



ESPON 2013 Programme

Workshop

Territorial Impact Assessment

Wednesday 6th June 2012
9h00 – 17h00

Venue

European Commission, DG Regional Policy
VIP Room (CSM 1 Building, Ground floor)
23, Rue Père de Deken
B- 1040 Brussels

Programme

ESPON Workshop “Territorial Impact Assessment”

Background and objectives

Since the 1990s, there has been a demand from both policymakers and Member States to better understand the likely territorial impacts of proposed EU sector legislation and policy. Such legislation and policy can often have, both directly and indirectly, unintended impacts on territorial organisation and development at European, (trans)national and regional level.

With the territorial cohesion objective enshrined in the Lisbon Treaty, this demand to consider the ex ante territorial effects of new EU sector legislation and policy has increased. Aside from ex ante effects of proposed directives, an effective exploitation of Europe's territorial capital requires deeper insights into the various territorial effects of EU sector legislation and policy as well as on how they structurally reinforce each other.

Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) has been seen as a method of meeting these needs for predicting territorial effects and providing useful insight. Until recently the knowledge base around TIA has not been practical enough to meet these needs. DG REGIO is now preparing new practical guidance for TIA use at EU level based on recent ESPON projects, as well as typology and modelling work by REGIO, Eurostat, AGRI and JRC. It will be useful for the development of policy and directives within the Commission Impact Assessment System. The TIA work of DG REGIO, ESPON, Eurostat, AGRI and JRC will also fit with calls for a TIA handbook during the Polish EU Presidency.

ESPON has long been engaged in laying the foundation for simple and feasible insight and tools on TIA. Beginning with the ESPON 2006 programme, it carried out TIA studies of various EU sector policies leading to the ESPON Spatial Scenarios project which aimed to standardise the approach. In the ESPON 2013 programme, it built on this learning with the ESPON Territorial Impact Package for Transport and Agricultural Policies project.

This ESPON approach of bringing the scientific and policymaking community together in the research and development process for TIA is reaping benefits. The ESPON Assessment of Regional and Territorial Sensitivity (ARTS) project has produced a quick and effective tool to deliver Territorial Impact Assessment. The 'TIA Quickscan' is now ready to deliver practical and useful input to policymakers. The ESPON programme also has an ongoing project (ESPON and TIA – EATIA) together with 3 national administrations which aims to help mainstream TIA processes at both Member State and regional levels.

This ESPON workshop will begin with participants actively taking part in the TIA Quickscan process. They will see result of their work including European maps on the regional distribution of impacts when ex ante territorial impact effects of an example directive are produced at the end of the exercise. In addition, a 'bottom up' TIA process will be showcased. The ESPON-funded EATIA (ESPON and Territorial Impact Assessment) project will showcase its progress in defining workable processes for carrying out ex-ante assessments of EU policy proposals at the EU member state and regional level.

In the afternoon, DG REGIO will outline their work on developing practical TIA guidance for use at the EU level and will invite reactions from other stakeholders present. The workshop will close with a plenary debate on how the usability of TIA can be further improved which will involve representatives of the Secretariat-General, DG Regio from the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Committee of the Regions and stakeholders from Member States.

By the end of the workshop, participants should have gained further insight on the usefulness of TIA in their day-to-day work and networks. They should also understand how ex-ante considerations on impacts can be operationalised in policy making by using available TIA guidance and tools. Finally, participants will contribute to strategic direction and demands related to further development and improvement of a policymaking tool for TIA.

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09.00-09.30 *Registration and Welcome Coffee / Tea*

Introduction

09.30-09.45 *Welcome and Setting the Scene*

- Peter Mehlbye, ESPON Coordination Unit

Hands-on exercise: Producing and using a real EU-level Territorial Impact Assessment

9.45-11.00 *Testing the ARTS quick-scan methodology in a ‘live’ exercise:*

Developing the conceptual model, branching, exposure and sensitivity

- Erich Dallhammer and Bernd Schuh, Austrian Institute for Regional Studies and Spatial Planning

11.00-11.15 *Coffee Break*

11.15-12.45 *Impacts, results validation, mapping, policy implications and communication*

The bottom-up approach: A participatory approach to Territorial Impact Assessment

12.45-13.15 *ESPON Project EATIA – A Framework for implementing TIA at national and sub-national level in EU Member State*

- Thomas Fischer, University of Liverpool and Chris Poulton, Department for Communities and Local Government UK

13.15-14.15 *Buffet Lunch*

EC assessment: An enhanced territorial dimension

14.15-14.45 *Developments and prospects around TIA use at the European level.*

- Lewis Dijkstra, EC DG Regio

The future of TIA: Improving the usability of Territorial Impact Assessment tools for policymaking

14.45-15.30 *Reflection statements on uses and potential*

- Robertus Scharrenborg, EC General Secretariat
- Thomas Wobben, Committee of the Regions
- Elke Ballon, European Parliament
- Lewis Dijkstra, EC DG Regio
- Renske van Tol, Ministry of Environment and Infrastructure, the Netherlands
- Chris Poulton, Department of Communities and Local Government, UK

15.30-15.45 *Coffee Break*

15.45-16.45 *Reflection statements and open discussion*

16.45-17.00 *Follow-up and Conclusions*

- Peter Mehlbye, ESPON Coordination Unit

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More information

The ESPON 2013 Programme is part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund, the EU Member States and the Partner States Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

It shall support policy development in relation to the aim of territorial cohesion and a harmonious development of the European territory. ESPON shall support Cohesion Policy development with European wide, comparable information, evidence, analyses and scenarios on framework conditions for the development of regions, cities and larger territories. In doing so, it shall facilitate the mobilisation of territorial capital and development opportunities, contributing to improving European competitiveness, to the widening and deepening of European territorial cooperation and to a sustainable and balanced development.

The Managing Authority responsible for the ESPON 2013 Programme is the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructures, Department for Spatial Planning and Development of Luxembourg.

More information: www.espon.eu

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