



ESPON Seminar

Revealing territorial potentials and shaping new policies

Contribution to the post-2020 Cohesion policy debate

24 – 25 May 2017
Valletta, Malta

Programme

Venue
Mediterranean Conference Centre
Triq I-Isptar
Valletta VLT 1645
Malta

Overview

Policy Context The debate on the performance and perspectives of **Cohesion policy is one of the key topics on the European policy agenda in 2017**, European policy-makers and stakeholders have mobilised their resources to provide inputs and ideas on better policies, better funding and better knowledge.

Regions and cities are facing different combinations of growth potentials and development challenges: economic, environmental and social. Rather differentiated territorial patterns and specific territorial characteristics exist, influencing the development of regions and cities. The Territorial Agenda takes this aspect into consideration by promoting 'place-based strategies to address local conditions'. Cohesion Policy promotes an integrated and territorial approach that can be adjusted to local needs and opportunities.

In this light, the ESPON seminar in Malta will contribute to the debate on the **performance and future of EU Cohesion policy** by highlighting and discussing new evidence on future development challenges, territorial potentials and new governance solutions for achieving European policy targets at national and regional levels. At the same time, it addresses one of the themes of the current Maltese presidency of the Council of the European Union on territories with geographic specificities.

In particular the seminar will discuss an **integrated approach** to promote development in different types of territories and on the role of territorial cooperation in support of EU Cohesion Policy, including the policy orientations and knowledge contributions that ESPON can provide to support EU, national and regional policymakers. In this context it will address the selection of investment priorities, as well as the identification of complementarities and synergies with other (neighbouring) regions.

Objective The objective of the Seminar is to promote the use of existing and new upcoming ESPON territorial evidence in policy-making by:

- **fostering dialogue and networking** among researchers and practitioners on how to make use of new and innovative ESPON territorial evidence and policy advice to deliver effective responses to territorial development challenges and support specific territorial potentials of European regions and cities;
- discussing the **practical use** of ESPON knowledge base in given policy frameworks and allowing policy makers and practitioners to formulate and further precise the demand of knowledge towards ESPON;
- **building complementarities** and synergies of ongoing ESPON research activities in support of key policy processes;
- **raising awareness** of policy-makers on available ESPON evidence support.

Overview

Methods

The seminar programme consists of a mix of high profile keynote presentations, panel discussions, and interactive workshops. An innovative **audience interaction** tool will be used to crowd-source the best questions from the audience. Participants will be able to vote on the most relevant questions to be addressed, which will generate real-time insights on key issues through **live polling** of the audience. During the workshops, stakeholders will be actively engaged in discussing the content and policy-relevance of the current ESPON activities. A networking session will be organised to raise awareness of participants on possibilities to benefit from ESPON support.

Target Audience

A warm welcome is extended to all policy makers, practitioners, scientists and experts, who want to know more about the ESPON evidence or who are already involved in defining, producing and using the results of ESPON.

Considering the current policy context, the content of the seminar programme is specifically addressed to policy-makers and programme authorities:

- engaged in the design and/ or implementation of **Cohesion policy**, including its **territorial cooperation objective**;
- developing and implementing policies in support of **territories with geographic specificities**;
- engaged and/or interested in existing good practices and new territorial governance solutions to promote **functional geographies and territorial cooperation**.

The seminar is open for all, but has a maximum capacity of 250 participants. It is free of charge but each participant has to cover expenses for their own travel arrangements and accommodation.

The Seminar is organised in cooperation with the Maltese Presidency of the European Union in the framework of the ESPON Cooperation Programme.

Tuesday, 23 May 2017

- 16:30** Departure by bus from hotel Fortina to the reception venue: Mediterranean Conference Centre, Sacra Infermeria Hall, Triq l-Isptar, Valletta, VLT 1645, Malta
- 17:00** **Registration and welcome reception**
Offered by the Maltese Presidency of the Council of the EU
- 19:00** Departure by bus to hotel Fortina

Wednesday, 24 May 2017

Day 1

- 7:30** Departure by bus from hotel Fortina to the seminar venue
- 08:30 – 09:30** **Welcome coffee and tea**
- 09:30 – 10:00** **Welcome and Opening**
Chair of the day
 • Maria Pia Pace, ESPON Monitoring Committee Malta
- Welcome statements**
 • Denise Fiorentino, Ministry for European Affairs, Malta
 • Ilona Raugze, ESPON EGTC
- 10:00 – 11:00** **Plenary session: Integrated approach to support territories with geographic specificities?**
Introduction, Moderator and Facilitator
 • Greg Clark
- Keynote Speakers**
 • Erik Gløersen, Spatial Foresight
New evidence for Territorial Development
 • Ilona Raugze, ESPON EGTC
Policy advice on Integrated Territorial Development
 • Roberta Capello, Politecnico di Milano
Rationale and Goals of Cohesion Policies. An Integrated Resource-based Strategy
- Key Questions**
 • What main challenges related to competitiveness and territorial balance can be identified?
 • How can diversity of territories with geographical specificities be better and positively promoted in the future within an integrated approach?
 • What are the main priorities for policy intervention?
 • What role can Cohesion policy play in supporting that approach?
- 11:00 – 12:30** **Panel discussion**
 • Mercedes Bresso, European Parliament (video message)
 • Mathilde Konstantopoulou, ESPON Monitoring Committee Greece
 • Godfrey Baldacchino, University of Malta
 • Juhana Rautiainen, Ministry of the Environment, Finland
- Plenary dialogue, interactive discussion and televoting**
- 12:30 – 13:00** **Family photo**
- 13:00 – 14:00** **Lunch**

14:00 – 15:30 Workshops: Territorial challenges and opportunities in different types of territories

Key questions

- WK1: What are the strengths and weakness of different governance structures in different regions? What success stories can be told in relation to Cohesion policy (examples of investments in functional areas)? What type of measures could support “enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration” (thematic objective 11)?
- WK2: How important is accessibility nowadays for territorial development (transport modes, capital, workers, migrants, the role of FDI for the green economy, the impact of a new US trade Policy on FDI and European regions? How to better address these issues in the framework of future Cohesion policy?
- WK3: At which geographical level and through what means should public interventions aimed at sustainable economic development be implemented? Which successful and innovative solutions can be pointed out? What are the benefits or multi-level governance and integrated approach to promote the territorial potentials of specific types of territories?

Workshop 1:

Governance and institutional capacity

Cross-border territories, functional urban areas, regions

Chair, input statement

ESPON MC AT:
Roland Arbter

Current ESPON projects

- Erik Gløersen:
Thinking and Planning in Areas of Territorial Cooperation
- Carlos Ferreira:
Regional strategies for sustainable and inclusive territorial development (ReSSI)
- Vanya Simeonova:
Spatial dynamics and strategic planning in metropolitan areas (SPIMA)
- Vincent Nadin:
Comparative Analysis of Territorial Governance and Spatial Planning Systems

Facilitator

ESPON ECP LU:
Estelle Evrard

Workshop 2:

Accessibility

Accessibility to markets, labour, transport modes

Chair, input statement

ESPON MC MT:
Debbie Cachia

Current ESPON projects

- Klaus Spiekermann:
Potential accessibility, accessibility by the sea and scenario
- Christof Schremmer:
Territories and low-carbon economy
- Tine Jeppesen:
The World in Europe, global FDI flows towards Europe
- Manuela Samek:
Geography of new employment dynamics in Europe

Facilitator

ESPON ECP DE:
Volker Schmidt-Seiwert

Workshop 3:

Specific types of territories

Mountains, islands, peripheral, sparsely populated

Chair, input statement

ESPON MC FI:
Juhana Rautiainen

Insights from Eurostat

- Oliver Müller:
Territorial typologies at Eurostat

Current ESPON projects

- Andrew Copus:
Inner Peripheries: national territories facing challenges of access to basic services of general interest
- Bernd Schuh:
Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in European Regions and Cities
- Kai Böhme:
Possible European Territorial Futures

Facilitator

ESPON ECP MT:
Saviour Formosa

15:30 – 17:00 Webcasting with stakeholders in the flashlights**ESPON Targeted Analyses: what ESPON can do to support your region?**

- Moderator: Greg Clark
- David Hope, Coventry City Council, UK, lead stakeholder ReSSI
- Marco Kellenberger, Swiss Federal Office for Spatial Development (ARE), CH, lead stakeholder TCA
- Peter Austin, City of Oslo, NO, lead stakeholder SPIMA (*via web*)
- Iris Flacco, Abruzzo Region, IT, lead stakeholder LinkPas
- Magdalena Zagrzejewska, Ministry of Economic Development PL, lead stakeholder BT2050

15:30 – 16:30 Networking and discovering opportunities with coffee and tea**Group 1:
ESPON
Database**

- Martin Gauk, ESPON EGTC
- Diana Denisa Rodila, University of Geneva

**Group 2:
ESPON
Tools**

- Zintis Hermansons, ESPON EGTC
- Tomasz Komornicki, Polish Academy of Sciences

**Group 3:
Territorial Impact
Assessment (TIA)**

- Marjan van Herwijnen, ESPON EGTC
- Jiannis Kaucic, ÖIR GmbH

17:00 – 19:00 Cultural Visit**19:15 – 22:30 ESPON Seminar Dinner (including bus transfer)**

Offered by the Maltese Presidency of the Council of the EU
The Xara Lodge
Sqaq Tac-Cawla,
Triq il-Belt, Rabat RBT 5320 Malta

22:30 Bus departures from the dinner venue to hotel Fortina

Thursday, 25 May 2017

Day 2

- 07:45** Departure by bus from hotel Fortina to the seminar venue
- 08:30 – 9:00** **Welcome coffee and tea**
- 09:00 – 9:10** **Chair of the day and welcome**
- Maria Pia Pace, ESPON Monitoring Committee Malta
- 09:10 – 10:00** **ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme and implementation of the Single Operation**
- Presentations**
- Thiemo Eser, ESPON MA and Ilona Raugze, ESPON EGTC
Latest developments of ESPON Programme and progress of activities
- 10:00 – 12:00** **Plenary session: Inputs to Cohesion policy post 2020**
- Discussion about the main territorial patterns and challenges shaping Europe's regions and cities and possible role of territorial co-operation in the future Cohesion Policy.
- Key questions:**
- Which are the main territorial patterns and challenges that will shape territorial development in the next decade and require policy response?
 - Can territorial challenges and potential be better addressed through territorial cooperation in functional areas at any relevant scale (FUA to MRS)?
- Introduction and facilitator**
- Kai Böhme
- Panel discussion**
- Zeljka Zgaga, EC, DG Regio and Urban Policy
 - Ruut Louwers, Interreg North West Europe
 - Jean Peyrony, Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière (MOT)
 - Piotr Zygadło, Development Ministry of Poland
 - Frantisek Kubeš, Ministry of Regional Development of Czech Republic
- Plenary dialogue, interactive discussion and televoting**
- 12:00 – 12:30** **Lessons learned and concluding remarks**
- Input statements**
- Ilona Raugze, ESPON EGTC
Lessons learned (key messages from both days)
 - Eedi Sepp, Estonia Monitoring Committee
Intentions of the Estonian Presidency
 - Marius Mladenov, Bulgaria Monitoring Committee
Intentions of the Bulgarian Presidency
 - Maria Pia Pace, Malta Monitoring Committee
Farewell by Malta
- 12:30 – 13:30** **Lunch**
- 13:30** Departure by bus from the seminar venue to hotel Fortina

Inspire Policy Making by Territorial Evidence



ESPON 2020 – more information

The ESPON EGTC is the Single Beneficiary of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme.

The Single Operation within the programme is implemented by the ESPON EGTC and co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund, the EU Member States and the Partner States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

Find out more on our website

www.espon.eu

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