

TERMS OF REFERENCE

ESPON Project 4.1: ESPON – DATA NAVIGATOR

1. Introduction

As set out in section III.4 of the ESPON programme document¹, it will be a priority to put in place the scientific and technical infrastructure to facilitate the gathering, processing and analysis of the statistical and geographical information and other quantitative indicators emanating from the respective research themes of the Trans-national Project Groups (TPG); polycentrism, the territorial impacts of transport policy, the environment, rural development policy and the like. The work of the TGP's will culminate in the setting up of an ESPON Geographical Information System to manage and exploit the considerable volume of data and maps being used in as well as resulting from the projects.

The ESPON programme will include a number of coordination tasks to ensure the smooth running of this pan-European exercise. It will entail a close liaison with a range of national and European bodies as well as the TPGs, with the aim of bringing together a common operational framework for their respective provision of territorially relevant data in accordance with the overall work programme.

In this context, the Data Navigator projects aim to create an brief overview, a short handbook, covering national and regional as well as European and transnational level, which can give information on the principal sources, contact points, structures and links, which offer potential support to the tasks of the ESPON. Based on a number of similar inventories the intention is to establish a framework of basic information helping the Lead Partners as well as their project partners within the TPG's to rapidly identify those entities, which can provide relevant datasets and maps required for their respective fields of work.

In order to keep the work as a handbook, not a hand library, the descriptions ought to be very brief. Especially useful is the institutional references to data producing agencies. The problem with the themes to be covered is of course that concerning most of the themes there are no harmonised statistics at the international level (take for instance "cultural sites"). Harmonised statistics are already aggregated by Eurostat, etc.. Other data indicated by the Data Navigator may need to be harmonised or may only be available for some countries. The Data Navigator may point out the variety of ways to produce statistics in the countries. So the handbook could also be a source of inspiration. The variety of statistics produced across Europe might include interesting hints concerning the conceptualisation of various matters in the different countries.

The different ways of constructing statistics in the various countries and the different themes covered is a very interesting result in itself. Thus, the benefits of such a work would not only be to guide users of the handbook to existing sources of information in order to get comparable

¹ THE ESPON 2006 PROGRAMME

illustrations, but to guide users into the variety of approaches and ways of structuring society by statistics. Another matter of interest is of course how statistics are normally used in every country.

It is important to note that the geographical scope of the Data Navigator project will include the existing 15 Member States of the European Union, the accession candidates (including Turkey) as well as neighbouring countries (Island, Norway, Switzerland and the EuroMed-countries).

2. Content of the Data Navigator

The end result of the Data Navigator will be a handbook which supports the search for relevant territorial data and maps across Europe. It will be elaborated as a compilation of 19 inventories, one from each of the 15 Member States, an input covering the European and transnational level, and three inputs dealing with relevant data in accession and neighbouring countries, covering countries in the north and north-east of Europe, covering countries in the south-east, and one covering the Mediterranean basin. In order to ensure comparable information, and make aggregation to European wide scale feasible, all inventories will follow the same questionnaire.

Each inventory shall follow the questionnaire on access to territorially relevant data included as annex I. The identification of principal datasets relevant for territorial development and spatial planning included in the questionnaire is based on the main datasets available at European level (principally through Eurostat). In addition, variables and indicators envisaged as constituting core elements, in terms of data and maps, within the respective research themes (to be undertaken by the Trans-national Project Groups) are included as well.

As a guideline, the reference scale for the work will be preferably 1:100,000 for geographic datasets and NUTS², preferable level 3 (but also level 2), for statistics. In particular cases, data will relate to other geographical levels (e.g. municipalities), or it might be foreseen that they undergo processing to redistribute them on the basis of a regular grid.

The contractor shall as indicated only provide general information on datasets and take into consideration and report on the following aspects:

- Sources of main statistical series, geographic datasets, maps and databases, including web-hosted providers;
- Cartography; symbolisation, schematic spatial representations;
- Metadata: nomenclatures, periodicity, projection, pertinence, scale, scope, quality, generalisation, gaps and anomalies, compatibility and harmonisation issues;
- Contacts and their responsibilities; full contact details;
- Examples for geo-statistical reprocessing or modelling of the data
- Conditions for delivery, including costs and copyright

In collaboration with the ESPON Contact Points, the contractors shall develop the inventories by locating, evaluating and gathering information on relevant additional inputs, which may be available at national and regional levels.

² Nomenclature des Unités Territoriales Statistiques, Statistical Office of the European Communities.

The task of managing, compiling and drafting a final report will be commissioned separately.

3. Contracting the Data Navigator

In achieving the aim of a European wide Data Navigator the following 20 individual contracts will be commissioned (see annex II):

- 15 contracts, one per Member State
- 1 contract covering European Institutions and transnational Interreg programmes
- 1 contract covering the non EU member states of the Interreg IIC cooperation of the Baltic Sea area, with an emphasis on the candidate countries, (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland) and neighbouring countries (Russia, Belarus,)
- 1 contract covering the non EU member states of the Interreg IIC cooperation of the Cades space (excluding Poland which will be dealt with in the Baltic project) with an emphasis on the candidate countries (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia) and neighbouring countries (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia-Montenegro, Mazedonia, Moldavia, Ukraine).
- 1 contract covering the non EU member states of EuroMed (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria) and Turkey with an emphasis on the candidate countries (Malta, Cyprus).
- 1 contract covering compilation into a homogeneous report
- Island, Norway and Switzerland will be informed on the contracting of the Data Navigator and will be asked to contribute by tendering the same studies on their own account.

The four contracting institutes which carry out the data navigator projects for the candidate and other countries and European Institution are requested to make direct contact to at least to representatives of the candidate countries during May. Ideally the contractors would invite them for a meeting in order to introduce the details of the mission. The relevant Ministries for Spatial Planning in the candidate countries will be informed about the data navigator studies

As a European overview on access to territorial data and maps is an urgent requirement for the ESPON programme, and because each contract will be below 10.000 €, all contracts will be commissioned in accordance with Luxembourg law, without a tendering procedure.

4. Timetable

The contracted tasks of the Data Navigator serve as a reconnaissance mission to prepare the foundations for the work of the TPG's, which will take off in early autumn 2002.

Consequently, in order to be able to provide basic information for the operationalisation of the first phase of the ESPON work programme, the following timetable shall be applied:

- From mid June 2002: Contracting 20 contractors by proposals by Member States
- mid June 2002 – mid July 2002: Inventories at national, transnational and Community level.
- Until mid August 2002: Compilation and processing of inventories
- End of August 2002: Delivery of a report entitled "Data Navigator - access to territorial data and maps in Europe".

5. Questionnaire for the inventories on access to territorial relevant data in Europe

Themes to be covered	Nomenclatures of the statistical series/ Geographic datasets/ Maps/ Databases (also including web-hosted providers)	Sources of the statistical series/ geographic datasets/ maps/ databases	periodicity / estimate / quality / gaps and anomalies	Administrative level (NUTS, regional aggregate of) / regional cover / Geographical scale / raster / grid /other formats	Reports where data were already analysed / Print / Electronic media (diskette, Cd-Rom)	Available cartography / symbolisation / schematic spatial representations	Costs / copyright	Contacts and their responsibilities; full contact details
1. Spatial typologies often used in reporting systems								
(functional regions, spatial classifications, city systems and hierarchies)	Available yes/no which							
2. Population								
(age, foreigners, education, mobility, commuting, training, households etc.)								
Population by age	Population by 5 year age groups	Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR)	yearly	NUTS 3	Berichte des BBR Band 8 / CD - Rom	Map making on CD-Rom	32 Euro	Deichmanns Aue 31-73 53179 Bonn; Contact: Helmut Janich, ++49 1888 401 2258 helmut.janich@bbr.bund.de
3. Employment and labour market								
(age, gender, qualification by sector etc.)								

4. Wealth and production								
(GDP, gross value added, income, net production etc.)								
5. Enterprises and investment								
(foundation, sectors, foreign investments etc.)								
6. Transport								
(Goods and people, volume and values, time and modes, safety etc.)								
7. Research and Development								
(invention, innovation, diffusion, investments public and private, infrastructure etc.)								
8. Utilities								
(Energy by source, disposal etc.)								
9. Telecommunication and information society								
(infrastructure supply, access, use etc.)								

10. Household orientated infrastructure								
(Healthcare, amenities, retail, education supply etc.)								
11. Land use, land structure, settlement structure, natural resources								
(land use, land occupation, geological and bio-geological data, coast line, mountains, water mining, forests etc.)								
land use	Pan Euoepan Landcover Monitoring database (PELCOM)	i.e. Satellus (migrating to Lantmäteriet)	non-recurrent	Pan-European / 1100 m / grid / geo-referenced	different sources of project partners / download / CD-ROM	maps	non-specified / copyright by project patrnrs	SE-801 82 Gävle Sweden contact: Kjell Wester ++46 26 63 30 00 kjell.wester@satellus.se
12. Environment								
(Pollution on the base of the Driving Force-Pressure - State – Impact - Response DPSIR approach Classifications of protected areas etc.)								
13. Agriculture								
(Land use, farmer structures, employments, dependencies)								
14. Social situation								
(Poverty measurements, segregation etc.)								

15. Housing								
(availability, quality etc.)								
16. Cultural sites								
(inventories, classifications etc.)								
17. Tourism								
(infrastructure, tourists etc.)								
18. Public sector								
(activities, budgets, institutional structures, regional policy etc.)								
19. Other data								
Any other data which are collected and could be interesting for the ESPON								

6. List of the contractors

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Compilation of all data navigators

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