

SPECIFICATION

ESPON Applied Research Project 2013/1/18

European Regions: potential contribution to the EU 2020 Strategy (2011 - 2013)

(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 inspire 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 Boards¹.
- 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:

a) 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.

b) 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.

¹ 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.

c) 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 the indicators, data and tools.

d) 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 providing evidence on the territorial dimension of the EU2020 Strategy by identifying the opportunities and challenges of European regions in relation to the policy objectives defined.

Evidence base knowledge on the territorial dimension of the EU2020 Strategy is vital for supporting policy makers at different geographical levels to implement the Strategy and improve regional competitiveness and sustainable and balanced growth of the European territory.

Therefore a strong coordination and interlinkage with other ESPON projects and in particular with the ESPON 2013 Database project is crucial for achieving the expected 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

On 3 March 2010 the European Commission launched the Europe 2020 Strategy in support of the recovery from the economic and financial crisis and to prepare the EU economy for the next decade which is expected to see increasing international competition and a new order of world powers.

In this document, the Commission identifies three key drivers for growth, to be implemented through concrete actions at EU and national levels:

- smart growth - fostering knowledge, innovation, education and digital society,
- sustainable growth - making our production more resource efficient while boosting our competitiveness, and
- inclusive growth - raising participation in the labour market, the acquisition of skills and the fight against poverty.

In addition, the Commission defined seven flagship initiatives to catalyse progress under each priority theme:

- Innovation Union;
- Youth on the move;
- A digital agenda for Europe;
- Resource efficient Europe;
- An industrial policy for a globalised era;

- An agenda for new skills and jobs;
- European platform against poverty.

Contributing to growth and jobs requires ownership at all political levels and mobilisation from all actors across Europe.

Five targets are set which define where the EU should be by 2020 and against which progress can be tracked: 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed, 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D, the "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met, the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a degree or diploma and 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty. In relation to these targets, the EC says that they "are representative, not exhaustive" and "they do not represent a one size fits all approach". In practical terms this means that these targets are relevant to all Member States but they should be "translated into national targets and trajectories to reflect the current situation of each Member State".

The Europe 2020 Strategy has an important territorial dimension as actions by, within and between regions and cities are necessary to make the strategy a success. A place based approach is fundamental to effective implementation of the Strategy. EU Cohesion Policy conceived as a development policy, is expected to add up to realising smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and meeting the targets set.

Moreover, 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 and Fifth Report on Cohesion, as well as (the debate on the) Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion.

Considering this policy context and the close link of this Strategy to territorial cohesion it is important to understand the territorial dimension of these initiatives and targets and Europe's diversity. Furthermore, research is needed to identify the different types of challenges for regional development working to the Europe 2020 Strategy.

The aim of this project is to provide evidence on the territorial dimension of the EU2020 Strategy by identifying opportunities for different types of regions in relation to the targets and flagship initiatives set out in the Strategy. The results of this ESPON project are intended to be useful for policy makers at various scales in the process of identifying territorial interventions, for example at the scale of regions and local authorities and in the preparation of regional development strategies. The findings of this project furthermore will enable policymakers to have more in-depth monitoring and steering of the implementation of the strategy.

The project is expected as much as possible to develop a regional breakdown (preferably NUTS3 or combination of NUTS 2 and 3) for the indicators related to the targets and initiatives of the Strategy. The study shall lower or higher the level of geographical aggregation on the basis of what is possible and what is needed. This is particularly relevant when addressing cities and

functional areas in Europe, since administrative city boundaries do not reflect the scales of 21st century economic and governance networks.

The geographical coverage of the project should encompass all 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. Depending on the respective data situation these countries would then be included in the analysis.

The TPG should furthermore consider the presentation of the situation of selected indicators at pan-European level (Europe and its neighbourhood) and world level.

The project shall in parallel with a relevant component on data collection, data harmonisation and map making, carry out an analysis of the territorial state and recent trends (1990-present) of the opportunities and challenges of the European regions with regard to the objectives set in the Europe 2020 Strategy.

In the analysis and where relevant, the project is expected to make use of the nine standard ESPON Territorial Typologies: urban-rural; metropolitan regions; border regions; islands regions; sparsely populated regions; outermost regions; mountainous regions; coastal regions; regions in industrial transition. The first six were developed by DG Regio and the remaining three were proposed in the ESPON project on Typology Compilation.

(iv) Analytical framework and deliveries expected

The project shall use the policy context described above as a reference framework for elaborating the possible contribution, opportunities and challenges of European regions to the EU2020 Strategy.

The main purpose of this project is to provide evidence on the territorial dimension of the EU 2020 Strategy and possible ways that European regions can contribute to the implementation of the Europe 2020 goals. In order to achieve this purpose the following objectives should be considered:

- Assess the situation and recent trends of European regions and cities in relation to the goals and targets defined in the EU 2020 Strategy, taking into consideration important ESPON concepts such as polycentric development, regional competitiveness, agglomeration economies, business networks, territorial diversity and disparities, and territorial potentials
- Based on the findings, provide guidance for policy directions and means of implementation that could help policy makers at different levels to implement the EU 2020 Strategy and to decide about the territorialisation of actions that are behind the targets defined in the Strategy. By taking into consideration the regional diversity, the project should clearly identify the territorial potentials, challenges and opportunities of European regions and cities in relation to the policy objectives mentioned in the Strategy.

From this framework, this project is expected to produce a “ESPON 2020 Atlas” presenting the situation of the European regions and cities in relation to three pillars mentioned in the EU 2020 Strategy: smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The analysis of recent trends (if possible from 1990-present) shall be considered in the framework of this project.

The ESPON 2020 Atlas is expected to be a source of inspiration, containing information and evidence for both policymakers and practitioners from the local to the European level. The Atlas will be published in two versions: paper and electronic.

Existing data and indicators already available on the ESPON Database should be, where necessary, complemented with new indicators based on the ongoing discussion at EU level on the territorial dimension of the Strategy and outputs from the ongoing ESPON INTERCO Project. In rough terms, approximately 2/3 of the data and indicators (covering the ESPON space) needed to implement this ESPON project are already or soon will be available on the ESPON 2013 Database.

The project shall first consider the headline targets and the thematic dimension associated with smart, sustainable and inclusive growth presented in Annex 1 of the EU 2020 Strategy. In order to provide some inspiration and input for discussion within the TPG, a very first preliminary table of contents is annexed to this document.

The Atlas should be structured in a way that allows users to identify which (types) of regions have what opportunities with regard to the territorial dimension of smart, sustainable and inclusive territories in Europe, and which (types of) regions are perceived as key drivers for European development and growth at various scales.

The key policy questions for this project are:

- What is the territorial dimension of the EU2020 Strategy?
- Which types of regions have what opportunities to reach the targets set and contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth? What specific levers for development regions have in order to support the three pillars related to the EU2020 Strategy? And how can these opportunities and potentials can be more efficiently exploited?

E.g. considering the EU target of investing 3% of GDP in R&D, the project should be able to:

- identify the current position (possible by using a ratio transformation) and recent trends of the European regions/cities in relation to this target
- Identify the opportunities and challenges of European regions/cities to support the target by looking at indicators such as educational level, R&D from private sector, innovation, among others.

As part of the analytical framework, the following steps should be considered throughout the implementation of the project:

1. Brainstorming on the framework and scope

Brief analysis of the EU2020 Strategy by taking into account the current policy development at European level, in order to find a common understanding of the territorial dimension of the Strategy.

2. Screening, searching and assessing information

Discussion and first selection of data and simple indicators.

Overview on data availability at regional level covering the entire ESPON space and when possible and relevant the European neighborhood and/or the world. Selection of regional typologies to be used in the framework of this project based on information available from DG Regio and ESPON and provided to the Lead Partner by the ESPON Coordination Unit.

At a lower geographical level, special attention should be given to the following geographical objects: cities and functional areas at European level.

In this step it is important to consider the five level approach used within the ESPON Programme and the selection of indicators that could help to better understand what is happening at these different levels as well as the diversity between and within regions.

Finally, some proposals shall be made for cartographic and mapping solutions to visualize the information.

3. Defining the story line and the methodology

Presentation of a Table of Contents including a brief description of each chapter and maps/figures envisaged to be produced. Scales addressed and thematic covered. The story line chosen needs to be summarized succinctly. It should be able to: 1) identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges of European regions and cities in relation to the policy objectives of the EU2020 Strategy, and 2) identify the elements that at regional/city level could support the targets defined in the Strategy and 3) point to policy directions and steps towards implementation.

4. Making data work

Data collection, gathering and harmonization, including dialogue with the ESPON Database Project and relevant ongoing ESPON Projects such as INTERCO. Data analysis, harmonization, completion.

5. Analysis and visualising information

Analysis of the territorial state and recent trends (1990-present) of the European regions in relation to the key drivers for development mentioned in the EU2020 Strategy in relation to the maps/graphic elements envisaged. The 5 level analysis should be used in this context in order to understand the situation, trends, opportunities and challenges of European regions and cities, as well as specific types of territories (such as metropolitan regions, cross border regions, sparsely populated regions, islands). Moreover, some considerations shall be made in relation to the situation of European Macro Regions such as the Baltic Sea Region and the Danube Region.

It is important to ensure that the key findings and analysis of this project are presented in a simple and readable manner for policy makers. To this end, the TPG should budget enough time to give careful consideration to the implication of its findings for territorial development directions that could be followed, particularly at national, regional and local scale, and to means of implementation. Also as this is to be an Atlas, to be widely accessible the maps in it will each need some explanation to help readers to interpret what the maps show.

In relation to the map making process and other visualisation proposals, the Atlas is envisaged to include app. 25-50 maps.

6. Policy relevant observations

Based on the evidence and analytical component, the project is expected to present policy guidelines at different geographical levels and for different kinds of regions, and to give explicit consideration to the ways such policy directions could be implemented.

The potential TPG is therefore asked to present in the project proposal a first idea on the structure and basic elements for the “Atlas”. In particular by giving some practical examples on the interpretation of the policy objectives defined in the EU2020 Strategy.

The proposal should also describe the methodology and approach envisaged to cover the key policy mentioned above and to deliver the expected results.

The main target group of this ESPON project and in particular the “Atlas” are policymakers at different levels that expect to receive solid, simple and easy to understand evidence on the opportunities, challenges and possible contribution of their territories to the policy objectives defined in the EU2020 Strategy.

The language used in the Atlas should follow the KISS Principle: “Keep it Short and Simple”. In any case, some more innovative visualisation and cartographic elements supporting the cross-thematic analysis of the key messages on territorial challenges and opportunities can be considered to a certain extent. Moreover the electronic version of the Atlas may consider introducing dynamic and interactive elements in the maps that could help the reader/user to better understand the key message of each map.

Data and indicators from finalised and ongoing ESPON projects and included in the ESPON Database should be considered as important source of information for this project.

Ongoing project under the ESPON 2013 Programme that also might produce highly relevant knowledge for this project is the INTERCO Project dealing with territorial indicators and indices.

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.

Furthermore, this project is expected to make use of the existing scientific platform and tools of ESPON which are accessible on the ESPON website.

Format and design of the “Atlas”

The Atlas should be consistent in style to the ESPON Territorial Observations. It should be printed in landscape format and include in each double page a map, a map description and the major policy relevant key findings taking into consideration the EU 2020 Strategy.

The ESPON Atlas design shall be closely oriented to the general appearance of the ESPON publications. It shall meet design elements defined by the ESPON Programme and presented in the “ESPON Corporate Identity Manual”, which will be provided to the Proposal selected by the ESPON CU. The ESPON map layout and related templates (local/regional, European, neighbourhood and world) will also be made available by the ESPON CU. The costs related to the layout and printing of the Atlas are not included in the budget of this project and should not be considered in this framework.

(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 indicative² timetable and specification of outputs:

November 2011 (Inception Report):

Twelve weeks after the kick-off meeting, an Inception Report should be submitted by the TPG allowing for a detailed overview on the research approach to be applied, the methodology, the structure and data sources and data availability at different levels, etc.

The Inception Report should also present a proposal on the structure and a table of contents of the “Atlas, including a first description of the each chapter and an overview on data sources and data/indicators availability at different geographical levels.

Finally, it should also set out an implementation plan describing the various steps during the implementation of the project as well as an indication of likely risks that the project implementation might face and possible ways to manage them. The report shall give a clear orientation for the work towards the Draft Final Report.

Finally, the TPG should outline how it envisages making use of existing ESPON and other results that are relevant for this project and possible links with ongoing ESPON projects.

July 2012 (Draft Final Report):

The content of the Draft Final Report shall reflect the orientations given in the Inception Report as well as the results of the discussions that have taken place with the Sounding Board and in ESPON Seminars.

The report is supposed to include the following elements:

- d) Draft final Atlas on the possible contribution of the European Regions to the EU 2020 Strategy (50-70 pages) both in paper and an electronic versions
- e) Executive Summary (max 15 pages, preferably a .ppt file) summarising the main results and key messages that can be communicated to a wider audience of stakeholders. This summary should be based on the Draft Final Atlas mentioned above.
- f) Scientific Report documenting the scientific work undertaken in the applied research including elements such as:

² 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.

- Literature and methodology/theory used.
 - Data collected and indicators used, including tables with the exact values of indicators according to the data and metadata templates developed by the ESPON database project.
 - Additional maps produced, covering the territory of EU 27, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland, as well as the European Neighbourhood and the world in vector format
- g) Data and metadata collected and produced in the framework of this project according to the templates provided by the ESPON 2013 Database Project.

September 2012 (Final Report):

- e) Revision of the elements mentioned in the delivery of the Draft Final report on the basis of comments received.
- f) Maps and graphic elements produced in the framework of this project in a vector format (preferably adobe illustrator files).

September 2013 – April 2013 (Dissemination):

g) 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.

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

(vi) Budget for the applied research project

The maximum budget foreseen for this applied research project is 400.000 Euro including VAT if applicable. Proposals exceeding this value will not be considered.

The layout and printing costs for the Atlas are not to be included in the project budget.

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

(vii) Existing access points

The ESPON Website (www.espon.eu) provides access to all available project results and ESPON publication from the ESPON 2013 and 2006 Programmes. Synergies and use of results from outside the ESPON regime also shall be sought. In particular:

- Communication from the Commission “EUROPE 2020 - A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth”, available here: http://ec.europa.eu/eu2020/index_en.htm and related documents.
- DG REGIO analysis and existing studies on this topic.
- Territorial Agenda of the European Union. Towards a more competitive and sustainable Europe of diverse regions, 25 May 2007 and ongoing revision
- The Territorial State and Perspectives of the European Union, May 2007
- 5th Report on Economic and Social Cohesion
- National Programmes for the implementation of the EU2020 Strategy
- Main conclusions of the DG meeting on the Territorial Agenda, 10-11 May 2010, Seville
- Outcomes of the future conference on "What Future for Cohesion Policy?" - 16/18 March 2011

ESPON Documents:

- ESPON 2013 Synthesis Report
- Results from finalised and ongoing ESPON applied research Projects: DEMIFER, FOCI, CLIMATE, ReRisk, KIT, ATTREG, TIGER
- Data and information included in the ESPON Database
- Results from the ongoing INTERCO Project dealing with territorial indicators

Annex: “ESPON Atlas on the territorial dimension of the EU2020 Strategy”

Elements that can be included are:

Smart Growth

- *Innovation* (3-6 maps showing the regional diversity in Europe and a comparison with other world players such as US)

Key words in this topic are: R&D spending, R&D composition, private sector, high-tech firms

- *Education* (3-6 maps showing the regional diversity in Europe and a comparison with other world players such as US)

Key words in this topic are: education attainment, education leave, labour market needs, labour force mobility.

- *Digital Society* (2-4 maps showing the regional diversity in Europe)

Key words in this topic are: high speed internet, internet users, e-learning, e-commerce, e-government, business networks, agglomeration economies, regional specialisation, access to transport hubs, urban and regional governance.

Sustainable Growth

- *Green economy* (2-4 maps showing the regional diversity in Europe and its position in the world)

Key words in this topic are: green technology, industrial competitiveness

- *Climate, energy and mobility* (3-6 maps showing the regional diversity in Europe and its position in the world)

Key words in this topic are: CO2 emissions, energy efficiency, patterns in energy consumption and production, renewable energy, energy networks and connections, interconnected transport infrastructure, commuting patterns, hazards mitigation and management ,

- *Competitiveness* (2-4 maps showing the regional diversity in Europe and its position in the world)

Key words in this topic are: trade composition, knowledge intensive industries, economic growth, natural assets, clustering, globalisation

Inclusive Growth

- *Employment and skills* (3-6 maps showing the regional diversity in Europe and its position in the world)

Key words in this topic are: level of employment, skills, labour markets areas and their relation to housing markets, labour force participation, ageing, lifelong learning, intra-EU labour mobility

- *Fighting Poverty* (2-3 maps showing the regional diversity in Europe)

Key words in this topic are: access to affordable housing, unemployment, poverty, health care system

Contributions and references

Data sources, data, indicators and metadata

Annexes – additional maps and diagrams