

## **ESPON 2013 PROGRAMME**

### **SPECIFICATION ESPON Project 2013/3/2**

#### **TERRITORIAL INDICATORS AND INDICES (2010-2012)**

##### ***(o) Territorial challenges relevant for ESPON 2013 projects***

The development of the European territory is facing several ongoing mega trends and impacts of policies:

- The integration of the EU in global economic competition is accelerating, offering regions and larger territories more options to decide their development path, as development is no longer a zero sum game for Europe.
- Interaction is growing within the EU territory and between the surrounding neighbour countries and other parts of the world. This is apparent through e.g. migration pressure on more developed countries, which are themselves confronted with population decline, and by access to and investment in new markets.
- Market forces and the evolution of society in general support a geographical concentration of activities.
- The ongoing demographic changes with an ageing European population, in addition to migration, affect regions differently and increase the competition for skilled labour.
- The occurrence of hazards due to climate change is increasing and different parts of Europe experience different types of hazards.
- Increasing energy prices and the emergence of a new energy paradigm have significant territorial impacts, some regions being more affected than others. This presents particular development opportunities for the production of renewable energy sources.
- The enlargement of the EU to 27 Member States, and potentially more, presents an unprecedented challenge for the competitiveness and internal cohesion of the Union.

ESPON results have revealed that territorial capital and opportunities for development are inherent in the regional diversity that is a characteristic of Europe. Consequently, different types of territories are endowed with diverse combinations of resources, putting them in different positions for contributing to the achievement of the Lisbon and Gothenburg Agendas, as well as to Cohesion Policy. Territorial diversity, especially in

the economic base, implies that strategies other than opting for a knowledge-based economy might be more appropriate and viable for some regions.

The ESPON 2006 Programme provided integrated analysis and long-term spatial scenarios which enriched the European policy debate and knowledge base. The results and observations on territorial structures, trends, perspectives and assessment of EU policy impacts had not been fully evident before and supported a better understanding of the European dimension of territorial dynamics. This has prompted interest among policy makers and practitioners for even more information, knowledge and understanding that ESPON can offer.

The ESPON 2013 Programme shall bring this knowledge base one step further through applied research and targeted analysis, indicator development and data collection, capitalisation events presenting results, etc. All these actions will be related to an improved understanding of territorial structures, development trends, perspectives and policy impacts.

The European-wide evidence provided by the ESPON 2013 Programme will potentially benefit stakeholders at all levels throughout Europe. Policy makers dealing with territorial development require sound evidence and comparable regionalised information in addition to medium and long-term development perspectives, in order to create sustainable and efficient integrated policy responses for their territories.

Given that the European Union is moving towards a more integrated policy approach, the territorial dimension is particularly important for policy makers. The aim of territorial cohesion proposed by the Commission supports this approach by taking the territory as an element within the framework of policy making. Due to the provision of evidence based on analyses of territorial units, the ESPON 2013 Programme is of strategic importance for European policy development and cooperation.

By further developing and expanding the existing knowledge and indicators, the ESPON 2013 Programme will play a strategic role in supporting the policy process of the 2007-2013 period, and contribute to the development of Cohesion Policy.

### ***(i) General objectives of projects under Priority 3***

The general objectives of projects within the ESPON 2013 Programme are the following:

- Contribute to the consolidation of the scientific platform of the ESPON 2013 Programme and to the territorial knowledge base needed for informed policy formulation and application
- Ensure data, territorial indicators and tools that are usable for policy makers and practitioners at all administrative levels
- Respond to needs for public access to the ESPON data and tools
- Ensure availability of comparable and robust regional (and urban) data at as detailed geographical scale as possible as well as statistical quality control and data validation

- Ensure that European standards for spatial referencing and storage of data are respected (such as applying the ETRS1989 standard and the Inspire Directive).
- Support a concrete application and use of data for policy, strategy and planning processes, including tools and techniques for forecasting and modelling
- Continuously provide an updated basis for monitoring and assessing territorial development trends in relation to territorial policy objectives at European level based on relevant territorial indicators/indices.

This project plays the particular role of defining and developing territorial indicators and indices for policy making in the field of territorial cohesion. In doing so, it shall contribute to these general objectives during its implementation, and in doing so make best use of existing ESPON results, new results in other ESPON projects as well as other research results and relevant studies.

### ***(ii) Relation of this project to the ESPON 2013 Programme***

The priorities describing the work-programme of the ESPON 2013 Programme are structured in four strands:

1. **Applied research on territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion: Evidence on European territorial trends, perspectives and policy impacts**  
The applied research projects will create information and evidence on territorial challenges and opportunities for success in the development of regions. Cross thematic applied research will be a major activity integrating existing thematic analysis and adding future analysis of new themes. Territorial impact studies of EU policies will be another focus under this priority.
2. **Targeted analysis based on user demand: European perspective on development of different types of territories**  
This priority responds to a clear demand of practitioners for user and demand driven actions within the ESPON 2013 Programme. By convening an analytical process where ESPON findings are integrated with more detailed information and practical know-how, new understanding of future development opportunities and challenges may arise, which could be transformed into projects and actions.
3. **Scientific platform and tools: Territorial indicators and data, analytical tools and scientific support**  
The scientific platform and analytical tools built up within the ESPON 2006 Programme will be maintained and further expanded. New actions shall be undertaken to develop current achievements and make use of existing indicators, data and tools.
4. **Capitalisation, ownership and participation: Capacity building, dialogue and networking**  
Under this priority, actions are foreseen that will make the evidence and knowledge already developed operational through raising awareness and involving stakeholders in the results and practical application of them.

This project belongs to the third priority and holds a key position in the ESPON 2013 Programme as the scientific platform and analytical tools represent a core element in the further development of the knowledge base of ESPON.

Comparable data, indicators and indices for regions and cities throughout Europe is one of the particular challenges for European applied territorial research. In fact, defining and developing territorial indicators and indices will continue being an essential part of many applied territorial research projects conducted within the ESPON 2013 Programme. Therefore, a strong coordination and interlinkage with other ongoing ESPON projects is crucial for achieving comprehensive results. A close cooperation with the Coordination Unit must also be established as part of the project implementation.

### *(iii) Thematic Scope and Context*

The main aim of the ESPON 2013 Programme is to increase the general body of knowledge about territorial structures, trends, perspectives and policy impacts in an enlarging European Union. The ESPON 2013 Database project is dealing with and producing comparable and reliable datasets at different geographical levels. To support (applied) research projects and policy decisions at a European level with comparable and reliable indicators and indices at different geographical levels is then also of highest relevance. This is the reason that the ESPON 2013 Operational Programme previews an action under Priority 3 developing Territorial Indicators and Indices related to the new European policy aim of “Territorial Cohesion”. The results achieved will provide a major input to the third important element previewed dealing with monitoring of the European territorial dynamics.

The Commission and EU Member States are in a process of defining further the concept of “Territorial Cohesion”. Currently the Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion brings this topic to a wide public debate. In order to understand structures, trends and scenarios influencing territorial cohesion it highlights the need to improve the evidence base for territorial cohesion and to monitor territorial dynamics in support of policymaking.

Member States and others are currently debating the concept of Territorial Cohesion. The European Commission will, during the project implementation, issue related documents which should nourish the results of this project.

OECD and JRC have developed a handbook on constructing composite indicators (see: <http://composite-indicators.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>). It focuses on indicators that compare and rank country performance in areas such as industrial competitiveness, sustainable development, globalization and innovation and it contains a set of technical guidelines that can help constructors of composite indicators to improve the quality of their outputs. Most research on indicator development of OECD and JRC, including the handbook, is on country level. Therefore research within the ESPON project on territorial indicators and indices should follow as much as possible the guidelines of this handbook but adapt them in such a way that they can be used to develop a set of indicators for regional and local level.

ESPON 2006 project 4.1.3 on “Monitoring Territorial Development” recommended that further investigation should be done towards a limited list of indicators related to a territorial agenda - comparable to the elaboration of the short list of indicators related to the Lisbon/Gothenburg agenda, especially deepening the aspects of spatial types.

Furthermore, on the basis of the indicator selection for the territorial cohesion oriented analysis the elaboration and inclusion of an index of territorial cohesion should be addressed as well. Experiences in this direction have been made within ESPON in different projects.

The project should be structured in three parts:

- Part I serves as the **design phase** following an open approach, searching for existing territorial indicators and indices. It will also consider the availability and robustness of data, and clearly define the terminology related to different types of territorial indicators and indices that shall be further explored. This part should result in an overview of a large set of territorial indicators and indices, and a recommendation for a set of promising indicators and indices to be explored further.
- Part II is the **exploratory phase** following a more focused approach and testing the promising indicators and indices for their suitability as part of the set of territorial indicators. This part should result in a coherent set of indicators and indices to be implemented.
- Part III, the **implementation phase**, focuses on making the selected territorial indicators and indices operational as an inherent part of the project implementation. This part should implement and visualise the indicators and indices selected.

#### *(iv) General expectations to the project*

The Project on Territorial Indicators and Indices constitutes an important second element in the triad of the ESPON actions under the Scientific Platform, i.e. Data, Indicators and Monitoring. At the moment, data has been covered by the ESPON 2013 Database project currently running and a call for proposals on an ESPON Territorial Monitoring System is envisaged in 2010. The current proposal on Territorial Indicators and Indices, aims to cover the indicators subject in the triad. The ambition with the trilogy is to create mutual support and therefore close cooperation and synergies within the projects in this triad and also with the ESPON 2013 Project on Typology Compilation (under Priority 3 as well) shall be ensured.

Territorial cohesion as an aim in the Lisbon Treaty for the European Union calls for further scientific and political reflection on synthetic/combined indicators and indices that can inform the policy process related to territorial cohesion. The main objective of the Territorial Indicators and Indices project is therefore to develop a set of indicators and indices that could be used to support policy makers in measuring and monitoring territorial cohesion and European territorial development.

Aspects that should be taken into account during the project in order to achieve the main objective are the following ones:

(1) **Build on ESPON 2006 results.** Efforts of developing indicators measuring territorial cohesion were already started under the ESPON 2006 Programme. Some progress has been made by researchers, which should be considered for this Project on Territorial Indicators and Indices under the ESPON 2013 Programme.

The progress made during the 2006 Programme and which represents an important input for the work to be done is documented in the Final Report of Project 4.1.3 “Monitoring Territorial Development”. In addition, the ESPON Workshop<sup>1</sup> on Territorial Indicators and Indices of 2 April 2008 showed that also other ESPON results and experiences may be useful to consult. These results and experiences are related to Project 1.1.1 on “Polycentricity”, Project 2.4.2 on “Integrated analysis of transnational and national territories” and Project 3.2 on “Spatial scenarios in relation to the ESDP and EU Cohesion Policy”.

(2) **Use of external experiences.** Use of progress and experiences made on territorial indicators and indices in other policy and institutional contexts should be integrated. Experiences with territorial indicators at other European institutions (EUROSTAT, JRC, EEA, OECD, etc.) should be taken into account as well as the indicator use of national territorial observatories (also taking the regional level into account). A possible GIS-basing of indicators and indices shall be checked.

Indicators and indices which have already been applied in other policy contexts should be considered in order to relate and foster understanding for the territorial indicators and indices.

(3) **Relating to ESPON 2013 projects.** Under the ESPON 2013 Programme a large number of projects are related to this project. Especially important are the other two projects of the triad in Priority 3: the Database Project and the Monitoring Project. This Transnational Project Group (TPG) is expected to cooperate closely with the TPG being in charge of the development of the ESPON 2013 Database regarding the use of existing data and/or the development of new data, indicators and maps. This TPG is also expected to provide the necessary input to the Monitoring Project which is expected to start in 2010. Finally, the TPG should include relevant research of running ESPON 2013 projects, such as the projects on “European patterns of land use”, “Sea use / maritime inter-linkages”, “Climate change and territorial effects on regions and local economies”, “Effects of rising energy prices on regional competitiveness”, etc.

(4) **Relating to policy orientations.** Indicator development shall relate to relevant policy orientations of the Fourth (and Fifth) Cohesion Report(s), the Territorial Agenda of the EU and the Commission’s Green Paper. These policy orientations give the current most reliable indications on the policy maker’s objectives for European territorial development and cohesion. They can be summarised as follows:

- Balanced territorial development;
- Strengthening a polycentric development by networking of city regions and cities;
- Urban drivers (large European cities, small and medium sized cities, suburbanisation, inner city imbalances);
- Development of the diversity of rural areas;
- Emphasis on ultra-peripheral, northern sparsely populated, mountain areas, islands;
- Creating new forms of partnership and territorial governance between urban and rural areas;
- Promoting competitive and innovative regional clusters;
- Strengthening and extending the Trans-European Networks;

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<sup>1</sup> The report of this workshop can be found here on the ESPON website.

- Promoting trans-European risk management including impacts of climate change;
- Strengthening ecological structures and cultural resources.

The territorial indicator development should ensure a clear correlation to these policy orientations as well as to further clarifications that the policy process may provide in the life time of the project. However, it is also important to be clear about the concrete use of the indicators and how they could change the reporting on regions used in regional policy up to now.

(5) **Reflecting on main territorial challenges.** Indicator development shall as well reflect the main territorial challenges ahead mentioned in relation to Cohesion Policy considerations and the Territorial Agenda of the EU, including:

- Global economic competition: Increasing global pressure to restructure and modernise, new emerging markets and technological development;
- Climate change: New hazard patterns, new potentials;
- Energy supply and efficiency: Increasing energy prices;
- Demography: Ageing and migration processes;
- Transport and accessibility / mobility: Saturation of euro-corridors, urban transport;
- Geographic structure of Europe: Territorial concentration of economic activities in the core area of Europe, and in capital cities in Member States of 2004, further EU enlargements.

Taking a pro-active approach, these challenges should be reflected in indicators related to their territorial impacts and effects and undoubtedly will be demanded from the policy level.

(6) **Issues to be measured and communicated.** The territorial indicators and indices shall be able to measure and communicate not only the more simple traditional issues, but also more complex territorial development issues, challenges and opportunities.

The territorial indicators and indices shall first of all be able to measure and communicate more simple traditional issues, such as the dynamics of:

- Population and migration;
- Economic development and potentials;
- Social issues;
- Environmental issues;
- Cultural factors.

Furthermore, they shall be able to measure and communicated more complex territorial development and structural issues related to:

- Balance and polycentricity;
- Urban sprawl;
- Proximity to services of general interest;
- Border discontinuities;
- Geographical specificities;
- Sub-regional disparities;

- (Potential) accessibility;
- Natural assets;
- Cultural assets;
- Land (sea) use issues;
- Territorial cooperation options (urban-urban, rural-urban), etc.

In addition, the territorial dimension of main challenges, their opportunities and likely territorial effects, could imply using more complex indicators / indices measuring issues such as

- Climate change impact;
- Regional competitiveness;
- Territorial opportunities / potentials;
- Innovative creativity;
- Well-being standards, quality of live, etc.

Besides providing solid basic information on the present status of all issues mentioned above the indicators should also be able to help providing information on trends, flows and impacts (as most relevant). This means that the indicators should be able to be operational over time (= trends), over subjects (= flows) and over cause-effect relationships (= impacts).

**(7) A mixture of types of indicators.** The set of territorial indicators and indices must consist of well known “classical” indicators and indices that are commonly used by policy makers as well as more complex and new indicators and indices. Furthermore, a mixed set of thematic and integrated / composite indicators should be aimed at. During the ESPON workshop discussion participants addressed the issue of types of indicators to be considered. There is a need taking into account a mixture of indicators, which can still be further detailed, however basically comprising three types of indicators:

- Classical / simple socio-economic indicators (many used in other policy contexts) giving basic information broken down on larger territories, regions and cities (such as GDP / Capita, unemployment, CO2 emission, etc.)
- Indicators (often composite) on thematic / territorial issues (such as accessibility, e.g. to services of general interest, connectivity, depopulation, vulnerability to natural risks, etc.)
- New composite "territorial cohesion" indicators (catching territorial phenomena such as balance, polycentricity, attractiveness of regions based for example on the proximity to natural areas, and other policy orientations of territorial cohesion).

Indicators should be as simple as possible in order to underline the usability of the indicators for policy support and its transparency towards potential users. Finally, in order to bypass challenges deriving from data provision of differing characteristics besides NUTS and LAU data also raster and point data provision should be considered.

**(8) Apply a 5-level-approach.** The 3-level-approach (European – transnational – regional / inter-regional) has been used in the context of the ESPON 2006 Programme. This approach should, where relevant and feasible, be considered enlarged to a 5-level-approach by adding (a) the global positioning of Europe as a whole and (b) a more

detailed geographical level considering the local level. Furthermore, in relation to a given political question and the respective indicator(s) chosen different levels of geographical detailing should be covered.

(9) **Comply with European Directives**, such as the INSPIRE Directive, should constitute one of the technical bases of the ESPON 2013 Project on Territorial Indicators and Indices.

(10) **Involvement of stakeholders.** A particular lesson to be learned from the ESPON 2006 Programme is that policy makers need to be directly involved in the process of defining territorial indicators and indices. In this project under the ESPON 2013 Programme this needs to be ensured by discussions with the ESPON MC and other relevant stakeholders along the implementation of the project.

The ESPON Workshop on Territorial Indicators and Indices confirmed that the development of a user-friendly, frequently updated set of territorial indicators and indices should, beside gathered from existing ones, also be driven by policy makers. This would ensure a set of most important indicators / indices and a volume of territorial indicators that is manageable and is based on existing ones. Even not yet definitely existing policy options being in an exploratory stage should be taken into account.

Furthermore, to ensure the use of the indicators and indices not only by policy makers at the European and national but also on the regional and local level, it is recommended to ensure a combination of top-down and bottom-up approaches in selecting and testing the indicators.

(11) **Presentation of the (set of) indicators.** Finally, designing, exploring and implementing territorial indicators and indices also has to reflect reporting systems. It has to be considered in which way indicators or sets of indicators can be presented and communicated in order to be easily accessible and understandable for different groups of stakeholders, such as experts, administrators, policy makers and the wider public.

#### ***(v) Analytical framework and deliveries expected***

Taking the thematic scope and the main objective for the ESPON 2013 Project on Territorial Indicators and Indices into account, the deliveries are expected to have a clear policy orientation. The territorial indicators and indices being considered shall cover the entire ESPON territory and in addition be able to address particularly issues such as sub-regional disparities, geographical specificities, territorial dynamics, the capacity to mobilise development opportunities, etc. Recognising the importance of the territorial scale for analytical results and policy considerations, the design and exploration of indicators and indices should ensure that a 3-level approach, or even 5-level-approach, would be feasible in their use in analysis and interpretation of results.

The geographical coverage of the project should encompass all the countries participating in the ESPON 2013 Programme. Furthermore, the TPG should assess the data situation in the EU candidate countries (i.e. Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey) and the other countries of the Western Balkans (i.e. Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Albania, Kosovo under UN Security Council

Resolution 1244) and report on their findings in the inception report. Depending on the respective data situation these countries would then be included in the analysis.

In delivering results of the ESPON 2013 Project on Territorial Indicators and Indices, the project is expected to answer the following key questions:

- What is the current experience and development status on territorial indicators and indices in Europe?
- Which classical and composite territorial indicators and indices would be able to capture and measure territorial cohesion and development within Europe?
- Which territorial indicators and indices would be able in a simple way to communicate complex territorial development, structural issues, territorial challenges and opportunities as well as territorial effects?
- Which territorial indicators and indices are feasible to implement in terms of data and for which would it be recommended to ensure an improvement of European wide regionalised data?
- How can the territorial indicators and indices best be reported and communicated to policy makers?

The tasks can be broken down to tasks related to the three parts of the project.

Tasks within Part I, the design phase:

- Review, identification and gathering of relevant existing territorial indicators and indices considering the availability and robustness of data (see table in the Annex).
- Definition of the terminology related to different types of territorial indicators and indices.
- Sketching potential territorial indicators and indices that mirror different states of territorial cohesion and development.
- Proposing / recommending a set of promising territorial indicators and indices that should be explored in Part II of the project (recommendation to MC).

Tasks within Part II, the exploratory phase:

- Testing of potential territorial indicators and indices, simple as well as integrated / composite indicators, and both in statistical terms and as bearer of key political messages in relation to territorial cohesion.
- Proposing / recommending a set of appropriate and communicative territorial indicators and indices that can be implemented in Part III of the project (recommendation to MC).

Tasks within Part III, the implementation phase:

- Developing a plan on how to report and communicate the indicators to other relevant ESPON projects.
- Developing an additional plan on how to communicate the indicators to policy makers.
- Implementing and visualising the selected set of territorial indicators and indices in cooperation with the ESPON 2013 Database Project and the upcoming ESPON Monitoring Project.

The table in the Annex shall serve as reference for the provision of an overview of existing and proposed territorial indicators.

***(vi) Outputs and timetable***

One of the main objectives of the ESPON 2013 Programme is to focus on research with policy relevance and to contribute to the development of relevant policies. Therefore, the outputs of the project should be highly operational and coordinated in time, as far as possible, to fit into the relevant political agenda.

The proposal for the project is expected to reveal individual work packages on project coordination and research activities as well as a schedule for project implementation based on the following indicative<sup>2</sup> timetable and specification of outputs:

**June/July 2010 (*Inception report*):**

Twelve weeks after the Kick-off Meeting the Inception Report shall be delivered covering the results of Part I, the design phase, which is the following:

- A proposal on a clear and consistent terminology in relation to territorial indicators and indices.
- An overview and a first review of existing territorial indicators and indices, including integrated / composite indicators referring to the above mentioned thematic scope and general objectives;
- A well-founded proposal of feasible territorial indicators and indices, including integrated / composite indicators that should be further considered to meet the scope of the project.
- A plan to involve stakeholders in the search for and the testing and implementing of indicators and indices.
- A detailed work plan until the Interim report, a more global work plan until the final report, description of the project, and a timing of the necessary dialogue with policy makers from the MC;

On the basis of this Inception report the MC will select indicators and indices to be incorporated in Part II of the project, exploring.

**April/March 2011 (*Interim report*):**

The Interim report shall cover the results of Part II, the exploratory phase, which is the following:

- A complete review of existing territorial indicators and indices referring to the above mentioned thematic scope and general objectives;
- Results of the testing of territorial indicators and indices, including integrated / composite indicators meeting the best the scope of the project.

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<sup>2</sup> The final timetable for the project will depend upon the exact date of the project's Kick-off Meeting. At this meeting, the exact delivery dates for all project reports will be agreed upon with the Lead Partner.

- Examples of visualisation of indicators and indices.
- Recommendation, based on the completed review and testing results, of a set of appropriate and operational territorial indicators and indices that would best mirror the European policy aim of territorial cohesion and that could be used to measure, communicate and report this aim to policy makers and other stakeholders.
- Work plan until the Final report.

On the basis of this Interim report the MC will make the final selection of the indicators and indices to be incorporated in Part III of the project, implementing.

### **November 2011 (*draft Final report*):**

The draft Final report will take into account feed-back on the Interim report from an ESPON seminar and ESPON CU. The report is supposed to cover the following:

- Report (max. 50 pages) on the main results of implementing the selected territorial indicators and indices including the results of analyses, tests, data considerations, reporting, communication aspects, etc. Particularly important are findings for policy makers, which could provide the basis for interventions related to opportunities for improving European competitiveness and cohesion.
- An executive summary (max. 10 pages) summarising the main results of the project that can be communicated to a wider audience of stakeholders. This summary should be based on the report mentioned above.
- Scientific report documenting the scientific work undertaken in the project including elements such as:
  - Literature, definitions and methodology/theory used.
  - Methodologies and concepts developed and used.
  - Tools and models used or developed.
  - An overview of all indicators and indices selected, each described in a structured way including the aspects given in the Annex, its way to visualise, communicate and report, its test results, etc.
  - Maps produced in support of the results, covering the territory of EU 27, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.
  - Future research avenues to consider, including further data requirements, filling of possible data gaps, building time series, improving weak aspects in the selected set of indicators and indices and further developments linked to the database and monitoring.

Once the Draft Final Report is delivered to the ESPON Coordination Unit, the report will be presented for the ESPON MC for discussion.

### **February 2012 (*Final report*):**

The Final Report will be a revision of the Draft Final report on the basis of comments received.

Irrespective of the above mentioned reports to be submitted at certain stages in the project life cycle, the TPG is expected to give presentations (twice a year) on the state of their research or/and the results in the framework of internal and external ESPON

seminars. Therefore, when setting up the project proposal, the TPG should also allow for travel expenses for the attendance of ESPON seminars.

### ***(vii) Budget***

The maximum budget foreseen for this project amounts to €400.000 including VAT, if applicable. Proposals exceeding this value will not be considered.

All real eligible costs incurred for carrying out the approved project will be refunded 100% by the ESPON 2013 Programme.

### ***(viii) Existing access points***

Synergies and the use of results from outside the ESPON context shall be sought. In particular, research activities by international bodies like EUROSTAT, JRC, EEA and OECD might be valuable for this project.

The access points listed below can serve the purpose of providing the TPG with useful information for preparing a proposal. It is by no means meant to be exhaustive, but should be considered as information that can be helpful in tracing additional useful background information:

- ESPON Project 4.1.3: “Indicators and Monitoring Territorial Development”
- ESPON Workshop Report “Towards Territorial Indicators and Indices”:  
[www.espon.eu](http://www.espon.eu) + “ESPON Programme” + “Events” + “Events 2008” + “Workshop Indicators”
- ESPON projects, data and maps: [www.espon.eu](http://www.espon.eu). In particular the final reports of the following projects shall be considered (under “Projects”):
  - Project 1.1.1: “Polycentricity”
  - Project 2.4.2: “Zoom in: Integrated analysis of transnational and national territories”
  - Project 3.2: “Spatial scenarios in relation to the ESDP and EU Cohesion Policy”In addition the ESPON synthesis and scientific reports will provide useful input to the project implementation (under “Publications”).
- EUROSTAT research activities: <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>
  - See, for example, under the Statistics tab: “Structural Indicators”,
  - Urban Audit: <http://www.urbanaudit.org/index.aspx>
- JRC research activities: <http://www.jrc.ec.europa.eu>
  - Composite indicators: <http://composite-indicators.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>
- EEA research activities: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/>
  - See, for example, under Products: Indicators
  - EIONET: <http://www.eionet.europa.eu/>
- OECD research activities: [www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org)
  - See, for example, under Find: Statistics
- EC related links:
  - Regional Policy / InfoRegio: [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.htm)
  - INSPIRE GeoPortal: <http://www.inspire-geoportal.eu/>

## Annex

### Aspects to be included in the overview of Territorial Indicators and Indices

Aspect	Description
Name	Name of the territorial indicator or index.
Theme	Each indicator should be classified into a particular theme, so that similar or related indicators are grouped together.
Policy Objective	Each indicator should be linked to at least one policy objective which it tries to measure. Also indicate here to what extent the indicator covers the policy objective.
Core Indicator	Is this indicator proposed as a core indicator of territorial cohesion? (Yes / No)
Type of Indicator	Describe shortly the type of indicator: simple or composite, qualitative or quantitative, static or dynamic, ...
Methodology	Describe the variables used and how they were combined.
Quality	Provide a short assessment of the robustness and pertinence of this indicator.
Availability	Specify whether this indicator is available and for which year and which countries / regions.
Frequency	Clarify how often it can be updated as well as how often it would be interesting to do so. For example, an indicator could be updated every year but is unlikely to change every year, or, an indicator can only be updated once every five or ten years due to data limitations.
Improvements	Indicate ways in which this indicator could be improved.
Geographic Level	Indicate for which levels this indicator can be calculated and is relevant.
Author	Indicate the person and/or organisation who created this indicator.