

Work Plan

1. General Objectives for the Year 2018

Year

2018

General objectives

This Annual Work Plan (AWP) for the implementation of the Single Operation in 2018 has been prepared by the ESPON EGTC in the context of the approved Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) and its pre-defined schedule of activities and key milestones. The AWP 2018 will continue to build upon the progress made since the start of the implementation of the Single Operation and contribute to achieving the objectives of the MAWP through an integrated internal strategy, coordinated with key external policy processes.

The key strategic objectives of the AWP for 2018 are:

- to continue the development of territorial evidence towards key ongoing and new policy processes at all levels;
- to capitalise on the available research outputs and ensure their contribution to key policy processes and specific target audiences at European and transnational scale.

Since the beginning of 2017 the EGTC was continuously involved in a debate with key EU, national, regional and local stakeholders and has undertaken two rounds of policy-needs assessment. In 2018, the ongoing research activities will be progressed and new activities launched in order to support the following policy processes:

1. The debate on the territorial dimension of the future EU Cohesion policy post 2020. This policy process will be supported by organising ex-ante TIA workshops and further development of research activities that were programmed and launched in the previous years. The outreach of research results will be targeting key EU level stakeholders (European Parliament, the European Commission DGs, Committee of the Regions), EU member states, Managing Authorities of cross-border and trans-national cooperation programmes, macro-regions etc.

2. The development of the EU Territorial Agenda post 2020. This policy process will be mostly supported by further development of research activities that were programmed and launched in the previous years and by implementing outreach and capitalisation activities of delivered research results. The outcomes will be used by institutions engaged in the inter-governmental process on territorial cohesion for developing the Territorial Agenda – post-2020 and developing key territorial notions and concepts. It will also be useful for informing the discussions by the European Parliament, European Commission DGs, EU Member States, Committee of the Regions, Managing Authorities of cross-border and transnational cooperation programmes, macro-regional structures etc. and, on the territorial dimension of future Cohesion Policy, other EU, national and regional policies.

3. Implementation of EU Urban Agenda will be mostly supported by:

- synthesizing and ensuring the outreach of the available research results to support urban partnerships on specific subjects (e.g. Digital transition) and cross-cutting issues of territorial governance and integrated planning;
- developing new research activities to support the work of urban partnerships on cross-cutting issues of innovative approaches, including smart cities and the international dimension (New Urban Agenda, UN Sustainable development goals), as well as the upcoming urban partnership "Culture and Cultural Heritage" that will be established in 2018.

The outputs on digital transition will be used by the Estonian Presidency and the established Urban Partnership in the process of developing the Action plan. The outputs on territorial governance and planning will also support the intergovernmental process and the forthcoming EU presidencies in animating the discussion on cross-cutting issues of the EU Urban Agenda. These activities will also be of benefit to stakeholders at other scales such as the European Commission, Member/Partner States, cities and metropolitan authorities in developing their policies on governance and planning, urban stakeholder organisations – URBACT, EUKN.

4. Implementation, monitoring and further development of macro-regional strategies will be supported by the results of an ongoing research activity that is aimed at developing macro-regional monitoring tools and by two targeted analyses on territorial visions for the Baltic Sea region and on common spatial perspectives for the Alpine Space. The outcomes of these activities will be used by macro-regional authorities, member states, regions and the European Commission DG REGIO to monitor the developments and progress of macro-regional strategies, and to support the discussion on their development in the future. The outcomes may also be used for monitoring purposes of European territorial cooperation programmes (transnational strand) or appropriate indicators can be developed using an adjusted methodology.

5. Implementation, monitoring and further development of EU sectoral policies will be supported through:

- Capitalising on the research outputs of previously programmed activities to strengthen the territorial dimension of sectoral policies in the field of environment, energy, transport, migration and ensure their implementation in cities and regions;
- Developing new research activities to strengthen the territorial dimension of sectoral policies in the fields of growth and innovation, employment, agriculture and rural development, cultural heritage and maritime spatial planning.

The outputs of research activities will be used by European Commission Directorates-General to understand the territorial patterns of EU policies and discuss possible policy developments on the basis of practices in cities and regions. The outputs will also be used by national, regional and local stakeholders for policy-learning and efficient implementation of EU policy frameworks.

6. Development of national policies on regional development, spatial planning, thematic areas (rural, digital, cultural heritage, industrial etc.) and regional/local/urban development strategies. This range of policy processes will be supported by a set of new research activities as well as through European and transnational outreach on research results of previously launched activities. The outputs will be primarily targeted at national, regional and local governments and stakeholders.

The combined information and analysis of the relevant policy processes, the available and upcoming research outputs as well as evidence needs raised by ESPON stakeholders at all levels allowed deriving a set of strategic priorities for the AWP 2018:

1. Considering that a number of ongoing research activities will deliver results by the end of 2017 and in 2018, capitalisation and outreach of available research outputs by translating knowledge base into practical policy advice for particular target groups will be a key priority of work for ESPON EGTC both at European and transnational scale. Additional outreach methodologies (like peer-learning workshops) will be introduced to ensure an efficient targeting of stakeholders and relevant policy processes and to promote the visibility of ESPON evidence among wider groups of stakeholders.

2. ESPON Member States – their national, regional and local governments in 2018 will enter a new policy planning and programming cycle. They will engage in a wide range of policy planning activities that require substantial territorial evidence support for developing viable and efficient responses to the long-term challenges of regional inequalities – economic, social, digital, urban-rural etc. Therefore, in 2018 the implementation of the ESPON 2020 programme will be focused on producing new territorial evidence, analytical tools and ensuring a wide outreach of produced evidence that can support national, regional and local stakeholders in developing and delivering viable development strategies with a European perspective and considering the impacts of external flows and interactions among different regions. A new research activity will also be launched to allow national, regional and local policy-makers to introduce a quality of life methodology and measurements in their policy-making activities.

3. At European scale, in 2018 ESPON will pursue its actions in several directions:
 3.1. ESPON will continue serving territorial evidence to key EU level policy processes and debates related to the performance and future of Cohesion policy, implementation of the EU Urban Agenda and development of the Territorial Agenda post-2020. Considering that research activities to support these policy processes will deliver the first outputs by the end of 2017, in 2018 the key focus will be on capitalising on the available research outputs and promoting a wide pan-European dialogue on the future territorial challenges and perspectives of European regions and cities. For example, the EU intergovernmental process will benefit from the outcomes of research activities on territorial governance, integrated territorial planning and future territorial development perspectives.

3.2. Some specific subjects (like implementation and measurement of UN sustainable development goals, regional and local impacts of Brexit) will be developed as new research activities that can help shape the territorial policy frameworks considering a wider global and political perspective.

3.3. EU level policy-makers working on thematic policies have voiced their interest in acquiring territorial evidence that can help to build their understanding of the territorial development patterns and territorial impacts in the fields of rural development, blue growth, smart specialisation, cultural heritage etc. This will help EU policy makers to monitor the implementation of EU policy frameworks “on the ground” and design territorially sensitive policy proposals for the future. In this context, the EU level policy processes will also benefit from ex-ante territorial impact assessments of new initiatives.

4. In order to further strengthen analytical, policy-making, monitoring and evaluation capacities at the scale of functional geographies, the ESPON EGTC will continue the development of analytical tools for macro-regions, functional urban areas, and engage in delivering new data and synthesizing evidence on the developments in cross-border and transnational areas. The outcomes of these activities will support the discussion on the results and future of territorial cooperation programmes and provide new opportunities for introducing the functional approach in the national planning documents.

The thematic orientations for the annual work plan 2018 are set in the context of transition, change and emerging challenges and opportunities. Regions, cities and rural areas across Europe are undergoing economic transitions, are faced with social change and have to tackle environmental challenges. Internet technology and renewable energy are merging to create a ‘fourth industrial revolution’. Innovative technologies and new business models are transforming traditional industry sectors. Social change is putting pressure on cities and rural areas as they have to manage unemployment and poverty, and depopulation or inward migration. Climate change is bringing new environmental challenges as some regions are confronted with increasingly frequent droughts, floods and other natural disasters. At the same time, regional economies in Europe are becoming increasingly interdependent and therefore require a sufficient understanding of the flows of goods, capital, services and people between European regions and possible ways how to further develop interregional relationships as one of the drivers for development. The different activities will seek to develop evidence on place-based responses for economic, social and environmental transformation.

In general, the strategic orientations and proposed range of activities as presented above will contribute to the achievements of the previous annual work plans of the Single Operation by:

- capitalising on the available research outputs and ensuring their wide outreach towards the relevant policy processes. This will especially apply to policy processes at EU and intergovernmental scale that will benefit from the results of the previously launched activities;
- engaging in new research activities that can build upon the previous research outputs and present integrated perspectives of potential developments in cities and regions (e.g. upcoming outputs on new employment dynamics and SME development will provide inputs to the proposed research activity on transition of regional economies and rural development in Europe, proposed applied research on interregional relations will further develop an understanding on functional links among different places, using the evidence on FDI flows progressed in 2016 and 2017).

In addition, the following synergies with previously launched activities and internal coordination have been included in designing AWP 2018, as follows:

- The European Territorial Review (SO3) developed in 2017 will provide inputs to the ongoing applied research activity for developing the EU Territorial Reference Framework that will be further progressed in 2018 (SO1).
- The outputs of applied research (SO1) and targeted analyses activities (SO2) will be used as a basis for producing policy briefs (as relevant) (SO2).
- Targeted analyses projects and targeted evidence support for EU funded programmes (SO2) will draw upon the range of territorial indicators and data produced through applied research activities (SO1).
- European and transnational outreach activities (SO4) will be designed around the thematic research areas progressed under SO1-3.
- The ESPON database (SO3) will provide a repository for all of the evidence and data collected which can be used as a resource for all activities.
- The development of European and macro-regional monitoring system (SO3) will provide indicators and data that can be used by SO1-SO2 activities as relevant (e.g. for an activity on targeted evidence support for EU funded programmes).
- The development of indicators and data for cross-border and transnational areas (SO3) will facilitate the uptake of the TIA model to be developed as part of the targeted analysis on TIA in the field of European cross-border cooperation (SO2), will be included in TIA quick checks once the new functionality on cross-border TIA is available (SO3), and will feed the European and macro-regional monitoring tool (SO3).

Increased efforts on outreach of available research outputs at European and transnational scale (using new outreach methodologies to increase the range of stakeholders benefiting from ESPON evidence), continuously close collaboration with key stakeholders (policy-makers) in developing new territorial evidence and policy-relevant recommendations, and communicating research results in a tailor-made way will contribute to the achievement of the results of Single Operation related to the uptake and satisfaction with ESPON research. The evaluation methodology developed in 2017 will be applied to continuously monitor progress towards achieving the results of the Single Operation.

15,000 / 15,000 characters

2. Activities proposed

2.1

European wide, comparable information and evidence on territorial potentials and challenges focusing on opportunities for success for the development of regions and cities

Activities

Number

Name and Description

Applied Research projects

A total of five applied research activities were foreseen in the MAWP to be commenced in 2018. As a result of continuous dialogue on policy demand with key stakeholders, including EU institutions (EC DG Regio, DG Env, DG Grow, DG Agri, DG EAC, Eurostat, JRC, EPRS) and partner organisations (Eurocities, CEMR, Committee of the Regions, EIB) and the Monitoring Committee, and based on the strategic orientations presented in section 1 of the current AWP, the ESPON EGTC proposes seven applied research activities to be developed and launched under SO1 in 2018:

1. Transition of regional economies

The research activity under this theme will look at regional economies in Europe and understand the ways in which emerging sectors

Number	Name and Description
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ors are driving their transformation and opening up the potential for sustainable growth in Europe. This transition of regional economies includes production systems, industrial structures, labour market dynamics, trade patterns and enterprise/innovation systems. This applied research will both investigate the regional dimensions of economic transformation, i.e. how are these emerging activities reshaping the economies in different contexts in different parts of Europe, and analyse the regional strategies that are being put in place to manage the transformation and foster economic development. Qualitative data should thus be collected from both the private and public sectors.

The research topic was proposed by ESPON member states considering the upcoming national and regional level policy processes for review and developing new policy frameworks. The activity will target national, regional and local government institutions in Ireland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Italy, who will use the outcomes to draft national long-term and mid-term development strategies, regional policies, spatial development plans, thematic strategies on maritime issues, regional and local development strategies.

Examples: National Planning Framework Ireland 2040, National Sustainable Development Framework Strategy of Hungary 2012-2024, National Development and Territorial Development Concept of Hungary, Review of development programme of counties and special regions of Hungary, National Development plan of Czech Republic post 2020, Regional Development Strategy of the Czech Republic 2021-2027, Review of Spatial Development Policy of the Czech Republic (2019-2020) Preparation of new National Development Plan of Czech Republic (preparation in 2018-2019, including position of the Czech Republic to the territorial cohesion since 2011), Estonian National Regional Development Strategy and its implementation plan, Long-term strategy through implementation of United National Sustainable Development Agenda, including update of 'Lithuania 2030' (currently under development, to be finished in 2019), Development of a New Integrated Strategy for Cohesion (Netherlands) (2019).

This activity will also assist Member/Partner States & Regions in developing and implementing MSPs and Blue growth strategies, and provide new data, insights and advice to policymakers on new emerging sectors of economy e.g. in coastal areas. Example: Italy's reform of National Ports, Italy's Blue Growth Strategy, Italy's sustainable tourism strategic plan.

DG GROW is pushing forward a place-based approach in the context of the industrial agenda and the debate on the future of European industry. Smart specialisation as an approach to develop the EU, national and regional economies through innovation which takes place in a specific territory will continue to be an important topic during the coming years. Therefore, this activity can help to understand what potential and contribution smart specialisation offers in the development of EU cities and regions in terms of regulatory and institutional environments to encourage innovation, measures to accelerate the commercialisation of innovation ideas, and collaborations between business, research, civil society and the public sector to discover and exploit market opportunities.

2. Rural development in Europe

The development of predominantly rural regions, representing almost 20% of all EU population and almost half of the EU territory, is crucial for the attainment of the Europe 2020 headline targets. This research activity will use existing indicators and data to reveal the most recent demographic, social and economic development patterns of rural development in Europe, focusing in particular on jobs and growth situations. It will identify opportunities for stimulating the resource potential and well-being in rural areas through smart innovation policies and solutions to development issues. It will also analyze the potentials of cooperating and associating predominantly rural areas with urban poles. To go beyond the analysis of general socio-economic indicators and data, the project will draw a precisely targeted picture in considering the different types of predominantly rural areas and will use available qualitative indicators.

This research topic was proposed by ESPON member states considering the upcoming national level policy processes for review and developing new rural development policies. The activity will target:

- DG AGRI who will use new evidence on demographic and social-economic patterns of rural development to implement the Horizon 2020 Work Plan for 2018-2020 and to support the debate on future Rural development policy.

- national institutions in Sweden, Czech Republic, Estonia, Slovenia, Poland who will use new evidence in designing rural development policies and related support programmes. Examples: A policy bill on new national rural policy of Sweden (2018), Regional Development strategy of Czech Republic 2021-2027, New Regional Development Strategy for Estonia post 2020, new Agricultural policy of Slovenia, National Development Strategy of Poland (containing strategy for rural areas), Spatial Development Strategy and Spatial Plan of Slovenia, new national measures to support local strategies aiming at fostering rural development and equal access to services in France, National rural development programmes financed by EU funds etc.

- Interregional relations in Europe

The interregional dimensions of Europe's economies are an important source of value added activity and this applied research will investigate the extent to which they can be distinguished and measured.

In this perspective, the project will develop an understanding of the flows of goods, capital, services and people between European regions. The analysis of the relationships between regions should be designed to determine the extent to which interregional flows are drivers for and/or barriers to development for specific regions and types of regions. Further, the conditions that increase or decrease interregional flows in different contexts should be analysed. In particular, this project should be able to enlighten potential impacts of Brexit on regional economies across Europe. For that purpose, this research will usefully lean on the results of the survey and the study launched by the Committee of the Regions in 2017 (identifying and measuring key exposure elements of EU27 regions to the UK in light of the ongoing discussions/negotiations).

This research activity will target:

- DG REGIO who is currently building transnational partnerships of regional authorities to pilot interregional innovation initiatives (focusing in particular on the implementation of interregional smart specialisation post 2020).

2.1.a

- EC JRC to complement the RHOMOLO spatial model which has been developed in order to assess policy impacts and provides sector-, region- and time-specific simulations.

- The Committee of the Regions who is assessing the impact of the UK's withdrawal on European regions.

- National and Regional authorities in charge of sectoral policies regarding trade of goods, exchange of capital and services, labour, migrations, knowledge economy and higher educational and scientific institutions, outermost and peripheral regions. Examples: Poland is designing a concept of country development (long-term vision document) including features on the evolution of interregional relations and economic migrations, Sweden needs to better understand the regional perspective on exports, Italy is looking for

Number

Name and Description

evidence to support cross-border cooperation programmes and European macro strategies, French Regions are implementing Sustainable Development Schemes (SRADDET) that will usefully benefit from a better understanding of interregional flows with other EU-Regions.

- Sustainable land-use

Land take by the expansion of residential, commercial and infrastructure development is the main cause of the increase in the coverage of urban-land and soil sealing at the European level. The objective of this activity is to gain insights on how urban sprawl can be controlled and discouraged in Europe, starting from the hypothesis that a sustainable use of land would entail that compact and denser urban development would lead to less need for transport, less energy use and more open spaces enhancing the quality of life thus generating benefits and requiring less costs.

This new research activity will build on the work already done by the EEA and the JRC and follow-up on the results of ESPON EU-LUPA project in relation to policy advice. It will be also relevant to interlink this applied research on sustainable land use with other activities and findings concerning this topic, e.g. the upcoming Urban Partnerships in the frame of the Urban Agenda of the European Commission or with the evidence on urban land use planning produced by the OECD.

The activity will target national and regional level institutions in Italy, Flanders, Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, Czech Republic and the results will be used in national level policy processes aimed at improving the spatial planning systems, implementation of strategic spatial visions or setting new regulatory frameworks for land-use planning. At the same time, it can contribute to developing new regional policies as well as urban development strategies tackling key urban challenges. Examples: Italy is developing a new National Soil Consumption Law, Flemish policy Framework focusing on spatial efficiency, New Spatial Planning Framework and New Plan on Physical Development of Netherlands, Spatial Planning Scheme of Luxembourg, National Urban Renewal programme of France, Spatial Development Policy of Czech Republic.

At EU level, it will help to understand the territorial dimension of sectoral policies and their implementation patterns in cities and regions, contribute to the implementation of EU Urban Agenda and development of EU funded programmes post 2020.

- Territorial impacts of natural disasters

Natural disasters cause the loss of human life and property damages, affecting economic activities, stability and growth. The impacts of natural disasters on the economy can be diverse. Power failures, caused by droughts for example, create economic losses in diverse sectors, e.g. industry, tourism or agriculture. A research activity under this theme will be developed with an aim to assess the economic impacts of natural disasters across European regions and cities, to analyse existing policies and measures and to propose new solutions and instruments regarding disaster risk management at different policy levels. Climate change and geographic specificities (hazardous environments) of places will be taken into account in this research activity as the main underlying factors causing natural disasters. This activity will build up on existing ESPON studies on this topic and existing knowledge and research from other institutions (in particular the UN, the World Bank, the IPCC, the JRC and the EEA). The JRC and World Bank carry out extensive work to improve the scientific evidence base for risk assessment in Europe and the world.

The research topic will target national level institutions in Italy, Netherlands, Germany that will use the results in policy processes aimed at developing and/or implementing specific thematic strategies on risk mitigation and adaptation. Examples: Seismic risk programme of Italy, Climate adaptation strategy and river basin plans (PAI) of Italy, Environmental and Spatial planning strategy and Spatial Adaptation Strategy of Netherlands, Federal Spatial Development Plan for flood protection in Germany etc.

At EU level, this research activity can help to understand the territorial dimension of Environmental policies and their implementation patterns in cities and regions.

- Quality of life methodology and measurements

The research activity under this theme will further develop the methodology proposed by the OECD and the UN for measuring quality of life at regional level. The methodology should apply to different types of territories, to different geographical scales (including cross-border and transnational). Moreover, this activity will analyse quality of life patterns across European regions (including broader notions like governance and citizen participation) and develop guidelines on how quality of life aspects can be integrated in territorial development strategies at different geographical levels.

This applied research activity will support national and regional stakeholders in developing policy frameworks on regional and local development on the basis of quality of life measurements. Examples: The Netherlands are implementing a Strategic Knowledge and Innovation Agenda; Poland is designing a concept of country development (long-term vision document) including social change and quality of life challenges, Sweden is dealing with increasing territorial imbalances and wishes to assess how social integration and gender equality are addressed in different EU countries, Switzerland is implementing a global Swiss Agglomeration Policy which includes a quality of life chapter.

It would also feed the implementation by the EU of the UN 2030 Agenda and sustainable development goals. Therefore, at EU level, this activity will mainly target DG REGIO, the Committee of the Regions and the ETC Programmes.

The methodology for analysis to be developed will contribute to the assessment of spatial and environmental related aspects of quality of life. The insights are needed for evidence informed policy for an overall enhancement of the liveability in different regions, but also to ensure territorial cohesion within regions, across regions and cross-border. Moreover, analysis and insights in measures at a local level provide a basis to guide and support regions, cities and municipalities in designing and implementing spatial and environmental policies.

(continued in the following text box)

Number	Name and Description
2.1.b	<p style="text-align: center;">Applied Research projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural heritage as a source of societal well-being in European regions <p>Cultural heritage is a resource that can trigger economic, social and environmental benefits to society. On 22 May 2018 the European Commission has proposed a New European Agenda for Culture which once again emphasized cultural heritage as a driver for growth and jobs and a source for social cohesion. However, there is a growing demand for going beyond the impact of cultural heritage on growth and jobs and look into more wider impacts on society.</p> <p>This applied research will serve this need and develop a pan-European methodology and analysis on the impacts of cultural heritage on society, considering quality of life and other aspects. There is also a need to better understand the impacts of EU funded investments in cultural heritage on sustainable development of cities and regions.</p> <p>This study will help to build evidence and knowledge on how the presence of cultural assets and associated investments contribute to regional/rural/urban development and improved territorial cohesion. The activity will target national and regional level institutions across ESPON space and the results will be used in implementation of cultural heritage and tourism development strategies, action plans on cultural heritage, rural development policies, national policies on architecture and landscape, territorial/ spatial development strategies. At EU level it will help to draft the Action plan for the new Urban Agenda Partnership "Culture and Cultural Heritage" and facilitate its implementation. The availability of evidence on the impact of EU funded investments in cultural heritage could feed into the next Cohesion Report and assist local and regional policy makers to better use the EU funding in exploiting their territorial potentials on culture.</p> <p>Annex 1 presents detailed scoping notes for each of the proposed applied research themes. The draft scoping notes were developed by the EGTC in cooperation with the Monitoring Committee members and senior scientists (service provider contracted by EGTC). As can be seen in the scoping notes, a number of proposed new applied research activities can be developed as a follow-up to the previous ESPON research outputs thereby ensuring the continuity of ESPON research work. At the same time, it is important to establish links and build complementarities with existing and foreseen research outputs on these subjects. Therefore, in the process of further developing the scope of the proposed research activities the EGTC engaged and will continue consultations with partner institutions implementing and/ or supporting research activities (OECD, World Economic Forum, UN-Habitat, Urban Land Institute, Cities Alliance etc.).</p> <p>The proposed range of activities will be implemented in close cooperation with the Monitoring Committee and identified target groups thereby ensuring that the results will be policy-relevant. More high-quality and policy-relevant output of ESPON research activities will, in turn, lead to an increased uptake and satisfaction of target audiences as the key results of the Single Operation.</p> <p>The total budget allocation for applied research activities in the AWP 2018 is €5,427,450. The exact budget for each applied research activity will be allocated based on further detailed consideration of each proposed theme in the process of developing the terms of reference and based on the life-span of the activity, complexity of tasks to be accomplished, data availability, number of case studies and the number of foreseen meetings or events etc.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3,599 / 15,000 characters</p>

2.2	Targeted analyses		
Activities	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="207 1265 335 1332">Number</th> <th data-bbox="335 1265 1508 1332">Name and Description</th> </tr> </thead> </table>	Number	Name and Description
Number	Name and Description		

	<p style="text-align: center;">Targeted Analyses Projects</p> <p>The MAWP sets out the process by which targeted analyses projects will be selected and implemented. A total of six targeted analyses projects are foreseen in the MAWP to be commenced in 2018 and to serve national, regional and local policy processes, as well as territorial cooperation initiatives and programmes.</p> <p>The key outcome expected to be achieved through targeted analyses projects in the AWP 2018 shall be to extend the use of European territorial evidence in concrete policy processes at national, regional and local level as well as within territorial cooperation areas. Considering the results of the policy needs assessment undertaken in July, the EGTC expects to receive targeted analysis proposals that could support the development of new national level policies on regional and urban development, local and regional level development strategies as well as more specific thematic strategies on rural development, regional innovation, digital transition, social cohesion etc. In addition, more demand for targeted analyses can be expected to support the debate and development of territorial co-operation programmes post-2020. Policymakers and other stakeholders contributing to and influencing the policy making process at national, regional and local levels as well as authorities implementing EU funded programmes will be the key target groups.</p> <p>In accordance with the MAWP, the EGTC has set the first cut-off date for the evaluation of stakeholder proposals for 26 January 2018. The second cut-off date will be set for the end of June.</p> <p>The process for publicising the invite for stakeholder proposals, selecting stakeholder proposals and evaluating tender offers will be fully in accordance with the procedures set out and approved in the MAWP. It is proposed to select three proposals from each invite for stakeholder proposals but the exact distribution will depend on the overall demand and quality of received proposals.</p> <p>As a result of the discussion with the Monitoring Committee it was decided not to define any thematic priorities for selecting stakeholder proposals in 2018 but at the same time to put additional effort on advertising this type of support by ESPON programme among the target audiences and ensure a wide outreach of the results beyond the groups of stakeholders who were engaged in developing and implementing targeted analyses activities.</p> <p>The timing of the outreach efforts to inform potential stakeholders will be aligned with the defined cut-off dates and the latter will be widely advertised using ESPON website, direct mailings, social media, ESPON seminars and workshops (e.g. 14 November 2017 ESPON workshop "How to get involved – countries, cities and regions benefit from ESPON activities"), transnational outreach activities etc. In addition, an electronic solution for partner search introduced in 2017 will be used to support building groups of stakeholders to develop proposals for targeted analyses. The MC members and ECPs will be supported in their important role of advertising targeted analyses and mobilising stakeholders to develop and submit their proposals to the EGTC.</p> <p>As the outcomes of the first targeted analyses activities will become available from the end of 2017, the EGTC will implement a new approach to the outreach of the results in 2018 by introducing peer-learning workshops that will allow additional groups of national, regional and local authorities, as well as bodies engaged in territorial cooperation initiatives and programmes to learn from the evidence and experience of stakeholders who were involved in targeted analyses. This new approach will allow to ensure a precisely targeted contribution of targeted analyses to additional policy processes beyond the ones originally foreseen and thereby will promote an increased visibility, added value, uptake of targeted analyses and satisfaction of target audiences, thereby contributing to the achievement of the results of the Single Operation.</p> <p>The total budget allocation for targeted analyses projects in the AWP 2018 is €1,500,000. The exact allocation and absorption of this budget amongst individual targeted analyses projects will also be dependent on the scope of the stakeholder proposals and the tender offers received.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4,272 / 15,000 characters</p>
2.2.a	<p style="text-align: center;">Targeted Evidence Support</p> <p>Under targeted evidence support strand of SO2, the ESPON EGTC will develop a number of thematic papers to support the EU intergovernmental process on territorial cohesion and urban matters, the debate on the territorial dimension of future Cohesion policy, as well as policy debates and development at national, regional and local scales. The detailed proposal of the EGTC is presented in the following section "Thematic Papers (Policy Briefs and Working Papers)".</p> <p style="text-align: right;">464 / 15,000 characters</p>

2.3

Thematic papers, on specific thematic areas in response to stakeholder demand

Activities

Number	Name and Description
	<p style="text-align: center;">Thematic papers (Policy Briefs & Working Papers)</p> <p>The ESPON EGTC will develop a range of policy briefs/working papers to ensure a wide outreach and capitalise on the outputs of research activities that will deliver results by the end of 2017 and in 2018 and to link in to the relevant policy debates and processes as explained below. Thematic papers proposed for 2018 will be built on the outcomes of previous and ongoing ESPON research activities and in close cooperation with target audiences. In addition, the EGTC will make further efforts to promote the visibility and impact of policy briefs by improving their format and content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensuring that the policy recommendations are concise and reader-friendly; - Using policy briefs to communicate good-practices and case studies; - Supporting the outreach of policy briefs by short videos on key messages by relevant stakeholders. <p>In general, thematic papers will be further strengthened as an important outreach tool promoting an increased uptake and satisfaction of targeted audiences with ESPON territorial evidence support and thereby contributing to the achievement of the results of the Single Operation.</p> <p>1. Indicators for integrated territorial and urban development</p>

Number

Name and Description

The objective of this thematic paper is to develop territorial indicators for correct and objective measurement of integrated territorial and urban development. The target audience of this thematic paper is DG Regio, Committee of the Regions, intergovernmental network on territorial and urban development as well as national, regional and local policy makers who are engaged in the design, monitoring and evaluation of regional policies, integrated development strategies and implementation programmes (e.g. ITIs, CLLDs). The countries who will be targeted with this policy brief are presented below in the list of relevant policy processes.

The proposals on potential indicators to measure integrated territorial and urban development can serve a wide range of policy processes identified by the EGTC through a needs assessment and dialogue with the Monitoring Committee as follows:

EU/intergovernmental level:

- Territorial dimension of EU Cohesion policy
- EU Territorial Agenda post 2020
- Urban Agenda for the EU

National/regional level:

- Flemish and Walloon Spatial Policy Plan (BE)
- OP for regional development 2021 - 2027 (BG)
- Review of Spatial Plans for main Urban Agglomerations and Urban/ Spatial Planning Legislation (CY)
- National Development Plan (CZ)
- National Settlement Policy (HU)
- Implementing National and/or Regional Scenario Planning Tools (IT)
- Spatial Planning Scheme (LU)
- Latgale Development Plan (LV)
- New Spatial Planning Framework and Agenda Stad (NL)
- National Spatial Development Policy Programme (PT)
- The National Strategy of Regional Development (PL)
- Urban Agenda (RO and ES)
- National spatial planning strategy and Integrated SUMP (SI)
- Review of regional and local plans (NO)

This policy brief was initiated by the upcoming Bulgarian Presidency and it will be developed by the EGTC until February 2018 on the basis of the outputs of ESPON 2013 (INTERCO, KITCASP, SIESTA, TPM, and ESPON Atlas) and ESPON 2020 (ESPON 2020 data and map updates, ESPON Database Portal). In order to gather further inputs and discuss the draft with researchers, DG Regio and national level policy-makers, the EGTC will organise an ESPON workshop in January 2018 in cooperation with the Bulgarian Presidency.

2. Governance and planning tools in support of polycentric development

The objective of this thematic paper is to provide analysis and recommendations about governance and planning approaches (including multi-level governance and inter-municipal cooperation) and tools in support of polycentric development. The target audience of this thematic paper are national, regional and local policy makers engaged in the design and implementation of governance and planning policies, as well as the intergovernmental network on territorial cohesion and urban matters and DG Regio. The countries who will be targeted with this policy brief are presented below in the list of relevant policy processes.

The policy brief will be developed to support the following policy processes identified by the EGTC through a needs assessment and dialogue with the Monitoring Committee:

EU/ intergovernmental level:

- Territorial dimension of EU Cohesion Policy
- EU Territorial Agenda post 2020
- Urban Agenda for the EU (discussion on cross-cutting issues)

National / regional level:

- OP for regional development 2021 - 2027 (BG)
- New Regional Planning Laws (IT)
- Flemish Spatial Policy Plan (BE)
- Review of Spatial Plans for main Urban Agglomerations and Urban/ Spatial Planning Legislation (CY)
- Regional Development Strategy for the years 2021-2027; National Development Plan and Review of Spatial Development Policy (CZ)
- National Development and Territorial Development Concept; County and integrated territorial development programmes; national, regional and local spatial plans - evaluation / possible revision (HU)
- Implementing National and/or Regional Scenario Planning Tools (IT)
- Revision of the Spatial Planning Scheme (LU)
- New Spatial Planning Framework; Development of a New Integrated Strategy for Planning (NL)
- Revision of the National Strategy of Regional Development (PL)
- Revision of the National Spatial Development Policy Programme (PT)
- Territorial administrative reforms (SE)
- National spatial planning strategy (SI)
- Administrative territorial reform (NO)
- Review of regional and local plans (NO)

This policy brief was initiated by the upcoming Bulgarian Presidency. It is also related to one of the priorities (effective territorial and urban governance) of the forthcoming Austrian Presidency. The policy brief will be developed by the EGTC with the support of the senior scientists until February 2018 based on the outputs of ESPON 2020 Programme (SO1: COMPAS, SO2: Policy brief "Polycentric territorial structures and territorial cooperation", SO2: Targeted analyses – RESSI, SPIMA, ACTAREA).

2.3.a

3. Inner peripheries

This thematic paper will be developed with an objective to present possible development strategies for inner peripheries to overcome their marginalising effects (including the consequences of ageing, policy instruments aimed at restructuring of struggling industry into new specializations). The target audience of this thematic paper are national, regional and local policy makers engaged

Number

Name and Description

in the design and implementation of regional, spatial, rural development policies and support programmes. The countries who will be targeted with this policy brief are presented below in the list of relevant policy processes.

The policy brief will be developed to support the following policy processes identified by the EGTC through a needs assessment and dialogue with the Monitoring Committee:

- OP for regional development 2021 - 2027 (BG)
- Implementing National and/or Regional Scenario Planning Tools (IT)
- Strategy for Sustainable Rural Development, Agriculture and Fisheries for 2012-2020 (PL)
- National Spatial Development Policy Programme (PT)
- Territorial development strategy 2035 (RO)
- New coherent rural policy - government proposal to parliament (SE)
- Review of regional and local plans (NO)
- Policy initiative to develop the most lagging districts (HU)

This policy brief will be developed by the EGTC in the first half of 2018 on the basis of the outputs of the ESPON 2020 Programme (SO1: Inner Peripheries, SO2: policy brief on shrinking rural regions).

4. Migration and refugees

This thematic paper aims at presenting proposals for tailor-made support instruments and best practices in dealing with migration / refugees in cities and at national, regional macro-regional and cross-border scales. The target audience of this thematic paper is DG Home, DG Regio, EU Parliament, the Committee of the Regions, macro-regions, ETC programme authorities as well as national and regional authorities who are engaged in designing and implementing refugee integration schemes. The countries who will be targeted with this policy brief are presented below in the list of relevant policy processes.

The policy brief will be developed to support the following policy processes identified by the EGTC through a needs assessment and dialogue with the Monitoring Committee:

- Refugee integration schemes (LU, SE)
- Austrian Spatial Development Concept ÖREK 2011 & Implementation
- The Strategy for Responsible Development (PL)
- Migration Partnership Strategy for the Western Balkans 2016-2019 (CH)
- Migration management (IT, MT)

This policy brief will be developed by the EGTC in cooperation with INTERACT in the second half of 2018 based on the outputs of ESPON 2020 Programme (SO1: Flows of migrants and refugees, SO2: Territorial and urban potentials connected to migration and refugee flows).

5. Cross-border public services

This thematic paper will reveal the current availability of cross-border public services along EU borders, identify current potentials and future needs for the development of such services and present policy advice for improving the delivery practices of cross-border public services. In addition, it will contribute to generating awareness about the added value of cross-border public services. The target audience of this thematic paper are stakeholders from EU border regions: policy makers at national and regional level, Euroregions, authorities implementing EU funded programmes (CBC/ENI/IPA) & SH organisations such as COTER, AEBR, MOT, CESC I. The countries who will be targeted with this policy brief are presented below in the list of relevant policy processes.

The policy brief will be developed to support the following policy processes identified by the EGTC through a needs assessment and dialogue with the Monitoring Committee:

- Walloon Spatial Policy Plan (BE)
- OP for regional development 2021 - 2027 (BG)
- Cross border agglomeration development (CH)
- Common Spatial Development Strategy of the V4+2 Countries (CZ)
- ETC implementation (FR, DE)
- Cross-border and macro-regional strategies (EL)
- Structured deals with cross-border cooperation programmes and European macro strategies (IT)
- Cross-border spatial planning scheme (LU)
- Interreg learning (NO)
- Territorial development strategy of Romania 2035 (RO)
- Review of regional and local plans (NO)

This policy brief will be developed by the EGTC towards the end of 2018 on the basis of the output from the ESPON 2020 Programme (SO2: Cross-border public services).

6. Territorial potential for green infrastructure and its role in urban and rural areas

The objective of this thematic paper is to reveal local and regional solutions and practices in developing green infrastructures and ecosystem services. The target audience of this thematic paper are DG Regio, DG Env, DG RTD, JRC, EEA, macro-regions, national, regional and local policy makers engaged in the design and implementation of environmental, climate adaptation policies/ strategies/ plans. The countries who will be targeted with this policy brief are presented below in the list of relevant policy processes. The policy brief will be developed to support the following policy processes identified by the EGTC through a needs assessment and dialogue with the Monitoring Committee:

- EU and national environmental policies (e.g. PO and IE strategies on adaptation to Climate Change)
- Framework programme for the transition to the green economy (SI)
- Strategy for the Environment (PL)
- Flemish climate adaptation plan 2021-2030
- Review of Spatial Plans for main Urban Agglomerations and Policy Statement for the Countryside (CY)
- Review of regional and local plans (NO)

This policy brief will be developed by the EGTC towards the end of 2018 on the basis of the outputs of ESPON 2020 Programme (SO1: Green infrastructures and ecosystem services, SO2: LinkPas).

Number	Name and Description
	<p>Besides the predefined set of thematic papers presented above, the EGTC can serve ad-hoc requests for additional thematic papers (e.g. by the forthcoming EU Council Presidencies) provided that they are in line with the selection criteria (policy relevance, relation to territorial development policy priorities, availability of data and evidence) defined in the Single Operation. For the development of the predefined thematic papers the EGTC will mainly rely on its in-house capacities and the support of the senior scientists as external experts. In case of ad-hoc requests for additional thematic papers during 2018 the EGTC can mobilise additional resources for external expertise, if needed. The decision to engage additional financial means for producing thematic papers will be justified by the assessment of the complexity of the topic, availability/lack of background evidence and the timing for the preparation requested by the stakeholders.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">12,887 / 15,000 characters</p>

2.4 Territorial observation/ reporting

Activities

Number	Name and Description
2.4.a	<p style="text-align: center;">Territorial Observations & Reporting</p> <p>According to the Single Operation, in 2019 the ESPON EGTC shall produce a major “State of the European Territory” report. It will be designed with an aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - impact on the content of the future regional development support programmes (national, regional, local and territorial cooperation programmes), as well as regional and local development strategies in the context of the proposals on future EU policies (including Cohesion policy, Agricultural and Rural development policy, Environmental policy, Transport policy etc.); - contribute to developing the content of the 8th Cohesion report. <p>The report will reveal the territorial diversity of places on a range of potential subjects indicated below and present policy advice to national, regional and local authorities responsible for the design of policy implementation tools. Policy-makers and regional/ local development stakeholders will be advised on how to design integrated territorial development support programmes with a view to achieving EU level and global priorities (SDGs), covering different thematic fields, applying different types of tools (e.g. financial instruments).</p> <p>The EGTC shall commence the preparation of this report in 2018 and it will draw upon the outputs and territorial evidence produced under SO1, SO2 and SO3. Considering the foreseen availability of new ESPON research outputs in 2018 and beginning of 2019, the report can potentially cover the following range of subjects: financial instruments, green infrastructure and ecosystem services, circular economy, refugee flows, youth unemployment, cultural heritage, housing. The thematic scope of the report will be further specified in cooperation with national, regional and local stakeholders. In addition, the scope of the report will be discussed with DG Regio to ensure that ESPON evidence can usefully contribute to the preparation of the next Cohesion report (scheduled for 2019). Finally, the scope will be verified with other EC Directorates general in charge of sectoral policy fields that would be interested in contributing to policy implementation advice in different fields to be presented in the framework of this report.</p> <p>The report will be published prior to the holding of a major ESPON conference in 2019.</p> <p>This activity will be implemented via an external service contract with a total contracted value of up to €50,000 and will take approximately twelve months to implement.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2,439 / 15,000 characters</p>

2.5 Tools for territorial analyses

Activities

Number	Name and Description
	<p style="text-align: center;">Develop Tools for Territorial Analysis</p> <p>Activities proposed under this action will together contribute to the development of the ESPON ToolBox, an integrated suite of user-friendly and interactive web-tools to assist policymakers in freely accessing and interrogating territorial indicators and data.</p> <p>As indicated in the AWP 2017 a survey was held to identify future needs in relation to ESPON tools and to ensure that the tools are covering the needs of the various target groups. The results of this survey and the policy-needs assessment have been used to decide which ESPON tools will be maintained, updated, adjusted or wound up.</p> <p>The tools currently being planned to be included in the ESPON ToolBox are the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Database Portal is one of the tools for which the survey respondents indicated that they were most familiar with and was most used. Considering that the ESPON Database provides the core data to all actions/activities carried out under SO1, SO2 and SO3 and that it serves as a repository for all indicators and data resulting from these activities, this tool is indispensable for the ESPON ToolBox. The Database Portal is currently being developed (started in 2016) and has the potential to integrate the Data Navigator and a mapping functionality. 2. TIA web application is also one of the tools for which the survey respondents indicated that they were most familiar with. In addition, the TIA tool is in high demand with the European Commission to supplement general impact assessments of EU policies and directives. The TIA tool is currently being upgraded (started in 2016) and TIA workshops using the TIA tool are being supported. 3. Online MapFinder is the third tool for which the survey respondents indicated that they were most familiar with and was most used. For this tool additional maps and descriptions have been developed and integrated during 2016 and additional maps and descriptions are being developed.

Number	Name and Description
2.5.a	<p>criptions resulting from the closing SO1 activities are planned for 2018.</p> <p>4. Monitoring Platform will be a tool to provide and promote territorial information and evidence in relation to European and macro-regional policy orientations and objectives (started in 2017). The macro-regional dimension is considered as especially important to include due to the innovative nature of macro-regional strategies in territorial cooperation and cohesion. This innovation is actively being promoted and supported by the European Commission.</p> <p>5. FUA tool will be a tool to support policy makers in analysing, comparing and benchmarking functional urban areas and labour market areas in Europe (to be started in 2017). Some European countries have developed policies aimed at supporting these alternative administrative scales and the MC expressed interest in extending this for the European level to improve and strengthen the implementation of EU policies.</p> <p>6. SDG localizing tool will be a tool to support European local and regional governments to localise the SDGs and align their strategies to contribute to the achievement of SDGs at regional and local scale. The EU committed to implement the 2030 Agenda and be a frontrunner in implementing the SDGs which shows the potential policy use of such a tool. This tool is planned to start in 2018.</p> <p>7. HyperAtlas is a tool to analyse and visualise spatial phenomena by taking into account the relative situation. The tool has great potential to support policy makers in analysing and comparing their regions within their local, regional, national and European situation. This will allow setting the new regional and urban development strategies in a wider European context. However, the tool is considered to be too complicated for policy makers and the Java technology used is too restrictive. The revision of this tool is planned to start in 2018.</p> <p>8. To be decided. Tool number eight will be decided during 2018 and the decision will be based on policy development and ESPON project developments.</p> <p>In principle, all tools using regional data and indicators will be interlinked with the ESPON Database using their webservices. This holds for the TIA Tool, the monitoring platform, FUA tool, SDG localizing tool and the HyperAtlas.</p> <p>The EGTC proposes the following set of activities for implementation in 2018:</p> <p>1. SDG localizing tool</p> <p>The aim of this activity is to support policy makers with localising and measuring the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in cities and regions. Such a tool shows good potential to be used due to the commitment of the EU to implement the 2030 Agenda and be a frontrunner in implementing the SDGs.</p> <p>The 2030 Agenda for sustainable development presents 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets as a means to stimulate action over the next 15 years. Eurostat has published a first overview showing where the EU and its Member States stand in view of the SDGs and a need has been identified to supplement the global indicators by additional indicators for regional and national reporting in Europe. A need has also been identified to localise the goals through bottom-up actions to reflect differences across regions and communities in Europe.</p> <p>Considering the important role of local and regional governments in the successful implementation of the SDGs in Europe and partner countries the main target groups to be addressed by this activity are cities and local and regional authorities and their national associations for supporting their roles in the local implementation and the political processes of dialogue with other tiers of government and other stakeholders in society, supporting and promoting bottom-up actions, and preparing decisions on territorial development and spatial strategies.</p> <p>This activity will be implemented via an external service contract with a total contracted value of up to €120,000 and will take approximately eighteen months to implement.</p> <p>2. New analytical tool for spatial comparisons (complete revision of HyperAtlas)</p> <p>The aim of this activity is to transform the existing ESPON HyperAtlas in an easy to use tool to support policy makers in analysing and comparing their regions with the local, regional, national and European situation. Indices used for political decisions are often evaluated in relative terms. This can be done according to various territorial contexts depending on the scale of the intervention or action they are referring to. The HyperAtlas contains a set of functionalities to do this and analyse and visualise spatial phenomena by taking into account the relative situation. However, the current tool is considered to be too complicated for policy makers, the data is out-dated and the Java technology used is too restrictive. To fulfil the aim of supporting policy makers in analysing and comparing their regions a total revision of this tool is needed. The tool will become a transparent, user-friendly interface with clear examples on how to use the tool and its resulting maps and graphs; linking the tool to the regional data in the ESPON Database Portal; avoiding the use of the Java technology.</p> <p>The main target groups to be addressed by this activity are European, national and regional authorities, in particular, experts and analysts working for these authorities and dealing with the design, monitoring and evaluation of regional and sectoral development policies (e.g. environmental, transport, enterprise, investment), as well as academics and students in geography and spatial planning.</p> <p>This activity will be implemented via an external service contract with a total contracted value of up to €90,000 and will take approximately twelve months to implement.</p> <p>3. Indicators and data for cross-border and transnational areas</p> <p>The aim of this activity is to develop data and indicators for cross-border and transnational areas to support the development of methodologies, production of more evidence on cross-border and transnational trends and to measure results and impacts of territorial cooperation at transnational scale. This activity will build on, extend, support and enhance four ESPON activities by delivering additional data and indicators needed for analyses of cross-border and transnational areas.</p> <p>First, a new ESPON targeted analysis will launch in early 2018 aimed at piloting and refining Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) of policies, programmes and projects in the field of European Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC). The activity will address the question on which data will be needed by cross-border regions, further develop and refine the TIA model for CBC and it will be piloted in the</p>

Number

Name and Description

e stakeholder regions. This will ultimately enable stakeholders involved in cross-border cooperation activities (Managing Authorities, ETC programmes) to better select cross-border activities, draft cross-border development strategies and undertake impact evaluations and as input for ex-ante assessments. Second, the ESPON TIA tool is being upgraded to enable cross-border TIA. The data for cross-border areas can then be included in the TIA quick checks once the new functionality is available. Third, the data can feed the European and macro-regional monitoring tool that is being developed. Fourth, the data and indicators can be included in the ESPON database portal to enhance the analytical capabilities of ESPON service providers on all activities, to provide access to these data to expert policy makers undertaking cross-border and transnational analyses, and researchers for conducting analyses on cross-border and transnational areas, e.g. on the permeability of borders.

The main target groups to be addressed by this activity are authorities implementing European funding programmes for cross-border and transnational areas (including macroregions).

This activity will be implemented via an external service contract with a total contracted value of up to €75,000 and will take approximately twelve months to implement.

4. Ex-ante TIA workshops on new policy initiatives – to serve additional demand from stakeholders

The aim of this activity is to support additional Ex-ante TIA workshops. The current ESPON project “ESPON TIA tool upgrade” allows carrying out TIA workshops based on the request of service to the service provider. Initial 4 workshops which were carried out in 2017 in cooperation with the European Commission and the European Committee of the Regions generated huge interest in the European Commission. This was also due to the fact that DG REGIO actively promoted ESPON TIA tool and the workshop results within the Commission. As a result, the identified demand for TIA workshops exceeds the ability to support such workshops within the current ESPON project “ESPON TIA tool upgrade”.

By now TIA workshops have looked into territorial impacts of the EU directives/proposals on ship generated waste, minimum quality requirements for reused water, clean and energy-efficient road vehicles, attracting various regional and local experts as well as staff of DG REGIO, DG ENV, DG MOVE. In the meantime, the EGTC has received demand to examine territorial impacts of policies and legal proposals on rural development (Cork 2.0 Declaration), cross-border cooperation, outermost regions, climate adaptation with DG CLIMA and DG AGRI expressing the interest to be involved in the organization of the TIA workshops.

The results of the workshops will be used to supplement general impact assessments of the EU policies and directives giving opportunity to capture the territorial aspect of any impacts. Results from previous workshops have been highly appreciated and successfully incorporated in impact assessments submitted to the Regulatory Scrutiny Board. The main target groups to be addressed by this activity are experts and analysts in charge of TIA within the Committee of the Regions, DG for Regional and Urban Policy and other DGs of the European Commission (e.g. DG AGRI and DG ENV) dealing with Brexit, EGTC regulation, public procurements on social fairness and drinking water directive and elements of the post-2020 cohesion policy proposals. This activity will be implemented via an external service contract with a total contracted value of up to €50,000 (using the already committed but not fully spent financing from previous years) and will take approximately twelve months to implement.

5. Additional maps and descriptions included in the Online MapFinder

A recent survey showed that the Online MapFinder was one of the most popular tools in the ESPON Toolbox. Policy makers can use the tool to find specific maps resulting from ESPON projects and reports. Each map is accompanied by short interpretations and key observations tailor-made for policy-makers and policy development to simplify and enhance the use of the policy messages and supporting information. By the end of 2017 the first seven SO1 activities will be finalised leading to a large number of new maps that should be made publicly available. This activity will prepare a selection of these new maps and include them in the Online MapFinder. The selection of maps will be done to serve the target groups of the respective SO1 activities as indicated below and based on the following set of principles:

- (1) most representative of the underlying phenomena analysed;
- (2) most effectively capture key new evidence insights;
- (3) most comprehensively address the policy questions identified.

The main target groups to be addressed by this activity are European, national and local public authorities responsible for and having competencies in enterprise policy, regional policy, energy – environmental investment policy and employment policy as well as students and academics developing research on similar subjects.

This activity will be implemented partly in-house and partly via an external service contract with a total contracted value of up to €20,000 and will take approximately six months to implement.

(continued in the following text box)

13,959 / 15,000 characters

Number	Name and Description
2.5.b	<p style="text-align: center;">Develop Tools for Territorial Analysis</p> <p>6. Data purchase</p> <p>The shift in emphasis on investment, performance monitoring and territorial dimension of Cohesion Policy is requiring high quality , relevant and up-to-date territorial analysis and data at different geographical scales and European coverage. Also, the importance given to urban issues and the work towards an EU Urban Agenda requires up-to-date data at finer geographical scale.</p> <p>The aim of this activity is to ensure, in case of need, funds are available for the purchase of data (geographic, statistic, grid etc) that could support the production of timely and policy relevant analysis upon demand from target stakeholders at EU and national, regional and local levels. This activity is proposed as complementary to all other research activities that will produce and update a considerable number of datasets. This activity will serve ad hoc needs of acquiring data that might be used for in-house research activities e.g. producing a policy brief on a specific subject where ESPON data is limited. The specific target groups for this activity will depend on the data that will be selected for purchase. The purchase of data will be done via a public procurement procedure and will have a maximum value of €10,000 (contingency).</p> <p>The proposed activities will contribute to the achievement of the Single Operation results by offering new and improving existing instruments for using ESPON evidence (e.g. SDG localising tool, revised tool for spatial comparisons, further update of Online Mapfinder), offering additional opportunities for using ESPON tools (e.g. during TIA workshops) in support of evidence-based and territorially sensitive policy-making and developing indicators and data to capitalise results-oriented approach among ETC programmes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1,769 / 15,000 characters</p>

2.6

Stimulate the use of tools

Number	Name and Description
2.6.a	<p style="text-align: center;">Stimulate use of tools</p> <p>To promote and facilitate the use of tools the ESPON EGTC foresees during 2018 to organise and participate in events, workshops and seminars and work jointly together with other organisations such as Committee of the Regions, Eurostat etc. The main target groups to be addressed by these activities are European, national, regional and local public authorities as well as authorities implementing EU funded programmes for regions, cross-border and transnational areas (including macro-regions). These activities shall in particular target experts and analysts working for these authorities.</p> <p>This activity will be implemented using in-house capacity combined with contracting specialist expertise and technical knowledge via public procurement with a total contracted value of up to €15,000.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">791 / 15,000 characters</p>

2.7

Events

Number	Name and Description
	<p style="text-align: center;">European Outreach Events</p> <p>The ambitious work plan for 2018 includes, on the one hand, the continued development of territorial evidence towards key ongoing and new policy processes at all levels and, on the other hand, the capitalisation on the research outputs in order to ensure their contribution to key policy processes and specific target audiences at European and transnational scale. In 2018 this will be a key specific objective contributing to the results of the Single Operation by promoting the use of ESPON evidence by key stakeholders and their satisfaction through direct communication at ESPON and external events and by means of digital tools and channels.</p> <p>The work plan includes an extensive list of activities under SO1-3 that the ESPON EGTC will carry out guided by the MAWP and the outreach strategy set in 2015 to achieve ESPON's strategic objectives. Many of the activities planned for 2018 under SO4 will significantly advance the wide outreach and capitalise on the outputs of the research activities and tools in the framework of events (seminars, workshops, conference, joint events and promotion at external events) and publications.</p> <p>The implementation of activities will be guided by the strategic key objectives included in the outreach strategy as described in the document of 2015: (1) better integrate science in policy making; (2) quick responses to increased demand for territorial evidence and analyses; (3) engage closely with old and new key actors at all levels; (4) build visibility based on original and high quality content; (5) promote European and transnational uptake; (6) strive for "less is more" in terms of printed material; (7) go digital and make ESPON more "sociable".</p> <p>Territorial evidence resulting from ESPON research areas under SO1-3 is a prerequisite for the implementation of effective communications by the ESPON EGTC. The quality of the different outputs envisaged including the rapid analytical response to policy demands, are critical to ESPON attaining its outreach and communication objectives. European and transnational outreach activities (SO4) will be designed around the thematic research areas progressed under SO1-3.</p> <p>Strategic outreach priorities in 2018</p> <p>During 2018 the ESPON EGTC will focus on building awareness, understanding and recognition of ESPON evidence at all levels as well as increasing openness and dialogue with stakeholders. Cooperation and engagement with stakeholders will be two strong themes of ESPON's work in 2018.</p>

Number

Name and Description

The proposals for both the European and transnational outreach activities are based on a policy needs assessment process identifying the ongoing and upcoming policy processes that would benefit from ESPON evidence. The process commenced with a survey conducted between January and May 2017, and distributed amongst national, regional and local policy makers. The initial elicitation provided an overview of policy needs that has been updated in July 2017, collecting valuable insights from the ECP network relating to policy processes and implementation stages. Based on these insights and in consideration of the available and foreseen ESPON outputs, the EGTC identified the following thematic priorities for European and transnational outreach in 2018.

Future European territorial perspective (for European outreach only)

- Mid-term and long-term European territorial development perspective
- Territorial dimension of future policies

Future regional perspective

- Macro-regions
- Shrinking regions, peripheral areas

Planning

- Spatial planning
- Integrated / place-based approaches
- Shrinking regions, peripheral areas

Governance

- Functional urban areas and urban-rural interactions
- Cross-border services
- Regional governance (soft governance)

Specific subjects

- Climate and energy (low-carbon economy, natural assets, green infrastructure, circular economy)
- Employment and business development
- Refugees
- Cultural heritage
- Transport / accessibility
- Digital healthcare

The outreach priorities will serve a wide range of national, regional and local processes including:

Macro-regions

- Pillars / priority areas of the EUSBSR / EUSDR / EUSALP / EUSAIR under the responsibility of Member States

Shrinking regions, peripheral areas

- OP for regional development 2021 - 2027 (BG)
- New Regional Planning Laws (IT)
- Strategy for Sustainable Rural Development, Agriculture and Fisheries for 2012-2020 (PL)
- National Spatial Development Policy Programme (PT)
- Territorial development strategy 2035 (RO)
- New coherent rural policy - government proposal to parliament (SE)

Spatial planning / Integrated / place-based approaches / Functional urban areas and urban-rural interactions

- Flemish and Walloon Spatial Policy Plan (BE)
- OP for regional development 2021 - 2027 (BG)
- Spatial Plans for main Urban Agglomerations and Urban/ Spatial Planning Legislation (CY)
- National Development Plan (CZ)
- Integrated development of urban and rural areas OP 2014-2020 priority Brandenburg (DE)
- National Settlement Policy (HU)
- New regional planning legislation (IT)
- Spatial Planning Scheme (LU)
- Latgale Development Plan (LV)
- New Spatial Planning Framework and Agenda Stad (NL)
- National Spatial Development Policy Programme (PT)
- The National Strategy of Regional Development (PL)
- Urban Agenda (RO and ES)
- National spatial planning strategy and Integrated SUMP (SI)

Cross-border services

- Walloon Spatial Policy Plan (BE)
- Common Spatial Development Strategy of the V4+2 Countries (CZ)
- Contrats de Plan Interregionaux Etat-Régions (FR)
- Contrats de Plan Etat-Régions (FR)
- Contrats de Massifs (FR)
- Regional Schemes on spatial planning, sustainable development and territorial equality (FR)
- ETC programmes (all ESPON member states)
- Cross-border spatial planning scheme (LU)
- Interreg learning (NO)
- Territorial development strategy 2035 (RO)
- Cross border agglomeration development (CH)

Regional governance (soft governance)

- Common Spatial Development Strategy of the V4+2 Countries / V4+2 Presidencies (V4+2)
- National Concept of Cohesion Policy Implementation in the Czech Republic after 2020, Principles of Regional Development (CZ)
- Distributing state back offices to regional centres (EE)
- Half-way monitoring of government policies, Regional governance in Finland (FI)

Number	Name and Description
2.7.a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Services Centres of Local Municipalities and Regional Policy Guidelines (LV) • Law on Municipal Infrastructure Development (LT) • The National Strategy of Regional Development, Efficient State Strategy 2020 (PL) • Territorial administrative Reforms (SE) <p>Climate and energy (low-carbon economy, natural assets, green infrastructure, circular economy)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flemish Spatial Policy Plan (BE) • Croatia Climate Adapt Strategy (HR) • Cyprus Ministerial Direction on Soil Sealing (CY) • Climate Change Policy of the Czech Republic (CZ) • National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy - PNACC currently being drafted (FR) • Iceland Nature Resource policies (IS) • National Values of the Nature (LV) • Implementing the Rifkin Report: 3rd Industrial Revolution Strategy Study (LU) • The integrated Environmental and Planning Act (NL) • The National Strategy of Regional Development, Long-term vision document - the concept of country development 2050, Strategy for Energy Security, Strategy for the Environment (PL) • National Spatial Development Policy Programme (PT) • Framework programme for the transition to the green economy (SI) • Adapting the Waste Strategy, Bio Economy Consultation (UK) <p>Employment and business development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SME and family enterprises strategy of Upper Austria 2030 (AT) • Sustainable growth and jobs policies (FI) • Long-term vision concept 2050, Strategy of Innovativeness and Efficiency of Economy "Dynamic Poland 2020" • National Development Strategy (SI) • Plan of Economic Development (ES) • Export strategy (SE) • Development of cost benefit analysis models, development of investment scheme for AHA, finance models report, Evaluation of Investment Programmes (UK) <p>Refugees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refugee integration schemes (LU, SE) • Migration management (MT) • Migration Partnership Strategy for the Western Balkans 2016-2019 • National Action Plan for Integration Austrian Spatial Development Concept ÖREK 2011 & Implementation • The Strategy for Responsible Development (PL) • Migration management (IT) <p>Cultural heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural heritage policies (NO) • The Strategy for Responsible Development and the National Strategy of Regional Development (PL) • Sustainable Cities 2020 Strategy, National Policy for Architecture and Landscape (PT) • Culture Plan 2020 (ES) <p>Transport / accessibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall transport plan (Gesamtverkehrsplan) and regional transport strategies (AT) • Flemish Spatial Policy Plan, Brussels Mobility Plan IRIS 2 (BE) • Transport Policy of the Czech Republic after 2020 (CZ) • Action Plan for Rural Development (IE) • Public Transport National: Infrastructures and networks 2020 (IT) • Transport Development Strategy 2020 with a view to 2030 (PL) • National Spatial Development Policy Programme (PT) • Programme for Integrated Infrastructure, priority "Safe and environmentally friendly transport in the regions" under integrated regional operational programme (SK) • Aviation regulation, Transport infrastructure policies (SE) • Combined traffic planning (CH) <p>Digital healthcare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health System Restructuration (SI) • Latvia Health Care policies (LV) • Strategic knowledge and Innovation Agenda (NL) • The National Strategy of Regional Development (PL) • National Health Service (PT) • National Strategy to promote active ageing and protection of the elderly for the period 2015-2020 (RO) • National Development Strategy (SI). <p>The identified priorities and policy processes will be directly served by means of European and transnational outreach events. The concepts of the European outreach events are outlined below.</p> <p>ESPON workshop in Brussels on indicators for integrated territorial development (January 2018)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective: to contribute to the development of the draft ESPON policy brief on "Indicators for integrated territorial and urban development" through gathering inputs and feed-back on synthesized analytical findings about: the main factors which influence urban and territorial development; existing indicators which are used for measuring the outcomes and results of the policies for urban and territorial development; new indicators to evaluate the synergistic effects/results as well as the integrated measures for territorial and urban development in an objective and appropriate manner; examples from Member States, European Commission, academia and other stakeholders for appropriate integrated territorial indicators and tools for correct and objective measurement and evaluation of integrated territorial and urban development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target groups: the workshop will aim at DG Regio, Committee of the Regions, regional development agencies, regional repre

Number	Name and Description
	<p>ntation offices in Brussels, Managing Authorities of mainstream and ETC Operational Programmes, umbrella organisations of cities and regions, JRC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach methodology: the workshop could capitalise on the JRC metaphor of preparing a good ramen to describe the process of developing composite indicators. Participants will be invited to present their available "ingredients, i.e. available sectoral data that could be amalgamated into a composite indicator to measure integrated urban and territorial development. Each participant shall "bring" the available "ingredients" to the workshop in anticipation of a "good ramen". The available "ingredients" are data samples from evaluation processes of current or past territorial development investments (mainstream or ETC). The EGTC could join forces with the European Commission's Competence Centre on composite indicators and scoreboards and provide practical insights as to how the available territorial data could be amalgamated into meaningful composite indices for integrated urban and territorial development. Good practices from other sectors could be presented by the JRC and/or OECD. The practical advice would capitalise on the JRC/OECD "Handbook on Constructing Composite Indicators: Methodology and User Guide". The best "ramen" results would be presented in the ESPON policy brief (see above). To reach out to the relevant stakeholders, the EGTC will use the evaluation on competence networks of ETC (Interact) and the mainstream programmes. <p>ESPON seminar in Bulgaria (28.05.2018.-01.06.2018)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives: capitalising on ESPON research in the thematic priority areas presented above and reflecting on the priorities under the Bulgarian Presidency (in particular, governance and planning tools in support of polycentric development and indicators for integrated territorial and urban development). • Target groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DG Regio, Committee of the Regions; the intergovernmental network on territorial cohesion and urban matters; national, regional and local policy makers who are engaged in the design, monitoring and evaluation of regional policies, integrated development strategies and implementation programmes (e.g. ITIs, CLLDs). - Stakeholders involved in the development and discussion on the EU Territorial Reference Framework and Territorial Agenda post 2020 - intergovernmental network on territorial cohesion and urban matters, European Commission Directorates-General; EEA; EUROFOUND; EIB; JRC; Eurostat; European Parliament; CoR; URBACT; INTERACT; EUKN; CEMR; CPMR; Urban Agenda Partnerships; ETC and ESIF Programme Authorities; National, Regional and Local Governments in Member and ESPON Partner States involved in both territorial and sectoral policies; supranational research organisations (e.g. RSA, ERSA, AESOP, ECTP); NGOs; business organisations and research facilities; International Intergovernmental Organisations (e.g. OECD, UN Habitat, WEF etc). • Outreach methodology: the seminar will be structured around the key priorities of the Bulgarian Presidency and the strategic outreach priorities of the Single Operation for 2018 defined in the current work plan. The exact content and outreach methodology will be discussed and agreed with the Bulgarian Presidency. <p>(continued in the following text box)</p>

14,248 / 15,000 characters

Number	Name and Description
2.7.b	<p style="text-align: center;">European Outreach Events</p> <p>ESPON peer-learning workshops: stimulating ripple effects of ESPON evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives: to promote a wider practical use of ESPON research outputs and knowledge transfer towards ESPON stakeholders through a direct peer-to-peer communication and exchange among the relevant groups of national, regional and local stakeholders ; to promote learning from ESPON research results by national, regional and local stakeholders beyond the ones directly involved in the design and implementation of ESPON research activities; and to increase the impact and added value of ESPON research results. • Outreach methodology: In the context of the efforts to enhance participation of stakeholders in the dissemination activities and with the aim of contributing to a culture of evidence-based policy making, the ESPON EGTC will launch a pilot activity under SO4, involving the current stakeholders of ESPON Targeted Analyses to act as ambassadors in a peer-to-peer learning exercise, and will roll out a series of peer learning workshops (6 throughout the year) around Europe. During the peer learning workshops, stakeholders involved in targeted analyses activities, together with selected external experts (if needed) will provide a critical review and advice on ongoing policy developments to their counterparts in national governments, cities or regions on the basis of the results of ESPON targeted analyses and the experience of involved stakeholders in their application. • Target groups: Target groups include authorities and officials involved in regional and urban planning; territorial cooperation programme authorities, Ministries, regional administrations, integration offices and MAs of public funded programmes dealing with migration; government officials dealing with administrative reforms; local and regional authorities that seek to establish communities of intent; local, regional and national authorities and agencies responsible for protected areas and natural heritage. <p>Scientific conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives: The ESPON EGTC will organise a conference in cooperation with European professional and academic organisations (RSA, EUGEO, etc.) aimed at facilitating a scientific dialogue and co-operation in Europe and promoting the use of methodologies and concepts developed to support a territorial dimension in policy development. The event will be primarily aimed at discussing new methodologies that are a) able to capture territorial interrelations, functional areas and territorial development beyond static administrative units; b) able to monitor and measure integrated territorial development and c) using new data sources and tools for territorial analysis. • Target groups: the conference seeks to involve researchers developing and/or applying new methodologies relevant for ESPON research activities. <p>Outreach methodology: The EGTC is contemplating the launch of a two-stage call for papers for relevant fields, in an effort to enlarge the ESPON scientific community. The first stage will call for abstracts. Following a review by the ESPON EGTC, a second stage will call for full papers and invite the researchers to present. The competitive nature of the event is a tactic to stimulate engagement of the scientific community. The goal of the call for papers is to identify research that is complementary to ESPON. ESPON, in turn, would primarily benefit from its exposure to the research community, gaining access to a pool of scientific talent and raising awareness about the ESPON service contracts. In addition to the presentation of research addressed through the call for papers, the conference can include other outreach modules such as ESPON master classes and an impact factor award, the latter acknowledging the highest impact factor of ESPON research published in scientific journals.</p> <p>ESPON seminar in Austria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives: capitalising on ESPON research in the thematic priority areas presented above and reflecting on the priorities under the Austrian Presidency (in particular on effective territorial and urban governance) • Target groups: Stakeholders involved in the development and discussion on the EU Territorial Reference Framework and Territorial Agenda post 2020 - intergovernmental network on territorial cohesion and urban matters, European Commission Directorates-General; the intergovernmental network on territorial cohesion and urban matters; EEA; EUROFOUND; EIB; JRC; Eurostat; European Parliament; CoR; URBACT; INTERACT; EUKN; CEMR; CPMR; Urban Agenda Partnerships; ETC and ESIF Programme Authorities; National, Regional and Local Governments in Member and ESPON Partner States involved in both territorial and sectoral policies; supranational research organisations (e.g. RSA, ERSAs, AESOP, ECTP); NGOs; business organisations and research facilities ; International Intergovernmental Organisations (e.g. OECD, UN Habitat, WEF etc). Outreach methodology: the seminar will be structured around the key priorities of the Austrian Presidency and the strategic outreach priorities of the Single Operation for 2018 defined in the current work plan. The exact content and outreach methodology will be discussed and agreed with the Austrian Presidency. <p>In addition to the above, the ESPON EGTC will seek to jointly organise activities in cooperation with other institutions and EU funded programmes, such as Urbact, Interact, Interreg Europe, and participate in external events, including debates with policymakers, practitioners and academia. Amongst the target platforms are the European workshops during EWRC in 2018.</p> <p>All outreach activities will be carried out in accordance with the Outreach Strategy and will seek to mobilise the capacities of the ECP network in promoting events. In accordance with the digital focus of the Outreach Strategy, web streaming is proposed for the seminars and the conference.</p> <p>The budget foreseen for 2018 to implement European outreach activities is €139,500.01.</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;">5,955 / 15,000 characters</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Transnational Outreach Project</p> <p>In 2018, the EGTC will continue the implementation of the transnational outreach project with the support of the contracted service provider and in close cooperation with the ECP network. The ECPs will have an opportunity (based on their own expression of interest) to contribute to the implementation of the project by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) advising about ongoing policy processes and relevant stakeholders that have to be targeted by the transnational outreach activities;

Number	Name and Description
	<p>2) commenting on the draft transnational outreach publications (observations and briefs);</p> <p>3) identifying relevant national/regional/local case studies and national experts;</p> <p>4) advising about possible synergies with other events and communication activities and relevant multiplier platforms;</p> <p>5) advising on the practical organisational issues, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the locations that could ensure the adequate exposure of ESPON towards relevant policymakers, - the need to organise translation / interpretation based on the stakeholders' needs. <p>Based on the iterative process of the needs assessment in cooperation with the ECP network undertaken in the second half of 2017, the strategic priorities for outreach presented above, and on the common interests within each of the 4 transnational groupings, the TNO team proposes the following events:</p> <p>Central Europe</p> <p>Seminar "Functional Urban Areas, polycentric territorial structures and cross border collaboration", 16th May 2018, Nova Gorica (Slovenia)</p> <p>Targeted audience: National and regional spatial planning policy makers and practitioners, implementing authorities, regional and local policy makers; Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia (UIRS), Institute for Spatial Policies (Inštitut za politike prostora, IPoP), Prague Institute of Planning and Development (IPR Prague); municipalities and metropolitan networks; CESCO (Central European Service for Cross-Border Initiatives), Council of Danube Cities and Regions, EUSDR</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>A considerable number of cities and regions are working on the spatial development of cross-border areas and FUAs, e.g. the greater Trieste (Italy)-Koper (Slovenian) metropolitan region, the conurbation of Gorizia (Italy) and Nova Gorica (Slovenia) plus the status of European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC), adopted by the three municipalities (Gorizia, Nova-Gorica and Šempeter-Vrtojba), cross-border region between the cities Graz (Austria) and Maribor (Slovenia). By facilitating the exchange between policymakers and ESPON researchers, the objective of the workshop is to contribute to the design, re-design or quality improvement of the relevant policy processes. Furthermore, the goal is to streamline peer learning amongst policymakers who can exchange on evidence-supported good practices in cross-border FUA.</p> <p>Conference "Integrated Territorial Development Strategies", 7 March 2018 Hungary</p> <p>Targeted audience: considering the current Hungarian presidency of the V4 countries, the event aims at national, regional and local policymakers with a special focus on V4+2 as well as stakeholders involved in cross-border and transnational cooperation: CESCO (Central European Service for Cross-Border Initiatives), Council of Danube Cities and Regions, EUSDR, Euroregions (Carpathian Euroregion) and EGTCs</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>Most countries in Transnational Grouping I (Hungary, Slovenia, Austria, Czech Republic, Poland) are working on reviewing and updating their spatial planning and territorial development frameworks and strategies. When reviewing these concepts, the challenge emerges of how to design and successfully implement integrated territorial development strategies (ITDS). The event will cover not only governance matters but also other areas of integrated territorial development, which would encourage the participation of a larger spectrum of experts.</p> <p>Training "ESPON Territorial Impact Assessment tool (TIA)" in conjunction with Regional Studies Association Annual Conference, June 2018, Lugano (Switzerland)</p> <p>Targeted audience: National and regional spatial planning policy makers and practitioners, implementing authorities, regional and local policy makers, academics, researchers and students.</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>The realisation of this training in conjunction with the 2018 RSA Annual Conference is a strategic opportunity to enhance the capabilities and the potential of the ESPON TIA Tool between a large spectrum of participants and capitalising on the involvement of policymakers.</p> <p>The participants of this training will be guided through the different steps of the impact analysis and will receive assistance and guidance for preparing a territorial impact analysis. The ESPON TIA Tool combines the expert knowledge and judgements about the potential impact with a set of statistical data describing the characteristics of regions.</p> <p>Northern Europe</p> <p>Workshop "Ex-ante Territorial Impact Assessment for the future design of the EUSBSR post-2020(work title; will be subject to changes), June 2018, Tallinn (Estonia)</p> <p>Targeted audience: National, regional and local officials from the BSR responsible for regional development policies; stakeholders involved in the HA Spatial Planning of the EUSBSR, in the implementation of Baltic 2030 Action Plan, Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS), Baltic Sea States Sub-regional Cooperation, Union of the Baltic Cities, B7 (Baltic Sea Islands Network). The workshop will also welcome stakeholder from other macro-regional strategies. The seminar is open also open to stakeholders involved in the design of the next generation strategies for the other three macro regions.</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>The 2018 Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (BSR) will focus mainly on EU cohesion policy after 2020 and the future of EU macro-regional strategies. This workshop will be realised in conjunction with EUSBSR Annual Forum 2018. Its aim is to s</p>

Number	Name and Description
2.7.c	<p>upport the discussion on the future of the EUSBSR as well as the sectoral and horizontal policies in the BSR regions and Member States, which are to be prioritised in the new Action Plan. The workshop will offer an ex-ante territorial impact assessment of a selected priority area (tbd with the EUSBSR annual forum organisers as the TNO proposal will be subjected to a formal assessment from the forum organisers, carried out within a formal call for workshops).</p> <p>Seminar "Economic development in rural regions – new thinking and policies in finding and exploiting endogenous capacities", September 2018, Sweden</p> <p>Targeted audience: national, regional and local officials from Northern Europe responsible for entrepreneurial development policies; the Baltic Development Forum; PA Innovation of the EUSBSR; the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference; BSSSC, UBC, B7; Euror egions, LAGs, FLAGs; officials involved in the design and implementation of ESIF programmes incl. ETC.</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>The goal of the workshop will be to contribute to the design, re-design or quality improvement of the relevant policies. The workshop will look into the question of how to boost businesses creation, growth and innovation in these regions. i.e. what national, regional and local strategies are best suited to boost Smart Growth and Innovation in peripheral areas.</p> <p>E-learning "ESPON Territorial Impact Assessment tool (TIA)", October 2018, Online</p> <p>Targeted audience: National and regional spatial planning policy makers and practitioners, implementing authorities, regional and local policy makers, academics, researchers and students.</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>The participants of this e-learning activity will be guided through the different steps of the impact analysis and will receive assistance and guidance for preparing a territorial impact analysis. The ESPON TIA Tool combines the expert knowledge and judgements about the potential impact with a set of statistical data describing the characteristics of regions.</p> <p>Western Europe</p> <p>Seminar "Regional Spatial Planning Strategies" (roadshow with multiple locations), 28th March 2018, Paris (France) Targeted audience: French Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Spatial Planning; Délégation interministérielle à l'aménagement et à la compétitivité des territoires (DIACT) (France), other institutions and practitioners actually involved in the revision and design of the new national/regional spatial planning strategies from France, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Ireland</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>This Seminar will be part of a road-show on 'Regional Spatial Planning Strategies' in France, Belgium and Ireland. It will contribute to the design / revision of regional spatial planning strategies in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Ireland and the Netherlands and provide a platform for peer learning between stakeholders involved in design and implementation of national/regional spatial plans.</p> <p>Seminar "Regional Spatial Planning Strategies" (roadshow with multiple locations), 9th May 2018, Dublin (Ireland)</p> <p>Targeted audience: the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government from Ireland; representatives from the five major Irish cities (Dublin, Cork, Galway, Limerick and Waterford) to organise and operationalise the National Planning Framework (NPF) through the respective regional assemblies; other institutions and practitioners involved in the revision and design of the new national/regional spatial planning strategies from TG III (France, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands)</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>This Seminar will be part of a road show on 'Regional Spatial Planning Strategies' in France, Belgium and Ireland. It will contribute to the design / revision of regional spatial planning strategies in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Ireland and the Netherlands and provide a platform for peer learning between stakeholders involved in design and implementation of national/regional spatial plans.</p> <p>Workshop "Regional Spatial Planning Strategies" (roadshow with multiple locations), September 2018, Luxembourg</p> <p>Targeted audience: National policy makers and practitioners, authorities implementing ESIF programmes, regional and local policymakers, university academics and scientists and other knowledge multipliers from TG III. Particularly: 1) University of Luxembourg – Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning 2) Interreg V-A (Grande Région) 3) European Urban Knowledge Network 4) EIP Smart Cities Action Cluster on Citizen Focus 5) The institutions and practitioners actually involved in the revision and design of the new regional spatial planning strategies from Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Ireland 6) Citizens for Europe</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>The main topic of the workshop will be the citizen participation in the reform of the Master Programme for Spatial Planning in Luxembourg. An extensive process of citizen participation will take place in Luxembourg during the first half of 2018, when citizens will work in working groups on different topics. This workshop will be an opportunity to present and discuss other examples across Europe, particularly regarding its main outputs: How did other processes of citizen participation work? What was their output? How was that output used? To what extent was the output integrated in the final document?</p> <p>Workshop "Regional Spatial Planning Strategies" (roadshow with multiple locations), October 2018, Belgium</p>

Number	Name and Description
	<p>Targeted audience: The Regional Government Authorities from Belgium, as the competent bodies for licensing and supervisory approval of regional and municipal documents: the institutions and practitioners actually involved in the revision and design of the new regional spatial planning strategies from in Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Ireland.</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>This Seminar will be part of a road show on 'Regional Spatial Planning Strategies' in France, Belgium and Ireland. This event in Belgium will focus on the three regional spatial plans currently undergoing (Flanders, Brussels and Wallonia) with the following main topics: 1) Mobility and 2) spatial (resource) efficiency. This Seminar will help the understanding of specific aspects related to spatial planning and contribute to the design / revision of regional spatial planning strategies in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Ireland and the Netherlands and provide a platform for peer learning between stakeholders involved in design and implementation of national/regional spatial plans.</p> <p>Training "ESPON Territorial Impact Assessment tool (TIA)", October 2018, Netherlands</p> <p>Targeted audience: National, regional and local policy makers and practitioners from Netherlands and other countries from TG III.</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>The participants of this training will be guided through the different steps of the impact analysis and will receive assistance and guidance for preparing a territorial impact analysis. The ESPON TIA Tool combines the expert knowledge and judgements about the potential impact with a set of statistical data describing the characteristics of regions.</p> <p>(continued in the following text box)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">13,049 / 15,000 characters</p>
2.7.d	<p style="text-align: center;">Transnational Outreach Project</p> <p>Southern Europe</p> <p>Workshop "Fighting depopulation in rural areas – Identifying development potential in rural regions: Rural-urban integrated development, depopulation and inner peripheries effect", 23rd/24th May 2018 (exact date tbc by ECP), Soria (Spain)</p> <p>Targeted audience: National policy makers and practitioners, authorities implementing ESIF programmes, regional and local policy makers from Spain and other countries from TG III; stakeholders involved in cross-border and transnational cooperation e.g.: EGT Cs (Galicia-Norte Portugal; Duero Douro; Zasnet; León-Bragança; Huesca Pirineos-Haute Pyrénées); ENRD (European Network for Rural Development) and ENRD members from TGIV; RESOE (Macro-region 'Regions of South-West Europe'); Interreg Sudoe.</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>The aim of the workshop will be to support countries in TG IV stakeholders in better understanding the outer and inner-peripherality as well as population/depopulation trends and prospects (Possible European Territorial Futures). TNO team will explore the possibility of combining the workshop with the annual event organised by El Hueco (www.elhueco.org) in Soria. El Hueco works on promoting social entrepreneurship in Soria. From Soria, Castilla y León (Spain), they focused on sparsely-populated areas.</p> <p>Conference "Impact of refugees flows and migration", October 2018, Athens (Greece)</p> <p>Targeted audience: local, regional, national policymakers, the European Migration Network; Mediterranean Migration Observatory; European Network of Migrant Women; the European Migrant Entrepreneurship Network; Members of CoR international cooperation initiatives: ARLEM (Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly) and CORLEAP (Conference of the Regional and Local Authorities for the Eastern Partnership); EUSAIR and EUSDR stakeholders.</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>Since 2015, migration has become a major flashpoint in Europe. Indeed, more than a million migrants and refugees crossed into Europe only in 2015 and ESPON countries are tackling this challenge by using ESPON evidence, this Conference aims to support the national and regional efforts in Southern Europe seeking to assimilate the refugee flows and migration into the national / regional development strategies.</p> <p>Training "ESPON Territorial Impact Assessment tool (TIA)", October 2018, Croatia</p> <p>Targeted audience: National, regional and local policy makers and practitioners, particularly from Croatia and other countries of TG IV.</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>The participants of this training will be guided through the different steps of the impact analysis and will receive assistance and guidance for preparing a territorial impact analysis. The ESPON TIA Tool combines the expert knowledge and judgements about the potential impact with a set of statistical data describing the characteristics of regions.</p> <p>E-learning "ESPON Territorial Impact Assessment tool (TIA)", March 2018, Online</p> <p>Targeted audience: National, regional and local policy makers and practitioners from all MS, particularly from the ones from TG IV.</p> <p>Outreach aims</p> <p>The participants of this e-learning activity will be guided through the different steps of the impact analysis and will receive assistance and guidance for preparing a territorial impact analysis. The ESPON TIA Tool combines the expert knowledge and judgements about the potential impact with a set of statistical data describing the characteristics of regions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3,413 / 15,000 characters</p>

2.8

Publications

Activities

Number	Name and Description
2.8.a	<p style="text-align: center;">Publication Printing, Layout and Digital Publishing</p> <p>Publications and other communication materials will continue to be tailored and focused on the impact of ESPON's work on the following topics (for more detail on the foreseen content and policy-relevance please see section "Thematic Papers (Policy Briefs and Working Papers)":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicators for integrated territorial and urban development • Governance and planning tools in support of polycentric development • Inner peripheries • Migration and refugees • Cross-border public services • Territorial potential for green infrastructure and its role in urban and rural areas <p>The EGTC will continue improving the editorial quality, accessibility and impact of its outreach publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - through continuous dialogue with stakeholders on the key policy messages to be promoted, - by using the support of senior scientists, - by supporting written publications by short videos and visual material to offer diverse opportunities for learning from ESPON evidence. <p>The accessibility to the evidence and tools will also increase by the continued improvement of the brand-new website and digital publishing.</p> <p>In addition to the transnational outreach events outlined above, the TNO project will deliver 3 transnational observations and 4 transnational briefs containing the synthesis of key evidence and policy recommendations on the subjects addressed by the transnational outreach events (for further details please see section on transnational outreach project of the current AWP and the draft annual work plan 2018 of the TNO project). Moreover, 16 posters (1-2 per event) will provide ESPON visual aid to the transnational events.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1,630 / 15,000 characters</p>
2.8.b	<p style="text-align: center;">Digital Tools</p> <p>In the area of communication, the ESPON EGTC will embark on the development and use of state-of-the-art web technologies and methodologies, including social media and online collaboration tools.</p> <p>The ESPON EGTC will keep publishing and sharing content of European and Transnational activities via the new website, social media, media activities, direct mailing etc.</p> <p>The EGTC will build on the progress with the new website and the arrival of new staff to fully engage with a more digital oriented approach as indicated in the outreach strategy and increasingly address the target groups via digital channels and communication in interactive tools like infographics, videos, social media (Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn, and more depending on the use that ESPON audience makes of other social tools such as blogs, Instagram, etc.), press relations (press releases, media opportunities, etc.) to make ESPON's work more accessible and comprehensible to different audiences.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">964 / 15,000 characters</p>

3. Foreseen outputs achievement (completed activities)

Output Indicator	Quantification
OI01 Absorption of Priority Axis 1 Programme Budget (Unit: Euro)	16,191,937
OI01 Number of applied research outputs (Unit: Number)	7
OI02 Number of targeted analysis (Unit: Number)	8
OI03 Number of thematic focus papers (Unit: Number)	26
OI04 Number of ESPON tools maintained and created (Unit: Number)	2
OI05 Number of ESPON outreach events (Unit: Number)	31
OI06 Number of ESPON outreach publications (Unit: Number)	38

Output Indicator	Quantification
OI07 Number of Territorial Observations/Reports (Unit: Number)	1

4. Management and Implementation

Management and implementation

The EGTC has managed to achieve the following progress in the implementation of activities approved in the Annual work plan 2017 (AWP 2017). The public procurement procedures for 7 new applied research activities were concluded. 6 applied research activities have been kicked off and the inception reports have been received for 4 of them. One applied research activity, on migration, will be kicked off in January 2018. Six new targeted analyses were commenced in 2017. Two are at interim report stage, one at inception report stage and three have held kick-off meetings. The public procurement procedure for the targeted evidence support has concluded and the activity will be kicked-off in early 2018. Four thematic focus papers have been produced on specific types of territories, the circular economy, shrinking rural regions and the digital transition of public services. A tender combining the macro-regional monitoring tool and the update to the ETMS was launched and a service provider selected. The terms of reference for the functional urban areas tool have been drafted and have undergone consultations and the tender will be launched in early 2018. The call for the tool on big data and housing was launched at the end of 2017. The tools were promoted at the ESPON seminars and a dedicated workshop in Poland. The ESPON toolbox has been integrated through a more user-friendly access point on the new ESPON website. Four European outreach events were held in 2017 including ESPON seminars in Malta and Estonia, a high-level conference on the EU territorial review and a workshop in Brussels.

As foreseen in the AWP 2017, the ESPON EGTC has completed the staffing to its full complement. Sustaining full staffing of the EGTC is crucial to ensure efficient implementation of the Single Operation considering that in 2018 the EGTC will reach the peak of implementation of the Single Operation in terms of the number of activities being simultaneously under implementation.

The EGTC staff members are assigned with the tasks for implementing the activities foreseen in the Single Operation and the Annual workplan based on the assessment of their current work-load, as well as their fields of expertise and competences. The key tasks are related to preparation and implementation of the public procurement procedures, contract management, organising European outreach events and preparing publications. Most of the tasks related to the approved activities will be implemented in-house. Only in cases of insufficient or missing ESPON evidence on specific subjects requested by ESPON stakeholders in combination with time constraints and lacking internal competence the management can decide to engage additional external support.

The EGTC management will use a planning tool (deployed since the beginning of 2017) that provides an overview of all stages and milestones of implementation of all activities and maps the allocation of staff members to different activities. The use of the tool allows to plan the engagement of staff resources in different activities, the sequencing and prioritization of tasks and the identification of potential bottlenecks in the implementation when a staff member has to complete several tasks in the same timeframe. A chart with the milestones of the activities is included as an annex to the AWP 2018. Planning for the outreach activities will ensure that events and communications are aligned with different policy agendas and can be clustered thematically to increase impact (e.g. holding events at a relevant time to input into a specific process, publishing messages on social media related to a particular topic at a time when this topic is also on the policy agenda).

The outreach activities will be actively managed by a dedicated team within the Unit on Evidence and Outreach. Project experts focused on communication and capitalization activities will work in close cooperation with the project experts following the different activities under SO1, SO2 and SO3 to develop content for outreach and design outreach activities. Responding to stakeholders' needs, the outreach team will be clustering thematically linked evidence, contextualising it and composing targeted conclusions, in particular in the context of TNO events, peer learning and synergies with external thematic events. Thematic landing pages on the ESPON website will be created to more effectively draw the attention of web users to matters most relevant to them. These pages will include information about all thematically relevant ESPON projects and tools. An editorial plan for the outreach team will be seeking to optimise supply and demand matches in terms of timing and contextual relevance of published articles that report on ESPON evidence. These articles will extract the key findings from final reports, translating the complex research into comprehensible messages. Where applicable, the articles will build on more than one thematically relevant ESPON project or tool. These measures will be accompanied by social media activities, capitalising on popular relevant hashtags and multiplying networks. The editorial plan will capture key occurrences and policy processes identified through the needs assessment, MC meetings, TNO events and other ESPON interactions with stakeholders.

In order to maximise the positive contribution of the available staff resources to the efficient and impactful implementation of the Single Operation in 2018 the EGTC will support further development of the staff competences and skills. Considering that outreach of ESPON evidence is defined as one of the key priorities for the next year and taking into account that a large part of outreach activities will have to be implemented using in-house capacities, priority will be given to developing the digital and presentations skills of the staff, as well as the drafting skills for translating territorial evidence (research outputs) into policy advice. In order to further strengthen sound financial management of the Single Operation, the EGTC staff will have an opportunity to develop their competences and skills in the field of finance and public procurement.

The senior scientific quality management support that was contracted in 2017 will be actively engaged in the process of developing the content of the Single Operation activities to be launched in 2018 and contributing to the quality of deliveries to ensure their scientific excellence and useful contribution to relevant policy processes. Furthermore, the EGTC will introduce additional elements of communication between the researchers and policy-makers (PST and MC members in particular) in the process of developing the content of the research reports to ensure that they meet the expectations of the target audience and are applicable in policy-making processes.

A continuous assessment of the efficiency of internal management procedures, their revision in case of need, and daily support to staff members to ensure correct application of all procedures will contribute to a smooth implementation of the Single Operation in 2018.

Considering that in 2018 the EGTC will reach the peak of implementation, additional measures will have to be introduced to stabilise the liquidity of the EGTC. Therefore, starting from 2018 the EGTC will increase the frequency of reporting on the progress of activities to ensure the availability of sufficient financial means for implementing all foreseen activities.

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5. Evaluation

Evaluation

In the framework of the AWP 2017 and with the support of an external service the ESPON EGTC has established a monitoring and evaluation methodology to monitor the usefulness and satisfaction with the key ESPON results amongst target groups in accordance with the Evaluation Plan produced by the ESPON MA.

During the AWP 2018 it is proposed to roll-out the methodology. The primary means by which to gather feedback from target groups shall be the ESPON annual survey. This survey shall be launched in September/October (each year) and remain open until December. The ESPON EGTC will simultaneously

usly utilise multiple outreach channels in order to seek to maximise the response rate amongst targeted stakeholders. The process will also be integrated into outreach activities, including events. The data gathered during the annual survey will be analysed during January/February and a report included in the annual Activity Report. This information can be subsequently used by the ESPON MA for the Annual Implementation Report at programme level and by the EGTC in the process of developing and discussing the next annual work plans.

The annual survey will comprise an online form (Survey Monkey) which will be distributed to stakeholders in order to record their feedback. The use of an online survey method permits the ESPON EGTC to efficiently collect, process and display the feedback received. A pilot version of the online form was tested during April/May 2017 and the selected respondents indicated their overall satisfaction with this method of data collection.

The surveys are aimed at Targeted Analyses stakeholders and their wider networks as well as at end-users of other ESPON outputs, notably applied research, policy briefs, working papers and tools. The latter target group will be reached through the distribution platforms for ESPON outputs, including the European and transnational outreach activities and the online outreach tools.

The surveys for Targeted Analyses stakeholders shall assess:

- a. the usefulness of ESPON findings for the initially targeted policy processes;
- b. the potential for wider exploitability, i.e. collecting insights about wider stakeholder circles, which can be served by the Targeted Analyses;
- c. the potential for ripple effects, i.e. collecting findings about the cooperation and exchange with stakeholder peers.

The surveys designed to assess the usability of applied research, policy briefs, working papers and tools will be amalgamated with outreach events revolving around the respective ESPON outputs (i.e. seminars, trainings, webinars, transnational outreach events). In addition, online and social media statistics and user behaviour will be continuously examined in order to look for usage patterns, which in turn can provide valuable insights for an efficient online and social media (sample) surveying.

Based on these insights, the ESPON EGTC will organize annual focus group meetings that will seek in-depth verifiable exploitation in policy processes and ripple effects. The results will provide qualitative data that complements the results indicators with in-depth insights.

The foreseen output achievement indicators reported in section 3 reflect the total number of activities to be completed from the start of the implementation of the Single Operation until the end of 2018. The following activities are expected to be completed:

- OI01: The first batch of 7 applied research activities: (1) The geography of new employment dynamics, (2) The world in Europe, (3) SMEs in European regions and cities, (4) Linking protected areas to territorial development - networks of high-biodiversity, (5) Territorial and urban potentials connected to migration and refugee flows, (6) Alps2050 – Common spatial perspectives for the Alpine Space, (7) Future Digital Health in EU, and (8) Cross-border Public Services (CPS).
- OI02: 8 targeted analyses activities are expected to be completed, from the first (3 TAs), second (2 TAs) and third (3 TAs) calls for proposals. They include: (1) Regional strategies for sustainable and inclusive territorial development, (2) Territorial cooperation action areas, (3) Metropolitan areas - dynamics and strategies, (4) Linking protected areas to territorial development - networks of high-biodiversity, (5) Territorial and urban potentials connected to migration and refugee flows, (6) Alps2050 – Common spatial perspectives for the Alpine Space, (7) Future Digital Health in EU, and (8) Cross-border Public Services (CPS).
- OI03: 6 additional thematic focus papers will be produced in 2018 bringing the total to 16: (1) Territorial Scenarios for Europe 2050, (2) Territorial and urban aspects of migration and refugee inflow, (3) Territorial Implication of Better Regulation for Europe towards 2050, (4) Urban Partnership Themes in a Wider Territorial Context, (5) Second Tier Cities Matter, (6) Polycentric Territorial Structures and Territorial Cooperation, (7) Shaping new policies in specific types of territories in Europe, (8) Pathways to a circular economy in cities and regions, (9) Shrinking rural regions in Europe, (10) Territorial and urban dimensions of the digital transition of public services, (11) indicators for integrated territorial and urban development, (12) governance and planning tools in support of polycentric development, (13) inner peripheries, (14) migration and refugees, (15) cross-border public services, (16) green infrastructure. For the transnational outreach, 1 transnational observation was produced in 2017. In 2018, an additional 9 shorter documents including 4 transnational observations and 5 transnational briefs will be produced. This will bring the output of thematic focus papers to 26.
- OI04: The TIA tool update will be completed in 2018. Together with the maintenance to the MapFinder tool through the ESPON Data and Map Update in 2017 this will bring the total number of tools maintained and created to 2.
- OI05: The number of outreach events held until the end of 2017 is 12: (1) Seminar in Luxembourg in December 2015, (2) ESPON Workshop in Berlin in June 2016, (3) ESPON Seminar in Amsterdam, (4) ESPON Workshop in Brussels in September 2016, (5) ESPON Seminar in Bratislava, (6) ESPON Seminar in Malta, (9) Transnational Conference in Rome in October 2017, (8) High-level conference on the European Territorial Review in October 2017, (9) Workshop in Brussels in November 2017 (Joint event with MA), (10) Transnational Seminar in Vilnius, (11) Transnational Workshop in Oslo, and an (12) ESPON Seminar in Tallinn. In 2018, 25 additional outreach events are planned, including 10 European outreach events (2 ESPON seminars in Bulgaria and Austria, 1 workshop on indicators for integrated territorial development, 6 peer-learning workshops, 1 scientific conference) and 15 transnational outreach events (2 conferences, 4 seminars, 4 workshops, 3 trainings and 2 e-Learnings). The total number of outreach events completed by the end of 2018 is thus expected to be 37.
- OI06: Until the end of 2017, 23 outreach publications have been produced. They include the first 10 thematic focus papers listed under OI06, 1 transnational observation, 11 guidance sheets on tools, and the European Territorial Review. By the end of 2018 15 additional outreach publications will have been produced including 6 new thematic focus papers and 9 shorter documents for transnational outreach. This will bring the total number of outreach publications to 38.
- OI07: One Territorial Observation/Report has been produced, namely the European Territorial Review (published in 2017).

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6.1 Budget for the Annual Work Plan

Budget line	Total (EUR)
Staff	1,900,000.00
Administration	242,112.00
Travel	90,000.00
External expertise	8,196,250.01

Budget line	Total (EUR)
Equipment	4,110.00
Total	10,432,472.01

6.2 Detailed budget for External Expertise for the Annual Work Plan

Specific Objective	Total (EUR)	TOT in % of total budget
SO1: Enhanced production of territorial evidence through applied research and analyses	5,427,450.00	66.22 %
SO2: Upgraded knowledge transfer and use of analytical user support	1,500,000.00	18.30 %
SO3: Improved territorial observation and tools for territorial analyses	380,000.00	4.64 %
SO4: Wider outreach and uptake of territorial evidence	139,500.01	1.70 %
SO5: Other external expertise	749,300.00	9.14 %
Total	8,196,250.01	

In the area of communication, the ESPON EGTC will embark on the development and use of state-of-the-art web technologies and methodologies, including social media and online collaboration tools.