

Inspire policy making by territorial evidence



ESPON Seminar

Where are European cities heading? Evidence for better policy-making

**7 – 8 December 2016
Bratislava, Slovak Republic**

Venue

Hotel Bôrik
Bôrik 1628/15
811 02 Bratislava – Staré Mesto,
Slovak Republic

Guidance for participants

Wednesday, 7 December 2016

Day 1

Plenary session: Where are European cities heading?



This session will offer inspirational keynote speeches providing insights on the transformation of cities based on existing and new evidence on the development trends and a policy framework for implementing new solutions to deal with urban challenges.

We will use an audience interaction tool to crowd-source the best questions from the audience and to generate real-time insights on key issues through live polling. You will be able to ask questions and decide which questions you would like to discuss most.

Three easy steps to join the interactive debate



Open the browser on your smart phone, tablet or laptop



Go to <http://sli.do/> or scan the QR code above



Join the debate by entering the event code #espon

Ask questions

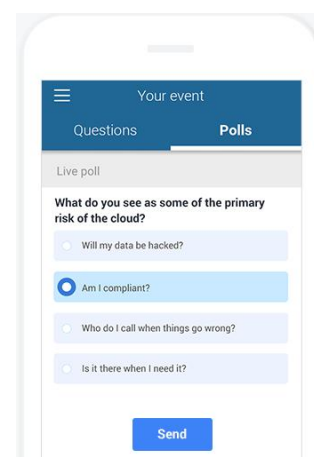
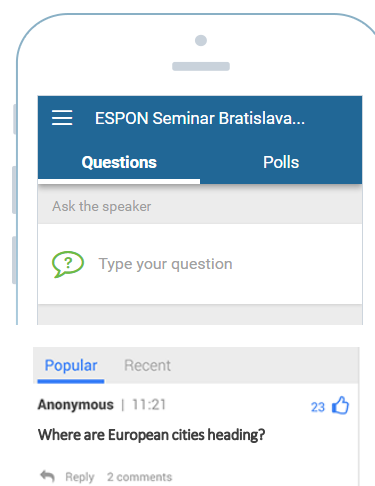
You can ask a question under the “Questions” tab. You can post anonymously or indicate your name.

Vote on the questions you would like to discuss

You will see questions asked by other members of the audience and you can vote on which question(s) you would most like to see discussed by giving them a thumbs up.

Live polling

We will launch a series of polls and you will be able to vote instantly from your device under the “Polls” tab. When the poll is live, simply select your response and press the send button.



Policy labs: Responsible cities

My policy
challenge:
evidence
wanted

These sessions will provide an opportunity for a more in-depth debate on some of the key urban challenges that have created a certain set of responsibilities for cities towards current and new generations, residents and newcomers and areas functionally linked with cities.

How to engage

The policy labs will be opened by policy-makers expressing specific knowledge needs/policy questions to which experts from ESPON activities will provide possible answers or examples on how the available ESPON knowledge can be used for better informed policy decisions. Participants in the policy labs will also be invited to raise additional policy questions and present possible answers using the outcomes of their research activities. The following questions will be addressed:

1 Sustainable cities

Are there any specific vulnerabilities and adaption strategies related to climate change for cities in specific types of territories?

Policy-making is lagging behind and does not reflect the acceleration of climate change. What kind of responsibilities does this put on the shoulders of policy-makers?

How to reach a better linkage among the mitigation and adaptation issues and other strategies/policies at city level?

2 Inclusive cities

What could cities and the EU do to foster integration from day 1?

How can EU policy and soft law mechanisms better support cities' efforts to integrate refugees and asylum seekers into the labour market?

How can access to (European) funding for cities be simplified to meet the dynamics of the refugee crisis?

3 Urban-rural partnerships

What possible governance tools could strengthen the urban-rural linkages in order to overcome administrative fragmentation and rigidity?

How can the ITI instrument be used to promote and formalise urban-rural relationships at the metropolitan level?

How can Central Eastern European cities and regions learn from existing urban-rural linkages?

Training sessions: ESPON ready to use

Tools in
action:
demo &
feedback

These sessions will offer an in-depth look into different ESPON tools offering practical training sessions on how ESPON tools can be used by policy-makers and practitioners and provide feedback on further improvements of the tools.

How to engage

The training sessions will involve policy-makers, researchers and other users of ESPON tools, e.g. EC, national, regional and local authorities. The following questions will be addressed:

1 Data and mapping tools

What is most useful and relevant in the current ESPON Database, and what could be improved?

What are the linkages and complementarities with, and the added value compared to other databases (e.g. from Eurostat)?

What linkages, complementarities and synergies could be established with other existing or possible ESPON tools?

2 Monitoring tools

What do we want to demonstrate and achieve with territorial monitoring tools?

How can territorial diversity and benchmarking be measured and integrated?

What type of outputs are expected?

How we can capitalise on the experience achieved with the monitoring tools developed within the ESPON Programme?

3 Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) quick check

Do you see any opportunities to apply the TIA tool yourself? If so, in what situation? If not, what adjustments could improve the tool in order to promote its usage?

What do you expect from a TIA tool supporting an Urban Impact Assessment?

What do you expect from a TIA tool supporting a Cross-Border TIA?

Thursday, 8 December 2016

Day 2

ESPON on demand: targeted analyses approach

Share, learn & apply

ESPON targeted analyses are considered to be an important analytical support in using ESPON results to reveal territorial development potentials and challenges from a European perspective. This session will be broken down into two slots: (a) an introductory part with presentations by the EGTC and stakeholders involved in ESPON targeted analyses; and (b) a stakeholder café part that will allow for exchange of ideas and networking possibilities among stakeholders.

Exchange, debate & network

Stakeholder Café

The purpose of this part of the session is to facilitate the networking and exchange of stakeholders who:

- Might have common interests and research needs that they'd like to have analysed;
- Want to exchange with others on potential research ideas they might have but that they aren't sure about;
- Want to familiarize themselves with the process of developing an ESPON targeted analysis.

Participants will select a theme from the list below and split into small groups (approx. 8-10 people) to discuss in an open and relaxed setting a joint approach to designing, conducting and applying the results of an ESPON targeted analysis within the context of a predefined broad theme. Each thematic group will have a facilitator.

Thematic groups	1. Accessibility / Transport	2. Climate change / Natural hazards	3. Globalisation	4. Land-use
	5. Scenarios / Visions	6. Attractiveness / Tourism	7. Territorial cooperation / Cross-border development	8. Governance
	9. EU neighbour countries	10. Seas / Blue growth	11. Circular economy / Low-carbon economy / Green economy / Energy	12. Demographic development / Migration
	13. Infrastructures / Services of general interest	14. Poverty & social exclusion	15. Specific types of territories	16. Metropolitan regions / Cities / Towns
	17. Employment and SMEs	18. Innovation / R&D	19. Rural regions	20. TIA / Indicators

Workshop sessions: ESPON in practice

Design & develop new solutions

These sessions will offer an opportunity for interactive debates among stakeholders and invite their contribution to shaping the content of upcoming ESPON activities.

How to engage

The workshops will involve policy-makers, researchers, the EC as well as European Funded Programmes. The following topics and questions will be addressed:

1 Macro-regional monitoring systems

What monitoring is needed to support EU macro-regional strategies?

What input (data, tools) could be provided by ESPON?

What process support could be provided by ESPON?

Could ESPON also help to evaluate and not only monitor EU macro-regional strategies?

2 Targeted evidence support

What territorial evidence is useful by EU funded programmes to assist strategic programming and implementation?

Would a common dataset of territorial indicators covering all programmes be useful to monitor the impact of programme objectives and for framing the needs assessment for next round of funding post-2020?

3 Cross-border challenges and possible solutions

What type of challenges and obstacles can be found in cross-border areas: administrative and legal, technical, economic, political, and cultural?

At what level do they have to be solved: local (administrative), national (domestic legislation) and/or European level (impact assessments, data, the role of DG REGIO, CoR, and ESPON)?