



ESPON 2013 Programme

Newsletter No 10/15 October 2009

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

Message from the ESPON Coordination Unit:

ESPON at the Open Days

At the recent [Open Days](#) organised by the European Commission in Brussels, ESPON participated with a Workshop on 7 October 2009 under the theme "Achieving results, looking ahead: EU Cohesion Policy's evaluation and future prospects".

The ESPON Workshop supported the exchange, debate and networking among Europe's experts and decision-makers in regional and local development, with first results from two new ESPON Projects; (1) one applied research project ([EDORA](#)) dealing with the diversity of rural areas in Europe and their different economic development opportunities, and (2) a targeted analysis ([TeDi](#)) focusing on the types of regions within Europe, their opportunities and challenges.

As an important statement at the workshop, Director Natalija Kazlauskiene, from the European Commission - DG Regio, confirmed that ESPON has a key role in feeding the policy making process with sound and robust analysis.

Another interesting message voiced was that the diversity of European regions requires unique policy mixes for the individual regions which makes it challenging to think of European policy priorities related to a typology of regions.

The ESPON Programme will continue stimulating dialogue between policymakers, stakeholders, project partners and the network of ESPON Contact Points. An important event will be the internal ESPON seminar, organised in co-operation with the Swedish EU Presidency for early December 2009, focusing on the use of ESPON knowledge in regional/territorial analyses and hence supporting policymaking from the regional to the European level. Another interesting open event is the ESPON Workshop on 5 November 2009 in Luxembourg addressing functionally defined areas with internal consistency that can form the basis for future territorial cooperation, where a few spaces are still available.

Peter Mehlbye
Director ESPON Coordination Unit

ESPON Open Calls

Get involved and participate

Researchers, experts and stakeholders in the public and private sector from 31 European countries are invited to apply for up to 31 new projects on new applied research and analyses under the ESPON 2013 Programme. The deadline for submission of the proposals is 11 November 2009. [More](#)

Get support

You can get support by sending your question concerning content clarifications to content@espon.eu, and questions related to administrative issues and application procedures to procedures@espon.eu. Visit the page [Frequently Asked Questions](#), which is updated with the answers to the most frequent questions.

Build Your Transnational Project Group

Research institutes that are **looking for partners** to prepare a proposal for one of the projects under the current Calls are remembered to have a look at the overview of potential partners that is available on the Website/ESPON Partner Café. 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. **104 institutions from 23 European countries** have already taken the opportunity to be included in the overview compiled by ESPON. [Link](#)

Upcoming Event – Register now!

5 November 2009 - ESPON Workshop in Luxembourg

ESPON invites for a one day open Workshop on “**Approaching New Functional Areas**” to explore how different territorial research approaches to new functional areas can be used to support policymakers in setting policy actions for territories with sufficient internal coherence and functionality. Limited seats available, [register now](#).

New ESPON Reports Have Been Published

The Interim Report of **ESPON TeDi - Territorial Diversity in Europe** - presents a more detailed overview of the analytical approach to be applied by the project. The first results confirm the initial idea that the political relevance of “geographic specificity” does not in general stem from “laggardness” or from a low degree of economic performance. [More](#)

Find out more about the targeted analysis project **CAEE - The Case for Agglomeration Economies in Europe**. This study is looking at the process of agglomeration within city regions across Europe. Read the Inception Report [here](#).

The project **ESPON CLIMATE - Climate Change and Territorial Effects on Regions and Local Economies in Europe** - shall analyse how and to which degree climate change will impact on the competitiveness and cohesion of European regions and Europe as a whole. In addition, it shall investigate in which way policy can contribute to mitigate climate change, and to adapt to and manage those results of climate change that cannot be avoided, while making sure that synergies of mitigation and adaptation policies are being exploited. The Inception Report presents a more detailed overview of the analytical approach to be applied by the project. [More](#)

The Inception Report of the Project "[Spatial Scenarios: New Tools for Local-Regional Territories, SS-LR](#)" is available at the ESPON Website. The purpose of this targeted analysis is to transfer, adapt and apply the spatial scenarios' methodology used within the [ESPON Project 3.2](#) at functional territorial scale, equal or lower than NUTS3. The methodology and instruments will be applied to the case of Barcelona Provincial Council. The outcome of this project should enable policy makers to draw up regional, social and economic territorial policies and development strategies for their territories. The Interim Report will be delivered on 1 December 2009. [More](#)

New ECPs from Cyprus and Lithuania

ESPON welcomes the 2 new ECP institutions recently appointed: The Department of Town Planning and Housing, Paphos Divisional Office (Ministry of the Interior of Cyprus) and The Territorial Planning Scientific Institute of the Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (Lithuania). The list of the ESPON Contact Points is available [here](#).

ESPON Workshop at the OPEN DAYS 2009

ESPON hold a Workshop at the European Week of Cities and Regions in Brussels, the leading event in the regional policy calendar. First results from ESPON Projects contributed to the discussion and reflections on regional development opportunities. [More](#)

Call for Tenders

The Call for Tenders on Printing aims at selecting a tenderer able to carry out the work of practically executing the printing of ESPON print material, publications and collaterals. The service requested is further explained in the technical and administrative terms and conditions. Deadline for the receipt of tenders: 4 November 2009 by 14h00. [More](#)

News from the Committee of the Regions -Consultation on White Paper on Multilevel Governance-

The White Paper on Multilevel Governance, which has been recently adopted by the Committee of the Regions, addresses a number of issues such as EU and regional governance, territorial cohesion, territorial impact assessment, territorial cooperation, macro-regions, EGTC, external cooperation, capacity building.

The Committee of the Regions is launching a general consultation to canvas the views of the local and regional authorities, associations and other stakeholders and calling on them to submit their comments on the best way of implementing multi-level governance in Europe. Comments can be submitted up to 30 November 2009. [Link](#)

News from Interreg and Urbact

The **INTERREG** IVB NWE Annual event took place on 8 - 9 October 2009 in Rotterdam and dealt with the four thematic priorities of the Programme, with a special focus on Climate Change: mitigation and adaptation. [More](#)

URBACT, the European exchange and learning programme promoting sustainable urban development, have launched a new platform to raise public awareness of major urban challenges. The objective of the website is to provide a communal space which sets the benchmark in terms of sustainable urban development. Accessible, well-structured and

user-friendly, the website introduces URBACT and its projects, places at your disposal their rich expertise and details, the progress on the ground. Link www.urbact.eu.

The **URBACT Annual Conference** will take place in Stockholm, on Wednesday 25th November 2009. In the context of economic downturn and environmental uncertainty, URBACT projects will discuss during this event the challenges of integrated sustainable urban development. Further information and registration on www.urbact.eu.

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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