SPECIFICATION

ESPON Targeted Analysis Based on User Demand 2013/2/6

Spatial scenarios: new tools for local-regional territories (SS-LR) (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-todate 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:

- 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 innovate 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 knowhow, 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 first type of action. It will transfer and apply a scenario methodology developed in the framework of the ESPON 2006 Programme to the local level.

(iii) Scope and rationale of the targeted analysis

The capacity to transfer methodologies of spatial scenarios to the local-regional scale is a subject of major relevance. Policy makers and the main stakeholders involved in strategic planning processes need territorial forecasting instruments to detect the main critical factors and trends in order to anticipate changes in the environment. There is a need to develop and apply regional forecasting methodologies and instruments at the appropriate territorial scale, responding to functional local-regional territories.

The purpose of this targeted analysis is to transfer and apply the same spatial scenarios methodology used within the ESPON Project 3.2 at functional territorial scale, equal or lower than NUTS3. The outcome of this project should enable policy makers to draw up regional, social and economic territorial policies and development strategies for their territories.

Main characteristics of the territory to be addressed

The stakeholder consortium is constituted by three local government authorities of the Mediterranean space: Barcelona Provincial Council (ES), Province of Torino (IT), and

Department of the Hérault (FR). All of them have a long experience in working together, especially in projects related to territorial cooperation within the framework of Arco Latino, a network that assembles local and regional authorities of the western Mediterranean space.

The Barcelona Provincial Council *Oiputació de Barcelona*) represents a physically diverse and administratively fragmented territory with a population of 5.3 million inhabitants. Its jurisdiction is heading a polycentric urban territory in which a European metropolitan core and a strategic centre of the Mediterranean Euroregion exists side-by-side with a broad network of mature medium-sized towns.

In recent years, a large number of strategic projects integrating the ESDP principles have been launched, including territorial strategic plans, urban and rural development plans, and sectorial plans on the local and regional scale.

The Province of Torino (*Provincia di Torino*) has a total population of 2.2 million inhabitants. It is the fourth most populated and largest province in Italy. The main urban metropolitan and industrial centre is the city of Torino. The province which used to be highly dependent on the car industry has undergone and is still undergoing an economic transformation. By means of territorial plans and integrated areas plans, the province has developed an organic and synergic plan to promote the local development, focussing on the internationalisation of enterprises and support to innovation.

Finally, the Department of the Hérault (*Conseil Général de l'Hérault*) has a population of almost 1 million inhabitants and is the engine of the regional demography. Its economy is mainly based on services and agriculture and is highly dependent on maritime activities and tourism. There is an increased investment in innovative and clean technologies industries. The department has recently developed a vision of its territory on the basis of the Agenda 21 and the 'Schemes of Territorial Coherence' related to the management of the territory.

Thematic scope for the targeted analysis

Local and regional authorities have increasingly taken a key role in territorial decision-making processes. Policy-makers, along with economic and social stakeholders, have established processes for reflection and strategic planning that should be guided by the ESDP's principles and the priorities laid down in the Territorial Agenda of the EU.

There is a need to develop territorial forecasting instruments meant for and targeting a local-regional scale but at the same time able to take into account the wider European perspective as well as to provide for mid- and long-term regional forecasting methodologies and instruments that can generate visions of the main trends and impacts of spatial development policies. This involves transferring and adapting the spatial scenarios methodology and developing, if necessary, specific forecasting instruments and

methodologies for the local-regional scale that are suitable for facilitating decision-making.

There is a very high consensus among experts that territorial development needs territorial cooperation and collaboration involving local and regional levels, and that local and regional perspectives also need to consider a wider Europe an context. Constructing spatial scenarios at different scales can benefit the design of tools for the coordination of territorial and sectorial strategies, as well as for improving territorial cooperation and governance. Though not forming part of the great political decision-making centres, the participating territories still have competences for their respective territorial development, e.g. in relation to the urban-rural alliance, the basic urban planning, the functional efficiency and the heritage mana gement.

Objectives of the targeted analysis

The aim of this targeted analysis is to transfer and adapt to the regional and local context the ESPON Project 3.2 - Spatial scenarios in relation to the ESDP and EU Cohesion Policy to territorial scales in and below NUTS 3. This should lead to the development of a methodology suitable for supporting the development of spatial scenarios at a local and regional scale within a European perspective.

Taking into consideration this demand, this targeted analysis has two main objectives:

- 1. Methodology transfer/adaptation
 - Transfer the ESPON 2006 methodology of the "Spatial Scenarios" project to territorial scales in and below NUTS 3.
 - Adaptation of integrated scenarios (base line, cohesive and competitive) to local regional scale.
 - Adaptation of thematic scenarios to the local-regional scale (demography and migration, transport, energy, economy, governance, enlargement, rural development, climate change, socio cultural evolution and integration).
 - Adaptation of indicators, maps and tools to local-regional scale.

The transfer and adaptation of these methodologies and instruments will provide new tools enabling local and regional authorities to establish joint models and strategies with key stakeholders. In this context, it is necessary to complement classical assessment analysis with prospective instruments capable of focusing on the main critical factors for spatial development that enable these territories to anticipate and deal with changes. This type of analysis is practically non-existent at the local-regional scale, particularly in the Mediterranean context.

- 2. Apply the methodologies and instruments for the case of Barcelona Provincial Council
 - Application of integrated scenarios (base line, cohesive and competitive) to the territory of Barcelona Provincial Council.

- Application of thematic scenarios to the territory of Barcelona Provincial Council (demography and migration, transport, energy, economy, governance, enlargement, rural development, climate change, socio cultural evolution and integration).
- Development of the tools to produce scenarios on the position of a territory, in a European context and in comparison to other territories.
- Synthesis and communication of the information: indicators, maps and tools to the Barcelona Provincial Council.
- Application of policy messages and recommendations.
- Guarantee comparability at this territorial scale.
- Stress on economic, productive and land use scenarios, as basic options and visions at these scales
- Reflection, essay or intention to transfer and adapt the Spatial Scenarios methodology and tools to the scale below NUTS 3.

Based on the view that territorial development depends more and more on collective relations and action, the project seeks to provide local and regional authorities with instruments to enable them to define models and strategies. Generating scenarios, helping to visualise territorial trends and potentials and territorial options, should serve to guide territorial development and provide a basic tool in processes of strategic planning that involve regional and local actors as well as public-private partnerships.

(iv) Implementation methodology and project governance

From the governance point of view, the purpose is to stimulate a research process that should lead to action. The participatory dimension generated by the involvement of the partnership aims at bringing together key stakeholders to provoke a mutual learning process.

Thus, 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 experts and the stakeholder representatives.

During the implementation phase of the targeted analysis, stakeholders play an active role by providing and giving access to information relevant for the project. A SS-LR Steering Committee, made up of the stakeholder consortium and the ESPON Coordination Unit (CU) will be steering and guiding the work of the experts. The ESPON CU bears the contractual responsibility for the SS-LR targeted analysis on behalf of the ESPON Monitoring Committee.

The Barcelona Provincial Council will act as Lead Stakeholder and both the Province of Torino and the Department of the Hérault will be involved as partner stakeholders. The entire stakeholder consortium will contribute to gather information, develop methodologies, provide political drivers and disseminate results.

The involvement of existing networks in the scenario building process but also in the dissemination phase is also a crucial element to ensure the ownership of the results by the key actors. It is commonly accepted that networks play an active role in promoting territorial governance and supporting the dissemination of results. This partnership is constituted by territories that form part of a considerable number of local, regional, national and transnational networks. This density illustrates a tradition of network governance amongst the partners in the stakeholder consortium. For instance, all participating stakeholders are members of Arco Latino.

Furthermore, the stakeholder partnership truly believes that it can benefit from the leading role of the Department of the Hérault in a working group of Arco Latino, aimed at gathering and identifying the main territorial, economic and sociological data related to these territories in order to provide tools to practitioners.

Spatial scenario methodologies and scenario building processes need political drivers. In this context two workshops with representatives of the case study area (Barcelona Provincial Council) will be organised at two key moments of the scenario building process (mid and final stage). The participation of the representatives of the area involved will as well be ensured. The two workshops will involve two main audiences: The Councillors of the municipalities and members of the Network of Local Economic Development Observatories (24 observatories) as well as the Deputies of the Barcelona Provincial Council.

The involvement of a group of experts will as well be ensured: Barcelona will involve experts leading the Local Economic Development Observatories of the Network of Local Economic Development Observatories.

(v) Envisaged results of the targeted analysis

The adaptation of the methodology to generate spatial scenarios at a local-regional territorial scale in and below NUTS 3 will enable policy makers to roll out development strategies and actions in a more fully informed way. The expected outcomes are as follows:

- Transfer and adaptation of the same methodology used to define scenarios by ESPON at a functional scale equal or below NUTS 3.
- Application of the spatial scenarios methodology for Barcelona Provincial Council.

The envisaged results of the SS-LR targeted analysis are:

- Tools of spatial scenarios for the local-regional level including both, integrated scenarios and thematic scenarios.
- Maps synthesising the impacts and trends of policies for the main critical factors for territorial and economic development.

- Production of comparative analyses emphasising the European perspective and integration of them in permanent tools for analysis and strategic knowledge input.
- Definition and comparison of different territorial scales for development in the European context using the former ESPON results.

(vi) Operational use of the targeted analysis

The stakeholder consortium intends to make use of these expected results to promote meeting points between different experts and professionals and different traditions linked to territorial intervention. In addition, the technical capacity of professionals will be strengthened as well as the governance via the incorporation of strategic knowledge.

Hence, the use of spatial scenarios methodologies, indicators and tools will provide an instrument to communicate basic trends and territorial facts and choices. Spatial scenarios will provide tools to communicate and help stimulate democratic participation and empowerment in local and regional communities and strength territorial governance.

The obtained results and the methodological tools will be used for territorial planning processes, especially urban planning and economic and sustainable development strategies.

(vii) Outputs and timetable

The outputs expected from the research process are the following:

- One interim report including: executive summary, introduction, necessary data analysis, scenarios, adaptation of the methodology, etc.
- Report of the case study, including: executive summary, introduction, thematic scenarios, integrated scenarios, maps, data used, etc.
- One final report including: executive summary with recommendations for policy makers, introduction, methodology for the scenario building process, maps, data used, etc.; a separate section on recommendations for potential transfer of the analysis to scales below NUTS 3; Annex with methodologies, tools, indicators, concepts, typologies and data.
- Handbook of data acquisition and harmonisation, if necessary.

The targeted analysis will last 18 months (January 2009-June 2010). The Steering Committee will follow all the development of the SS-LR project and the experts will participate in the following concrete meetings:

- Kick off (January 2009)
- Mid-term meeting (October 2009)
- Final results (May 2010)

- Internatio nal seminar (June 2010)
- Two local workshops with representatives from local and regional authorities (city mayors, town councillors and deputies of the province): Barcelona Provincial Council. These workshops will take place in autumn 2009 (mid-term results) and spring 2010 (final results). In these workshops mid-term results and final analysis and results should be presented to the political representatives.

From June 2010 on there should be also dissemination activities with experts and practitioners:

- Through the networks, specially through Arco Latino (April 2010)
- Tailor-made workshops in each territory for policy makers and for personnel involved in territorial development.

Furthermore, there will be dissemination through:

- Websites of the stakeholders
- Specific newsletter
- Press conferences and press releases to local media
- Joint publication of documentation in English and in the local languages of participating stakeholders.

(viii) Budget for the targeted analysis

The maximum budget foreseen amounts to € 180.000, including VAT if applicable. Proposals exceeding this value will not be considered. This amount will include all the experts' costs for completing the study including travel expenses and attendance at the Steering Committee meetings, two workshops with local-regional representatives in Barcelona, and one International seminar.

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

This project proposal is directly linked to the methodology presented in the report 'ESPON Project 3.2 - Spatial scenarios in relation to the ESDP and EU Cohesion Policy'. It also embraces the view of the ESPON synthesis report "Territory matters for competitiveness and cohesion", according to which the generation of territorial visions and projects is seen as a determining instrument for governance and development of the territories' potential.

In addition, the following study developed in cooperation with the Interact Programme: "Spatial Visions and Scenario – Thematic Study of Interreg and ESPON activities" should be taken into account.

Documents provided by stakeholders:

- Barcelona Provincial Council will make information available on its online socioeconomic information system which provides data at scales equal and below NUTS3. http://www.diba.cat/hg2/menu_pre.asp
- Diagnosi estratègica de la província de Barcelona: Una visió sobre els reptes de futur per a un territori divers (Strategic Diagnosis of the Province of Barcelona: A vision about the challenges of future for a diverse territory)
 <a href="http://www.diba.cat/iep/iep_fitxa_publicacio.asp?Id=5281&pag=0&IDV=&refer=iep_recerca_titol.asp&titol=&autor=&editorial=&idioma=&colleccio=&revista=&isbn=&any_edicio_ini=&any_edicio_fi=&tipus_article=&materia=&enpdf=&e_nestoc=&enproduccio=&minicercador=diagnosi+estrat%E8gica&mode=&tipus_c_erca=avn&ordre=&esHistoric=0
- Catalunya 2010. Prospectiva Mediterrània (Catalonia 2010. Mediterranian Prospective)
- H. Jouvenel i Ma. Roque, ICM, Institut Català de la Mediterrània, 1993 http://www.mcrit.com/BRIC/Estudis/BRIC_Catalunya2010.htm
- Catalunya cap el 2020. Visions sobre el Futur del Territori (Catalonia towards 2010. Visions about the future of the territory)
- Andreu Ulied, Panorama 7 territoris, Generalitat de Catalunya, 2003
 http://www.diba.es/promoeco/plans/info web/documents referencia/odecat prm7
 _catalunya_2020.pdf
- The Strategic Metropolitan Plan of Barcelona http://www.bcn2000.es/en/9_lista_descargas/descargas.aspx?idioma=en&_gIdContexto=2
- Territorial Observatory http://www.diba.es/territori/default.asp
- Diagnosis territorials locals. Exemple El Maresme (Local territorial diagnosis: The exemple of El Maresme) http://www.diba.es/promoeco/publicacions/documents/det/maresmedef.pdf
- Xarxa de Ciutats i Pobles cap a la Sostenibilitat (Net of Cities and Villages towards the sustainability)
 http://www.diba.es/xarxasost/cat/xarx_ques.asp
- Arc Latin Observatory http://www.observatoire-arclatin.org
- Territorial transformations Torino province
 http://www.provincia.torino.it/territorio/sezioni/pian_territoriale/presentazione
 http://www.provincia.torino.it/territorio/strat_strumenti/prog_strategici/consumo_provincia
- Territorial development plan Torino province
 http://www.provincia.torino.it/territorio/sezioni/pian_territoriale/piano_terr_coord/piano_territ_coordin

- Landscape management plan Torino province
 http://www.provincia.torino.it/territorio/sezioni/pian_territoriale/pian_paesaggistica/index
- Ecological landscape analysis of agricultural land Torino Province
 http://www.provincia.torino.it/territorio/sezioni/pian_territoriale/analisi_paes/territ_agrario
- Cartography system Torino province http://www.provincia.torino.it/speciali/2008/sistema_cartografia/
- L'Hérault department http://www.cg34.fr/territoire/index.html

The Network of Local Economic Development Observatories of the Barcelona Provincial Council will also provide information and knowledge at these territorial scales.

Both the Province of Torino and the Department of the Hérault will provide social and economical information and data available and they will make use of the different observatories to which they contribute.

Furthermore, the Department of the Hérault is leading a working group of Arco Latino (Territory and Sustainable Development) the so called "Arco Latino Observatory", which aims to gather and identify the main territorial, economic and sociological data related to our territories in order to provide tools for local planners

European Policy Documents:

- European Spatial Development Perspective
- European Territorial Cooperation Programmes (e.g. INTERREG)
- Agenda 21

Timetable

