



ESPON 2013 Programme Project overview

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PRIORITY 1

Project title	FUTURE ORIENTATION FOR CITIES
Acronym	FOCI

Priority 1	Applied research on territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion: Evidence on European territorial trends, perspectives and policy impacts
Theme	Cities and Urban Agglomerations: Their functionality and development opportunities for European competitiveness and cohesion

Budget	€ 998 888,00	Project's lifetime	September 2008 – September 2010
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Inception Report	11 November 2008	Draft Final Report	30 April 2010
Interim Report	30 April 2009	Final Report	30 September 2010

Project synthesis
<p>Thematic scope</p> <p>Cities and urban development are a focal point of current territorial development policy. Against the background of the Lisbon Agenda's aim of growth and jobs, cities are seen as the main potential motors for the achievement of the set goals, which was also acknowledged in EU Cohesion policy documents for 2007 – 2013, including the Community Strategic Guidelines, as well as the Territorial Agenda and the "Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities", complementing the Territorial Agenda by focusing on the issue of sustainable cities. This project shall thus analyse the current state, trends and development perspectives for the largest cities and urban agglomerations within the European territory. It shall identify the driving forces of urban development which are the most relevant for understanding urban evolutions and offer scenarios for the development of Europe's cities leading to alternative policy options.</p> <p>Main research areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relation between the functionality of cities and their competitiveness, their socio-economic and environmental situation as well as their urban quality. • The trends of and opportunities for European cities in terms of competitiveness, social cohesion and environment, contributing to the description of the realities of European cities and to the understanding of the driving forces of urban development in the next 15 – 20 years. • The relation of cities to their hinterland, especially their role as growth poles / motors, identifying the factors determining the strength of ties between metropolis and the region and their affect on competitiveness of these systems. • Analysis of existing and identification of potential « polycentric » inter-city cooperation for increasing competitiveness and service provision, confronting the concept of polycentricity with the reality of networks at different scales. <p>The above mentioned research areas are examined on three different scales – the intra-urban, the regional and the supra-regional and European scale with its networks of cities by making use of the most recent results of the Urban Audit.</p> <p>Main results envisaged</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data input to the ESPON Database.

- Indicators offering additional information on the functional specification of FUA/LUZ and new complex indicators of cities' development opportunities, competitiveness, socio-economic and environmental situation.
- Typologies of the urban system of Europe according to the functional specialisation of the cities and their competitiveness, including the possibilities of enhancing the competitiveness through cooperation and the impact of cities in relation to different types of territories.
- Case studies of cooperation opportunities of cities/urban agglomerations to improve competitiveness and cohesion.
- Maps of the European urban system revealing functional strengths and weaknesses, territorial classification and variations of urban functionality, opportunities for competitiveness and cohesion and possibilities for cooperation of cities/urban agglomerations in polycentric zones/clusters.

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Project title	EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN RURAL AREAS
Acronym	EDORA

Priority 1	Applied research on territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion: Evidence on European territorial trends, perspectives and policy impacts
Theme	Development opportunities in different types of rural areas

Budget	€ 699 816,00	Project's lifetime	September 2008 – September 2010
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Inception Report	11 November 2008	Draft Final Report	30 April 2010
Interim Report	30 April 2009	Final Report	30 September 2010

Project synthesis	
<p>Thematic scope</p> <p>The reform of the Common Agricultural Policy in the framework of the Agenda 2000 boosted the significance of rural development in this sector policy. Rural development, in line with the Lisbon/Gothenburg Strategy, is conceived to support job creation and economic growth in rural areas in a sustainable way.</p> <p>Against this backdrop, this project will provide evidence on the development opportunities of diverse types of European rural areas and reveal options for improving their competitiveness. It will identify opportunities for increasing regional strengths through territorial cooperation and analyse the potential impact of climate change on the development opportunities of rural areas.</p> <p>Main research areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of the present state of European rural areas' development, their strengths and weaknesses based on the most appropriate economic, social and environmental indicators that can be collected European wide. • Analysis of endogenous development opportunities of rural areas to be better exploited for achieving improved competitiveness and their effect on European cohesion. • Identification of the most prominent types of rural areas and the drivers of a favourable development there. • Study of under-used opportunities for cooperation between towns in rural areas and the degree to which they could contribute to more competitiveness and cohesion both, on a regional as well as on European level. • Establishment of some projections on the likely evolution of the different types of rural areas over the medium-term future (i.e. the next 10 – 15 years). <p>Main results envisaged</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data input to the ESPON Database. • Indicators offering additional information on the different types of European rural areas and new complex indicators on development opportunities, socio-economic situation and competitiveness of these areas. • Amendment of the typology used for this project. • European maps of the typology of different rural areas, their demographic situation, accessibility to services, their development opportunities (particularly outside agriculture and 	

forestry), different alternatives of medium-term development paths and the impact of these development paths on the competitiveness of rural areas and the national and European cohesion.

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Project title	DEMOGRAPHIC AND MIGRATORY FLOWS AFFECTING EUROPEAN REGIONS AND CITIES
Acronym	DEMIFER

Priority 1	Applied research on territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion: Evidence on European territorial trends, perspectives and policy impacts
Theme	Demographic and migratory flows affecting European regions and cities

Budget	781 600,00 €	Project's lifetime	September 2008 – September 2010
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Inception Report	11 November 2008	Draft Final Report	30 April 2010
Interim Report	30 April 2009	Final Report	30 September 2010

Project content
<p>Main focus</p> <p>Overall predictions indicate labour shortages in the EU after 2010. The Commission Staff Working Document on Europe's demographic future points out that from around 2017 on the shrinking population in working age will lead to stagnation and, subsequently, reduction of total employment. Against this backdrop, the EU Commission acknowledges the necessity of immigration from outside the EU to meet the requirements of the European labour market. The Fourth Cohesion Report indicates that already today, population growth depends on immigration. In the above mentioned staff working document, the Commission identified a need of further analysis for the effects of migration on Europe's demographic future.</p> <p>In response to above mentioned key policy documents the project deals with the effects of demographic and migratory flows on European regions and cities and examines the implications for regional competitiveness and European cohesion.</p> <p>Main research areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study of the size and structure of the labour force and the diversity across European regions. • Development of a typology of regions based on demographic, socio-economic and environmental characteristics. • Analysis of policy options which may affect future internal migration, international migration, natural population development and labour force participation. • Development of alternative scenarios for European regions (NUTS 2 level) based on assumptions on future developments in fertility, mortality, internal migration, international migration, and labour force participation. • Assessment of the climate change impact on migration flows. • Development of scenarios showing the impacts of the EU cohesion policy and climate change. • Case studies providing in depth analyses for specific types of regions. <p>Main results envisaged</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional indicators offering additional information on the qualification of migrants, the financial flows between host country and the country of origin and new complex indicators on regions' socio-economic situation and changes in competitiveness due to migratory flows • Typologies of European regions of the degree/strength of migratory flows, those

benefiting/loosing because of it and the possibilities for enhancing competitiveness through receiving migrants

- European maps on the current demographic and migratory flows and their distinction, the financial flows between host country and the country of origin, development opportunities of regions for competitiveness and cohesion due to migratory flows
- Development of simple scenarios on the degree and direction of migratory flows
- A limited number of case studies based on migration data at regional level
- Policy orientations in relation to the impact that demographic and migratory flows could have on the competitiveness of European regions and cities as well as on the economic, social and territorial cohesion in Europe.
- Data input to the ESPON database

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Project title	REGIONS AT RISK OF ENERGY POVERTY
Acronym	ReRisk

Priority 1	Applied research on territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion: Evidence on European territorial trends, perspectives and policy impacts
Theme	Effects of rising energy prices on regional competitiveness

Budget	699 250,00 €	Project's lifetime	July 2008 – July 2010
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Inception Report	26 September 2008	Draft Final Report	31 March 2010
Interim Report	31 March 2009	Final Report	31 July 2010
Updated Interim Report	31 October 2009		

Project synthesis
<p>Thematic scope</p> <p>Europe enters a new energy landscape: Energy prices have been rising and the dependency on fossil fuels is increasing. Thus, energy supply and demand will in the future have to turn more towards renewable energy sources and focus more on efficient use of energy. EU Ministers responsible for territorial development have given priority to this issue by expressing their intention in the Territorial Agenda (2007) to explore and develop opportunities of new forms of renewable energy supply. Considering this, this project focuses on opportunities to support competitive and clean energy supplies for regions in Europe and to generate and strengthen sustainable energy sources. It delivers future-oriented territorial evidence on the impact of rising energy prices on the competitiveness of European regions as well as on cohesion in Europe in a long-term perspective.</p> <p>Main research areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linking available data on energy production and consumption in the European regions with their territorial characteristics, socioeconomic as well as environmental indicators in order to obtain a clear picture on how increasing energy prices might affect different types of regions. • Measurement of the risk of energy poverty for different types of regions and compilation of "energy poverty risk profile" for regions. • Scenarios for different types of European regions and case studies on selected regions on..... • Definition of policy recommendations for regions to be empowered to cope with rising energy prices as well as guidelines that policy makers on European, national and regional levels can apply in view of the risk of energy poverty. <p>Main results envisaged</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantial data input to the ESPON Database. • Indicators offering additional information on the regional impact of increasing energy prices on transport, private households, and industry, and new complex indicators, revealing the regions' socio-economic situation and the impact of increasing energy prices on their competitiveness, focusing on their price-elasticity. • Typologies of European regions reflecting the impact of increasing energy prices on the demand side as well as on the supply side. • European maps revealing the degree of vulnerability of different types of European regions to increasing energy prices, energy consumption patterns on regional levels for transport, private

households and industry as well as development opportunities for regions in Europe to save energy and to generate renewable energies.

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Project title	TERRITORIAL IMPACT PACKAGE FOR TRANSPORT AND AGRICULTURAL POLICIES
Acronym	TIPTAP

Priority 1	Applied research on territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion: Evidence on European territorial trends, perspectives and policy impacts
Theme	Territorial impact assessment of policies

Budget	347 000,00 €	Project's lifetime	July 2008 – October 2009
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Inception Report	26 September 2008	Draft Final Report	31 July 2009
Interim Report	31 March 2009	Final Report	31 October 2009

Project synthesis
<p>Thematic scope</p> <p>The Territorial Agenda of the EU highlights the increasing territorial influence of Community policies and states that this should be taken into consideration by policy makers. The Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion states that coordination between sectoral and territorial policies is important to maximise synergies and to avoid possible conflicts.</p> <p>This project builds on the earlier achievements of the ESPON 2006 Programme. The methodology, indicators and the prototype "TEQUILA" model will be further developed and made operational to receive a tool for the ex-ante assessment of territorial impacts of policies. The tool will be tested on transport and agricultural policy and deliver evidence on the territorial impact of these policies. The results are of direct use for creating better policy coordination.</p> <p>Main research areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploration of four types of impacts – the impacts on regional situation (economic/social/environmental), regional competitiveness (Lisbon strategy), climate change and territorial impacts, related to the concept of territorial cohesion. • Assessment of average impacts on specific typologies of regions, trans-national cooperation areas, cross-border and interregional cooperation areas. • Mapping of results, conclusions and policy suggestions for a better compliance with the Lisbon agenda, climate change agenda or territorial cohesion strategies. <p>Impacts are assessed, where possible, at NUTS 3 level. .</p> <p>Main results envisaged</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence on the territorial impact of transport and agricultural policy. • Indicators offering key information on impacts of policies on the economic-social-environmental-cultural situation of regions and cities, on impacts related to the Lisbon strategy and to climate change, and on territorial phenomena and aims related to European policy orientations. • A territorial impact assessment tool, including a model and a road map for implementation. • European maps related to the testing and use of the developed TIA tool on at least two EU policies • Data input to the ESPON Database

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PRIORITY 3

Project title	ESPON DATABASE 2013
Acronym	ESPON DATABASE 2013

Priority 3	Scientific platform and tools
Theme	ESPON database and data development

Budget	1 300 000,00 €	Project's lifetime	July 2008 – February 2011
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Inception Report	26 September 2008	Draft Final Report	December 2010
Interim Report	February 2009 ^(1st) , February 2010 ^(2nd)	Final Report	February 2011

Project content
<p>Main focus</p> <p>At the European level several initiatives have been carried out to promote data comparability and data quality, e.g. the GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security) initiative launched in 1998, the INSPIRE Directive which aims at making available relevant, harmonised and quality geographic information for the purpose of formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Community policy-making.</p> <p>For ESPON, the database is considered a central element in the programme's scientific platform and a tool providing input for analysis based on territorial indicators. It is equally important as a tool for a continuous territorial monitoring. Against this backdrop, it is crucial to maintain, update, further develop and expand the ESPON database, resulting from the ESPON 2006 Programme.</p> <p>Main research areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration of data from different spatial scales (from global to local levels) – broadband spatial analysis. In fact many policy objectives, especially in the field of territorial cohesion or in management of functional urban regions, can only be observed at local level but at the same time taking into account the global level. Considering that the EU is not a closed system, many of its internal dynamics need to be related to global trends at world level or at neighbourhood scale. • Combination of heterogeneous sources – different types and sources of data have to be integrated, despite the fact that they are produced by different organisations using different spatial delimitations or statistical definitions. • Reconstitution of medium and long-term time series – MAUP and missing values - to be able to estimate missing values both in a prospective (estimation of future trends) and retrospective way (reconstitution of past trends). • Exploration of new thematic fields – zooms, surveys and case studies to make ESPON highly innovative to explore precisely new topics and suggest how to collect relevant data in a systematic way in the future. <p>Main results envisaged</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated version of the ESPON 2006 database (EUROSTAT data, plus selection of ESPON

2006 indicators).

- Updated versions of the ESPON mapping tool facility, covering the entire EU plus Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein.
- A continuously updated and validated ESPON 2013 Database (internal use) including datasets from ESPON projects developed under Priority 1 and 2, as well as relevant regional data in the field of European territorial development and cohesion
- A continuously updated and validated ESPON 2013 Database (public use) including derivative data from ESPON projects developed under Priority 1 and 2, as well as relevant public regional data in the field of European territorial development and cohesion. This database will also include selected datasets covering the entire world, which are relevant for the ESPON thematic and for understanding the position of Europe in the world.
- Enhance cooperation with other international and European institutions with relevant data for ESPON and integration in European Initiatives related to geographic information and regional analysis
- A map collection from ESPON projects under Priority 1 and 2

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