

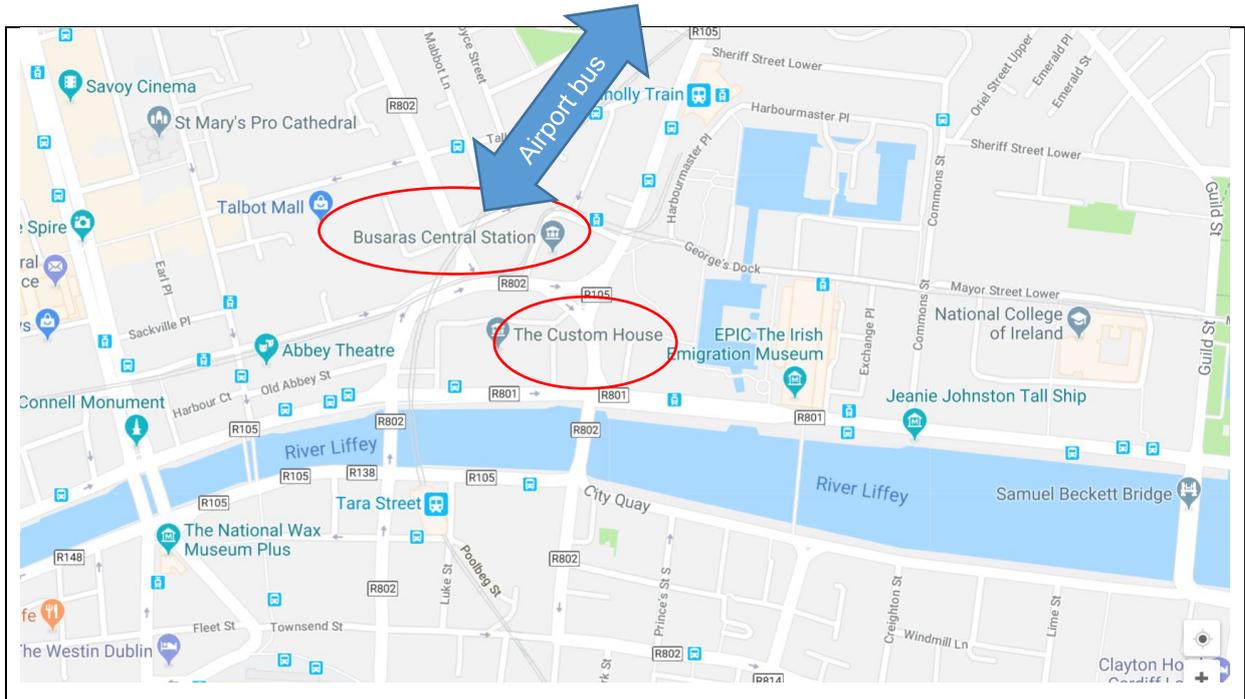
Regional Spatial Strategies: The Architecture of Effective Regional Development

Date: Wednesday, 9th May 2018

Venue: Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, Custom House, Dublin 1

Time: 09.00-16.30

Directions



Travel from Airport to City Centre

Exit Dublin Airport and take the M1 and from there continue on to the Swords Road. Follow the signs towards city centre. Custom House is located on Custom House Quay. (as is the Hilton Inn Garden Hotel)

Distance from Custom House: 12 km. Drive Time: 20 min.

Bus Routes:

Airlink (operated by Dublin Bus) – Route 747 – see <http://www.dublinbus.ie/Your-Journey1/Timetables/All-Timetables/74711/>

Airlink (operated by Dublin Bus) – Route 757 – see <http://www.dublinbus.ie/Your-Journey1/Timetables/All-Timetables/747111/>

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Aircoach – Route 200 - see <http://www.aircoach.ie/timetables/route-700-dublin-airport-dublin-city-centre>

Bus Fares: Average. €12.00 return

Taxi Fare: €30.00 (approx.)

Hotels nearby

Hilton Garden Inn Dublin Custom House

Hotels within 20 mins walk...

Maldron Hotel, Pearse Street

Trinity City Hotel, Pearse street

Clayton Hotel Cardiff Lane in the Docklands

The Gresham Hotel, O'Connell Street

Hotels further out but connected by Luas Tram System <https://luas.ie/map/>

(Ticket Vending Machines are located at every stop. Please note that tickets may not be purchased on board the trams)

Take Tram to Busáras – located directly across the road from Custom House

Ashling Hotel, Parkgate Street (beside Phoenix Park/Heuston Station)

Maldron Hotel, Smithfield

The Morrison, Ormond Quay Lower

Please book hotel early and use booking.com for best deals

Type of event: Seminar (up to 50 participants)

Targeted audience: National and regional spatial planning policy-makers and practitioners, implementing authorities, regional and local policy-makers, university academics. The seminar will be of interest to policy makers involved in regional spatial planning and those interested in the new spatial planning framework for Ireland.

The seminar is open to all but has a maximum capacity of 50 participants. Please reserve early to assure a place and to book a hotel room. The seminar is free of charge, but each participant must cover expenses for their own travel arrangements and accommodation. Lunch and tea/coffee will be provided during the seminar.

The workshop will be in English.

Outline

This ESPON seminar is the second in a series of Transnational Outreach events in West Europe (Benelux, France, Ireland and UK) in 2018 and 2019 examining new developments in national and regional spatial planning. By linking the five events together, participants of all five events will gain an excellent overview of both key issues in current spatial planning theory and practice and related ESPON research.

This first seminar took place in France in March 2018 and examined the SRADDET 'Schéma régional d'aménagement, de développement durable et d'égalité des territoires' (Regional planning framework for sustainable development and equality of territorial development) and concentrated on the methodological development of national and regional spatial plans.



In Dublin, the seminar will examine **'Regional Spatial Strategies: the architecture of effective regional development'**. In Ireland, the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government, on behalf of the Government, has prepared and published the finalised National Planning Framework under Project Ireland 2040, the overarching policy and planning framework for the social, economic and cultural development of Ireland.¹

The National Planning Framework (NPF) is a national document that will guide at a high-level strategic planning and development of Ireland over the next 20+ years, so that as the population grows, that growth is sustainable (in economic, social and environmental terms).

The finalisation of the NPF alongside the ten-year National Development Plan² will put together one plan to guide strategic development and infrastructure investment at national level.

The NPF with the National Development Plan will also set the context for each of Ireland's three regional assemblies to develop their Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies taking account of and co-ordinating local authority County and City Development Plans in a manner that will ensure national, regional and local plans align.

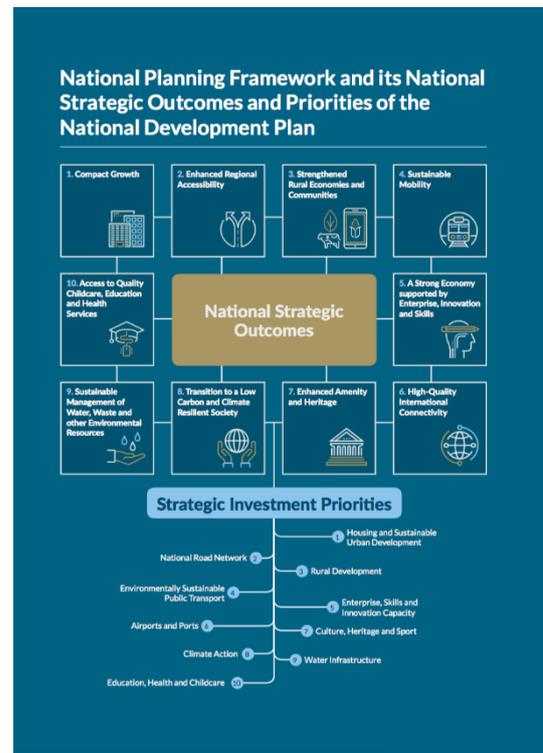
¹ www.gov.ie/2040

² <http://www.theirishworld.com/ireland-unveils-national-development-plan/>

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The ultimate objectives of the NPF are to:

- Guide the future development of Ireland, taking into account a projected 1 million increase in our population of which 25% is planned for Dublin, recognised as our key international and global city of scale and principal economic driver and 25% across the other four cities combined (Cork, Limerick, Galway and Waterford), enabling all four to grow their population and jobs by 50-60%, and become cities of greater scale, i.e. growing by twice as much as they did over the previous 25 years to 2016, and
- The remaining 50% of growth is to occur in key regional centres, towns, villages and rural areas, to be determined in the forthcoming regional plans – Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSEs).
- Enable people to live closer to where they work, moving away from the current unsustainable trends of increased commuting;
- Regenerate rural Ireland by promoting environmentally sustainable growth patterns;
- Plan for and implement a better distribution of regional growth, in terms of jobs and prosperity;
- Transform settlements of all sizes through imaginative urban regeneration and bring life / jobs back into cities, towns and villages;
- Co-ordinate delivery of infrastructure and services in tandem with growth, through joined-up NPF/National Investment Plan and consistent sectoral plans, which will help to manage this growth and tackle congestion and quality of life issues in Dublin and elsewhere.



The Ireland seminar will examine these objectives with a focus on what should be the priority areas and contents of a spatial plan to achieve the above objectives. The seminar will also examine how to move from *strategy* to *reality* and from *policy* to *practice* (a topic that will be further developed in the Brussels seminar in October 2018). This will involve discussions around multi-level governance, the role of the regions and cities and stakeholder engagement. Other questions will address the best scale to act; the role of regional strategies; negotiating the development processes taking into account people, place, process, and priorities and how far can spatial policy distribute economic activity. Current topics such as how far will spatial policy be influenced by a hard' or 'soft' BREXIT will also be relevant.

The seminar will use the morning session to introduce the challenges facing Ireland and outline the NPF and its core priorities and contents. Three Irish regions will present how they are developing their own regional spatial plans linked to NPF. Experts from France,

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Luxembourg and the Benelux will be invited to comment on the Irish situation and compare it with their own experience.

In the afternoon session, three ESPON projects will outline their research:

- **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? Can these changes be attributed to the influence of macro-level EU directives and policies? COMPASS also identifies the best-practices for cross-fertilisation of spatial and territorial development policies with EU Cohesion Policy and advises on how national/regional spatial and territorial development policy perspectives can be better reflected in Cohesion Policy and other policies at the EU scale.
- **ACTAREA** (Thinking and Planning in Areas of Territorial Cooperation) <https://www.espon.eu/actarea>
- This ESPON project examines new forms of cooperation areas based on functional approach or political initiative in the light of policy aims related to polycentric and balanced territorial development. Based on the Swiss experience in defining the so-called “action areas”, this project explores the added value and potentials of new forms of cooperation areas. In particular it analyses which tasks and territorial/political context “action areas” do make sense in terms of territorial cooperation.
- **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 the 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.

The seminar will conclude with round table discussions based on the identified challenges and the ESPON inputs to provide concrete recommendations for Irish policy makers.

Draft Agenda

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Time: 09.00-16.30

Moderator:

PART. 1: Spatial Planning: The Irish context

09.00	Registration and welcome coffee	
	Plenary Session 1: The National Planning Framework and Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies	
09.30	Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Colm Downey (tbc) Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government
09.45	<p>Ireland 2040: A New National Planning Framework for Ireland</p> <p>New approaches to regional spatial planning in Ireland: Aligning national and regional spatial planning policy and practice</p> <p>The Spatial Consequences of Brexit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Paul Hogan, Senior Adviser (Planning) Department of Housing Planning and Local Government (c) Dr. Niamh Moore-Cherry, University College Dublin (c) Dr. Eoin Magennis, Economic Policy Centre, Ulster University (c)
10.15	Plenary session 2: The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies – Deciding the Priorities	
	Interventions from the three Irish Regional Assemblies on the emerging focus/priorities of each	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Stephen Blair, Director / Mr. Dominic Walsh, Senior Planner, Southern Regional Assembly (tbc) Mr. Jim Conway, Director / Mr. Malachy Bradley, Senior Planner, Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly (tbc) Mr. David Minton, Director / Mr. Denis Kelly, Senior Planner, Northern and Western Regional Assembly (tbc)
11.30	Tea/Coffee	
11.50	A view from outside: panel discussion with representatives from:	
	Flanders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Geert Mertens Expert, Department of Environment (c)

	Perspective Brussels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker (tbc)
	Netherlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. David Evers Senior researcher spatial planning, Department of Spatial Planning (ROL). Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL) (c)
	Luxembourg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms.Jutta Bissinger Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning, Université du Luxembourg (c)
12.50	Lunch	
PART 2: ESPON policy input		
	ESPON projects contribute to the discussions	
13.45	COMPASS (Comparative Analysis of Territorial Governance and Spatial Planning Systems in Europe)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brendan Williams, University College Dublin
	SPIMA (Spatial Dynamics and Strategic Planning in Metropolitan Areas)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Edouard Fleury, Territorial Cooperation Project Manager. Lille Metropole
	ACTAREA (Thinking and Planning in Areas of Territorial Cooperation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker (tbc)
14.45	Tea/Coffee	
	Round Table Discussions: Translating National Strategic Outcomes into Regional Policy and Practice (envisaged 3 round tables)	
15.00	<p>Each table will be asked to focus on a Regional Assembly area, and with facilitation from that Regional Assembly, consider key priorities and their translation to policy and practice. Each table will deal with a specific theme from, the list below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compact Growth 2. Combatting Sprawl 3. Strong Economies / Economic Corridors 4. Enhanced Regional Accessibility & Mobility 5. Smart Regions / Innovation 6. Brexit 7. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities <p>In considering these strategic priorities, delegates are asked to think about issues of scale, demographic change, and the fourth industrial revolution.</p> <p>What insights do the ESPON projects shed on these key strategic outcomes? Are these pan-European strategic outcomes? Or is there a geographic/spatial cluster effect in evidence?</p>	

16.00	Group presentations and feedback	
16.15	Conclusions and recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Caroline Creamer, Irish Contact Point - ESPON
16.30	Close and welcome to next roadshow in Luxembourg on September 24 th 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Walsh, Assistant Secretary, Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (tbc) Mr Frederick-Christoph Richters, Policy Advisor, Department of Spatial Planning and Development, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure. (tbc)

Registration information

Please register at www.espon.eu/dublin

Contacts

Dublin: Caroline Creamer ESPON Contact Point Caroline.Creamer@mu.ie

ESPON : www.espon.eu

- COMPASS <https://www.espon.eu/planning-systems>
- RESSI <https://www.espon.eu/ressi>
- SPIMA <https://www.espon.eu/metropolitan-areas>