



ESPON 2013 Programme/Press Release No 03/2011

Luxembourg, 30 May 2011

ESPON Contribution to the Territorial Agenda 2020 and EU Cohesion Policy

The debate around EU Cohesion Policy post 2013, the adoption of the Territorial Agenda 2020 and the evidence contribution of ESPON to the EU, national and regional policy making are in focus at the Open Seminar “Evidence and Knowledge Needs for the Territorial Agenda 2020 and EU Cohesion Policy”. The Seminar is organised in cooperation with the Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

On 19 May 2011, EU Members States adopted the new Territorial Agenda 2020 at the Informal Ministerial Meeting on Territorial Cohesion. During the meeting, they recognised the utility of pan-European ESPON facts, and the usefulness of territorial analyses, indicators, data and maps offered by ESPON.

The Open ESPON Seminar, which takes place on 21 and 22 June 2011 in Gödöllő – Hungary, offers an ideal opportunity for continued dialogue on needs and use of ESPON results. Keynote speeches of policy makers on demands, feedback from experts based on ESPON deliveries and stakeholder opinions on using the ESPON knowledge base, shall give new inspiration to the most adequate ESPON support to the Territorial Agenda 2020 and future EU Cohesion Policy.

The Open Seminar will be kicked off by a political discussion with high-level policy makers, setting the scene for dialogues in 8 “Policy Oriented Panels”, each of which will address one key policy priority of the EU Cohesion Policy and the Territorial Agenda 2020.

A session displaying the different scales of territorial realities and policy making, “zooming in” from the European level to the region of Budapest, will link the policy introduction and the policy oriented panels. Experts from ongoing ESPON projects will bring in concrete examples on how their results could be used. Stakeholders currently using ESPON results will actively participate in the debate voicing their specific needs and experience.

At the final round table selected policy makers will (1) provide reaction on input statements made and indicate further needs from the policy side in terms of themes for analyses, tools, indicators and data, (2) consider the feasibility of policy demands from a scientific

viewpoint, and (3) address experiences and new ideas for strengthening further the usefulness of ESPON, also post 2013.

More details and programme of the event at the ESPON Website, [Link](#)

Interested in ESPON?

The ESPON 2013 Programme is part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund, the EU Member States and the Partner States Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

It shall support policy development in relation to the aim of territorial cohesion and a harmonious development of the European territory. ESPON shall support Cohesion Policy development with European wide, comparable information, evidence, analyses and scenarios on framework conditions for the development of regions, cities and larger territories. In doing so, it shall facilitate the mobilisation of territorial capital and development opportunities, contributing to improving European competitiveness, to the widening and deepening of European territorial cooperation and to a sustainable and balanced development.

The Managing Authority responsible for the ESPON 2013 Programme is the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructures, Department of Spatial Planning and Development of Luxembourg. More information: www.espon.eu

Press Contact

pierina.petruzzi@espon.eu

+352 54 55 80 707

ESPON on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#)