

SPECIFICATION

ESPON Targeted Analysis Based on User Demand 2013/2/20

Key Indicators for Territorial Cohesion and Spatial Planning (KITCASP) (2012-2013)

(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.

(iii) Scope and rationale of the targeted analysis

Working with five stakeholders, the project will explore the use of territorial data in developing and monitoring national spatial strategies and other territorial development policies. It will identify the data used and any gaps or limitations in the data available in the stakeholder countries. It will examine the extent to which ESPON data has informed the strategies examined and develop guidelines on the use of indicators and ESPON data in territorial policy development at the national level. It will seek to identify a core set of key indicators of territorial cohesion, competitiveness and sustainable development to inform spatial planning at the national level, drawing on ESPON research and datasets available in the stakeholder countries. It will consider how the capacity for spatial analysis can be strengthened and harmonised at the national level, how national analytical experience and expertise can help to inform and take forward the EU Territorial Agenda, and the implications for future ESPON research.

Main characteristics of the territory to be addressed

The project will examine practice in the use of data to inform the development of national spatial strategies and territorial development policies in Scotland, Ireland, Latvia, Iceland and the Basque Country. Ireland and Latvia are EU member states. Iceland is an ESPON participating country. Scotland and the Basque Country are national territories with exclusive competency in spatial planning. The stakeholder countries are of a similar size, with populations of between 300,000 and 5 million. They share territorial interests and agendas with neighbours in the North West Europe, Atlantic, North Sea and Baltic Regions, or the Northern Periphery co-operation zone.

Scotland is a nation within the United Kingdom with a devolved administration. It has population 5.22 million and a land area of 78,772 km². Energy, financial services, life sciences, food and drink and tourism make important contributions to the economy. The population is concentrated in the Central Belt and on the East Coast, and the cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow account for a third of national GDP and jobs. Large parts of the Highlands and Southern Uplands are very sparsely populated by European standards. The strategy for Scotland's long-term development is set out in a statutory National Planning Framework.

The Republic of Ireland has a population of 4.58 million and a land area of almost 69,000 km². Nearly 40% of the population lives in the Greater Dublin Area. The National Spatial Strategy (2002) promotes ESDP principles of balanced regional development. It is implemented through regional plans (at NUTS III level) and 34 city and county land use development plans, which identify development objectives to grow economic activity, protect natural and built heritage and realise sustainable planning outcomes at regional and local levels.

Latvia is a republic with a population of 2.2 million and a land area of 64,589 km². It has a long coastline with the Baltic Sea and around 45% of its land area is forested. About half of the population is concentrated in the region around the capital, Riga, which accounts for 55.3% of the country's GDP. Spatial policy is set out in a National Development Plan and a Sustainable Development Strategy and spatial data relating to territorial development are published regularly in *Development of Regions in Latvia*.

Iceland has a land area of more than 100,000 km². The Mid Highlands are 4-500 meters above sea level and 40% of the land is uninhabited. The population is 320,000 of which 65% live in the metropolitan area in and around Reykjavik. Fisheries and agriculture have been the foundation for the economy for many years. In the last 15-20 years tourism and aluminium smelting have begun to make a significant contribution. Over the past 30 years there has been a movement of people from rural areas to the center. Settlement density in the metropolitan area is low compared to other European countries and there has been substantial urban sprawl, resulting in long commuting trips.

The Basque Country is an autonomous region of Spain with a population 2.12 million and a land area of 7,234 km². It has a polycentric urban structure and a valuable natural environment, and has experienced fast economic growth in recent decades. It has a well established spatial planning system which includes Spatial Planning Guidelines. Every four years it develops an Environmental Programme Framework which establishes the main objectives and associated indicators for the sustainable development of the Basque territory.

The spatial economies of the five territories display significant regional disparities, embracing urban centres with well developed knowledge economies, areas in need of economic restructuring and regeneration, and remote and sparsely populated rural areas. Constrained public finances threaten to undermine economic recovery, service provision and inclusive growth. Demographic trends, urbanisation and changes in the rural economy pose challenges to the achievement of balanced polycentric development. Small and medium-sized towns play important economic and social roles at regional

level. Peripherality and the challenge of access to the European core make air and maritime connections particularly important.

The territories include natural environments of the highest quality, including areas of great scenic beauty and habitats important for key European species. They have extensive coastlines, some of which are vulnerable to sea level rise associated with climate change. They have access to marine resources of European importance and, while all face challenges in terms of the security of energy supply, their territories offer substantial opportunities for onshore and offshore renewable energy developments. Their distinctive cultures and the strong identities of their constituent communities are important components of their territorial capital. The principle of territorial cohesion is already well integrated into national policies.

Thematic scope for the targeted analysis

The objectives of reducing regional disparities, improving competitiveness and promoting sustainable development are common to most European territories and at the EU level there is interest in developing a wider range of indicators to inform Cohesion Policy (which now encompasses territorial cohesion), the Territorial Agenda, and the Europe 2020 Strategy for Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth. The aims of the project are therefore to support evidence-based, integrated policy-making for territorial development; to identify and disseminate good practice in the use of data, indicators and indices to inform the preparation of national strategies for territorial development; to examine how ESPON findings can contribute to that process; and to explore the potential for identifying a core set of key indicators of general utility in addressing the territorial development objectives of cohesion, competitiveness and sustainable development.

The project shall examine the existing and potential use of territorial data, indicators and indices in preparing, monitoring and revising national strategies for territorial development in the stakeholder countries. Specifically, it will focus on the National Planning Framework for Scotland, Ireland's National Development Plan and National Spatial Strategy; Latvia's application of territorial indicators at the national, regional and local scales and the territorial policy work of its Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development; Iceland's National Spatial Plan; and the Basque Country's Spatial Planning Guidelines. It will identify commonalities and differences in the data used to date and any gaps or limitations in the data available.

The project shall encompass economic, demographic, social and environmental data relating to territories. It will examine the use which the stakeholders have made of ESPON findings and data in preparing their spatial strategies and other policies for territorial development. It will identify gaps in the use of ESPON data, and consider whether there are barriers or limitations to their use at the national level and how these might be overcome. It will also consider whether there are lessons in the application of ESPON data which the stakeholders can learn from each other. The national focus of the project can usefully complement work on developing and monitoring strategies for territorial development at the macro-regional and regional levels and there is potential for the findings to inform priorities for European territorial research post 2013.

The project shall look at the use made of spatial data held by Government and public agencies in the stakeholder territories. It will examine the strengths and weaknesses of indicators of economic output, wealth and deprivation in shedding light on regional disparities. It will, for example, look at the indicators and territorial development index developed by the Latvian Regional Development Agency in its work on Development of Regions of Latvia, the demographic studies undertaken by the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis in Maynooth to inform the development of spatial strategies for Ireland, the role of the Environmental Programme Framework in establishing the main objectives and associated indicators for sustainable development in the Basque Country, and the use made of indicators of multiple deprivation and carbon impact in Scotland. The research team will make recommendations on how capacity for spatial analysis can be strengthened at the national level. It will consider whether any indicators generated at the national level might have potential for application at the European scale.

A key and innovative output will be guidelines for the use of indicators and ESPON data in the preparation and monitoring of spatial strategies and territorial development policies. More challenging and potentially ground-breaking is the aim of identifying the most suitable core set of key indicators of territorial cohesion, competitiveness and sustainable development on the basis of their relevance to national policy-making and European transferability. A common and concise set of spatial indicators would provide a powerful analytical tool, allowing the components and dynamics of territorial development to be explored over time at the European, macro-regional, national, regional and local levels, thus facilitating greater coherence in multi-level policy-making. The project can also help to ensure that national experience and expertise informs the use of indicators and data in taking forward the EU Territorial Agenda.

Objectives of the targeted analysis

The project will add value through comparative analysis of the work the stakeholders have done to develop territorial indicators, looking to identify ways of strengthening spatial capabilities at the national level. It will seek to identify examples of good practice in the use of spatial data, indicators or indices to inform the development of territorial development policies. It will provide guidance on the use of ESPON data and indicators in spatial planning and seek to identify key indicators of general utility in addressing territorial objectives. It will draw on evidence from the stakeholder countries to examine the relative merits of indicators and indices in informing territorial policy development. It will consider the limitations imposed by issues of data availability, compatibility and comparability between member states and the extent to which these might be overcome, by the use of surrogate datasets for example. Key questions are:

- What are good practices on the use of data to inform territorial policy development?
- How can the stakeholders make better use of ESPON data in developing their spatial policies?
- What data is needed for developing reliable key indicators?

- What are the key indicators for measuring territorial cohesion, competitiveness and sustainable development?
- How can indicators for different countries be compared?
- How can the key indicators most effectively inform spatial policy?
- To what extent are these indicators GIS-based and would this enhance their comparability and relevance?
- How can the key indicators be regularly updated and how is this to be managed?

ESPON has led at European level in exploring the territorial aspects of competitiveness and cohesion, though its work has not been systematically related to particular national strategies. The KITCASP project can bring these workstreams together, with a specific focus on the use of indicators in preparing and monitoring the national territorial development strategies of the five stakeholders. It offers the opportunity to find ways of overcoming the difficulties in applying ESPON findings at national level under a range of different planning and policy regimes, and developing links and compatibility with national datasets. The findings can have much wider relevance, demonstrating the potential of ESPON data to other countries, informing methods of measuring and monitoring territorial cohesion and development, and helping to inform ESPON of emerging needs.

ESPON findings and data relating to economic development, demography, peripherality and accessibility, the knowledge economy, urban attractiveness, quality of life, rurality, sustainable development and renewable energy potential may be relevant to this project. From the 2013 programme, FOCI, DEMIFER, EDORA, RERISK, EU-LUPA, the Climate Change project, the Territorial Performance Monitoring (TPM) project (focused on monitoring at the regional level), the local and regional scenarios (SS-LR) project, and the Territorial Diversity (TeDI) project. New projects on transport accessibility, globalisation, innovation and the knowledge economy are also pertinent. A number of these have antecedents in the 2006 programme, and these plus the scenarios project (3.2) would be the basis for discussion with the stakeholders about what they used or might use in their national work.

Projects from the Scientific Platform and Tools are also relevant. From the 2006 programme there is the work on the Regional Classification of Europe (3.1) and the preparatory work on territorial indicators (4.1.3). From the 2013 programme, it will be important to draw on findings emerging from the new Priority 3 project on Territorial Monitoring and Reporting based on the indicators identified by the INTERCO project, the ESPON 2013 database as well as the Detecting Territorial Potentials and Challenges project. Attention will be paid to progress in the Priority 2 RISE project which is looking at the use of indicators in regional policy making. There is also potential to build links with the Priority 4 INTERSTRAT project which is examining the application of ESPON findings to the preparation and monitoring of integrated development strategies, and is highlighting Scotland's National Planning Framework and Ireland's National Spatial Strategy as examples of such strategies.

The research will complement ESPON's pan-European research and analysis by drawing on analytical experience and expertise at the national level to inform European spatial planning and territorial development practice and the use of indicators in advancing the EU Territorial Agenda. The project can add value to ESPON's work by providing information on the research findings, datasets and indicators which are proving most useful in spatial planning and territorial policy development at the national level, thus helping to inform European territorial research priorities post 2013. The project can usefully complement the INTERCO and INTERSTRAT projects and ESPON's current work on Territorial Monitoring and Reporting.

(iv) Implementation methodology 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 and that between the team of researchers (TPG) and the stakeholder representatives.

Stakeholder involvement is essential throughout the life-cycle of the project and starts 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:

- Delivering strategies, plans, spatial data, cases and measures and other relevant available information about their regions:
 - E.g. topographical and socio-economic data (GIS-information)
 - E.g. Data about ongoing and planned projects
 - E.g. Data about governance and financial agreements made
- Giving access to information relevant for the project
- Steering and guiding the work of the TPG
- Putting their experiences and opinions at the disposal of the researchers, by means of interviews and regional workshops
- Commenting on the analysis, guidelines and findings elaborated by the research team
- Taking forward the implementation of the project results in their own working environment.

Stakeholders hosting a case study will be in close contact with the researchers who undertake the study and will integrate the project task in their day to day activities, in order to achieve acceptance and impact.

Project management & working structures

A governance structure has been established aimed at bringing stakeholders together and increasing the applicability of the knowledge generated.

A mutual learning process is facilitated by involving all stakeholders in driving the research and ensuring that participant demands are listened to and acted upon when feasible.

The following project management structures are established to ensure a coherent and intensive work process among all stakeholders of the KITCASP project:

1. **Lead Stakeholder:** The project is lead by the Scottish Government's Directorate for the Built Environment. Project management will be dealt with by its representative. The Scottish Government will act as interlocutor between ESPON CU and the Project TPG.
2. **Participant Stakeholders** are:
 - Spatial Policy Unit, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Republic of Ireland
 - State Regional Development Agency, Analyses and Research Coordination Division & International Projects and Communication Division, Republic of Latvia
 - Icelandic National Planning Agency, Iceland
 - Department of the Environment, Regional Planning, Agriculture and Fishing, Basque Government, Spain

They will involve their local experts, practitioners and policy makers in the project. They will all contribute to data gathering, definition of methodologies, validation and dissemination of results.

Each stakeholder will be represented by a coordinator, generally expert staff of the administrations involved.

3. **TPG** Transnational Project Group which will undertake the research
4. **Lead partner**, research organisation leading the TPG.
5. **Steering Committee** Representatives of all stakeholders and ESPON CU will constitute the Steering Committee, which will guide the project and where main decisions will be taken. The Steering Committee and the invited TPG shall meet at the start of the project, 2 times during the project implementation for guiding and commenting on interim project deliveries and when the final report is presented. The number of meetings, tentative dates and locations are agreed upon at the project's kick-off meeting. If pertinent, every stakeholder could also organize its own meeting with the research group.

The role of the Steering Committee is:

- to discuss and give feedback to project reports and provide guidance to the TPG for the next steps of project implementation;
- to discuss and agree upon dissemination activities, particularly after the finalisation of the analytical work by the TPG.

6. **Stakeholder Workshops** will be held during project development at specific times corresponding with key milestones. The participants in the workshops will be the Steering Committee and representatives from all TPG partners, with the aim of validating and receiving feedback from stakeholders on the project outputs and proposals provided by the TPG.

Project-level interaction: Meetings, seminars & workshops

A number of meetings and workshops will be organised during project development. As far as possible those events should be coordinated in time and location to minimize costs and increase effectiveness. In principle the project should meet at the following stages:

1. Starting of the project:

- a) A **Kick-off meeting** will be organized to launch the project, with the participation of the project lead partner, the lead stakeholder and the ESPON CU.
- b) **First Steering Committee**, meeting at the very beginning of the project, coinciding with the kick-off meeting to:
 - deepen the TPG's knowledge on the stakeholders' needs and expectations with regard to the project theme; and
 - ensure clarity about methodology and the identification of key indicators.

2. After the delivery of the Inception report:

- a) **Second Steering Committee meeting**, after the submission of the inception report, summarizing project progress and outcomes, establishing the work plan and agreeing with the TPG the most suitable follow-up actions for the targeted research.
- b) **First Stakeholder Workshop**, right after the Second Steering Committee meeting.

3. After the delivery of the Interim report:

- a) **Third Steering Committee meeting**, after the submission of the interim report, summarizing outputs of the second workshop, clarifying project management issues, revising the work plan, validating project progress and outcomes progress, and agreeing with the TPG the most suitable follow-up actions for the targeted research:
 - problems and constraints found and potential solutions;
 - agree on the follow-up actions and improvements towards the draft final report.
- b) **Second Stakeholder Workshop**, right after the Third Steering Committee meeting to exchange experience and open a discussion on the following issues:
 - quality and usefulness of the intermediate results;
 - forward any requests for additional information and data to the concerned stakeholders;

- content towards the draft final report.

4. After the delivery of the Draft final report:

- a) **Fourth Steering Committee meeting**, after the submission of the Draft final report, summarizing outputs of the second workshop, clarifying project management issues, revising the work plan, validation of project progress and outcomes, and agreeing with the TPG the most suitable follow-up actions for the targeted research.
- b) **Third Stakeholder workshop**, right after the Fourth Steering Committee meeting, to discuss the drawing of conclusions towards the final report.
- c) **Closing KITCASP conference**. The Steering Committee and the whole TPG will take part in the final event. In addition, the event shall also be made accessible to a wide range of interested parties. The event will have the following aims:
 - dissemination of project findings;
 - presentation of policy messages and recommendations at EU level.

The stakeholder partners will make arrangements for meetings and workshops; provide the research team with paper and electronic copies of relevant documents; assist them in accessing national datasets; make relevant documents and datasets available in English; facilitate any necessary meetings with Government departments, public agencies, research institutes and national experts; and provide any other necessary support. They will ensure that research results are disseminated to national stakeholders and arrange any necessary translation of findings into stakeholder languages. They will provide the staff resources necessary to support their involvement in the project.

A conference on the findings will be hosted by the lead stakeholder at the end of the project, to which other ESPON states will be invited.

The project will be supported by the responsible officials for the stakeholder organisations and staff specifically allocated as contacts. The Assistant Chief Planner at the Scottish Government's Built Environment Directorate will be responsible for co-ordinating the contributions of the project stakeholders, and ensuring that the requirements of the project are met. Stakeholders will be responsible for providing administrative and logistical support to the research team during national visits and co-ordinating contributions from national experts.

Face to face interaction with national practitioners is seen as essential in providing the research team with sufficient understanding to be able to make meaningful recommendations on matters of national practice. This should include workshops with key practitioners in each country. The TPG should therefore make provision for visits to each of the stakeholder countries in the project proposal.

(v) Envisaged results of the targeted analysis

The TPG is asked to prepare a suitable methodology to answer the questions as defined in the objective of the Targeted Analyses.

It is envisaged that the results of the research will include:

- Conclusions on good practice in the use of data to inform territorial policy development (drawing on an assessment of stakeholders' practice to date);
- Recommendations on how ESPON research and data can be better used in the preparation of national spatial strategies and territorial development policies;
- Identification of key indicators of territorial cohesion, competitiveness and sustainable development to inform the development of future national spatial strategies and territorial development policies;
- Guidelines on the use of ESPON data and indicators in the preparation and monitoring of spatial strategies and territorial development policies;
- New insights into how to measure territorial cohesion, competitiveness and sustainable development (addressing issues of data availability, compatibility and comparability, including the scope for the use of surrogate data sets);
- Recommendations to the stakeholders on how their capacity for spatial analysis can be strengthened (addressing issues of skills, training, institutional relationships, resources and management); and
- Recommendations to ESPON on national needs and taking forward work on measuring territorial cohesion, competitiveness and sustainable development.

The stakeholders see the project as offering the opportunity to build an enduring international community of expertise in the use of territorial data in spatial planning which additional stakeholders could later join. It could thus offer an additional, innovatory model for transnational co-operation on territorial development. The research team should also make recommendations on how to take this forward.

(vi) Stakeholders envisaged use of the targeted analyses

The results will be used directly by the stakeholders to build a stronger evidence base for territorial policy development focused on the key challenges of cohesion, competitiveness and sustainable development and to disseminate good practice to sub-national tiers of government. The guidelines on the use of ESPON data and indicators will be applied by the stakeholders in preparing, monitoring and revising their spatial strategies and other territorial development policies. The stakeholders will seek to use the key indicators of territorial cohesion, competitiveness and sustainable development to inform policy choices and identify priorities for action. They will use their roles as national authorities and agencies to disseminate the research findings to sub-national authorities and ensure that they inform domestic planning practice.

As many of the challenges the stakeholders face are shared by other European territories, the research findings are likely to have wide relevance and applicability. Results will be disseminated by posting on stakeholder websites, national and international professional networks (including the European Regions Research and Innovation Network (ERRIN)), inter-Governmental networks such as the British - Irish Council Workstream on Collaborative Spatial Planning, and the Brussels offices of stakeholder countries.

A conference on the research findings will be held in Scotland at the end of the project. Articles on key findings will be placed in relevant technical publications and professional journals in stakeholder countries. Stakeholders will seek additional opportunities to disseminate the research findings through their engagement with departments and agencies responsible for territorial development in other European countries. Where necessary, key findings will be translated into stakeholder languages. Consideration will be given to external options for translating findings into other major European languages.

The ESPON 2013 Programme foresees capitalisation of project results including at events, in printed reports, website facility, etc. The Programme includes, in other words, substantial dissemination activities at Programme level which all projects should make use of and support. This means that dissemination activities of the TPG should ensure consistency and avoid overlaps with and repetition of respective activities organised at Programme level.

The project team should refer to the objectives of Priority 4 of the ESPON 2013 Programme *Capitalisation, ownership and participation: Capacity building, dialogue and networking* when considering dissemination activities and coordinate these with the lead stakeholder and ESPON CU. Furthermore, the TPG is expected to give presentations on the state of their research or/and the results in the framework of internal and external ESPON seminars, and at the Steering Committee meetings. Therefore, when setting up the project proposal, the TPG should also allow for travel expenses for the attendance at these events.

(vii) Outputs and timetable

The project is expected to start in February 2012 and shall deliver the following four reports throughout the lifetime of the project:

- **Inception Report:** May 2012

This report focuses on the elaboration of the analytical framework and the research approach of the project. It will reflect a review of the main documents and data sources provided by stakeholders and a first analysis of existing ESPON results that are relevant for this project. The report will particularly provide a proposal on the methodology to be applied to identify the key indicators. Furthermore the report will describe the regions with its characteristics and particularities. It will reflect a review of the main documents and data sources provided by stakeholders and a first analysis of existing ESPON results that are relevant for this project.

- **Interim Report:** October 2012

This report focuses on the presentation of intermediate project results for each region. The results will be based on the analysis the key indicators on territorial cohesion, competitiveness and sustainable development. The report will include a first identification of findings and will also provide an insight on how the project is expected to formulate policy recommendations.

- **Draft Final Report:** April 2013

This report presents the final results of the project and focuses on relevant conclusions and options for policy development at the level of the participating regions on how their capacity for spatial analysis can be strengthened. Furthermore, the guidelines on the use of ESPON data and indicators in the preparation and monitoring of spatial strategies and territorial development policies should be outlined.

- **Final Report:** July 2013

This report is in principle a revision of the Draft Final Report taking into consideration final comments and suggestions from the stakeholders and end users, the ESPON Monitoring Committee, the European Commission and the ESPON Coordination Unit. Simultaneously, the datasets, maps and figures used and produced within the framework of the project should be delivered.

- **Project Conference:** Summer 2013

A closing conference will be held in Scotland at the end of the project to discuss the findings of the research and consider next steps.

(viii) Budget for the targeted analysis

The maximum available budget for the targeted analysis is 360.000 € Proposals exceeding this amount will not be considered.

The amount will include all costs for the TPG for completing the project, including all travel expenses and attendance at ESPON Seminars (taking place twice a year in June and December – June 2013 included) and Steering Group meetings as well as foreseen travel costs for visits by the TPG to the stakeholder territories.

Travel costs in relation to dissemination events, such as the closing conference, organised by the stakeholders and for which participation of a representative of the TPG is requested by the stakeholders, will be covered by the latter.

(ix) Existing access points

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

ESPON project reports:

ESPON 2013 Programme:

- FOCI
- DEMIFER
- EDORA
- RERISK
- Climate Change
- Territorial Performance Monitoring (TPM)

- INTERCO project
- ESPON 2013 database
- RISE
- INTERCO
- INTERSTRAT
- EU-LUPA

ESPON 2006 Programme:

- Regional Classification of Europe (3.1)
- Preparatory work on territorial indicators (4.1.3).

All are available at www.espon.eu

Documents provided by stakeholders:

Scotland

National Planning Framework for Scotland (2004)

National Planning Framework Monitoring Report (2006)

National Planning Framework for Scotland (2009)

National Planning Framework Monitoring Report (2011)

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

Relevant documents related to the measurement of carbon impact in Scotland.

Purves, G. (2006), *Quality and Connectivity: The Continuing Tradition of Strategic Spatial Planning in Scotland*, in Adams N., Alden J. & Harris N. (Eds.) (2006) *Regional Development and Spatial Planning in an Enlarged European Union*, Ashgate, Aldershot.

National Planning Framework documents available on the [Scottish Government](http://www.scottish.gov.uk) web site.

Ireland

National Spatial Strategy 2002 – 2020

NSS 2010 Update and Outlook Report

Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022 (links through dept website below)

National Development Plan 2007-2013

Matthews F. & Alden J. (2006), *Balanced Regional Development and the National Spatial Strategy: Addressing the Challenges of Economic Growth and Spatial Change in Ireland* in Adams N., Alden J. & Harris N. (Eds.) (2006) *Regional Development and Spatial Planning in an Enlarged European Union*, Ashgate, Aldershot.

Gateway Development Index – BMW and SE Regional Assemblies

All-island Research Observatory (AIRO) documents – www.airo.ie

Documents available to access and download from Dept's website – www.environ.ie

Latvia

National Development Plan

National Strategic Development Plan

Sustainable Development Strategy

Development of Regions in Latvia, State Regional Development Agency (2007)

Paalzow, A. (2006), *Barriers to Regional Development in the New Member States: The Latvian Experience* in Adams N., Alden J. and Harris N. (Eds.) (2006) *Regional Development and Spatial Planning in an Enlarged European Union*, Ashgate, Aldershot.

Iceland

The first draft of Iceland's National Spatial Strategy will be published in May 2012. It will consist of 4 papers:

1. Overview of the sectoral planning (traffic, energy, nature etc.)
2. Overview of municipal planning in all local authorities
3. National strategy and co-ordination of 1 and 2.
4. Strategy for the Mid Highlands

Basque Country

Spatial Planning Guidelines

Sustainable development Strategy EcoEuskadi 2020

Territorial Partial Plans

Territorial Sector Plans

Environmental Framework programme 2011-2014

Geo Euskadi Spatial Data Website