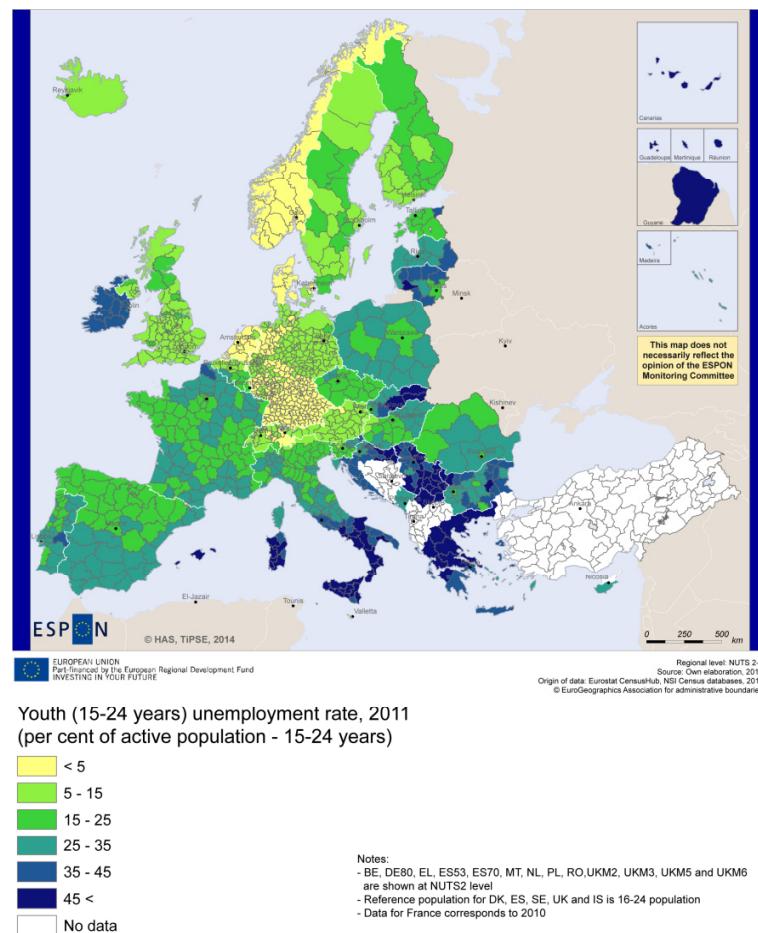


Figure 6 Map showing youth unemployment rate, 2011



For many countries, regional disparities can be identified. For instance, Italy shows a clear North-South divide with Northern Italy showing much lower unemployment shares than Southern Italy. The same pattern can, to a lower extent, be observed in Spain.

Sometimes youth unemployment co-exists with increased difficulties in filling vacancies. This point to the existence of labour market mismatches, due to inadequate skills, limited geographic mobility or inadequate wage conditions. The exclusion from the labour market often also exposes young people to greater vulnerability in terms of well-being and health status, withdrawal from society etc. In addition, young people that have a job people are at much greater risk in terms of precariousness, i.e. they are more often on temporary contracts and in part-time jobs compared to

the overall working age population.

The Online Map Finder is available at:
<http://mapfinder.espon.eu>



ESPON 2020 – More Information

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ESPON Tools

Online Map Finder

Visualisation of territorial evidence through the use of ESPON maps

The ESPON Map Finder is a user-friendly web-based tool for finding maps based on territorial evidence produced by ESPON projects. These maps are useful for policy-makers, practitioners, stakeholders, researchers, students and the wider public. The tool allows the user to search, display, zoom-in, and download the maps as well as create a comparison list of favourite maps.

How the ESPON Map Finder supports policymakers and policy implementation

Essentially, the ESPON Online Map Finder makes it possible for policy makers to find a specific map resulting from ESPON projects and reports in an easy and fast way. To support the use of the maps, each map is accompanied by short interpretations and key observations tailor-made for policy-makers and policy development.

Currently the tool contains 134 maps from projects on a wide range of themes and topics relevant for territorial cohesion policy, e.g. economy, environment, governance, labour market, transport and accessibility. Regular updates will ensure a continuous coverage of policy developments.

Figure 1 Screenshot Online Map Finder

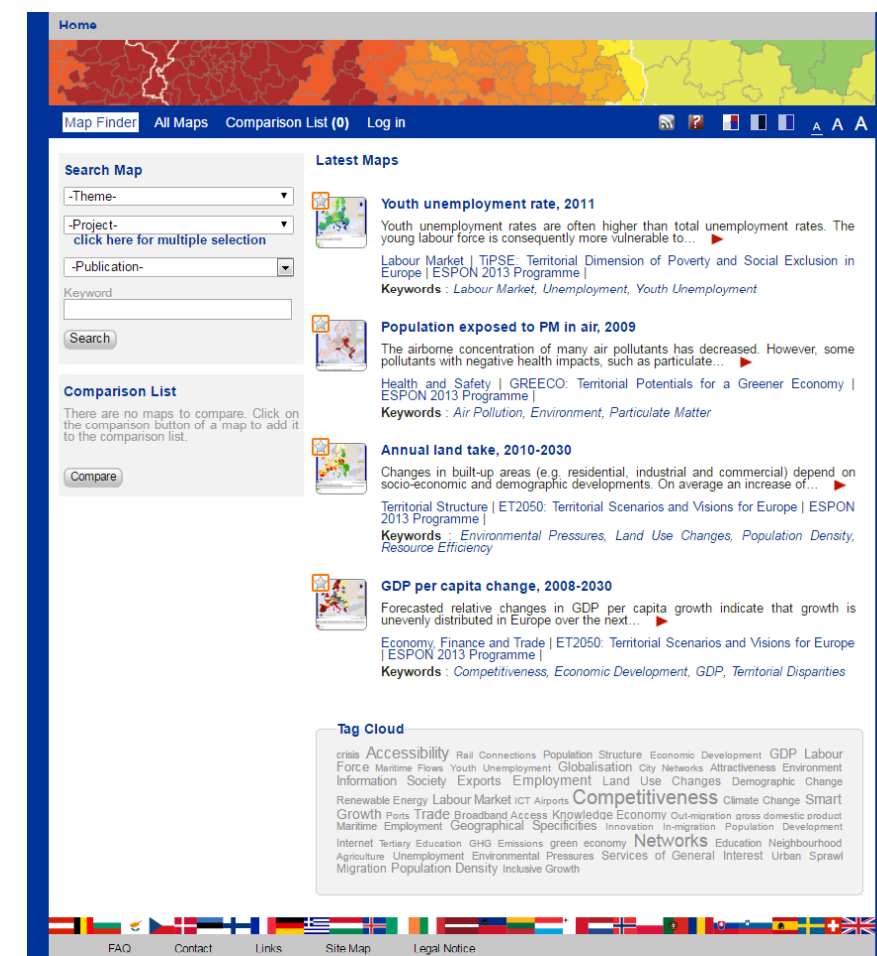
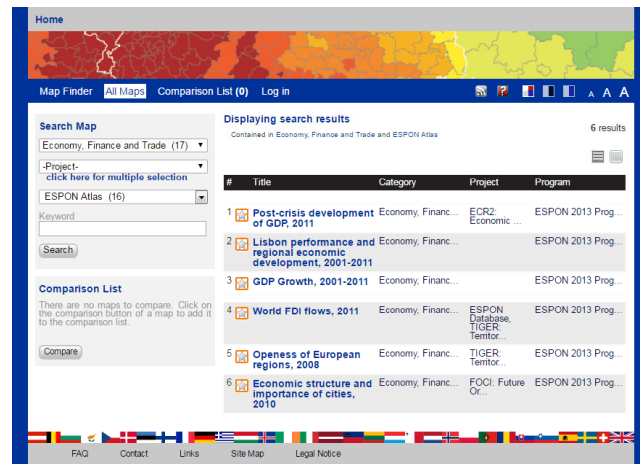


Figure 2 List of results



How to use the Online Map Finder

The main part of the welcome screen of the application (see figure 1) displays a list of the latest maps included in the Map Finder application.

On the left side of the welcome screen there are *map search options* allowing the user to look for a map using a specific theme, project, publication or keywords. In addition, at the bottom of the welcome screen there is a *tag cloud* with links to the main keywords and categories of the site. By clicking on any link of the tag cloud, the user will get access to all the maps related to that specific keyword.

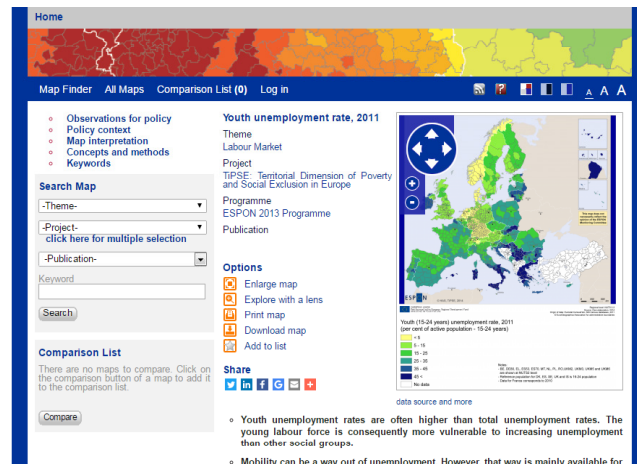
There are dropdown menus for the search criteria *theme* and *project*. By selecting one of the items displayed in the dropdown menu, the system will display all maps related to the selected item.

The list of maps found will display all themes and projects the map is related to. For example maps in relation to economy, finance and trade which have been published in the ESPON Atlas could be of interest. Figure 2 shows the result for such a combined query. The results can be sorted by title, category and project. A red arrow will show the sorting criteria being used. For a first view of the results, the list can be transformed into icons by clicking on the “mosaic” button just above the list. These icons show a thumbnail image of the maps.

By clicking on an icon or a title, the selected map will be displayed in full. The map is presented together with a description and explanation of the map in relation to the policy context and the resulting findings relevant for policy making (figure 3). For example, bullet points reflect the key observations for policy. Furthermore a clear explanation and interpretation on what can be read from the map is given.

There are two ways to explore a map: the “zoom/pan mode”, and the “lens mode” (figure 4). The zoom map

Figure 3 Example result – youth unemployment rate 2011



mode will allow the user to zoom in and out with the wheel of the mouse, or by clicking on the “+” and “-” symbols by the right left corner of the map. In addition, the “Enlarge map” option will show the map at greater size. This will also hide the panel with the details of the map. The enlarged area can be modified by changing the zoom level, on the bottom of the map.

When clicking on *printing a map*, a new window will be opened. This provides a printing- friendly layout which displays all the content of the map page. The user can choose to print all the information available about the

Figure 4 Zoom and pan function

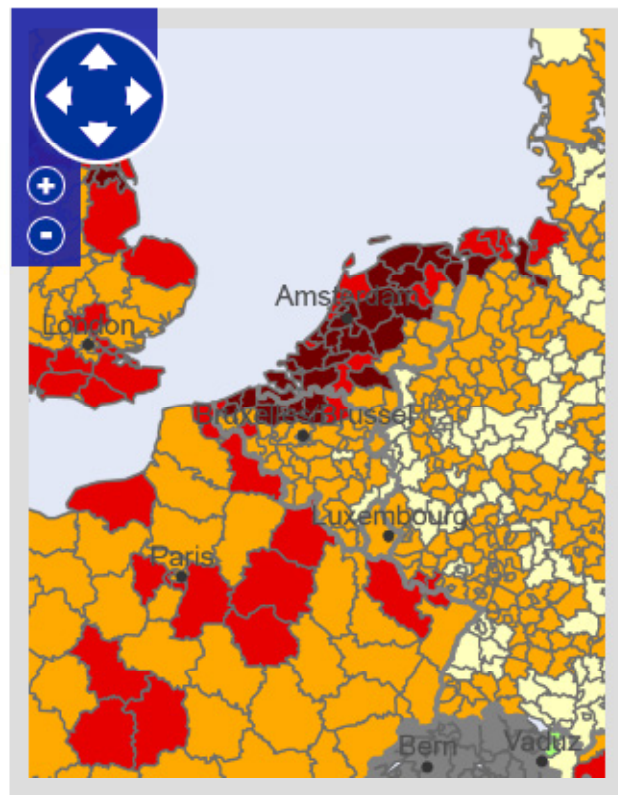
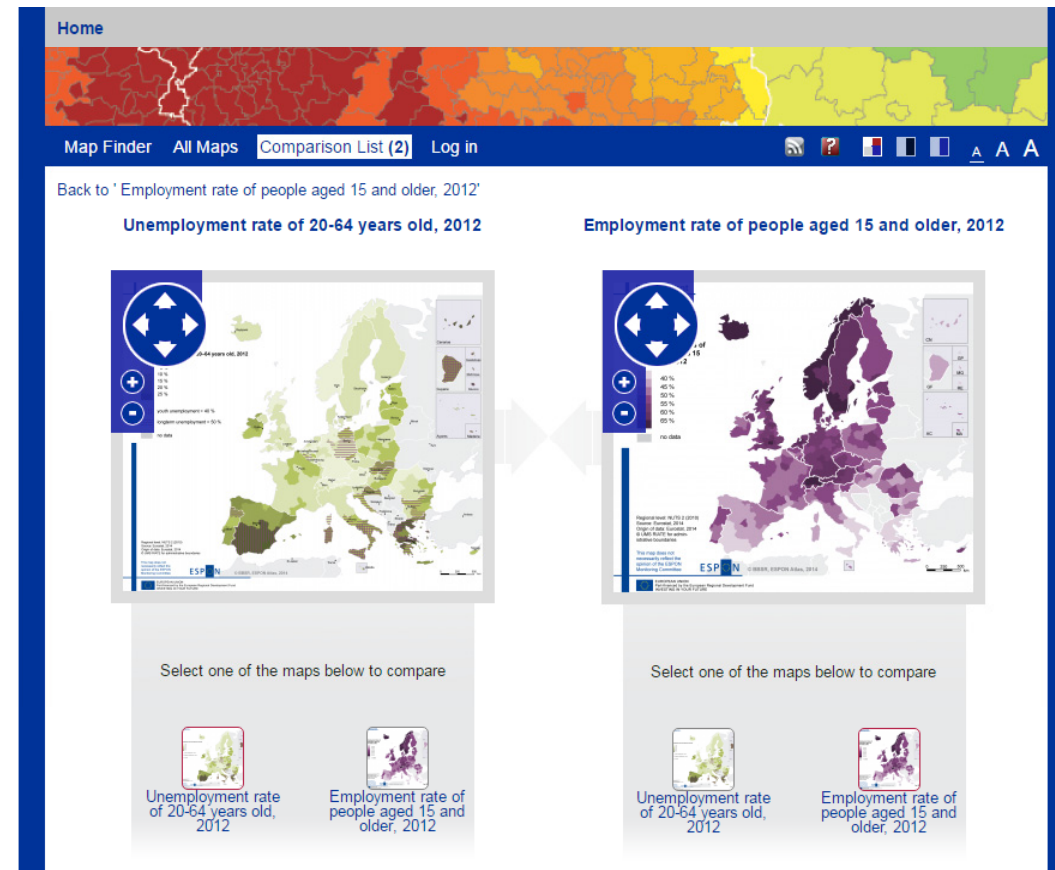


Figure 5 The comparison function



map or just a part. If the user wants to have a copy of the map image in high quality, this can be done by clicking the “Download map” button. Finally, the map pages also contain links to all the major social media applications to the left of the map.

Maps can be selected as favourite from the displayed search results by clicking on the star icon in front of the map. These favourite maps are put on the *comparison list* which can be stored in the user profile. Another functionality of the comparison list is the possibility to explore the included maps side by side, allowing for analyzing similarities and differences (see figure 5). This is done by clicking on the “compare” button, on the “comparison list” widget. When logging in, the user’s

Example: Youth on the Move

From a policy perspective, the Europe 2020 Strategy aims at raising the employment rate of the European population aged 20-64 up to 75%. The flagship initiative “Youth on the Move” poses policy initiatives on education, employment and mobility for young people in Europe. One example of this is the Youth Employment Initiative from 2013 which aims to support particularly young people not in education, employment or training in regions with a youth unemployment rate above 25%. The Member States are expected to put in place measures to ensure that young people up to age 25 receive a good quality offer of employment, continued

comparison list will be automatically loaded on the widget on the left sidebar. Once on the “compare maps” page, the user will see a layout based on two columns with the maps to be compared.

By subscribing to the RSS feeds available at the right side of the top banner, the user can be continuously updated about new maps that have been included in the application. Furthermore, registering for the application will allow the user to store the list of favourite maps in their profile account. To register, click on the “Register” option on the top bar menu, then include a chosen user name and email address, and a message will be sent confirming the registration.

education, an apprenticeship or a traineeship within four months of leaving school or becoming unemployed.

The map “Youth unemployment rate, 2011” (figure 6) shows that youth (15-25 years) unemployment rates are unevenly distributed across Europe. Northwest European regions have considerably lower youth unemployment rates than regions in Eastern and Southern European regions. Especially the regions most hit by the financial and economic crisis have considerably higher youth unemployment rates, e.g. Italy, Greece, Spain, Portugal and Ireland.