



Co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund

Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

Conclusions and Main messages of the day

Synergies between our work is needed for more competitiveness and for the sake of our citizens

4 principles for the future of integrated territorial development:

- **Territorial integration** (strategies and governance models shall be developed with territorial interdependencies in mind)
- **Cross-sectoral integration:** ESPON advises to design a single development strategy, rather than multiple strategies on specific subjects. This would help to reconcile various interests and ensure a holistic view
- **Partnerships:** creating a favourable arena for dialogue between administration, elected officials, NGOs, community groups and associations as well as the private sector, characterised by trust and mutual recognition of the legitimate role of the actors involved;
- **Financial integration**

V4+2 challenges:

- Discontinuation of development poles and axes
- Discontinuation of transport networks - Connectivity
- Shared socio-economic, environmental, technological and planning challenges
- Population decline
- Cohesion policy
- Planning – culture and skills

V4+2 testimonials:

- Need for a new planning culture for better coordination (BG)
- Reducing sectorism, strategy pluralism (PL, RO, BG)
- ITI works: 800 years of rivalry overcome with integrated territorial investments (CZ)
- Share ESPON views that all efforts including governance, strategies and tools shall be pooled together to serve functional areas (HU)
- Planning culture must change as investments shall happen sometimes quicker than planning (PL)
- Promoting metropolitan ITI for the next programming period (BG)

Need to address

- Governance
 - We understand the problems but varying competences between countries
- Implementation
 - Monitoring
 - Impact
 - Speed
- Collaboration

Further messages from ESPON research:

- Break prevailing downturn spiral leading to **inner peripheries**: target development drivers and socio-economic links between local actors. Engage in territorial cooperation for the joint provision of services of general interest.
- **Soft cooperation across territorial boundaries, sectors and stakeholder groups**: communities of Intent provide the flexibility to tackle issues at the right territorial scale.
- **Cooperation across territorial boundaries** can unlock spill-over effects from Foreign Direct Investment and offer new solutions for a resource-efficient joint provision of services of general interest.
- We need to **mainstream territorial cooperation**. It is not a luxury, it's a must.

Final Panel

- Interreg programmes
- Macro-regional strategies
- Synergies with EU Research and Innovation (Horizon 2020)
- Note increased budget post -2020 vs possible decreased budget for Cohesion Policy

ITI

- ITI one tool and CLLD another tool for Integrated Territorial Development
- Thematic integration is happening on the ground
- 1/3 is based on functional areas
- Danube Delta Region – multi-funding approach €1.1bn
 - Accessibility/mobility plan – developing a set of linked projects through a variety of funds (complexity of strategies and funding – synergies)
 - Tourism – management organisation
 - Need more targeted application systems suitable for geographical context

EIB

- EIB commitment to Cohesion Policy
- EIB lending €4.8bn in Danube Region countries 2014-2017
- Lending – loans (framework, intermediated,
- Blending - combining EIB and EU budget
- Advising – technical assistance (Investment Advisory Hub, JASPERS, ELENA, FI-Compass, PASU, input to post-2020 Cohesion, macro-regional strategies)

Panel discussion

- Avoid overlapping projects – avoid double funding - more coordination between funding bodies and funds (but some overlapping not all bad)
- Need to integrate objectives between funding bodies – but often forced into thematic objectives that do not fit V4+2 – no one size fits all! More flexibility needed.
- Synergies – H2020 based on excellence – only 5% of funds go to EU13 – how do we improve – widening package (Teaming and Twinning, ERA Chairs) – use Interreg programme to build capacity (management and networking)
- ITI – strategic objectives take time, project selection rates & absorption may be lower but impact higher- should we look for more individual approaches.../co-creation...
- EIB policy taker not maker...less Cohesion means more attention to financial instruments...but attention need more targeted approach.
- What increased role for the Danube Macroregional Strategy in the next funding period?

Next funding period...strengthening the territorial approach

- Territorial cooperation needs more attention – cooperation for a purpose and more thematic flexibility
- Show outputs and achievements...
- Need to focus on local problems and a new niche
- Continue move from community to mainstream
- Link thematic objectives to Danube macro-regional objectives
- More flexibility to combine funding and more links of FP9 to macro-regional strategies
- Do more with less – need more capacity building and technical assistance



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Thank you for your attention!