

New challenges and thinking for spatial planning systems: insights from ESPON projects

Date: Tuesday 16th October 2018

Venue: Ministry of Finance, Suur-Ameerika 1, Tallinn

Time: 09.30 – 16.00

Type of event: Workshop (up to 60 participants)

1. Targeted audience

National and regional spatial planning policy-makers, planners and practitioners, implementing authorities, regional and local policy-makers, university academics, architects and real estate developers,

The workshop is open to all but has a maximum capacity of 60 participants. Please reserve early to assure a place and to book a hotel room if needed. The workshop is free of charge, but each participant must cover expenses for their own travel arrangements and accommodation. Coffee/tea and lunch will be provided during the workshop.

The workshop will take place in English and Estonian (Estonian/English interpretation provided).

2. Outline

This ESPON workshop is one of a series of Transnational Outreach events in North Europe (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) in 2018 and examines current challenges in spatial planning such as the redesign of future national and regional spatial planning systems. In much of Europe, there was a post-war golden age of spatial planning linked to sustained economic growth. Since 2000, a more market-focused approach supply has led to a decline in national and in some countries regional spatial planning.

However, more recently, there is increasing awareness that decentralisation and the market-driven approach have reached their limits and a new agenda is emerging for the coming decades facing such challenges as green growth, support for innovation (industry 4.0, digital economies, robotics, etc.), climate change, renewable energy, smart and liveable cities (see recent Sweden strategy) and improved mobility and attractiveness for rural areas.¹ Thus, there is more appetite for national visions which include a spatial and environmental dimension based on planning principles of concentration, cohesion of functions, spatial hierarchies and spatial justice and new governance models.

The workshop builds upon relevant analyses and research conducted under the ESPON 2020 cooperation programme. Results from various projects will be presented and discussed in national

¹ See 'Possible Territorial Futures' <https://www.espon.eu/territorial-futures>

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settings. Perspectives based on current and future practice from neighbouring countries will also inform the discussions.

The workshop will examine current issues in the spatial planning systems using Estonia and other Nordic and EU countries as case studies. For Estonia, the current spatial planning system was introduced in 1995 although changes in legislation have been made, its essence has remained unchanged. Currently, parts of the planning system are being reviewed in Estonia's 'Green Paper' on spatial planning that analyses current trends and, if needed, recommends changes or 'nudges' in spatial planning policies and processes.

The workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss the future role of spatial planning and how to develop planning processes that identify national, regional and local competences and governance.

The workshop will introduce the Estonian context and particularly reflect on the country's recent "Green Paper" on spatial planning. This document focuses on issues that are crucial to planners across Europe:

- the combination between strategic planning and land use;
- the impact of administration reforms on regional planning;
- the planning instruments available to the various levels of authority;
- the lack of flexibility of current planning systems;
- the ability to respond quickly to societal needs; the improvement of territorial impact assessments;
- the participation of citizens and other stakeholders in decision-making processes.

This setting-the-scene is followed by a panel discussion in which spatial planners from other countries including Latvia, Slovenia, Finland, and Ireland are invited to comment on the Estonian context from their own experiences in spatial planning.

The workshop will then gather input from ESPON research such as:

- **COMPASS** <https://www.espon.eu/planning-systems>
- **RESSI** <https://www.espon.eu/ressi>,
- **SPIMA** <https://www.espon.eu/metropolitan-areas>,
- **Policy Brief: Indicators for integrated territorial and urban development**
<https://www.espon.eu/integrated-indicators>

(see brief summary of projects below)

and from other specialists and experts, before finishing with an interactive discussion to produce recommendations on future actions and potential research agendas.

3. ESPON input

- **COMPASS** (Comparative Analysis of Territorial Governance and Spatial Planning Systems in Europe) <https://www.espon.eu/planning-systems>
COMPASS examines spatial planning systems across the 28 EU Member States and identifies the changes in territorial governance and spatial planning systems across Europe over the past 15 years? Spatial planning and territorial governance are evolving and emerging concepts – and therefore so is their meaning. The project explores the trajectories of territorial governance and spatial planning systems since 2000, and especially the relation between spatial planning ‘systems’ and related practices and procedures within territorial governance and spatial planning. One central question is how and to what extent they interrelate and shape each other.
- **SPIMA** (Spatial Dynamics and Strategic Planning in Metropolitan Areas) <https://www.espon.eu/metropolitan-areas>
Metropolitan areas often suffer from fragmented policy making and thus the metropolitan dimension gives new and challenging aspects to the question of how to address policy issues, since dialogue and commitment to joint policies must be achieved by the core city and often many neighbouring municipalities as well as directly elected local and regional authorities. Furthermore, at the metropolitan dimension different planning frameworks and governance approaches need to be considered. Even if the roles that metropolitan areas can play for territorial development are increasingly recognised in Europe, there is still no unified typology providing policy makers with a better representation and understanding of the ‘metropolisation’ of society.
The SPIMA project examines approaches, including governance arrangements, to spatial and strategic planning that can help overcoming the above mentioned spatial development challenges at metropolitan level in the specific context of each stakeholder’s metropolitan area. It also outlines policy tools and governance approaches that can be useful and sensible to plan and manage spatial development at the metropolitan area scale.
- **RESSI** (Regional strategies for sustainable and inclusive territorial development – Regional interplay and EU dialogue) <https://www.espon.eu/ressi>
Governance systems in Europe are changing to become less top down, more flexible, and involve a wider group of public and private organisations. This raises questions of interdependencies across levels of governance, and amongst public and private actors, institutions and organisations. Therefore, there is a need for closer cooperation with a widening range of public, private, voluntary sector and citizen-led organisations. However, it is unclear how this new, cooperative and lean governance regime can be brought into existence. RESSI examines four European study territories, each of which is characterised by particular governance tensions in relation to the allocation of territorial development responsibilities and to the specific characteristics of actors involved and issues at stake. In each of these contexts there is a growing need for territorial development strategies involving a variety of stakeholders within and beyond existing administrative territories. These strategies should complement existing regional development policies with a multi-level, as well as functional, approach to sustainable and inclusive territorial development. RESSI can provide insights into how to promote sustainable and inclusive regional development strategies, identifying good practices in delivering economic development policies and well-being, identifying appropriate structures and new forms of cooperation and dialogue especially in non-metropolitan areas

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- **Policy Brief: Indicators for integrated territorial and urban development**

<https://www.espon.eu/integrated-indicators>

The purpose of this policy brief is to offer advice on how to measure the impact of integrated investments, using insights from previous ESPON projects² which focused on indicator development and analysis. It offers a synthesis of the vast amount of information presented in the ESPON projects and recommends a short and clear set of indicators which could be used for measuring the impact of integrated investments. In addition, recommendations on how to attribute the impact of integrated investments to change in the impact indicators are also presented.

² Indicators of Territorial Cohesion (INTERCO), Key Indicators for Territorial Cohesion and Spatial Planning (KITCASP), Spatial Indicators for the 'Europe 2020 Strategy' Territorial Analysis (SIESTA), and the ESPON Atlas

4. Agenda

Moderator: Martin Gauk, Project Expert, ESPON EGTC

09.30	Registration and welcome coffee
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PART 1: Setting the scene

10.00	Welcome	Martin Gauk, Project Expert, ESPON EGTC
10.15	Estonian “Green paper” on spatial planning	Tiit Oidjärv, Head of Spatial Planning Department, Ministry of Finance

PART 2: A view from spatial planners outside

10.45	Finland	Juha Nurmi, Senior Officer, Spatial Planning, Ministry of the Environment (c)
	Slovenia	Tomaž Miklavčič, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Spatial Planning, Construction and Housing Directorate
	Latvia	Inguna Urtāne, Director of Spatial Planning Department
	Ireland	Laura Courtney, Planning Adviser, Department of Housing and Local Government
12.00	Lunch	

PART 3: ESPON research

13.00	COMPASS	Dr Kai Böhme, Spatial Foresight (c)
	RESSI	Dr Carlos Ferreira, Coventry University (c)
	SPIMA	Dr Vanya Simeonova, Wageningen University (c)
	Indicators for integrated territorial and urban development	Zintis Hermansons, Project Expert, ESPON EGTC

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14.15	Coffee
PART 4: Interactive discussion	
14.30	Interactive discussion with panel of spatial planners on how to coordinate strategic and land-use planning, how to combine EU, national, regional and local dimensions and how to build in flexibility and rapid response to challenges.
15.45	Conclusions
16.00	Farewell

5.
Registration information

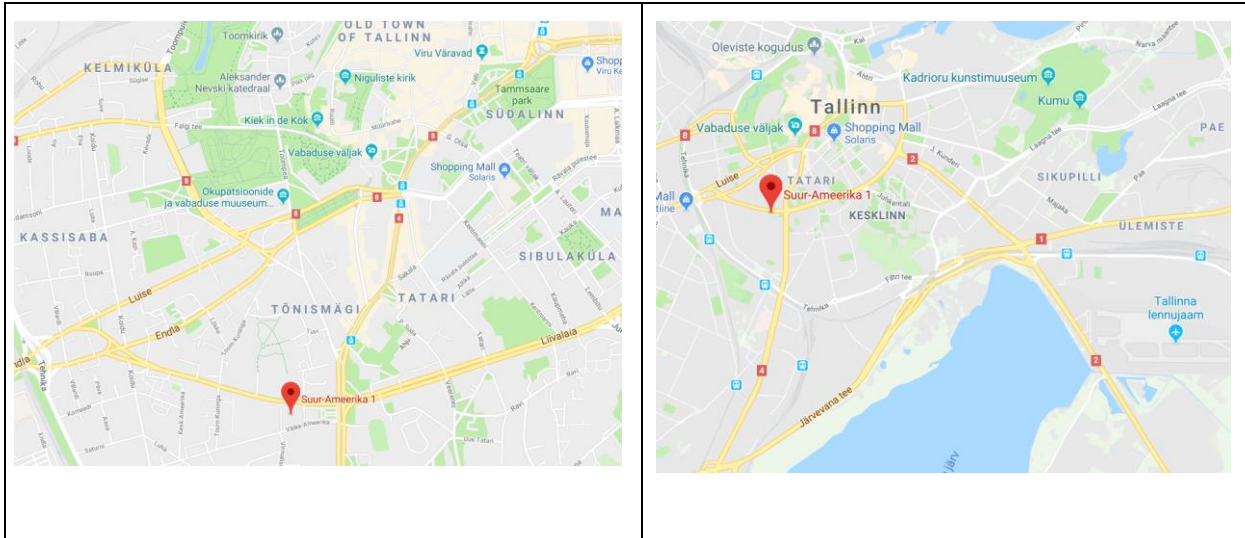
Please register at <http://www.espon.eu/tallinn>

Contacts

Richard Tuffs, ERRIN
Tel: +32 2 486 4765
Mob: +32 496 305 436
richard.tuffs@errin.eu

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6.
Map of Location



7.
Directions

The Estonian Ministry of Finance (Suur-Ameerika 1, Tallinn) is located in the newly built ministries' building near the city centre, easily accessible by foot or by public transport. Tram line no 4 connects the airport, city centre, and the ministry – about 30-40 minutes from the airport (tram stop “Lennujaam”) to the venue.

For the venue, exit either tram stop “Kosmos” or “Vineeri”, as the ministry is just between the two stops (<https://transport.tallinn.ee/#tram/4/b-a/13513-1/map/en>).

Taxis don't have fixed rates, before entering check for fees and for the possibility to pay by card. Apps like Uber or Taxify are widely used.



8.
Hotels in Tallinn

The closest hotels within ten minutes walking distance to the venue are:

- St Barbara (<https://www.stbarbara.ee/en-us>),
- Palace (<https://www.tallinnhotels.ee/hotel-palace-tallinn>)
- Kreuzwald (<https://www.kreuzwaldhotel.com>), and
- Centennial (<https://www.centennialhoteltallinn.com>)