

## **SPECIFICATION**

### **ESPON Applied Research Project 2013/1/17**

#### **Territorial and Regional Sensitivity to EU Directives (2010 - 2011)**

##### ***(o) Territorial challenges relevant for ESPON 2013 projects***

The development of the European territory is facing several ongoing mega trends and impacts of policies:

- The integration of the EU in global economic competition is accelerating, offering more options for regions and larger territories in deciding on their development path as development is no longer a zero sum game for Europe.
- Interaction is growing between the EU territory and the surrounding neighbour countries as well as the other parts of the world, becoming apparent by e.g. migration pressure on more developed countries, which are themselves confronted with population decline and by access to and investment in new markets.
- Market forces and the evolution of society in general are supporting a geographical concentration of activities.
- The ongoing demographic change with an ageing European population and migration is affecting the regions differently and boosts the competition for skilled labour.
- The occurrence of hazards is increasing due to climate change while different parts of Europe experience different types of hazards.
- Increasing energy prices and the emergence of a new energy paradigm have significant territorial impacts, some regions being more affected than others, some of which have particular potential for production of renewable energy sources.
- The enlargement of the EU to 27 Member States, and at a later stage maybe to more, presents an unprecedented challenge for the competitiveness and internal cohesion of the Union.

ESPON results have revealed that territorial capital and opportunities for development are inherent in the regional diversity that is a characteristic of Europe. Consequently, different types of territories are endowed with diverse combinations of resources, putting them into different positions for contributing to the achievement of the Lisbon and Gothenburg Agendas as well as to Cohesion Policy. Territorial diversity, particularly in the economic base, implies that strategies other than opting for a knowledge-based economy might be more appropriate and viable for some regions.

The ESPON 2006 Programme provided integrated analysis and long term spatial scenarios which enriched the European policy debate and knowledge base. The results and observations produced by ESPON on territorial structures, trends, perspectives and assessment of EU policy impacts had not been fully evident before and supported a better understanding of the European dimension of territorial dynamics. Therefore, interest is growing among policy makers and practitioners for the information, knowledge and understanding ESPON can offer.

The ESPON 2013 Programme shall bring this knowledge base one step further by carrying out applied research and targeted analysis, indicator development and data collection, capitalisation events presenting results, etc. All these actions will be related to an improved understanding of territorial structures, development trends, perspectives and policy impacts.

The European-wide evidence provided by the ESPON 2007-2013 Programme will potentially benefit stakeholders all over Europe at all levels. Policy makers dealing with territorial development require sound evidence and comparable regionalised information as well as medium and long-term development perspectives in order to draw up sustainable and efficient integrated policy responses for their territories.

All in all, the European process moves towards a more integrated approach to policy making which makes the territorial dimension important for policy makers. The aim of territorial cohesion proposed by the Commission supports this approach by taking the territory as an element in the framework for policy making. Due to its provision of evidence based on analyses of territorial units the ESPON 2013 Programme is of strategic importance for the European policy development and cooperation.

By further extending and deepening the existing knowledge and indicators, the ESPON 2013 Programme will play a strategic role in supporting the policy process of the current period 2007-2013, namely by contributing to the development of Cohesion Policy.

### ***(i) General objectives of applied research projects under Priority 1***

The general objectives of applied research projects within the ESPON 2013 Programme are the following:

- Building new evidence based on comparable information about European regions and cities, including information on dynamics and flows, and covering the entire territory of EU 27, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.
- Addressing major territorial challenges and political priorities providing comparable information covering the entire European territory, its regions and cities.
- Providing comparable regionalised information and possible policy options for making use of opportunities inherent in territorial structures; anticipating and counter balancing negative trends and structures, taking into account the diversity of the ESPON territory and considering institutional, instrumental and procedural aspects.

- Identifying types of territories, regions and cities that share common development challenges and are affected most (positively or negatively) by the identified structures, trends, perspectives and/or policy impacts.
- Contributing to the further identification of structures within the EU territory that represent options for exploring comparative advantages and provide synergy through territorial cooperation arrangements, involving regions and/or cities.
- Contributing to the improvement of the scientific platform for European applied territorial research by refining existing concepts, methodologies, indicators, typologies, European maps and models and by defining new ones.
- Providing the knowledge and competence capabilities needed to ensure scientifically validated results of the applied territorial research with the support of Sounding Boards<sup>1</sup>.
- Supporting the use of and dissemination of results to an audience of policy makers, practitioners, scientist and experts.

This project shall contribute to these general objectives during its implementation, and in doing so make best use of existing ESPON results, new results in other ESPON projects as well as other research results and relevant studies.

## ***(ii) Relation of this project to the ESPON 2013 Programme***

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 for 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 to 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

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<sup>1</sup> For each applied research project a Sounding Board will be set up, accompanying the project throughout its life cycle and giving advice to the TPG on both, scientific issues as well as relevance for policy makers. Sounding Boards will normally be made up of one scientist and one practitioner. Their task will consist of assessing project proposals, giving continuous feedback to TPGs and commenting on their reports.

undertaken to develop current achievements and make use of the indicators, data and tools.

#### **4. Capitalisation, ownership and participation: Capacity building, dialogue and networking**

Under this priority, actions are foreseen that will be aiming at making the evidence and knowledge developed operational through measures raising awareness and involving stakeholders in the results and their practical use.

This project belongs to the first priority and holds a key position in developing a common understanding of assessing European legislation and policy from a territorial cohesion and development point of view, in particular by deepening the understanding of variations in sensitivity of the different types of territories and regions to (different types of) EU legislation and policy.

The project deepens and elaborates knowledge delivered by former and ongoing ESPON projects. Profound knowledge on the sensitivity of territories and regions to EU legislation and policy is vital for targeted policy development in the light of Cohesion Policy aiming at improved regional competitiveness and sustainable and balanced growth of the European territory.

Therefore a strong coordination and interlinkage with other ongoing ESPON projects is crucial for achieving comprehensive results. A close cooperation with the Sounding Board set up for following and advising the project and the Coordination Unit shall as well be established as part of the project implementation.

#### ***(iii) Thematic scope and policy context***

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. Policymakers increasingly acknowledge the need to consider ex ante possible territorial effects of new EU sector legislation and policy as they might have both directly and indirectly often unintended impacts on territorial organisation and development at European, (trans)national and regional level.

Policy practice shows that these impacts are sometimes felt at regional/local level instead of having a global impact for the entire European territory. The impact often varies throughout the different types of territories and regions in Europe as the sensitivity to different types of EU legislation and policy varies in the different types of territories and regions. In accordance with the IPCC definition<sup>2</sup> territorial (regional) sensitivity to EU legislation can be described as the degree to which a territory (region) is directly and indirectly affected, either adversely or beneficially by change in European legislation or policy. Territorial sensitivity hence is an important variable in Territorial Impact Analysis. In contrast to vulnerability (see also IPCC) territorial sensitivity also takes into account possible benefits but does not consider the (possible) adaptive capacity of a territory.

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<sup>2</sup> Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (<http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/glossary/ar4-wg2.pdf>)

Territorial Impact Assessment can be understood as an element of a policymaking process allowing officials dealing with territorial cohesion and development to look at for instance the following possible effects:

- impacts on regional economies and social and environmental systems;
- development opportunities and costs and benefits for the society in different regions and territories;
- effects on the concrete physical development projects;
- changes in land use and the morphology of the landscape;
- cross-sector relations of policies at different territorial and administrative levels;
- legal effects and effects on the institutional framework.

Policymakers in the field of territorial cohesion and development need evidence-based information that supports them in creating awareness on possible territorial impacts during the policymaking processes of sectoral EU policy and legislation. A particular consideration in this respect is the fact that regions and different types of territories are not equally affected by new EU policy and legislation. The regional sensitivity differs due to geographical, socio-economic, environmental and cultural characteristics. A good insight in the difference in regional sensitivity is considered as an important element to carry out a meaningful analysis of territorial impacts.

The project is expected to show congruity with and bring added value to the following recent policy developments that are relevant for territorial impact assessment.

#### 1) EU Impact Assessment

The European Commission developed a framework for EU Impact Assessment. The Commission's impact assessment follows an integrated approach which was introduced in 2002 (COM(2002)276). It replaces the previous single-sector type assessments and assesses the potential impacts of new legislation or policy proposals in economic (including competitiveness), social, and environmental fields. It consists of a balanced appraisal of all impacts, and is underpinned by the principle of proportionate analysis, whereby the depth and scope of an impact assessment, and hence the resources allocated to it, are proportionate to the expected nature of the proposal and its likely impacts. Wide-ranging consultation with stakeholders is an integral part of the impact assessment approach.

EU Impact Assessment is a tool to promote coherence across policy domains and to examine reasons for action at EU level. It is perceived as a set of logical steps to help the Commission services to structure the preparation of a legislative or policy proposal. It prepares evidence of potential impacts of a proposal for political decision-makers and identifies possible trade-offs and synergies. EU Impact Assessment should in any case not turn into a bureaucratic exercise or substitute political judgement.

Not all impact assessments look the same. The length of time and the depth of analysis required depend on the significance of the expected likely impacts, and some elements of the analysis need to be developed more than others. The guidelines (SEC(2009)92) published in January 2009 give general guidance to the Commission services and set out the procedures and steps for assessment of potential impacts of different policy options.

This applied research project is strongly encouraged to work within the logic of this framework and the guidelines of EU Impact Assessment and is expected to bring added value by providing practical examples.

## 2) Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion

The European Commission considers in its Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion (COM(2008)616final) that it is not always clear how Community Policies affect territorial cohesion and stresses the importance of coordination between sectoral and territorial policies. This coordination is important to maximise synergies and to avoid possible conflicts. The debate on territorial cohesion is important to encourage more analysis in this respect.

The 390 contributions that the European Commission has received by the fifth month of the official consultation following the publication of the Green Paper clearly showed agreement on this: a better understanding of the territorial relevance and impacts of public policies is needed to provide coherence between policies and activities at different levels. The EU is expected to play a key role here, for example, by fine-tuning existing impact assessment instruments.

This applied research project is expected to support the analysis demanded in the Green Paper and will, where considered relevant, anticipate possible further policy elaboration in an eventual White Paper on Territorial Cohesion.

## 3) Territorial Agenda

The Territorial Agenda for the European Union that was agreed upon in May 2007 by the ministers responsible for Territorial Cohesion and the accompanying Action Programme agreed upon in November 2007 clearly stress the importance of giving a territorial dimension to sectoral policies. In particular action 2.2 is to scope the territorial impacts of selected sectoral policies together with sectoral policymakers and to jointly analyse the introduction of territorial impact assessment in the policy process.

This action that is currently being implemented set itself the following objectives:

- To gain more insight in different elements of territorial impacts of EU sectoral policies and legislation on the national, regional and local level;
- To gather and share existing knowledge and experiences of how various Member States (including regions and local communities) assess the territorial impact of EU legislation or national policy proposals and how they develop the regional and national points of view concerning the proposals from a higher legislative level;
- To gain more insight in useful principles and methods on assessments of territorial impact;
- To advice on the integration of territorial notions into European policy development and into the European impact assessment system.

The action revealed some preliminary findings that might be of interest for this applied research project:

- Territorial impacts can occur intentionally and unintentionally and can result in both positive as well as negative effects for territories. It is therefore important to be fully aware of possible territorial impacts.
- TIA is to meet some territorially relevant quality requirements:
  - It applies cross-sector analyses.
  - It makes use of cross-sector territorial indicators.
  - It clarifies the impacts for different types of territories.
- TIA needs to raise awareness, requires flexibility and may not create extra (bureaucratic) instruments.

#### 4) Member State initiatives and experiments in TIA

Different European Member States have developed and applied instruments and tools to assess new (European) policies from a territorial cohesion and development point of view. Some examples that contain possible relevant building blocks for this applied research project are:

- France uses a computer application called “PRESAGE” for the monitoring, management and the control of operational programmes and contracts between the state and the regions. The application allows for appreciating the territorial impact of regional projects according to the European nomenclature relating to the territorial dimension.
- Slovenia developed a pilot instrument in the framework of a research project. The instrument is an on-line tool enabling a group of evaluators to assess individual policy measures against the objectives of territorial cohesion. Impacts are determined at NUTS3 level.
- The Netherlands carried out a territorial impact assessment of territorial cohesion policy. The study identifies five potential interpretations of territorial cohesion that are selected on the basis of an analysis of EU level policy documents and discussions. In each interpretation, territorial cohesion is viewed as the solution to a particular problem. For each problem, several hypothetical policy options are formulated and their consequences for the Netherlands assessed.

The European Commission prepares on a regular basis new legislation. The policy debates show various future policy options but their territorial consequences are not always well known. Policymakers in the field of territorial cohesion and development therefore need, in due time, evidence based policy support that enables them to facilitate a debate on these directives from a territorial point of view. The project should therefore within the territorial cohesion logic strive for a better understanding of the following key policy questions for which it should provide supporting knowledge and evidence:

- What is the territorial impact of (a selected number of) European directives at the different relevant geographical scales?
- Which (types of) directives have a higher territorial impact and why?
- Which European regions and types of territories are in particular affected (by the selected legislations) and how?
- What additional territorial information is needed to enable policymakers in the field of territorial cohesion and development to create awareness on territorial impact in EU policymaking processes?

- What other policies might show impacts on regions and different types of territories and what are these (aggregated) impacts?
- Do different territorial impacts of European directives and policies reinforce each other or are they in conflict?

Ongoing projects under the ESPON 2013 Programme might produce highly relevant knowledge for this project. The project is expected to create interrelations with ongoing ESPON 2013 applied research projects that may reveal evidence in relation to one of the selected European directives and with the project “Territorial Impact Assessment of Policies (2008-2009)”.

The project “Typology Compilation” that is being implemented under Priority 3 of the ESPON 2013 Programme compiles the typologies being used in the ESPON Programme. The project is expected, when looking at types of territories, to make use of this compilation as much as possible.

#### ***(iv) Analytical framework and deliveries expected***

The project takes the policy context as described above as a starting point. TIA describes the link between the territorial dimension of the policy concerned (sender) and the area that it affects (receiver) due to its geographical, socio-economic, environmental and cultural characteristics. This project shall bring the development of a tool for (ex ante) TIA one step further by the provision of, in particular, a deeper insight in the receiver side.

The main objective of this project is to analyse the regional/territorial sensitivity of a selected number (10-15) of European directives in order to provide policymakers in the field of territorial cohesion and development with territorial information that enables them to create awareness on the territorial dimension of EU sector legislation in the respective policymaking processes.

The project is expected to identify which types of legislation will have high or low territorial impacts. The project shall, on the basis of theoretical findings and a quick screening of a long list, select 10 to 15 European directives. The selection is to provide a good sample of EU legislation deriving from as many different territorially relevant policy domains as possible. This list might for example include the EU directives on health and safety, air quality, ozone, soil, birds, habitats or guidelines on TEN-T networks. The project is expected to carry out the analysis in function of ex ante TIA on European directives even though the directives already exist. The project will propose a selection of European directives to be looked into in the Inception Report. This proposal will be approved by the ESPON Monitoring Committee.

The project is to bring the ESPON Programme a step further in its supportive role to policymakers in Territorial Impact Assessment. The ESPON database offers an evolving set of reliable, transparent and comparable qualitative and quantitative indicators allowing for cross-sector analysis and monitoring that address the entire European territory. The compilation of territorial typologies that is currently being developed (see project mentioned above) can also support comparative analysis. The ESPON 2006 Programme has developed first experiences in assessing territorial



impacts of EU sector policies. It carried out a wide range of ex post assessments and developed a basis for a tool for ex ante territorial impact assessment (TEQUILA Model). The latter is being further elaborated within the framework of the ESPON 2013 Programme in the applied research project TIPTAP. The TIPTAP project will also test the updated TEQUILA II Model for projected EU transport and agricultural policies. A detailed overview of the ESPON progress on TIA and on the state of affairs can be found on the programme's website [www.espon.eu](http://www.espon.eu). The Inception Report (26/09/2008), the Interim Report (31/03/2009), the Draft Final Report (31/07/2009) and the Final Report (31/10/2009) are or will be made available there.

This project is expected to make use of (a combination of) existing ex ante territorial impact assessment methodologies. The methodological framework is expected to comply with the current state of affairs in policymaking as described above, in particular where awareness creation on the territorial dimension is concerned.

The project is expected to answer the following key research questions:

- What is the sensitivity of the different types of territories and regions throughout Europe in relation to each of the selected EU directives?
- What data and indicators are needed to assess this sensitivity at the level of the individual directives and, if possible, at the level of all directives?

The methodology is expected to answer these questions and should take into account possible limitations in data availability. The project is to foresee a methodological coordination that can support the analysis of the different EU directives and the extent to which regions and different types of territories are sensitive to these policies. The policy analysis shall involve (academic and policy) experts in the respective policy fields concerned.

The project is expected to work within the logic of the EU Impact Assessment Guidelines and is asked to explore possible options for integrating a territorial pillar. In order to do so the project is asked to examine in an early stage of the project to what extent the current TIA methodology that is developed in ESPON fits into the EU Impact Assessment Guidelines.

Data, indicators and maps of the ESPON 2006 Programme are important sources for this project. The project shall in particular be informed and make use of results from the following projects:

- The ESPON 2006 projects under priority 2 (i.e. "Policy impact projects") on ex post territorial impact assessment of EU sector policy.
- ESPON project 3.2 on spatial scenarios including an explorative study on ex ante territorial impact assessment.

The project should strive for a comprehensive and integrated research approach, taking into account social, cultural, environmental and economic aspects. In addition a three-level approach (European, transnational/national, regional/local) to the analysis, commonly used by all ESPON applied research projects, should be applied in order to support a clear presentation of results, which might vary depending on the geographical scale.

The project shall also strive for delivering innovative results which can support the policy development in the field of territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion. It should demonstrate an inventive approach with regard to the scientific answers to the policy questions and should aim at showing new development opportunities for the European territory. There should be a combination and interrelation of various sectors and territorial insights on the development in order to contribute to the creation of new development paths and visions.

General deliveries:

- A synthetic analysis in the form of guidance for policy advisors/practioners (at different policy levels) summarising territorial/regional sensitivity to different types of European directives.

General deliveries for each European directive:

- Logical (territorial) analysis of the directive and the definition of territorial/regional sensitivity, including:
  - An overview of the different types of territories and regions (NUTS 2 or 3) and their sensitivity that might be affected by the European directive. The definition of the types of territories will follow the current ESPON definitions. The study will make use of results from the ESPON Typology Compilation Project wherever possible.
  - The chains of reasoning and formulas are adapted for every type of territory or region giving expression of different sensitivities and the different regional intensities of the single policy measures / interventions.
- Overview of the available data and indicators
  - The overview provides information on the metadata needed to carry out the TIA exercise and the extent in which these data are available (and where they can be found). The overview takes into account the necessary territorial level of measuring in order to result in correct statements on possible territorial dynamics.

Additional in-depth deliveries for three (test) European directives:

The project is expected to test the information on territorial/regional sensitivities in a wider TIA exercise (including the sender side of TIA) for 3 European directives. For these 3 cases it also answers the following research questions:

- What is the territorial dimension of the European directives and what possible territorial impact might they imply?
- What are the territorial impacts of different possible policy alternatives that can be deducted from existing policy discourse (see for methodological framework the Dutch example mentioned in the existing access points)?

The following additional deliveries are expected:

- Logical (territorial) analysis of the directive and the definition of territorial/regional sensitivity, including:

- An analysis of the European directive giving insight in the valid policy alternatives.
- An overview of the territorial dimension per (territorially relevant) policy measure that is included in the directive containing the logic chain of reasoning in terms of cause-effect relations. The apparent complicated cause-effect relations are to be reduced into logic representation schemes and formulas which can be created with syntactically allowed combinations of connectives, predicates, constants, variables and quantifiers. The cause-effect relations are to fit in the conception of territorial cohesion and its sub-components “territorial efficiency”, “territorial quality” and “territorial identity”.
- Overview of the territorial impacts per policy alternative:
  - The overview is meant to create awareness and support (fictive and real) policymaking processes. It provides territorial evidence in maps and wording on the impact of the European directive and its alternatives. It indicates which types of territories and what regions are most sensitive to the directive and shows how the different policy alternatives work out throughout the European territory.

In order to create coherence with project findings of other ESPON applied research projects, the project should present the main final results in relation to different types of regions and cities, using, where applicable, existing typologies for the urban system, rural areas, mountain areas, islands, coastal areas and outermost regions. The final results should also be presented for transnational cooperation areas under Structural Funds, and - where appropriate and possible - also for cross-border cooperation area and inter-regional cooperation areas.

The geographical coverage of the project should encompass all the countries participating in the ESPON 2013 Programme. Furthermore, the TPG should assess the data situation within their field of research in the EU Candidate Countries (i.e. Croatia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey) and/or the other countries of the Western Balkans (i.e. Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Albania, Kosovo under UN Security Council Resolution 1244), and report their findings in the Inception report (see below chapter (v)). Depending on the respective data situation these countries would then be included in the analysis.

The deliveries of the project should make use of and complement the existing scientific platform and tools of ESPON, which are accessible on the ESPON website. The project is expected to enhance the scientific platform of ESPON through the following deliveries:

- Integrated cross-sector territorial indicators that serve to assess (and monitor) the territorial and regional sensitivity of sectoral European directives and policy measures.
- European maps revealing (1) the territorial sensitivity to specific types of European policy measures and (2) the territorial impact of different policy alternatives for (the three test) European directives.

Regarding the development of new data and maps and/or the use of existing data, the TPG is expected to cooperate closely with the TPG being in charge of the development of the ESPON 2013 Database.

The results and conclusions of the applied research within the project should be formulated in relation to policy orientations present at European level and make use of the new typologies – if applicable – and maps resulting from the project.

Following the logic of the Territorial Agenda of the EU, orientations for policy makers should refer to the respective territorial development opportunities and the available options to mobilise these for the benefit of the cities, urban agglomerations and surrounding regions in question. In this respect, references to future policy options should take account of European Cohesion Policy orientations, in particular expressed in the Community Strategic Guidelines on Cohesion 2007-2013, the Fourth Report on Cohesion, as well as (the debate on the) Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion.

Project findings should make clear which impact the assessed directives could have on the competitiveness and socio-economic situation of European regions and cities as well as on the realisation of economic, social and territorial cohesion in Europe.

Finally, the project should consider avenues for further applied research on the theme.

### ***(v) Outputs and timetable***

One of the main objectives of the ESPON 2013 Programme is to focus on research with policy relevance and to contribute to the development of relevant policies. Therefore, the outputs of the research project should be highly operational and coordinated in time, as far as possible, to fit into the relevant political agenda.

The proposal for the project is expected to reveal individual work packages on project coordination, research activities, and dissemination, as well as a schedule for project implementation based on the following indicative<sup>3</sup> timetable and specification of outputs:

#### **June/July 2010 (Inception Report):**

Twelve weeks after the kick-off meeting, a more in-depth concept should be submitted by the TPG allowing for a detailed overview on the research approach to be applied, the methodology and hypothesis for further investigation, as well as a review of the main literature, data sources, etc. This overview includes a quick-scan of possible European directives that can be examined in this project resulting in a proposal of 10-15 European directives to be decided upon by the ESPON Monitoring Committee. Furthermore this overview includes a thorough screening of relevant data and indicators being produced in other ESPON projects and the methodology and framework for the territorial impact assessment, including an examination of the extent in which the ESPON TIA methodology fits within the EU Impact Assessment Guidelines. The Inception report

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<sup>3</sup> The final timetable for the project will depend upon the exact date of the project's Kick-off Meeting. At this meeting, the exact delivery dates for all project reports will be agreed upon with the Lead Partner.

shall also include an overview of more detailed deliveries and outputs envisaged by the project as well as an indication of likely barriers that the project implementation might face. The report shall give clear orientation for the applied research previewed towards the Interim report – Draft Final report and includes a proposal on the test cases. The research team should also report on the findings regarding the assessment of the data situation in EU candidate countries, the Western Balkans and Turkey and, on that basis, determine the geographical coverage of their research. Finally, the TPG should outline how it envisages making use of existing ESPON and other results that are relevant for this project.

### **October/November 2010 (Draft Final Report):**

The Draft Final Report will take into account feed-back on the Inception Report from an ESPON seminar and by the Sounding Board. The report is supposed to include elements such as:

- a) Report (max. 50 pages) on the main results, trends, impacts and options for policy development, including key analysis/diagnosis/findings and the most relevant indicators and maps (any additional information should be included in a scientific report). Particularly important are options for policy makers, which could provide the basis for interventions related to potentials for improving European competitiveness and cohesion. The report should include key messages on the following on the operational use of the findings on the territorial/regional sensitivities to the 10-15 European directives and the territorial impacts of the 3 test cases. It also includes the guidance for policy advisors/practioners (at different policy levels).
- b) An executive summary (max. 10 pages) summarising the main results of the applied research that can be communicated to a wider audience of stakeholders. This summary should be based on the Report mentioned above.
- c) Scientific report documenting the scientific work undertaken in the applied research including elements such as:
  - Literature and methodology/theory used.
  - Typologies, concepts developed and used.
  - Data collected and indicators used, including tables with the exact values of indicators.
  - Maps produced in support of the results, covering the territory of EU 27, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.
  - Models and other tools used or developed.
  - Detailed results of the case studies.
  - Roadmap for policy implementation and on the further research avenue to follow, including further data requirements and ideas of territorial indicators, concepts and typologies as well as on further developments linked to the database and mapping facilities.
  - Points for further consideration providing the thoughts of the TPG on TIA related issues that could not have been dealt with in depth within the framework of this project (e.g. the relation with national and regional legislation).

The MC and the Sounding Board will address the draft Final report and eventually ask for clarifications.

### **January/February 2011 (Final Report):**

d) Revision of the Draft Final report on the basis of comments received.

### **February/March – August/September 2011 (Dissemination):**

e) Dissemination of project results by the TPG in the framework of international conferences and seminars, e.g. transnational activities of the ECP Network, events organised by the CU. These activities need to be reflected in the budget proposed by the TPG for the implementation of the project.

The ESPON 2013 Programme foresees in Priority 4 also capitalisation of project results including events, 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 the project's dissemination activities shall ensure consistency and avoid overlaps with and repetition of respective activities organised at Programme level. The project team shall 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 closely coordinate these with the ESPON CU.

Irrespective of the above mentioned reports to be submitted at certain stages in the project life cycle, 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. Therefore, when setting up the project proposal, the TPG should also allow for travel expenses for the attendance of ESPON seminars.

### ***(vi) Budget for the applied research project***

The maximum budget foreseen for this applied research project is 250.000 Euro including VAT if applicable. Proposals exceeding this value will not be considered.

All real eligible costs incurred for carrying out the approved project will be refunded 100% by the ESPON 2013 Programme.

### ***(vii) Existing access points***

Synergies and use of results from outside the ESPON regime shall be sought. The access points listed below can serve the purpose of providing the TPG useful information for preparing a proposal. It is by no means meant to be exhaustive, but should be considered as information that can be helpful in tracing additional useful background information.

Information on the EU policy framework for Impact Assessment:

- Commission of the European Communities (2009) Impact Assessment Guidelines, SEC(2009)92
- Commission of the European Communities (2002) Communication from the Commission on Impact Assessment, COM(2002)276Final

Information on the Slovenian TIA project can be found on <http://tia.uirs.si> (English summary in main document). For a description of the method used, look at:

- Radej, Bojan, Synthesis of Territorial Impact Assessment for Slovene Energy Programme (July 8, 2008). Delovni Zvezki SDE Working Paper No. 2. (<http://ssrn.com/abstract=1156757>)

For information on the Dutch TIA, look at:

- Evers, D., J. Tennekes and others (2009) Territorial Impact Assessment of Territorial Cohesion for the Netherlands, Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, The Hague (<http://www.pbl.nl/en/publications/2009/territorial-impact-assessment.html>)