



## Understanding Territorial Impacts: the Member State policy-maker perspective

Workshop informing the ESPON Targeted Analysis project, *EATIA*

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 11:00 -16:30,**

Space for Place, Department for Communities and Local Government,  
Eland House, Bressenden Place, London, SW1E 5DU, UK.

**Policy-makers know that policy and, in particular, EU Directives have territorial impacts. What information would help us to influence the development of policy and directives, and improve policy-making?**

**Are you involved in negotiating EU Directives? Have you experienced unintended territorial impacts from policy or directives? Do you want to improve the quality and impact of policy making?** The Stakeholders of the ESPON Targeted Analysis project, *EATIA*, invite you to attend a workshop on understanding territorial impacts.

The workshop will consider how a place-based approach to identifying impacts through spatial plan-making can, in particular, help inform Member State positions during negotiations on European directives.

We would like this event to discuss the needs of national-level policy-makers in particular from TIA and how participatory TIA could provide the right information to inform emerging policy.

The workshop will feed into the development of **the ESPON Targeted Analysis project *EATIA*** (see Annex A), and provide conclusions that will be presented to the **Network of Territorial Cohesion Contact Points** to help inform implementation of the recently adopted **Territorial Agenda 2020 (TA2020)**. The workshop will consider how best the **ARTS** methodology can help inform understanding of potential impacts to feed in to the participatory approach. It will also explore how the **Commission's existing Impact Assessment** plays a role in recognising territorial impacts

**To register please email [imogen.birch@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:imogen.birch@communities.gsi.gov.uk) or call +44 303 444 1728 by Wednesday 24 August.**

For any other queries email [chris.poulton@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:chris.poulton@communities.gsi.gov.uk) (+44 303 444 4358).



## Expected Programme

### **Welcome and introduction: Territorial Impacts Matter**

*Presentation and discussion: why territorial impacts should be taken into account*

- Welcome and Introduction, Chris Poulton, DCLG, Lead Stakeholder EATIA
- Why Territorial Impacts Matter: Michelle Banks, Deputy Director, DCLG

### **ESPON's work on Territorial Impact Assessment**

*How has ESPON considered Territorial Impact Assessment, how can we build on this?*

- Building on ESPON's TIA Models, Marjan van Herwijnen, ESPON CU

### **Harnessing place-based knowledge by applying TIA through existing procedures**

*Presentations and discussion to explore how existing processes at different territorial levels can be used to provide expert judgements on potential territorial impacts*

- Stakeholders view of the EATIA project, Maria Jose Festas (DGOTDO, Portugal) / Blanka Bartol (Ministry of Environment & Spatial Planning, Slovenia), EATIA Stakeholders
- EATIA Project outputs, Professor Thomas Fischer, Liverpool University
- Open discussion

### **Identifying potential impacts and the places most likely to feel them**

*Exploring links to the ARTS project, breakout groups to consider what information Member States need to inform emerging EU Directives, and whether the proposed mechanisms could prove effective*

- Is the ARTS approach useful for Policy-makers? Bernd Schuh, Austrian Institute for Regional Studies and Spatial Planning
- Lunch
- Workshop sessions – exploring what policy-makers need to know to about territorial impacts to influence policy development.
- Discussion and debate

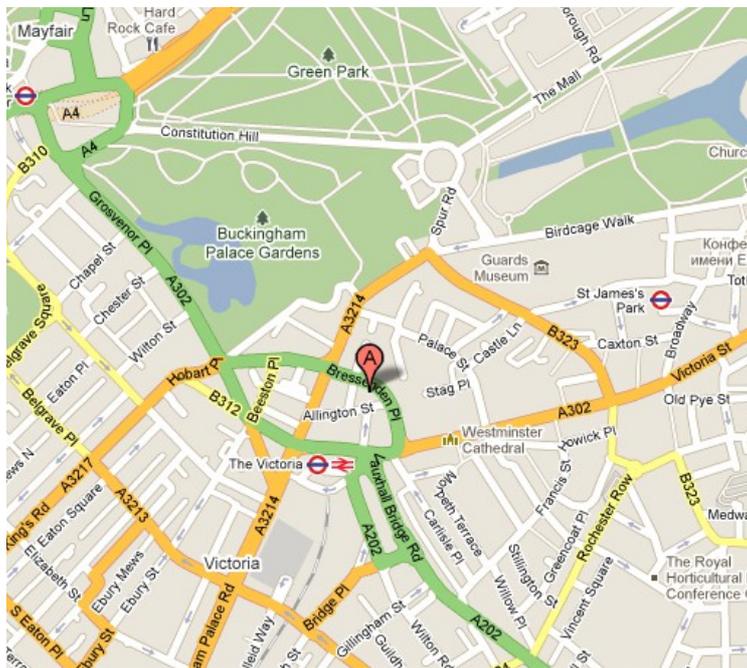
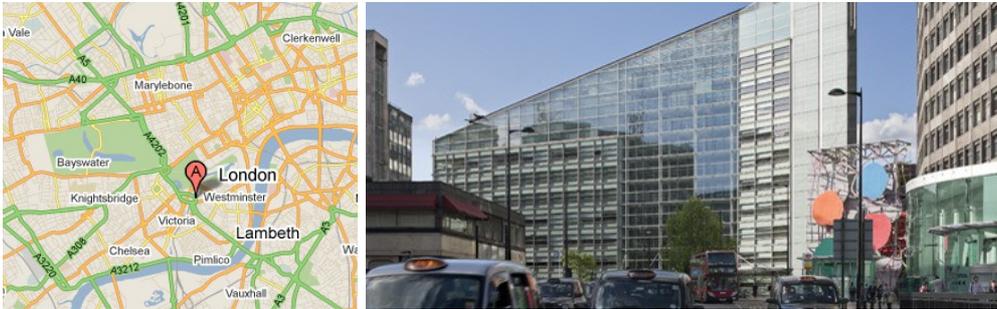
### **Identifying impacts at the European level – the role of the European Commission**

*Exploring the role of the Commission, presentation from Netherlands on emerging research findings*

- The work of the Netherlands on improving the Commission's Impact Assessment, speakers from the Netherlands and European Commission (invited)
- Discussion and debate

## Practical Information

Department for Communities and Local Government,  
Eland House, Bressenden Place, London, SW1E 5DU



Click [here](#) for a map

### Getting to Eland House

Eland House is a short walk from Victoria Station in central London. Direct rail connections are available from Gatwick Airport, and via train/tube from other London airports.

- **From Gatwick Airport:** Direct, fast and frequent trains to London Victoria (five minutes walk from Eland House) with [Gatwick Express](#) (*fastest Airport connection to Eland Hse*).
- **From Heathrow Airport:** [Heathrow Express](#) operate fast trains to London Paddington. From there take the Bakerloo and Victoria lines to Victoria Station (see [TFL](#)); or the Piccadilly Line to South Kensington, and the District/Circle lines to Victoria Station ([TFL](#)).
- **From Stansted Airport:** [Stansted Express](#) operates trains to Liverpool Street Station. From there take the Central and Victoria lines to Victoria station ([TFL](#)).
- **From Luton Airport:** [First Capital Connect](#) operates trains to London St Pancras International, then follow directions below.
- **From London City Airport:** Take the Docklands Light Railway to Canning Town, the Jubilee Line to Westminster and the District/Circle lines to Victoria Station ([TFL](#))
- **From St Pancras International Station:** Take the Victoria Line to Victoria Station ([TFL](#)).

- **For more information** see the Transport for London (TFL) [Airport Connections](#) page, [Journey Planner](#) or [tube map](#).

Annex A

## **A progressive approach to Territorial Impact Assessment**

*Information Paper from the Stakeholders for the ESPON Targeted Analysis Project EATIA*

EU Sectoral policies have territorial impacts. These are often unwanted or unintended, and can be either direct or indirect. Impacts can affect territories themselves, or territorial governance. This innovative cross-governmental project funded by ESPON is developing an approach to use information in a streamlined way to understand territorial impacts. Understanding such impacts can help improve policy-making.

### **Sectoral policies have territorial impacts**

Sectoral policies have territorial impacts. These can be intentional or unintentional and can result in positive or negative effects for a territory. A national policy on renewable energy infrastructure, for example, may lead to conflicts with policy on environmental protection areas. Or, transport policy may lead to unanticipated economic and social impacts in rural areas. Research<sup>1</sup> has shown that EU directives and policy have territorial impacts too. Consider, for example, the impact of the Habitats Directive. The development of the Natura 2000 network of protected sites acted to restrict development opportunities in certain areas.

The Commission undertakes an Impact Assessment (IA) of its policy proposals to detect and evaluate intended and unintended impacts. However, prediction is notoriously difficult, particularly as impacts vary across Europe, depending on the characteristics of a specific region or locality. Whilst consultation of regional and local stakeholders can help to obtain a better territorial picture of potential impacts, it is difficult to get a full picture from the responses of Europe's many regions and localities. The territorial dimension of sector policies, EU directives (and their transposition) can therefore sometimes be overlooked. For example, whilst the Energy Services Directive may lead to falling energy prices in more populous countries, dominated by a few providers only, it may have the opposite effect in less populous countries, in which several smaller providers may actually not be economical.

In this context, participatory Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) has recently been proposed as a suitable tool to better help anticipate and understand the territorial impacts of developing European policies and directives. This may be applied with input from national, regional and local levels. Ultimately, TIA should benefit sectoral and territorial policies.

### **Considering territorial impacts contributes to better policy making**

The ESPON Programme has undertaken pioneering work on TIA in recent years. The programme carried out a wide range of *ex-post* assessments. It also developed a tool for *ex-ante* assessment that served to carry out exploratory assessments. Pilot projects have also been performed in countries such as the Netherlands and Slovenia.

*Building on the conclusions of Action 2.2 of the First Territorial Agenda Action Plan and the Amsterdam conclusions*<sup>2</sup> EATIA is the latest of these research projects. It aims to complement existing ESPON studies with an approach that is tailored to the requirements of policy makers. It is a Targeted Analysis project initiated by Ministries responsible for spatial planning in Slovenia, Portugal and the UK and being delivered by a project team from the universities of Liverpool, Porto, Ljubljana and Delft.

<sup>1</sup> European Perspectives on Territorial Impact Assessment (Hague, 2010) <http://www.rtpi.org.uk/download/9133/European-Perspectives-on-Territorial-Impact-Assessment-April-2010.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Report of EU Seminar on Territorial Impact of EU policies (Thursday 5 March 2009, Amsterdam, Action 2.2 of the Action Programme for the implementation for the EU Territorial Agenda); [http://www.eu-territorial-agenda.eu/Summary%20Documents/Action%202-2\\_%20Report%20EU%20Seminar%20Territorial%20Impact%20\(3\)\\_05032009.pdf](http://www.eu-territorial-agenda.eu/Summary%20Documents/Action%202-2_%20Report%20EU%20Seminar%20Territorial%20Impact%20(3)_05032009.pdf)

In initiating the project our key priorities were:

- that TIA should be capable of use early in the policy process (*'ex-ante'*) in order to influence policy development;
- that TIA should be able to be undertaken in a streamlined way, without heavy data requirements;
- that the project should *build on the conclusions of the Azores informal ministerial meeting of November 2007*<sup>3</sup>, recognising the role of spatial planning in a multi-level governance system for coherence of sectoral policies and their territorial impacts;
- that the TIA framework should not lead to new formal assessment obligations.

### **A participatory approach to TIA can help address the needs of policy makers**

The EATIA project aims to develop a 'policy maker friendly' TIA framework for national, regional and local level assessment of European policy and directives. Whilst the focus of the project is on the EU level, the methods and processes developed as part of the project should be applicable at other levels of policy making. Indeed, the TIA framework being developed may provide an opportunity for better policy-making in member states.

In developing a TIA approach for European draft directives, the project recognises that aspects of *governance*, *process* and *assessment technique* should be taken into account:

- Governance: TIA needs to be undertaken at the correct governance and sectoral levels (*'horizontal' and 'vertical' integration*). Different sectors, stakeholders and administrations may need to be involved. The principle of subsidiarity, considering impacts at the most local level appropriate, is important to consider effectively and efficiently potential territorial impacts;
- Process: a participatory and efficient process is needed which enables the prediction of direct and indirect territorial impacts through participation of relevant stakeholders; Data collection, predictions and policy decisions should be effectively streamlined.
- Assessment: effective and pragmatic prediction techniques are required that can add scientific credibility to the TIA process.

The participatory framework approach to TIA will recognise the context of different Member States. It will also need to consider common elements to provide for comparable understanding of the territorial impacts of proposed policies across Europe. To facilitate the project learning networks of practitioners in the UK, Portugal and Slovenia have been organised. We have also engaged a number of observer stakeholders from other Member States in order to guide their considerations of the research.

Existing assessment procedures, undertaken during development of plans, policies and programmes, could be used to consider the territorial dimension in relation to their own territorial circumstances.

Ultimately, TIA should lead to a better understanding of policy impacts at different levels and across the sectors, from the European level down to the local level. This should complement the role of the Commission as laid down in the EU impact assessment guidelines and improve the evaluation of territorial impacts at all scales throughout the policy cycle.

Following ESPON timetable the project is expected to complete in spring 2012. The stakeholders look forward to completion of the report and its dissemination through the ESPON programme.

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<sup>3</sup> Conclusions of the Portuguese presidency (Informal Ministerial Meeting on Territorial Cohesion and Regional Policy, Ponta Delgada, Azores, the 23rd and 24th of November 2007); <http://www.eu-territorial-agenda.eu/PresidencyConclusions/CONCLUSIONS.pdf>