



ESPON 2013 Scientific Conference

In cooperation with AESOP, ECTP-CEU, ERSA, EUGEO and RSA

Science in support of European Territorial Development and Cohesion

**University of Luxembourg
Campus Walferdange, Luxembourg**

12-13 September 2013

CALL FOR PAPERS

Context

ESPON scientific conferences target territorial research and analysis with the aim to continue building a European scientific research community in the field of territorial development and cohesion. In this context, the ESPON scientific conference will, in cooperation with European professional and academic organisations covering different relevant academic disciplines, create a scientific dialogue in Europe on methodologies and concepts developed and applied to support a territorial dimension in policy development.

The conference aims on the one hand to provide a good overview and scientific dialogue of the progress made in the scientific field during the current programming period. On the other hand, ongoing ESPON projects as well as researchers outside the ESPON network can make use of new and innovative research carried out until now and use scientific feedback received during the conference in their own research.

Purpose

The general purpose of the ESPON 2013 Scientific Conference is to discuss elements such as concepts, methodologies, indicators, typologies, tools, maps and models developed and/or used within the ESPON projects and the European scientific research community in the field of territorial development and cohesion. The conference should also contribute to the development and improvement of concepts and methods related to the 11 thematic objectives on which the future European Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) shall be concentrated, which themes are the following:

1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation
2. Enhancing access to and, use and quality of information and communication technologies
3. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs, the agricultural sector and the fisheries and aquaculture sector
4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors

5. Promoting climate change adaptation and risk prevention and management
6. Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency
7. Promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures
8. Promoting employment and supporting labour mobility
9. Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty
10. Investing in education, skills and lifelong learning
11. Enhancing institutional capacity and ensuring an efficient public administration.

The conference will in a targeted manner through an exchange of experience and new developments seek to enrich the scientific platform for European applied territorial research in support of policy development.

Scope

As this conference focuses on concepts, methodologies, etc. the papers and presentations are expected to put their focus on one specific element of the research carried out. The paper should describe a) this specific element itself, b) how it contributed to improving the understanding of European territorial development and cohesion, c) how it relates to the themes within the future ESIF, d) to what extent it is relevant for policy making, e) to what extent it is innovative, f) how it has been applied and/or used and g) to what extent it can be generalised.

In addition, the paper is expected to address one or more of the following questions:

- How and to what extent does the scientific theory, concept, method or approach support the territorial approach in (sectoral/developmental) policies?
- How can policy be better integrated in the research to become more useful and used?
- How can a place based approach be integrated in research?

Themes

Four themes have been identified and each of these themes is divided into three to five sub-themes. A more detailed overview including topics for the sub-themes is annexed to this call and serves as inspiration and guidance on what is considered interesting and relevant for enriching the scientific platform for European applied territorial research.

The paper and presentation should fit in one or more of the sub-themes below and preferably address one or more of its topics. But other interesting, innovative and overarching topics are also welcome.

- 1) Concepts – scientific concepts, policy concepts and relations between the two
 - a) Concepts on integration
 - b) Concepts on spatial patterns
 - c) Concepts on cohesion
- 2) Methods – descriptive, analytic, prospective and prescriptive methods and their relationships
 - a) Methods related to case study research
 - b) Methods to measure specific aspects
 - c) Methods related to typologies
 - d) Methods for measuring impacts of policy
 - e) Methods related to scenarios

- 3) Communication – participation, dissemination, stakeholders, visualisation, outreach
 - a) Participation
 - b) Interpretation of information
 - c) Presentation/visualisation of information
- 4) Data – relations between traditional data (registrations, statistics, surveys) and ‘new’ data (web sourcing, crowd sourcing, sensors)
 - a) Data integration
 - b) Territorial indicators
 - c) Data gathering

Participants

The conference itself is open for all interested. The call for papers, however, is restricted to two groups.

The first group are persons involved in the Transnational Project Groups of the ESPON 2013 Programme. They are invited submit an abstract describing the development, use and communicative value of a new and innovative concept, methodology, indicator, typology, tool, map and/or model developed and/or used within their ESPON project.

The second group are representatives of AESOP, ECTP-CEU, ERSA, EUGEO and RSA. They are invited to submit an abstract presenting supportive and/or complementary information to research carried out by ESPON projects.

Publication

A second ESPON 2013 Scientific Report aims to publish the papers that are being presented at the ESPON Scientific Conference. The papers should be short (max. 5 pages), powerful and be based on the aspects a) to g) mentioned under scope. More detailed guidelines for the papers will be sent together with the notification of acceptance of the abstract by the end of June 2013.

Abstracts for papers

Persons involved in one or more Transnational Project Groups of ESPON 2013 Programme or representatives of AESOP, ECTP-CEU, ERSA, EUGEO and RSA are invited to send in an abstract on a paper. This paper should describe one specific element of a research, being a concept, methodology, model, set of indicators, typologies, tool or set of maps developed and/or used within ESPON projects and beyond.

The submission of your abstract should be linked to a theme and sub-theme, an ESPON project or one of the five collaborating scientific organisations, included three-five keywords, a title and cover 200-300 words. In addition, personal details of the author and a maximum of 3 co-authors should be indicated. The abstract can be submitted via the following link:

http://www.espon.eu/main/Menu_Calls/call-for-papers_Scientific-Conference.html

Selection of abstracts

After closure of the call, a maximum of 36 abstracts will be selected, distributed over the two groups. A maximum of 24 abstracts will be selected from the first group, the ESPON projects, and a maximum of 12 abstracts will be selected from the second group, the scientific organisations (2-3 per scientific organisation).

In the evaluation of the abstracts the following criteria (in total 100 points) will be used:

- 1) Level of understanding the purpose of the paper with regards to its relevance of sub-themes, focused approach and questions addressed (max. 30 points)
- 2) Quality of the abstract with regards to the aspects a) to g) mentioned under scope (max. 70 points)

No one may submit more than one abstract.

Allowance for presenters

Presenters of papers will receive an allowance of 600 euro to cover (partly) their travel and accommodation costs.

No conference fee is requested and coffee/tea and lunch breaks during the conference are offered by the Programme.

Important dates

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|----------------------|---|
| 31 May 2013 at 14h00 | Deadline for abstracts to be submitted |
| End June 2013 | Notification of acceptance |
| End July 2013 | Publication of the conference programme |
| 4 September 2013 | Deadline for papers of the selected abstracts for publication |
| 11 September 2013 | ESPON Open Day |
| 12-13 September 2013 | ESPON Scientific Conference |

Annex: Detailed overview of themes, sub-themes and topics

For inspiration and guidance only

A large part of the ESPON scientific seminar will be structured around a number of parallel sessions which will focus on various themes and topics. Four themes are distinguished: concepts, methods, communication and data. Each of these themes is divided into three to five sub-themes. These sub-themes are the basis for classifying the papers and presentations.

The topics mentioned below within the sub-themes serve as inspiration and guidance on what is considered interesting and relevant for enriching the scientific platform for European applied territorial research.

- 1) Concepts – scientific concepts, policy concepts and relations between the two
 - a) Concepts on integration**
 - i) Integrating territorial features in measuring macro-economic growth
 - ii) Bringing together top-down and bottom-up perspectives (scale of application of policy ideas) – combining different research approaches
 - iii) Bringing together scale of analysis and scale of policy intervention/implementation
 - iv) Governance (relevance of the multi-governance concept, importance of the local context, integration of both sectoral and horizontal policies)
 - b) Concepts on spatial patterns**
 - i) Polycentric development (ways to measure and identify the benefits from polycentric urban development, research needed to debate evidence and underlying theory)
 - ii) Understanding spatial relations, complementary of (urban) functions
 - iii) City networks (differences between addressing territorial issues at regional and city level)
 - iv) Understanding spatial policy concepts at different levels (e.g. polycentricity)
 - c) Concepts on cohesion**
 - i) Territorial cohesion (exploring the processes that contribute to cohesion or undermine it)
 - ii) Cohesion and competitiveness (relations, synergies and adversities)
 - iii) Improving territorial cohesion using a place-based approach
- 2) Methods – descriptive, analytic, prospective and prescriptive methods and their relationships
 - a) Methods related to case study research**
 - i) Use of case studies to strengthen the research at European level (e.g. to test, extend and deepening the robustness of typologies)
 - ii) Comparative case study research
 - iii) Bringing the lessons learned one level higher (e.g. through best practices)
 - b) Methods to measure specific aspects**
 - i) Spatial data analysis (territorial patterns, trends, evolution, monitoring)
 - ii) Multi-regional modelling of macro-economic growth
 - iii) Measuring efficiency (e.g. ERDF funds)
 - iv) Measuring territorial imbalances and disparities (e.g. convergence measures, gini index)
 - v) Measuring growth
 - vi) Flows and networking analysis (e.g. urban-rural relations, accessibility models, functional regions)

- c) **Methods related to typologies**
 - i) Developing typologies using data gathered and testing the typologies
 - ii) Experiences with using territorial/regional typologies in the analysis
 - iii) Cluster analysis
 - iv) Benchmarking (e.g. systems of categorisation such as urban hierarchies)
 - d) **Methods to measuring impacts of policy**
 - i) Territorial Impact Assessment
 - ii) Selection of criteria
 - iii) Estimation of impacts
 - iv) Regional sensitivity
 - v) Integration of qualitative analysis with quantitative information;
 - e) **Methods related to scenarios**
 - i) Building of scenarios
 - ii) Using scenarios
 - iii) Developing a sense of ownership
- 3) Communication – participation, dissemination, stakeholders, visualisation, outreach
- a) **Participation**
 - i) Methods used to involve stakeholders and receive input
 - ii) Delphi method
 - iii) Experiences with applying a participatory approach
 - iv) Utilising input received from a participatory approach
 - v) Development of a sense of ownership amongst key stakeholders
 - b) **Interpretation of information**
 - i) Interpreting scientific results for policy makers
 - ii) Interpreting results for different geographic levels
 - iii) Bringing the lessons learned one level higher (e.g. through best practices)
 - iv) Transferring information from higher to lower level
 - c) **Presentation/visualisation of information**
 - i) New developments in maps, diagrams, cartograms to bring a clear message
 - ii) Ways to visualise network data
 - iii) Building easy accessible user-interfaces in web-tools
 - iv) Activities used to disseminate project results and experiences
- 4) Data – relations between traditional data (registrations, statistics, surveys) and ‘new’ data (web sourcing, crowd sourcing, sensors)
- a) **Data integration**
 - i) Implementation of an integrated database (regional, local, urban, grid, network data)
 - ii) Grid versus administrative boundaries
 - iii) Geographical data and different geographical objects
 - iv) Matching thematic domains with a meaningful geography
 - v) Experiences in merging statistics and geospatial information
 - b) **Territorial indicators**
 - i) Developing territorial indicators
 - ii) Experiences with using the first selection of territorial indicators
 - c) **Data gathering**
 - i) Completing data and filling the gaps using proxies
 - ii) Estimating the quality of data gathered
 - iii) Data needs
 - iv) Experiences with new data gathering methods (web sourcing, crowd sourcing, sensors)