

Spatial Planning in Western Europe: current trends, policies and research

An ESPON Conference and Design thinking lab fostering Participatory Leadership for improved policy-making.

17 April 2019 // The Royal Theatre, Korte Voorhout 3

The Hague, The Netherlands

1. Outline

Today, **spatial planning is affected by a series of trends** such as the increased availability of data sources and new forms of data processing, the emergence of new voices ranging from community leaders to large technology companies hosting ‘sharing economy’ platforms. At the same time, governments are trying to reinvent themselves by employing new soft policy instruments and network governance models. These trends can be considered as **both challenges and opportunities** for the many challenges spatial planning seeks to address, such as managing the transition to a green economy, keeping cities prosperous, just and liveable, and promoting sustainable urban development.

The ESPON conference on “*Spatial Planning in Western Europe: Current trends, policies and research*” addresses this core questions by:

- Looking into the content, design and implementation of the new National Spatial Strategy in The Netherlands;
- Reflecting on relevant results from ESPON research projects on territorial patterns of ecosystem resilience, such as green infrastructure networks and sustainable land use;
- Taking stock of the discussions held during the previous editions of the roadshow in France, Ireland, Belgium, and Luxembourg in 2018;
- Finding inspiration in sharing our experiences in different European countries.

During the afternoon session, participants will collectively identify trends and knowledge-gaps for spatial planning on specific issues that were explored during the previous editions of the ESPON roadshow. Using a participatory design thinking approach, group facilitators will engage with the participants on 5 topics.

This ESPON conference is one of a series of Transnational Outreach events organised in Western Europe in 2019. It comes as the final edition of a roadshow which included national editions in France, Ireland, Luxembourg and Belgium.

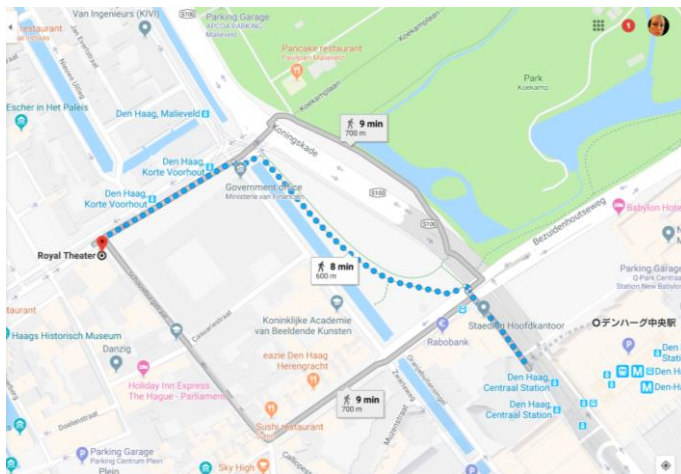
2. Agenda

Event Moderation by Richard Tuffs

Design Thinking Facilitation by Mira Bangel (Sensetribe)

08.30	Registration and welcome coffee	
Opening session		
09.00	Welcome, introduction and context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nicolas Rossignol, ESPON EGTC
	Design-thinking for spatial planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mira Bangel, Sensetribe
Part 1: Spatial planning priorities in the Netherlands		
09.15	Spatial Policy in Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Robert Dijksterhuis, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Kingdom Relations (BZK), Vice-Director of Spatial Planning, Head of Spatial Policy Division
09.40	The National Environment and Planning Strategy <i>Nationale Omgevingsvisie</i> (NOVI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emiel Reiding, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Kingdom Relations (BZK) and project leader of the National Spatial Strategy (NOVI)
10.00	Travelling across the ESPON Roadshow on Spatial Planning with input from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laura Courtney, <i>Planning Adviser, Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (Ireland)</i> - Benoit Fanjeau, <i>Regional and territorial planning department of the Region Sud Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (France)</i> - Frederick-Christoph Richters, <i>Ministry of Energy and Spatial Planning (Luxembourg)</i> - Kristien Lefeber, <i>Advisor urban planning Province Limburg (Flanders, Belgium)</i> 	
10.45	<p style="text-align: center;">Questions and Answers</p> <p style="text-align: center;">with concluding remarks by David Evers, Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency and Dutch ESPON Contact Point</p>	
11.00	Coffee	
Contributions from ESPON Research		
11.30	Keynote: The parallel and divergent pathways of European spatial planning systems: integration, adaptation, and engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vincent Nadin, Professor of Spatial Planning, TU Delft

11.50	Sustainable urbanization and land use in European Regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Evers, Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency and Dutch ECP (Project Leader of SUPER – Sustainable Urbanization and land-use Practices in European Regions)
12.10	Questions and Answers	
12.30	Lunch	
<p>Part 2: Design-thinking for spatial planning <i>Participants will collectively identify trends and knowledge-gaps for spatial planning on specific issues that were explored during the previous editions of the ESPON roadshow. Using a participatory design thinking approach, group facilitators will engage with the participants on 5 topics:</i></p>		
13.30 – 16.30	<p>Design Thinking Lab facilitation by </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Urban Development Green Planning Meeting the Housing Demand Energy and Climate Change Well-being / inclusion <p style="text-align: center;">The outcomes will be presented to Robert Dijksterhuis Ministry of Internal Affairs and Kingdom Relations (BZK), Vice-Director of Spatial Planning, Head of Spatial Policy Division and Nicolas Rossignol ESPON EGTC, Project Expert</p>	
16.45	Wrap-Up and Conclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Richard Tuffs
17.00	Networking Cocktail	
18.30	End	



4. Venue and Map of Location

Koninklijke Schouwburg – The Royal Theater
 Korte Voorhout 3, 2511 CW, The Hague

More information on its history:
<https://denhaag.com/en/location/419/royal-theatre>