

SPECIFICATION

ESPON Targeted Analysis Based on User Demand 2013/2/9

ESPON and Territorial Impact Assessment (EATIA)

(2010-2012)

(o) Targeted analyses within the ESPON 2013 Programme

The ESPON 2006 Programme provided integrated analysis and long-term spatial scenarios which enriched the European policy debate and knowledge base. Tying in with the achievements of the previous programme period, the ESPON 2013 Programme continues conducting applied research on European territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion. At the same time, a new type of projects is carried out in the form of targeted analyses based on specific demands expressed by stakeholders and making use of existing ESPON results.

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 in 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 on 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 undertaken to develop current achievements and make use of existing indicators, data and tools.

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

Under this priority, actions are foreseen that will make the evidence and knowledge already developed operational through raising awareness and involving stakeholders in the results and practical application of them.

Targeted analyses under Priority 2 enable stakeholders to obtain customised and up-to-date information on their particular territorial context and opportunities for development which can be used for policy development. Given the targeted focus of these projects on specific territorial entities, targeted analyses will contribute to the use of ESPON results in practise and to the involvement of policy makers, practitioners and scientists in a joint synergetic process.

(i) General objectives of targeted analyses under Priority 2

The general objectives of targeted analyses within the ESPON 2013 Programme are the following:

- Provision of evidence and knowledge based on ESPON results on the strengths and weaknesses of individual regions and/or larger territories seen from a European perspective, or a global context, giving European regions the option to compare themselves to other regions and hereby finding competitive advantages for development and cooperation.
- Improvement of the usefulness of ESPON results by testing new, experimental and innovative options such as (1) analysis of themes of interest for groups of regions, partly based on case studies, (2) methodological frameworks for translating territorial development goals and policy aims into concrete actions and (3) technical, methodological and analytical support to territorial planning processes and spatial programming and visions.
- Provision of analytical support and evidence based on ESPON results on thematic priorities in cooperation with other Structural Funds Programmes.

The aim is to carry through targeted analyses in partnership with policy makers and/or practitioners showing an interest in gaining awareness of European evidence, information, experience and/or knowledge on common challenges related to their territorial and/or urban development.

The individual targeted analysis shall support better informed policy decisions by:

- Integrating ESPON findings with more detailed information and practical know-how, either from a territorial part of Europe or from a sector authority.
- Contributing to a sound knowledge of territorial development perspectives/trends through new understanding of future development potentials and challenges for the respective territorial and/or urban development.

This project shall contribute to these objectives during its implementation by ensuring a close cooperation and partnership with the stakeholders who expressed their need for this targeted analysis.

(ii) Types of Action under Priority 2

Projects under Priority 2 can have different foci and accordingly vary in their content. In order to have a clear distinction between the various possible project orientations, each project needs to be clearly allocated to one of the following types of action:

1) Integrated studies and thematic analysis

This type of action is foreseen to follow a “traditional” analytical approach using existing results of ESPON applied research and other studies. The analysis can integrate several themes relevant for certain types of territories, regions and/or cities or they can be less comprehensive in the approach by focusing on one or a few themes.

The main objectives are:

- a) To provide added value for territorial development of specific types of territories¹ by offering new comparative insight and understanding on territorial potentials and challenges from a European perspective;
- b) To ensure that other (similar) types of territories/regions can benefit from the output of the analysis.

2) Knowledge support to experimental and innovative actions

This type of action clearly allows for the implementation of projects that differ from the mainstream of the ESPON 2013 Programme by being more experimental and/or innovative in character. It is in a way a laboratory for developing ways of meeting main territorial challenges that Europe is confronted with.

The objectives are:

- a) To support experimental and innovative actions carried through in partnership with stakeholders with European knowledge on territorial structures, trends, perspectives and policy impact;
- b) To provide methodological support to experiments and innovative efforts.

3) Joint actions related to other Structural Funds Programmes

The joint actions related to other Structural Funds Programmes take a geographical starting point in the area covered by these programmes, be it transnational, cross-border, interregional, regional or urban territories. The content of these actions can be integrated and thematic analyses or they can be experimental and innovative of nature (as described above). A main prerequisite is that they are justified by supporting Structural Funds Programme implementation.

The objectives are:

- a) To provide information and analyses on the European position of these areas, their comparability with other similar areas, and their potentials and challenges, useful for Structural Funds Programmes (regional, cross-border, transnational, interregional and urban);

¹ Types of territories codified for the territorial dimension, include urban, rural-mountains, rural-islands, rural-area (sparsely and very sparsely populated), rural-other, former external border, area dependant on fisheries, outermost regions, transnational cooperation areas, cross-border cooperation areas and interregional cooperation areas (as listed in the ESPON 2013 Programme, p. 9).

- b) To provide methodological support for strategic processes, including visions and scenarios for spatial development and planning.

Independent of the type of action, each project should have a European perspective (i.e. supporting the understanding of the wider European context), a clear transferable character and a concrete implementation part, focusing on specific territories.

The analytical approach can provide integrated, cross-thematic analyses, study individual themes or sectors, or focus on a specific type of territories. At any rate, ESPON findings shall be integrated and supplemented with more detailed information and practical know-how, either from a territorial part of Europe or from a sector authority. Analysis can include/be based on case studies. The geographical coverage will normally have a more limited territorial coverage than the entire European territory.

EATIA is a targeted analysis under type of action 2, knowledge support to experimental and innovative action. Therefore a high interaction between researchers and stakeholders is expected.

(iii) Scope and rationale of the targeted analysis

This Targeted Analysis shall test the practical use of existing methods and tools for Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA). Through both analytical work and an interactive learning track the project is expected to define possibilities for implementing TIA at national and sub-national level in EU Member States with a particularly focus on the role of the national level as interface between the European Union and relevant sub-national levels.

Thematic scope for the targeted analysis

European sector policies and directives – often together with their translation and implementation into national and regional policies – can have a severe impact on the territorial development and spatial development policies of countries and regions in Europe. Territorial impact is a comprehensive concept referring to diverse types of impact (Böhme and Waterhout, 2008; Zonneveld and Waterhout, 2009). Differentiation can for instance be made between direct and indirect impacts, short-term and long-term influences and territorial development implications and territorial governance implications (e.g. spatial planning procedures).

EU Member States show clear interest in Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA). Member States as well as the European Commission have been involved in research and experimental initiatives in order to better understand TIA (see chapter (ix) of this specification for an overview). The ESPON Programme has played an important role in undertaking pioneering work in this respect and is currently further developing a methodological framework and applied tools for TIA. In parallel some EU Member States are experimenting with TIA and the European Commission has set up a general policy framework for impact assessment.

The Territorial Agenda of the European Union (TAEU, May 2007) and the accompanying Action Programme (TAAP, November 2007, adopted to help achieve the policies set out in the TAEU) confirmed the political support for better assessing territorial impacts of proposed European policies. This Targeted Analysis shall support the follow up of TAAP Action 2.2 as it is expected to be an element of the “joint analysis to introduce territorial impact assessment in policy processes” as mentioned in this action. Work done under Action 2.2 of the Action Programme has produced a number of recommendations. These were made following a European seminar on the Territorial Impact of EU policies on 5 March 2009 in Amsterdam.

The EATIA Targeted Analysis shall support the further development of this work thus contributing to the revision of the Territorial Agenda of the EU which is foreseen in May 2011 at an informal meeting of EU ministers hosted by the forthcoming Hungarian Presidency of the EU. Political interest in the outcome of work on Action 2.2 is expected to be high. The project is expected to carry out in depth analysis and formulate proposals for applying territorial impact assessment in the territorial development and spatial planning policymaking context of Portugal, Slovenia and the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom together with Portugal and Slovenia engaged themselves to perform as stakeholders behind this project. The representatives in this Targeted Analysis play an active role in the TAAP Action 2.2 Task Force and also have direct access to networks of practitioners / end users of TIA within their countries. The stakeholders in this way cover direct links to the two main target groups (Member State Networks + TAAP Task Force) this project is expected to address.

The stakeholders behind this project subscribe to the conclusions of the Amsterdam Seminar on Territorial Impact of EU Policies and hence consider Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) as a potential supportive tool in the policymaking cycle which might allow policymakers and practitioners in the field of territorial development and cohesion to anticipate and/or adapt to new European sector policy initiatives. The stakeholders believe that TIA should not lead to formal assessment obligations as it is for instance the case for Strategic Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Assessment under EU Directives. The stakeholders are rather seeking for a simple and flexible tool to complement (and not repeat!) existing processes and one which can be used to evaluate/assess any proposed EU policy or directive on national and sub-national policies.

The stakeholders involved in this Targeted Analysis are public authorities at Member State level responsible for territorial cohesion and spatial development policy. The project shall therefore focus on the national level as interface between the European and the sub-national level. The national level is not only to assess (and adapt to) territorial impacts of EU policies in national spatial policies and territorial strategies but also to play the intermediary between the European and regional level. The latter is in particular of importance in (a high number of) EU Member States where regions have extensive competences in spatial planning and territorial development policy. European regions often have well formulated territorial development aspirations and sometimes legislative power in spatial planning (e.g. United Kingdom). The role of the national level hence requires better understanding from a multi-level governance perspective. Besides that, the role of the national level should also be reflected from a multi-sector governance perspective as European policy initiatives that come from

different sectors require an integrated cross-sector approach within the national, regional and local territories.

Main characteristics of the territory to be addressed

The United Kingdom is a big EU Member State. The public sector promotes integrated spatial planning policies through the preparation of:

- In England²: Single Regional Strategies (formerly Regional Spatial Strategies), Regional Economic Strategies and Local Development Frameworks. It applies sustainability appraisal to these plans and Regulatory Impact Assessment, including rural proofing to emerging spatial plan policies.
- In Scotland: The Second National Framework.
- In Wales: The Wales Spatial Plan.
- In Northern Ireland: The Regional Development Strategy for Northern Ireland.

This project shall mainly focus on England as case-study area. UK Stakeholders will brief researchers on the different systems as necessary once the implementation of EATIA will have started in autumn 2010.

Portugal is a medium sized EU Member State with significant regional disparities and two autonomous Atlantic archipelagos. The state, the autonomous regions and the local authorities have the duty to promote, in a coordinated way, the spatial planning policy in their specific areas of competence, through the preparation of the national, regional and municipal territorial management plans. The national level defines the strategic framework for national territorial spatial planning and establishes guidelines to be considered in the regional and municipal spatial and land-use planning. It also looks after the compatibility between the different sector policy instruments with territorial impacts. The regional level defines the strategic framework for regional spatial planning, in coherence with the national economic and social development policy, and establishes guidelines for spatial and land-use municipal planning. The municipal level defines the land-use regime according to national and regional guidelines and to their own strategic development options.

Slovenia is a small EU Member State. There are two administrative governance levels in Slovenia: state and municipalities. Although there is no regional administration level in Slovenia, 12 regional councils are in place for steering preparation of regional programmes, but have no responsibilities in the field of spatial planning. The basic national spatial developmental document is Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia. It provides the framework and guidelines for spatial development across the entire national territory. Spatial planning documents of lower level (municipality spatial plans, joint municipal plans and national detailed plans) but also sector strategies have to be in line with the national spatial development strategy. The draft municipal spatial plans are subject to detailed consideration from national bodies' involved (i.e. spatial development, nature conservation, agriculture, cultural heritage) before granting positive opinion to spatial plan. The preparation of national positions is steered through an EU portal. In fact, the procedure allows for describing impacts but until now spatial impacts are not specifically addressed.

² The project should be aware that those policies relating to England may be subject to change depending on the outcome of the forthcoming national election to be held in May 2010.

Objectives of the targeted analysis

The project shall explore synergies between ESPON, additional sources and policy development in the framework of Action 2 of the Territorial Agenda Action Programme. It shall in particular look at how ESPON results, especially in the field of TIA, can add up to territorial policy development.

The central question for this Targeted Analysis is:

- How can the assessment of territorial impacts of European (sector) policies be addressed in the cycles for territorial and spatial planning policymaking within European Member States in general and in the national and regional territorial development strategies in particular?

The key objectives of the project are to explore the concrete needs at national level and regional level as appropriate within EU Member States with respect to TIA:

- Indicate the possibilities for implementing TIA at national level / regionally within EU Member States and;
- Create a knowledge transfer on TIA to the regional / local level in the national spatial planning and territorial development policy contexts of Portugal, Slovenia and the United Kingdom.

The project is therefore to comprise an analytical track and an interactive learning track that run in parallel and feed each other on a permanent basis. This is further explained in relation to the envisaged results.

The project team is expected to demonstrate good knowledge of existing ESPON findings. Knowledge of ESPON work on regional typologies should help answering EATIA's questions. Also it may be necessary to overcome data problems such as the mismatch between NUTS 3 and functional areas. EATIA will also need an understanding of European Cohesion Policy, the EU's Territorial Agenda, and the work to advance TIA through Action 2.2 of the Territorial Agenda Action Plan (TAAP). The stakeholders are directly involved in this action and will brief researchers as necessary.

The governance dimension is as indicated above crucial to this project. National policy-making systems for territorial development mediate the impact of EU Directives and policies, which themselves can have direct and indirect impacts on territorial governance, e.g. through the way Directives are applied nationally. Concepts like "vertical and horizontal integration" are expected to be investigated in the project. Where national/regional spatial plans or similar visions exist, these can be a base against which to assess the TIA findings from ESPON studies. Where such documents do not exist, one task for the researchers will be to establish through discussion with the stakeholders some proxy for that (e.g. national / regional targets to reduce carbon emissions), and to assess how different approaches to TIA might be used.

(iv) Implementation methodology and project governance

Partnership in the project implementation is vital in order to achieve useful results. This applies to both, the partnership between the ESPON Programme and stakeholders, as well as between the team of researchers (TPG) and the stakeholder representatives.

Stakeholder involvement is essential throughout the project's life-cycle and starts off in the first phase of the analysis with the definition and development of the specific theme for the targeted analysis. During the implementation phase of the targeted analysis, stakeholders will play an active role by providing and giving access to information relevant for the project, as well as by steering and guiding the work of the TPG.

Steering Committee

A Steering Committee will be established for the duration of the life-time of the project. The Steering Committee consists of representatives from the Lead Stakeholder (United Kingdom), the Partner Stakeholders (Portugal and Slovenia) and the ESPON Coordination Unit.

The Steering Committee may invite up to six observers from other countries to steering group meetings. Researchers may be asked to email papers to the observers in advance of the meetings but they will not otherwise be required to interact with the observers.

The objective of the Steering Committee is:

- To ensure the involvement and an active participation in the project steering of stakeholders;
- To safeguard the policy relevance of the project output for the stakeholders;
- To facilitate the information and data flow between the Transnational Project Group (TPG), the group of stakeholders and the ESPON Coordination Unit;

The role of the Steering Committee is to advise the ESPON Monitoring Committee and the ESPON Managing Authority on the overall decisions with respect to the project. By doing so it shall in particular give feedback to project reports, provide guidance to the next steps of the project implementation and advise on major changes in project activities and/or possible reallocations of the project budget.

The Steering Committee intends to meet between 5 and 15 working days after the submission of each project report.

The Lead Stakeholder or one of the Partner Stakeholders (depending on where the meeting takes place) takes care of the practical and technical organisation of the Steering Committee meeting.

Interactive learning and link to wider groups of policymaking and research

The analytical track and interactive learning track that run in parallel and feed each other on a permanent basis are of crucial importance to this project as involvement of potential end users / practitioners from the national level is considered as a key asset.

EATIA further seeks to build bridges between ESPON and the practitioner and policy-maker communities, initially in the 3 stakeholder countries, but then more widely through the networks of ESPON and the TAAP.

The stakeholders are expected to be active in the dissemination of results coming out of the project. As national ministries and members of the initiative carrying out the Territorial Agenda Action Programme they are exceptionally well placed to do so. Each participating country will use its own dissemination channels such as websites, national publications and networks of contacts with regional/local level public authorities and professionals, to make people aware of EATIA. Each EATIA stakeholder has appointed or will appoint a national ESPON Contact Point who will help dissemination. Connections will also be made to EU professional bodies and networks. In addition, the findings will be reported to the National Territorial Cohesion Contact Point (NTCCP) network, and put on the TA EU dedicated website (COPTA).

(v) Envisaged results of the targeted analysis

The project is, as indicated above, expected to consist of an analytical track and an interactive learning track that run in parallel and feed each other on a permanent basis.

The analytical track is expected to provide the following:

1. Overview of existing methods and tools for TIA, including at least:

- Methods and tools developed within ESPON 2006 and 2013

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 in project 3.2 a basis for a tool for ex ante territorial impact assessment (TEQUILA Model). The latter has been further elaborated within the framework of the ESPON 2013 Programme in the applied research project TIPTAP. The TIPTAP project tested the updated TEQUILA II Model for projected EU transport and agricultural policies.

The project is also expected to closely follow and integrate outputs from the ESPON 2013 Project “Regional Sensitivity to EU Directives” that is expected to start in spring 2010.

- Methods and tools developed by EU Member States

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.

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. More recently, the Slovenian parliament adopted the Resolution on normative activity introducing regulatory impact assessment (RIA) based on the European Commission's impact assessment. The RIA procedure is currently under construction. Spatial impacts will not be considered as separate impacts but will be included in the environmental part of impact assessment, although separately indicated.

In Portugal, impacts of sector policies on spatial development and the impact of spatial policies and spatial plans have not been regularly assessed in the past. Several recent institutional changes, namely the creation of the Spatial Planning Observation Network, lead the way to an increased attention to these matters in the near future.

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.

Germany has a legal requirement for regions to undertake a form of TIA ("*Raumordnungsverfahren*") for major projects. This co-ordination mechanism investigates to what extent a policy intention meets the basic spatial principles and conditions. A similar mechanism exists in Austria.

To assist the EATIA, the United Kingdom recently undertook a telephone interview survey of a number of EU countries to gauge understanding of the concept of TIA and how far, if at all, it was already used. The UK has also commissioned some research work on TIA that is expected to become available before the EATIA project commences, but not in time to assist the call for proposals.

- Methods and tools developed by the European Commission

The EC Guidelines for Impact Assessment (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.

The project also takes into account established practices for Strategic Environmental Assessment and Environmental Assessment in order to detect on the basis of their strengths and weaknesses possible relations and learning points for TIA.

2. Evaluation of the existing methods and tools for TIA

The project shall evaluate existing methods, tools and procedures for TIA of EU policies in terms of practical use for practitioners in the national and regional context. The assessment shall take into account the preconditions of policymaking and planning procedures (timing) and other criteria the end user of a tool for TIA may indicate (e.g. robustness, convenience).

3. Exploration of technical framework conditions (data availability)

The project shall also assess the technical possibilities for the implementation of a tool for TIA. In order to have a clear picture of the restrictions of data availability the project is expected to explore the possibilities for using the ESPON Database and additional national data. Also the possibilities to use regional and territorial typologies shall be explored.

4. Recommendations for implementing TIA in practice

The project is expected to compile out of existing knowledge a best possible and available tool for TIA that can be used in the national context. The project is not expected to create new methods for TIA. The project should also formulate recommendations for the implementation of the tool taking into account relevant policymaking cycles and the governance context.

The interactive learning track is expected to include the following:

The project shall organise interactive learning sessions (training / workshop) aiming at transmission of project findings / knowledge to national learning networks and obtaining end user feedback to the analytical findings.

The Transnational Project Group (TPG) shall together with the stakeholders establish a national learning network in Portugal, Slovenia and England (for the United Kingdom). The learning networks may consist of practitioners in the field of spatial development and territorial policies from different administrative levels. Each national learning network will include up to 15 participants. The participants in the national learning network shall represent different relevant types of territories (e.g. urban and rural), taking into account the ESPON typologies, in order to enhance the relevance of the project results for the entire European territory. The stakeholders behind the project shall make the list with participants available to the TPG at the kick-off meeting of the project.

The project will organise sessions as part of the process of preparing each key project report (Inception, Interim and Draft Final Report) and in each national network – adding up to minimum $3 \times 3 = 9$ sessions in total.

The national learning networks play an important role in the implementation of the above indicated parts 2, 3 and 4 of the analytical track of the project. By training practitioners in using various assessment methods and tools the project team collects their needs, feedbacks and opinions in order to understand what practitioners consider useful and which barriers they experience in integrating the tools in existing working

processes. The project is expected to use this information in assessing available methods and tools and in defining a common understanding on methods and tools that can be shared.

The project is asked to test the understanding, the application and the acceptance of methods for TIA by end users at national, regional and local level.

(vi) Stakeholders' operational use of the targeted analysis

The stakeholders behind the project intend to use the results of the targeted analysis to develop applicable tools for TIA that can be used within EU Member States. The tools should allow the national level to interact with regional and local authorities with regard to the impact of European policies. The project is expected to provide national stakeholders with practical guidance on the development of tools for TIA and the integration of the tools into relevant policymaking cycles via soft measures (governance). The guidance may include information on the architecture of the tool, the (data) input the tool requires and eventually a definition of remaining knowledge needs.

The stakeholders behind the project also intend to feed the results into Action 2.2 of the Territorial Agenda Action Programme. The results hence add up to the implementation and the further development of the Territorial Agenda and are expected to boost Member State initiatives concerning TIA.

The project results also should bring added value to European and national professional bodies such as the European Council of Spatial Planners in their work to disseminate practical knowledge on TIA and to encourage the adoption of the recommended TIA practices.

Stakeholders would like to use the results in the consideration of the spatial impact and implementation of any proposed EU policies or Directives at the national and subnational level, as appropriate to each country. Use of the TIA tool would be embedded at the appropriate level to each country through monitoring and evaluation procedures.

The TPG will be required to provide PowerPoint presentations to help stakeholders report on the progress of the targeted analysis and disseminate the outcomes. They also wish to have a paper outlining the project's aims and results of the work so far to put to the May 2011 Informal Ministerial meeting which will review the results, thus far, of the TAAP.

The working language of the project, including the workshops in the stakeholders' countries, will be English. The stakeholders shall provide translation for events in case of necessity. The stakeholders can support the research team in guiding them through relevant Portuguese and Slovenian documentation and provide them with translation of a selection of relevant text sections of documents.

(vii) Outputs and timetable

The project is expected to start in October 2010 and shall result in a series of reports during the project lifetime. The timing foreseen for the targeted analysis looks as follows:

- Inception Report: January 2011

This report focuses on the elaboration of the analytical framework and the research approach of the project and shall in particular integrate the results of an exploration of the user demand.

The report provides:

- An elaborated overview of the tools and methods for TIA.
- An analytical framework for the evaluation of the tools and methods for TIA.
- An approach for defining the technical framework conditions.
- A detailed work plan towards the Interim Report.

- Additional Delivery: Input Paper to the Ministerial Meeting: March 2011

The paper lines out in 1-2 pages the project aims and results so far. The paper targets the ministers in the EU Member States and the European Commissioner responsible for territorial cohesion. The paper shall be prepared in close collaboration with the stakeholders.

- Interim Report: August 2011

This report focuses on the presentation of intermediate project results and an insight on how the project is expected to formulate recommendations. The report targets the stakeholders behind the project and potential end users of the project results.

The report provides:

- An update of the elaborated overview of the tools and methods for TIA.
- Available results of the evaluation of the tools and methods for TIA.
- Available results on the technical framework conditions.
- First indication on recommendations for implementing TIA in practice.
- A detailed work plan towards the (Draft) Final Report.

- Draft Final Report: February 2012

This report presents the final results of the project and focuses on relevant conclusions and recommendations. The report targets the stakeholders behind the project and potential end users of the project results.

The report provides:

- An elaborated overview of the tools and methods for TIA.
- Final results of the evaluation of the tools and methods for TIA.
- Final results on the technical framework conditions.
- Recommendations for implementing TIA in practice.

- Final Report: April 2012

This report is in principle a revision of the Draft Final Report taking into consideration final comments and suggestions from the stakeholders and end users, the ESPON Monitoring Committee, the European Commission and the ESPON Coordination Unit.

Simultaneously, the datasets, maps and figures used and produced within the framework of the project should be delivered.

In addition to these key project reports the project shall organise interactive learning sessions (e.g. workshop) aiming at transmission of project findings / knowledge to the national networks and obtaining end user feedback to the analytical findings. The project is expected to organise these sessions as part of the process of preparing documentation as follows: the Paper for Ministers; the Interim Report; and the Draft Final Report. They should be held in each of the national networks. They should thus add up to a minimum of $3 \times 3 = 9$ sessions in total. The project shall prepare accounts of each session and reflect on the conclusions of each session in the annex to the key project reports.

The project is furthermore expected to guarantee a wide dissemination of (intermediate) project results by participating in the following events:

- 2 Territorial Agenda national representatives official level meetings (NTCCP and DG)
- 1 Territorial Cohesion & Urban Matters meeting – TCUM (COCOF's subcommittee - structural funds management sub group of officials) held in Brussels.
- 2 European Events for professionals e.g. the European Council for Town Planners, the International Federation for Housing and Planning

The stakeholders shall communicate precise indications (e.g. location, date) in due time and as much as possible at the kick-off meeting.

The project should also provide PowerPoint presentations to help the stakeholders to present the Inception, Interim and (Draft) Final results at other events.

(viii) Budget for the targeted analysis

The maximum budget foreseen for this project amounts to € 350.000,- including VAT if applicable. Proposals exceeding this amount will not be considered.

The amount will include all costs for the TPG for completing the project including all travel expenses and the attendance at ESPON Seminars (taking place twice a year in June and December – June 2012 included) and Steering Group meetings the events mentioned above.

The stakeholders will cover the costs for rooms and catering for the national interactive learning sessions.

The elaboration of the budget breakdown in project proposal provides clear insight to the budget allocated to both different tracks defined for this project. The project is expected to allocate sufficient budget in order to guarantee a high qualitative implementation of the interactive learning track.

ESPON projects are generally conducted in a partnership of several bodies from at least three EU Member and Partner States (from three different countries taking part in the ESPON 2013 Programme).

(ix) Existing access points

The ESPON Website www.espon.eu contains all available project results from the ESPON 2006 and 2013 Programme.

The Report on the EU Seminar on Territorial Impact of EU Policies on 5 March 2009 in Amsterdam is available at the website www.eu-territorial-agenda.eu (the portal site to the Territorial Agenda) that also provides you with all relevant related policy documents and working group reports.

The following documents provide 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

The Dutch Ministry of VROM recently commissioned a report on the state of affairs of TIA at EU level and possible paths to better integrate the territorial dimension in European impact assessment exercises:

- Zonneveld, W. And B. Waterhout (2009) EU Territorial Impact Assessment: Under what Conditions?, OTB TU Delft (<http://repository.tudelft.nl/view/ir/uuid:43f30b8d-bcea-46a9-92b8-3514945c8079/>)

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>)

Results of the 2010 UK telephone survey on understanding and application of Territorial Impact Assessment can be found on:

Territorial Action Plan Programme (TAAP) Action 2.2 Results of Territorial Impact Assessment:

- Information on Dutch Ministry questionnaire and Seminar.
[http://www.eu-territorial-agenda.eu/Summary%20Documents/Action%202-2%20Report%20EU%20Seminar%20Territorial%20Impact%20\(3\)_05032009.pdf](http://www.eu-territorial-agenda.eu/Summary%20Documents/Action%202-2%20Report%20EU%20Seminar%20Territorial%20Impact%20(3)_05032009.pdf)

Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia:

- (http://www.mop.gov.si/fileadmin/mop.gov.si/pageuploads/publikacije/drugo/en/sprs_eng.pdf).