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#EURegionsWeek



"A macro-regional tool in the making: evidence from ESPON and inputs to post 2020"

Code: 08WS609

Date: 8 October 2019 - 9:15am to 10:45am

Partners: ESPON EGTC, European Commission - DG REGIO, MCRIT Barcelona, University of Cambridge



ESPON in close cooperation with DG REGIO and the macroregions developed a tool to help policymakers monitor territorial development, implementation of the EU strategies and their contribution of the [#macroregional](#) strategies.

In this workshop we presented specific examples from 4 EU macro-regions at different geographical levels





- ESPON monitoring tool has 276 unique indicators at different levels for the EUMRS and for the European module providing information about the territorial context and latest development trends

- Macro-regional strategies have huge political credentials. It is important to raise awareness about the MRS. Without communication there is no governance. MRS are a laboratory for governance



Talk "Territorial Data"

Code: 08QA692

Date: 8 October 2019 - 2:30pm to 3:30pm

Partners: Brussels Environment, CGET, SIG Ville - Observatoire
des territoires, ESPON EGTC, EUROSTAT, JRC, DG REGIO, OECD



Do you know how to use territorial data for your city,
your region even your project?

In this session we presented a number of tools –
including our new ESPON database that you can
use for data analysis and visualisation.



Circular Economy as a strategy for cities and regions

Code: 08WS361

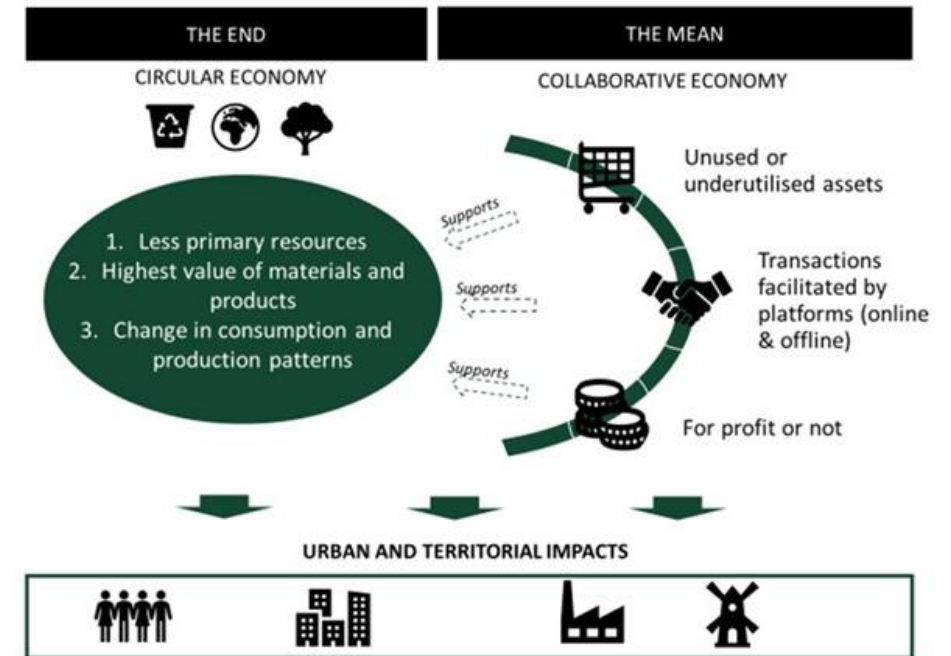
Date: 8 October 2019 - 2:30pm to 4:00pm

Partners: ACR+, CITY OF THE HAGUE, ESPON EGTC, Urban Agenda
Partnership on Circular Economy, Urban Agenda Partnership on
Sustainable Use of Land & Nature-Based Solutions



- [#circulareconomy](#) offers great opportunities for different European regions and cities.
- In this workshop we presented results from 2 ESPON projects and the “knowledge Pack” we developed to help you better understand Collaborative Economy

Urban Circular Collaborative Economy SHARING Targeted Analysis





- What strategies are most suitable for local and regional authorities on circular economy? We need to work on behaviour changes and public procurement.
- We need also to develop also specific infrastructures, business support schemes and fiscal and regulatory frameworks.

- Europe hosts regional pioneers with regard to circular economy. We need to support them but beware that circular innovations are not increasing territorial disparities.
- A Green New Deal will not be possible without drastic changes. ESPON SHARING project shows how it could happen on the local level.





**REGIONS
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**European Week
Brussels 7-10 October 2019**

Green Infrastructure: enhancing ecosystem services for territorial development

Code: 08WS481

Date: 8 October 2019 - 2:30pm to 4:00pm

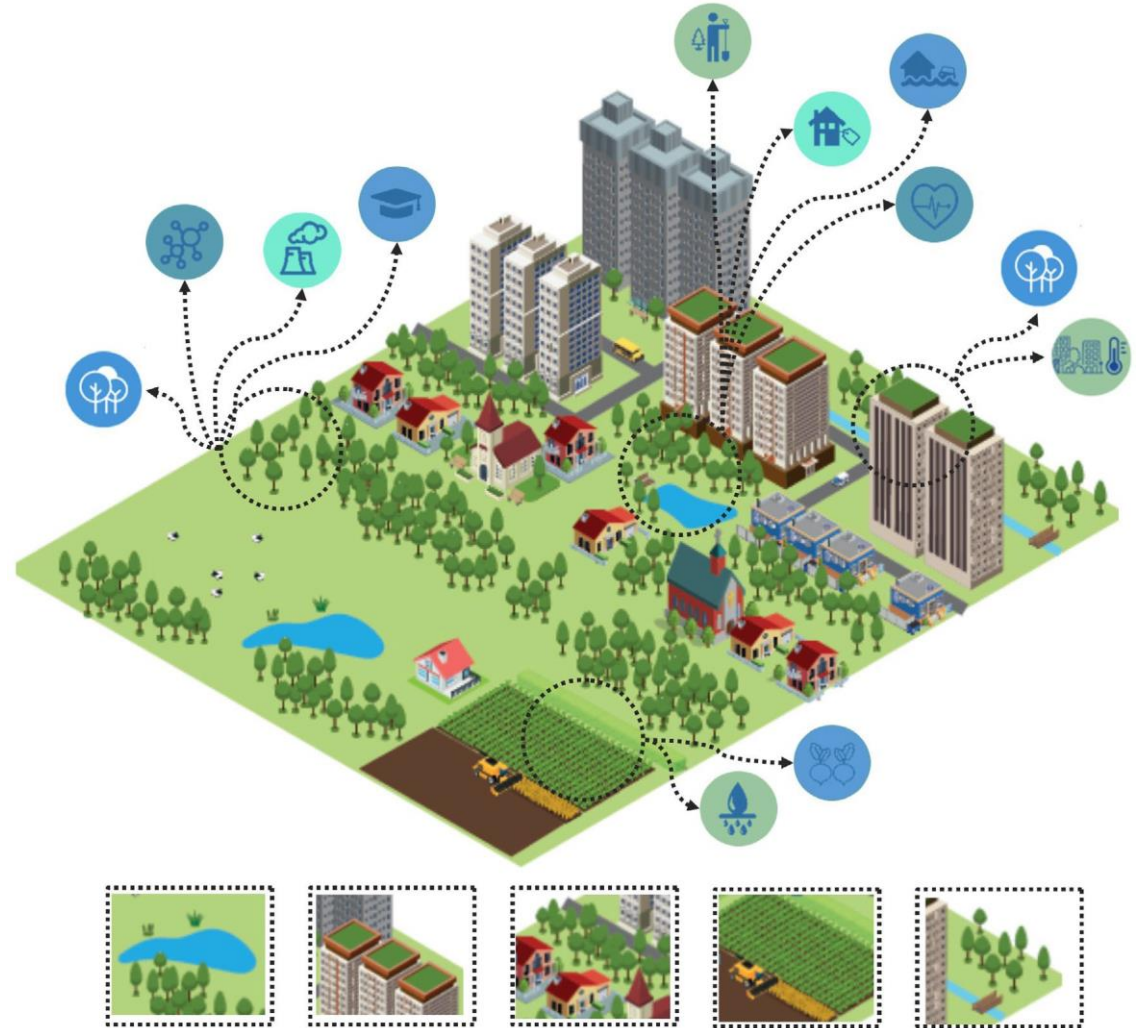
Partners: Alba Iulia Municipality, City of Malmö, ESPON

EGTC, European Commission - DG JRC, Ministry of
Environment and Spatial Planning of Slovenia



Co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

- [#GreenInfrastructure](#) (GI) is considered a benefit for territorial development because it provides multiple functions on the same spatial area.
- In this workshop we presented ways to assess its potentials and manage it in a sustainable manner





- A very detailed mapping is absolutely key to introduce Green Infrastructure in the planning process.
- Communicating the benefits of Green Infrastructure is very important, particularly when GI is competing with Grey Infrastructure for funding. But you can easily communicate health benefits to the people.

- There is a dynamic momentum for Green Infrastructure that is unstoppable.
- The ESPON GRETA project comes very timely and can definitely contribute in developing a better and more connected Green Infrastructure across national borders and on European scale.



Digital Innovation in Urban Environments

Code: 08WS623

Date: 8 October 2019 - 4:30pm to 7:00pm

Partners: ESPON EGTC, DG CNECT, Open and Agile Smart
Cities, Urban Partnership on Digital Transition - Estonia



- This workshop explored how cities can transform into platforms of innovation by utilising digital solutions.
- We showcased the effects of technological transformation in European cities, proposed policy priorities and paved the way for the future strategies.





- Digital transition revolutionises European cities: It increases efficiency, openness and collaborative creation.
- Transfer know-how and cooperation with the private sector can transform cities into platforms of innovation

- With smart collaboration we can create innovative ecosystems to use full potential of digitalization in Urban environments.
- Digital transition is a long-term shift in society that is foreseen to continue. Emerging new technologies will shape the form of the transition.



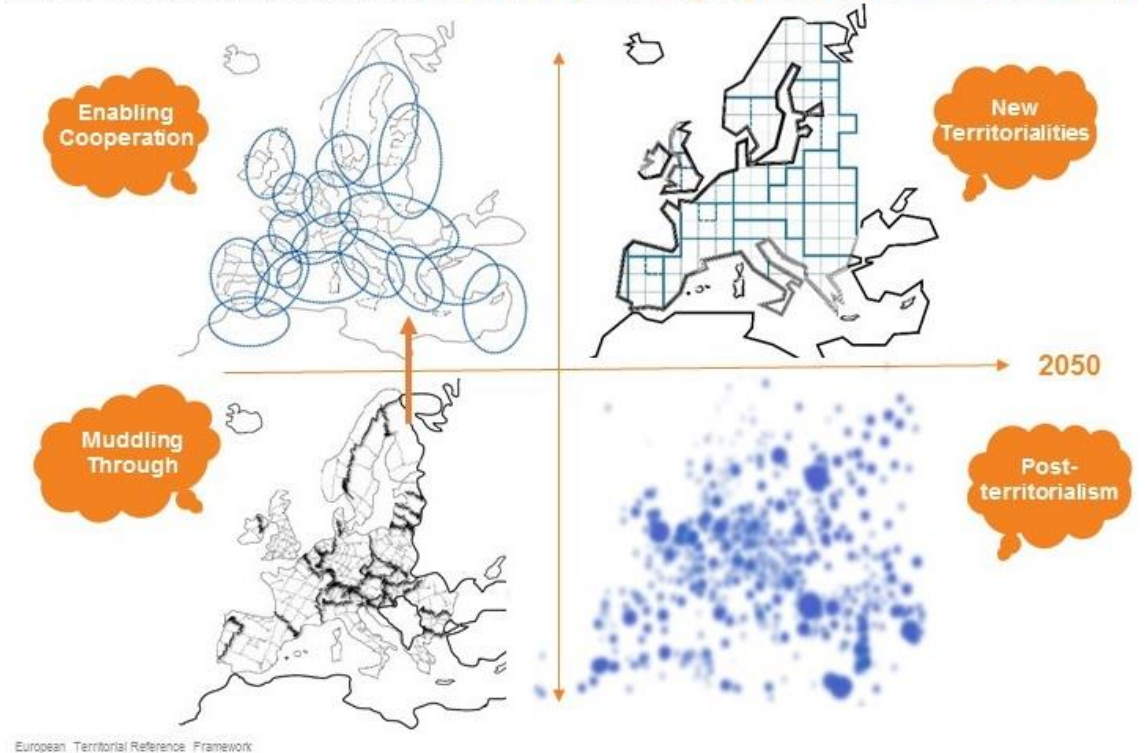
A new territorial narrative for the future of Europe

Code: 09WS521
Date: 9 October 2019 - 2:30pm to 5:00pm
Partners: ESPON



- Disparities and inequalities between places drive Europe apart. We need a decisive, clear narrative to guide us in the post-2020 era.
- In this session we presented 4 different scenarios to address the challenges and strengthen territorial cohesion and shape a new narrative for the future of Europe

territorial Governance Scenarios: alternative political geographies for the future of Europe





- The European Parliament fully embraces the vision of Cohesion Policy as it is one of the most effective EU policies. It should become the framework for the implementation of all the other EU policies
- ESPON's ambition is to create a political momentum that will bring the territorial approach into the centre of the debate for the future European development policies.

- If we want Europe to reconnect with its citizens, we need to reconnect its places. The new framework should promote synergies on the level of functional areas, based on peoples' needs.
- As the world is changing, we need to create a narrative that will inspire politicians. The key challenge is: how to deal with social challenges in a world of new territorialities?



Healthy ageing in cities and regions: inspiring examples to frame the future

Code: 09WS331

Date: 9 October 2019 - 11:30am to 1:00pm

Partners: ESPON EGTC, European Covenant on Demographic Change, Regional Ministry of Health - Madrid Region



- Our cities and neighbourhoods are influencing our capacity to age well.
- In this workshop we presented ways to help cities and regions to develop strategies that overcome constraints that urban environments often pose to older residents





- It is really encouraging to see how older citizens of Krakow, Poland can be active thanks to a lot of opportunities (for free) which aiming to prolong their active and healthy life
- Greater Manchester's vision is that older residents are able to contribute to and benefit from sustained prosperity and enjoy a good quality of life

- It is crucial to have a solid overview of both societal developments ('policymaker's view') *and* understanding of how older people perceive their lives ('senior's view')
- Frailty is not an inevitable consequence of ageing, it can be prevented to foster a longer and healthier life: Face Up Frailty, together we can make a difference

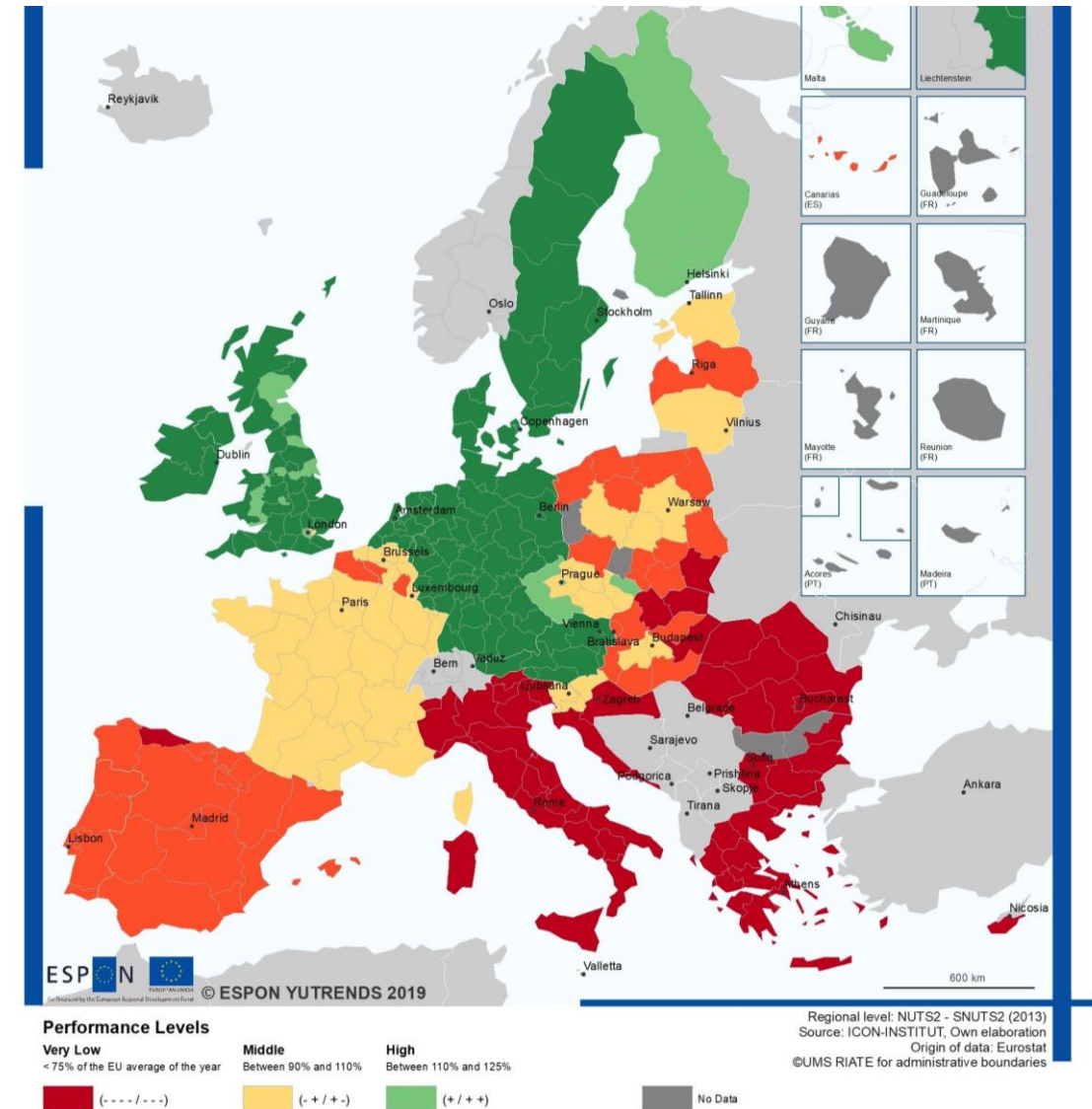


Local youth works and territorial trends in youth unemployment

Code: 09WS503
Date: 9 October 2019 - 2:30pm to 4:00pm
Partners: ESPON EGTC, JINT vzw



- Youth unemployment is top priority for the EU, since nearly a decade after the crisis it remains much higher to overall unemployment rates.
- In this workshop we presented 10 case studies of successful projects in European regions and cities to help us identify the key factors of this success





- Part-time employment has helped young people to remain employed during economic downturn. The main aspect influencing youth unemployment is the form and structure of regional economy
- Local autonomy in implementing national/European Programmes related to youth employment is key for success

- It is not just higher education that helps young people to be employed but also access to lifelong learning. There's potential for bringing higher education and training together, to enhance dual education
- A university degree is not a guarantee anymore for a career. That's why reskilling people is so important





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**European Week
Brussels 7-10 October 2019**

Macro-regional strategies: ESPON contribution to the spatial dimension in BSR and EUSALP

Code: 09WS523

Date: 9 October 2019 - 4:30pm to 7:00pm

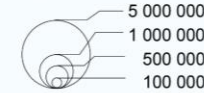
Partners: ESPON EGTC, Federal Office for Spatial
Development ARE, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität
Erlangen-Nürnberg, Nordregio



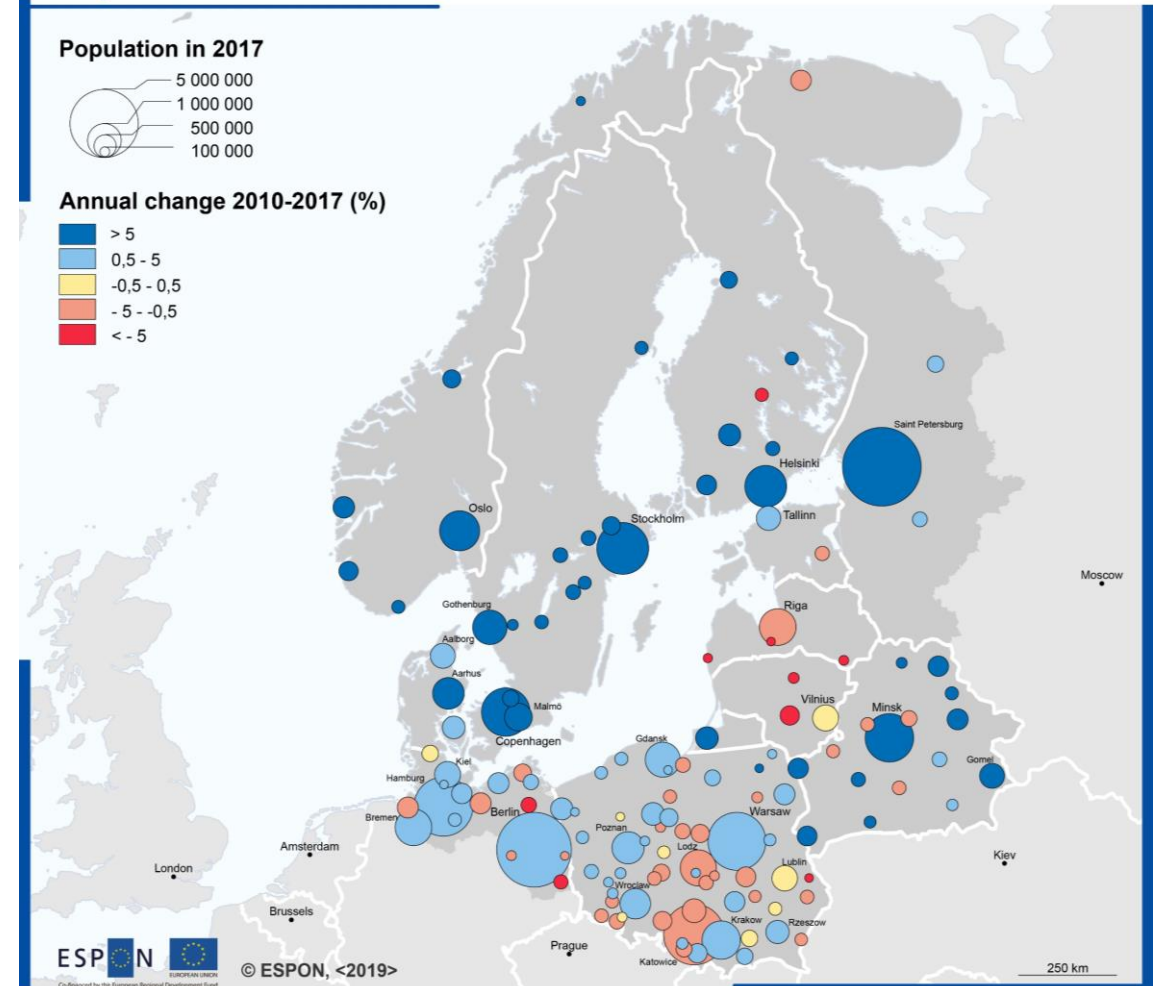
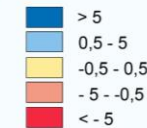
- Macro-regions are a tool of regional policy but the sector view is sometimes more prominent than the explicit spatial dimension.
- This workshop presents how the Macroregional strategies of the Alpine Space and Baltic Sea Region will look like in 2050, based on 2 ESPON studies that reveal their future

Population size in Functional Urban Areas

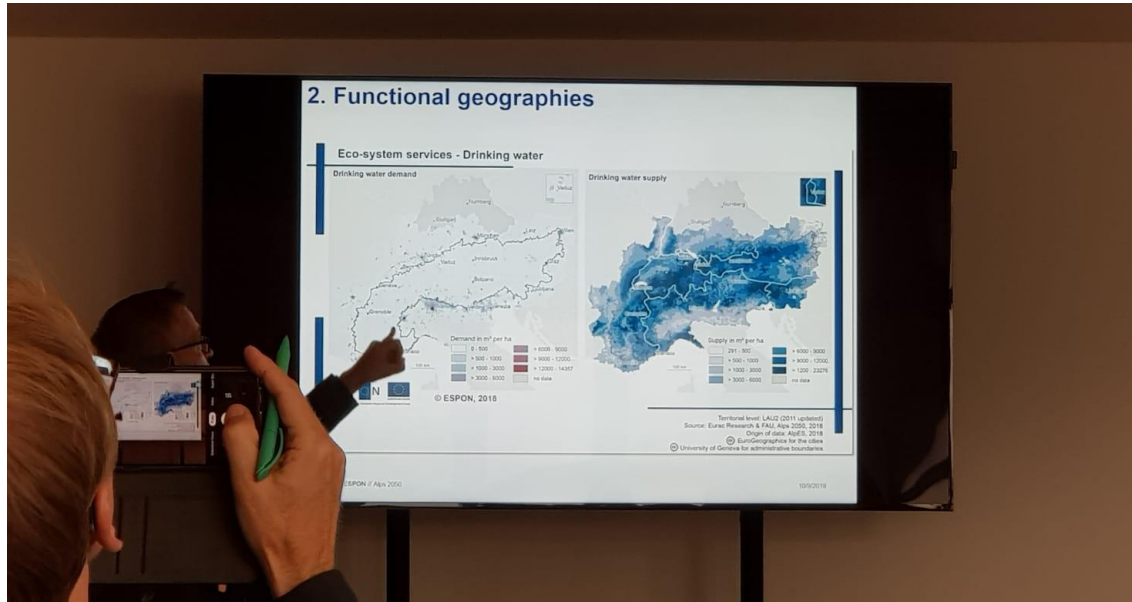
Population in 2017



Annual change 2010-2017 (%)



Territorial level: Functional Urban Area (FUA)
Source: <ESPON BT2050>, <2019>
Origin of data: <Eurostat and NSI's>, <2019>
© University of Geneva for administrative boundaries



- Territorial scenarios make Macroregions more tangible and provide an overview about how 'my' region performs in a larger context.
- This approach could also enhance the participation and cooperation of different stakeholders, which creates a sense of ownership

- The macro-regional level could ensure a participatory approach in the Alps and foster a joint-up transnational mindset of stakeholders.
- The BT2050 will contribute to the Long Term Perspective of Development of the Baltic Sea Region. It was important therefore to identify the areas in which cooperation must or should be intensified in the context of challenges and trends.



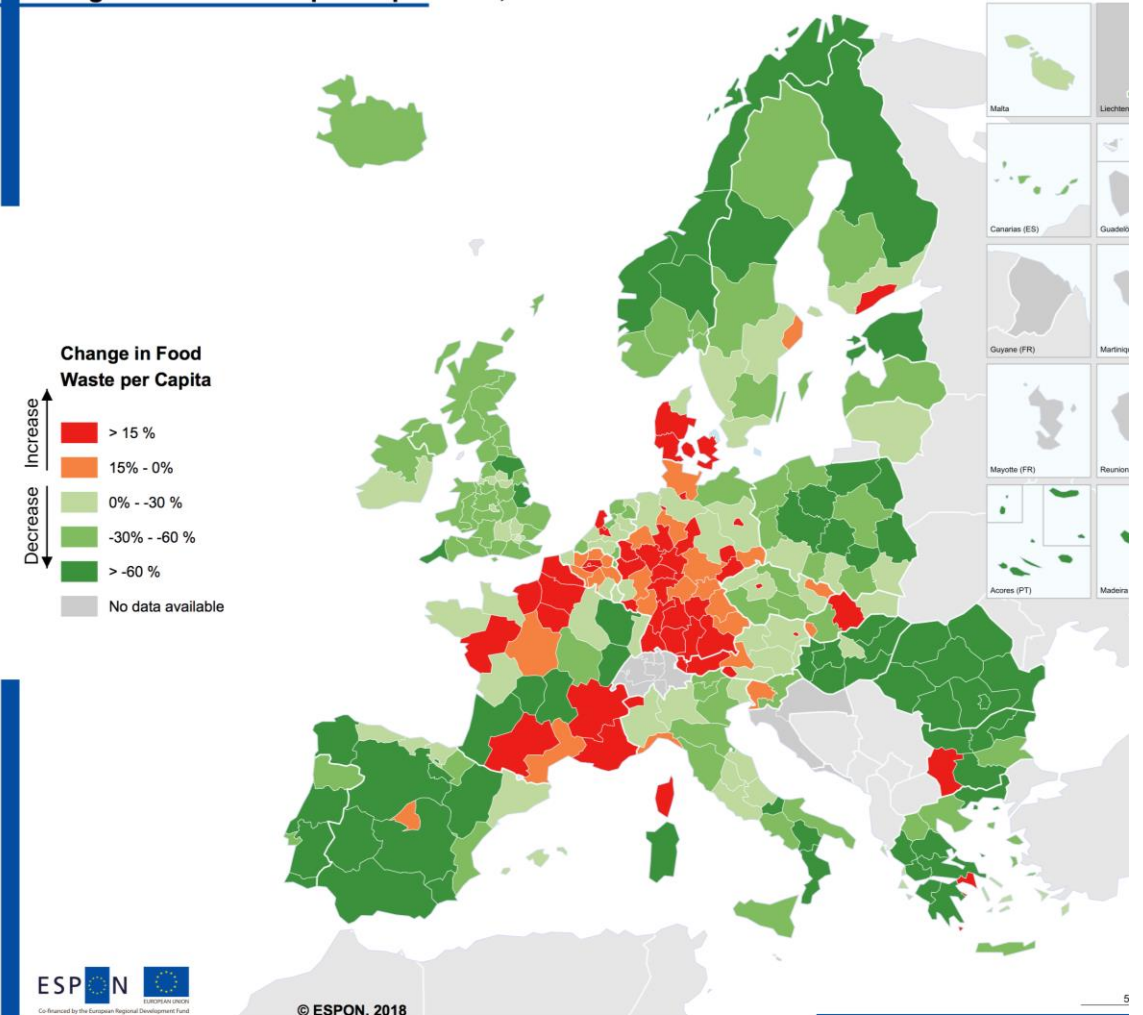
Fighting food waste while boosting local economic activity

Code: 10PL434
 Date: 10 October 2019 - 9:15am to 10:45am
 Partners: ESPON EGTC, DG REGIO, INTERACT,
 INTERREG Europe



- Local and regional authorities can take initiatives to encourage job creation or business growth in relation to food waste
- This workshop presents how local and regional authorities can turn food waste into a resource for the whole society.

Change in Food Waste per Capita in %, 2006 - 2014





- Urban regions produce significantly more food waste than rural regions. And this difference has increased from 2006 to 2014.
- ESPON CIRCTER project provides guidance for the promotion of circular economies at sub-national territorial levels, providing new territorial and sectoral definitions and indicators for circular economy and six case studies

- Measuring food waste is important for planning and guiding the process to reduce food waste.
- But figures on waste are not always reliable, In the UK more than 60 percent of the plastic defined as recycled is actually exported and could end-up in landfill sites across the world.



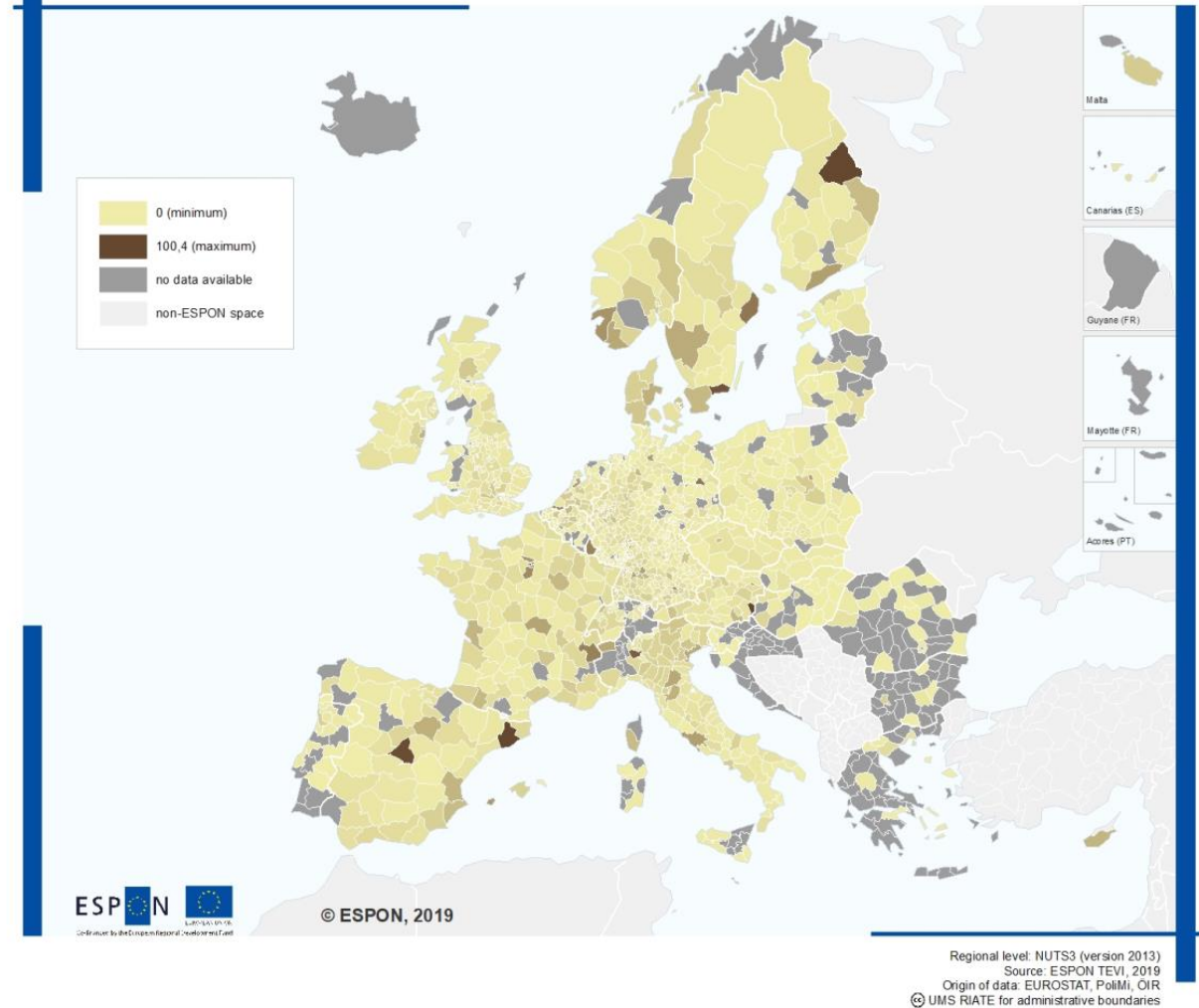
Better evidence on cross-border regions and INTERREG impacts

Code: 10WS558
Date: 10 October 2019 - 9:15am to 10:45am
Partners: ESPON EGTC, JRC, DG REGIO



- If only one-fifth of existing legal and administrative obstacles were solved a gain of 2% in GDP and 1 million jobs could be expected in [Cross-border](#) regions
- In this workshop we presented our tools to measure the impact of INTERREG in facilitating cross-border cooperation

Synthetic indicator: patent application in the relevant sectors + trade-mark applications in the relevant sectors





- Despite their potential, official data for cross-border areas is produced on a national perspective. There is the clear need to bridge over joining users of data and producers of data together
- The work done clearly identifies that border regions have patterns that are different from those of the whole country

- A cross-border region is much more than the sum of two contiguous border-regions. Better knowledge on the different flows and interactions across border is vital for better policy-making affecting those territories.
- The ESPON TEVI project provides tools to measure the impact of Interreg cross-border cooperation programs.





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**European Week
Brussels 7-10 October 2019**

The role of financial instruments in the regional ecosystem and territorial cohesion

Code: 10WS629

Date: 10 October 2019 - 11:30am to 1:00pm

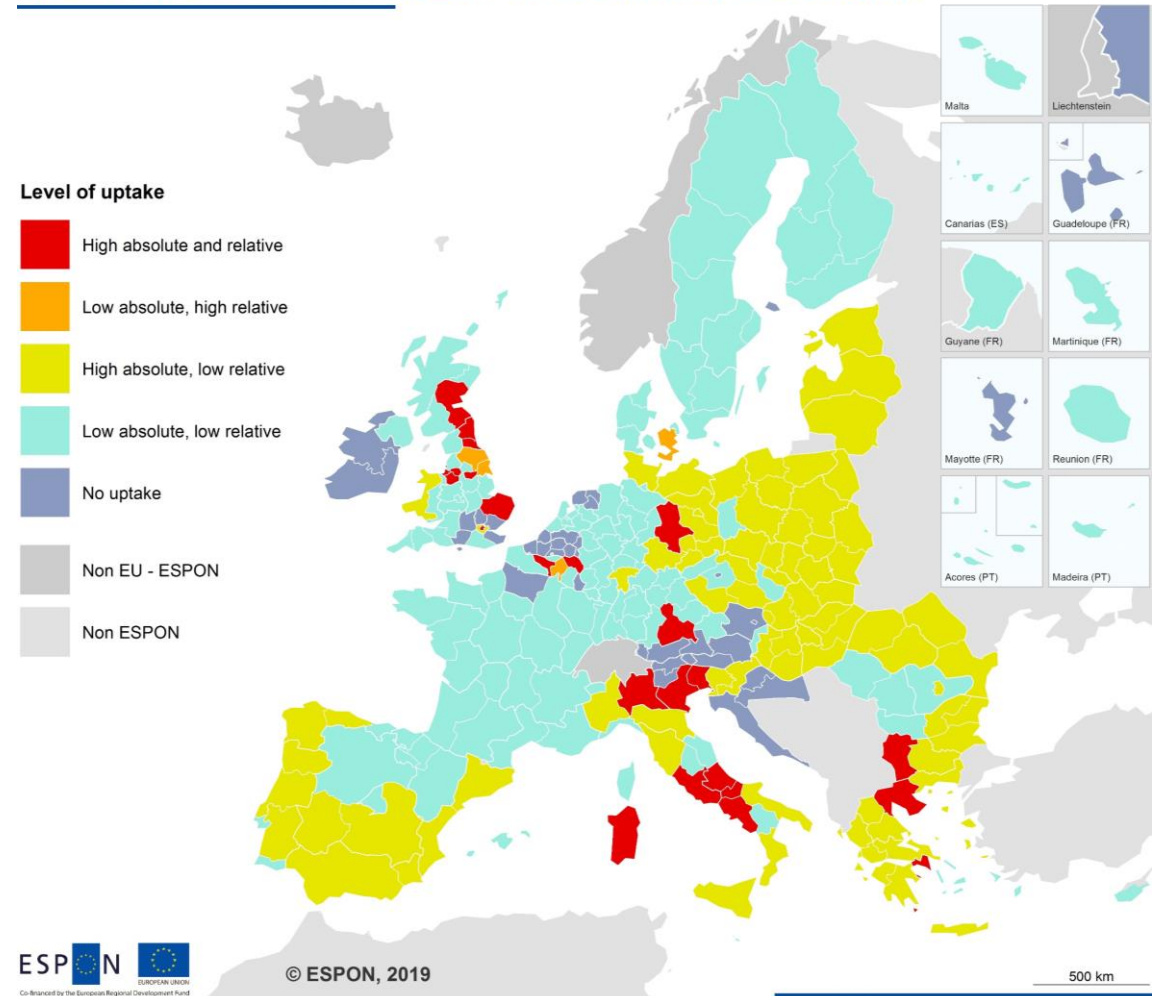
Partners: ESPON EGTC, DG REGIO, Startup Europe
Regions Network (SERN), University of Strathclyde



Co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

- Financial Instruments will play a key role in post-2020 Cohesion Policy. A recent ESPON study has analysed their impact and added value on territorial cohesion in relation to grants.
- In this workshop we presented the results of the project and case studies on Portugal and Lithuania

Uptake of financial instruments 2007-13: investment in final recipients



Regional level: NUTS 2 (2006)
Source: Financial instruments and territorial cohesion
Origin of data: DG Regio, FIESPON
© UMS RIATE for administrative boundaries



- There is no consistent territorial pattern of the use of ESIF Financial Instruments. As it is hard to build a narrative, domestic context is a key
- A tailor-made approach, flexibility, ex-ante evaluation and improved administrative capacity are the main elements for successful use of the Financial Instruments

- use of Financial Instruments is extremely uneven, Italy alone accounts for more than a quarter of all the expenditure through FI
- Except for Norway, we do not have systematic evidence on the impact of Financial Instruments





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**European Week
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Shrinking Rural Regions and Spatial Justice

Code: 08WS676

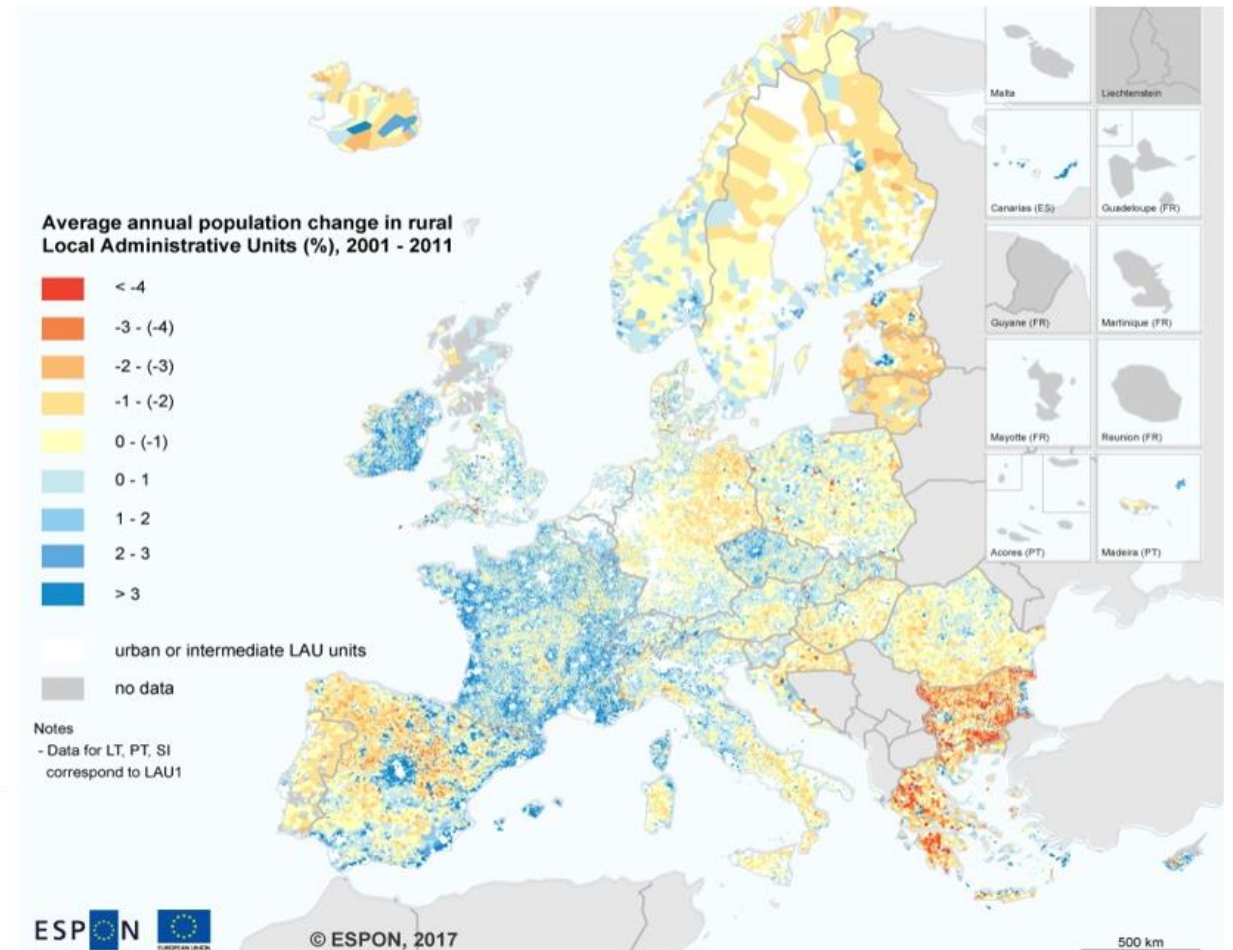
Date: 8 October 2019 - 11:30am to 1:00pm

Partners: Association of European Schools of Planning
(AESOP), European Regional Science Association (ERSA),
Regional Studies Association European Foundation



Co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

- How can we reverse decline in shrinking [#rural](#) areas? Should we focus on maximising wellbeing despite this decline?
- In this workshop we looked for answers based on the ESPON ESCAPE project.





- It is very important to recognise that shrinking comes in a variety of shapes, sizes. We cannot have “one-size fits all” policy. We need genuine place-based responses.
- The concept of spatial justice is about local needs being perceived by higher policy tiers and about local populations’ perceptions of being treated “fairly”.

- The ESPON ESCAPE project takes a fresh look at policy approaches on shrinkage, both conventional mitigation (to reverse decline) and adaptation (maximising wellbeing despite decline).
- Full mitigation will not always be achievable and imaginative forms of adaptation, which sustain the perceived well-being of a contracting population, may be a legitimate policy goal..





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**European Week
Brussels 7-10 October 2019**

UDN - Neighbourhood, town, city or functional urban area? Defining the territorial focus of future urban strategies

Code: 09WS601

Date: 9 October 2019 - 09:15am to 10:45pm

Partners: ESPON EGTC, European Commission -
DG JRC, European Commission - DG REGIO,
European Commission JRC



Co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

- Cohesion Policy can support urban strategies on different scales and in different territorial contexts.
- This workshop discussed how to target different territorial scales for future urban interventions in 2021-2027 Cohesion Policy.





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**European Week
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The importance of developing better basic services for sparsely populated / underpopulated areas

Code: 09WS438

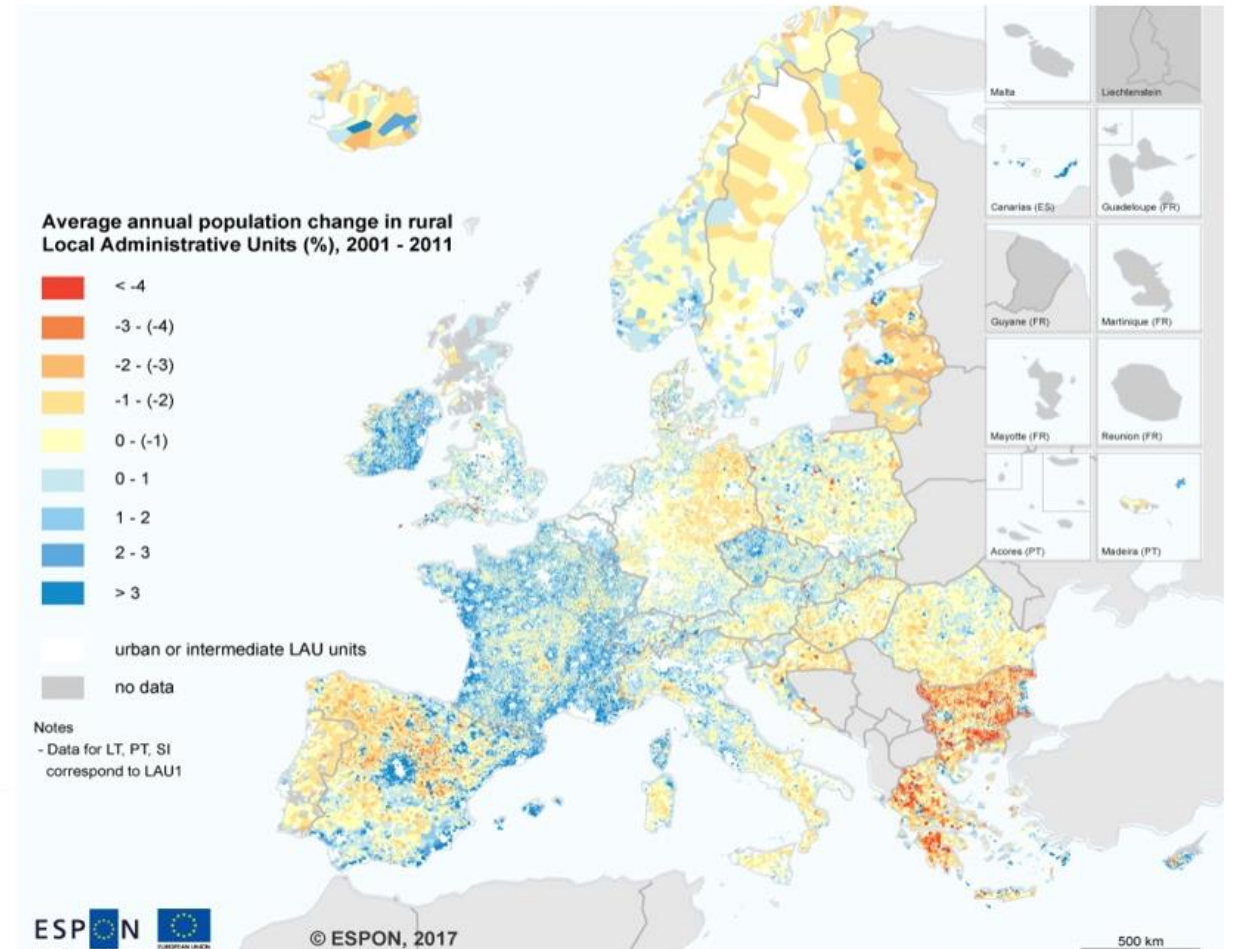
Date: 9 October 2019 - 14:30am to 17:00pm

Partners: ESPON EGTC, CoR - SEDEC commission



Co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

- Unemployment, poverty and social exclusion, demographic change create huge inequalities between rural areas and the big urban centers.
- In this workshop we examined how we can alleviate these inequalities by providing better basic services and ensure sustainable growth for all





- Partnership between urban and rural authorities is very important. If we cooperate by establishing public service companies, we can provide the citizens services they need at an affordable price.
- We can continue to build prosperity all over Europe through what is delivered by the sparsely populated areas

- Regional governments must work to generate employment and a dignified life for citizens and to make rural areas attractive for specific population groups, in particular young people and women.
- Even if decline for the underpopulated and sparsely remoted areas in the EU cannot be totally reversed, it can at least be halted.



Understanding the economic impact of cultural heritage in European regions

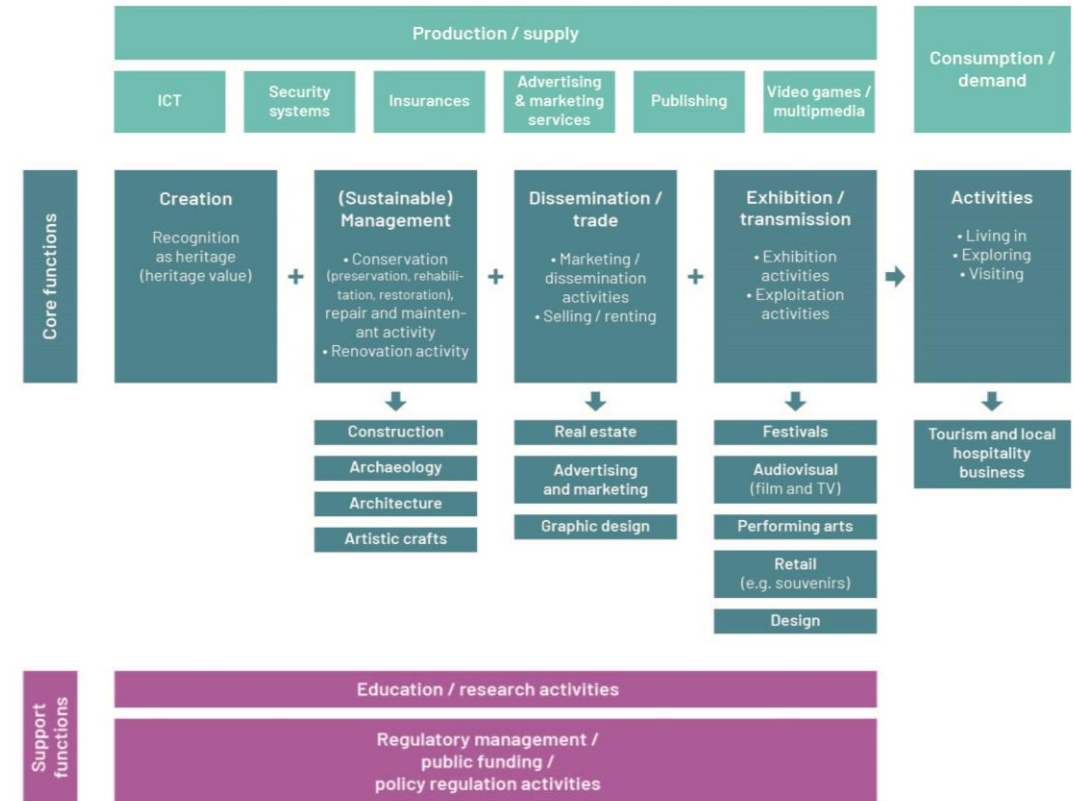
Code: 10WS635

Date: 10 October 2019 - 09:15am to 10:45pm

Partners: ESPON EGTC, European Commission -
 DG EAC, Flanders Heritage Agency, Norwegian
 Directorate for Cultural Heritage



- About 300.000 people work directly in the cultural heritage sector in the EU and almost 7.8 million jobs are created indirectly by the sector
- In this workshop we discuss how can we measure and improve the economic impact of cultural heritage





- ESPON's HERITAGE project provided an excellent platform for investigating the economic of material cultural heritage at a European level.
- The upcoming ESPON project on the impact of cultural heritage on well-being provides an opportunity to bring the research further.

- Evidence-based decision-making is as necessary in the cultural heritage field as it is in other policies.
- The heritage sector would greatly benefit from a European Heritage Satellite Account, not only to collect and present comparable economic indicators but also to have a strategic instrument to make better policy decisions



Cities and regions role in European policy making

Code: 10WS555
Date: 10 October 2019 - 11:30am to 13:00pm
Partners: ESPON EGTC, DG REGIO, ESPON TIA

- The analysis of potential territorial impacts of EU policies is very important for policy makers.
- In this workshop we presented ESPON Territorial Impact Assessment, an interactive tool that supports ex-ante assessment of the territorial impact of legislations and policies.

Introduction to the ESPON TIA Quick Check

TIA Training



**REGIONS
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Brussels 7-10 October 2019

The role of local and regional
governments in monitoring and
reporting progress on localizing
the SDGs

Code: 09WS428
Date: 09 October 2019 - 09:15am to 10:45pm
Partners: ESPON EGTC, AACID



- Local Governments are important in achieving the SDG goals as territorial indicators and disaggregated data are essential to improve government capacity at all levels.
- In this session we presented methods to develop comprehensive and participatory monitoring systems to support the localization of the SDGs.

THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development



#GLOBALGOALS



- The SDGs will only be achieved if the subnational level is involved in the process.
- We must report at the national government level, but also at all levels, LRGs, NGOs, citizens... it is very important to listen to all actors to develop a reporting system and a 2030 strategy

- It is very important to have goals to share and a framework for action in monitoring progress developed by European institutions and the European Commission
- Dialogues with all citizens and institutions help Andalusia to raise awareness in the territory about the SDGs as an integrative framework to create and strengthen public policies.”





**REGIONS
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Brussels** 7-10 October 2019

#EURegionsWeek UNIVERSITY: The regional socio-economic impact of the 4th industrial revolution

Code: 10WS680
Date: 09 October 2019 - 09:15am to 10:45pm
Partners: AESOP, ERSA, RSA



- The so-called 4th industrial revolution is expected to lead societies and economies to adapt and to undertake pervasive, if not disruptive, transformations
- ESPON contributed to this session with the findings of the project [Technological Transformation & Transitioning of Regional Economies](#).





- Among shortcomings of the current models of the smart city is that many of the witnessed solutions have been largely dominated by technology-push, instead of innovation driven by the public demand, e.g. cities.
- Networking on European and global scale among cities and key actors on open data, standards, APIs and interoperability is of paramount importance

- adoption of 4.0 technologies requires functional links between generic ICT sector and application of ICT in industries and services. However, with few exceptions, European regions are quite lagging in that respect.
- Employment effects of the technological progress are not general but industry and occupation specific.



7th Master Class on EU Cohesion Policy

Date: 06-10 October 2019
Partners: RSA



- The Master Class is organised by the Regional Studies Association and it is a unique format to connect aspiring researchers and include presentations of papers, lectures and panel debates with policymakers, EU officials and senior academics.
- ESPON is participating for another year with a speaker – project expert Sandra Di Biaggio





"ESPON Talk" -green infrastructure

Time: 13.00-13.15

Date: 08 October 2019

**With: Tim Delshammar (City of
Malmö) and Bernice den Brok
(ESPON EGTC)**





**REGIONS
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European Week
Brussels 7-10 October 2019

"**ESPON Talk**" -scenarios for the Baltic Sea region

Time: 14.00-14.15

Date: 08 October 2019

With: Alda Nikodemusa

**(VASAB), Luciane Aguiar Borges
(Nordregio) and Sandra Di Biaggio
(ESPON EGTC)**





"ESPON Talk" -green infrastructure

Time: 16.30-16.45

Date: 08 October 2019

**With: Gemma García Blanco (Tecnalia)
and Michaela Gensheimer (ESPON
EGTC)**





"ESPON Talk" -how cities adapt to population ageing

Time: 10.15-10.30

Date: 09 October 2019

With: Erik van Ossenbruggen (Ecorys), Paul McGarry (Great Manchester Combined Authority) and Piera Petruzzi (ESPON EGTC)





"ESPON Talk" -Territorial Impact Assessment

Time: 13.30-13.45

Date: 09 October 2019

With: Igor Caldeira (CoR), Bernd Schuh (ÖIR), Eleftherios Stavropoulos (EC DG REGIO) and Marjan van Herwijnen (ESPON EGTC)





"ESPON Talk" -financial instruments

Time: 13.15-13.30

Date: 10 October 2019

With: Fiona Wishlade (University of Strathclyde) and Zintis Hermansons (ESPON EGTC)

