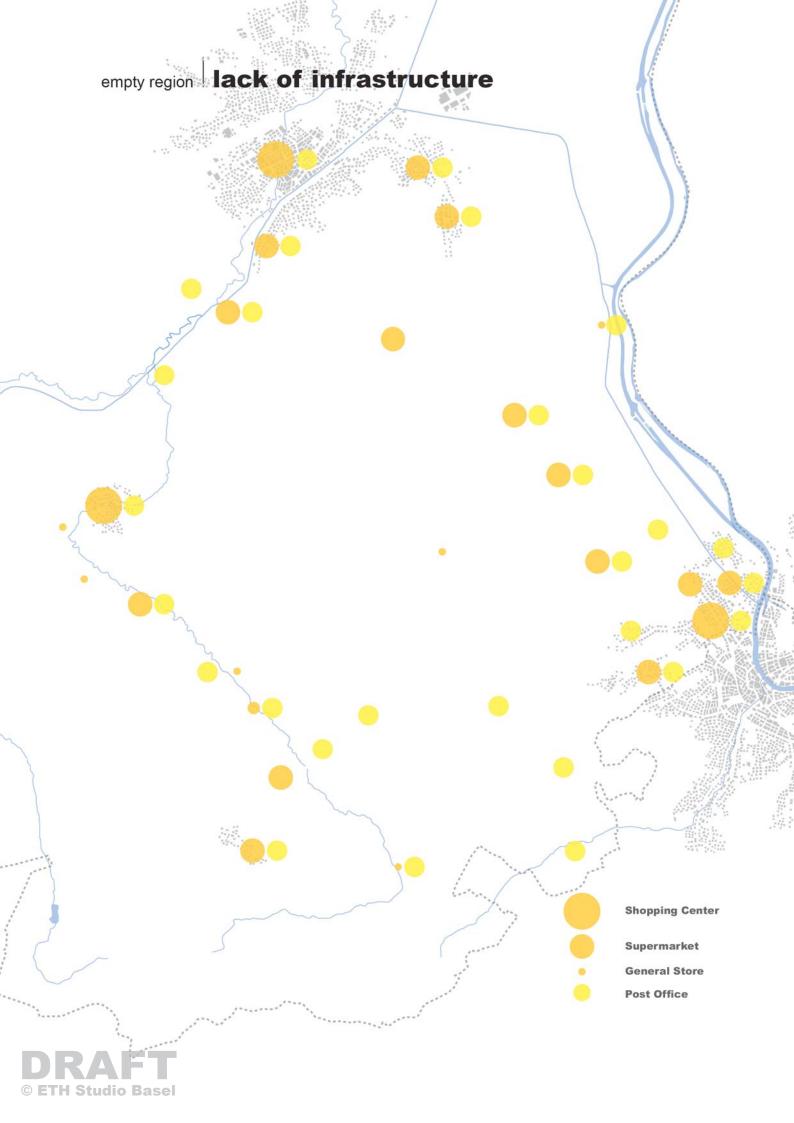
empty region

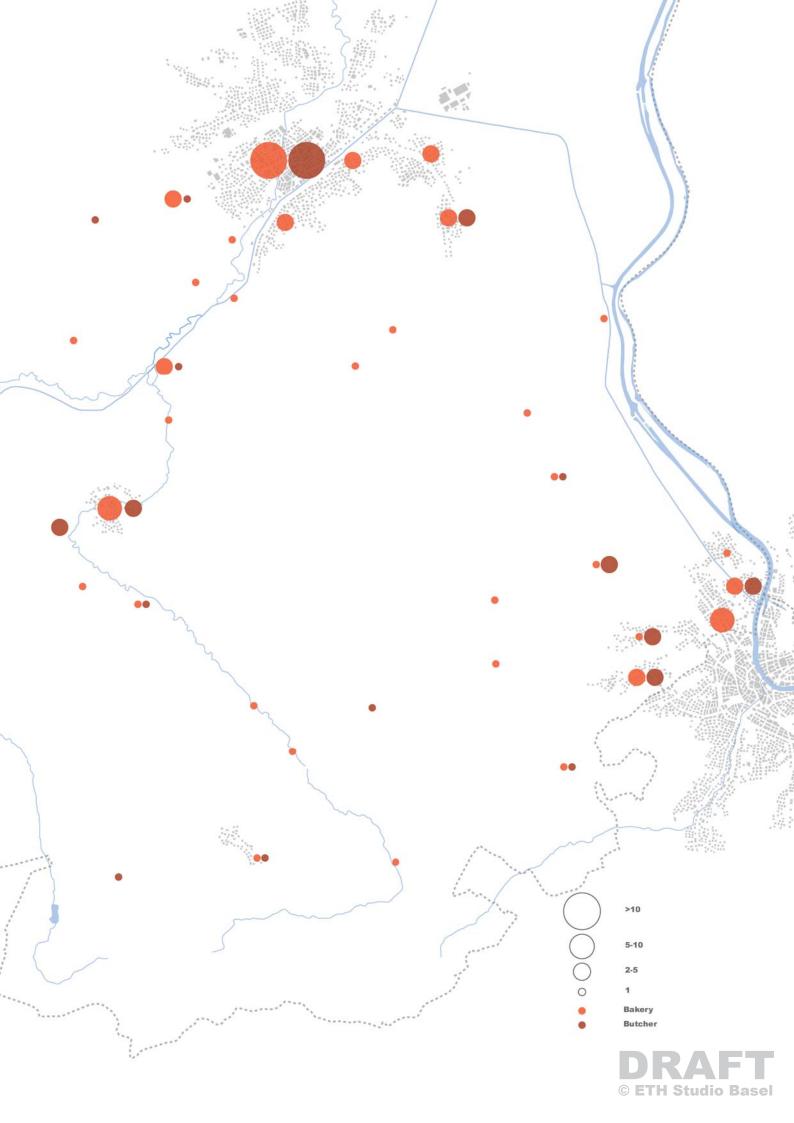
lack of social intstitutions lack of infrastructure no public transport small village communities critical dimension for a village











empty region no public transport

General

-no connections between TER and Regio S-Bahn -different provider -no collective marketing -often only connections in the morning and the evening - nonexistance of a continous transportation chain

Regio S-Bahn

 -no consistant fare for the international passage between Switzerland and France
 -nonexistence/ few P+R infrastructure at the french train stations
 -scarce infrastructure at the train station
 -no local distribution by buses
 -no coordination of timetables with regional bus-system

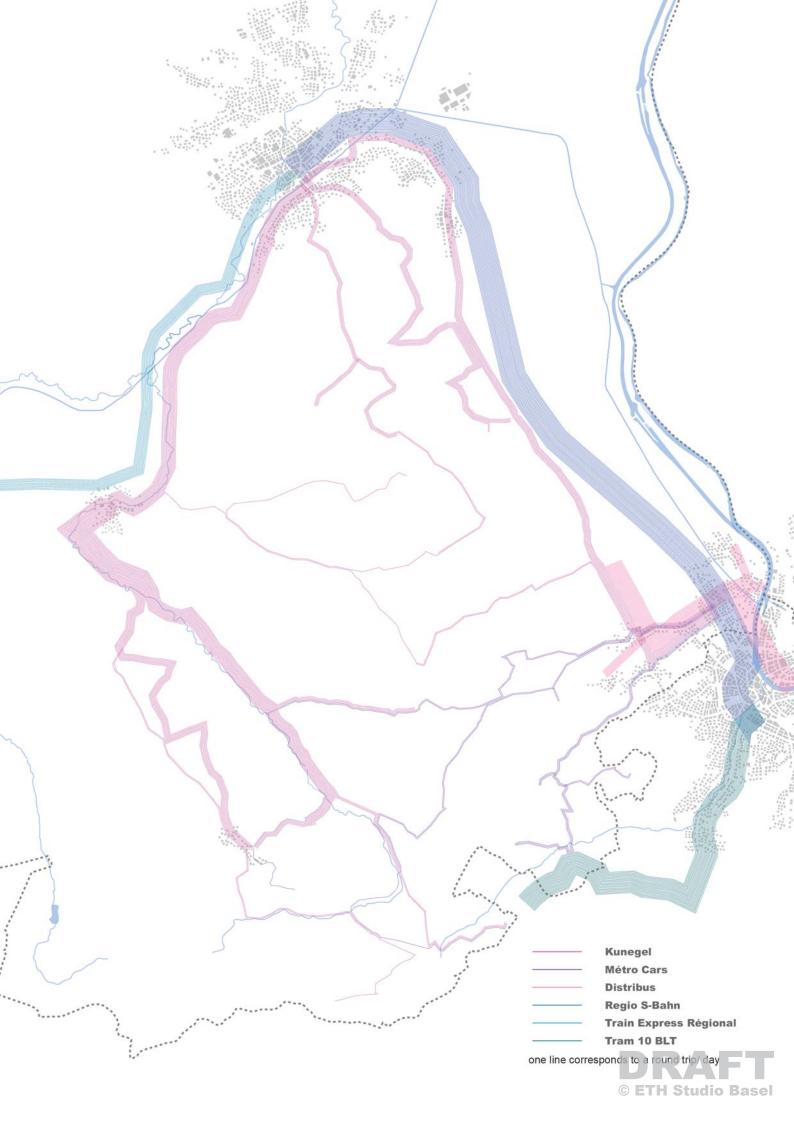
Transport Express Régional (TER)

-irregular train connections -confusing combination of different stopovers and shedules -the number of trainstops between Altkirch and Mulhouse differs from none to 7. According to the timetable the travelling time differs from 11 min. to 24 min. -in several stopovers the train stops only 5 times per day - the last train leaves at 20.08

Regional Bus

-Two different private provider, Kunegel and Métrocars - the different buslines have mainly only 4 courses per day -confuse and unattractive timetables -no direct connections to Basel -the bus system is basically used by pupils, the timetables are coordinated to the class shedule of the shools





empty region small village communities



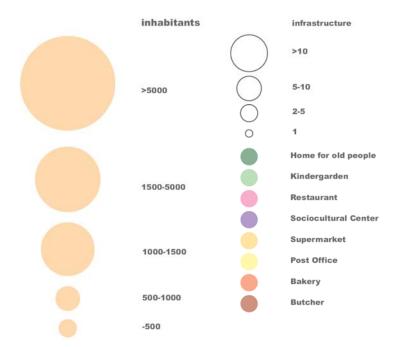




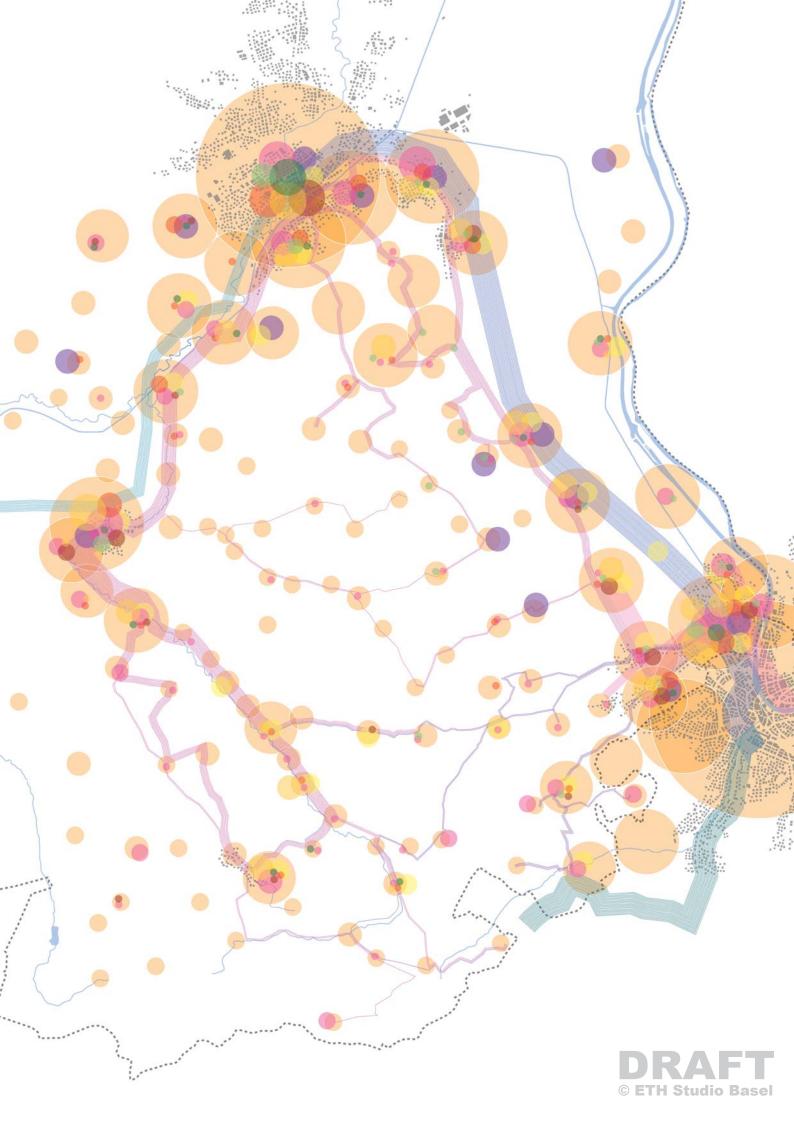
empty region critical dimension for a village

The combination of the previous layers of analysis draws an explicit image of the region. An empty core with small villages is surrounded by a ring of larger villages with a basic offer of daily needs.

On closer inspection you can figure out a critical dimension for a village. Villages in the empty region reach a maximum population of 800 inhabitants. Half of the villages don't even reach the number of 400 inhabitants. On the other hand the subcenters in the ring reach at least a number of 1000 inhabitants.







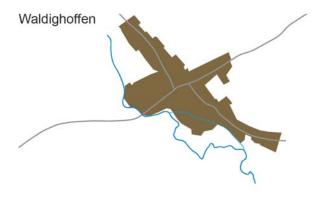


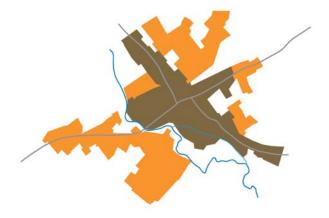
past and present development

growth phases typologies of village expansion and sites along rivers and streams villages are growing process of growth future sprawl of villages existing political trials for a solution



development growth phases





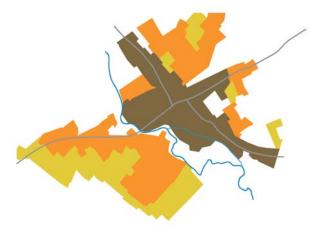
1900

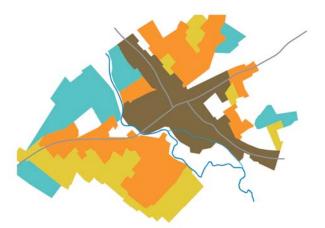
The ancient buildings in the core of the village are characterised by a relative dense composition. The style of construction and appearence is predominant traditional timber frame, so called Fachwerkbau.

1950

Houses are built in a contemporary matter adapting the typology of the ancient houses.







2000

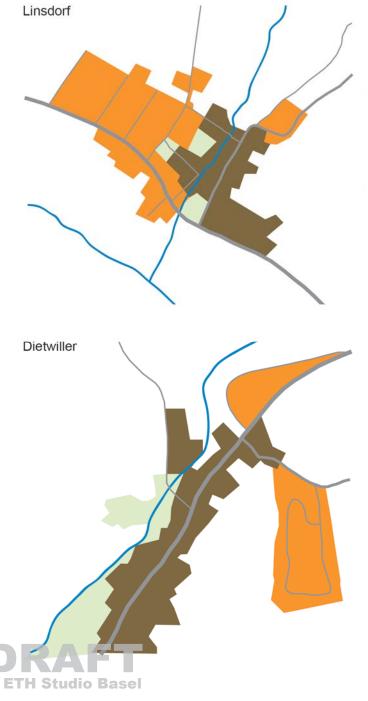
The recent development is dominated by one family houses creating a very low density of the village. The style breaks with the existing one.

2030

Every village has a lot of land for building left. According to the growth of population the villages are going to sprawl out in a uncoordinated way.



development typologies of village expansion and sites along rivers and streams

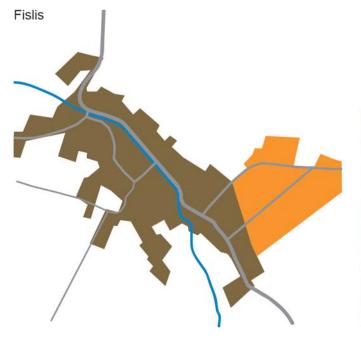


A very typical form of expansion is the building of new houses along the mainroad with stitch streets into the new parts. They mostly have no direct connection to the core of the village



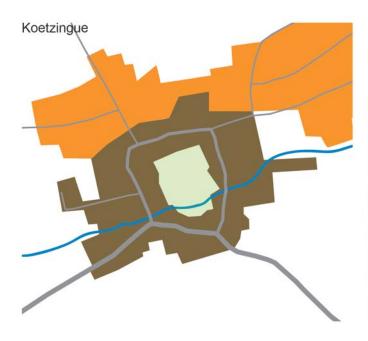
Another type ist characterised by a growth outside the existing village with a certain distance.





urban river





river as backyard





natural river



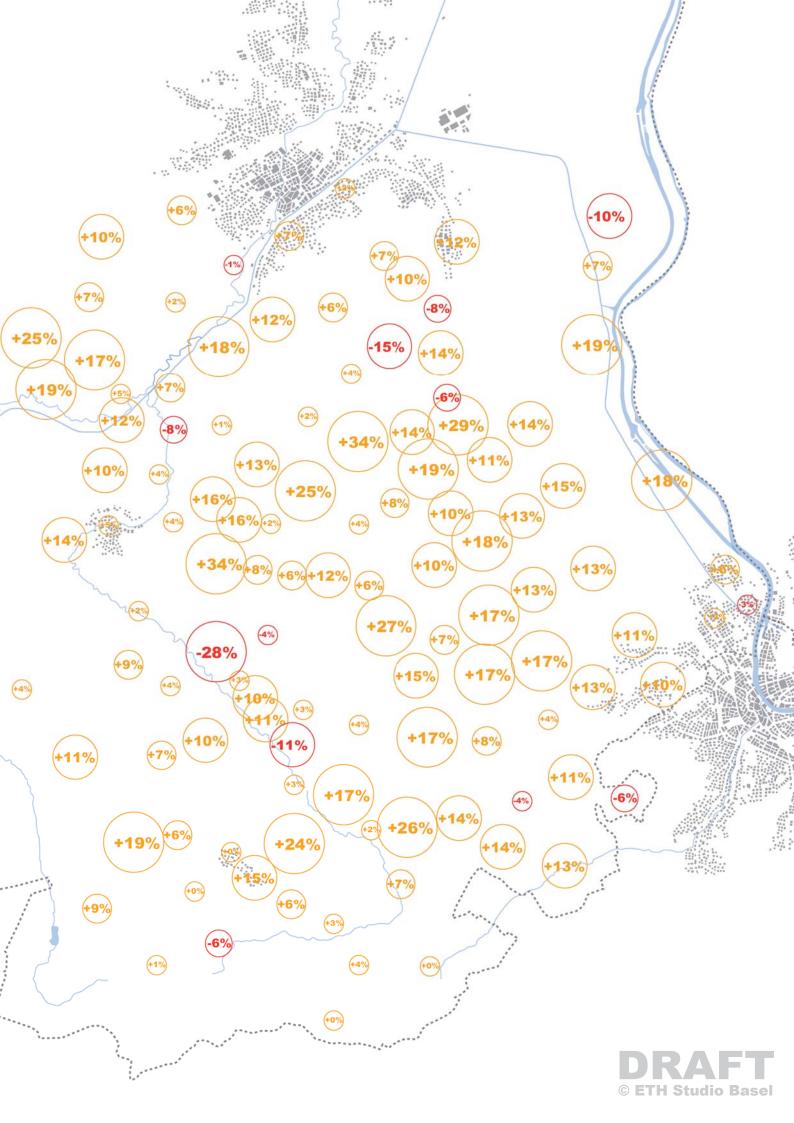
development | population is growing

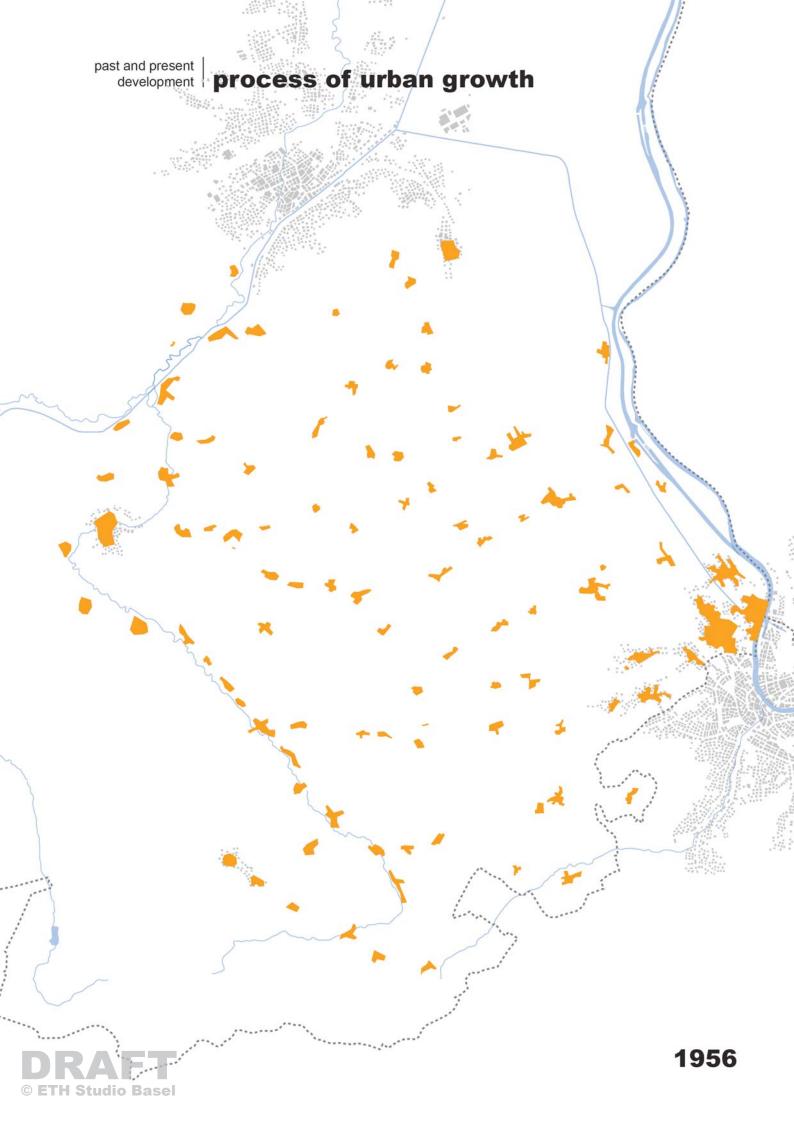
The whole region is characterised by an intense growth of the population. This is caused by the situation in-between Basel and Mulhouse, two cities that provide a big amount of jobs and fast access by a short car ride. The Sundgau is getting a popular place for living, close to the city, but within a beautiful landscape. Another advantage in comparison to Switzerland is the low price of construction land (10'000€/ 10a) and the relatively low costs of building.

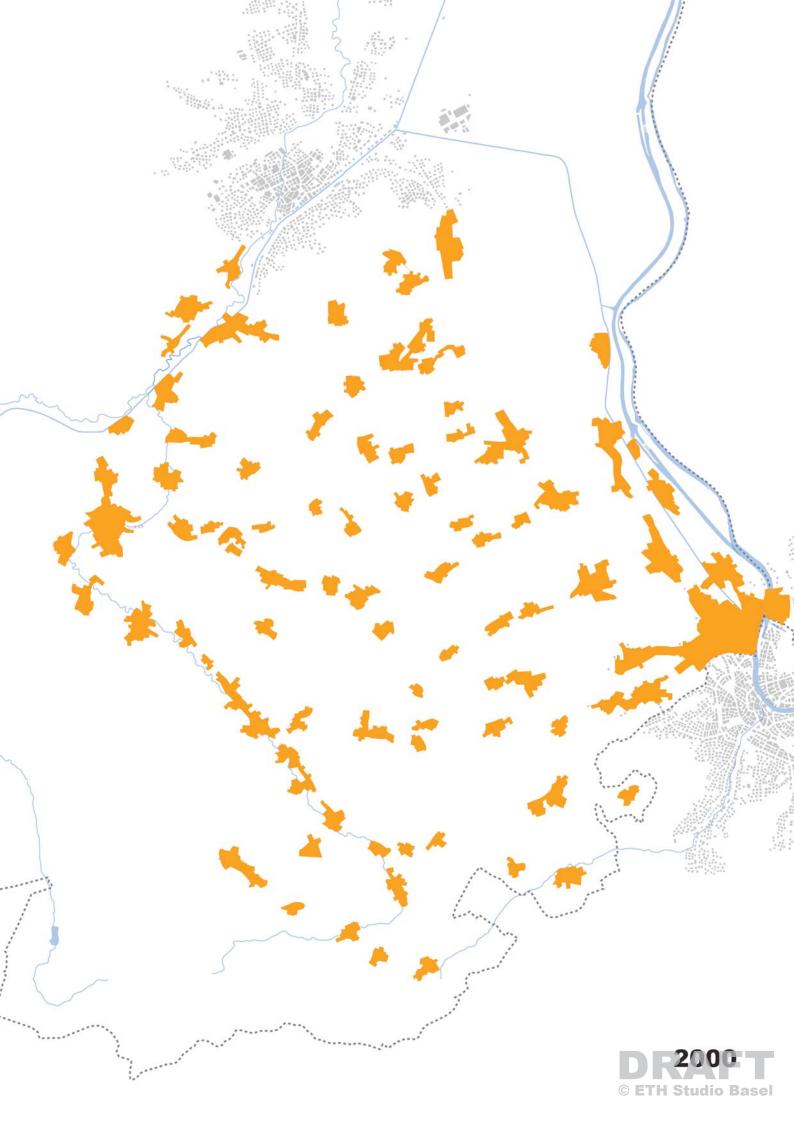
The population of the Sundgau In-Between is mainly growing by migration. The part of the natural birthrate of native people doesn't have a big influence on the growth rates. According to the lack of public transport the need of a car is essential. The percentage of households owning second car is higher than 60%.

The rising rate of migrants and commuters doesn't correspond with the grown structure of population and may led to socio cultural problems in future.





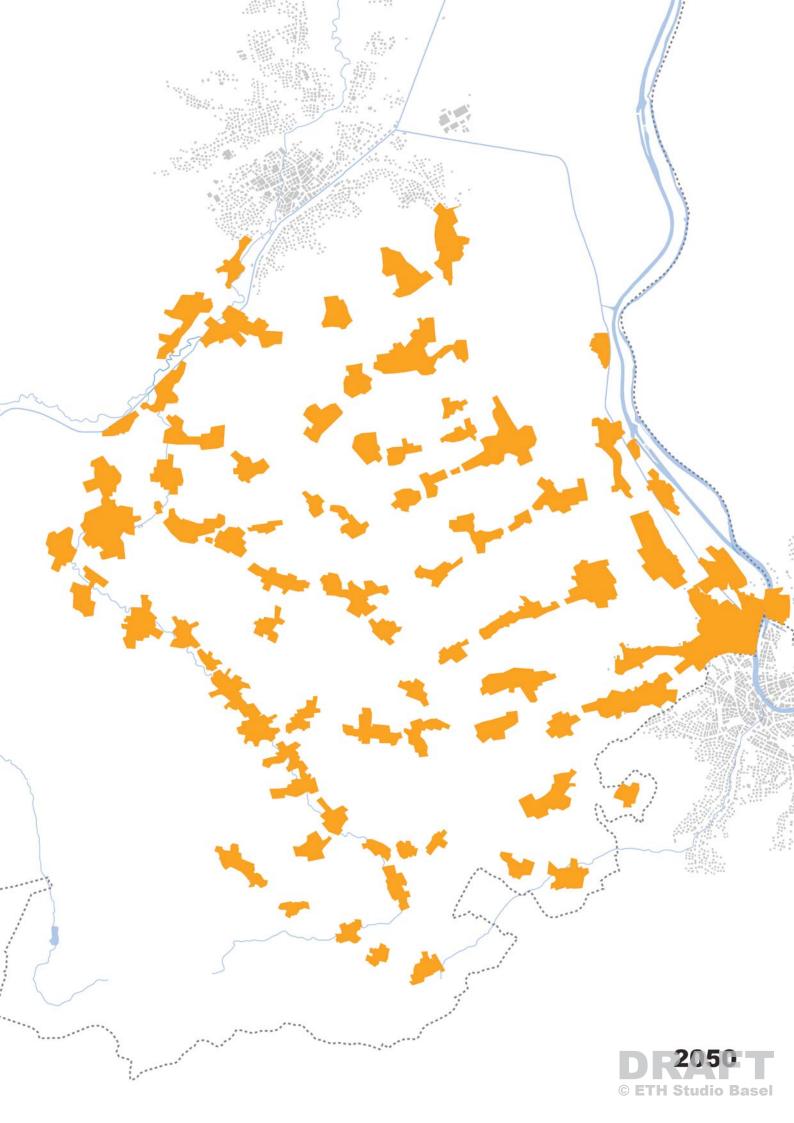




development future sprawl of villages

We can predict that the landscape will be sheeted if the tendencies of suburbanisation will continue as they are taking place at the moment. The main quality of the vast landscape and the idyllic rural character will be lost. The "Sundgau In-Between" will be an unattractive suburb as many in other regions.





development existing political trials for a solution

The Charte (see also organisation-planning institutions) of the pays du Sundgau and the pays de St. Louis focus the same topics after having made an analysis, respectively expressing their aims. The content is written in noncommittal way and doesn't mention specific projects.

pays du Sundgau

analysis

- the region is bleeding to death - it's converting to a pure living area without substance "le Sundgau se banalise" "le Sundgau se devitalise"

strategy economy

- dynamise local activities - diversify and support the agriculture - develop a concept for the service sector, leisure activities and tourism

living conditions

- protect the rural identity - control the demographic evolution - control urban growth

territorial balance

- strengthen the vitality of the subcenters

- increase solidarity between the centers

- maintain the public service

- upgrading public transport

local identity

- create an "evénement du Sundgau" - canalize and propagate informations in a better way - harmonize economy and social needs - optimize an associative network



pays de St. Louis et des 3 frontieres

aims increase the independence and autonomy

strategy economy

support the EuroAirport
 develop a profitable infrastructure for consumers
 support and fortify the handcraft
 aiding the startups for the industrial and services sector

 fortifiy tourism
 develop strategies for business tourism
 upgrading the agriculture (increase diversification)

life conditions

- extend small children's care

- extend daycare for children
- extend care for old people
 - upgrading the hospitals
- guarantee the continuity of civil associations

territorial balance

a well balanced and economical management of space
 test new possibilities of urbanisation
 construct a high quality for living
 promote a sensitization for environmental concerns

local identity

 develop a superior strategy of positioning and lobbying (on the scale of the TAB)
 develop a strategy to improve the internet connections







plan of politics organisation a rural park and a densification area



strategy plan of politics

Our main aim is to create a rural park in the Sundgau. It shall serve as a local recreation and a exclusive resident area.

planning and administration

The region has to be planned as one entitiy. Therefore the PLUs of every single commune are substituted by a new planning instrument. The region is classified in a densification and in a park area. Both parts have to install a council who is responsible for planning and realisation. The former communities will be replaced by these two councils.

landscape and agriculture

The characteristic vastness of the landscape and the charme of the small villages have to be conserved and provided. Therefore the park area is pronounced. The agriculture used to shape the image of the landscape. A diversification of the farmland is aspired. The main instrument to restructure agriculture are the subsidies. At the same time a global label "from the region" will be introduced and developed. It shall help the farmers to increase their sales on the local markets.



urbanisation

New development of housing and living is concentrated in the densification area. The future construction has to correspond to the new overall building concept. They have to densify within the existing structure. The densification area will absorb the growth of the park zone. In the park zone will be offered only exclusive housing. The villages within this zone have to stop expanding and are restricted areas for further building.

infrastructure/ transport

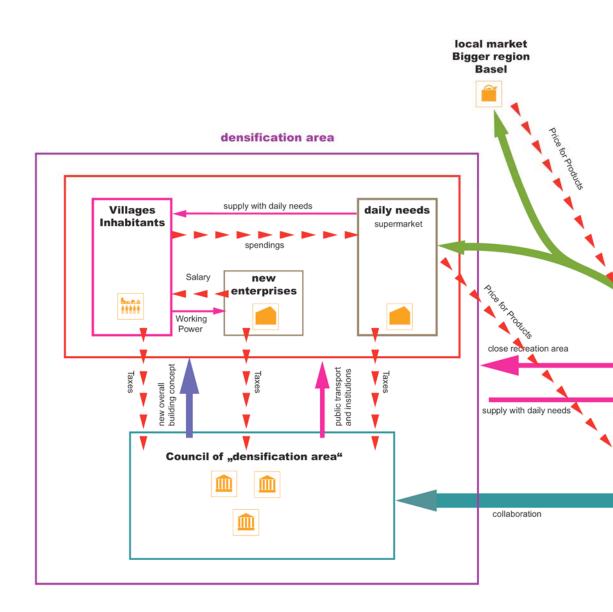
Even if he private car will remain the principal means of transport the importance of public transport has to be strenghten. The whole region has to be connected by a frequently operating bus. Further on a network of fast train and bus connections between the centers of the region has to be inaugurated. All involved transport companies will appear in corporate identity and introduce standarized fares. Large park and ride facilities provide an easy connection between car and public transport.

economy

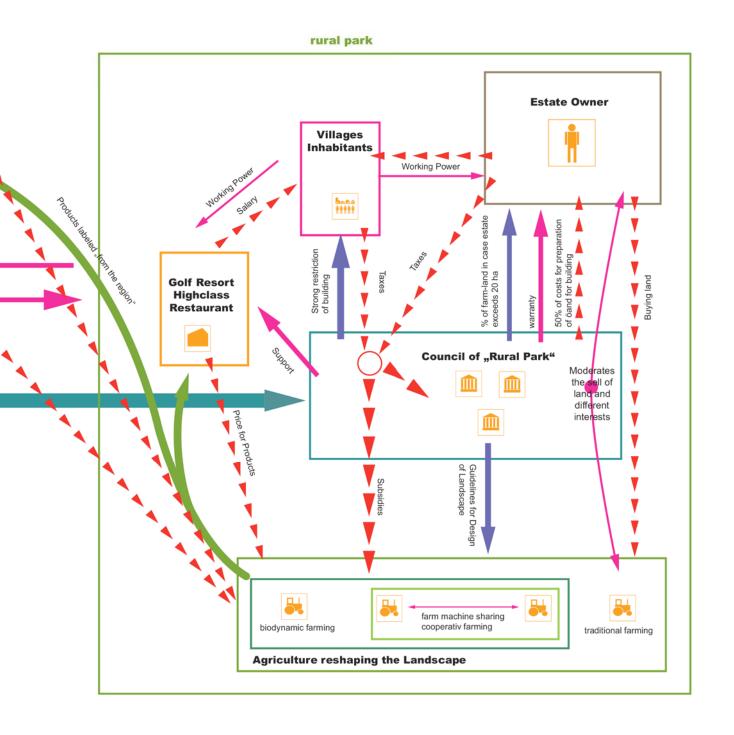
Local trade and commerce have to be stimulated, the tertiary sector has to be developed. Our aim is creating new jobs within the region.

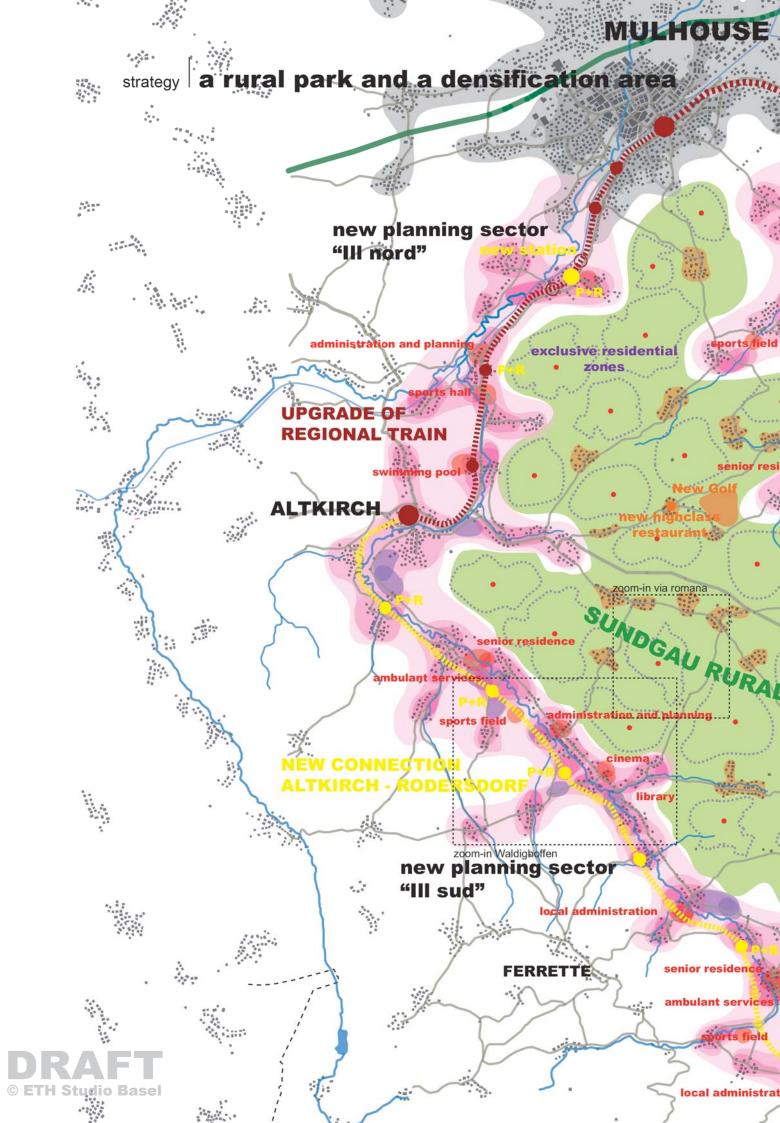


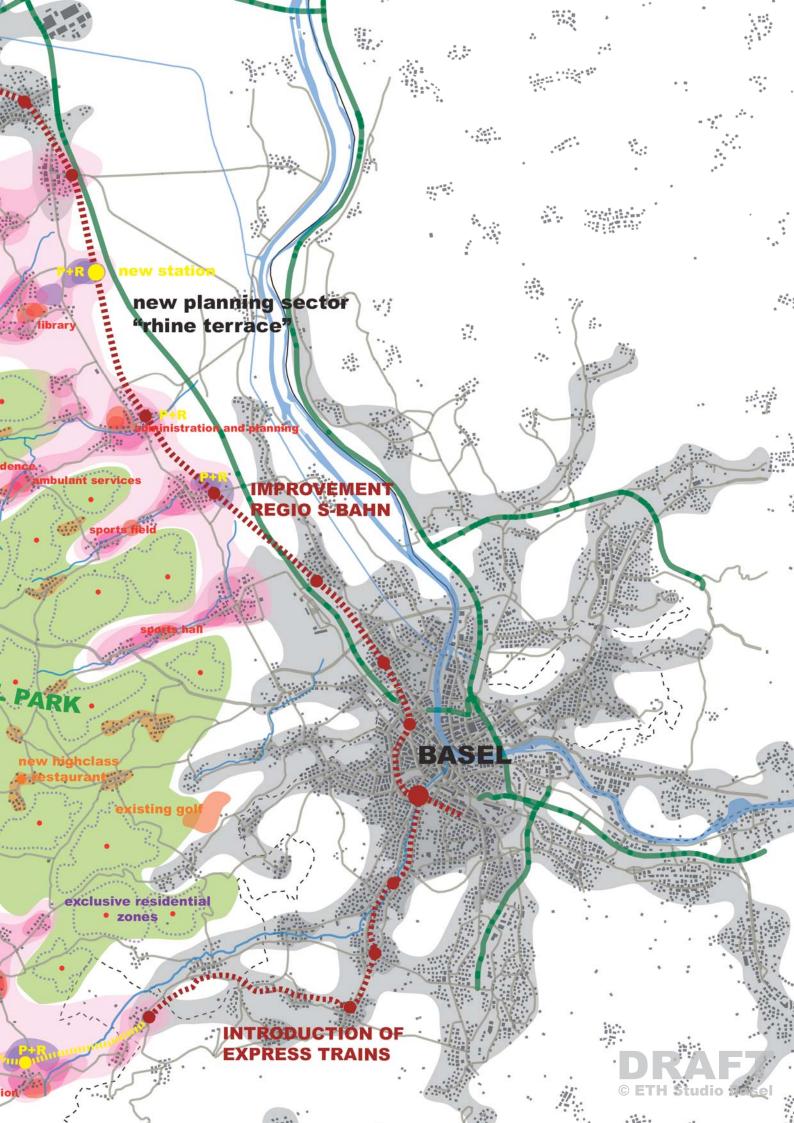








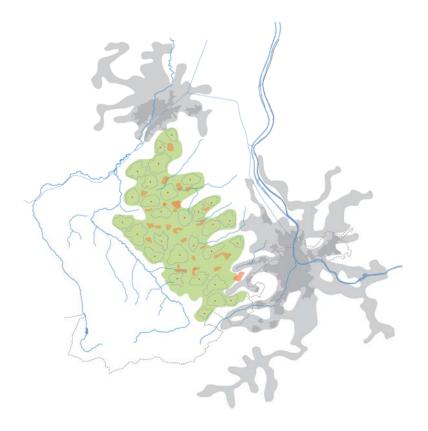




strategy a rural park and a densification area

rural park

installing a recreational area for basel-mulhouse-freiburg
defining zones of exclusive housing
restructuring the agriculture
common obligatory planning for the whole region
establishing a council for the region "rural park"





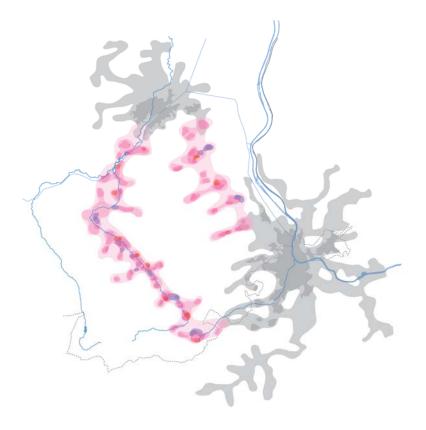
densification

concentration of growth of population

densification of villages
development of new housing space
installation of a public transport system

arrangement of new cultural and administrative hot spots

common obligatory planning for the whole region
establishing a council for the region "densification"







rural park

a rural park for exclusive housing tools to shape the rural park via romana state of the art and landscape design exclusive housing visualisation of exclusive housing



rural park a rural park for exclusive housing

organisation

The rural park is governed by a council. It is composed by delegates of the previously existing communities and is the executive power of the Park area. The council defines the guidelines for the design of the landscape and moderates between the different parties and interests.

landscape

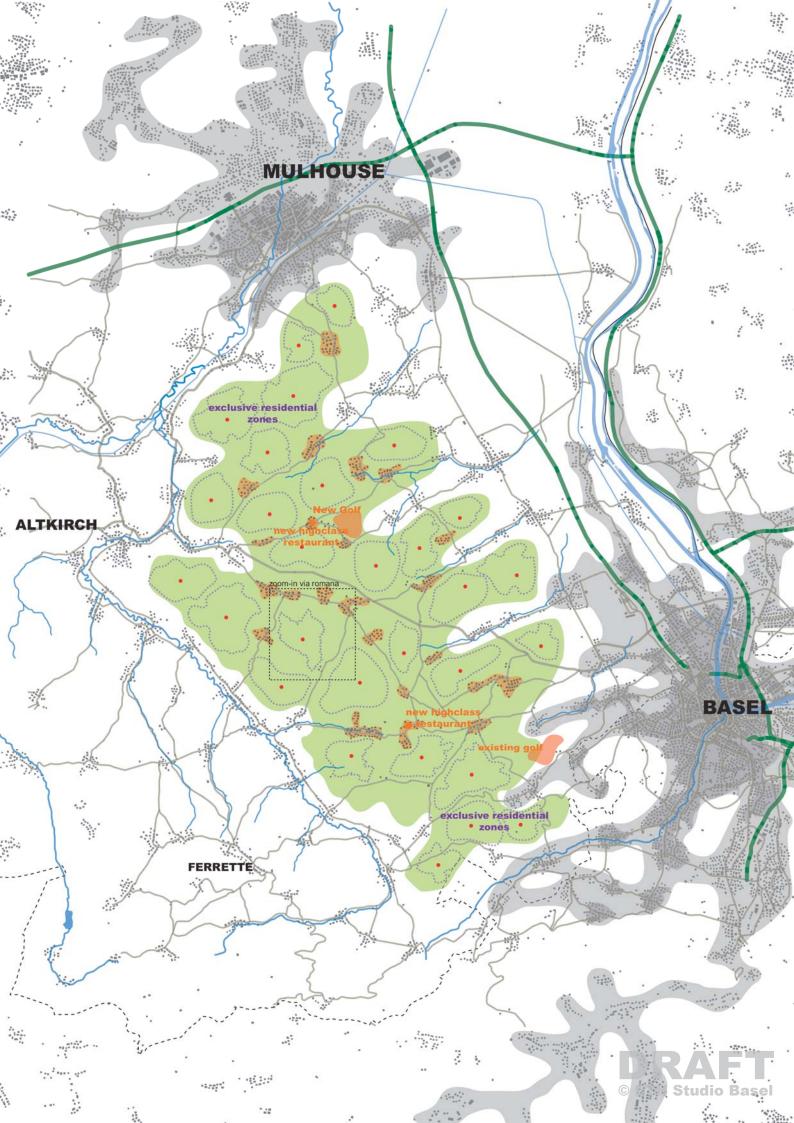
The agriculture is used for shaping the image of the land-scape. The agriculture should be diversified and restructured. A label " from the region" will be established. The marketing and the products shall be focused on the local region of Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg. The restructuring towards organic and participative farming is subsidized by the state and the rural park. The aim is to create an attractive local recreation and a exclusive residential area.

housing

Different exclusive residential areas within the rural park will be defined. Within each residential area, a lot of 15 ha can be designated as exclusive housing and offered for sale. The community of the area bears half the costs of the preparation of land for building. The client bears the other half. A guarantee that no further building within the assigned residential area will be permitted, is given to the new estate owner. Further on, it will be guaranteed that the land is cultivated by agriculture in the sense of the global landscape-design. The clients shall have the possibility to buy more land. If the dimensions of the lot exceeds 20 ha the council defines a percentage of land proportionally to the dimension of the lot, which has to be cultivated by agriculture.

The villages within the park will have very restricted building zones. New residential houses can be built only in exceptional cases and after a close examination by the council. Tendencies of specialisation in tourism and leisure activities will be supported by the council of the rural park.



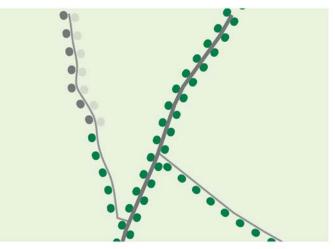


rural park tools to shape the rural park

Diversification of agriculture Tree-lined avenues along streets and bush-planting along farm tracks

and country lanes





existing





after restructuring

after restructuring





Reforestation and new forest

Dense tree-planting along streams



existing

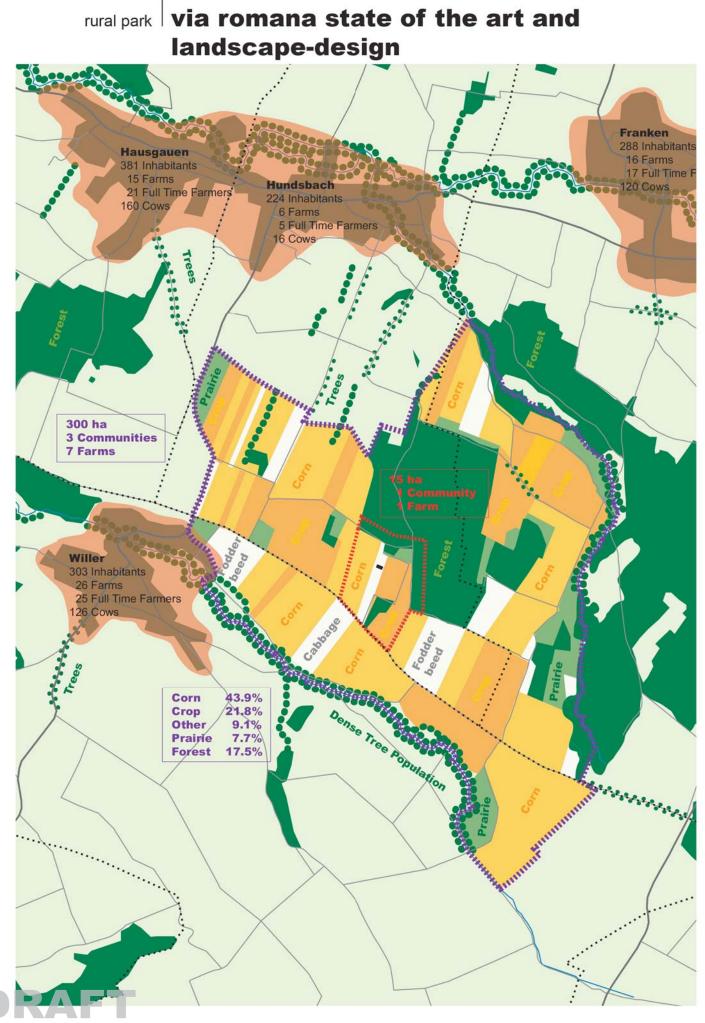
existing

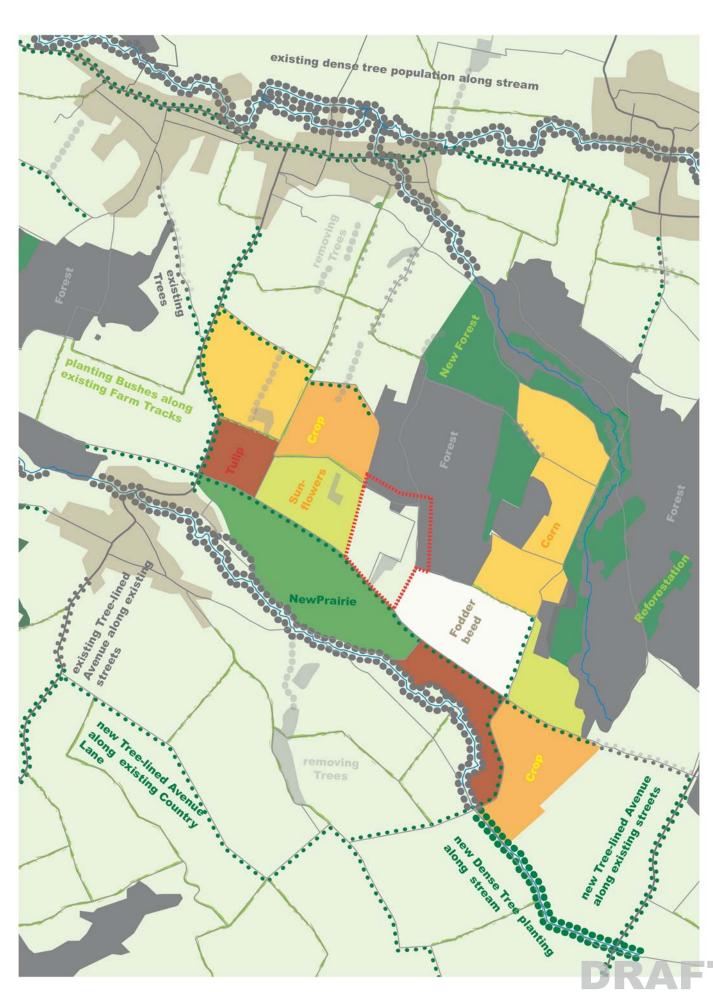


after restructuring

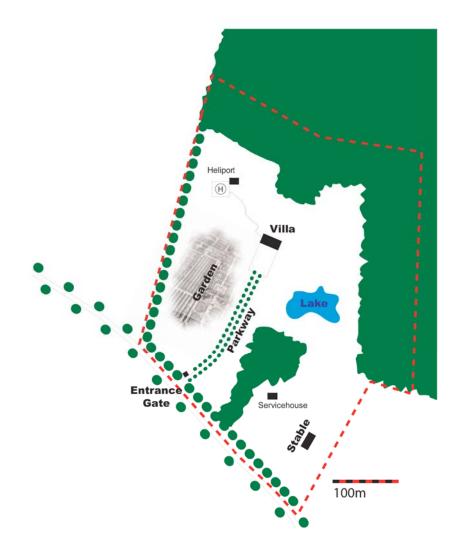




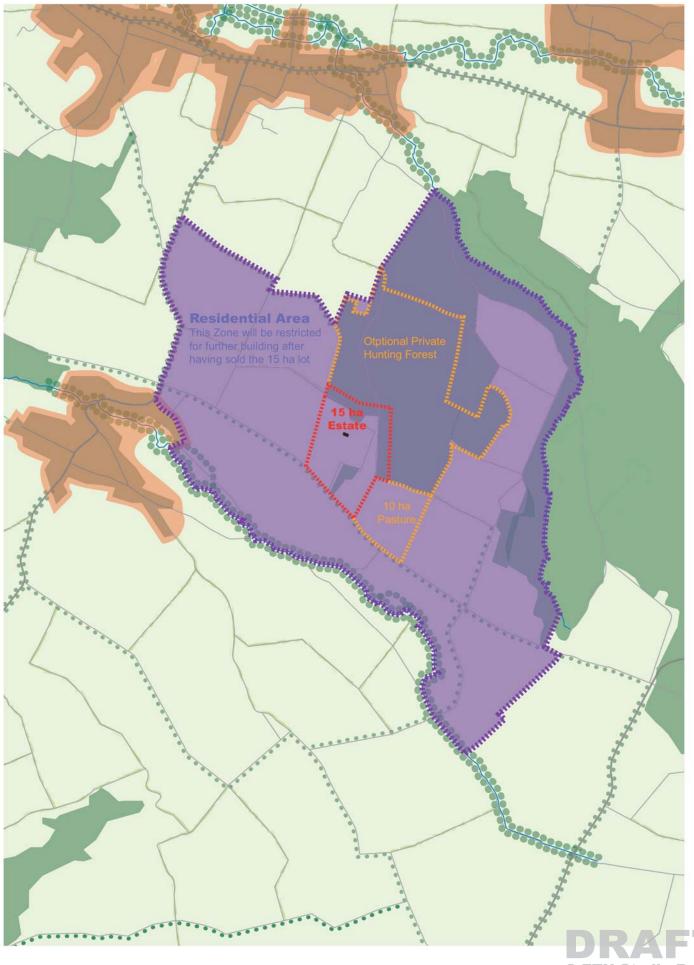












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densification

promotion of growth through interventions planning of growth zoom-in Waldighoffen new building approach



densification promotion of growth through interventions

transportation

The densification zones are mainly based on the existing axes of public transport.

new planning sector "rhine terrace"

Fast and comfortable connections to the city centers are guaranteed by new regional shuttle buses linking the villages with the Regio S-Bahn. An adequate offer of park and ride facilities is installed and helps to shift transportation from private cars to public transport. A new Station serving Landser, Schlierbach and Dietwiller shall increase the development.

new planning sector "ill nord"

New and faster trains shall be installed on the track between Mulhouse and Altkirch. They circulate continously and serve all stations. A new station between Zillisheim and Flaxlanden replaces the former ones. On a longer term the extension of the Regio S-Bahn from Mulhouse to Altkirch has to be verified. new planning sector "ill sud"

A first step to improve the situation of public transportation is the introduction of new express and local buses. The express buses connect the main villages between Altkrich and Rodersdorf. Local buses serve all villages and provide good connections to the express buses. The introduction of an express service on the existing tramway from Rodersdorf to Basel will be necessary in near future. This new line could be extended through the Vallée d'Ill to Altkirch.

Besides an improved public transport new bicycles tracks connecting all villages have to be installed.

public facilities

Another strategy to fortify the densification is the placement of public facilities at specific places. There are three different kinds:

cultural institutions, such as cinemas and public libraries

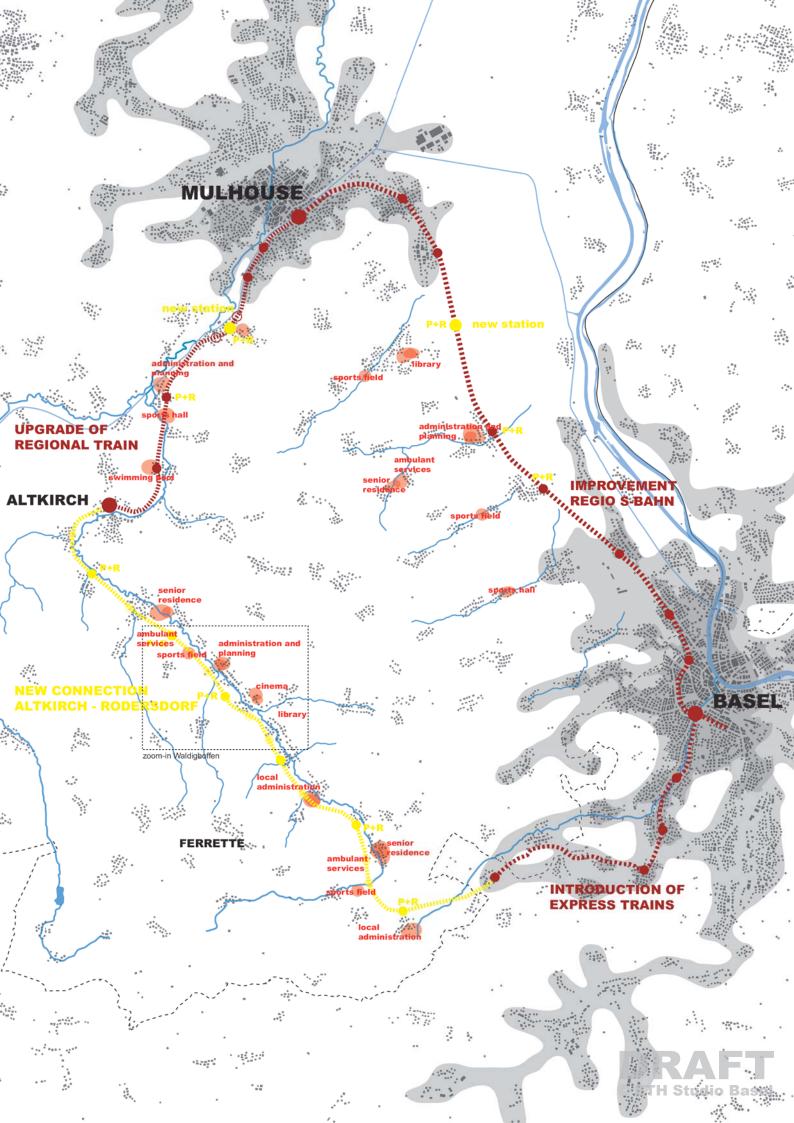
leisure facilities, such as sport grounds or public swimming pools

and institutions providing health and care services, for example medical attendance for senior citizens.

They complement the current offer of public facilities and strengthen the attractiveness of the densification area.

Private operators will be supported.





densification **navigating the growth**

planning and administration

An important condition for the densification is a new kind of urban planning.

The densification region is divided in three developing sectors. Each sector has to create a plan for the future urban developmen, including all participating communes. These will replace the existing fragmentated form of planning: sector *rhine terrace* is managed by 19 PLUs and two SCOTs, concerning 5 communauté de communes and two pays (sector *ill nord*: 15 PLUs, 2 SCOTs, 5 communauté de communes; sector *ill sud*: 22 PLUs, 4 Carte Communales, one SCOT, 4 communauté de communes, one Pays).

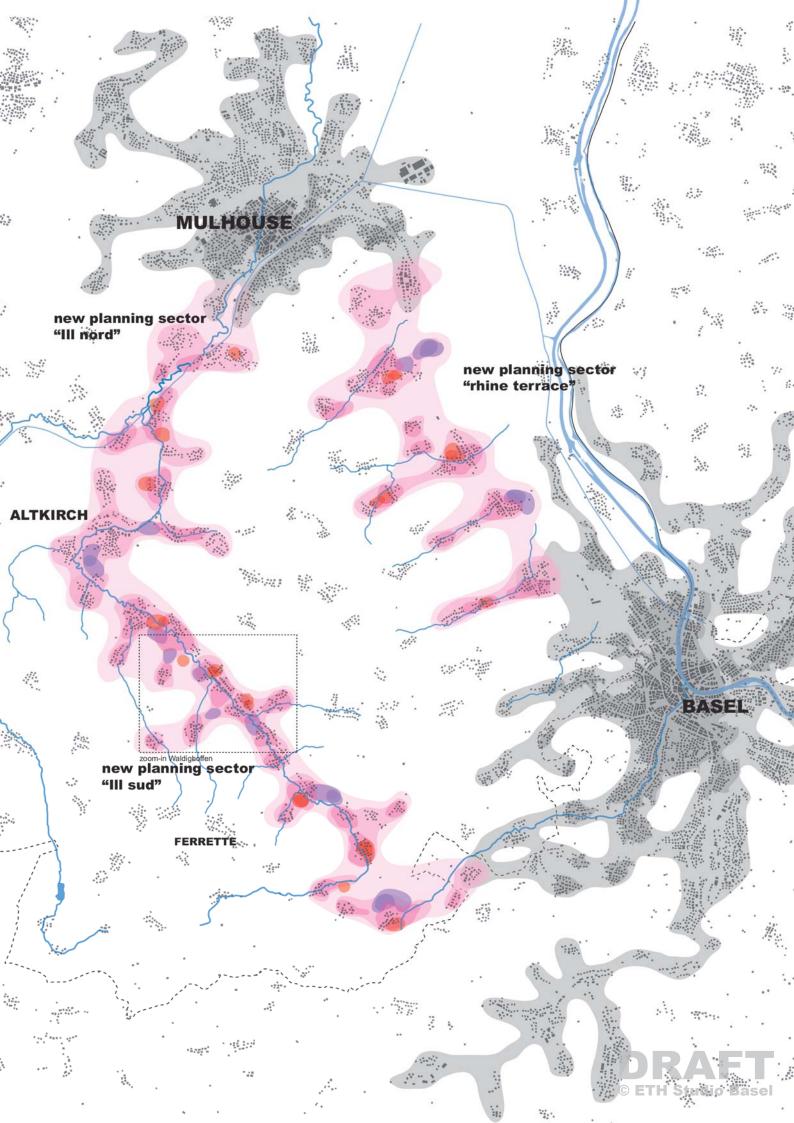
A new center of planning and administration will be constructed in the center of each region. This will facilitate the accessibility for the population and create a certain identity.

housing density

Due to the global concept of the rural park the densification area has to absorb the growth rate of the park area. During the last 10 years the population of the densification area grew from 39.404 up to 43.638 inhabitants (+4234), while the park area grew by 1364 inhabitnts. From this follows that the densification area has to provide 30% more housing.

Future developments should start densifying the existing village structure by constructing on free surfaces in the village. New, innovative forms of living, which provide qualities of an one family house in a denser way have to be supported. New development is controled by the overall building concept, valid for the whole sector. New building zones are concentrated in a certain region, for example along the streams in the sector ill sud.





densification zoom-in waldighoffen

Bettendorf 427 inhabitants

> Henflingen 186 inhabitants

or residence mbulant services

new station

Grentzingen 559 inhabitants

sports field

Ruederbach 280 inhabitants

new c

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Riespach 672 inhabitants

Feldbach 433 inhabitants

TH Studio Basel

Geischbach

promotion of growth through interventions

current village surface existing streets

interventions

new streets new bike trail new bus network future train corridor

nter of administration and planning Oberdorf 568 inhabitants

Waldighoffen 1178 inhabitants

Steinsoultz 625 inhabitants

Gerspach

N library

W EXPRESS BU

Roppentzwiller 736 inhabitants

AV.

densification zoom-in waldighoffen

Bettendorf 427 inhabitants

Sar

Henflingen 186 inhabitants

> **Grentzingen** 559 inhabitants

Ruederbach 280 inhabitants

...

new planning region "Ill sud"

Riespach 672 inhabitants

Feldbach 433 inhabitants

dio Basel

......

Geischbach

SUNDGAU PARK

navigating the growth

current planning

past development
 current development tendencies
 current village surface

densification strategy

border of development new direction of development densification perimeter

green corridor

planning region

Steinsoultz 625 inhabitants

Gerspach

Roppentzwiller 736 inhabitants

1.17

Oberdorf 568 inhabitants

> Waldighoffen 1178 inhabitants

> > DH Studio Base

densification visualisation of densification

multi family houses along the ill



densification of the existing village











densification visualisation of densification

the urban III in Waldighoffen



