

**BID FOR TENDER NO 2002.ESPON.1.1.2  
URBAN-RURAL RELATIONS IN EUROPE**

**23.5.2002**

**Lead Partner:  
Centre for Urban and Regional Studies (CURS)  
Helsinki University of Technology (HUT)**



# BID FOR TENDER NO 2002.ESPON.1.1.2 URBAN-RURAL RELATIONS IN EUROPE

23.5.2002

Lead Partner:  
Centre for Urban and Regional Studies (CURS)  
Helsinki University of Technology (HUT)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1) SUMMARY PRESENTATION OF THE TENDERER AND THE CONSORTIUM	3
<i>CURS in a nutshell</i>	3
<i>Consortium in a nutshell</i>	4
2) INFORMATION REGARDING THE CONDITIONS OF EXCLUSION	7
3) INFORMATION REGARDING SELECTION CRITERIA	7
<i>Assurance of no conflict of interest</i>	7
<i>Presentation of partners and subcontractors</i>	8
4) INFORMATION REGARDING AWARD CRITERIA	43
<i>Knowledge of regional policy and the ESDP and of the question of territorial development in the context of the Community territory</i>	43
<i>Technical quality of the tender in relation to the services required</i>	46
<i>Time management, assignment of human and financial resources to the various tasks</i>	61
5) COST OF THE STUDY	69
6) SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY	70
7) ANNEXES	74

Legally responsible persons:

**HUT**

Rector Paavo Uronen

Director Veijo Ilmavirta / Otaniemi International Innovation Centre

**CURS**

Director Prof. Hilikka Lehtonen

Person responsible for responding to the tender notice:

Prof. Dr.Sc. Christer Bengs (Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, )

Centre for Urban and Regional Studies, P.O. Box 9300, FIN-02015 HUT, Finland

tel. +358-9-451 4098 / +46-8-463 5411

fax +358-9-451 2140

e-mail: christer.bengs@hut.fi

## 1) SUMMARY PRESENTATION OF THE TENDERER AND THE CONSORTIUM

For the tender "Urban-Rural Relations in Europe", the consortium led by the Centre for Urban and Regional Studies (CURS) submits the following project proposal.

### *CURS in a nutshell*

Centre for Urban and Regional Studies (CURS) is a multi-disciplinary institute, specialised in urban and regional planning research and education. The CURS is a joint unit for Finnish universities, governed by a board consisting of a chairman, ten professors of different universities and eight expert members. It holds status of the national centre responsible for urban and regional studies in Finland. The CURS is affiliated with the Helsinki University of Technology (HUT) as a separate institute.

During the last decades, the CURS has carried out large research projects dealing with regional development, urban and rural policy, housing preferences, environmental policy, ecological urban planning, cultural heritage, transportation policy as well as communicative planning theory and practice. In most of the projects, international partnerships and co-operation have been promoted. At the moment the institute is a partner in two R&D-projects of the 5th Framework Programme. The CURS was part of the Finnish consortium in the Study Programme on European Spatial Planning, i.e. the test-phase of the current ESPON.

The CURS represents the Finnish urban and regional planning research and expertise in several international networks. One of its closest partners is Nordregio, the Nordic Centre for Spatial Development. The Professor in Urban and Regional Planning at CURS, Dr.Sc. Christer Bengs, is also affiliated to Nordregio as a Senior Research Fellow. CURS and Nordregio have carried out several common projects, including "ESDP and spatial planning and development in the Baltic Countries". Both Nordregio and CURS were also involved in the Study Programme on European Spatial Planning. The CURS was part of the National Focal Point in Finland. Nordregio was in charge of the co-ordination team of the programme, Professor Bengs being the director of the project together with Mr. Hallgeir Aalbu of Nordregio.

Currently, CURS is the Finnish Contact Point of the ESPON 2006 Programme and is actively networking European-wide under several topics of the programme, serving also as a bridge between the Finnish research community and the ESPON 2006.

At present CURS takes part in two projects financed by the 5th Framework Programme of the European Union:

1. Urban Catalysts: Strategies for Temporary Uses - Potential for Development of Urban Residual Areas in European Metropolises (partners from Berlin, Amsterdam, Naples and Vienna, co-ordinator Technische Universität Berlin)
2. Greenscom: Communicating Urban Growth and Green (partners from the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and France, co-ordinator Alterra - Green World Research, the Netherlands)

The memberships in different international associations is a part of the networking. CURS is a council member of the AESOP (Association of European Schools of Planning), a member of CIB's (Council of International Building) working group on Housing Sociology and a board member of both the Nordisk förening för arkitekturforskningen and IAPS (International Association of People-Environment Studies). CURS is also the member of EURA (The European Urban Research Association).

For the project "Urban-Relations in Europe", the CURS can offer a team with extensive experience both from the field of European spatial planning and development in general and from the study of urban-rural relations in particular. The leader of the project, Professor Dr. Christer Bengs has got more than 30 years of professional experience related to urban and regional matters. His experience encompasses practical planning, research and education. Besides Finland he has been working for longer periods of time in Sweden, Germany and Libya and conducted professional courses in all the countries of the Baltic Sea Region.

Prof. Bengs has published extensively in the field of European spatial planning, regional development, urban economics, real estate, housing and cultural heritage. He has been involved in various EU-projects and was (together with Mr. Hallgeir Aalbu) the head of the co-ordination team of the Study Programme on European Spatial Planning, the test-phase of the current ESPON. In this endeavour more than 200 European researchers from all the 15 Member States took part. A summary of the results of this research programme is available as a publication and CD-rom. With special significance for the issue of urban-rural relations, Prof. Bengs has conducted a huge research project on the post-war development of the Helsinki region, including topics like land ownership, exploitation processes, real estate markets, housing, planning, etc. This work has been published in 13 reports with more than 1000 pages of texts and maps by the Technical Research Centre of Finland.

### ***Consortium in a nutshell***

#### *Partnership*

The consortium consists of a partnership of seven universities and two private companies/consultants. In addition three subcontractors are foreseen for certain tasks. The letters of commitment from the partners can be found in Annex A.

The consortium includes three ESPON Contact Points as project partners (Finland, Luxembourg and Ireland). This will guarantee a close co-operation of the project team with the ESPON Coordination Unit and the Monitoring Committee. The Contact Points serve also as bridgeheads to the national research networks and policy makers in their countries.

The partners of CURS in the consortium are:

- Partner 2 Centre for Urban Development and Environmental Management (CUDEM)  
Leeds Metropolitan University, United Kingdom
- Partner 3 OTB Research Institute for Housing, Urban and Mobility Studies (OTB)  
Technical University of Delft, Netherlands
- Partner 4 Taurus Institute (TAURUS)  
University of Trier, Germany / ESPON Contact Point, Luxembourg
- Partner 5 European Agency Territories and Synergies (EA-TS)  
Strasbourg, France
- Partner 6 Centre of Geographical Studies (CEG)  
University of Lisbon, Portugal
- Partner 7 Department of Economics (Sefemeq)  
University of Rome Tor Vergata, Italy
- Partner 8 Regional Development and Policy Research Unit (RDPRU)  
University of Macedonia, Greece
- Partner 9 The National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA)  
NUI Maynooth, Ireland / ESPON Contact Point, Ireland

In addition three subcontractors will be hired for clearly defined tasks:

- Subcontractor 1a Mcrit sl., Barcelona, Spain  
(GIS-platform, cartographic presentations)
- Subcontractors1b ÖIR - Austrian Institute for Regional Studies and Spatial Planning, Vienna, Austria  
(support for data access and policy analysis of the accession countries)
- Subcontractor 1c NN (support for EU based data access and territorial coverage in Nordic and Baltic countries) – institution to be agreed later

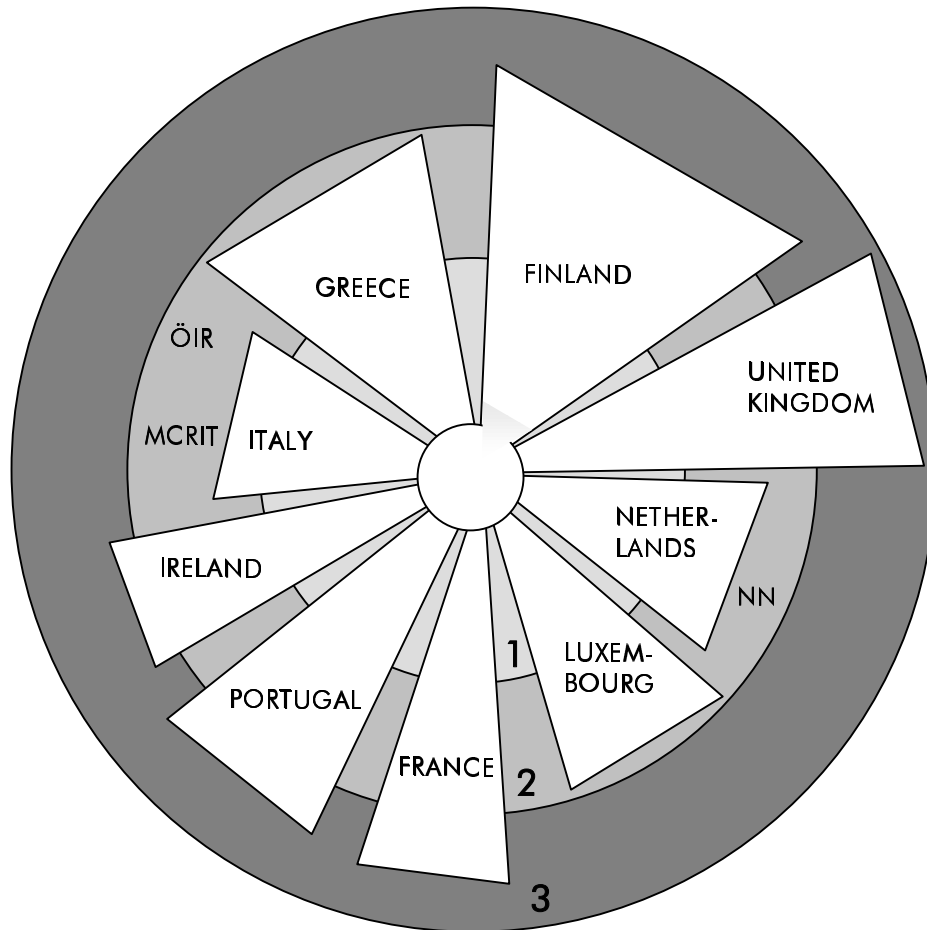
The multinational project group for the “Urban-rural relations in Europe” has been built keeping in mind the need to operationalise the basic concepts and aims of the ESDP. The three fundamental aims of European policy, i.e. cohesion, competitiveness and protection that are further concretised in the ESDP policy guidelines, are supposed to form the basis for sustainable development and thereby transcend all projects of the ESPON Programme.

The EU-wide conceptualisation and policy relevance is guaranteed by the following.

1. Extensive geographical coverage of the consortium members, having Finland, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Germany/Luxembourg, France, Portugal, Italy, Greece and Ireland in the circle of scientific partners of the project and Spain and Austria and in the second circle (Fig.1),
2. Firm knowledge base and data on the countries outside of the EU via the inner and outer circle partners. Partners and subcontractors have extensive experience of research and development projects with and in the EU Accession Countries. Several partners have also close links to the other countries of Eastern Europe.
3. Insight into the needs of the policy makers from EU to local level, each partner having conducted studies and development projects with respective authorities.
4. Backing from the national networks, three partners being also ESPON Contact Points.
5. The scientific palette of the partners being able a) to cover the whole scope of ESPON in order to provide for fruitful networking with other projects underway; b) to grasp the multiple dimensions of urban-rural relations within the most relevant frameworks.

Other strengths of the consortium include:

1. the project being based on existing co-operation networks – almost all the partners have collaborated earlier in many ways, the most relevant context for the ESPON being in the context of the Study Programme on European Spatial Planning (December 1999 - March 2001),
2. the state-of-the art in research on European spatiality and urban-rural relations being very familiar to the consortium, as described in detail in chapters 3 and 4.
3. the ability to incorporate discussion partners from the regional authorities and urban-rural partnership initiatives (the third circle of the consortium, see Fig. 1 and the letters of intent in Annex B).



- 1 Scientific level – partners, comprehensive competence, territorial coverage
- 2 Technical level – sub-contractors: statistics, GIS-support, cartography
- 3 Policy level - professional responses: practitioners in the field of regional development and sector organisations

#### PARTNERS

Finland: Centre for Urban and Regional Studies / ESPON Contact Point  
 United Kingdom: Centre for Urban Development and Environmental Management, Leeds Metropolitan University  
 Netherlands: OTB Research Institute for Housing, Urban and Mobility Studies  
 Luxembourg: Taurus Institute / ESPON Contact Point  
 France: European Agency Territories and Synergies  
 Portugal: Centre of Geographical Studies, University of Lisbon  
 Italy: Faculty of Economics, University of Rome Tor Vergata  
 Greece: Regional Development and Policy Research Unit, University of Macedonia  
 Ireland: National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis

#### SUBCONTRACTORS

MCRIT sl., Barcelona, Spain  
 ÖIR = Austrian Institute for Regional Studies and Spatial Planning, Vienna, Austria  
 NN = forseen subcontractor to be chosen later

Figure 1. Structure of the project consortium according to three concentric circles

### *Project management*

The project consortium being big, it has been necessary to design an efficient management structure for the project. A separate project council will be established to agree on the major decisions during the work. The council consists of the five work-package leaders plus one additional partner, and is led by the co-ordinator. Other partners participate both in the scientific discussions concerning the general outline and the work done in the work-packages they have chosen to work for.

The CURS, being the lead partner, works as the project co-ordinator meaning both the scientific co-ordinator and the partner responsible for the overall technical and financial co-ordination including the contract with the Managing Authority of the ESPON Programme. A consortium agreement will be signed among the partners. Separate subcontracting agreements are also signed to define the tasks of the subcontractors carefully. The Otaniemi International Innovation Centre (OIIC) supports the technical and financial management, including contractual issues of the project. OIIC is a unit that has been founded to provide the most qualified research liaisons, contracting and innovation services for HUT.

The aims of the project are ambitious. The project consortium has gathered extra funds in order to be able to carry out the foreseen tasks. In addition to the funds available through ESPON (410 000 EUR), the partners can support the work with 91 640 EUR. External funding will also be applied for (200 000 EUR). Several organisations are also willing to discuss the project with the partners. The Letters of intent from these organisations can be found in Annex B.

## **2) INFORMATION REGARDING THE CONDITIONS OF EXCLUSION**

The consortium led by CURS consists of seven universities and two private companies/consultants with evidence of stability and good financial conduct. Most of the institutions being public, state-owned universities receive their basic funds from the national budget. The status of a public institute also guarantees the payment of social security fees, taxes and dues. Also the consortium members and subcontractors from institutions with another kind of status have proven efficient and reliable. Extensive additional information and various certificates are provided in the Annexes of each partner and subcontractor.

Neither the lead partner HUT/CURS, nor one of the eight other partners of the consortium nor the two subcontractors are in a situations that could lead to exclusion as listed under point 12 of the restricted call for tender (See Declarations on Conflict of Interests). The required certificates from each partner and subcontractor can be found in the Annexes. In some cases sworn declarations are attached instead.

## **3) INFORMATION REGARDING SELECTION CRITERIA**

### ***Assurance of no conflict of interest***

The lead partner HUT/CURS has no direct or indirect interest of a type or scale that could jeopardise his independence in carrying out the tasks entrusted to him in performance of the contract covered by the call for tenders (see also attached declaration in Annex C). The same applies to all project partners and sub-contractors.

## ***b) Technical quality of the tender in relation to the services required***

- 3) *Description of a few suggestions of concepts and methodology to be analysed or used by the tenderer and the problems each of these suggestions may pose*

### *Introduction*

In the terms of reference for ESPON action 1.1.2, the thematic scope and context are supposed to be linked to ESPON actions 1.1.1 and 2.1.3, and to provide input for priority 3 and policy-related issues of the EU. References are made to the SPESP, ministerial decisions, the second cohesion report, etc. as well. The general objectives of action 1.1.2 includes reference to the general objectives of the ESDP, existing spatial structures of the EU territory, polycentrism, definition of concepts, appropriate indicators, typologies and instruments, new methodologies, territories affected as well as orientations of policy responses.

The outlines given in the terms of references are rather extensive and complex. From a research point of view, an initial task is to give an overall account of the various themes and their interdependencies. At this stage, the CURS-led team wants to review the complexity of the task by a chart that links together the empirical issues of **urban-rural relations** and their spatial implications with the policy oriented issue of **urban-rural partnerships**. The presented view is of course fairly crude, but hopefully indicates the interrelations among various topics, and crucial matters to be addressed. The CURS team want to stress *the importance of a fairly pro-active approach where the descriptive/analytical parts of the project should be clearly related to the use of the ESPON results in shaping the structural policies of the post-2006 period.*

### *Urban-rural relations*

The distinctive character of the traditional European landscape included a fairly clear-cut division between urban and rural areas, cities and towns being clearly marked off from the surrounding countryside by city walls or other physically visible borders. These demarcation lines would partly correspond to a functional division of labour, and, in addition, administrative delimitations. Such a easily comprehensible picture was blurred already by the emerging industrialisation and further reinforced by improved communication and information technology. Driving forces behind the **contextual trends** getting more or less manifest in the landscape and in human activities, are a perpetual strive for increased productivity, for free flow of capital investment and corresponding new location patterns of traditional and new functions.

Today, the various kinds of traditional physical settings do not correspond to specified functions any more. The relationships between urban and rural are neither physically obvious nor functionally determined alone. Therefore, a systematic investigation of these relationships in **“reality”** must be based on differentiated concepts. As the degree of urban versus rural is dependent on the character of both **physical structures** and **functional flows**, these two categories must be distinguished. Important to notice as well is that physical structures (and corresponding real estate structures) are fairly inert and long-term in effects compared to functional flows that may change overnight and whose effects can be long-term as well as short-term.

Based on purely physical characteristics, “urban” and “rural” may be **conceptualised** in terms of density of population, density of built up areas, land-use categories and land-use pressure as well as in terms of networks (transport, energy, ITC, greenery). **Classifications of physical structures** often imply functional criteria as well, as any physical structure for obvious reasons to some degree is deterministic regarding functions it would and could house. Classification systems include European urban functional



areas (EUFA), local labour areas (LLA), various typologies of cities and towns, various typologies of rural areas, rate of urbanisation as well as settlement density. **Current trends** related to physical structures are the strive for comprehensive land-use control and the culturally (and politically) determined demand for stability, i.e. conservation of environmental assets.

In terms of functional flows, “urban” and “rural” can be comprehended with regard to flows of people, goods, energy, assets, finance and other information. These kinds of **flows** can be **classified** in terms of trade, professional networks, the accessibility for urban dwellers to rural environments and vice versa, the accessibility for rural inhabitants to urban services, etc. A classification of flows would include the valorisation of rural supply by urban dwellers as well. **Current trends** related to functional flows are globalisation and a strive for enhanced flexibility, fluency and change, i.e. development.

Classifications of urban-rural relationships in terms of physical characteristics and functional flows require the identification of proper **indicators** and corresponding **data** at **various levels** (regional, inter-regional, super-regional, trans-national), elaborated as **time series** on a fairly detailed scale (**NUTS III** or below). These classifications could preferably be elaborated within the frame of various **kinds** of territories (such as dynamic/lagging behind, small/large) or **types** of rural territories (remote rural, intermediate rural, rural under the influence of metropolis).

To conclude, urban-rural relationships could be grouped into three main categories, i.e. according to

1. **physical structures**
2. **functional flows**
3. **physical structures and functional flows**

These relationships could be further classified according to the very nature of the relationship in terms of **economic**, **social** and **cultural** factors, and in terms of **urban (physical, flows) influence on rural (physical, flows) and correspondingly rural influence on urban, urban on urban (structures on flows, flows on structures) and correspondingly rural on rural**. Introducing these various categories of relationships would provide a complex picture of logically possible and factually existing “realities”.

#### *Urban-rural partnerships*

While urban-rural relationships are determined by “reality” in terms of available data, urban-rural partnerships indicate the purposeful elaboration of **policies** both on the regional, national and European level. Policies address questions like “what to support?”, “whom to support?” as well as the spatial and territorial component of any support system. The spatial component of any policy could function as a tool for developing integrated policies where the territorial impact of various sector policies would function as a catalyst.

In the context of EU, the community agricultural policy, the structural funds and community initiatives must be observed as well as national policies. The work of ESPON should contribute to the shaping of the structural policies of the post-2006 period. Therefore aspects like the significance of cohesion/competitiveness for urban-rural partnership are to be stressed. Examples of these are for instance the impacts of urban-rural partnerships on the development of lagging, remote rural areas and partnerships as keystones of local/regional development strategies.

Policies can be **targeted** on institutional change, procedures currently adopted among various partners, and on instrumental aims. Any policy must of course take into consideration the historical context where partnerships have emerged and/or are being implemented. Policies are impossible to design or implement without taking into consideration the various **particular interests** of partners and related actors. Generally speaking, current partnerships would ideally imply flexibility and fluency, responding public management, a minimum of restrictions to development and a continuously changing institutional setting. Policies being the function of public action, imply **common interests** as well,

notably the sustained attractiveness of environment, prudent management of resources and environmental assets, balanced development and sustained scaffolds in terms of institutional settings.

In a time perspective, common interests are fairly **long-lasting** while particular are often **short-term** interests that may change over night. When applying SWOT-analysis of rural areas, the physical structure forms a **contextual frame** of opportunities and threats while the particular strengths and weaknesses of **partners and associated agents** relate in the first place to functional flows, which are maintained by the various agents involved. By applying this view, a policy-targeted analysis of urban-rural partnerships would ideally correspond to the conceptualised way of interpreting urban-rural relationships as sketched above.

Figure 2 provides an overall picture of the field of research of the project proposal as described in this passage. Due to restricted resources, this research proposal cannot unfortunately be comprehensive with respect to all listed topics. The meaning of the figure is *not* to give an overview of all necessary sub-tasks of the project but rather to provide an orientation among the huge diversity of relevant issues. The actual sub-tasks of the project are outlined in the separate work packages.

The Figure 2 also leads to the division of work between work-packages. The five work-packages of the project are:

- WP 1: Concepts and definitions
- WP 2: Indicators and data
- WP 3: Typologies and maps
- WP 4: Policy recommendations
- WP 5: Management

WP1	Provides working <b>definitions</b> for key issues and <b>concepts</b> concerning urban-rural relationships that will be examined in the project. Synthesises, compares and assesses existing literature. Identifies examples of important urban-rural relationships for policy-making.
WP2	Consists of 1) development <b>indicators</b> for the analysis of urban-rural relationships and partnerships and 2) <b>collection of data</b> for the data base to be established.
WP3	Evaluation of existing <b>typologies</b> and elaboration of new ones. Based on the indicators proposed in WP2. Comes up with European-wide typologies related to urban-rural relationships and urban-rural partnerships. Work supported by a GIS-platform providing the <b>cartographic presentations</b> .
WP4	Provides <b>recommendations for policy options</b> concerning the strengthening of urban-rural relationships in such a way that benefit both urban and rural areas. Provides recommendations concerning effective partnership building between urban and rural areas.
WP5	Includes both <b>scientific and technical co-ordination</b> . Keeps the partners in close cooperation through WP leaders and represents the consortium towards the outside.

**Contextual trends:** Strive for increasing productivity, for free flows of capital and new location patterns due to advanced IT.

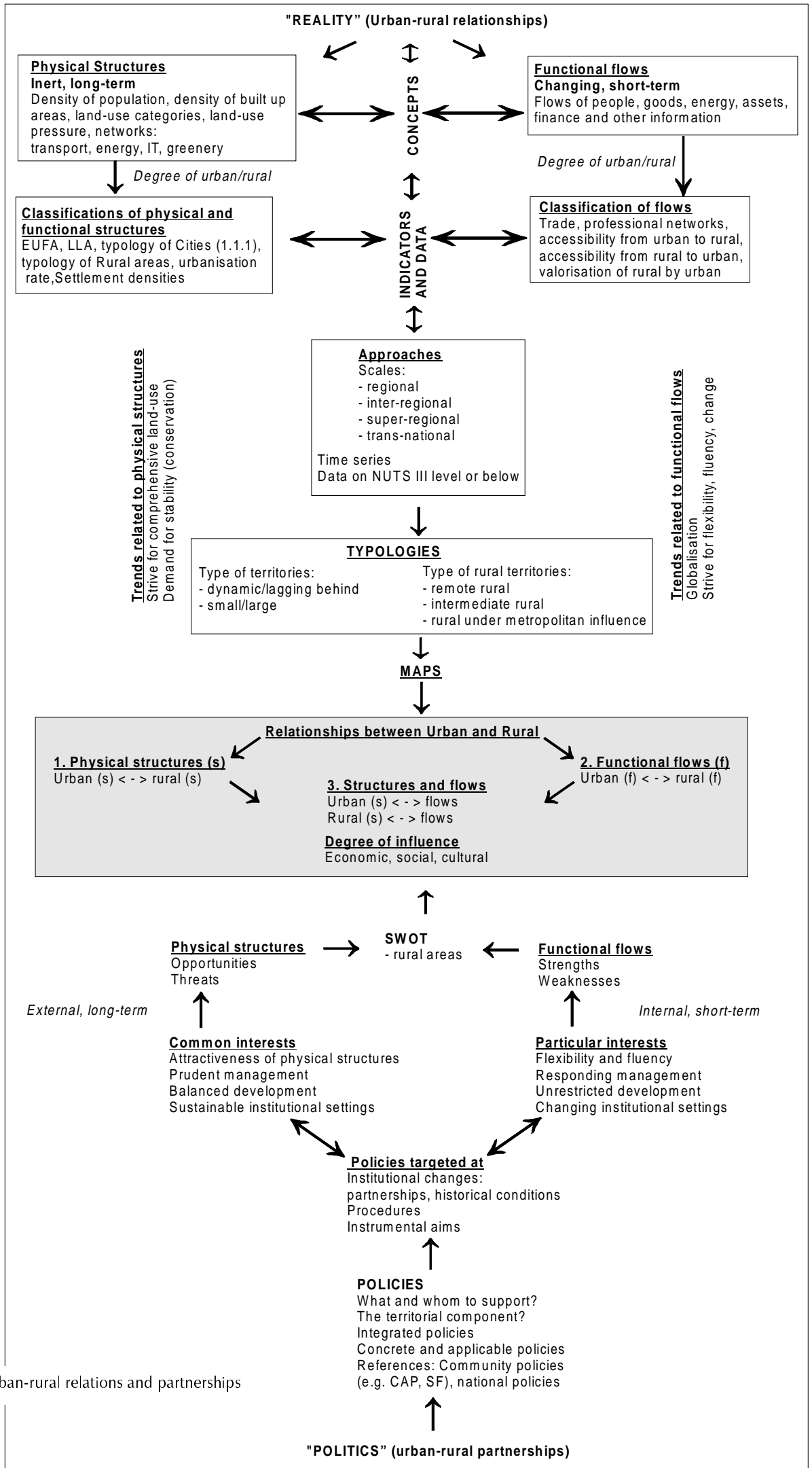


Figure 2: Urban-rural relations and partnerships

As WP1 is closely related to the common framework, it is presented in the following table:

## WP 1: Concepts and Definitions

This work-package provides working definitions for key issues and concepts concerning urban-rural relationships that will be examined in the project. It synthesises, compares and assesses existing literature (including both theoretical/academic and policy/programming documents) on territorial typologies and types of urban-rural relationships. The work-package also identifies examples of important urban-rural relationships for policy-making.

### Aims and objectives

- a) To provide working definitions for key issues and concepts concerning urban-rural relationships that will be examined in the project
- This will involve a review and comparison of existing relevant theoretical/academic and policy/programming literature to filter out concepts and definitions
  - Working definitions for *general concepts* (e.g. urban, peri-urban, rural and deep rural) will be identified
  - Working definitions for *policy concepts* related to territorial categories (e.g. metropolitan and polycentric areas, greenbelts, protected areas and urban-rural partnerships) will be identified
  - Working definitions of different *scales of analysis* (e.g. cross-border, transnational and super-regional) will be identified
  - This work will also require liaison with other relevant projects, including other ESPON projects and elsewhere (e.g. the work of the OECD's Working Party on Territorial Policy in Urban Areas<sup>1</sup>) to ensure similarity of definitions
  - A glossary containing these working definitions will be compiled – this will be used both within the other workpackages of the project as well as communicating with the wider
- b) To synthesise, compare and assess relevant existing literature (including both theoretical/academic and policy/programming documents) on territorial typologies with respect to urban-rural relationships
- This will involve review and comparison of existing theoretical/academic and policy/programming literature
  - Various territorial typologies (based on land use, functions or accessibility for example) will be compared and assessed in terms of their usefulness for analysis in subsequent workpackages of the project
  - WP1 will discuss the usefulness of different definitions or typologies according to territorial context (e.g. what is considered urban in Scandinavia may be too small to be considered urban in central Europe)
  - WP1 will identify different types of urban-rural relationships (as well as examples) for analysis in subsequent workpackages, including:
    1. The transfer of people: migration, both long-term (relocation) and short-term (e.g. commuting)
    2. The flows of goods, services and energy
    3. Financial transfer through trade, taxes and disbursements by states and the EU
    4. The transfer of assets: property rights, allocation of state and EU investment and capital in other forms
    5. The flow of information: technical information and social ideas
- c) To identify examples of important urban-rural relationships for policy-making
- WP1 will identify the various types of impacts of urban-rural relationships (identified above), focusing specifically on issues connected to the three main objectives of EU policy, namely:
    - economic and social cohesion
    - conservation of natural resources and cultural heritage
    - competitiveness
  - An expert workshop will be held to identify key urban-rural relationships and important impacts for analysis in subsequent workpackages
  - WP1 will consider how urban-rural relationships can be represented in the absence of comprehensive data (e.g. using case studies to illustrate specific examples, using networks as proxies for flows)

<sup>1</sup> The OECD's Working Party on Territorial Policy in Urban Areas has a remit which includes reporting on "the interaction between urban municipalities and other levels of government, and between cities and other sub-national, territorial units, stressing in particular urban/rural links" [<http://www.oecd.org/pdf/M00017000/M00017728.pdf>].

## Suggestions of concepts and methodologies

In order to concretise the framework in terms of research questions three examples of the concepts that can be further worked with during the project are given here:

a) The relationship between urban and rural physical structures and corresponding land-use – an example

As an example of more elaborated approaches, the question of **land-use pressure** covers wide areas of the European territory and is crucial because this concept involves a dynamic development-aspect on the European territory. Land-use pressure indicates that the present (or former) use of land is going to be (or has got) unproductive compared to foreseen exploitation, which in turn leaves for instance **agricultural land abandoned, and waiting for more profitable exploitation**. This situation is a typical one across Europe in areas under the influence of metropolises. A less discussed matter is the land-use pressure on agricultural land that emerges as a result of exploitation for mass tourism. Across the Mediterranean basin, old agricultural land is lying untilled, waiting to be built. This situation is dysfunctional in the sense that the attractiveness of the landscape (and consequently revenues from the tourist sector) is reduced. It would be in the interest of the tourist sector as well as in the interest of the local population to find means of sustaining agriculture despite the existing land-use pressure. In this case one could speak of genuine **partnership** where many different parties would gain tangible benefits. Agricultural land under pressure of exploitation by tourism can be studied by documenting the changes of agriculture in regions where tourist development is comprehensive. A typical example is the Algarve region in the South of Portugal. Statistical analyses would indicate the extension of the problem and policies could be elaborated in partnership among stakeholders involved. In this project, the problem of land-use pressure would be given a face.

b) Flows between urban and rural areas – an example

One of the most striking trends with respect to Urban-rural relationships is perpetually improved traffic systems, which has resulted in expanding commuting patterns. Thereby local labour areas are getting vaster, providing infra-structural investments are made. In Sweden a policy based on improved commuting is called “**regional enlargement**”, which at the moment is the basis of regional policy of the present national government. The rationale of this policy is that enlarged local labour areas are seen to enhance the quality of the labour market as well, as larger labour markets add to the flexibility of the system - notably in a sparsely populated areas where local labour areas are very limited and consequently inflexible. The intellectual tools elaborated in Sweden in order to define local labour areas are fairly sophisticated and could be tested in a wider European context, especially with respect to those parts of the European territory that are sparsely populated. Such models would be indicative in nature, making evident prospective benefits of regional enlargements.

c) The relationships between flows and urban respective rural structures – an example

Due to emerging new functions and the need to facilitate for these, the physical context both in urban and rural areas are either totally or partly **reshaped**, or more or less **conserved** but adopted to new functional requirements. This process is at the core of a huge complex of problems as the general demand for unlimited development contradicts the strive to conserve existing environmental assets. These assets can be measured in clear figures (the costs for producing something similar) and in terms of a cultural capital (which of course also can be modelled in quantitative terms). An additional complicating factor is that spatial development always create clashed between particular interests of profit and the common interest of developing a generally speaking attractive environment. Methodologically this question could be made a research issue by documenting the turnover of the physical structure (e.g. the average age of any kind of physical structure within a given area), the relative amount of transformed but conserved structures or building activity in relation to existing volumes within any given area. Such an investigation would result in a dynamic picture of development pressure on the one hand and prevailing cultural attitudes on the other hand. In this respect there would be established a connection to the other fields of action of the ESPON, those dealing with environmental assets and protection.

## Timetable and milestones

*NB. All dates assume that the project begins in July 2002*

- Literature review on key issues and concepts concerning urban-rural relationships – July to September 2002
- Liaison with other relevant projects especially (ESPON task 1.1.1) – July 2002 to August 2004
- Glossary of working definitions – September 2002
- Literature review and assessment of territorial typologies and urban-rural relationships – September 2002 to February 2003
- Report on territorial typologies and types of urban-rural relationships – February 2003
- Assessment of important urban-rural relationships for policy-making – February to May 2003
- Expert workshop to identify key urban-rural relationships and important impacts – April 2003
- Report on key urban-rural relationships and important impacts – May 2003
- Contribution to the project final report – August 2004

## WP-leader

OTB Research Institute

## Participating partners

All partners

## Outputs

1. Contribution to interim reports – September 2002 and February 2003
2. Contribution to the final report – August 2004
3. Contribution to research briefings
4. Conference presentations and journal articles

- 4) *Description of the data sources, which the tenderer intends to exploit for data-gathering, indication of their quality, and where necessary, description of the investigation work to be carried out in order to establish a list of data to be requested*

The data sources are dealt with mainly in the WP2 – Indicators and data, which is presented here:

## WP 2: Indicators and data

The work-package consists of 1) development indicators for the analysis of urban-rural relationships and partnerships and 2) collection of data for the data base to be established.

## Aims and objectives

Aims and objectives to be pursued by the development of indicators and collection of data are clearly stated in the terms of reference. For the project team the most relevant objectives are

- developing territorial indicators and typologies capable of identifying and measuring development trends as well as monitoring the political aim of a better balanced and polycentric EU territory; in particular identification, gathering of existing and proposition of new territorial indicators and data (and map-making methods) to measure and display the state, trends and impacts of urban-rural relationships;
- developing tools supporting diagnosis of principal structural difficulties as well as potentialities; in particular with regard to sustainable development and joint economic dynamics in urban and surrounding rural areas;
- investigating territorial impacts of sectoral and structural policies
- further operationalisation and territorial diversification of the policy aims and options adopted in the ESDP.

The development of indicators will stick to the common methodology of the project, dividing spatial phenomena into “structures” and “flows”. For both strands indicators will be selected and data collected. Indicators always have to refer to theoretically based concepts and models, otherwise they were arbitrary. To be useful for improving the knowledge base of EU policy making, they also need to stick to the underlying policy aims. In order to ensure these connections, work conducted in work package 2 will be closely connected to the discussions and outputs of

- work package 1, dealing with conceptual approaches and developing a common understanding of urban-rural partnership for this study,
- work package 3, finding appropriate typologies to analyse urban-rural dimension
- work package 4, identifying the most relevant policy issues.

On the other hand, the choice of indicators will be checked in parallel with the availability of data. The study will start this check from data bases covering all member states (e.g. EUROSTAT, EEA) and the national statistical offices. This will assure that the project will not end up with a list of indicators which cannot be supplied by data and by that will ensure the short-term policy relevance of the indicators. At the same time, the study serves as identification of data gaps. For mid- and long-term considerations it is necessary to indicate the need for additional data to be collected by European and national statistical offices. If necessary and feasible, the data base of this project will be complemented by additional national or regional data.

A multi-step approach of mutual discussion and exchange between the partners of the different work packages will be followed so that intermediate outcomes and challenges of the different themes can be used as feedback in an early stage of the project and can lead to adjustments of the further proceeding. Furthermore, there will be an exchange with other studies carried out on behalf of the ESPON, dealing with indicators and data (e.g. 1.1.1 on polycentric development and 2.1.3. on CAP and rural development policy).

In order to cover all thematic aspects addressed in the aims mentioned above, it will be necessary to develop a comprehensive set of indicators for the different development trends and the specific issues of urban-rural relationships, taking into account the strands of structures and flows.

## Suggestions of indicators

Here a preliminary list of variables/ indicators is presented which can serve as a starting point (based on the SPESP work). It will be carefully evaluated and revised for the purpose of studying the urban-rural relationships.

criteria	indicators	variables	sort
geographical position	(a) geographical indicators (b) physical indicators (c) cultural indicators (d) accessibility indicators	(a) geographical latitude and geographical longitude (b) elevation above sea-level (in meters), length of seashores (in percentage of region's perimeter) and annual sunshine radiation (in kWh/m <sup>2</sup> ) (c) language (d) accessibility by road to population, accessibility by rail to population and accessibility by air to GDP	(a) – (c) structure (d) flow
spatial integration	(a) twinning indicator (b) INTERREG-indicator	(a) ratio of EU-funded host municipalities per region (b) national financing of INTERREG II A projects by GDP	(a) – (b) structure
economic strength	classic economic indicators to measure (a) output and productivity (b) wealth (c) sectoral structure respectively future orientation (d) participation in the labour market	(a) GDP per employee (b) GDP per capita (c) share of employment in agriculture share of employment in research and development (each by total employment/100 employees) (d) unemployment rate	(a) – (d) structure
natural assets	(a) pressure indicators (b) state indicators	(a) pressures on the environment and emissions of acidifying gases (b) ecosystemic diversity, natural hazards, coastal value and natural protected areas	(a) flow (b) structure
cultural assets	(a) significance indicators	(a) agricultural production by utilised	(a) – (b) structure

cultural landscape	(b) endangering indicators	agricultural areas in ECU, share of farms with less than 20 ha by total utilised agricultural area and yearly tourist stays (b) population growth by total area, dissection (length of transportation network by total area), use of energy and lubricants and standard gross margin	
cultural asset – built heritage	(a) cultural richness indicators (b) endangering indicators	(a) presence of cultural sites, concentration of cultural sites (b) tourist pressure with ratio of yearly tourist stays by total resident population and “touristicity” (tourist capacity) with number of beds in hotels etc. by number of households	(a) – (b) structure
land-use pressure	land-use pressure indicators	land abandonment, agricultural intensification and land use pressure due to urbanisation and economical growth (for three land-use categories: natural areas, semi-natural areas and wetlands or water surfaces)	structure and flow
social integration	labour market indicators	unemployment, long-term unemployment and female activity rate in percent and as indices	structure

Synthetic indicators are created by combining single indicators, e.g. geographical position described by accessibility of population by road, accessibility of population by rail and accessibility of GDP by air.

### Challenges and proceeding

The list of indicators presented above already indicates some of the challenges to be faced in the conduction of work-package 2. The following can be expected:

- indicators do presently hardly address the specific theme of urban-rural partnership
- availability of data throughout Europe is dissatisfying, in particular for the flow data
- different kinds of data (statistical data and GIS data) have to be integrated
- additional data of the accession countries /neighbouring countries are required
- data are often not available on the more disaggregate level.

How to deal with these challenges?

The relevance of indicators to be developed for urban-rural partnerships will be reached through close co-operation with wp 1 and wp 3. The work on concepts, models and typologies will give substantial guidance for the development of indicators of a high quality. To maximise the coverage of data, following data sources will be considered for exploitation. Starting form the state of the art reached in the SPESP, the project will rely on the following data sources:

database	source	aspects	spatial level	data-gap
REGIO	EUROSTAT	regional statistics for all important aspects of economic and social life in the EU	NUTS III	some data only on NUTS II- or I-level available
GISCO	EUROSTAT	geographical information ranging from topographic data to administrative regions, to be used in combination with GIS	NUTS III and below	to be handled with metadata
SABE	EuroGeographics	geographical information beyond the administrative level, to be used in combination with GIS	municipal/ local level	to be handled with metadata
CORINE Coordination of Information on the Environment	UNEP	remote sensing data, land cover/land use;projects: air pollution, biotopes, coastal erosion, land cover, marine environment, soil erosion/quality, and water resources	NUTS III and below	
INFOTERRA	UNEP, independent National Focal Centres (NFCs) in 166 countries	decentralized world- wide network of environmental information storage and dissemination facilities		independent work in NFCs, data-gaps existing
CEDAR Central European Environmental Data Request Facility	UNEP (CEDAR is supporting UNEP-INFOTERRA and NFCs)	environmental information and technology flow, supporting several databases prepared by remote groups		independent work in NFCs, data-gaps existing



WCMC World Conservation Monitoring Centre	UNEP	scientific data on the world's biological diversity data management units are: ◆ Threatened Plants Unit (TPU) ◆ Species Conservation Monitoring Unit (SCMU) ◆ Habitats Data Unit (HDU) ◆ Protected Areas Data Unit (PADU) ◆ Wildlife Trade Monitoring Unit (WTMU)		
DATA NAVIGATOR	national authorities	nation-based handbook with information on principal data sources, contact points etc.	to be re-searched (August 2002)	to be re-searched (August 2002)
structural funds	Objective 1-, Objective 2-Programmes	measuring certain indicators according to the programme's requirements, e.g. regional per-capita-income, unemployment	NUTS III-level	only Objective 1- and 2-regions, different indicators
Europe's Environment, the Second Assessment – data service	European Environment Agency (EEA) as central node of European Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET)	environmental information on sustainable development		some data only available on NUTS I-level
OECD regional data base	OECD working group on territorial questions, data source depend on national data collections (e.g. by banks, national bureaus of statistics)	gathering data of member-countries, partly non-member-countries world-wide, ranging from health to social welfare	mostly national level	
Environmental European Spatial Data Infrastructure (E-ESDI)	EUROSTAT (initiative)			

### Timetable and milestones

- choice of indicators and data needed according to underlying concepts, typologies and political expectations: September 2002
- request for data to be collected by EU and national statistical institutions: September 2002
- preliminary results on new territorial indicators, based on data collection and processing by all partners: February 2003
- establishment of a new database, building on new territorial indicators: February 2003
- development of approaches for new tools and monitoring system with regard to the policy implications (based on co-operation of all partners, in particular partner 2 and 5): August 2003
- request for additional data (if necessary): August 2003
- presentation of new territorial indicators and data for the whole territory: August 2004
- listing of further data requirements and ideas of territorial indicators: August 2004

### WP-leader

Lead partner : partner 4 (TAURUS)

### Participating partners

all partners and subcontractors for comprehensive data coverage  
subcontractor MCRIT for integration of statistical and GIS data  
partners 1, 4 and 6 for developing tools

## Outputs

1. set of territorial indicators, focussing on the different policy aims and objectives (mentioned above) with emphasis on urban-rural-relationships
2. list of requirements for additional data collections (if necessary)
3. integrated database with statistical and GIS data, trying to achieve data coverage on all indicators and for EU member states and neighbouring countries
4. contributions to Interim reports

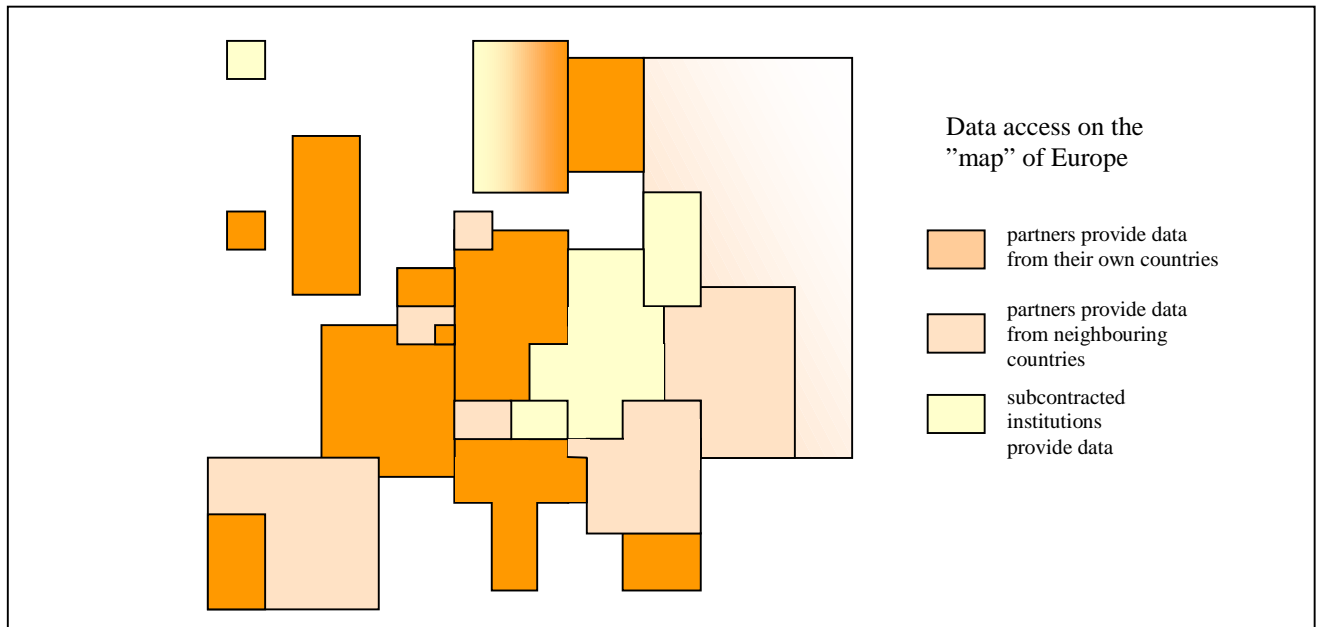


Figure 3: Access to data – territorial division of labour within the consortium

- 5) *Description of a few suggestions for territorial indicators that could be further developed by the tenderer within the focus of the research project*

Several suggestions were already made in the WP1 and WP2.

The three examples of concepts and methodology (the relationship between urban-rural structures, flows between urban and rural areas, the relationship between flows and structures) suggested in Fig 2 and WP 1 could be further elaborated into territorial indicators

### a) The relationship between urban and rural structures and corresponding land-use

Among a multitude of interesting territorial indicators that could be developed, those indicating **land-use pressure** are of specific interest. Land-use pressure expresses the dynamism of change and its economic rationale as well as the social and cultural attitudes to this change and its implications for the future. Construction investments in a region do not only have a direct influence by providing new facilities for various functions but they also cause prospective expectation-values and consequently strongly influence the regional price level of real estate. This in turn affects the traditional land-use and causes even previously profitable land-use to fade away, and land and buildings to be abandoned. A large-scale typical case is the abandonment of agriculture even in areas that used to be the most yielding ones. Two complementary indicators of land-use pressure could be developed:

- land prices that indicate change of land-use and the foreseen yield of the new land-use specifically in rural areas under the influence of development,
- the degree of vacant houses and other structures, or abandoned agricultural land, in any given area (especially in regions of strong development).

b) Flows between urban and rural areas:

The allegedly most important flow between urban and rural areas (and certainly the most precious one in terms of turnover) consists of people travelling or commuting. In peripheral rural areas “**regional enlargement**” (the extension of the local labour market by improved commuting) could be a way of providing competitive labour markets and thereby attractive new locations for enterprises outside the huge metropolitan areas. The hypothesis saying that enlarged local labour markets provide for a quality rise of those markets as well could be tested in terms of commuting patterns in relation to in/out migration of a given region. This study would deal with the situation in rural areas under influence of medium-size cities, where the surplus gain of investments in infrastructure might be maximised.

c) The relationship between flows and structures:

One crucial question when discussing **development** versus **protection and conservation** relates to

- the potential of old structures to house new functions, and
- the role of temporal land-use in abandoned areas waiting for investments and development.

This question has got a huge economic significance, and in addition, it is environmentally and culturally important. The economic and cultural gains of re-utilisation are paired with the economic and social advantages gained by temporal users of limited economic means. As such, the question of development versus conservation transcends urban and rural territories as development of course takes place in all kinds of regions. Certainly, however, various urban-rural conditions provide different conditions for re-uses of physical structures and temporal land-uses and are themselves affected by how these matters are dealt with. Therefore territorial indicators could be elaborated in order to document new construction and new land-use versus re-use and temporal land-use. This could be made operational by studying labour market changes in related to changes in the physical structure in the context of various types of rural areas. The elaboration of territorial indicators could be accomplished by case studies focusing on temporal land-use (providing this category of land-use is not statistically available).

6) *Description of the approach to developing territorial typologies, based on physical as well as functional characteristics, that could be envisaged. In addition, a description of the structure and content envisaged for the database the tenderer intends to establish and the tools for processing the database and indicators, including the mapping facilities and types of maps that will be available*

### **WP 3: Typologies and maps**

The work-package consists of evaluation of existing typologies and elaboration of new ones. Based on the indicators proposed in WP2 it tries to come up with European-wide typologies related to urban-rural relationships and urban-rural partnerships. The work on typologies is supported by a GIS-platform providing the cartographic presentations.

#### **Aims and objectives**

The basic aims of the work-package are:

- a) to evaluate the most relevant existing typologies that are of importance what comes to urban-rural relations
- b) to continue from the firm conceptual basis of the WP1 and from the indicator work of WP2, including the territorial indicators such as the three suggested in award criteria 5), to innovative urban-rural typologies
- c) to combine the division between physical structures and flows and their relations (see introduction of the Chapter 4 with the urban-rural dimension

There are several entries to European-wide typologies that can be used as starting point. Most of them were discussed, sketched and applied during the Study Programme on European Spatial Planning (SPESP). The typologies that were chosen for the Final report of SPESP had been elaborated mainly for the analysis of possible polycentricity of the European territory and used the urban centres and agglomerations as their starting point. Only few links to the urban-rural relationships, and even less to the urban-rural partnerships were made. However, the case studies shed some light on that side. The absence of the links with the rural was also evident in the use of the concept 'functional urban region'. Thus the work-package will have to evaluate the typologies based on the degree on polycentrism only for the part that is directly connected to the urban-rural framework.

The work-package can also compile some experiences of the national typologies of urban and rural areas, that can be easily collected from the partner countries. Already during SPESP this kinds of links were made – to the typologies of Finnish rural areas and to the Italian typology built mainly on agricultural indicators. However, it is evident that each national framework including the use of typologies in allocating money, has been the driving force of the one-country typologies. Their value is rather giving ideas on useful indicators and suitable methodology.

The simple classification in the Terms of references of this call (1) remote rural, 2) intermediate rural and 3) rural areas under metropolitan influence) is a possible starting point. The work done in the OECD working group has to be paid careful attention to, as described in the WP1. Also the work done in Sweden on the local labour areas could be tested in a European context, as described under the point 3 of the Chapter 4.

A challenge for the work-package, as well as to the project as a whole, is to build a bridge between the typologies based on the existing reality and the policy recommendations. As suggested in WP2, the work has to be able to identify the role of policy measures as responses to the current trends shaping the urban-rural relationships. The work-package can also consider the usefulness of case studies in enriching the work.

It is evident that building typologies on the EU territory alone is a far easier task than grasping the whole European territory. However, the work done in the EU Accession countries and also in countries such as Ukraine is familiar to the project consortium and can thus be integrated to the framework. A current project in RDPRU has already built an extensive data base for the analysis of the economic and social situation of all the European administrative regions up to the NUTS3 level.

The work proceeds in phases as it depends on the work on conceptual development, on gathered data and the development of indicators. The work starts from the notion of urban-rural relationships and gradually proceeds towards bringing in the policy dimension, the urban-rural partnerships.

Indicator data, existing typologies and databases, natural scientific and other available data will be organised using GIS. The data will be gathered using smallest possible areas as the uniting factor so that it is possible to perceive dissimilarities for example within larger administrative areas and similarities between smaller parts of different administrative areas. This can be used to define new typologies in the urban-rural context. Using GIS in order to pull together different kinds of data renders possible the production of thematic maps as illustrations of typologies.

### **Timetable and milestones**

- evaluation of the existing typologies (September 2002)
- construction of data base (together with WP2) and the GIS-platform
- suggestions on typologies based on urban-rural relationships (February-June 2003) incl. 1<sup>st</sup> set of maps
- suggestions on typologies based on urban-rural policy monitoring /partnerships (Sept 2003-Jan 2004), incl. 2<sup>nd</sup> set of maps
- Compilation of most relevant typologies, 3<sup>rd</sup> set of maps

### **WP-leader**

Lead partner CURS

### **Participating partners**

all partners for data and policy coverage  
Partners 1-4 and 8 for developing tools

## Outputs

1. Typologies and their cartographic presentations based on the data base and GIS-platform
2. Contribution to interim reports – September 2002, August 2003, Feb 2004
3. Contribution to the final report – August 2004
4. Contribution to research briefings
5. Conference presentations and journal articles

- 7) *Description of the envisaged approach to recommendations that could inspire policy development at Community, national and regional level in support of a spatially better balanced enlarged European territory*

## WP 4: Policy recommendations

This workpackage provides recommendations for policy options concerning the strengthening of urban-rural relationships in such a way that benefit both urban and rural areas. It also provides policy recommendations concerning effective partnership building between urban and rural areas.

### Aims and objectives

#### **1. *To provide policy options for strengthening urban-rural relationships with specific reference to the structural policies of the EU concerning the post-2006 period***

- These options will be differentiated in the context of:
  - a) Different types of urban rural relationships which will be examined in the project
  - b) Multiple territorial dimensions (regional, inter-regional, supra-regional and trans-national)
  - c) Various historical and cultural traditions as well as different institutional, procedural and administrative practices in Europe
- This work will involve:
  - Critical review, comparison and assessment of existing policies
  - Identification of innovative policy developments at different territorial scales
  - Recommendations for policy options that strengthen the urban-rural linkages in order to achieve a more balanced and polycentric European territory
- The work requires close liaison with other relevant projects as listed below and notably ESPON Action 1.1.1

#### **2. *To provide proposals for integrated policy measures***

- These proposals will be targeted at improving the territorial component of structural and sectoral policies in such a way that they support a more integrated urban-rural development.
- The focus will be on developing proposals for:
  - Improvement of the current programming period of Structural Fund as well as inputs into the development of the post-2006 programme
  - Articulating a territorial dimensions in future policy instruments for the 2<sup>nd</sup> pillar of Common Agricultural Policy (rural development)
- This work involves a review and assessment of territorial dimensions of structural and sectoral policies with regard to urban – rural relationships. Emphasis will be placed on the relationships between cohesion policy (aimed at diversification of rural economy) and agricultural development policy (aimed at development of a competitive agricultural industry)
- The work requires close liaison with other relevant projects as listed below and notably ESPON Action 2.1 and 2.2.

#### **3. *To formulate policy recommendations for building effective urban-rural partnerships***

- These proposals will be differentiated for different territorial scales and will take into account the multiplicity of current institutional and administrative arrangements in Europe.

- This work will involve
  - Critical review, comparison and assessment of current institutional and administrative structures
  - Identification of barriers and opportunities for partnerships building at different territorial scales
  - Identification and analysis of innovative examples of co-operation between municipalities and other actors at different territorial scales
- This work will provide inputs for the achievement of the ESPON horizontal projects under priority 3 including a framework for self-assessment of policy options for urban-rural partnership

***Approach to undertaking this work-package***

- A combination of the following methodologies will be adopted:
  - literature review including both academic and policy documents as well as relevant project reports
  - selected interviews with key people at EU and national level
- An expert workshops with professionals and practitioners will be held to test the framework for self-assessment of policy options for urban-rural partnership

***Links with other relevant projects***

The point of departure for this work-package will be the ESDP policy options and the results of the Study Programme (SPESP). Liaison with other relevant projects notably ESPON (as specified above) INTERREG IIC and IIIB, LEADER, Objectives 1 and 2 projects under Structural Funds as well as the work of OECD’s Working Party on Territorial Policy will be sought for different components of this work-package.

**Timetable and milestones**

- July – September 2002: Development of the framework for reviewing, comparing and assessing current policies and initiatives
- July 2002 to August 2004: Liaison with other relevant projects notably ESPON projects
- September 2002: Agreed framework and inputs in interim report
- September 2002 to February 2003: Review, assessment and development of policy options for strengthening urban –rural relationships
- February 2003: Interim report on policy options for strengthening urban-rural relationships
- February 2003 – September 2003: Review, assessment and development of proposals for integrated policy measures
- September 2003: Interim report on proposals for integrated policy measures
- September 2003-March 2004: Review, assessment and development of proposals for partnership building, identification of barrier s and opportunities and draft self-assessment framework
- March 2004: Expert workshop to test the framework for self-assessment of policy options for urban-rural partnership
- May 2004: Interim report on policy proposals for urban –rural partnerships
- August 2004: Final policy recommendations on urban –rural relationships and partnerships accompanied with the framework for self-assessment

**WP-leader**

Partner 2 CUDEM

**Participating partners**

All project partners

**Outputs**

1. Contribution to interim reports - September 2002 and February 2003
2. Contribution to the final report – August 2004
3. Contribution to research briefings
4. Framework for self-assessment of policy options for urban- rural partnership
5. Conference presentations and journal articles

- 8) *Description of interaction intended for the thematic co-ordination and networking with other projects, in particular, with the cross section projects proposed under measure 3 and the Coordination Unit as well as resources set aside for potential co-operation with institutes of candidate countries*

The project consortium includes three ESPON Contact Points as project partners (Finland, Luxembourg and Ireland). This will guarantee the close co-operation of the project team with the ESPON Coordination Unit and the Monitoring Committee. The insight into the aims and objectives of the ESPON Programme will also directly influence the quality of project outputs concerning policy relevance. The consortium is highly motivated to discuss the future development of European spatial development policies.

Three partners and one subcontractor of the project team are also contracted for the Data Navigator of ESPON, making the consortium aware of the quality and accessibility of data – a crucial issues for the development of indicators and typologies.

The most important links with the other ESPON projects that will be launched at the same time are with the 1.1.1. on polycentrism and 2.1.3. on Common Agricultural Policy and rural development policy. The links that will be established with these projects, as soon as the contracting parties have been selected, will ensure that no resources are wasted for duplicated work in the inter-related themes. It is also possible to organise common seminars or workshops for these projects, for example in connection with the meetings that are planned to be organised by the ESPON Coordination Unit for the transnational project groups.

In establishing the data base and GIS-platform of the project coordination with the project 3.1. on the integrated tools is crucial. Some links already exist through the work on Data Navigator, but further consultation will be required when launching the project. The subcontractor responsible for the GIS-support, Mcrit sl., is very experienced in handling European data and will provide for a platform which is line with the common guidelines, including the recommendations for cartographic presentations provided by the ESPON Coordination Unit.

The candidate countries of the European Union are represented in the project through the existing networks of the partner organisations and subcontractors (eg. the projects carried out by CURS, TAURUS, EA-TS, RDPRU, ÖIR), through the data gathered for the indicators and typologies and through the work on policy relevance. Experts from the candidate countries can also be invited to the project meetings and workshops in order to discuss the questions of urban-rural relationships and partnerships in detail.

***c) Time management, assignment of human and financial resources to the various tasks and quality of the team involved***

The project consortium being big, it has been necessary to design an efficient management structure for the project. A separate project council will be established to agree on the major decisions during the work. The council consists of the 5 work-package leaders plus one additional partner, and is led by the coordinators. Other partners participate both in the scientific discussions concerning the general outline and the work done in the work-packages they have chosen to work for.

## **WP 5: Management**

Management includes both scientific and technical co-ordination. It keeps the partners in close cooperation through WP leaders and represents the consortium towards the outside.

### **Aims and objectives**

- a) to ensure the smooth flow of the project by formulating a common framework
- b) to manage the overall progress of work (time tables, periodic reporting, final publication, finances, contracts etc.)
- c) to act as an interface between the ESPON Programme and the consortium
- d) to organise the meetings and seminars, to allocate travelling costs

Being responsible for overall management, this WP guides the project. The co-ordinator monitors the elaboration of project outputs and assesses their quality with the WP leaders and through periodic meetings. The co-ordinator leads the project council, that discusses the key scientific matters. The council consists of work-package leaders (partners 1-4) and an additional policy expert (partner 5).

The co-ordinator will ensure the organising of the project meetings and allocates the travelling budget to the consortium members. It also puts up and updates the project web-page, that has both a public information and a workspace with a limited access. In addition research briefings will be sent around as the work proceeds, to inform the research and policy networks of ESPON.

A consortium contract will be signed among the project partners. The co-ordinator will also take care of assigning tasks to the subcontractors of the project.

### **Timetable and milestones**

- Contract signed in July 2002
- Kick-off meeting in July 2002 (all project partners)
- First interim report in September 2002
- Project meeting in January 2003 (project council)
- Second interim report in February 2003
- Meeting in July 2003 (all project partners)
- Third interim report in August 2003
- Meeting in December 2003 (project council)
- Meeting in June 2004 (all project partners)
- Final report including database in August 2004

### **WP-leader**

Lead partner CURS

### **Participating partners**

Work-package leaders: Partners 2, 3, 4 + Partner 5

### **Outputs**

- Interim reports (Sept.2002, Feb. 2003, August 2003, Feb 2004)
- Financial statements
- Www-page of the project
- Research briefings
- Project meetings