

ESPON 2013 Programme/ Newsletter No 15, 20 July 2010

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



Message from the ESPON Coordination Unit
ESPON welcomes final results from its projects



Territorial diversity and territorial impact of policies are at the centre of policy discussions in Europe. The reason is that both unique development potentials and coordinated support from sector policies can support a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

The recovery process from the global economic and financial crisis puts even more emphasis on this.

The accelerating interdependency between the economy of continents and countries in the World makes it necessary to look at the bigger picture, to see the development of each region and city, country and continent in a larger territorial perspective. Otherwise one will fail in identifying both structural constraints and obstacles but more important opportunities and potentials for growth and sustainable development of our society.

ESPON is pleased to be able to contribute to this new reality with new interesting results.

New final reports coming from the Targeted Analysis TeDI deals with the territorial diversity and explores the development opportunities in diverse regions. The applied research project, TIP TAP displays territorial impact of CAP and Transport policies.

Much more is in the pipeline for the coming months and years. The ESPON 2013 programme will until 2015 deliver a constant flow of new useful results supporting policy development in regions and cities as well as in Member States and at the EU level.

The first wave of new final results from applied research activities will focus on themes such as European Cities and Urban Agglomerations, Development Opportunities in different Types of Rural Areas, Demography and Migratory Flows and Effects of Rising Energy Prices on regional/local economies, all contributing to the bigger picture and benchmarking of European territories and their diversity.

The forthcoming Synthesis Report (available by October 2010) brings together results from applied research and targeted analyses. This report shall provide an overview of the latest evidence on territorial development in Europe as well as some in-depth analyses of regions and cities in their wider territorial perspective.

Peter Mehlbye
 Director ESPON Coordination Unit

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Pre-Announcement on New ESPON Calls



New Calls for Proposals on 2 Targeted Analyses and the ESPON Database - Phase II will open on 24 August 2010. The deadline for applying is 19 October 2010.

All the documentation related to the Calls, including the project specifications, the procedure for applying, the eligibility rules, the evaluation criteria and the submission material, will be made available by 24 August 2010. [More reading](#)

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. [More](#)

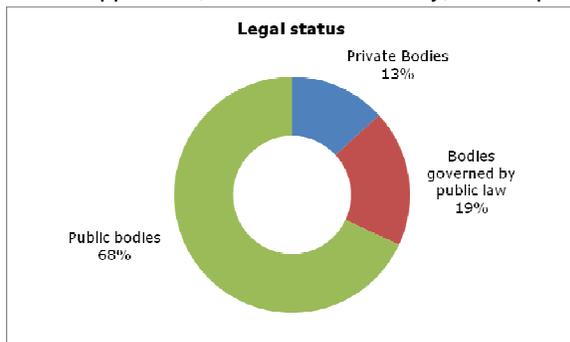
Calls for Proposals 3 May 2010 / Facts & Figures

Latest ESPON Calls attracted 25 proposals and 144 partners from 30 countries

The Calls for Proposals closed on 28 June 2010 and generated 25 project proposals involving 30 European countries and 144 partners. All the project themes in the Calls received proposals.

The distribution by the Priorities of the ESPON Programme was as follow: 7 proposals for Applied Research Projects under Priority 1, 15 for Targeted Analyses under Priority 2 and 3 for Transnational Networking Activities under Priority 4.

Of the applicants, 11% came from Italy, 10% Spain, 9% from Germany and the UK, 6% from France, 5% from Slovenia and Portugal, 4% from Hungary, Netherlands and Sweden. Applicants came from all countries involved in the ESPON 2013 Programme, except Liechtenstein.



The participation rate of Private Institutions in ESPON projects has in these Calls reached 13%.

As the analysis of the legal status of applicants shows, the participation rate of Public Institutions is 68% and for Institutions governed by public law 19%.

Evaluation of the 25 project proposals will run during July 2010 and the results will be tabled for the

Monitoring Committee meeting in September. [More reading](#)

ESPON 2013 Database

The ESPON 2013 Database, designed and developed by the [ESPON Database 2013 Project](#), is now available at the ESPON website!

This database provides fundamental regional information (NUTS 3, NUTS 2, NUTS 1 and NUTS 0) provided by [ESPON projects](#) and [EUROSTAT](#). The data and indicators included in the ESPON 2013 Database cover the entire European Union plus Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein (ESPON space) and use the [Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics](#) (NUTS) references: Version 2006.

Download from the [ESPON 2013 Database](#) is free and can be done upon your acceptance of the pre-defined terms and conditions of use.

Please note that this is the first version of the ESPON 2013 Database. This means that on the one hand this version is still under development and therefore not completely bug-free and not completely filled. On the other hand all users can influence the further development of the ESPON 2013 Database by testing it and giving feedback. More information on the testing can be found on the webpage.

ESPON Results and Reports

TeDi - The Final Report and the Handbook are now online

The Targeted Analysis “ESPON TeDi” deals with the territorial diversity of the European territory. The project explores the development opportunities in territorial diverse regions in. Based on a series of case studies, including regions from Cyprus, Finland, Romania, Sweden, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland, the study explores the capacity of regions with geographic specificities to contribute to the achievement of the Lisbon and Gothenburg Strategies. As such it focuses on the comparative advantages and development opportunities, and the policies that need to be applied to trigger them.

The Final Report includes an analyses based on European wide ESPON data. On this basis the report formulates a characterization of the so-called TeDi regions and indicates the relevance of the geographic specificities for economic growth and social sustainability.

The ESPON TeDi Handbook deals with the social and economic development of areas characterised by geographic specificities, i.e. islands, mountain ranges and sparsely populated areas. Much of the debate on these Territorial Diversity or “TeDi” areas is limited to the identification of structural constraints and obstacles to development. However, the purpose is to introduce alternative approaches, focusing on their growth opportunities and on the policy measures that could help contribute to the full exploitation of their development potential.

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

CAEE - The Draft Final Report is now online

The CAEE draft Final Report sets out the emerging project findings. The primary purpose of the project has been to examine the relationship between agglomeration economies and city-regional/metropolitan governance.

As noted in the study team’s inception and mid-term reports, any attempt to examine this relationship has to address significant conceptual as well as empirical challenges. However these challenges are worth facing because of the importance of linking together two vigorous debates that have taken place, in academia and policy-making circles, largely independently, in recent years.

The first focuses on the importance of ‘new’ agglomeration economies to patterns of European spatial economic change and especially the apparent ‘stretching’ of national and international urban hierarchies (i.e. growing differences in the economic performance of urban areas). The second concerns claims made for the emerging importance of governance arrangements for ‘natural economic areas’ in facilitating effective adaptation to economic change.

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

According the Draft Final Report of DEMIFER, decisions on competitive-oriented policy or a cohesion-oriented policy may influence demographic developments in Europe

The aim of ESPON DEMIFER - DEMography and Migrant Flows for European Regions - is to assess future changes in population growth, the size of the labour force and the ageing of the population, and to explore different policy options aiming at regional competitiveness and social cohesion.

The project has developed four sets of population scenarios that take into account alternative future economic developments in combination with alternative policy options. Each of these scenarios is associated with a set of policies that may impact, to a greater or lesser degree, future patterns of mortality, fertility and migration.

The scenarios show that there is a complex interrelationship between implications of one policy option and another. Policy makers may have to make difficult trade-offs between different goals. Demographic developments will be influenced by policy decisions such as whether to pursue a competitive-oriented policy or a cohesion-oriented policy. At the same time demographic developments are also affected by long-term economic growth rates and environmental developments. The effects of alternative policy options therefore will vary by economic and environmental developments.

The scenarios show what may be expected to happen if certain policy combinations are followed within the drivers of mortality, fertility, migration and labour markets.

ESPON DEMIFER, produced by Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI) as Lead Partner, University of Vienna, International Organization for Migration/Central European Forum for Migration and Population Research, University of Leeds, Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, NORDREGIO, National Research Council (CNR) as Project Partners shall deliver its Final Report on 30 September 2010.

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

ESPON Annual Report 2009

The Annual Report 2009 was approved by the Monitoring Committee on 7-8 June 2010 in Alcalá de Henares and submitted to European Commission on 30 June 2010 for approval.

The Annual Report has the purpose to summarize the activities implemented by the Programme during the specific year and to give further information on projects and Programme implementation.

More reading: ESPON [Annual Report 2009](#)

Coming Events

Info Day on New Calls, 8 September 2010 in Brussels

The new Calls for Proposals on ESPON Projects for potential beneficiaries will be presented during a morning event which will take place in Brussels on 8 September 2010. The [European Commission DG Regio](#) and the [Belgian EU Presidency](#) will present the current European policy development and related demands towards the ESPON 2013 Programme.

The aim of the event is two-fold:

- Support the launch of the next Calls for Proposals through information on project content, new funding opportunities and conditions for applying;
- Promote networking possibilities between potential project partners and inspire new project consortia and the interest to submit proposals for the Calls.

Finding Partners

The programme includes the ESPON Partner Café creating a forum for dialogue between potential project partners. The ESPON Partner Café is an opportunity to meet partners for setting up Transnational Project Groups aiming at submitting proposals for ESPON projects.

At the ESPON Website an overview of potential partners is available. [Click here](#) to see the Institutions that have already taken the opportunity to be included in the overview compiled by ESPON.

Who should participate?

The event is open for all potential beneficiaries interested in learning more about opportunities for taking part in ESPON project activities and in applying for the funds to the ESPON 2013 Programme.

Deadline for registration for the ESPON Info Day is **26 August 2010 at 15h00**. Limited seats are available, offered on a first come, first served basis. You can register by using the online registration form. [More](#)

ESPON Workshops at the Open Days, 5 and 6 October 2010 in Brussels

ESPON will have two workshops during this year's Open Days in Brussels.

The first workshop "Cooperation: the benefits of cooperating across internal and external borders" is related to Priority 1/Applied Research and is scheduled for 5 October 2010 at 11h15-13h00.



The second workshop "ESPON provides regions with targeted analysis" is dedicated to Priority 2/Targeted Analyses and will take place on 6 October 2010 at 9h00-10h45.

Participation is free.

To registering for the ESPON Workshops please visit the official website, which includes details the workshops, speakers, venues. [Online registration](#)

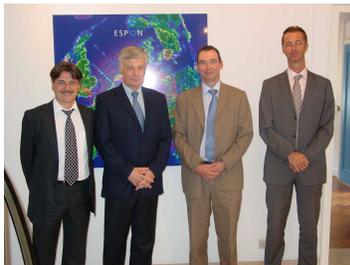
ESPON Internal Seminar, 17 and 18 November 2010 in Liege

The ESPON Coordination Unit in close co-operation with the upcoming Belgian EU Presidency is organising the third internal Seminar under the ESPON 2013 Programme on 17 and 18 November 2010 in Liege.

Past Events

Minister Claude Wiseler at the ESPON Coordination Unit, 19 July 2010

Claude Wiseler, Minister of Sustainable Development and Infrastructures of Luxembourg, visited the ESPON Coordination Unit to get information on the latest development of the ESPON 2013 Programme.



At the meeting, the ESPON Programme and results from the applied research and analyses that ESPON process have been presented.

Peter Mehlbye, Director of the ESPON Coordination Unit, informed the minister in particular about new evidence related to transport and accessibility, territorial impacts related to climate change and environmental hazards. In addition, ongoing targeted analyses with stakeholders were addressed, like the analyses on a Crossborder Polycentric Metropolitan Area involving Luxembourg.

"I am delighted to visit the ESPON Coordination Unit and to confirm the commitment of Luxembourg Government with the ESPON Programme", Minister Wiseler stated. "The understanding of Europe and the ongoing dynamics affecting the development of regions and cities are necessary for forward looking and modern policy making that takes possible contributions from relevant sector policies into account", he added.

Read the press release at the [ESPON Website](#).

Call for Tender

External Evaluation of ESPON 2013 Programme

The Call for Tender "External Evaluation of ESPON 2013 Programme" is open. Deadline for the receipt of tenders is 16 August 2010 by 14h00. [More reading](#)

ESPON in Your Country

National Event in Romania on the ESPON Project TeDi: "Territorial diversity in the European and national perspective", Suceava, 21st of July 2010

In the context of the finalisation of the research project [ESPON Territorial Diversity in Europe](#) (TeDi), the Ministry of Regional Development and Housing in collaboration with the Prefecture of Suceava is organising a local meeting with the theme European and national perspective of territorial diversity, Suceava, 21st of July 2010.

The aim of the event is to capitalise the results of the project at the national level and to raise the debate on the use of the results of the research and study cases for the Alba and Suceva regions in the decision-making and formulation of local policies. The event is addressed mainly to the local stakeholders from the Alba and Suceava Counties and the representatives of the local research institutions. You can find more [here](#).

Two institutions from Romania participated in the ESPON TeDi project: the Ministry of Regional Development and Housing and the Centre of Training and Innovation for Development in Carpați from Vatra Dornei. More on the research project [here](#)

The ESPON UK Contact Point at the Planning Convention 2010



The ESPON UK Contact Point had a stand with a computer displaying the latest maps produced by ESPON at the [Planning Convention](#) which happened at the end of June in London.

Jenny Crawford welcomed participants to the stand, presented the maps and showed key information about the funding opportunities offered by the programme.

This awareness-raising activity attracted practitioners interested in regional development and spatial planning and also students and the general public interested in European planning.

News from INTERREG IVA 2 Seas Programme

The Authorities responsible for the INTERREG IVA 2 Seas crossborder cooperation Programme invite to the Cooperation Fair “Developing your cross border ambitions”, which will take place on 23 September 2010 in Bournemouth (UK). The event aims to set up a network of potential partners interested in the development of cross border cooperation projects.

Link: <http://interreg4a-2mers.eu/cooperationfair2/cooperation.php?lang=uk>

News from URBACT



Six URBACT projects have just completed their programme of exchange and learning activities. These projects have published their final outputs bringing to light solutions that have proven effective and providing valuable support for policy makers and practitioners involved in tackling main urban challenges.

Their final publications deal with issues as interesting as cross-border cooperation, metropolitan governance or regional spatial planning. [More](#)

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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