

SPECIFICATION

ESPON Targeted Analysis Based on User Demand 2013/2/3

Cross-border polycentric metropolitan regions (Metroborder) (2009-2010)

(o) Targeted analyses within the ESPON 2013 Programme

The ESPON 2006 Programme provided integrated analysis and long-term spatial scenarios which enriched the European policy debate and knowledge base. Tying in with the achievements of the previous programme period, the ESPON 2013 Programme continues conducting applied research on European territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion. At the same time, a new type of projects is carried out in the form of targeted analyses based on specific demands expressed by stakeholders and making use of existing ESPON results.

The priorities describing the work-programme of the ESPON 2013 Programme are structured in four strands:

1. **Applied research on territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion: Evidence on European territorial trends, perspectives and policy impacts**
The applied research projects will create information and evidence on territorial challenges and opportunities for success in the development of regions. Cross-thematic applied research will be a major activity integrating existing thematic analysis and adding future analysis of new themes. Territorial impact studies of EU policies will be another focus under this priority.
2. **Targeted analysis based on user demand: European perspective on development of different types of territories**
This priority responds to a clear demand of practitioners for user and demand driven actions within the ESPON 2013 Programme. By convening an analytical process where ESPON findings are integrated with more detailed information and practical know-how, new understanding of future development opportunities and challenges may arise, which could be transformed into projects and actions.
3. **Scientific platform and tools: Territorial indicators and data, analytical tools and scientific support**
The scientific platform and analytical tools built up within the ESPON 2006 Programme will be maintained and further expanded. New actions shall be undertaken to develop current achievements and make use of existing indicators, data and tools.

4. Capitalisation, ownership and participation: Capacity building, dialogue and networking

Under this priority, actions are foreseen that will make the evidence and knowledge already developed operational through raising awareness and involving stakeholders in the results and practical application of them.

Targeted analyses under Priority 2 enable stakeholders to obtain customised and up-to-date information on their particular territorial context and opportunities for development which can be used for policy development. Given the targeted focus of these projects on specific territorial entities, targeted analyses will contribute to the use of ESPON results in practise and to the involvement of policy makers, practitioners and scientists in a joint synergetic process.

(i) General objectives of targeted analyses under Priority 2

The general objectives of targeted analyses within the ESPON 2013 Programme are the following:

- Provision of evidence and knowledge based on ESPON results on the strengths and weaknesses of individual regions and/or larger territories seen from a European perspective, or a global context, giving European regions the option to compare themselves to other regions and hereby finding competitive advantages for development and cooperation.
- Improvement of the usefulness of ESPON results by testing new, experimental and innovative options such as (1) analysis of themes of interest for groups of regions, partly based on case studies, (2) methodological frameworks for translating territorial development goals and policy aims into concrete actions and (3) technical, methodological and analytical support to territorial planning processes and spatial programming and visions.
- Provision of analytical support and evidence based on ESPON results on thematic priorities in cooperation with other Structural Funds Programmes.

The aim is to carry through targeted analyses in partnership with policy makers and/or practitioners showing an interest in gaining awareness of European evidence, information, experience and/or knowledge on common challenges related to their territorial and/or urban development.

The individual targeted analysis shall support better informed policy decisions by:

- Integrating ESPON findings with more detailed information and practical know-how, either from a territorial part of Europe or from a sector authority.
- Contributing to a sound knowledge of territorial development perspectives/trends through new understanding of future development potentials and challenges for the respective territorial and/or urban development.

This project shall contribute to these objectives during its implementation by ensuring a close cooperation and partnership with the stakeholders who expressed their need for this targeted analysis.

(ii) Types of Action under Priority 2

Projects under Priority 2 can have different foci and accordingly vary in their content. In order to have a clear distinction between the various possible project orientations, each project needs to be clearly allocated to one of the following types of action:

1) Integrated studies and thematic analysis

This type of action is foreseen to follow a “traditional” analytical approach using existing results of ESPON applied research and other studies. The analysis can integrate several themes relevant for certain types of territories, regions and/or cities or they can be less comprehensive in the approach by focusing on one or a few themes.

The main objectives are:

- a) To provide added value for territorial development of specific types of territories¹ by offering new comparative insight and understanding on territorial potentials and challenges from a European perspective;
- b) To ensure that other (similar) types of territories/regions can benefit from the output of the analysis.

2) Knowledge support to experimental and innovative actions

This type of action clearly allows for the implementation of projects that differ from the mainstream of the ESPON 2013 Programme by being more experimental and/or innovative in character. It is in a way a laboratory for developing ways of meeting main territorial challenges that Europe is confronted with.

The objectives are:

- a) To support experimental and innovative actions carried through in partnership with stakeholders with European knowledge on territorial structures, trends, perspectives and policy impact;
- b) To provide methodological support to experiments and innovative efforts.

3) Joint actions related to other Structural Funds Programmes

The joint actions related to other Structural Funds Programmes take a geographical starting point in the area covered by these programmes, be it transnational, cross-border, interregional, regional or urban territories. The content of these actions can be integrated and thematic analyses or they can be experimental and innovative of nature

¹ Types of territories codified for the territorial dimension, include urban, rural-mountains, rural-islands, rural-area (sparsely and very sparsely populated), rural-other, former external border, area dependant on fisheries, outermost regions, transnational cooperation areas, cross-border cooperation areas and interregional cooperation areas (as listed in the ESPON 2013 Programme, p. 9).

(as described above). A main prerequisite is that they are justified by supporting Structural Funds Programme implementation.

The objectives are:

- a) To provide information and analyses on the European position of these areas, their comparability with other similar areas, and their potentials and challenges, useful for Structural Funds Programmes (regional, cross-border, transnational, interregional and urban);
- b) To provide methodological support for strategic processes, including visions and scenarios for spatial development and planning.

Independent of the type of action, each project should have a European perspective (i.e. supporting the understanding of the wider European context), a clear transferable character and a concrete implementation part, focusing on specific territories.

The analytical approach can provide integrated, cross-thematic analyses, study individual themes or sectors, or focus on a specific type of territories. At any rate, ESPON findings shall be integrated and supplemented with more detailed information and practical know-how, either from a territorial part of Europe or from a sector authority. Analysis can include/be based on case studies. The geographical coverage will normally have a more limited territorial coverage than the entire European territory.

This project belongs to the second type of actions mentioned above, i.e. knowledge support to experimental and innovative actions, as it seeks to develop a multilevel approach in the process of creating strategies for polycentric cross-border metropolitan regions in Europe. Its innovative elements derive from the following aspects:

- Looking into cross-border metropolitan areas not only from a national and transnational but also from a global (European and world) perspective.
- Twofold research question, combining both, national as well as regional/local level perspective of looking at metropolitan areas.
- Combination of the functions, data analysis and governance in one project in this area of research with a special focus on functions, governance and processes of strategy building.
- Interactive research approach, involving the stakeholder consortium, the group of researchers, actors on the regional and local level and a Consultation Committee.
- Project governance will allow keeping the objective of developing common strategies without narrowing the content.

(iii) Scope and rationale of the targeted analysis

Metropolitan regions are seen as drivers for the territorial development in the national context. Many planning documents about metropolitan regions are only nationally orientated. However, border regions dispose of potentials for a cross-border polycentric metropolitan region, which would position them in the national and European context.

Strategy building seems to be a crucial process in this type of territories due to the variety of actors and institutions involved.

Considering this context, the Federal Office for Spatial Development in Switzerland, together with partners in Belgium, France, Luxembourg, and Germany expressed their interest for this targeted analysis, focused on polycentric cross-border regions and integrating two case study regions: Upper Rhine Region and the Greater Region.

Main characteristics of the territory to be addressed

The project should mainly address two case study areas: the Greater Region and the Upper Rhine Region. Both regions are similar in terms of cross-border geographical situation and bi-linguistic challenges.

The main characteristics and features of the territory to be addressed refer to the following elements:

- Cross-border situation: the objective of being recognised as a metropolitan region appears to be only realistic taking into account the potentials across borders. Critical mass: more than 1 Mio inhabitants and a diversified economic base;
- Urban structure: cities that have potentials to constitute a metropolitan area;
- Polycentric structure: Not one extremely dominating city but a certain balance in the urban structure;
- A high level of economic interaction within the area such as commuting and collaboration of economic actors;
- Different languages spoken within the area addressed.

The two main case study regions - Upper Rhine Region and the Greater Region - share several features which make them particularly interesting for deeper analysis: three and more countries involved; a rather big area covered by cooperation programmes at various levels; heterogeneous institutional structures in the countries involved; two main languages, French and German (which are the same languages for both case study regions and which make the involvement of regional and local actors much easier).

Furthermore, the Upper Rhine is a region with a dynamic economic growth based on research and industry, as well as service centres with rich environmental and cultural assets.

The Greater Region is characterised by the presence of a European capital with some EU institutions being located there; the function as significant financial place in Europe; its achieved industrial conversion and is rich in nature and culture.

In terms of governance the regions differ considerably with regard to a metropolitan area. In the Upper Rhine Region the awareness on a cross-border metropolitan region already exists and certain institutions are already in place representing and promoting such an approach. Contrary to that, in the Greater Region neither a metropolitan region approach

nor adequate governance is developed yet. Therefore the starting points for the analysis of both regions differ considerably. Whereas the Upper Rhine may focus more on positioning their region in the European or world scale, the Greater region may first focus on setting up the basic understanding and structure towards a metropolitan regional approach in order to then positioning their region in the European and world scale.

In this context it is very important to take into account other regions in the study as examples such as: Wien/Bratislava/Brno/Győr, Lille Kortrijk/Tournai, Øresund Region (Copenhagen/Malmö), Timisoara/Belgrade (Romania - Serbie), Iasi/Chisinau (Romania - Moldavie) and/or Debrecen/Oradea (Hungary - Romania). The eventual selection of regions to be referred to in the targeted analysis, will be done at an early stage of the project implementation in consultation of the stakeholder consortium with the TPG and the ESPON CU.

Thematic scope for the targeted analysis

Metropolitan areas are perceived as drivers for economic, social and cultural development on a European and global scale. Cross-border areas appear to be systematically underestimated in their potentials. At the same time, the awareness about their development opportunities needs to be improved.

Cross-border situations and polycentricity are both creating particular challenges that require particular responses in two dimensions: the internal organisation of a metropolitan area and the external positioning. Strategy building is a crucial condition particularly in these areas, as the variety of actors and institutions require special efforts to find a common understanding and to agree upon a joint implementation to respond to these particular challenges.

The classical approach towards cross-border metropolitan regions is still predominantly nationally focused. However, in practice many cross-border regions have been developing cooperation for a long time at different levels: between regions, cities or even through direct cooperation among municipalities along the borders.

Common structures such as cross-border programmes, city networks and other joint organisations and associations as well as councils were set up, which showed different results in terms of cooperation. However there are still important issues to be clarified in relation to cross-border metropolitan regions, i.e.:

- What is the added value of an organised metropolitan region in comparison to a “laissez faire” approach in the case of the two case study regions? What are the main obstacles of governance?
- How to make the best use of existing institutional structures and governance?
- What governance structures are in place in the two case study regions (addressing the “common market” efficiency, role of the private sector, language barriers, urban-rural relations)?

- How to take the best advantage of the great potentials of this type of regions taking into account their institutional and territorial specificities and that the existence of administrative structures does not automatically guarantee progress on the matter?
- What does polycentrism mean in this context?
- What are the main challenges in the cross-border metropolitan regions?
- What are constitutional steps and a timetable to substantially progress in the case study regions?
- Is it possible to identify opportunities for a common development of a cross-border polycentric metropolitan region by the various actors and structures within the region?

In order to address all these questions the project should take into consideration different contexts: local, regional, national and European. In addition, a particular focus should be set on the role of the private sector and the “creative environments” (“milieux créatifs”), as well as on the compatibility between different public sector systems and other issues related to the language.

Existing studies addressing the questions listed above should obviously be considered (see chapter (ix) “*Existing access points*”). Therefore, the main challenge of this project is to approach in a comprehensive way the different aspects inherent to cross-border metropolitan regions and to propose concrete strategies and actions for this type of territories. The development of those strategies and actions should take into account the Lisbon and Gothenburg Strategies, as well as orientations included in relevant national documents for strategy building in metropolitan areas.

The creation of cross-border polycentric metropolitan regions should enable both, the Greater Region as well as the Upper Rhine Region to attenuate existing geographical and institutional barriers in order to:

- Ensure a consolidation of their position and influence in Europe;
- Face the growing competition of other existing or emerging European and global metropolitan regions;
- Reinforce the internal territorial cohesion, especially along the national and regional borders.

Objective of the targeted analysis

In general terms, the project is meant to address cross-border metropolitan regions in Europe in relation to the policy aim of polycentric development. In practical terms, this project aims at:

1. Identifying criteria, potentials and governance practices for polycentric cross-border metropolitan regions in Europe.
2. Proposing options for development strategies towards a multilevel approach for two case study regions: Upper Rhine Region and the Greater Region.

In order to achieve these objectives, the project should comprehend an active involvement of regional and local actors. This will allow basing the results on concrete practical experiences and defining operational strategies and actions for cross-border metropolitan regions.

The project should bring regional and local actors in the position to select, develop and implement a strategy towards a cross-border polycentric metropolitan region by internally fostering the governance and externally positioning the region in the mind of decision makers. The study shall have two dimensions:

- General dimension addressing cross-border metropolitan regions, with reference to best practices;
- Specific dimension, enabling actors within the case study regions to strengthen their strategies (internally and externally) in order to create a metropolitan region

Throughout the different steps of the targeted analysis, the TPG needs to keep in mind that the two case study regions are at different stages in their development process, which most probably will lead to deviating emphasis concerning their strategic options. Against this backdrop, the Metroborder targeted analysis shall contain the following elements:

1. General analysis: Identification of the main characteristics of cross-border metropolitan regions in Europe: Which functions are supported in the national and in the cross-border contexts?

- Data compilation and mapping metropolitan polycentric cross-border areas with regard to the global, transnational and national level respectively;
- Economic profile and specialisation (service administration function), education, research as well as the competing situation in the cross-border context, etc;
- Economic and social infrastructure, housing, transport, environment, higher education, health, culture as well as obstacles due to different systems in the cross-border context, etc;
- Reference framework to investigate governance structures in place in cross-border polycentric areas;
- Reference framework for cross-border polycentric metropolitan regions: What does the cross-border context involve in terms of thematic and political cooperation?

2. Specific analysis: How are the case study regions positioned in relation to the general aspects addressed by the “General Analysis”?

- Which development opportunities exist in the different sectors present in the two regions (economy, research, culture, environment, creative milieus, etc.), and which are used and in which geographical context? And what is the possible added value of a common approach?
- What governance structures are in place and how can governance be improved in a cross-border metropolitan area?
- What are the basic principles to make this work in a European or global environment (internal and external)?

- Possible key improvements on functions (internal cooperation, common infrastructures, common living area, quality of life, sense of being part of a common area);
- Is it possible to identify opportunities for a common development of a cross-border polycentric metropolitan region by the various actors and structures within the region?

3. Analytical support for strategy building: Development of options for internal and external strategy building in the case study regions

- Preparation of inputs for the strategy development at conferences developing options for cross-border metropolitan regions;
- Documentation of the options for an internal and external strategy (this part in particular should include a strong interactive dimension) in a way that it can be used for the discussion of the strategic development in the two case study regions ;
- What are important milestones for the creation of a (better) functioning of the two metropolitan regions, what are constitutional steps and a timetable to substantially progress in the case study regions?

4. Generalisation and communication of results: Lessons learned and good practice

- Presentation of potentials and threats in relation to cross-border metropolitan development as well as policy responses.

The project should support the development of a multilevel approach in relation to cross-border metropolitan regions, addressing two dimensions at the same time, the national level and the regional-local level.

(iv) Implementation method and project governance

Partnership in the project implementation is vital in order to achieve useful results. This applies to both, the partnership between the ESPON Programme and stakeholders, as well as between the team of researchers (TPG) and the stakeholder representatives.

Stakeholder involvement is essential throughout the project's life-cycle and has started off with the definition and development of the specific theme for the targeted analysis. During the implementation phase of the targeted analysis, stakeholders play an active role by providing and giving access to information relevant for the project, as well as by steering and guiding the work of the TPG.

In order to facilitate the exchange and mutual learning during the implementation this project is steered by the ministry level in Switzerland, Luxembourg, France, Belgium and Germany.

The Lead Stakeholder will be the Federal Office for Spatial Development, ARE (Switzerland), represented by Silvia Jost, Head of Unit for International Affairs. Other partners in the stakeholder consortium are:

- Ministry of the Interior and for Spatial Planning, Directorate for Spatial Planning, Luxembourg
- Interministerial delegation to the spatial planning and the competitiveness of the territories (DIACT), France
- Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Affairs, Germany
- Ministry of the Wallonian Region, Directorate for Spatial Planning, Housing and Heritage, Belgium.

The interactive involvement of regional actors is another essential element within this project, as it will offer the basis for defining policy options and for the implementation of the strategy by regional actors. The participating stakeholders will be challenged by different degrees of involvement in the targeted analysis.

The stakeholders will have an important task in gathering existing studies, providing access to the data available and identifying regional and local actors that should contribute to the targeted analysis as interviewees. Furthermore, they shall provide input regarding their needs and expectations. The stakeholders will be invited to several workshops. Some of the workshops shall as well focus on the political leadership and ensure a political impact. At a later stage in the project's lifetime it is considered essential to organise a common workshop together with the different levels of stakeholders (national, regional and local) in order to ensure their involvement within the ongoing work of the TPG.

In order to provide analytical support to an innovative process also innovative ways of analysis and research need to be applied. In practice this means that the research needs to go beyond data analysis and needs to include several interactive elements: workshops and in-depth interviews with the actors in the case study regions, workshops and in-depth interviews with the Consultation Committee (see below). Analytical methods to be used within the project are: Desktop research (cf. steps 1-4 mentioned above), statistical analysis (steps 1, 2), interviews with experts on metropolitan areas (steps 1-3), mapping of spatial structures and governance structures (steps 1-3), workshops with regional actors (steps 2-3) culminating in a participatory approach to the part of research developing the strategic options, milestones and timing.

The project will involve the following actors who will have the following roles :

- ESPON Coordination Unit (CU) bearing the contractual responsibility for the Metroborder targeted analysis on behalf of the ESPON Monitoring Committee;
- Stakeholder consortium (representing national policy level);
- Regional and local actors in the two case study regions who will normally meet separately;
- Transnational Project Group (TPG);
- Consultation Committee, made up of representatives of the stakeholder consortium, the ESPON CU, the TPG, national and international associations (e.g. Association of European Border Regions (AEBR), Euromot, Initiativkreis grenzüberschreitender Metropolregionen, METREX) and interested representatives from other cross-border metropolitan areas such as:

Wien/Bratislava/Brno/Győr (Austria/Slowakia/Czech Republic/Hungary), Eurométropole Lille Kortrijk-Tournai (France/Belgium), and Debrecen/Oradea (Hungary/Romania). Their input is crucial for information about other regions and the operationalisation of results.

The Consultation Committee shall provide feedback to reports submitted by the TPG and meet with the two case study regions in workshops.

Both, the national as well as regional representatives of the two case study areas, should be advised by the Consultation Committee that scientifically is the reference in terms of other case studies and on best practice exchange. In this context, the TPG should pay special attention to the applicability of the results to different areas and ensure the added value of the process for all partners.

Results should be implemented on both, the national and on the regional level as well as in the wider European context, which is secured by the project governance outlined above.

(v) Envisaged results of the targeted analysis

The stakeholder consortium that expressed an interest in this targeted analysis would like to receive the following results. The results are indicated on a more general level as the starting situation of the two case study regions differs considerably:

1. General analysis

- Identification of and common reference framework for the main functions of cross-border metropolitan regions
- Common reference framework for governance structure and application of the framework in the case study region
- Map of metropolitan polycentric cross-border areas and their predominating functions with regard to global, EU and national level
- Account of the main challenges of cross-border metropolitan regions in general, both internally and externally

2. Specific analysis of the case study regions (each separately)

- Added value of a (further) progress as a polycentric cross-border metropolitan region (which measures and where)
- Analysis of the particular territorial potentials and challenges and the main threats for the case study areas, both internally and externally
- Important aspects of an in depth analysis (to be complemented after interviews):
 - Activation and integration of economic and private actors in the metropolisation process
 - Urban-rural relations within a metropolitan area
 - Ways of tackling existing barriers such as language, different social system etc. that are easy to implement, cost effective and efficient to overcome the barrier

3. Analytical support for strategy building by case study region

- Definition of strategic options for cross-border polycentric metropolitan regions and in particular for the case study regions with regard to all sectors (economic development, housing, transport, etc.), particular functions, private sector, language and governance for the internal development and for the external relations as well as for over-coming particular obstacles of the cross-border situation
- Milestones and timing for an implementation of the strategy for the metropolitan region by case study region and with regard to their specific state of development

4. Generalisation and communication

- Clear indications for actions related to the EU and the national level, pointing out where and to which degree potentials for cross-border metropolitan areas exist
- Presentation of appropriate instruments to promote a metropolisation process from the national level in a multilevel governance setting

(vi) Operational use of the targeted analysis

The expected results will be used by the stakeholders on national, regional and local level.

Stakeholders on national level will apply the results of the targeted analysis to contribute to the formulation of national strategies that better integrate cross-border polycentric metropolitan regions and national metropolitan areas.

Stakeholders on regional and local level will make use of Metroborder's results to substantially stimulate a more active polycentric cooperation. In addition, the results will serve as a reference for them to other cross-border metropolitan regions, in particular those participating in the Consultation Committee.

In the Upper Rhine Region, the project results will serve as a base for strategy building processes for the cross-border co-operation, for the Swiss Presidency of the Upper Rhine Conference 2010 as well as for the 12th Tripartite Congress on "Education-Research-Innovation" in autumn 2010.

In the case of the Greater Region, the Metroborder project is part of the Programme for Luxembourg's Presidency of Greater Region (running for 18 months from February 2008). The Luxembourg Presidency created a particular Committee, including all relevant institutions and actors (cities, city networks, regional actors, etc.), to ensure the Metroborder implementation. This Committee takes care of the political process behind the Metroborder project. Saarland, who will take over the Presidency from Luxembourg in 2009, signalled interest and willingness to follow up on the Metroborder approach under their Presidency. Being part of the Greater Region Presidency Programme assures the attention on the highest political level of Ministers as well as heads of cities and regional administrations.

On the occasion of the 11th Summit of the Greater Region under the Luxembourg Presidency in May 2009, a political decision should be taken in relation to cross-border metropolitan development, consolidating and reinforcing the launched approach by the Metroborder project.

Furthermore, the Metroborder targeted analysis is foreseen to be presented and discussed in the framework of the following regional events:

- 11th Intermediate Summit under Luxembourg Presidency, 18-19 November 2008 (presentation of the project specification)
- Event organised by the Committee of the Regions in Brussels under Luxembourg Presidency, January/February 2009 (a small report to introduce the targeted analysis of the METROBORDER project and the project proposal by the selected TPG)
- 11th Summit under Luxembourg Presidency, May 2009 (political document that should serve to obtain the political decision mentioned above)
- 12th Intermediate Summit under Saarland Presidency, February 2010 (Interim report)
- 12th Summit under Saarland Presidency, November/December 2010

In addition, the following events will secure the application of the target analysis in the political context on the regional level:

- Meetings of the Quattropök City Network (Steering Committee meetings several times per year)
- Meeting of LELA+ City Network (Steering Committee meetings several times per year)
- Meetings of the SaarMoselle Eurodistrict
- Plenary meetings of the Interregional Parliamentary Council of the Greater Region

The above explanations clearly indicate a broad participation of stakeholders and decision makers on all levels.

The results of the Metroborder targeted analysis will also be used on EU level. In fact, Metroborder is part of the First Action Programme for the implementation of the Territorial Agenda. Therefore results coming out of the project will be part of the implementation of the territorial priorities set out in the Territorial Agenda. Luxembourg acts as leader regarding this part of the process and will prepare a report towards the EU level. In this context the project will also be presented at the Ministerial Meeting on 24-26 November 2008 in Marseille and will be followed up as part of the First Action Programme under the subsequent EU presidencies.

Moreover, the urban-rural focus of Metroborder could be part of the Informal Ministerial meeting focusing on these questions. This meeting is scheduled for 23-24 April 2009. Finally, the CEMAT is interested to take up the issues addressed by Metroborder at its next meeting in March 2010.

Finally, the actors participating in the Consultation Committee will make use of METROBORDER's results in the following way:

- The umbrella organisations will use the results to nurture their advice towards their member organisations in the framework of different events.
- The participating cross-border regions will also feed the results into their own processes.

(vii) Outputs and timetable

The Metroborder targeted analysis will result in a series of reports and position papers during the project's lifetime. All reports are subject to feedback by the stakeholders and the Consultation Committee. The Consultation Committee will meet with the TPG around 3 times per year related to the timetable and expected deliveries. Consultation by email/telephone will take place on a regular basis.

The timetable foreseen for the targeted analysis looks as follows:

- **Inception report** by beginning of May 2009 as an input to a first strategy conference in mid 2009
- **Intermediate report** by February 2010
- **Draft final report** by September 2010 (Second big conference in autumn 2010).
- **Final report**, also taking into account the results of the conferences before, by November 2010
- End of project in December 2010.

Apart from these deliveries, **ten short input or result papers** (approximately 5 pages each plus charts/maps) and presentations are to be prepared for different purposes such as conference (as set out in the time table) and for the information of interested audiences. These papers will be built on the basis of the Inception, Intermediate and Draft final/Final report respectively.

The input papers should focus on particular issues addressed at the conferences and should be targeted towards the expected audience.

All documents produced and used to elaborate the project, e.g. questionnaires and interview guidance, should be annexed to the final report.

Data collected and used to draw maps should also be made available together with the final report in electronic form.

The TPG is expected to give **presentations of the (intermediate) results** at the occasions mentioned under *(vi) Operational use of the results*.

(viii) Budget for the targeted analysis

The maximum budget foreseen amounts to € 250.000, including VAT if applicable. Proposals exceeding this value will not be considered. This amount will include all the TPGs' costs for completing the study including travel expenses and attendance at Steering Group meetings and the events mentioned above.

ESPON projects are generally conducted in a partnership of several bodies from at least three EU Member and Partner States (from three different countries taking part in the ESPON 2013 Programme). However this requirement does not apply to projects with a budget up to €200.000 (incl.).

(ix) Existing access points

The access points listed below serve the purpose of providing the TPG with useful information for preparing a proposal. It is by no means meant to be exhaustive, but should be considered as information that can be helpful as background information.

ESPON Documents:

- 1.1.1 Polycentricity - regarding MEGAS, FUAS
- 1.1.2 Urban-rural - regarding classification of urbanisation
- 1.1.3 Enlargement and polycentricity - regarding cross-border situations
- 1.1.4 Demographic trends - regarding types of areas
- 1.3.2. Natural heritage - regarding settlement structures
- 1.4.1. Role of small and medium cities - regarding the role of smaller cities
- 1.4.3. Urban functions - regarding functions of metropolitan areas
- 2.2.1. Transport trends - regarding cross-border situation
- 2.3.2. Governance - regarding governance in metropolitan areas in planning
- 2.4.1. Environment - regarding settlement structures
- 2.4.2. Zoom in - regarding regionalised analysis of ESPON results
- 3.1. Coordination - regarding different spatial concepts
- 3.2. Scenarios - regarding the perspectives of different types of regions
- 3.3. Lisbon strategy - regarding the demands on global competition
- INTERACT-ESPON: Cross-border Cooperation Study
- INTERACT-ESPON: Polycentricity Study

All available at www.espon.eu.

Documents provided by stakeholders:

- BAK Basel Economics. L'espace du Rhin Supérieur en tant que région métropolitaine européenne, juin 2006.

- Conférence du Rhin Supérieur. Pour un avenir commun de l'espace du Rhin Supérieur: cadre d'orientation pour l'aménagement du territoire de la Conférence du Rhin Supérieur, décembre 2001.
- EuroRégion du Rhin Supérieur. Rhin Supérieur. Données Statistiques 2006, janvier 2006.
- Système d'information géographique du Rhin Supérieur (SIGRS):
http://www.sigrs-gisor.org/index_FR.html
- www.grandregion.net
- Les rapports de l'OIE (Observatoire interrégional du marché de l'emploi)
- Brochures des offices statistiques de la Grande Région (www.grande-region.lu)
- Espace Sarrebruck-Moselle Est : L'ambition européenne d'une métropole transfrontalière

European Policy Documents:

- European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP)
- Territorial Agenda of the EU
- Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities