



ESPON 2013 Programme/ Newsletter No 13/04 May 2010

Welcome to the electronic ESPON Newsletter. It offers information on the latest developments of the ESPON Programme.

Message from the ESPON Coordination Unit:

A Challenging Month of May

May 2010 marks the start of new challenging activities and events, and it is certainly an exciting time to be involved in the ESPON 2013 Programme.

- Calls for Proposals have just been opened on applied research, targeted analyses and transnational networking activities by the ESPON Contact Point Network.
- An ESPON Info Day, a Workshop and a Financial Managers Seminar take place in May.
- The Open ESPON Seminar on 9-10 June 2010 is being organised including a debate on contributions of regions to the new Europe 2020 Strategy as well as new peers to explore the current state of the ESPON Projects.
- A large number of new projects selected by the Monitoring Committee are being contracted and started.
- Several ongoing projects are presenting draft final and interim reports on their applied research, targeted analyses and the ESPON Database and require responses.
- A new round of calls for proposals on additional targeted analyses and the ESPON Database phase II will be opened in August 2010.
- The themes for the final 6-8 Applied Research projects to be launched in 2011 are being processed.
- Production of new ESPON publications and marketing the Programme and promotion of results at European level will step up a gear.
- Efforts are being made to find simplifications in the procedural setting that can ensure the easiest and most efficient implementation possible of operations.
- The necessary management of finances and auditing of operations are running at high level with the aim of ensuring the required speed in payments and spending of the ESPON 2013 budgets.

As you can imagine a busy and exciting moment for everyone involved. For some of the issues mentioned you will find more detailed information in the following.

Peter Mehlbye
Director ESPON Coordination Unit



EU Commissioner Johannes Hahn at the ESPON Coordination Unit

On 3 May 2010, Commissioner Johannes Hahn paid a visit to the Coordination Unit of the ESPON 2013 Programme in Luxembourg.

The Commissioner was thoroughly informed about the ESPON 2013 Programme, its mission within Structural Funds 2007-13, and the many activities currently under implementation. The

Commissioner discussed in particular anticipation of dynamics and scenarios, migration and population forecasts and trends as well as the European dimension to urban policy, including aspects of social inclusion. During the stay Commissioner Hahn met Mr. Romain Diederich and Thiemo Eser, from the Managing Authority of the ESPON 2013 Programme, and Peter Mehlbye, director of the ESPON Coordination Unit.

ESPON New Calls for Proposals

New Calls for Proposals are open. The available budget is 5.900.000 Euro covering 2 Applied Research Projects, 8 Targeted Analyses as well as Transnational Networking Activities by the ESPON Contact Point network. The deadline for applying is 28 June 2010.

The Calls include the following:

- Call for Proposals for 2 themes of Applied Research (Priority 1 of the ESPON 2013 Programme),
- Call for Proposals for 8 Targeted Analyses (Priority 2),
- Call for Proposals for Transnational Networking Activities of the ESPON Contact Point Network (Priority 4).

Participation of private partners is possible in the Calls for Proposals on Applied Research Projects and Call for Proposals on Targeted Analyses. Only institutions confirmed as ESPON Contact Points can submit and be included in proposals on Transnational Networking Activities.

The documentation related to the calls, including the procedure for applying, the eligibility rules, the evaluation criteria and the submission material, is available at the ESPON Website. [More](#)

Info Day on New Calls and Partner Café in Brussels, 18 May 2010

The ESPON 2013 Programme invites potential beneficiaries to the Info Day on New Calls and Partner Café on 18 May 2010 in Brussels. It will be the chance to get information on the new funding opportunities and to meet potential project partners. [More](#)

Partner Café: Your Tool Finding Partners

Research institutes that are looking for partners to prepare a proposal for one of the projects under the Calls are remembered to have a look at the overview of potential partners.

The fields of expertise that are indicated in the overview provide you with a good impression of which institutes might be interested in the same research theme as you and might wish to join you in a Transnational Project Group.

The overview of potential partners is a useful tool in support of constructing transnational project groups. It now contains 148 potential partners from 25 countries. [More](#)

ESPON Future Funding Opportunities foreseen

The Monitoring Committee in its meeting on February 2010 has decided the indicative calendar of the next ESPON Calls.

Mark your calendar with the following information and visit regularly the ESPON Website:

- **Calls for Proposals 2010:** 24 August 2010 – 19 October 2010; Info Day and Partner Café in Brussels on 8 September 2010 (Targeted Analyses, Scientific Platform – ESPON 2013 Database II)
- **Calls for Proposals and Expression of Interests 2011:** January 2011 – March 2011; Info Day and Partner Café in Brussels on February 2011 (Applied Research projects, Expression of Interests for the Knowledge Support System (tbc), Expression of Interest for Targeted Analyses, Scientific Platform – Territorial Monitoring and Reporting)
- **Calls for Proposals 2011:** September 2011 – November 2011; Info Day and Partner Café in Brussels on September 2011 (Applied Research projects, Targeted Analyses, Transnational Networking Activities by the ESPON Contact Point network)

[More reading](#)

ESPON Survey on Themes for Future Applied Research Projects

The ESPON 2013 Programme carried out from 18 March 2010 until 26 April 2010 a survey on themes for future applied research projects. The on-line survey has been filled in by 220 respondents from all over Europe. The results of this stakeholder screening will be used in the process of the ESPON Monitoring Committee selecting themes for applied territorial research. The results will be published in a report on the ESPON Website in the second half of June.

Coming Events

Spring Workshop “ESPON Database 2013” on 6 May 2010 in Luxembourg

The ESPON Programme in close cooperation with the University Paris 7 - UMS RIATE, as Lead Partner of the ESPON 2013 Database Project, has invited for a technical workshop focused on the ESPON Database and aimed at discussing two main topics: management of time series and estimation of missing values. [More](#)

ESPON Info Day on New Calls and Partner Café on 18 May 2010 in Brussels

In order to support the launch of the next Calls for Proposals, the ESPON 2013 Programme is inviting for an Information Day on 18 May 2010 in Brussels. A Partner Café is included in the event. Participation is free of charge. Reserve your place by registering online. Deadline for registration for the ESPON Info Day is 6 May 2010 at 15h00. [More](#)

ESPON Financial Manager Seminar on 19 May in Brussels

A Financial Manager Seminar will take place on 19 May 2010 in Brussels. The event aims at informing financial managers of Lead and Project Partners of approved Projects under the calls launched in September 2009 about e.g. eligibility rules, contracting, reporting and monitoring procedures, as well as publicity requirements, administrative, legal and practical matters concerning project coordination and management.

The seminar will as well be open to first level financial controller willing to acquire additional and more specific information about ESPON 2013 procedure and minimum requirements for the certification of expenditure. The agenda of the event is online. [LINK](#)

Open Seminar "ESPON Evidence for Regional Policy-Making" on 9-10 June 2010 in Spain

Discuss with us Europe 2020 and the use of ESPON results in policy-making supporting competitiveness and cohesion of territories on 9 and 10 June 2010 in Madrid, Spain. Registration is open till 12 May 2010. [More](#)

ESPON Results and Reports

Map of the Month "Territorial Impact of Transport Policy Scenarios"

The reduction of emissions forms a key objective for the European Commission and the Europe 2020 Strategy confirms the 20-20-20 targets aiming at a reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions.

The maps of this month show European regions that are affected by excessive emissions in different transport policy scenarios. The TIPTAP Project (Territorial Impact Package for Transport and Agricultural Policies) has developed the maps as part of a territorial impact analysis for the baseline, infrastructure and pricing scenario of the European Commission.



Baseline Scenario



Infrastructure Scenario



Pricing Scenario

The flags on the map warn policymakers indicating where geographic concentrations of transport policy impacts can be expected. Indeed, geography matters when designing policies! [More reading](#)

Spatial Scenarios: New Tools for Local-Regional Territories

How this ESPON targeted analysis can be useful to local policy makers in the interpretation of challenges and trends at the scale of specific territories – regions, provinces, cities?

The specific goal of the Spatial Scenarios is to develop regional forecasting methodologies and tools, appropriate to the regional-local scale but consistent with a general EU-wide approach. The Interim Report presents, among others, the methodology and the first results with regard to the qualitative scenario building, taking into consideration the new driving forces that imposed themselves on the international arena over the last period; an analysis of the structure and performance of the Province of Barcelona is developed as well.

The Interim Report also gives a snapshot of the policy implications, which includes among others the following issues:

- The renewable energy sources and green technologies are of great importance for the future of numerous territories because they affect multiple sectors, from agriculture to manufacturing, from building and construction to services;
- the stock of knowledge raises the productivity of local inputs like labour, physical capital and human capital.
- the development of the residential and tourist economy in rural areas is helpful in maintaining services and containing outmigration trends;
- supporting the development of second rank cities and promoting networks of smaller cities and towns could help to decrease the costs of the economic concentration in the form of congestion, poor air quality and higher property prices and to lead to a more balanced territorial development within region.
- the development of complementarities and partnerships between the European Mediterranean regions and countries of the southern and eastern parts of the Mediterranean Basin could lead to a balanced redistribution of the immigration.

The “Spatial Scenarios: New Tools for Local-Regional Territories” project, produced by the Polytechnics of Milan – DIG as Lead Partner and the Autonomous University of Barcelona as Project Partner, shall deliver its Draft Final Report on 4 May 2010 and its Final Report on 30 June 2010.

Read the Interim Report as well as all background documents, at the [ESPON Website](#).

EDORA - European Development Opportunities in Rural Areas

How ideas from the EDORA project can be used to support an INTERREG project?

A recent workshop in London on links between INTERREG and the ESPON Programme identified ways in which research in ESPON can deepen understanding amongst INTERREG partners. Cliff Hague has written an article on his Blog [LINK](#)

TIPTAP - Territorial Impact Package for Transport and Agricultural Policies

The Final Report of the TIPTAP Project, produced by the Polytechnics of Milan – DIG as Lead Partner and University of Newcastle upon Tyne and VU University Amsterdam as Project Partners, is now online.

The TIPTAP project has thoroughly improved the TEQUILA Model. The model (TEQUILA 2) now provides impact assessment at the level of single-dimension impacts and at the level of summative impacts. It also includes a weighting system which captures preferences on different policy priorities and goals. Furthermore, the newly integrated Flag Model indicates the region critically affected. TEQUILA 2 demonstrates an important potential for policymakers and shall certainly provoke interest of policymakers and stakeholders involved

in the preparation of European policies. It has a high communicative value due to the attractive and provocative maps. The test cases demonstrate that TEQUILA can deliver deeper insights on the territorial impact of European policies.

TEQUILA cannot be understood as a tool to deliver 'hard facts'. It rather provides arguments from a territorial logic that could stimulate the policymaking process by showing regions (and potentially macro-regions and types of regions) that might be disproportionately impacted by a policy. In a next step after this project, further refinement and testing of the model in a policymaking environment remain nevertheless necessary.

Read the Report as well as all background documents, at the [ESPON Website](#)

ESPON TEDI - The Draft Final Report is now online

ESPON TEDI - Territorial Diversity in Europe is an applied project addressing the issue of economic and social development in regions with geographic specificities. By focusing on a representative sample of regions, the project draws more general conclusions for territories subject to similar territorial specificities across Europe.

Among other findings, the Report shows that in the context of the economic crisis "TeDi areas" are in an ambivalent position: on the one hand, their relative isolation from major metropolitan areas may allow them to be less exposed to downturns in the financial sector, such as the one that has occurred recently; on the other hand, the high degree of economic specialisation may make TeDi areas particularly exposed to fluctuations in world market prices.

Read the Draft Final Report at the [ESPON Website](#). Final Report available by 12 May 2010.

Seminar Report "Regional Use of ESPON Knowledge – Inspiration for Researchers and Practitioners"

The ESPON Coordination Unit organised in close co-operation with the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union an Internal ESPON Seminar on 2 and 3 December 2009 in Malmö in order to take stock of the first experiences with the Targeted Analyses.

The outcome of the seminar discussions, together with some additional deepening, is now laid down in a Seminar Report. This report provides inspiration for practitioners and researchers at regional level and stakeholders and researchers within the ESPON network on how ESPON knowledge can be used in order to better integrate the European perspective into regional territorial analysis and policymaking. Read the report at the [ESPON website](#).

How to improve the performance of the cross-border metropolitan polycentric regions (CBMRs)? The Interim Report of METROBORDER - Cross-Border Polycentric Metropolitan Regions - is now online at the ESPON Website.

The aim of the METROBORDER project is to map and better understand the structures and the functioning of this type of spatial pattern. The project adopts a twofold perspective, addressing both the European level and the case study level (Upper Rhine, Greater Region). On the European level in order to analyse the functional integration within 11 CBRMs, four indicators have been implemented:

1. the development of cross-border commuting between 2000 and 2006, which shows tremendous differences in dynamic and quantity, ranging from just a few thousand commuters daily in Wien-Bratislava or København-Malmö to approx. 130,000 in the Luxembourg region;
2. the comparison of cross-border transportation lines within the 11 regions;
3. the population density and growth in the 11 regions, which is elaborated and compared by an index of demographic convergence, showing that some regions tend to converge while others diverge in demographic terms;
4. the development of the citizenship on each sides of the border, which shows regions of very differing patterns that can mostly be explained by (the absence of) language barriers and differentials in the real estate and labour markets. The overall trend shows an increasing asymmetry in most cases.

The METROBORDER Project, produced by the University of Luxembourg as Lead Partner and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich, the Centre for Populations Poverty and Public Policy Studies (CEPS/INSTEAD) and the Free University of Brussels as Project Partners, shall deliver its Draft Final Report on 31 October 2010 and its Final Report on 31 December 2010. Read the Interim Report at the [ESPON Website](#).

ESPON in Your Country

Meeting in Czech Republic

The Czech Monitoring Committee member organized an Informative meeting which took place on 30 March 2010 at the Ministry for Regional Development in Prague.

About 36 representatives from ministerial authorities', regional/local bodies, universities, experts attended the meeting. The event aimed at informing about the upcoming ESPON Calls as well as the main outputs of the Calls launched in September 2009.

A presentation by the Czech ESPON Contact Point dealing with practical use of the ESPON tools was also given.

Vacancy

The ESPON Coordination Unit is looking for **two trainees** for a period of 5 months to join our international team. Deadline for submitting an application is **24 May 2010 at 16.00**, [link](#).

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More information

The ESPON 2013 Programme is part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund, the EU Member States and the Partner States Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

It shall support policy development in relation to the aim of territorial cohesion and a harmonious development of the European territory. ESPON shall support Cohesion Policy development with European wide, comparable information, evidence, analyses and scenarios on framework conditions for the development of regions, cities and larger territories. In doing so, it shall facilitate the mobilisation of territorial capital and development opportunities, contributing to improving European competitiveness, to the widening and deepening of European territorial cooperation and to a sustainable and balanced development.

The Managing Authority responsible for the ESPON 2013 Programme is the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructures, Department for Spatial Planning and Development of Luxembourg. More information: www.espon.eu