



Inspire policy making by territorial evidence



ESPON 2013 Programme

ESPON Day

‘What European Territory Today and Tomorrow?’

10 October 2014
8h30 – 16h00

Venue

Committee of the Regions – room JDE 52
Bâtiment Jacques Delors
Rue Belliard 99-101
B-1040 Brussels, Belgium

Programme

Hosted by the



Committee of the Regions



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Background and Objectives

The ESPON 2013 Programme, the European Observation Network for Territorial Development and Cohesion, which aims at supporting policy development in relation to territorial cohesion and a harmonious development of the European territory, is organising its final event under the Communication Plan of the programming period 2007-2013.

Today the demand for policy-relevant evidence is greater than ever before. Policymakers need solid and timely information in order to assess potential for investments and territorial challenges and, on that basis, propose effective strategies for exploring them.

For more than a decade ESPON has played the key role of supporting policy development by providing comparable pan-European evidence, analyses and scenarios on territorial dynamics that help regions, cities and larger territories in taking evidence-based decisions on their future development.

The ESPON funded projects are defined by policy needs and help improve understanding, formulation, implementation and impact assessment related to policy development at European, national, regional and local levels. Within the current 2013 Programme, ESPON has continued strengthening the pan-European territorial evidence and knowledge, made it useful in analyses together with stakeholders and created supporting tools for policy-makers and practitioners:

- 25 Applied Research projects on a variety of cross-thematic and thematic issues that together provide a substantial amount of new insight and evidence on European territorial trends, perspectives and policy impacts.
- 23 Targeted Analyses using ESPON evidence have been implemented meeting demand from national, regional and local stakeholders in understanding better the European perspective and position of their territories.
- 10 larger projects related to the Scientific Platform and Tools have contributed to the use of the ESPON knowledge and unique database to the benefit of stakeholders including other European Territorial Cooperation programmes as well as regional and urban actors;
- 8 Transnational Networking Activities projects have in different ways supported the capitalisation and awareness-raising of ESPON results at the transnational level as a complement to the pan-European capitalisation done within the programme as such.

Moreover, 16 smaller projects led by the ESPON Managing Authority, each including several actions contracted as service provisions, have supported the implementation of the ESPON 2013 Programme.

Ensuring the continuation of ESPON during 2014-2020, EU Member States together with the four Partner States (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland), have been working on shaping the Cooperation Programme for ESPON 2020. The programme will address the thematic Objective 11 of the EU Cohesion Policy with the aim of *“Enhancing institutional capacity and an efficient public administration”*. In doing so, *“analyses of development trends in relation to the aims of territorial cohesion”* shall support further *“strengthening the evidence base in order to reinforce the effectiveness of cohesion policy and the achievement of the thematic objectives through the analysis of development trends.”*

Aim and Structure of the ESPON Day

The ESPON Day 'What European Territory Today and Tomorrow?' aims at presenting main achievements on European territorial evidence from the ESPON 2013 Programme, including a synthesis of main results.

Its purpose is three-fold:

1. To present ESPON 2013 Programme's achievements including its major projects.
2. To communicate evidence-based policy messages that address major challenges facing cities, regions, countries and Europe.

3. To show how ESPON evidence can help improve policy development adding the European territorial context in many policy areas at the European, national, regional and local levels.

The event, being organised at the crossroads between two programming periods, will also bridge to the upcoming specific objectives and new institutional arrangements of ESPON 2020.

Target audience

Policy makers at all levels, including representatives from EC, EP, CoR, EESC; practitioners, scientists, experts; stakeholders of ESPON Targeted Analyses; Lead and Project Partners of ESPON projects; ESPON Monitoring Committee Members; ESPON National Contact Points; media and opinion leaders; general public.

Programme

08.30-09.00 *Registration of participants*

09.00-09.15 **Welcome and Introduction**

Chair: Peter Mehlbye, ESPON Coordination Unit

Facilitator of the day's panel discussions: Jacki Davis

Welcome Statement

- Wolfgang Petzold, Committee of the Regions

At the start of each session the ESPON Coordination Unit will introduce the main outputs of the 2013 Programme within its four Priorities and present some fact and figures related to the Programme. Core element of each session will be interactive discussions among the panel representatives, who will provide active inputs to the topic, and the audience.

09.15-10.30 **Synthesis of ESPON results – Territorial Findings for Evidence Based policy making at EU and national level**

In this session it will be considered how the evidence-based policy recommendations can contribute to the smart, sustainable and inclusive growth of Europe and its regions by introducing the ESPON Synthesis Report III, which brings forward the key messages and findings from the ESPON 2013 Programme and feeds policy development related to the EU Cohesion Policy.

ESPON Applied Research (Priority 1)

- Michaela Gensheimer, ESPON Coordination Unit

Third ESPON 2013 Synthesis Report 'Territories finding a New Momentum: Evidence for Policy Development, Growth and Investment'

- Sandra Di Biaggio, ESPON Coordination Unit
- Kai Böhme, Spatial Foresight GmbH

Panel discussion on the use of ESPON evidence in European and national policy-making

- Rocco Bubbico, European Commission DG Regional and Urban Policy
- Bert Kuby, Committee of the Regions
- Maria José Festas, former ESPON Monitoring Committee Member Portugal

10.30-11.00 *Tea/Coffee break*

11.00-12.15

Using ESPON Targeted Analyses in local, regional and national policy making

This session will be focusing on the use of ESPON evidence in providing a European perspective in support to policy development at national, regional and local level and across borders. Targeted analyses delivered upon stakeholder demand on metropolitan regions will be presented.

ESPON Targeted Analyses (Priority 2)

- Ann-Gritt Neuse, ESPON Coordination Unit

ESPON METROBORDER - Cross-Border Polycentric Metropolitan Regions

- Estelle Evrard, University of Luxembourg, Lead Partner of METROBORDER

Panel discussion among stakeholders on the usefulness of ESPON evidence in local, regional and national policy making

- Silvia Jost, Federal Office for Spatial Development, ARE, Switzerland (Lead Stakeholder of METROBORDER)
- Jens Gabbe, AEBR (on behalf of Stakeholder of ULYSSES)
- Ruut Louwers, NWE Secretariat, (Stakeholders of TransMEC)
- Wilfried Köhler, Ministry for Regional Development and Transport of the Federal State of Saxony-Anhalt, Germany (Lead Stakeholder of SEMIGRA)
- Paul Grohmann, City of Vienna, (Stakeholder POLYCE)

12.15-13.00

ESPON Tool box for policy makers and practitioners

This session aims at presenting the ESPON toolbox. These tools are vital to deepen the understanding of EU territories, to be able to more accurately assess territorial outcomes and correctly gauge the effectiveness of policy interventions.

ESPON Scientific Platform and Tools (Priority 3)

- Marjan van Herwijnen, ESPON Coordination Unit

ESPON TerrEvi - Territorial Evidence Packs for Structural Funds Programmes

- Alessandro Valenza, t33, Partner of TerrEvi

Panel discussion on practical use of ESPON tools

- Odd Godal, ESPON Monitoring Committee Member Norway
- Daniël de Groot, ESPON Monitoring Committee Member Netherlands

13.00-14.00

Lunch

14.00-15.00

Promoting the Use of European territorial evidence in practise. The ESPON National Contact Points capitalising efforts at transnational level

This session will give the stage to the national ESPON Contact Points to show how their activities during the 2013 Programme helped to activate transnational interest in ESPON by involvement of policy makers, practitioners and scientists.

ESPON Transnational Networking Activities by the ECP Network (Priority 4)

- Peter Billing, ESPON Coordination Unit

ESPONontheRoad - Bringing ESPON evidence closer to decision making

- Peter Schön, Federal Institute for Research on Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Development (BBSR), Lead Partner of ESPONontheRoad

Panel discussion on experiences of creating awareness among policy makers and practitioners in transnational and national contexts

- Olaf Foss, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research, Lead Partner of ENECON
- Frédéric Santamaria, Université Paris Diderot, Lead Partner of CADEC
- Stella Kyvelou, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences of Athens, Lead Partner of ESPONTrain
- Estelle Evrard, University of Luxembourg, Partner of SCALES
- Maria Prezioso, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Partner of INTERSTRAT
- Michael Harris, Royal Town Planning Institute, Lead Partner of USESPON

15.00-15.05

Experience with financial management and administration in the ESPON 2013 Programme

This short session will inform on the main achievements of the financial management and administration in the period 2007-2013.

- Sara Ferrara, ESPON Coordination Unit

15.05-16.00

Policy needs and demands towards ESPON 2020

The closing session will include a preview of the future ESPON Programme and highlight the main conclusions of the ESPON Day.

Keynote speakers will share their policy needs, demands and views on ESPON evidence, giving participants “food for thought” at the end of the event.

Policy prospects, needs and demands towards ESPON

- Romain Diederich, ESPON Managing Authority
- Italian EU Presidency of the Council of the EU (tbc)
- Eric von Breska, European Commission DG Regional and Urban Policy

ESPON 2020

- Thiemo Eser, ESPON Managing Authority
- Peter Mehlbye, ESPON Coordination Unit

16.00

Closure of the Event

ESPON Day 'What European Territory Today and Tomorrow?'

10 October 2014
CoR, Brussels, Belgium

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

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The ESPON Day is the final event under the Communication Plan of the ESPON 2013 Programme. This event is organised within the framework of the ESPON Communication Plan - Action Plan for 2014 (Targeted activities and actions/events, "ESPON Final Event")

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