

# Annex 1: ESPON Imagine project - Overview

## 1.1 Research Structure

Tasks according to TOR	WP proposal	Main objectives
<b>T1</b> Methodological framework and needs analysis	<b>WP1</b> Methodological framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>producing a <b>preliminary picture of the stakeholders' political objectives and policy needs</b>, with a particular focus on mapping the current spatial imaginaries.</li> <li>exploring <b>the expectations and blocks towards a new regional imaginary</b>, in order to understand whether and how it is possible and suitable to move beyond consolidated administrative boundaries and logics of competition, and develop regional thinking, within a new logic of cooperation.</li> <li>designing a <b>visual platform for generating spatial imaginaries</b>, based on the following four main analytical dimensions ( (i) socio-spatial dynamics, (ii) territorial and economic patterns, (iii) functional relations and mobility patterns, (iv) forms of cooperation and coordination, will be designed and implemented). The objective is to provide stakeholders with specific tools to visualise and give representation to the regional dimension of current dynamics.</li> <li>Developing and applying an <b>interactive and participatory approach</b>, promoting a co-design role of local stakeholders, moving from the idea that spatial imaginaries are social construction, and as such they shall be carefully supported.</li> </ul>
<b>T2</b> Analysis of functional characteristics of Milan-Bologna Urban region	<b>WP2</b> Regional portrait and scenarios	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Exploring the processes of economic restructuring in Milan-Bologna urban region</b>, producing an updated <b>Regional Portrait</b>, with the aim to investigate the new territorial economic patterns and trends, with particular attention to the role played by the creative and innovative economy and the transport and logistics industry within the urban area.</li> <li>Producing <b>Regional Scenarios</b>, as explorations of the socio-economic and spatial effects of such reorganisation, unveiling new geographies – patterns of centrality and peripherality, competition-cooperation and major cleavages associated with these dynamics (differentiation and specialisations, attractiveness and marginalisation).</li> <li>Moving from the hypothesis that the urban region is characterised by non-convergent and univocal processes of economic development, and this can become a crucial threat to territorial cohesion.</li> </ul>
<b>T3</b> Case study on the Milan Bologna high speed rail	<b>WP3</b> Case study: Milan-Bologna High Speed Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working at <b>understanding to what extent the infrastructural corridor has been able to support the urban region development</b>, producing direct and indirect, positive and negative effects on the corridor itself and the urban region. It will analyse the current mobility supply and its correlation to economic dynamics along the corridor.</li> <li>investigating whether and how the high-speed railway supply has consistently changed the Milan-Bologna corridor into an <b>integrated urban region</b>, by means of a counterfactual econometric analysis.</li> </ul>

<b>T4</b> Elaborating proposal for an integrated territorial strategy	<b>WP4</b> Regional imaginaries as the base for developing an Integrated territorial strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supporting the project through a <b>process of co-design, produced by a series of co-design workshops</b>, aiming at using expert knowledge to generate open and design-oriented dialogue among local stakeholders.</li> <li>• supporting a <b>process of strategic planning, based on the Elaboration of Scenarios and Identification of policy tools/governance approaches</b> able to support an integrated territorial strategy.</li> <li>• developing the assumption that spatial imaginaries are social constructions and as such <b>they shall be constructed by actors in a certain time and space.</b></li> <li>• fostering <b>the design of an integrated territorial strategy for the Milan-Bologna urban region.</b></li> </ul>
	<b>WP5</b> New governance frameworks: working with Integrated territorial initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• testing the <b>ground for the development of an integrated territorial initiative</b> for the Milan-Bologna urban region.</li> <li>• producing <b>an evaluation report on the state of the art of ITI in EU</b>, based on desk research of official available documents, and interviews with relevant actors, able to deliver insights from their experiences.</li> <li>• <b>engaging stakeholders in ITI showcases /regional governance workshop</b>, generating knowledge about the most recent and interesting experiences of ITI all over EU; it will try to develop a draft hypothesis of ITI for the urban region supported by new regional imaginary and governance framework, to be developed as a pilot project to set the ground for its wider adoption in the Italian context.</li> </ul>

## 1.2 Co-design process - Time schedule proposal

	Workshops and steering committee meetings agenda	Indicative deadline	Deadline
	Kick-off meeting and first Steering Committee meeting online due to the COVID-19 outbreak		26/05/2020
<b>D1</b>	<b>Inception</b>	<b>T<sup>1</sup> + 1 month</b>	<b>26/06/2020</b>
	Second Steering Committee Meeting online due to the COVID-19 outbreak		02/07/2020
	Pilot Regional Thinking online workshop – validating T1	Month 4	<i>September 2020</i> * to be defined with Stakeholders
	Regional Portrait online workshop – validating T2	Month 6	<i>Week of 9/11/2020</i> * to be defined with Stakeholders
	Participation at the ESPON Seminar DE EU Presidency in Berlin		19-20/11/2020
<b>D2</b>	<b>Interim</b>	<b>Month 7</b>	<b>11/01/2021</b>
	Third Steering Committee Meeting back to back Regional Imaginaries Forum and Regional Scenario workshop	Month 8	Week of 18/01/2021
	Final regional design workshop	Month 10	<i>Week 15/03/2021</i> * to be defined with Stakeholders
<b>D3</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>T + 12 months</b>	<b>26/05/2021</b>
	Fourth Steering Committee Meeting ITI Showcase and Regional Governance workshop		<i>Week of 10 May 2021</i> * to be defined with Stakeholders
	Participation at the ESPON Seminar PT EU Presidency		May/June 2021

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<sup>1</sup> The letter "T" in this table stands for the date of the kick-off meeting.

## 1.3 List of deliverables

### Delivery 1: Inception Report (T+1)

- Description of the conceptual framework to be applied, the specific approaches and methods to be applied, the sources and data to be used and the practical steps to be taken for the implementation of the activity, based on feedback on the tender and the discussion during the kick-off meeting.
- Overview of the stakeholder's political objectives and policy needs.
- Table of content of the expected report presenting the functional characteristics of Milan Bologna urban region (could take the form of an atlas)
- Detailed proposal for a participatory approach at the different stages of the project implementation

### Delivery 2: Interim Report (T7)

- Summary of interim results of the analysis of functional characteristics of Milan Bologna urban region, including draft overview on the main development potentials, drivers and bottlenecks.
- Interim results for the case study on the Milan-Bologna high-speed rail.
- Maps and/or other types of visualisations of the analysed spatial dynamics.
- Detailed overview of territorial data gathered and actions carried out to overcome data shortcomings.
- State of affairs on the development of the integrated development strategy scenarios (task 4).
- Draft report/atlas presenting the analysis of functional characteristics of Milan Bologna urban region, including draft overview on the main development potentials, drivers and bottlenecks.
- Minutes and executive summary of meetings and workshops organised with local stakeholders.
- Source files for the maps and figures included in the report (in vector format)

### Delivery 3: Final Report (T12)

- Executive summary (max. 3 pages) focusing on conclusions and recommendations based on the stakeholders' knowledge needs
- Main findings on the analysis of functional characteristics of Milan Bologna urban region and for the case study on the Milan-Bologna high-speed rail.
- Concrete recommendations for integrated development strategy scenarios.
- Synthesis report, including: Main results of the Targeted Analysis, Content to be discussed and agreed with the ESPON EGTC

#### Scientific annexes including:

- Everything that has to be known to make the study repeatable and verifiable
- Report/atlas presenting the functional characteristics of Milan Bologna urban region
- Report presenting the detailed case study on the Milan-Bologna high-speed rail.
- Proposals for further research in the subject area of the activity.
- Content for the ESPON website (max. 12 pages) showcasing the key results and insights of the main report, based on guidelines and templates to be provided by the ESPON EGTC
- A PowerPoint presentation (approximately 30 slides), consisting of the main components of the final report, including the key maps and results of the study, to be agreed with the ESPON EGTC
- Key maps (2-5) (as appropriate) and accompanying text following the structure of the ESPON Online
- MapFinder, selection in consultation with the ESPON EGTC
- Source files for the maps and figures included in the delivery reports (in vector format)
- Geodatabase(s) for all the maps included in the Final Delivery
- Data gathered according to the ESPON metadata template and proof of the integration of data in the ESPON 2020 database

## 1.4 Next steps: what is needed from the project's stakeholders

TASK	DEADLINE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisation of the Pilot Regional Thinking online workshop – validating T1 to be held at Month 2. <u>Dates to be discussed by Stakeholders and IMAGINE TEAM</u></li> </ul>	SC Meeting 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Portrait online workshop – validating T2. To be organised at M6. <u>Dates and locations to be discussed by Stakeholders and IMAGINE TEAM</u></li> </ul>	By September 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List of stakeholders to be invited in the Regional Imaginaries Forum and Regional Scenario workshop: <u>validation by stakeholders needed</u></li> </ul>	By July 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collection of main policy documents, reports, studies, plans related to stakeholders contexts: <u>project stakeholders to help</u></li> </ul>	By July 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integration of regional databases available by Stakeholders to implement the Visual Platform <u>project stakeholders to provide infos</u></li> </ul>	By July 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification and invitation of Observers and national/international stakeholders to be involved in the project: identification and discussion with projects' stakeholders</li> </ul>	By July 2020