



Themes

1. The Role of the Canton in Commune Mergers.

2. The Merger Project Process.

3. The Commune Landscape of Aargau.

Approaches to Commune Structural Reforms

1. Top down (results-oriented approach)

- Forced mergers
- Vision of a community structure as a guiding rule

2. Incentive-based approach

- Financial incentive system for commune mergers
- Possibly with definition of a fusion perimeter

3. Participatory approach

- Removal of obstacles to mergers
- Cantonal contact point: advice, support for commune mergers
- **4. Sole initiative of the communes** (no active promotion by the canton)





Financial Support by the Canton I

1. Project Cost Contributions

Pre-project: CHF 5,000 per commune; main project: CHF 25,000 per commune

2. Merger Flat Rate: CHF 400,000 per Commune

Goal: Contribution to expenses for reorganization of merged commune

3. Merger Contribution

Goal: Compensation of communes with below-average tax rates

4. Revenue Sharing Guarantee for Eight Years

Goal: Reduction of "marriage penalty"

The Merger Project Process in Five Phases



Local councillors
 (possible proposal at communal assembly)



- Project planning
- Feasibility study, merger impact estimate
- Study regarding closer cooperation or merger
- Population survey
- Basic agreement

The Merger Project Process in Five Phases



- In-depth merger analysis with financial plan



- Communal assembly resolutions
- Plebiscites
- Approval by Grand Council

The Merger Project Process in Five Phases



- Elections to local council and commissions
- Adjustment of regulations
- Reorganization of administration

Start of the new commune

The Commune Landscape of Aargau

Time period	Separations	Mergers	Number of communes
1803-1883	11	2	240 to 249
1884-2000	1	16	249 to 232
2001-2020	0	17	232 to 210

Sisseln Zeiningen Mumpf Eiken Kaiseraugst, Münch-wileh (AG) (Schupfart) Hellikon Gipf-Oberfrick Negenstetten Wittnau Wölflinswi bach (AG) Safenwil Rothrist Zofingen Bottenwil Staffelbach

Vordem-

Murgenthal

wald

Möhlin

Leibstadt

Remigen

Villnachem

heim (AG) bank (AG)

Zetzwil

Leimbach (AG)

(Reinach (ÁG

Hend-

schiken

Meister schwahden

Fahra wanglen Bettwil

Mandach

Mettauertal

Gansingen

Mönthal

Laufenburg

Buchs (AG)

Hunzen-

Teufen-

rued Gonten-

Gränichen

Kaisten

Herznach

Oberentfelden

Muhen

Holzi Hirschthal

Frick

Oberhof

Wilberg

Erlins-

Klingnau 4

Böttstein

Döttingen

lingen

Unter-

siggenthal

Kaiserstuhl

kingen Melli Rumikon Fisi-(AGI kon Wisli-dingen kofen

Leng-nau (AG)

baden

B Fislisbach

Wohlen (AG)

schwil

Wettingen

Rudolfstette

Berikon

Aristau

Meren-

schwand

Mühlau,

Oberrüt 197

Muri (AG)

Beinwil (Freiamt)

Geltwil

Oberwi

Commune Mergers in Canton Aargau 2002-2020

Merger Project Rheintal+ Extraordinary Communal Assembly on 23 May 2019

Commune	Yes- votes	No- votes	Present	Turnout
Bad Zurzach	395	10	414	18%
Baldingen	56	17	74	39%
Böbikon	52	12	68	51%
Fisibach	31	136	167	62%
Kaiserstuhl	59	25	86	39%
Mellikon	43	20	68	46%
Rekingen	144	7	152	29%
Rietheim	97	55	153	39%
Rümikon	51	7	61	34%
Wislikofen	85	12	99	40%