

ESPON Interstrat Conference  
12 October 2011 in Warsaw

ESPON Evidence and Facts  
in support of Policy Development  
at European level



# Structure of Intervention

## Content

- Mission and Deliveries of the ESPON 2013 Programme
- European Territorial Context and Dynamics
- European Policy Mindset for Place-based Policy
- Territorial Evidence Support and Use of ESPON
- ESPON post 2013?

# The ESPON 2013 Programme

## Role in Structural Funds 2007-2013:

- Support EU Cohesion Policy development with pan-European, comparable facts and evidence on Territorial Structures, Trends, Perspectives and Policy Impacts, focusing on European Regions and Cities, and revealing territorial capital, potentials and challenges.

## Budget 2007-13:

- 47 mill Euro (ERDF 34 mill. Euro, plus 13 mill. Euro from 31 countries)

## Programme Priorities:

- P 1: Applied Research
- P 2: Targeted Analyses based on Stakeholder interest
- P 3: Scientific Platform and Tools
- P 4: Capitalisation

## Themes of ESPON Applied Research

Territorial Impact  
Assessment

Urban Agglomerations

Climate Change

Rural Areas

Growth poles

Migratory Flows

EU Directives

Attractiveness

Green Economy

Demography

Specific Types of  
Territories

Regions

Innovation

Territorial cooperation

Accessibility

Continental  
flows

Services of General  
Interest

Cities

Land use

European Seas

Economy

Governance

Energy

Territorial  
Scenarios

# Themes of ESPON Targeted Analyses and Tools

Agglomeration Economies	Territorial Diversity	Cross-border Polycentric Metropolitan areas	Potentials of Rural Areas
Transnational Support Methods	Participatory TIA	Territorial Performance Monitoring	Cross-border spatial development strategies
Integrated Regional Strategies	Spreading Transnational Results	Rural Migration and Gender Balances	Regional R&D
Airports as drivers	Smart Institutions for Territorial development	Metropolitan Cooperation	Success Factors in Convergence Regions
Growth Poles in South-East Europe	Database	Mapping tools	Territorial Typologies
Landscapes	Territorial Indicators and Monitoring	Islands	Spatial Scenarios

## Programme Delivery

### Expected 64-65 larger projects during 2007-2013:

- 25 Applied Research projects
  - 21 projects ongoing, final or just starting
- 23 Targeted Analyses (defined by stakeholder demand):
  - 18 ongoing or closing
- 10 larger projects under Scientific Platform and Tools:
  - 4 larger projects ongoing/final
  - 6 additional larger projects starting early 2012
- 6-7 Transnational Networking Activities:
  - 5 projects ongoing

# European Mindset for Placed-based Policy

# Why a European Perspective in Policy Development?

## Challenges for creating Growth and Cohesion:

- **Economic downturn and Crisis:** Asymmetric impact, recovery and unemployment, young generation, regional diversity, innovation towards green, low carbon economy
- **Connecting and changing World:** New emerging markets, era of new strong world economies (China, India, Brasil, etc.), a larger territorial context for Europe, connecting gateway regions and cities
- **Climate change:** Mitigation and adaptation, CO2 reduction targets, new hazard patterns and new territorial opportunities
- **Demographic changes:** Ageing of the population, internal migration flows and external migration pressures
- **Connectivity and accessibility:** Infrastructure deficits, transport increase, saturation of EU-corridors, environmentally friendly solutions
- **Energy challenge:** Security of supply, alternative energy sources, fluctuation of energy prices, diversity of regional vulnerability
- **EU Enlargement:** Geographic integration, Territorial imbalances, Integration of new territories, their regions and cities

# Policy Directions for EU Cohesion Policy

## Ambitions for Economic, Social And Territorial Cohesion

- Supporting intelligent, sustainable and inclusive growth
- Place-based, integrated development of regions and cities (promoting a functional area approach)
- Harvesting territorial potentials and converging challenges into opportunities (double track policy)
- Considering regional diversity a strength (calling for tailor made policy mixes unlocking potentials)
- Integration with sector policies (ensuring synergies)
- Cooperation (joining forces exploring comparative advantages and increasing joint critical mass)
- Governance (create condition for optimal delivery)
- Evidence-based and result-oriented activities (based on improved strategies and indicators)

# What territorial priorities does Europe express?

## Territorial Agenda 2020 for the EU

- Polycentric and Balanced Territorial Development
- Integrated development of cities, rural and specific regions
- Territorial integration in cross-border and transnational functional regions
- Global competitiveness of regions based on strong local economies
- Territorial connectivity for individuals, communities and enterprises
- Managing and connecting ecological, landscape and cultural values of regions

## What responses do Europe voice?

### European Orientations for Territorial Development

- Local Development approach (enhanced emphasis)
- Urban Development Platform:
  - Cities as drivers of economic growth
  - Networking of cities (neighbours and long distance)
  - Inclusion and sustainability
- Attention to challenges of specific types of regions
- Cross-border and transnational functional regions (such as Macro Regions)

### Evidence and tools in particular demand

- Territorial Impact Assessment
- Functional Area approach

# Territorial Evidence Support and Use of ESPON

# What are ESPON Evidence and Facts good for?

## For policy development:

- Evidence base for integrated place-based policy development
- Support to Intelligent, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth
- Support Cohesion Policy in efficient, concrete results and Territorial Cohesion
- Support Sector Policies with Territorial Dimension
- Benchmark Regions and Cities in European and global context
- Help tailor Interventions and Projects to rich European Regional Diversity
- Reveal possible synergies through cooperation
- Support spending EU Funds targeted and efficient

## For private sector:

- Reveal market opportunities
- Support location of investments, including FDI

# Prospects

ESPON post 2013 under construction

## ESPON post 2013

### Progress towards ESPON post 2013:

- Ministers conclusion during Hungarian EU Presidency:  
*"Recognized that the ESPON (European Observation Network for Territorial Development and cohesion) Programme has demonstrated its ability to create useful pan-European territorial knowledge, and thus encourage the ongoing process to prepare the continuation of ESPON post-2013 conducted by Luxembourg.."*
- EC draft Regulations to be published on 5 October 2011
- ESPON post 2013 previewed on the agenda at Ministerial meeting during Polish EU Presidency on 25 November 2011

## More information

Thank you for your attention

For further information on project  
and  
access to the ESPON Database

Please visit

[www.espon.eu](http://www.espon.eu)