Capitalisation and Dissemination of ESPON Concepts

Frédéric Santamaria, Eleonora Zuolo, Valérie Biot, Maria Prezioso, Liga Baltina, David Evers, George Turcanasu, Juraj Berdis, Isidro Lopez, Marius Mladenov

ESPON – CaDEC
CAPITALISATION AND DISSEMINATION OF ESPON CONCEPTS

Priority 4 - Transnational Networking Activities

Final Report | 10 March 2014

EUROPEAN UNION
Part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
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Transnational Networking Activities conducted within the framework of the ESPON 2013 Programme, partly financed by the European Regional Development Fund.

The partnership behind the ESPON Programme consists of the EU Commission and the Member States of the EU27, plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. Each partner is represented in the ESPON Monitoring Committee.

This report does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the members of the Monitoring Committee.

Information on the ESPON Programme and projects can be found on www.espon.eu

The web site provides the possibility to download and examine the most recent documents produced by finalised and ongoing ESPON projects.

This basic report exists only in an electronic version.

Transnational Project Group

France	Unité mixte de services - Réseau interdisciplinaire pour l'aménagement du territoire européens (UMS-RIATE)
Belgium	Université Libre de Bruxelles / IGEAT & Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
Italy	Università « Tor Vegata »
Latvia	State Regional Development Agency (VRAA)
The Netherlands	Planbureau voor de Leefomgeving
Romania	Universitatea « Alexandru Ioan Cuza »
Slovakia	Institute URBION
Spain	General Foundation of the University of Alcalá

List of Authors

UMS RIATE, Université Paris Diderot (FR, Lead Partner)

Frédéric Santamaria

Eleonora Zuolo

IGEAT – Université Libre de Bruxelles (BE)

Valérie Biot

Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata (IT)

Maria Prezioso

State Regional Development Agency (LV)

Liga Baltina

PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (NL)

David Evers

TIGRIS, Universitatea Alexandru Ioan Cuza (RO)

George Turcanasu

Institute for Urban Design and Spatial Planning (SK)

Juraj Berdis

Spanish Observatory for Sustainability (ES)

Isidro Lopez Hernandez

Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (BG)

Marius Mladenov

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A. Executive summary

1. Overall strategy

The CaDEC strategy has been to use territorial development concepts implemented in ESPON reports as a vehicle to capitalize and disseminate ESPON results to stakeholders across various member states.

To attract stakeholders interest on ESPON reports, a limited number of people called ‘target group members’ were selected in each participating country that occupy strategic positions in their professional environment. These people would serve as springboards for further dissemination and capitalization.

The target group members subsequently filled in a questionnaire in order to identify the general level of knowledge and use of ESPON in the country and to estimate the needs of stakeholders as regards knowledge on ESPON concepts. Starting from an analysis of the answers to the questionnaire, project partners were able to attune their dissemination strategy to the needs of stakeholders. This step was important to identify and select a list of concepts and the ESPON reports dealing with the very same concepts. Brief and operational concept notes were then drafted in national languages.

The delivery of these briefs on concepts became a cornerstone to the dissemination process of CaDEC. It directly supported the different members of the target groups by providing them with a tangible and accessible means by which to further disseminate ESPON results.

With concept notes as a basis for the discussions, stakeholders were asked to react on both on the concepts and on ESPON reports during national workshops. This feedback has allowed to assess, both for concepts and for the ESPON reports, their understanding, their actual and potential uses, their needs and the level of dissemination.

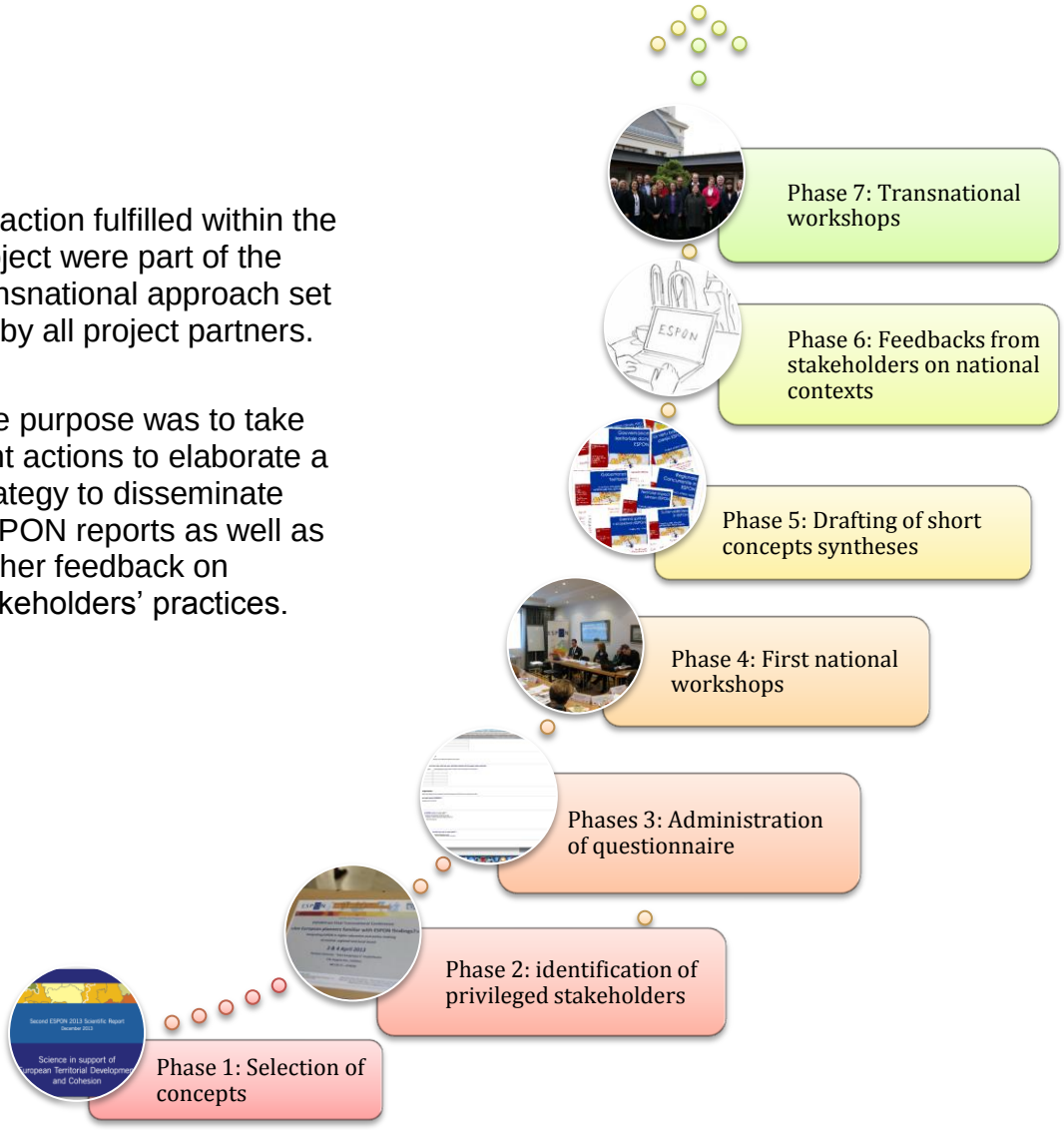
Although the activities took place at the national and sub-national level, the approach taken in the CaDEC project has been fundamentally transnational. This was achieved by a synthesis of the analysis of the questionnaire and by means of transnational workshops, which aimed to identify common features in terms of dissemination, uses and needs.

2. Main actions fulfilled

CaDEC transnational methodology

All action fulfilled within the project were part of the transnational approach set up by all project partners.

The purpose was to take joint actions to elaborate a strategy to disseminate ESPON reports as well as gather feedback on stakeholders' practices.



a) Phase 1: Selection of concepts

Two kinds of concepts from the field of territorial development were used during the CaDEC project:

- **Concepts that were congruent with European objectives in terms of territorial development**
- **Concepts that come from scientific literature (i.e. regional competitiveness)**

Other crucial points in the selection of the concepts were:

- **Concepts should be used and implemented in several priority 1 and 2 ESPON 2013 projects**
- **A consensus among project partners on the relevance for their national contexts**

The selected concepts are the following:

- **Territorial cohesion**
- **Territorial impact**
- **Regional competitiveness**
- **Polycentrism**
- **Sustainability**

b) Phase 2: identification of privileged stakeholders

The selection of stakeholders complied with ESPON priority 4 project's requirements: involve policy makers, practitioners and academics.

The CaDEC strategy commended project partners to choose only 10 to 15 individuals and build a strong working relation that could keep stakeholders involved in a 3 years project. Furthermore, it was important to ensure that all level of responsibility and institutions were fairly represented.

c) Phases 3: Administration of questionnaire

A questionnaire prepared by the lead partner was administrated to determine specific needs of stakeholders regarding their use of concepts and use of ESPON in general. So 102 practitioners, policy makers and academic answered the questionnaire in their national languages.

The results of the questionnaire are feeding into a transnational analysis to reveal some transnational features regarding uses of concepts and ESPON.

d) Phase 4: First national workshops

The first national workshops were designed to go deeper in the understanding of the needs of the stakeholders. It gave project partners the opportunity to share some information on concepts, on ESPON and on how the program could help them in their daily activities. It also allowed the CaDEC team to collect some feedback concerning concepts and ESPON from ESPON freshmen stakeholders.

e) Phase 5: Drafting of short concepts syntheses

Each project partners drafted 2 to 6 notes on the selected concepts on the basis of the way they are mobilized and implemented in ESPON reports. The concept notes are designed to be as operational as possible, ready-to-use documents intended to the respective stakeholders in territorial development field.

The CaDEC concepts notes are all designed from the same template and drafted in national languages. All 21 notes are available in 7 languages on the CaDEC extranet.

f) Phase 6: Feedback from stakeholders on national contexts

Phase 6 was designed to collect feedback from stakeholders. No compulsory task was imposed to project partners (according to CaDEC application, part B), who could chose to fulfill the task via email, phone calls or organizing another national workshop.

This step gave the opportunity to enter on a real debate on the content with stakeholders and allow us to have precise comments on the way they use concepts and ESPON in general.

Each project partner explained in a document the situation of the territorial development field in its home country and has reported discussion and feedback from CaDEC activities. All national reports were design the same way:

- **National planning system;**
- **National understanding of the selected concepts;**
- **The way concepts are mobilized in their countries;**
- **Assessment of the interest of stakeholders in ESPON and its results;**
- **Needs and suggestions of stakeholders.**

The aim of the national reports was to present contrasting approaches in very different national contexts, showing examples of success and highlighting problems and difficulties, so other project partners could draw practical lessons from this exchange of experience. All national reports are compiled in one document available on the CaDEC extranet.

g) Phase 7: Transnational workshops

Transnational workshops aimed at sharing results and building the transnational added value of the project. It allows project partners to identify common features within the target group members, as well as gathering information and suggestion on they expect from ESPON.

3. Achievements and outcomes of the project

a) CaDEC achievements:

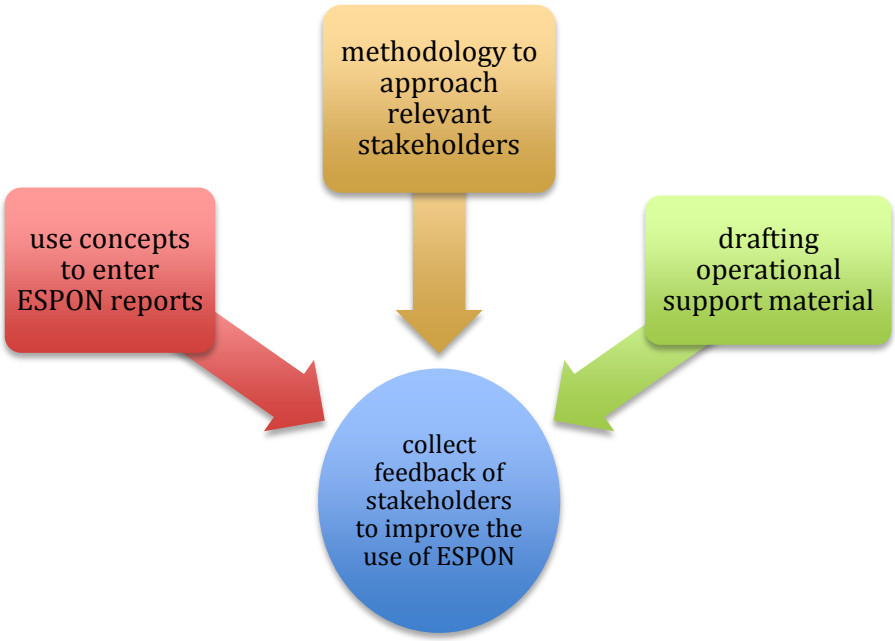
- **First project partners managed to have an interesting and substantial discussion on the selected concepts. Approaching ESPON via concepts allowed project partners to present and enter deeper in ESPON 2013 priority 1 and 2 projects. Through the in-depth debate stakeholders could envision ESPON as a tool to help them in their daily tasks.**

- **Furthermore, CaDEC gave project partners the opportunity to put together and implement a transnational methodology that is relevant in various national contexts. The 7 steps approach provided a safeguard ensuring the fact that the experience can be reproduced in all partner countries and de facto in all member states of the ESPON space.**

- **The CaDEC project has led to the creation of new kind of support material intended for operational use. Concepts syntheses are an efficient tool to disseminating knowledge on a concept and introduce references to related concepts, tools or best practices. Once again the**

CaDEC team designed these syntheses reproducible and adjustable to various national concepts.

Achievements of the CaDEC project



b) Main outcomes

- **Use of ESPON**

The CaDEC project has demonstrated that when ESPON is known it is more commonly used at regional level.

It appears also that ESPON is used as a support to collect general knowledge and information but is rarely used to pursue further study on specific topics.

It also worth noticing that concepts are often used without being linked in any way to the ESPON program.

- **Definition of the concepts**

It can be noticed various understanding of concepts across the transnational target group. This call into question the ability of ESPON to disseminate that can be understood as a common language (or at least presenting the differences in understandings across Europe).

- **Use of concepts**

Concepts are widely and evenly used within the transnational target group (in strategic and operational guidelines, in research and experts activities) These concepts are much more used at subnational level (regional/local) than at national one.

4. Feedback from stakeholders: needs and suggestions

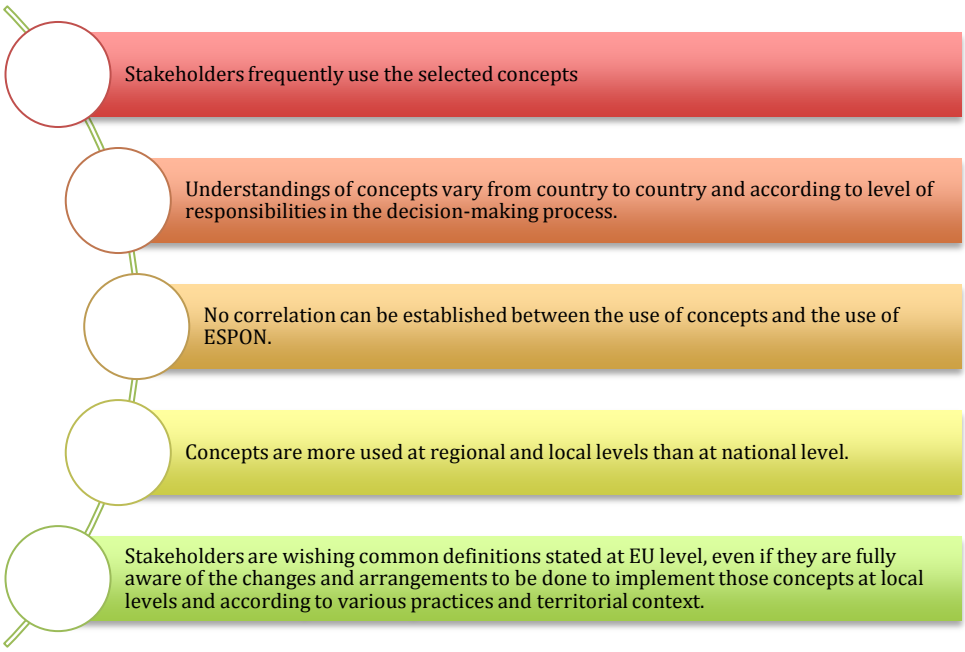
The questionnaire, workshops and bilateral discussions with target group members produced a significant quantity of feedback, experiences, and suggestions to be analyzed by the CaDEC team.

Collecting the feedback on the work done within the project but also on the whole action of ESPON will help to improve and foster the dissemination tasks. Hereunder the main elements discussed within CaDEC:

- **Stakeholders agreed on the need to have a European spatial planning vocabulary defined at EU level. Nevertheless, there are no contradictions for stakeholders between this need and the capability to adapt concepts defined at EU level to their specific situations.**
- **Stakeholders also mentioned the need for ESPON to improve its dissemination methods and rethink its communication strategy. They appreciated the idea of new kind of support material that is easy to use and intended for an operational use as far as they don't have the time to read long and complex scientific reports.**
- **Some stakeholders raised the need to be more involved from the beginning of the program namely the setting out of priorities. Furthermore, it has been pointed out that regional/local stakeholders don't need ESPON because they already have their own information sources. Participants exhorted ESPON to adopt a strategic bottom-up methodology and involved regional/local actors for example in drafting calls for proposals to make sure that local/regional needs and expectations of its stakeholders, or concerting local/regional experts to design new indicators… Furthermore some of the stakeholders deplored the fact they are not involved enough and the lack of bottom-up communication with ESPON. They are encouraging ESPON to use their field competences and skills to refine and illustrate its discourse.**

The full transnational analysis of the feedback gathered among the target group is to be found on line at the CaDEC extranet (see document "need and suggestion CaDEC in the public session).

Key findings of the CaDEC project



B. Report

1. Introduction: objectives and purposes of the CaDEC project

The CaDEC project overall strategy aimed at attracting and raising interest of stakeholders in ESPON by using a selection of most common concepts used in the field of territorial development and which are also implemented in ESPON reports. Basically, the CaDEC project used concepts as an entry point into ESPON projects.

For the sake of efficiency, it has been decided at the beginning that the project will be run among a sample of few individuals from the project partner countries and holding a strategic position within their institutions or companies. In addition to that, in order to maximize the impact of the project, project partners tried to favor target group members who did not know about ESPON before.

After the selection process of all project target group members across all partner countries, the second phase of the project aimed to identify stakeholders' needs of information on concepts. To do so the use of a questionnaire seemed to be the more appropriate. On the basis of these answers, project partners were able to detect clear need and interests from stakeholders sides and build a dissemination strategy, which reflects those needs for the best. Project partners were then able to select which concepts and reports to work on in the third phase of the project.

The drafting of syntheses on concepts was the cornerstone of the CaDEC dissemination strategy. The syntheses on concepts allowed project partners to gain a broad knowledge of several ESPON reports and share the information in an accessible way for stakeholders (synthetic, operational, simple language, national languages). This strategy assisted in mobilizing the target group members to capitalize on ESPON results.

The strategy also contained a clear bottom-up perspective. Once reports were chosen and concept notes were drafted on the basis of the questionnaire, stakeholders were asked to give their feedback on the selected concepts and ESPON reports during workshops. That feedback assessed their understanding of concepts and the related ESPON reports but also the effects of the dissemination process, (their ability to appropriate the information disseminated by project partners), their use and potential use (capitalization and empowerment) and the needs they want to address in the perspective of the ESPON post 2013 program.

Finally, the CaDEC project also contains a transnational approach. Results of the questionnaire were compiled and analyzed at transnational level and transnational workshops in Paris took place to identify common features regarding dissemination strategy, use of ESPON and needs of stakeholders. This was enabled by a transnational analysis of feedback and by exchanges of views between the different members of all national target groups during transnational meetings. From that point

of view, we think that the composition of the project partners team, involving countries that are not from the same sub-regional European space, allowed us to get a diversity of approaches because of the disparity of national contexts. Attuning the strategy according different national contexts within the project added to the robustness of the overall strategy of CaDEC.

To ensure continuity in the work and an effective cooperation of the project partners, an extranet was build to ease workflow and documents sharing. The extranet was also used to share ESPON reports and results with the target group members.

The following documents are accessible to all on the CaDEC extranet: http://cadec.ums-riate.fr (see section open to public)

- Questionnaire analysis ESPON CaDEC 2013. Using the CaDEC transnational approach, this document presents an analysis of the questionnaire administrated to target group members.
- Needs and Suggestions CaDEC. This documents lists and analyses all feedback on the concept syntheses of ESPON reports drafted by project partners.
- Compilation national situations. This documents gathers national reports national planning systems of the various project partners and the situation in the home countries of the 3 experts (United-Kingdom, Sweden, Portugal).

2. Methodology and description of activities: a transnational methodology to capitalize ESPON results and concepts

Project partners used a common methodology based on the Iwillingness to create a harmonized approach by setting examples on how to arise awareness among privileged stakeholders.

There are five phases to the project:

a) Phase 1: Selection of concepts
b) Phase 2: Identification of privileged stakeholders
c) Phase 3: Administration of questionnaire
d) Phase 4: First national workshops
e) Phase 5: Drafting of short concepts syntheses
f) Phase 6: Feedback from stakeholders on national contexts
g) Phase 7: Transnational workshops

a) Phase 1: Selection of concepts

The lead partner proposed that project partners to follow a general method to choose concepts to be used in the CaDEC project. Two kinds of concepts were identified in this regard: (1) those that were congruent with European objectives in terms of territorial development and (2) those that come from scientific literature, i.e. regional competitiveness.

Concepts were considered as 'ESPON concepts' if they are used in specific ESPON 2013 projects to establish analyses, results and recommendations. On this basis, the aim was to choose 5 to 6 concepts that could be of interest to all project partners. Project partners agreed on the possibility to select 1 or 2 additional concepts relevant to specific national contexts. A list of concepts included in ESPON projects at the stage of Interim Report, DFR or FR was then drawn up. Another selection criterion is that one concept would allow the project team to disseminate several ESPON reports.

Table 1: List of concepts selected by project partners[1]

CONCEPTS	VOTE
Territorial cohesion	**8**
Territorial impact	**6**
Regional competitiveness	**6**
Polycentrism	**5**
Sustainability	**4**
Territorial governance	**3**
Territorial development progress - opportunities	3
Territorial capital	2
FUA	2
Peripherality	2
Accessibility	2
Territorial cooperation	2
Secondary growth poles	1
Eurocorridors	1
MEGA	1
Urban/rural development	1
Regional disparities	1
Aging areas	1
Remote regions	1
Convergence	1
Territorial diversity	1
Placed Based approach	1
Macro-regional approach	1

The CU presented the common selected concepts to the MC that had taken note of this choice.

[1] Additional concepts chosen by project partners are: Macro regional approach (Bulgaria and Romania); Territorial cooperation (Belgium, Bulgaria); Regional disparities (Romania); Place based approach (Latvia, Belgium); Territorial diversity (Italy); Convergence and territorial regional opportunities (Italy). Note that these concepts were introduced in the questionnaire but analyzed by the concerned project partners. They are not considered as common CaDEC concepts and have not been taken into account in the transnational analysis

b) Phase 2: identification of privileged stakeholders

The selection of the target group members followed the requirements imposed to all priority 4 projects: involve policy makers, practitioners and academics. From a dissemination viewpoint, it was important to guarantee that people from different level of responsibilities and institutions were represented. 10 to 15 persons were selected in the each country. The limited number of people is a way to deepen the dissemination strategy and create a privileged relationship with target group members that drove them to stay involved for a long period of time. The project is running for 3 years.

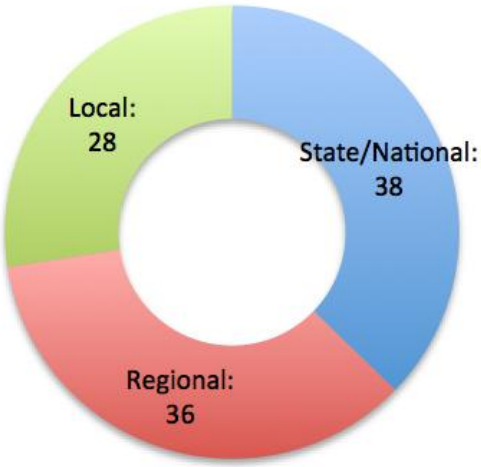
In general, project partners broadly followed these guidelines, even if some adaptation to national contexts was needed, due to differences in territorial organization between the countries (see list of the target group members in annex 5, according to the methodology set above).

The following graphs allow describing the target group at transnational level.

Graph 1: Distribution of participants according to their professional positions

As the figure shows, there was a good balance between the different categories according to the position within the transnational target group, especially if one considers that the members of staff in charge of studies and researchers have similar tasks as regards territorial development issues.

Graph 2: Distribution of participants by level of institution



We can also see that respondents were fairly evenly distributed according to 'institution / level' categories, resulting in an almost equal share between the regional and national levels. Even though the local level is more difficult to reach for a program like ESPON, the share of respondents, although lower than the other levels, still represents more than ¼ of the total.

c) Phases 3: Administration of questionnaire

- Objectives
  - **Identify needs in relation to ESPON**
  - **Identify concepts that seemed the most promising for disseminating information in ESPON reports.**
  - **Allow selecting concepts and ESPON reports to be synthesized.**

Questions were focused on the general knowledge and use of ESPON of the interviewee. It is a good way to understand stakeholders' definition of the chosen concepts, their way to use (or not use) the concepts and their suggestions and needs regarding ESPON. The questionnaire was distributed at the beginning of the CaDEC project and a full part of the involvement strategy: respondents were been interviewed on their willingness to participate to the CaDEC project and agreed to carry on with the next steps of the project (national and transnational workshops). A version of the questionnaire in English is to found in the Annex 3.

The questionnaire was delivered to all members of the national target groups in national languages. In total, 102 persons have answered the questionnaire. The Graph 1 and Graph 2 shows the structure of the sample of respondents according to their position in their institution, their institutional level and the kind of European policy they deal with.

Results of the questionnaire were used as a starting point for discussion during first national workshops. The goal was to obtain feedback from the target group members and to fine-tune and consolidates our results by using a more qualitative approach.

Finally, the questionnaire was analyzed at a transnational level in order to reveal a transnational consistence and character of the results. This transnational analysis was subject of a specific report on the CaDEC extranet.

It has to be underlined that answers given do reflect the composition of the members of the various target groups. The results presented later on should be read with this in mind.

- Methodology

The lead partner distributed a draft proposal for the questionnaire to project partners. This was discussed and revised in order to fit as well as possible the different national contexts. Once this work was done, the questionnaire was finalized by the lead partner in English and has subsequently translated into national languages and put online using the software Lime Wire (see annex 3). The translation of the questionnaire into national languages was essential as it plays a crucial part in the involvement strategy ensuring that stakeholders, right from the beginning, could get into the CaDEC project without language obstacles. Target groups members were invited by the project partners to answer the questionnaire online. Some project partners (Belgium and France) decided to conduct direct interviews with their stakeholders and filled in the questionnaire themselves afterwards.

The survey was administrated from May to July 2011. Consequently, the ESPON reports quoted in this report are only the ones delivered at that time. Results from all questionnaires are taken into account in this report except those for Bulgaria. Due to the disengagement of this partner, the lead partner was not able to check the questionnaire results from the Bulgarian target group and discuss with the Bulgarian partner to improve the accuracy. To guarantee the homogeneity of results some answers to the questionnaire were omitted. When that is the case, it is clearly mentioned within the tables presented in the document named questionnaire analysis ESPON CaDEC (CaDEC extranet). This document provides a transnational overview on the knowledge and use of ESPON, on definitions and on use of concepts among the stakeholders involved in the project. This analysis was presented during the second transnational workshop so that target group members from different countries could think at European level. The results are presented below.

Even though the general guideline was to choose target group members in a way to give a certain level of homogeneity to the transnational target group, this could not solve the question of different national contexts that influenced the national targets groups by the project partners. Consequently, the results presented below should not be considered as a representative image of use of ESPON and on knowledge on concepts, but rather as, and in line with the aims of Priority 4 Transnational networking activities, what stakeholders involved in the CaDEC project have to say about concepts and on ESPON. For this reason, it is not possible to compare answers from one country to another. Moreover, this is not in accordance with the aim of the Priority 4, which is focused on capitalization and not own research. Nevertheless, it is useful to recall that 102 persons answered the questionnaire.

d) Phase 4: First national workshops

First, national workshops were organized according the same protocol in partner countries in the period between November 2011 and February 2012. The idea was to deepen dissemination at national level in national languages, but with a common methodological framework. This provided a transnational value to the national workshops.

To ensure overall consistency between all workshops, a common agenda was set up for the first national workshops: presentation of national results of the questionnaire and discussion of these results by the members of the national target group.

- Objectives:

According to the common agenda, the aim of this event was to go deeper in the understanding of needs of target group members and determine which of the 6 common concepts should be chosen in each country for the syntheses.

The first national workshops were also the opportunity to give information about ESPON in general: what is ESPON? What can you do with ESPON? How ESPON can be useful to your activities?

All the project partners held a first national workshop. The total number of participants in the first national workshop was 71 out of 102 respondents to the questionnaire.

National workshops in Spain, Latvia and France

Table 2: First national workshops: date, place and attendances

Project partner	Date and place	Number of attendants (target groups)
Bulgaria	23rd of March 2012, Sofia	9
France	27th of January 2012, Paris	7
Italy	16th of December 2012, Rome	9
Latvia	9th of December 2011, Riga	10
Netherlands	27th of February 2012, The Hague	12
Romania	3rd of February 2012, Iasi	8
Slovakia	18th of January 2012, Bratislava	7
Spain	18th of November 2011, Alcala de Henares	9
	TOTAL	**71**

Following the first national workshop, project partners were asked to select concepts (out of the 6 common concepts) for the syntheses using the following criteria regarding the chosen concepts:

- Not used or well known in the country;
- Object of contrasting interpretations and of different definitions by the members of the target group;
- Used at a local level by different actors, but their usage is disconnected to the European dimension or the European dimension is very weak in their understanding.

This gave the following results:

Table 3: Selected concepts by project partners[2]

Project partners / Concepts	BE	FR	IT	LV	NL	RO	SK	ES
Territorial cohesion		✓	✓			✓		✓
Regional competitiveness		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Territorial impact	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Polycentrism		✓		✓		✓		✓
Sustainability			✓			✓	✓	
Territorial governance	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓

[2] At that stage, the Bulgarian project partner left the CaDEC project.

e) Phase 5: Drafting of short concepts syntheses

Based on the questionnaire results in each country, and according to general guidelines delivered by the Lead Partner, the project partners chose to use some concepts out of the six chosen for the CaDEC project as a whole (territorial cohesion, regional competitiveness, territorial impact, polycentrism, sustainability, territorial governance) as vehicles to disseminate ESPON reports.

The choice of concepts guided the choice of which ESPON reports should be used for the syntheses. Each project partner subsequently wrote the syntheses in the national languages according to stakeholders needs.

- Objective

The objective of the syntheses on the concepts using ESPON reports was to disseminate information to target group members and gauge their interest both on concepts and on the selected ESPON reports. The syntheses are thus a tool for capitalization that allows each member of the target group to use it in his or her own work and within his or her own institution.

- Method of dissemination and capitalization:
  - Use concepts as gateway to ESPON reports in order to attract stakeholders' interest.
  - The syntheses offered a transversal view on many ESPON reports in a synthetic format.
  - The syntheses were written in the national language in order to eradicate the language barrier.
  - The syntheses are all organized the same way following the following format:
    - Short list of the ESPON projects used in the synthesis
    - Definition of the concepts in the different reports
    - Themes related to the concepts in the different reports
    - The use of the concept in the different reports
    - Case studies taken from the reports
    - Some relevant illustrations taken from the reports

A common layout was elaborated in order to attract attention and ease the reading of the syntheses: all the syntheses can be downloaded from the CaDEC extranet

Front pages of the syntheses on concepts

➢ Results:

Each project partner wrote syntheses on the final selected of concepts of their choice. The authors chose the reports that seemed the most relevant to their national context.

Table 4: Link between concepts and ESPON reports within the syntheses drafted by project partners (only reports available in March 2012 were used)

Concepts chosen	ESPON Reports (P1 et P2)
Netherlands	
Regional competitiveness	ATTREG; FOCI; TIGER
Territorial Impact	ARTS; EATIA; TIPTAP
Romania	
Polycentrism	CAEE; FOCI; METROBORDER; POLYCE
Regional competitiveness	DEMIFER; EDORA; EU-LUPA; RERISK; TIGER
Sustainability	EDORA; ESPON CLIMATE; ESaTDOR; EUROISLANDS
Territorial cohesion	ARTS; EDORA; METROBORDER; TIPTAP
Territorial Impact	ARTS; EATIA; TIPTAP; TPM
Latvia*	
Regional competitiveness	EDORA; RERISK
Territorial Impact	ESPON-CLIMATE; EATIA
Territorial Governance	EDORA; SGPTD
Polycentrism	FOCI; POLYCE
Italy	
Regional competitiveness	RERISK; TIGER
Sustainability	EATIA ESPON-CLIMATE; FOCI; RERISK; TIPTAP
Territorial cohesion	ARTS; DEMIFER; ESPON-CLIMATE; TERCO; TIGER; TIPTAP
Territorial Governance	FOCI; SGPTD; TIGER
Territorial Impact	ARTS; EATIA; TIGER; TIPTAP
Slovakia	
Sustainability	FOCI; TIPTAP
Territorial Governance	FOCI; TIPTAP
Belgium**	
Territorial Governance	BEST Metropolises; CAEE; FOCI; METROBORDER; TANGO; TERCO
Territorial impact	ARTS; EATIA; TIPTAP; TPM
Spain	
Territorial Governance	ARTS; EATIA; EDORA; ESATDOR; METROBORDER; TERCO; TPM
Territorial Impact	ARTS; TIPTAP; EATIA
Territorial Cohesion	ARTS; EU-LUPA; METROBORDER; RISE; SGPTD; TERCO; TRANSMEC
Polycentrism	CAEE; EDORA; FOCI; POLYCE; PURR; SGPTD
France	
Polycentrism	EDORA; FOCI; METROBORDER; RERISK; SS-LR; TRANSMEC; RISE; SGPTD; TIGER
Regional competitiveness	DEMIFER; ReRISK; EU-LUPA; TIGER
Territorial Cohesion	DEMIFER; EDORA; TIGER; TIPTAP
Territorial Impact	ARTS; EATIA; EU-LUPA; SGPTD; SS-LR; TIPTAP

* The project partner for Latvia wrote a synthesis on “place based approach” using the following ESPON reports: ATTREG, SGPTD.

** The project partner for Belgium opted to integrate a place based approach within the presentation of the two concepts chosen.

During the CaDEC project period, 21 ESPON synthesis documents were distributed. Dissemination to the target groups took place via the extranet and by email. Once the dissemination was complete, feedback was obtained via the second national workshops (see **Error! Reference source not found.**) or by emails and phone calls. This work has fed a part of the national reports (see Phase 6) and has allowed the Lead Partner to write a synthesis on needs and suggestions.

f) Phase 6: Feedback from stakeholders on national contexts

Second national workshops were built around a common agenda as well. This included a presentation of the syntheses of concepts using ESPON reports (see above Phase 4) followed by a general discussion with stakeholders.

During the workshops[3], the aim was to spark a discussion with the members of the target groups on the syntheses of concepts delivered by the project partners with some key questions as a starting point:

- **Interest (general / operational) for the chosen concept and interest in ESPON reports that have been used**
- **The contribution of the CaDEC approach on concepts and of the work of ESPON in general (general aspects, operational)**
- **The issues raised by the concepts, reports and the CaDEC approach in general**
- **The suggestions made by the participants on the concepts, the reports and the CaDEC approach in general**
- **The needs expressed by the participants (notably in terms of new ideas for ESPON in P1-3 projects in relation to the concepts).**

The final aim was to report using these guidelines about its national context, and more specifically, to identify needs and suggestions expressed by the stakeholders (cf. the outcomes of the first transnational workshop) both on the concepts issues and also more generally on the ESPON program.

Launching a 2nd national workshop was not a compulsory task and only colleagues from Belgium, France, Italy, Latvia decided to launch one (see table 7 below). Project partners in the Netherlands, Romania, Slovakia and Spain have used phone calls and emails to get feedback from the stakeholders in their countries.

[3] Not all project partners opted to organize a second national workshop. The obligation of the project proposal was to organise 1-2 national workshops during the project period.

Table 5: Second national workshops: date, place and attendances

Project partner	Date and place	Number of attendants (target groups)
Belgium	24th of October 2012, Brussels	5
France	25th of January 2013, Paris	8
Italy	18th of January 2013, Rome	11
Latvia	29th of November 2012, Riga	10
	TOTAL	**34**

Furthermore, in order to report the work done by CaDEC project partners and address the question of the use of selected concepts in specific contexts, each national report first includes a short presentation of spatial planning systems in all partner countries[4]. Reports also contain feedback from questionnaire analysis in the national contexts and an important focus on needs and suggestions derived from the context and results presented[5]. The main aim of gathering national reports was to identify needs and suggestions for ESPON on at transnational level. To broaden the geographical scope of the CaDEC Project 3 experts from Portugal, Sweden and the UK have been solicited to report on the situation in their countries. The work done by the three national experts positively enriched our transnational reflexion by 1) adding inputs from three other countries and 2) providing an assessment and their expert opinion on the CaDEC dissemination approach.

The national reports of the project partners were written according to the following guidelines [6]:

- Short presentation of the national planning system;
- Presentation on how the chosen concepts are understood from their national point of view, with as a background of their contribution the CaDEC questionnaire and feedback of stakeholders;
- The level of interest for the concepts and ESPON chosen reports;
- An assessment of difficulties encountered by target group members reading and understanding concepts and the ESPON reports;
- Needs and suggestions from stakeholders regarding the concepts chosen, on ESPON reports and on the ESPON program.

[4] except the Netherlands because information on this topic is readily available in English
[5] except the Netherlands as this had been delivered to the Lead Partner previously in a separate document
[6] excepting the Netherlands

To complete the transnational character of the CaDEC project, 3 national experts have been asked to participate and entertain and enrich the debate using their expertise and knowledge on other national practices. The national experts involved were as follows:

- **Eduarda Marques da Costa, Associated Professor, Instituto de geografia e de ordenamento do Território da Universidade de Lisboa (Lisbon, Portugal)**
- **Richard Ek, Senior Lecturer, Institutionen för Service Management, Lunds Universitet (Lund, Sweden)**
- **Olivier Sykes, Senior Lecturer, School of environmental sciences, University of Liverpool (Liverpool, United-Kingdom)**

Reports of national the experts were written according to the following structure:

- Presentation of the national planning system;
- Presentation of their national understanding of the chosen concepts;
- How those concepts are mobilized (or not) in their national planning system;
- Assess the interest in ESPON reports of national actors depending on their conceptual contribution.

The Lead Partner compiled into a single document (see Reports on national situations) all national reports to ease the reading and line up with the CaDEC transnational approach. As mentioned above, these reports include the feedback and expressed needs and suggestions of the stakeholders.

g) Phase 7: Transnational workshops

First transnational workshop

The first transnational workshop aimed at sharing results from national level in order to produce a transnational first picture on needs and suggestions from target group members. An underlying goal was to identify common needs and suggestions on a transnational basis. It also provided an opportunity to get a broader insight in 3 other national contexts using the input that had been presented during the workshop by Swedish, English and Portuguese experts. An operational plan on the organization of the second transnational workshop, which would include stakeholders, was also discussed. A first overview of members of the national target groups (2-3 per project partner country) that could participate to the second transnational workshop was drawn up.

Second transnational workshops

The objectives of the second transnational workshop were to exchange experiences and insight between project partners and stakeholders at transnational level. The objective was build on the presentation of the CaDEC transnational results derived from the questionnaire and national feedback to create a common understanding of needs and suggestions to be addressed by ESPON.

Feedback from stakeholders in the different countries was presented by explaining the results of the CaDEC questionnaire. Feedback on needs and suggestions were presented and discussed as well. This method sought to stimulate transnational exchanges and give participants the opportunity to explain their ideas and suggestions and brainstorm create new ones.

3. Analytical considerations for ESPON based on stakeholders feedback

a) Resulting from the questionnaire

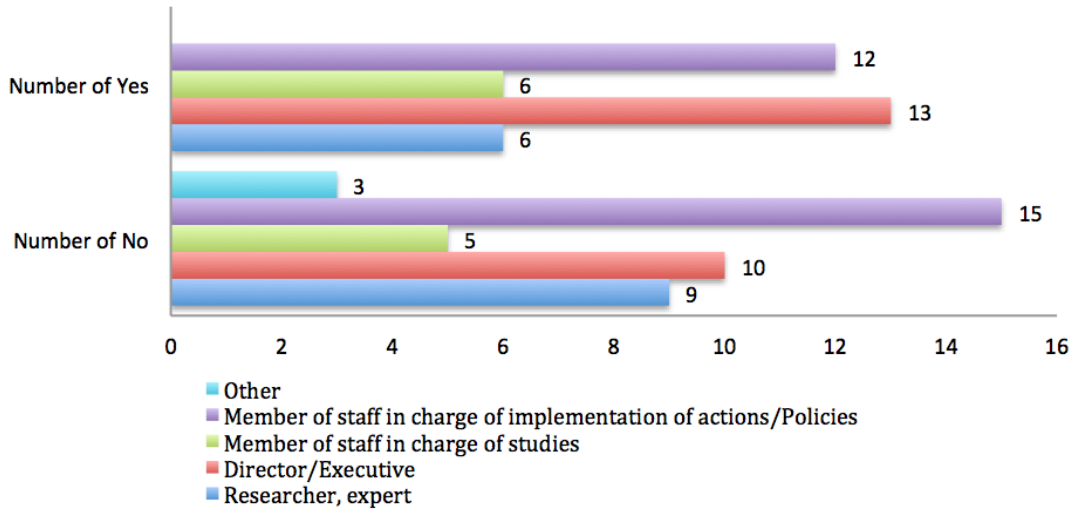
- General knowledge of ESPON

Table 6: Use of ESPON

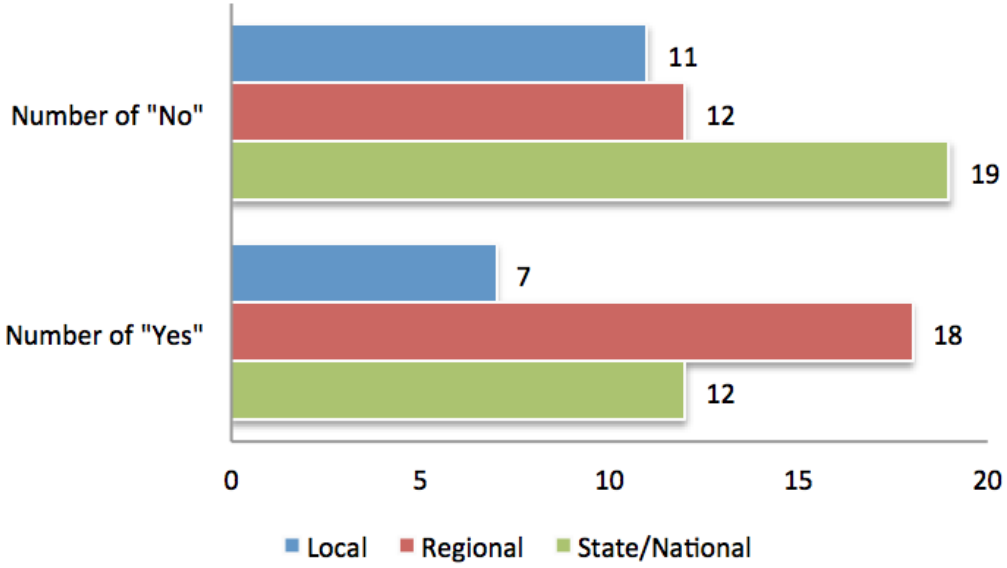
Number of « Yes »	Number of « No »
37	42
47%	**53%**

The number of "yes" in table 8 should not obscure the fact that most practitioners use ESPON and its related documents in a very superficial way. Some of them approach the program during ESPON meetings or information sessions, but not in their specific and everyday tasks. Some have browsed several ESPON reports, the website or databases to obtain a general knowledge of the European territory, but have not actually used the material in their work.

Graph 3: Use of ESPON according the position of the target group members



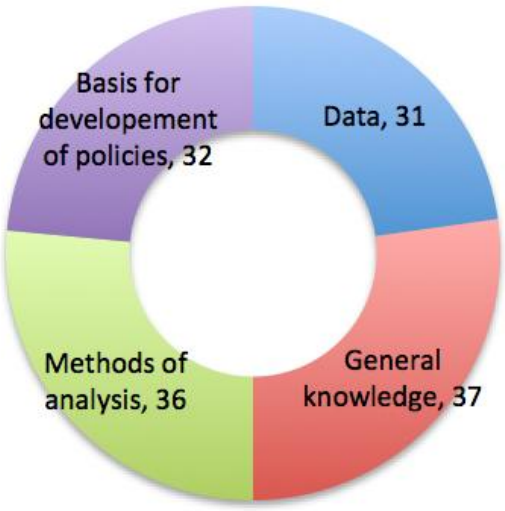
Graph 4: Use of ESPON according to Institution and level



With regard to the political and administrative level, the regional level is much more prominent, while national and local levels are where the most negative responses were made. ESPON is known and used at the regional level (seen in some countries as the actual level of action on territorial development) and national levels. At the local level, practices of ESPON are rare, due to the lack of downscaling; ESPON reports being considered as insufficiently detailed.

It is impossible to observe a significant correlation between the use of ESPON and the position of members of the target groups. This means that the use of ESPON does not depend on factors such as the position, level, institution, and neither the EU policy.

Graph 5: What kind of information do you find in ESPON reports?



The reasons why members of target groups do not use ESPON can be summarized:

- Respondents considered that their activities are not sufficiently related to ESPON.
- Lack of time to find and select the appropriate research on specific subjects. Difficult access to ESPON makes it difficult to detect a specific study.
- Lack of information: it seems certain that using ESPON is not yet a habit, probably because they do not know exactly what element can be useful.
- Lack of utility in the everyday work of some officials.
- Data on selected countries are for some of them too imprecise and raise doubts about results.

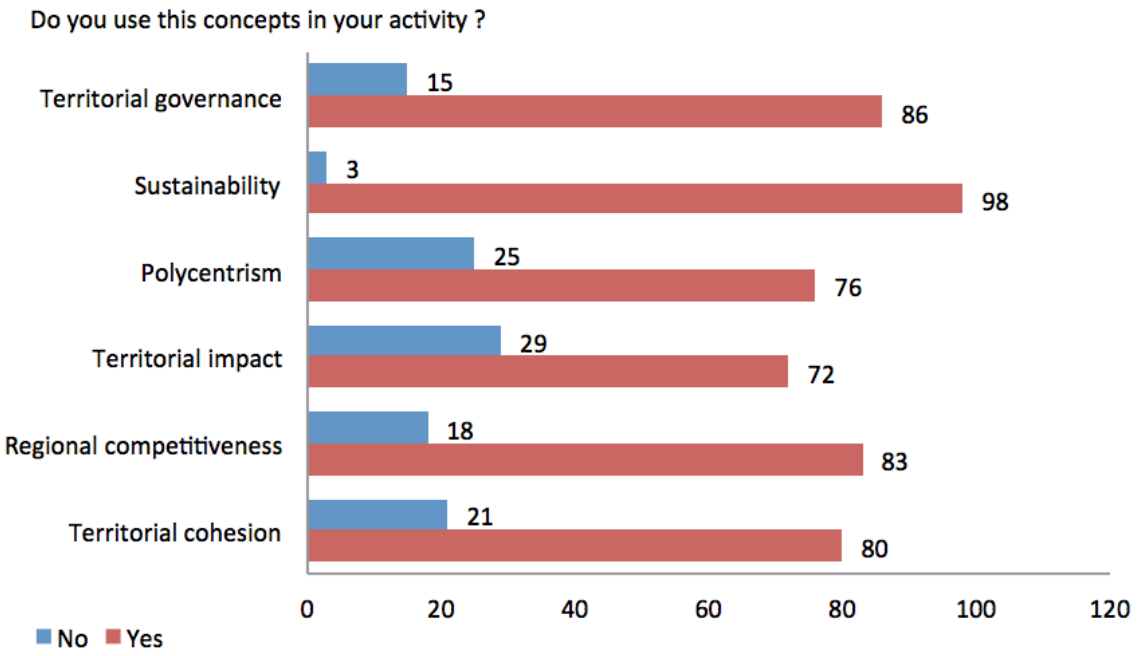
➢ Use of the concepts and knowledge of ESPON

For each concept, the following graphs (graphs 6 to 12) were designed to understand which concepts practitioners are using or not in their daily activities. Several biases may affect the interpretation of results. The reasons for non-use of a concept or of ESPON do not necessarily correspond to a denial or ignorance but could be related to the activity itself (the service in the institution concerned) and the position or the capacity to read English.

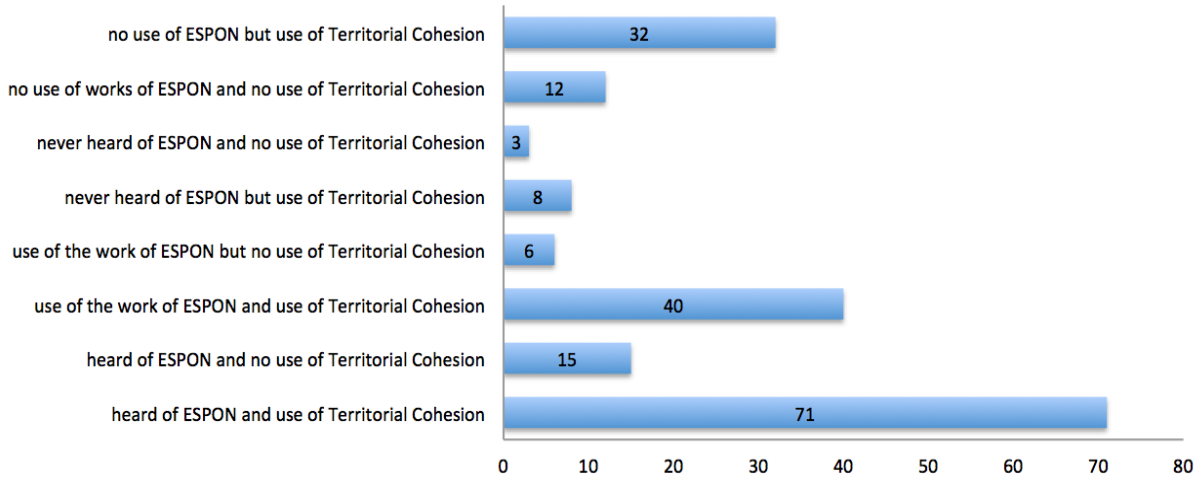
The following graphs attempt to evaluate the relationship between proximity and / or familiarity with ESPON and the knowledge and / or use of concepts. These graphs allow us to understand by what means target group members are using (or not) the selected concepts. Two principles of differentiation can help understand the results. First the awareness of the concept: the non-specific ESPON concepts (sustainability, regional competitiveness) have less dependent responses on ESPON knowledge. Secondly, familiarity with a concept: the example of territorial governance could be understood as significant of divisions in the traditions of spatial planning between various countries.

These results indicate that the use of concepts increases with the knowledge of the ESPON program, but in many cases the use of concepts is independent from the use of ESPON program. Consequently, it can be said that mechanisms for disseminating concepts, sometimes very European ones, as for instance territorial cohesion, may be accompanied by unfamiliarity of the awareness and the role of ESPON.

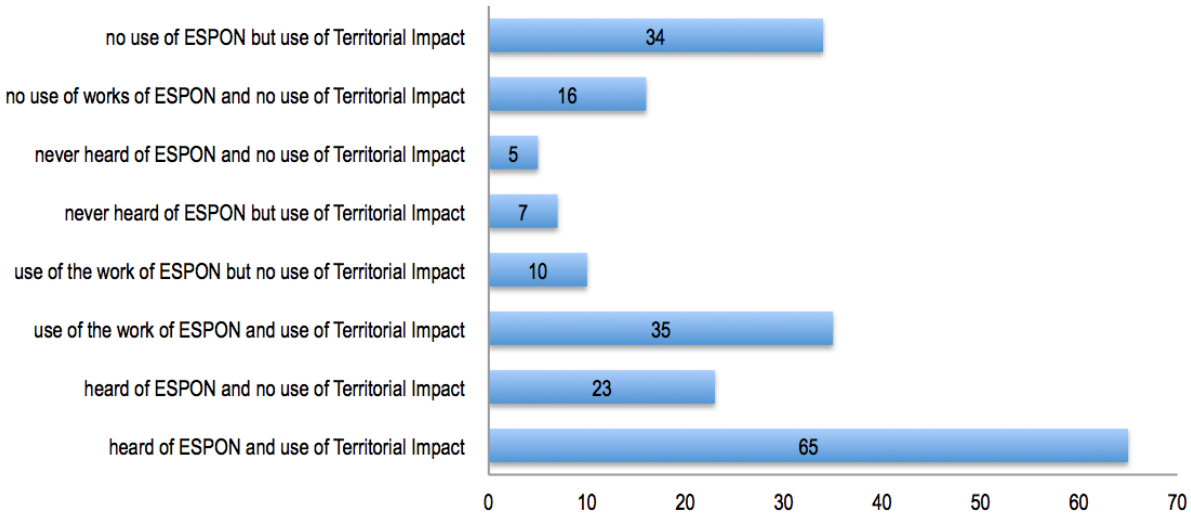
Graph 6: Use of concepts in the activity of the stakeholders



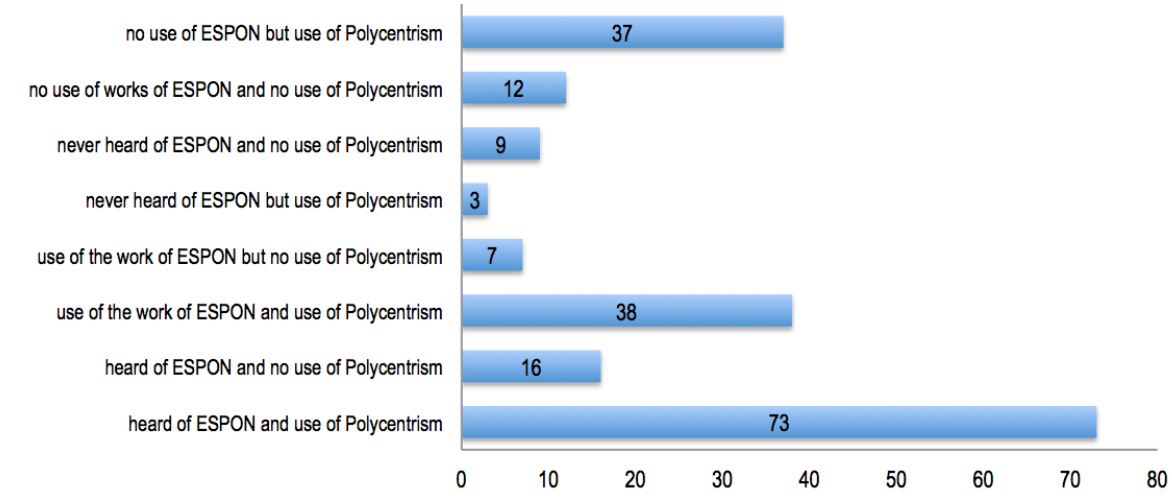
Graph 7: Use of territorial cohesion and awareness of ESPON



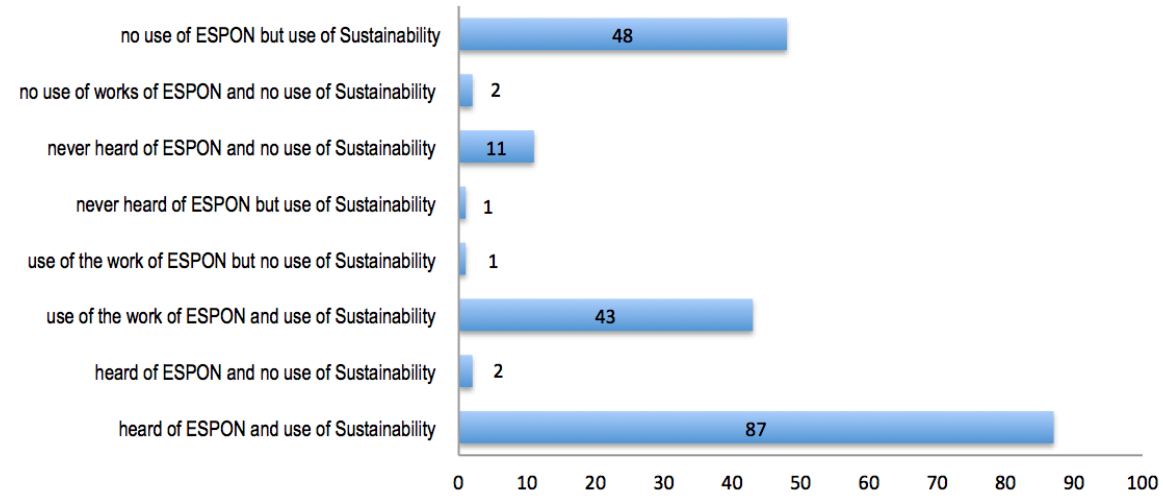
Graph 8: Use of territorial impact and awareness of ESPON



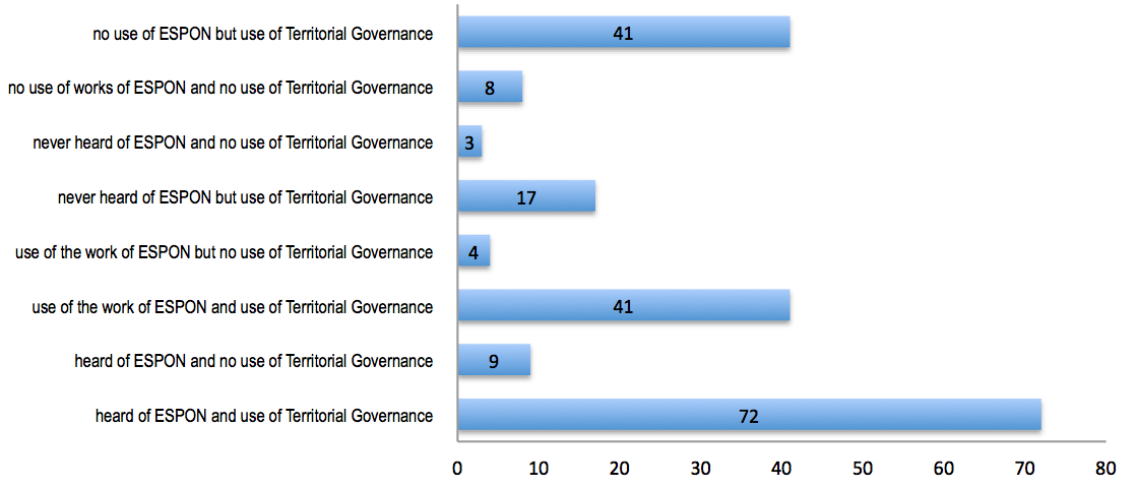
Graph 9: Use of polycentrism and awareness of ESPON



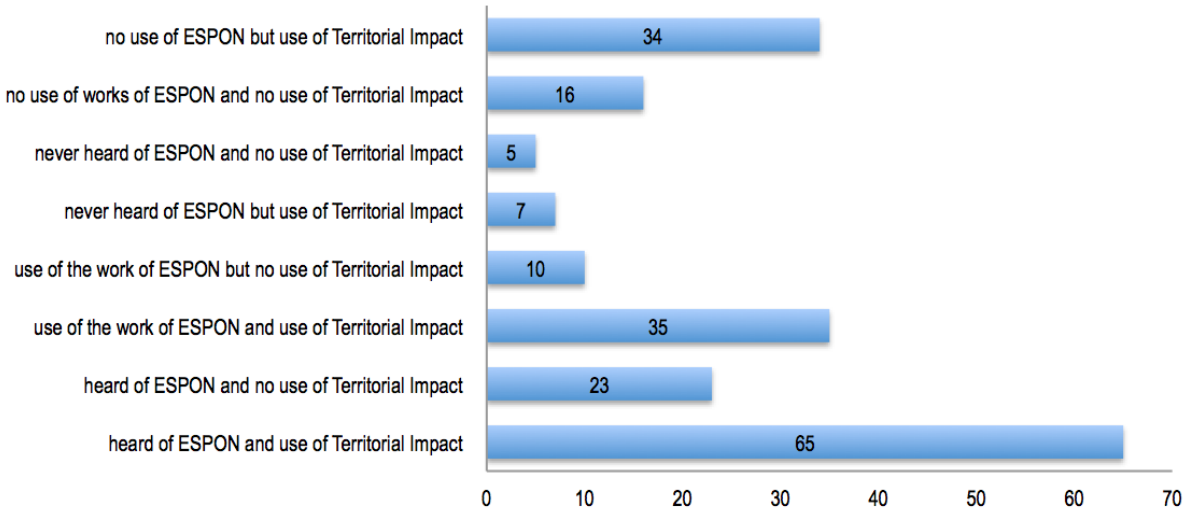
Graph 10: Use of sustainability and awareness of ESPON



Graph 11: Use of territorial governance and awareness of ESPON



Graph 12: Use of regional competitiveness and awareness of ESPON



- *Definition of concepts:*

  - Territorial cohesion

Territorial cohesion is a complex and multifaceted concept, which is difficult to capture using one simple definition, as each respondent seems to have more than one definition to explain it. Territorial cohesion can be defined as **an ideal or a goal, to be achieved which combine ideas of fairness, balance, consistency of territories**. In other cases, the ideal is linked it to a project or larger political issues, such as **social and spatial justice and sustainable development**. This type of vision tends to reduce territorial cohesion to part of a larger agenda (we should recall that the first idea of cohesion at European level referred to an 'economic and social' cohesion). This meaning is also apparent through the often-stated aim of **development of human resources of a territory**.

Furthermore, territorial cohesion can be seen as a process implemented for the purpose of **compensation, a means to reduce disparities** or **enhance levels of development** (e.g. "Ensure possibilities of balanced development"; "Promoting equal living standards and providing means for less developed regions"). Respondents do not mention means and action to fulfill those ideals. (e.g. "The allocation of resources in order to equalize unfavorable conditions"). Nevertheless, some respondents do express some ideas to reach the ideal goal, as "develop relationships taking into account internal and external identities and capabilities").

The strong interaction between the European integration at EU level and the ideal aim of the territorial cohesion policy helps to **foster the European integration** (e.g. "Factor of integration between different territorial strategies in Europe").

The process is often the **result of actions or measures taken by officials either to improve or maintain a situation**, and includes specific objectives.

With few exceptions in the proposed responses, **scales are only implicitly mentioned** (e.g. "That can be present at any territorial scale"). Thus arises an ambiguity contained within the concept and that is not resolved in the answers of the target group members. As far as territorial cohesion is concerned, reference is made to **an internal cohesion of a territory or the degree of 'cohesion' between neighboring territories and thus to a form of inter-territorial cohesion** (e.g. "Unified and horizontal guidelines for sustainable development of all EU regions").

  - Regional competitiveness

Definitions of regional competitiveness cover a wide range of interpretations. First of all, regional competitiveness is linked to the idea of **competition between territories and domination in a globalized world**. The regional competitiveness reflects the competitive situation, both at national and international levels, between territories: "The search for regional competitiveness should enable a region to face challenges

of globalization and to be able to compete with other regions in a number of areas". It includes the idea of supremacy and dominance vis-à-vis other regions:

- "It is the competition between regions that are seeking the same goal, leading to a necessary rivalry";
- "The ability of regions to increase their performance. There is a strong dimension of ranking regions and possibilities of exchange between them".

More generally, for a territory, regional competitiveness means "being in a global economic competition and being includes a geographic area, that is more or le ".

Regional competitiveness is also defined by actions, for example when dealing with the **mobilization of specific strategies**:

- "Each area develops its specific strengths to be competitive in a global context";
- "Each area should have development programs able to anticipate economic changes";
- "Regional competitiveness means clustering in order to stimulate regional development and thus to modernize infrastructures and support to territories";
- "Regional competitiveness is the implementation of actions in order to make a territory attractive and successful to help in the competition between other territories".

The idea of finding an advantageous **position and exploiting comparative advantages** is very common: "Regional competitiveness can express the position of a region compared to other regions in terms of its "comparative advantage". These strategies use potentials, capabilities and efficiency. The regional competitiveness is the "Capability of each territory to channel and attract economic activities and investments". Therefore, it is **the ability to react to new global challenges in an international context** that is at stake here.

Furthermore, the following argument has been also frequently used: the potential development of one region comparing to other areas, are based on economic, social and environmental aspects:

- "Sustainable efficiency and efficient use of endogenous resources (natural, human and built ones) and derived opportunities";
- "Good location of resources in order to exploit comparative advantages".

These potentials include factors like resources of the territory: "The regional competiveness is the ability to use its resources". Regional potentials for development are made up of various elements (economic structure, geopolitical position, resources) and each variable should be taking into account. They describe the potential of a region in the ere of globalization: "Competitiveness is a concept based on some well known elements as accessibility, specialization and quality of performance and other less known as the positive cooperation between the actors of

the local development and the capabilities of collective learning developed by local society". Exploitation of endogenous resources in an efficient and rational way, as well as the landscape and public goods are good ways to achieve regional competitiveness: "The regional competitiveness is the set of activities mobilized by regions with the aim to promote regional territory".

In some definitions competitiveness and attractiveness seem to be equivalent. The idea of **regional competitiveness is linked to attractiveness and development**: "Regional competitiveness represents attractiveness and employability of the workforce to strengthen the attractiveness: anticipating economic and social change, supporting innovation, knowledge society". Attractiveness is based on labor force skills and foreign Investments. The concept of regional competitiveness is close to regional attractiveness. Both deal with idea to strengthen the regional territory in the world by taking advantage of its characteristics and ensure complementarities between territories at national level.

Finally, regional competitiveness sometimes leads to an idealized definition especially if it is considered **as a general objective of development** in "order to generate a high level of income and high standard of life". ("The development of existing economic agents and improvement of the standard of living of the population".) In this perspective, regional competitiveness can mean "balanced development by reducing discrepancies between regions and by supporting the most poorly developed helping them to reducing their lagging behind" or "the ability to ensure a sustainable economic growth for the territory and for regional enterprises". But it is not considered as sustainable, at least according the nowadays understanding, because it causes losses in terms of territorial diversity and in terms of wealth.

- Territorial impact

Members of the target group underlined several aspects to define 'territorial impact'. Some interviewees recalled a definition based on a function: the concept is equated with its **evaluation function** of development policies in general, evaluation of certain decisions, and the ability to take stock of these policies. In this vein, the concept of territorial impact is often treated as a **diagnostic tool or measurement** of a particular decision or implementation of legislation ("detect the impact of actions on a territorial structure "); or as a tool for forecasting.

Territorial impact is often presented as **a phenomenon resulting from the achievement of an action** or as an effect or consequence of one. In this regard, the mechanism that produces a territorial impact can be described. Starting from this definition, the idea of influence can be applied and more specifically to transform the spatial organization and functioning of the territory.

Some define ‘territorial impact’ as **a socially useful purpose**. The territorial impact is then referred to ethics. The territorial impact is in this case the result of the ones who make a decision on the functioning of territorial responsibility. In the same vein, regional impact would aim harmony “or an environmental improvement goal”.

Some proposals are presented as ‘bypass’ responses. The approach of the respondent is not to define the concept but give its extension field, for example that territorial impact includes “any decision regarding the environment and / or the economy”.

- Polycentrism

Some target group members consider the **polycentrism as a state**. For them, polycentrism is then a polycentric territorial configuration at any given time.

The idea of a polycentric spatial structure is related to the idea of **a particular spatial configuration of a set of cities**, corresponding either to a single distribution site or to a “urban system configured by several cities”. Here the urban system is a network of cities, and each city is a node of a central network (e.g. “territory with several nodes acting as centres”). **This configuration opposes urban concentration and it is related to all forms of decentralization.**

From this first approach derives the scalar and hierarchical issue. Some target group members insist on the **multi-scale nature of any polycentric structure that** can also be applied to a network of “medium-sized cities”, which act then as major growth poles. A number of references to theories of spatial economics are to be found more or less explicit in the definitions (growth poles, or urban clusters). It is worth noticing that no definition refers to the intra-urban scale or to multiple centers within the same city.

Beyond the structural dimension, many definitions emphasize **the functional dimension**: “Existence of many settlements with centrality functions in each territorial or hierarchical level” to build a network and / or a system of functional relationships between cities based on the idea of complementarities.

To break with the vision of the polycentrism as a state, are highlighted definitions that put forward the idea of a **polycentric development** as a principle that should ultimately lead to a “development scenario that foresees the establishment of multiple centres”. Thus polycentrism is at first seen as **a driver for development**, often considered as a part of a wider project and broader considerations such as territorial cohesion, balanced and sustainable development (e.g. “promote efficient and sustainable development”). More generally, it is seen as necessary to achieve a status of “balanced and sustainable development of the territories”.

Moreover, thanks to its positive virtues for the organization of a territory, polycentrism lends itself to the **ability to correct polycentric territorial inequalities**.

Polycentrism promotes “a balanced regional development”, or even better an “equal living conditions” and “equal opportunities.”

Another dimension of polycentrism, although not explicitly mentioned by stakeholders, emphasizes **the idea of cooperation and territorial governance**: polycentrism based on a structure that relies on autonomous centers of decision with repercussions on the political and administrative organization of the territory (e.g. “The presence of numerous centers of decision implies the necessity to identify effective methodologies of coordination”). Polycentrism is then a relation between communities, who’s objective is to strengthen cooperation and arrangements with other cities and the regional capital.

- Sustainability

Sustainability appears as a **consensual concept**. It is **related to the Brundtland report** and to its three pillars: economy, social, environment as well as the idea to not compromise the future of the next generation by decisions taken today. It is also a very used concept by all members of the transnational target group.

The consensual aspect of the concept (well known, very used) does not mean that it is not criticized. For some stakeholders, the notion **is not really robust, often vague (numerous adjustment in the meaning). It is also too trendy, often overuse and misused by some kind of marketing campaigns. It is not underpinned by scientific and technical approaches.**

Moreover, the transnational analysis reveals a much more complex picture of the concept. This situation could be related to the systemic aspect that emerges from the answers analysis of the target group. This concept has a **spatial and temporal dimension.** The spatial dimension could be related to the idea that territories are a **kind of melting pot of the different dimensions of sustainability**. The temporal dimension can naturally be related to the **long-term perspective of sustainability**, but not only. Indeed, some given definitions relate to the issue to take into account evolutions in time with **the idea to guarantee a certain level of homeostasis** (e.g. “Sustainability is the feature of a process or of a condition that can be maintained to a certain level indefinitely”; “Capacity to remain of a system, a component or a resource to which the concept is applied”). The key words summarizing the complex picture of sustainability given by the target group members seem to be the following: **adaptation, equilibrium, preservation, regulation and quality**. All these terms can be related to a **systemic approach** of the notion.

The idea of adaptation could be defined as the need to **use resources in an optimal and rational way**, using R&D (wise use) in trying to re-qualify and renew existing assets (public goods, buildings). This approach is more related to the idea of sustainable development and can be summed up by the idea to better adapt human activity towards natural resources.

The idea of equilibrium is also related to the definition of sustainability. The idea of a **prudent use of natural resources and not to compromise the capacity of nature to regenerate**, are central ("principles of 'being prudent with' and 'leaving it behind in a good state''). The answers in relation with the preservation of the environment imply the depletion of natural resources and research on environmental impacts and limiting environmental risks (pollution).

The regulative aspects of the given definitions also help defining sustainability as a systemic concept. Here, the answers relate to the **necessary process of governance in order to adjust the interests in the various fields**: economy, social and environment ("sustainability is not possible separate it from participative and cooperative governance"). They also relate to the **regulations at European and national levels** to give strength to the notion.

Finally, sustainability is for some of the respondents a concept that needs to be realized according to broader objectives. This correspond to the idea of quality: sustainability appears as **a guarantee of a good development** (reference is made here to developing countries) – and a link is made between sustainability and territorial cohesion and territorial impact – and allows to improve or **guarantee a high quality of life**. Nevertheless, on this last aspect, exchanges in workshops show that stakeholders criticize the relationship between sustainability and growth. For some of them there is a clear link between the two elements (sustainability and regional development or even EU development, even if some prefer sustainable development to sustainability) and for others this link will need to be investigated further as far as they see a kind of opposition between the two terms (some of the pointed out that none of the ESPON projects are directly centered on sustainability).

- Territorial governance

Territorial governance is defined both as a **general framework to reshape the relations of power within the territories** on the one hand and on the other hand, **a practical tool to develop action in a territory. It is also subject to considerations on 'rules' and leadership issues**. Finally, its position in spatial development policy is considered differently among the target group members.

First, territorial governance is seen as a general framework to reshape government process: territorial governance is presented as a **way to improve the government process and the management of public affairs using a territorial approach.** This can be achieved by the coordination of institutions and actors (public, private, citizens and communities, NGOs, firms), at various levels (multilevel) and across sectors (multi sectorial) but also between and within institutions. Key words here are **complementarity, dialogue, responsibility, sharing competencies, the power transfer when needed or even autonomy, partnership, participation, acceptation, consensus, human factor and adaptable geometry**. These processes are relevant within specific contexts (they must be adapted to them, to

each of them): a territory. In this conception, the concept of territorial governance is **an important aspect of territorial cohesion** (to give cohesion to institutions, actors, actions). The transnational target group members also consider territorial governance as **a practical tool to shape, implement and follow the implementation of policies and actions**, and **to adapt spatial policies to the needs of local citizens.** From that point of view, this synthetic definition is in line with European objectives.

Nevertheless, the analysis of the answers regarding this question shows a difficult relationship of the territorial governance concept when it comes to **the question of 'rules'**. As long as territorial governance is related to informal and supple processes, is it really necessary to have a regulation of the relationship between the different stakeholders? What is the nature of these 'rules' (agreement, contract, statutory)? If no *a priori* rules are needed to regulate the relations between actors or institutions, where is the power? Who is really taking the decisions? These questions relate to **the question of the leadership**: is leadership needed for territorial governance? Who initiates and manages the process? Which territorial level (local, regional, national level) is relevant? The potential answers can vary from one country to another, considering administrative traditions….

These last questions explain the variety of definitions given from target group members from the same country. It can also be explained by the **lack of knowledge of the concept** (too vague, too recent, lack of definition). This concept seems to trigger **some confusion**. Stakeholders would appreciate if ESPON tries to answer these questions and clarifies the concept.

- *Type of use of the concepts:*

Analyzing the type of use of concepts demonstrates the purpose of the selected concepts and their relevance according to respondents' positions, their levels in the decision-making process and types of European policies they deal with. Regarding to the ambition of the ESPON program and more generally the ambition of the European Union to shape territorial development policies at European level, the following results could be of great interest, particularly to better focus the ESPON program on European political objectives.

The analysis of the data of the questionnaire has been conducted according the following guidelines:

- A ranking of types of uses of the concepts in documents and/or in policies and actions and/or in the teaching activities. The three types of uses allow one to cover the strategic frameworks and studies for action ('documents', e.g. territorial impact assessment), the implementation of policies ('policies, actions') and the academic activities ('teaching'). All the concepts used in documents are put in the first rank. The second rank concepts are used to implement policies and actions. The third refers to teaching activities. This ranking is the same for all concepts chosen, this tends to show the strategic importance of the concepts chosen by the CaDEC project. Therefore, these concepts (possibly with others) should be considered

very important for the ESPON program.

- A comparison between the work position of respondents and the type of use of the concept ts7 (see Graph 3)
- A comparison between the level of responsibility of respondents and type of use of the concepts8 (see Graph 4)

The following table shows a synthetic and comparative overview. The detailed analysis is to be found in the document 'Questionnaire analysis' in the CaDEC extranet.

Table 7: Synthesis of the results on types of uses of the concepts

TYPES OF USES(Documents - Policies/actions - Teaching) / CONCEPTS	According to the positions of the respondents	According to the levels of responsibility of the respondents
Polycentrism	Fairly balanced uses but more in relation with operational positions	Stronger use at subnational level, especially at regional level
Regional competitiveness	Fairly balanced uses but more in relation with operational positions	Use quite evenly distributed among position levels but with a stronger use at subnational levels
Sustainability	Fairly balanced use whatever the types of uses	Stronger uses at regional level
Territorial cohesion	Fairly balanced use whatever the types of use	Relevance at subnational level, especially for 'policies, actions'
Territorial impact	Uses that can be related to the positions of respondents with the exception of members of staff in charge of studies	Stronger use at local level as guidelines for action ("documents")
Territorial Governance	Fairly balanced uses but more in relation to operational positions	Fairly balanced used (but more important interest at regional level when dealing with operational actions)

[7] The comparison has been done relatively to the initial structure of the sample in order to relieve bias caused by the sample composition. For more details on the methodology, see the CaDEC Extranet Questionnaire analysis.

[8] Same remark: see previous footnote.

When comparing types of uses with the structure of the positions of the respondents, it appears that all concepts are generally used according to what could have been expected.

Nevertheless, some concepts seem to have a more operational relevance ('policies, actions') than others. This is true for regional competitiveness, polycentrism and territorial cohesion. Thus, it could be interesting to observe to what extent the dissemination work done within the CaDEC project and more generally in ESPON meet the needs of a more action-oriented approach of these concepts. Especially when it comes to policy recommendations that appear in all ESPON projects: do they properly fulfil this operational need (see also section on needs and suggestions)?

Territorial impact is an exception insofar this concept seems more sensitive than the others to the position of the respondents. For instance, this concept is more used by executives and directors than in teaching activities; this is not in accordance with what could have been expected compared to the general share of each type of documents in the answers given. Members of staff in charge of implementation of policies and actions use territorial impact more in policies / actions and less in documents than what could have been expected. Researchers and experts use more the concept of territorial impact in their teaching and less in policies / actions according to what could have been expected. Nevertheless, there is one an exception to this: members of staff in charge of studies use territorial impact less in documents than what could have been expected. This result is surprising as far as it could be expected that these people use documents more (i.e. territorial impact assessment studies). That could show that territorial impact is used to evaluate policy impacts without using a method defined in advance in documents (ex-ante territorial impact) or taking into account an overall evaluation process (ex-post territorial impact). Again, it would be interesting to observe to what extent the dissemination process of ESPON in the framework of CaDEC has helped to fill this gap (see part on needs and suggestions).

Analyzing the relationship between the types of uses and levels of responsibilities of the respondents, an important use of the chosen concepts at sub-national level than at national level has been revealed. This can be noticed for all types of use or more specifically for some of them in relation to specific concepts.

The analysis of the use of territorial cohesion demonstrates its relevance at subnational level especially in the implementation processes ('actions / policies'). It appears that local levels tend to use the concept in their documents more than expected. That could indicate the interest for the concept from a strategic perspective at the local level. This can be explained by the fact that these levels, especially the regional one, are those that actually implement European policies.

Regarding the structure of the respondents' positions, regional competitiveness is slightly overused in documents at the local level and used in the norm at regional

level. It is slightly underrepresented at the national level. Similarly, uses are underrepresented at national level in policies and actions documents and slightly overrepresented at local level. There is also an overrepresentation, albeit modest, in terms of use of regional competitiveness in documents, policies and actions at the local level (in contrast, the use in teaching activities is lower). This analysis underlines the strongest use of the regional competitiveness at the sub-national level.

As far as territorial impact in concerned, the use in documents at the local level is more important than expected.

And for polycentrism, the overall results could demonstrate an interest for the concept at the regional level.

For sustainability, taking into account the type of use by level, for all types of use, the regional level is always overrepresented according to the norm and the national level is underrepresented for documents and policy action-plans. The use at regional level can be stressed. Results at local level show also a slight overrepresentation of uses in documents and in policy and action plans. Consequently, these results reinforce the previous conclusion on the importance of the regional dimension when this concept is used (and to a lesser extend local).

For territorial governance, the overall results show a fairly balanced use of the concept, regardless of the level of respondents. But, taking into account types of use by levels, use of territorial governance in policy and action plans is over represented at regional level. This could show the operational dimension of the concept at this level.

To sum up, it is noteworthy to stress the importance of the regional level in the use of concepts. This reflects the strong relationship between the selected concepts and the privileged implementation scale of European policies. More generally, it can also be considered as a success of dissemination and capitalization process of these concepts.

b) Outcomes of national workshops

Using a common method, all project partners were able to deliver a national report containing feedback on the concept synthesis and needs and suggestions to enhance capitalization and to improve dissemination of ESPON concepts and results. Inputs expressed by the participants are summarized below.

On the capitalization of concepts

- When speaking about concepts, a structural difficulty arises: different understandings and different processes of implementation of these concepts in the various countries. To be able to understand each other, there is a missing link: a clear understanding of these concepts. In this respect, stakeholders are very interested in knowing how these concepts are understood in other countries.

This could be the beginning of a better understanding of the European terminology in territorial development, and perhaps in the medium term a common vocabulary could emerge.

- Practitioners and stakeholders are demanding normative definitions of concepts. The target group emphasizes the importance of a harmonized language at European level, which should lead to a shared definition of the ESPON concepts.

- Definitions of the concepts are considered as necessary in order to define (new) territorial trends and dynamics. This process of definition is considered as a key issue, and in some cases some worries are stressed when considering the ideology behind these definitions. Consequently, ESPON should find a way to facilitate access to results and to the concepts and thus foster their use.

Improving dissemination of concepts and tools

- Practitioners encounter difficulties to translate, within their specific territory, results developed at a transnational level.

- ESPON should get more insight into the needs of stakeholders and then propose some tools and concepts to improve their daily work.

- The presentation, during an info-day of ESPON projects, according to a few key words / concepts, and the possible use of those reports at the national and subnational level, with concrete examples, has been considered a fruitful way to capitalize ESPON results.

- ESPON needs more synthetic documents in order to explain, in a simple way, the meanings of concepts and tools. Brochures should explain, in national languages, the aim of a concept or a tool and how to use it. ESPON could use the syntheses that have been produced by project partners for the CaDEC project as an example.

- The dissemination of the synthesis reports is a good way to ‘open the door’ to many interesting ESPON concepts and studies.

- As concepts are linked to data and indicators, and in order to improve understanding of the ESPON program, the target group suggest that it would be appropriate to have a better interoperability of the ESPON database with EUROSTAT. A very important issue is to improve access to statistical data. It is stated by stakeholders that ESPON could play a crucial role in obtaining new territorial data at desired level, mainly at the levels of LAU1 and LAU 2. Moreover, the question of use of non-ESPON sources, besides ESPON sources, should be considered in the future when disseminating ESPON results.

Improving communication of ESPON in general

- The ESPON program lacks an efficient communication plan that applies to every tool/concept/project. The multitude of websites and communication tools is not efficient and even confusing for the uninitiated.
- All partners involved in ESPON should be part of the dissemination and communication exercise including the national level and local networks (via the ECPs for instance).
- It has been reported that online information is hard to find. ESPON should develop a website dedicated to concepts, tools and case studies and link them to projects. This approach could lead to a broader knowledge and use of ESPON results than a list of projects.
- As the concepts are sometimes considered political objectives, clear policy recommendations in all ESPON projects should be made. If ESPON is serious about capitalizing the information in its projects, the fact that not all ESPON studies contain clear policy recommendations for national and sub-national governments is problematic.

Strengthening the link with practitioners and stakeholders

- National and subnational stakeholders should be able to use all ESPON tools and have an easy access to ESPON results. The type of approach developed in the CaDEC project may help build bridges between academic research and the applied spatial planning.
- The CaDEC project can also be used as a platform for knowledge and ideas not only about the analyzed concepts but also about the spectrum of ESPON projects.
- The target groups suggest writing syntheses of ESPON projects with the aim of publicizing the results of the program. In many cases, the importance of ESPON projects is underlined when comparative studies are proposed (e.g. benchmarking). The ESPON projects could be made more accessible by creating short leaflets with tables and maps accompanied by short explanations.
- It is strongly recommended that local experts are involved in drafting a country profile (or even a regional profile). For example, some criticisms were made on profiles written by foreign experts, who did not take into account important elements of the national reality.
- Many ESPON reports use a different scale than those used in territorial development actions in national level. The information is too abstract and at such a high scale that the results are considered useless at some sub-national levels.

- To improve the practices of territorial planning, a greater connection needs to be made between the definition of the concepts and the implementation of actions. It would be useful to create a link between shared principles and specific objectives, which can also be interpreted at local levels, by sector and region. Practitioners are interested in learning new methods and new approaches to deal with spatial trends and dynamics, but face difficulties putting these into practice.

Policy and Governance

- The political approach prevails in spatial planning and governance processes. This must be taken into account in the future in ESPON. In this sense, more effort should be made to facilitate the participation of the public powers responsible of spatial planning at each level (mainly regional but also local and national) in ESPON projects.

- There is a need for intermediate actors (as the ECPs) between ESPON and the stakeholders to provide information to be used to draw up advice to policymakers to support decision-making.

- It has been highlighted that a tension exists between scientific studies that describe reality on the one hand, and the needs of policymakers, on the other hand. In order to carry its mission and build bridges between politics and researchers, it has been suggested that ESPON needs to create a new compendium of national planning systems.

- A more general issue raised by the participants is that the national workshops, while generally seen as useful, trigger queries that go well beyond the scope of the ESPON studies. Most of the time these were linked to the relevance of ESPON itself. It may reflect a decline of interest in the European dimension observed among some national actors. No respondent mentioned that the European scale was in itself interesting or illuminating. Instead, the answers were evaluated according to their immediate relevance for (sub-)national matters. This has obvious implications for future dissemination of ESPON results.

Obstacles within the member states

- Stakeholders encounter difficulties in defining priorities because of the double requirement: developing a long-term vision and at the same time take into account a political strategy on a short-term perspective.

- Prolonged economic crisis during the last years has sometimes extinguished (in some case almost completely) the interest of policy-makers for long-term planning.

- It has been noticed that in several member states target group members are unaware of the EU and of ESPON. Real authority is in the hands of the local politicians and in some cases they are not flexible or interested. Generally

speaking, it is difficult to introduce innovations and changes in practices within old bureaucratic routines. In some countries regional policy has been built quite recently. That could explain that the diffusion of ESPON projects is still difficult.

- The feedback from the national workshops (and also the questionnaire) strongly questions the willingness of national actors in the member states to disseminate ESPON results to sub-national stakeholders (even if, at least in the case of the Netherlands, the involvement of national authorities has been stronger in the CaDEC project than at the regional level).
- Another obstacle is that in some countries the interest of the population and the local authorities for spatial planning and for territorial development issues is weak (Eastern European regions).
- Detailed information on a country-by-country basis can be consulted online by downloading the document Compilation National situations.

c) Outcomes from transnational workshops

During the meeting stakeholders were asked to discuss the results presented and to give their opinions on needs and suggestions on concepts and more generally on ESPON.

Needs on concepts

- Common definitions on concepts at EU level and in ESPON are claimed in order to understand policy orientations at that level but also to be able to relate these concepts to clear policy recommendations and to transfer them into the planning practices. The question to improve the awareness of private actors is also at stake here as far as these actors that intervene in territorial development policies can ignore the European orientations in that field.
- At the same time, it would be very useful to have an overview on the possible variability of uses of the concepts according to practices and territorial contexts.
- Methodologies to implement policies based on concepts should be developed to allow policy makers to use concepts in spatial planning and territorial development.
- Insights on knowledge and use of concepts in other European countries can be very useful for stakeholders in order to have ideas to implement their own policies. It could be the beginning of a better understanding of European terminology of territorial development. This could allow partners to leverage with different interpretations of approaches to spatial planning in the EU.

Suggestions on concepts

- Develop the dissemination of concepts from the EU level while taking into account the different ways and levels of implementation at infra-European level. Doing so, ESPON could fill the gap between European orientations and the sub-European actors.

From that point view, various ideas are suggested:

- A dictionary (a glossary, a reasoned lexicon…) of concepts can be developed in presenting the EU standpoint and the different meanings of the same concept and in giving examples of uses. The dictionary should be translated into national languages and allow all types of stakeholders to understand its meaning (academics, practitioners, policy makers and even citizens, but also private actors). Another vision of a dictionary, not contradictory, is to consider concepts as the minimum common denominator related to a set of possible actions to be implemented in accordance with a given concept.

- The drafting of syntheses written on concepts using ESPON reports as the ones realized in the framework of CaDEC, can also be another way to disseminate both concepts and ESPON findings.

- A web portal dedicated to concepts presenting concepts in a simple way and accessible to all persons: academics, practitioners, policy makers and citizens.

- Specific events on Europe and on its main orientations in terms of territorial development could be promoted using concepts as themes.

- Case studies (at regional or national level) dedicated to study how a given concept can be applied / is applied in a peculiar territorial context.

- Comparative studies on the way concepts are used in order to share experiences and knowledge and gauge the capacity to transfer them.

- The main concepts could be selected for instance within the Territorial Agenda as the concepts should be considered as policy concepts in the framework of European territorial development orientations. Such an approach should be also a way to give guidelines to the ESPON programme in order to avoid the feeling expressed of a collection of projects without much links between them.

- Studies to assess to what extend a methodology or a tool deriving from a concepts is good or not for territorial development.

Needs and suggestions for ESPON

- Need to precise what is expected from ESPON by the European authorities.

- ESPON should be able to deliver data at local level. Synthesis maps upon some European topics used to show some "small" countries only at national level

and not at regional level (because of the distribution of NUTS 2 or 3). Synthesis maps at the European scale could lead to misunderstandings because they cannot display the regional details. The information is so abstract that it does not have much relevance at the provincial level.

- Develop training program for policy makers in order to translate European orientations on the territories (according to the role of ESPON).

- Develop the priority 2 types of projects that allow the stakeholders to be better involved but not from a strictly academic standpoint but thanks to an interactive process (co-creation process). This type of project is a way to foster the usefulness of ESPON. In the same perspective, regional levels should be more involved to give a more operational standpoint on ESPON projects. It would be a good idea to ask directly to sub-national authorities, what are their needs in terms of studies.

- Disseminate the information to citizens notably by focusing on groups that have interest to act on territorial development and on spatial planning issues. This should be done by selecting the channels of dissemination (media) and also by adapting the wording.

4. Conclusions

a) Achievement of the project

The CaDEC project provided an opportunity **to attract the attention of 102 persons across 9 countries on ESPON** using a questionnaire as a starting point. It has engaged people at various levels of positions and of institutions in a relatively balanced way.

What is more, project partners have tried to identify in their respective countries, persons that were at the outset unfamiliar with ESPON. As a result, it appears in the questionnaire results (see graph 4 and 5, p.18) that over half of the respondents did not use ESPON in their job. Consequently, **the CaDEC project gave an opportunity to inform these people about ESPON.**

Even though the dissemination process was aimed to reach all members of the target group, the level of participation in national workshops was lower than expected. Nevertheless, the first national workshop attracted approximately 70% of the initial target group, what can be considered as satisfactory. The second national workshops, if we consider the total amount of participants, attracted less people, partly because some project partners decided to do only one national workshop.

The CaDEC project was also **the opportunity to fine-tune the dissemination**

strategy according to various national contexts. The selection of national target group members matched partner countries administrative organization.

As indicated above, CaDEC project results should be interpreted at transnational level taking into account:

- The use of ESPON in general,
- The relationship between the use of ESPON and the selected concepts,
- The way the use of concepts varied according to the position of respondents, their level of action and the type of policies implemented.

The use of syntheses focusing only on one concept as its main object was a way to disseminate ESPON in a transversal and transnational way, which turned out to be very attractive to potential users. At the beginning of the project it was not a foregone that concepts would be sufficiently interesting to stakeholders. The feedback shows that the idea was appreciated and reproduced by ECPs. Indeed, some project partners decided to make additional syntheses by translating and adapting syntheses from other project partners in to their national language. The positive feedback is also related to the user-friendly aspect of syntheses.

To sum up, within the project a strategy to improve the way to approach and select relevant stakeholders has been developed and new dissemination support material were drafted, which gave us the opportunity to identify needs of stakeholders and bring forward suggestions to improve ESPON post 2013.

b) Main outcomes for ESPON

➢ *On the use of ESPON*

The questionnaire has shown that when ESPON is used, it is more commonly used at the regional level. Interviewees responding negatively to the question on the use of ESPON are working most frequently at the national and local levels. Consequently, it can be stated, as far as the CaDEC transnational target group is concerned, ESPON is better known and used at the regional scale – in some countries it is also the relevant decision making level for spatial development policies – than at the national level. At local level, uses of ESPON are less frequent due to the lack of downscaling in ESPON reports. The use of ESPON does not depend on the position of the respondents. The kind of information that respondents mentioned are evenly distributed among categories proposed in the questionnaire. Consequently, ESPON seems to be used as support to obtain general knowledge, and is not used to find specific information.

Several explanations can be put forward to explain the negative responses to the question on the use of ESPON. Some respondents have not heard about ESPON previously and some considered that their activities are not related to ESPON. Among the negative responses, other reasons are also mentioned:

- Lack of time
- Difficulties in accessing ESPON reports
- Lack of information
- Lack of relevance for day-to-day work
- Data can be very inaccurate, which raises doubts about the results presented.

The use of concepts increased when respondents knew something about ESPON before the project. Nevertheless, in many cases, the use of concepts cannot be related to a certain familiarity with ESPON. Concepts can circulate in different institutions without any references to ESPON. This raises the issue of the insufficient awareness of ESPON.

➢ *On definition of concepts*

Generally, the analysis shows a rich but confusing image of the selected concepts. An overall analysis reveals that this situation is related to various understandings of concepts across the transnational target group. Indeed concepts can be used to describe a situation; they can be seen as processes or ideals to be reached (particularly territorial cohesion). Concepts can also considered as intermediate objective or fulfilling functions (territorial impact). Furthermore, the question of scales makes the definitions of concepts more complex. Some respondents envisage concepts as a way to avoid any references and considerations on scales, while others respondents specifically identify a scale in their definition of concepts. Some respondents used a strategy of circumnavigation, preferring to provide an answer in the area of implementation rather than providing a definition themselves. Others provided critical standpoints regarding the concepts. Although this situation can naturally be related to the different contexts and to the professional backgrounds of respondents, it is worth saying that these outcomes do challenge the very idea of a transnational approach of the development of the European territory and, therefore, calls into question the ability of ESPON to disseminate a message that can be understood as a common language (or at least presenting the differences in understandings across Europe)

➢ *On types of the use of concepts*

Questions dedicated to this matter can be considered as a way to validate the relevance of the selected concepts. The striking outcome is that these concepts, with some minor variations, are widely and evenly used no matter the position and level of the respondents and the kind of uses (in strategic guidelines, in operational fields, in research and experts activities). Another interesting outcome arise from considerations on the use of concepts: these concepts are much more used at subnational levels (regional, local levels, regional policies) than at national level, both from a strategic point of view (e.g. answers on ‘documents’) but also from a operational view point (e.g. answers on ‘policies / actions’). Nevertheless, these results are not surprising considering the importance of the regional dimension (and

even local dimension) in implementing European spatial development policies. This again raises the question to which degree a common understanding of concepts could exist across European territories, including subnational levels.

- On needs and suggestions[9] from stakeholders:

At EU level concepts are linked to policy orientations. Stakeholders do not consider this situation as a problem per se. The problem is the absence of definitions at EU level. It has been repeatedly stated that ESPON should define and produce normative definitions and thereby contribute to build an esprit de corps among stakeholders and spread pan European guidelines. An overview on the various ways to understand and implement a concept in the territorial development and planning practice would be very appreciated by stakeholders. There are no contradictions for stakeholders between guidelines drafted at European level using general planning concepts and the strategic room they have to implement guidelines that are in the best interest of their territories. According to this general idea, comparative and case studies, assessment of concrete use of concepts in territorial development policies involving sub-national stakeholders is considered as an important issue. From that point of view, ESPON priority 2 projects can be used to achieve this goal. That also implies to have more local and updated data for to make ESPON projects relevant to stakeholders.

ESPON can act as an interface in articulating top-down and bottom-up approaches and using all tools available (dictionary, syntheses on concepts using ESPON reports, web portal dedicated to concepts) to reach people at all steps of the decision making process (policy makers, academics, practitioners, civil society groups interested in territorial development).

c) Call for operational capitalization strategy based on stakeholders suggestions and needs

Some project partners have decided to develop the CaDEC method in the framework of their ECP's activities, delivering new syntheses on concepts using ESPON reports. This initiative could be further developed to support the ESPON program in all member states involved. It would be of the best interest of ESPON if this initiative would be supported by ESPON funding.

It has also been agreed with project partners that the CaDEC project will be presented in professional journals or in journals dedicated to policy makers (as an example: French Assembly of Intermunicipalitiés Journal – Assemblée des comminutes de France). This kind of initiative should be generalized and ESPON should go to specialized media and more proactive, not only waiting for stakeholders to come get the information in traditional medias.

[9] All needs and suggestions from stakeholders are synthesized in one single document .

Considering new initiatives for ESPON, the needs and suggestions from stakeholders gathered under the CaDEC project (see pp.32-35 and pp.38-40) could give ideas to develop new projects under the different priorities in the future ESPON post 2013.

C. Annexes

Annex 1. Short summary and overview of the compulsory actions and contractual obligations fulfilled by the transnational networking activity project partners
Annex 2. List of the materials developed by the project
Annex 3: Questionnaire
Annex 4. Blunder checks achieved
Annex 5. List of stakeholders/National Target Groups

Annex 1. Short summary and overview of the compulsory actions and contractual obligations fulfilled by the transnational networking activity project partners

WP1 Coordination tasks			
	Tasks Description	Outputs	Tasks completed?
Kick off meeting, project partners meeting	- The meetings took place in Paris - 2 to 3 persons / PPs + One other PP meeting at mid-term	- Selection of ESPON concepts - Drafting the questionnaire - Identification of target groups (TGs) en each country - Selection of ESPON reports for the drafting of the syntheses - Design and identification of content of syntheses on concepts using ESPON reports	✓
Management of the extranet	Need to deliver to the TGs members' information on the project and tasks that will be carried on: online questionnaire, results, ESPON reports and short online synthesis/concept note to explain their content, reports of the national and transnational workshops.	Setting up of an extranet tool to foster capitalisation and dissemination process towards TGs and as a common tool for PPs.	✓
Organization of 2 national workshops	According to will and budget, PPs organized 1 or 2 workshops.	- Presentation of the questionnaire results in the national context to TGs members. - Feedback from TGs members to complete the results of the questionnaire - Inputs from PP on needs identified through the questionnaire and during national workshops.	✓

Organization of 2 transnational workshops	The first transnational meeting took place in Paris and involve 2/3 by PPs max. LP has also invited 3 experts from 3 different countries out of the CaDEC consortium to broaden the scope of countries involved in the project and enhance its transnational aspect at the European level. Second transnational meeting will take place in Paris and involve PPs (2/3 persons max.), the 3 experts (the same as previously) as well as selected members of the TGs.	First transnational meeting: - Presentation of the national outputs (transnational aspect of this workshop). - Experts have been asked to analyse the use and application of the chosen ESPON concepts in 3 different countries. - PPs and Experts: Ideas and suggestions for ESPON - Organisation of the second transnational workshop and identification of potential TGs members that could be involved in the second transnational workshop. Second transnational meeting: - Presentation of the overall results of the project. - Discussions with present TGs members - New ideas and suggestions for ESPON from PPs, experts and TGs members.	✓
Draft final report	According to the programme manual (chapter 5)		✓
Blunder checks management	According to the programme manual (chapter 5, point 5.3.3)		✓

W2 Activities			
	Tasks Description	Outputs	Tasks completed?
Selection of concepts	Selection of 5/6 concepts relevant to all PPs. PPs can also select additional concepts more appropriate to their own national context. Number of concepts is not limited depending on needs and capacity of each ECP. Selected concepts are related to ESPON 2013 projects.	- Agreement of all PPs on the chosen concepts (6) to guarantee the transnational character of the project. - PPs can at the same time identify and work on relevant concepts for their own national context. - These concepts had been analysed within the methodological framework of the project to give relevant feedback on needs of TGs members.	✓
Creating the questionnaire and choosing target groups members	A common questionnaire was elaborated to ascertain the knowledge and uses of the TGs members. The questionnaire also aimed at identifying special needs of information and wishes to foster involvement in the national and transnational workshops. TGs members were chosen according to common categories.	- A common questionnaire to guarantee the transnational character of the activity - A common identification of TG members.	✓
Establishing an Extranet	LP had provided an Extranet dedicated to the project to all PPs. The Extranet was organised in two sections: a general one with all the common documents and tools of the project and a national one that can be used by PPs to give/report specific information to their national TGs members/from their member state.	The Extranet allowed a smoother communication between all PPs. It has also served as a capitalization and dissemination tool towards TGs. It includes: the questionnaire, syntheses on concepts using ESPON reports in national languages, links to ESPON reports, the compilation of national results and presentation of national planning systems (+ expert works), the transnational analyse of the questionnaire, the synthesis of transnational workshops on needs and suggestions.	✓

Analysis of the questionnaire	The questionnaire had been drafted in English and all PPs have had to translate it into national languages. The diffusion of the questionnaire had been done through the Extranet and Lime Survey.	Each PP had to draft a synthesis of the questionnaire results according to the following lines: Level of awareness of TGs members about the chosen concepts Uses of the concepts Needs for more information on the concepts Personal needs and wishes to encourage their involvement in both national and transnational workshops A transnational analysis of the questionnaire has been written and put on line on the CaDEC extranet (distributed to TGs)	✓
Dissemination of short syntheses in national languages to make concepts and ESPON project explicit	Based on the questionnaire results, PPs presented some of the relevant ESPON projects to the TGs to help them understand the concepts. They built a corpus of short synthesis texts in national language.	A corpus of syntheses in national languages that clarify the chosen concepts, using different ESPON reports have been written and disseminated via the CaDEC Extranet to TGs.	✓
National reports on national workshops	The aim of the workshops was to deepen the understanding of the needs of the TGs members. Workshops were also an opportunity to disseminate more precise information and identify ideas and suggestions for ESPON post 2013.	The national reports written on the basis of the questionnaire results and on the minutes of the national workshops + reports from experts (from 3 different member states) had provided a picture on use of the chosen concepts and on use of ESPON reports. It was also the opportunity to gather needs and suggestions from national TGs.	✓
Synthesis of national reports	A compilation of all national reports to enable a transnational overview, notably on needs and suggestions to the ESPON program.	National reports organised in the same (including experts work, cf. WP 1.4) have been “compiled” in one single report (on line in the CaDEC extranet and distributed to TGs)	✓

Transnational workshops (2)	The first transnational workshop had involved all PPs and 3 experts; - Presentation of the national results - New ideas and suggestions for the ESPON program - Exchange on the organisation of the second transnational workshop and identification of TGs members to be involved. The second transnational workshop had involved PPs, experts as well as selected members of the TGs. Agenda - Presentation of the synthesis of overall results of the project - Discussions with selected TGs members - Ideas and suggestions for the ESPON program	To complete the "compilation" of national reports a synthesis report on transnational workshops has been written focussed on needs and suggestions (on line in the CaDEC extranet (including experts participation, cf. WP 1.4)	✓
Blunder checks	According to the CU programme	CLIMATE; ARTS; ATTREG; SGPTD; KIT; TIGER; TERCO; GEOSPEC; EU-LUPA; TRACC; SIESTA; EsatDOR; SEGI; TANGO	✓

Annex 2. List of he materials developed by the project

Available to download in pdf format via CaDEC Extranet (no pass work needed for the guests section)

Syntheses on concepts using ESPON reports

Reports-on-national-situations_CaDEC_2013

Questionnaire-analysis-ESPON-CaDEC-2013

Needs-and-suggestions-CaDEC

Annex 3: Questionnaire

Name:
First name:
Position:
Institution:

Please answer the following questions on the basis of your current knowledge

- **Question 1**: In the framework of your job, what are your activities related with EU policies?

EU policies	Short description of your activity in relation with the EU Policy quoted
1-	
2 -	

- **Question 2 a**: Have you heard of ESPON?
  - Yes
  - No

- **Question 2 b**: if yes to question 2 a, do you use ESPON works in your job?
  - Yes
  - No

- **Question 2 c**:
  - If yes to question 2 b:
    - What are ESPON works that you use?[10]
    - What kind of information do you find in these works (multiple choices possible)?:
      - General knowledge on the European territory
      - Basis for development of policy orientations
      - Methods of analysis
      - Data
      - Other (please precise):
    - Could you give precise examples of uses in relation with your previous answer (actions, documents, …)?:
    - Do you see other potentiel uses in the future?
      - If yes, which ones?
      - If no, why?
  - If no to question 2 b, why do you not use ESPON works in your job?
    - I do not know ESPON
    - Works done within ESPON seems irrelevant to me
    - My activities are not in relation with ESPON works
    - Other (please precise):

[10] This question has been considered as difficult to take into account due to very few references to ESPON reports and because at the period of the delivery of the questionnaire, only some ESPON reports had been delivered.

- **Question 3 a** : Do you use the following notions in your activities (notions related or not with EU policies)?
    - Territorial cohesion:
        - Yes
        - No
        - If yes, what does this notion mean for you? (5 lines max.):
        - If no, why? (5 lines max.):

    - Regional competitiveness:
        - Yes
        - No
        - If yes, what does this notion mean for you? (5 lines max.):
        - If no, why? (5 lines max.):

    - Territorial impact:
        - Yes
        - No
        - If yes, according to you, what definition can be given of this notion? (5 lines max.):
        - If no, why? (5 lines max.):

    - Polycentrism:
        - Yes
        - No
        - If yes, what does this notion mean for you? (5 lines max.):
        - If no, why? (5 lines max.):

    - Sustainability:
        - Yes
        - No
        - If yes, what does this notion mean for you? (5 lines max.):
        - If no, why? (5 lines max.):

    - Territorial governance:
        - Yes
        - No
        - If yes, what does this notion mean for you? (5 lines max.):
        - If no, why? (5 lines max.):

- **Question 3 b**: For each notion you are using, please indicate in which circumstances (in documents, policies/actions, teaching activities, others – multiple choice possible):

TERRITORIAL COHESION		
Documents	Yes/No	Precise references and brief description (+ web address if it exists):
Policies/actions	Yes/No	Brief description:
Teaching activities	Yes/No	Brief description:
Others	Yes/No	Brief description:
REGIONAL COMPETITIVENESS		
Documents	Yes/No	Precise references and brief description (+ web address if it exists) :
Policies/actions	Yes/No	Brief description:
Teaching activities	Yes/No	Brief description:
Others	Yes/No	Brief description:

TERRITORIAL IMPACT		
Documents	Yes/No	Precise references and brief description (+ web address if it exists) :
Policies/actions	Yes/No	Brief description:
Teaching activities	Yes/No	Brief description:
Others	Yes/No	Brief description:

POLYCENTRISM		
Documents	Yes/No	Precise references and brief description (+ web address if it exists):
Policies/actions	Yes/No	Brief description:
Teaching activities	Yes/No	Brief description:
Others	Yes/No	Brief description:

TERRITORIAL GOVERNANCE		
Documents	Yes/No	Precise references and brief description (+ web address if it exists):
Policies/actions	Yes/No	Brief description:
Teaching activities	Yes/No	Brief description:
Others	Yes/No	Brief description:

- **Question 4 a**: Would you like to participate to workshops in *precise the place for national workshops* (1 or 2 days over a 3 years period) to be further informed on the project findings and on ESPON works (participants must support travel and accommodation costs)?
    - Yes
    - No
    - If yes, please feel free to ask any questions in relation with these workshops:

- **Question 4 b**: Are you interested to be involved in an international workshop (participants must support travel and accommodation costs and in English language)
    - Yes
    - No
    - If, yes please feel free to ask any questions in relation with this workshop:

- **Question 4 c**: Do you have specific expectations you think we can fulfil?

Annex 4. Blunder checks achieved

- ✓CLIMATE
- ✓ARTS
- ✓ATTREG
- ✓SGPTD
- ✓KIT
- ✓TIGER
- ✓TERCO
- ✓GEOSPEC
- ✓EU-LUPA
- ✓SIESTA
- ✓EsatDOR
- ✓SEGI
- ✓TANGO

Annex 5. List of stakeholders/National Target Groups

First name	Family name	Professional position	Institution
Belgium			
Herman	Baeyens	Expert	Strategic Advisory Planning for Flanders
Kristien	Lefeber	Head of Spatial Planning and Policy	Province of Limburg
Erik	Grietens	Advisor	Bond for a Better Environment
Bram	Tack	Coordinator for Urban Planning, Environment and Nature	Intercommunale Leiedal
Michel	Hubert	Professor, Vice President Brussels Studies Institute	University of Saint Louis
Thibault	Ceder	Responsible Spatial Planning	Union of Cities and Municipalities of Wallonia
David	Morelle	Advisor	Cabinet of the Minister in charge of the Environment, the Unused Site, Transport, Mobility, Regional Planning
Michaël	Van Cutsem	Research Director, Head of the Foresight Unit	Destrée Institute
Benoit	Périlleux	Political advisor	Brussels Capital Government
Étienne	Christiaens	Responsible of Urban Policies	Urban Policies (Federal)
Aziz	Naji	Coordinator of Federal Science Policy	Federal Science Policy
Vincent	Desquennes	Policy Advisor	Operational General Direction for Spatial Planning, Housing, Heritage and Energy (Walloon Region)
Yves	Rouyet	Head of territorial development	Regional Development Agency of the RBC area
Bulgaria			
Irina	Aaharieva	Director General	MRDPW
Elean	Gagov	Junior Expert	MRDPW
Mila	Krasteva	Head Expert-Eurointegration	Pernik Municipality
Marusia	Tsvetkova	Expert Projects and Programmes	National Association of Municipalities In the Republic of Bulgaria
Zdeavko	Sechkov	Executive Director	Foundation for Local Government Reform
Stoicho	Motev	Expert	National Center for Territorial Development
Djani	Antova	Chief Expert	Bulgarian Construction Chamber
Poli	Roukova	Research-Fellow, Department of Geography and IGGG	Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Milena	Mihaylova	Executive Director	Bulgarian Association of Regional Development Agencies and Business Centres
Yonka	Stefanova	Executive Director	Agency for Sustainable Development and Euro Integration
Milena	Mihaylova	Executive Director	Bulgarian Association of Regional Development Agencies and Business Centres
France			
Michel	Hagnerelle	Inspector General of Education (geography)	Ministry of Education
Samuel	Widmer	Senior Research Fellow	Development and Planning Agency (Pays de Montbéliard)
Jean-Pierre	Rochas	General Manager	Inter-municipal local authority (Val de Drôme)
Delphine	Vincent	Director	Business Territories Development Association
Pascale	Poupinot	Director	Planning and Development Agency of the Valley of the Oise
Benoît	Guinamard	Project Manager (international prospective)	Regional Council of the Nord Pas-de-Calais
Pascal	Perrissin	Director of Territorial Policies	Conseil Général de l'Hérault
Delphine	Lapray	Head of Economic Department	Inter-municipal Local Authority (Montceau-Le Creusot)
Marc	Guérin	Research Director	Agricultural Research Institute (IRSTEA)
Marie	Gastaldi	European Affairs Chief Officer	Eurometropolis and European Partnerships Departement, Lille Métropole Communauté urbaine
Milena	Stojkovic	European Projects Officer	French Assembly of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Territorial Policies Direction

Arnaud	Cuisinier-Raynal	Head of project	General Council of the Gironde
Christian	Brunner	Director	Urban Planning Agency for Marseille Agglomeration (AGAM)
Christophe	Bernard	Secretary-General	Assembly of French Intermunicipalities (ADCF)
Alain	Deffontaines	Project Manager for Territorial Action in Rural Areas	Regional Council of Basse-Normandie
Juliana	Ribeiro	Project Manager for Sustainable Spatial Planning	Regional Council of île-de-France
Italy			
Alessandro	Selva	External Expert	Emilia Romagna Region
Alberto	Clementi	Former Dean of Architectural Faculty	University of Pescara
Laura	Peretti	Architect	Studio Insito / Own studio, Private body
Massimo	Sessa	Vice-President and President of Section Ports, Strategic Infrastructure, Plans	National Board of Public Works under Ministry of Infrastructures and Transport
Filippo	Bencardino	Rector	University of Sannio
Laura	Cavallo	Director	Department of European Policies - Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministries
Fabio	Guerra	Employee	Ministry of Environment
Maria Antonietta	Piscioneri	Manager of Technical Office: Managing, Human Resources, State Property	Lazio Region
Massimo	Tronci	Full Professor of Scientific Field	Sapienza, University of Rome
Danila	Scarozza	Ph. D. Student in Public Management and Governance	University of Rome "Tor Vergata"
Pietro	Elisei	Planner, Researche fellow	University of Tor Vergata, Roma Italy
Caterina	Cirelli	Full Professor in Economic Geography	University of Catania
Massimo	Lo Cicero	Free Lance	University of Rome "Tor Vergata"
Elena	Poggio	Employee	Ires Piemonte
Tiziana	Quaglia	Employee	Veneto Region
Latvia			
Vita	Skuja	Senior Desk Officer	Ministry of Economics
Mudīte	Priede	Secretary General	Association of Latvian Municipalities
Helma	Jirgena	Director	Latvian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Economics
Valentīna	Locāne	Analyst	State Regional Development Agency
Laura	Anteina	Deputy Director of Regional Policy Department	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
Inta	Rozenšteine	Deputy Director of Department	Ministry of Transport
Elina	Konstantinova	Board Member	Association "BaltRegio", Baltic Institute for Regional Development
Maija	Geidāne	Chief Architect	Sigulda County Council
Inga	Vilka	Associated Professor	University of Latvia
Iveta	Zālīte	Deputy Head of Spatial Planning Department, Territorial Planner	Kekava County Council
Māra	Zīra	Head of Analytical Planning Unit, Economics Department	Riga City Council, City Development Department
Rūdolfs	Cimdiņš	Expert on Development Document Monitoring	Riga Planning Region
Elita	Jermolajeva	Professor, Vice-Chancellor	Daugavpils University
Ainārs	Nābels-Snaiders	Head of Department	Ministry of Agriculture
Dace	Vilmane	Head of Development Planning Department	Zemgale Planning Region
Romania			
Sorin	Pavel	Geographer, Researcher at the Centre for Regional Development – START, Lecturer PhD	University of West, Timisoara
Daniela	Nedelea	Assistant General Manager	Regional Development Agency North-East, Piatra Neamt
Adina	Girjan	Public Manager	Prefecture of Iasi County
Angela	Zarojanu	Sub-prefect	Prefecture of Suceava County
Diana	Obada	Assistant Manager Coordinator Department of Iasi Growth Pole Iasi	North East Regional Development Agency
Adrian	Covasnianu	Geographer	S.C. Pro-Activ Consulting S.R.L. Iași
Alexandru	Banica	Researcher	Romanian Academy, Iasi Branch
Silvia Mihaela	Oostveen	General manager	Arhitectural S.R.L. Bucuresti
Radu Valentin	Frumusani	General Manager	RYV Proiect SRL, Bucuresti
Eugenia	Marginean	Chief Architect	Alba County Council, Alba Iulia

Mihaela	Gotcu	Teacher, Responsible for European Programs and Projects	National College "Emil Racovita", Iasi
Bogdan Alexandru	Suditu	Head of Policy of Urban Planning and Legislation	Ministry of Regional Development and Tourism (MDRT)
Viorel	Palana	Expert	Regional Development Agency North-East, Branch of Botosani County, Botosani
Slovakia			
Jana	Braciníková	Head of Department of Regional Development and Planning	Žilina Self-governing Region
Anna	Dobrucká	President of the Association for Urban and Spatial Planning in Slovakia and Authorized Landscape Architect (ZUUPS)	SAS (Slovak Architects Association, Slovak Architects Society), ZUUPS – Association for Urban and Spatial Planning in Slovakia
Eva	Michalinová	Mayor	Village Zohor
Pavlina	Misikova	Employee of the Ministry of Environment of the SR, Department of Environmental Policy	Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic
Adam	Cifra	Architect, Authorized Representative, Manager	Private company
Anna	Mareková	Head of the Territorial Plan Department of the Košice Self-governing Region, Architect	Košice Self-governing Region
Peter	Lapín	Architect, Town Planner	Department of the Chief Architect of Banská Bystrica
Lenka	Stankovská	Spatial Planner	Aurex Ltd.
Martin	Čaja	Head of the Strategic Activities Department of the Nitra Self-governing Region	Nitra Self-governing Region
Spain			
Xavier	Muños i Torrent	Terrassa Municipality Sustainability Economic and Social Observatory's Head (in Barcelona Province)	Terrassa City Hall
Manuel	Benabent Fernández de Córdoba	Manager	Arenal Consulting s.l.
Antonio	Serrano Rodríguez	President (Head)	Inter-professional Spatial Planning Association (Fundicot)
Eduardo	De Santiago	Technical Adviser for Land and Urban Policies	Spanish Ministry of Development
Manuel	Borobio Sanchiz	Head of Directorate Sustainability and Landscape (General Director)	Galicia Autonomous Region Government (Xunta de Galicia)
Domingo	Gómez Orea	Full Professor	Madrid Polytechnic University
Antonio Ángel	Clemente Garcia	Head of Service of Spatial Planning	Murcia Autonomous Region Government
Oriol	Nel·Lo Colom	Senior Lecturer	Autonomous University of Barcelona
Margarita	Castañer Vivas	Human Geography Senior Lecturer. Spatial planning Catalonian Society President	University of Girona
Josep Maria	Pascual i Esteve	Director	Urban Quality Strategies Co.
Juan Carlos	Escudero	Director	Vitoria City Hall. Environmental Studies Centre
Luciano	Parejo Alfonso	Full Professor and Practitioner in Spatial Plans and National and Regional Laws	Madrid Carlos III University (Department of Public and Administrative Law)
Rafael	Malta Olmo	Full Professor and Practitioner in Spatial Plans	Madrid Autonomous University (Department of Geography)

The Netherlands			
Esther	Vos	Strategic legal spatial policy	Province of North Brabant
Ellen	Driessen	Senior policy official	Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
Jan	Buiten	Senior policy official	Province of Groningen
Juliane	Kürschner	Spatial planner	Municipality of Amsterdam, planning department
Jolanka	Van der Perk	Legal policy official	Province of Flevoland
Joost	de Koning	Consultant	Ecorys
Willemieke	Hornis	Policy official	Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
Gijsbert	Borgman	Senior policy official	Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
Bianca	Peeters	Project manager	Urban.nl

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The ESPON 2013 Programme is part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund, the EU Member States and the Partner States Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. It shall support policy development in relation to the aim of territorial cohesion and a harmonious development of the European territory.

ISBN 978-2-919777-67-9