

ESPON



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Territorial Impact Assessment: better understanding territorial effects of public policies

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Policy Lab on Rural Proofing,
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Territorial Impacts of (EU) policies

Challenge

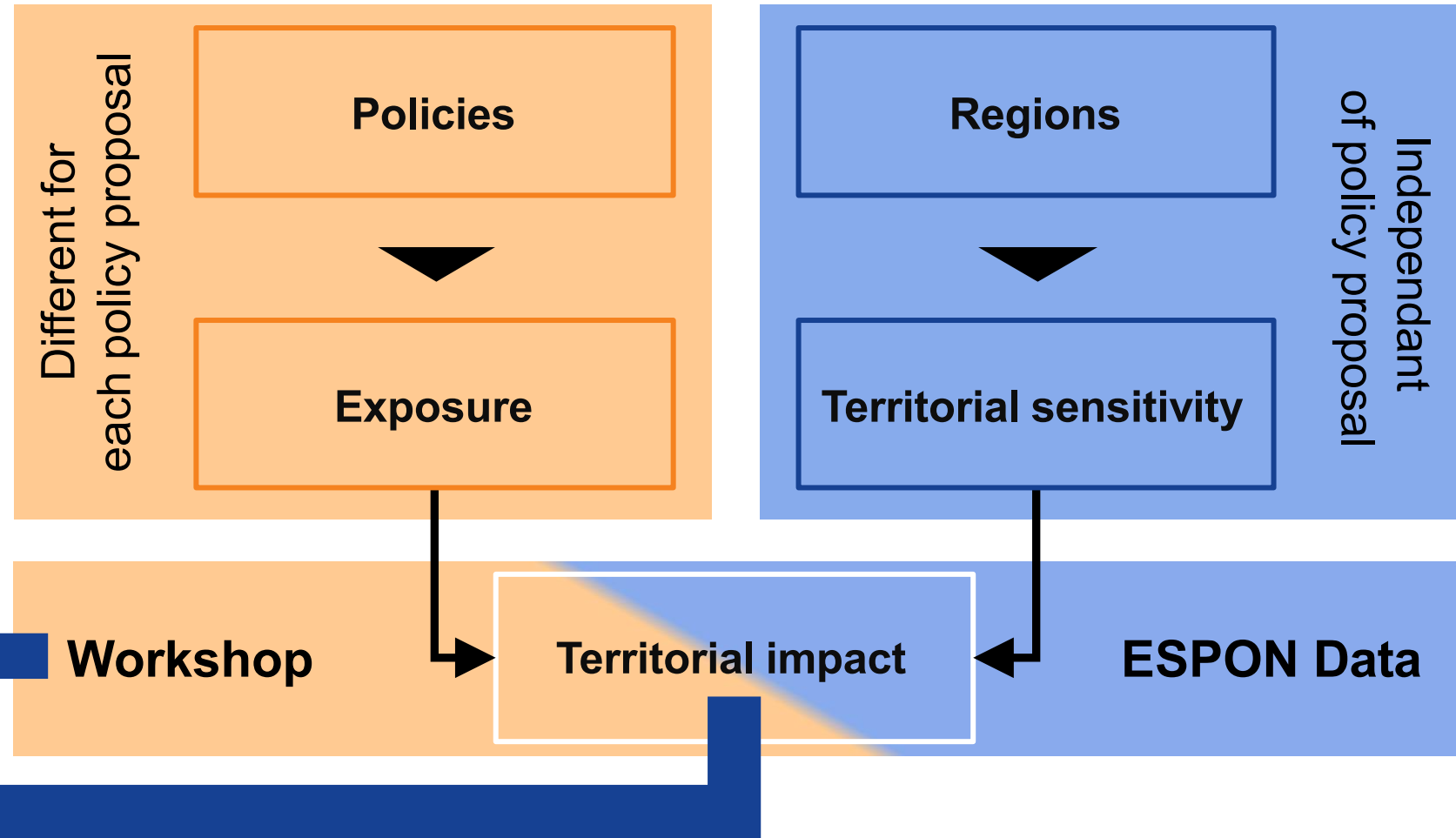
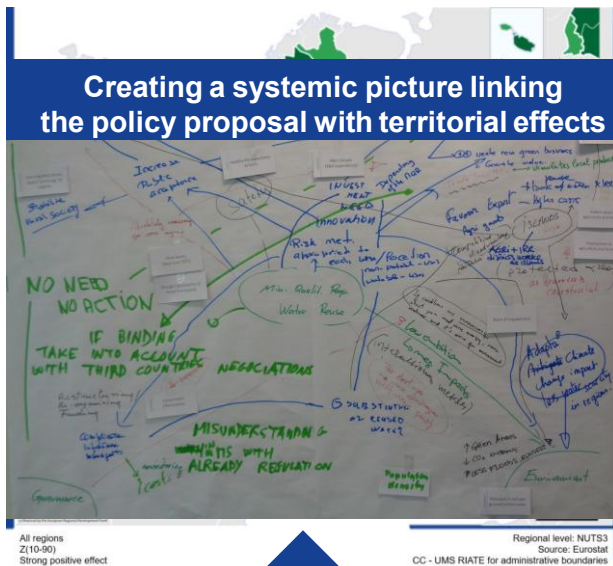
- EU policy proposals influence development of different regions differently
- Regions react differently to policy effects based on their properties
- Cohesion: Explicit goal of the Lisbon Treaty
 - Reducing disparities among regions
 - Promoting overall harmonious development

Solution

- Assessing impacts at an early stage of policy drafting
- Explicitly cover the territorial dimension in impact assessments
- React in policy proposals when undesired unbalanced development is foreseen

The ESPON TIA Quick Check

The Vulnerability Concept



ESPON TIA Webtool

➤ **ESPON TIA tool** has five steps:

1. Set-up the TIA
2. Regions and exposure
3. Mapping
4. Aggregation
5. Conclusions

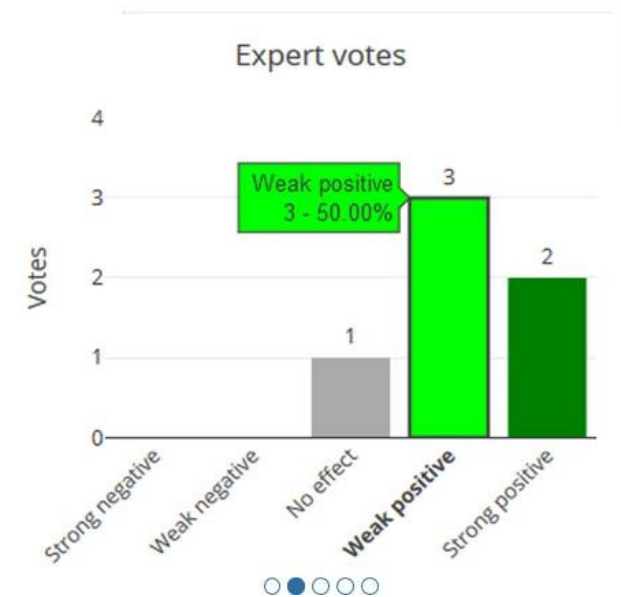
➤ **Types of TIA** possible:

- General TIA
 - all regions, rural, islands, ...
- Urban IA
- Cross-Border TIA
- TIA on a specific area
- TIA Necessity Check

➤ The tool is being used by the **CoR** to help prepare their opinions:

- [CoR TIA webpage](#)

The screenshot shows the ESPON TIA TOOL website. The header includes navigation links (Home, Toolbox, About), a login section with fields for 'admin' and a password, and a 'Login' button. The main content area features the ESPON logo, the European Union flag, and the text 'Co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund'. Below this is the title 'ESPON TIA TOOL' and a 'Welcome to TIA Tool' section. The welcome text describes the tool's purpose: 'The ESPON TIA Quick Check is an interactive tool assessing ex ante the territorial impact of legislations, policies and directives. It allows the user to make a "quick and dirty" ex-ante analysis of the potential impact of EU legislation, policies and directives on the development of regions, which might be unanticipated and undesirable. The tool combines expert knowledge gathered in a workshop with a set of statistical data describing the characteristics of regions. The users are guided through the different steps of the impact analysis and receive assistance and guidance for preparing a territorial impact analysis. The ESPON TIA Tool is developed to help steering an expert discussion in a workshop setting on the territorial effects of an EU policy proposal by checking all relevant indicators. Detailed information on how to use the ESPON TIA Tool can be found in the documents below. Institutions that are interested in using the ESPON TIA Tool are welcome to contact the ESPON EGTC.' Below the text are three buttons: 'TRY DEMO', 'START', and 'NECESSITY CHECK'.



Additional ESPON resources



Key ESPON projects relevant for rural areas (European wide research, targeted analyses and territorial studies)

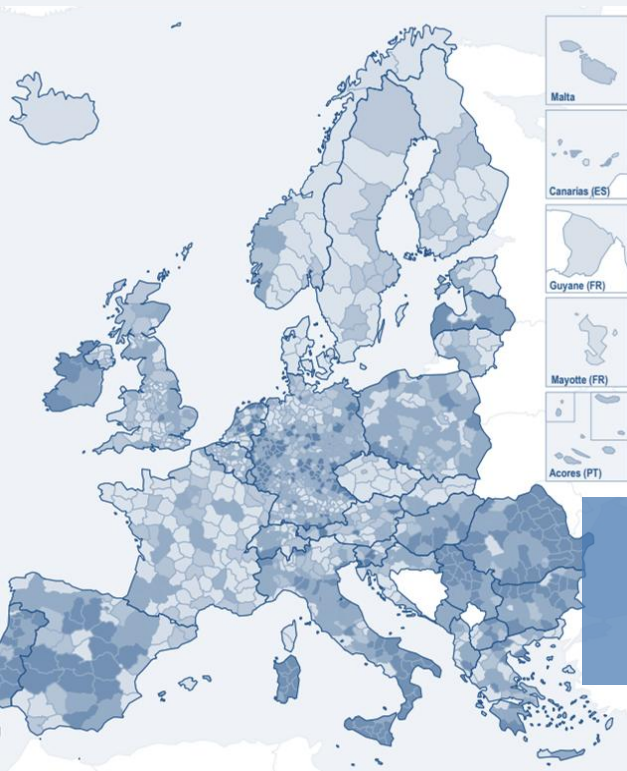
- [\[HOUSE4ALL\]](#) – Access to affordable and quality housing for all people
- [\[OVERLAP\]](#) – Overlapping crises (re)shaping the future of regional labour markets
- [\[NOSTAGEO\]](#) – Territorial governance of non-standard geographies
- [RURALPLAN](#) – Innovative planning in shrinking societies
- [\[DESIRE\]](#) – Provision of public services in lagging regions and areas with special needs
- [\[DEMODAT\]](#) – Demographic data: combining datasets and filling data gaps
- [\[BRIDGES data update\]](#) – Areas at risk of becoming Sparsely Populated
- [\[Paper\]](#) – Empowering small and medium sized cities for balanced territorial development

...plus, much more @espon.eu

Open invitation to submit proposals for Targeted Analyses - 5th cut off date



November 24, 2025

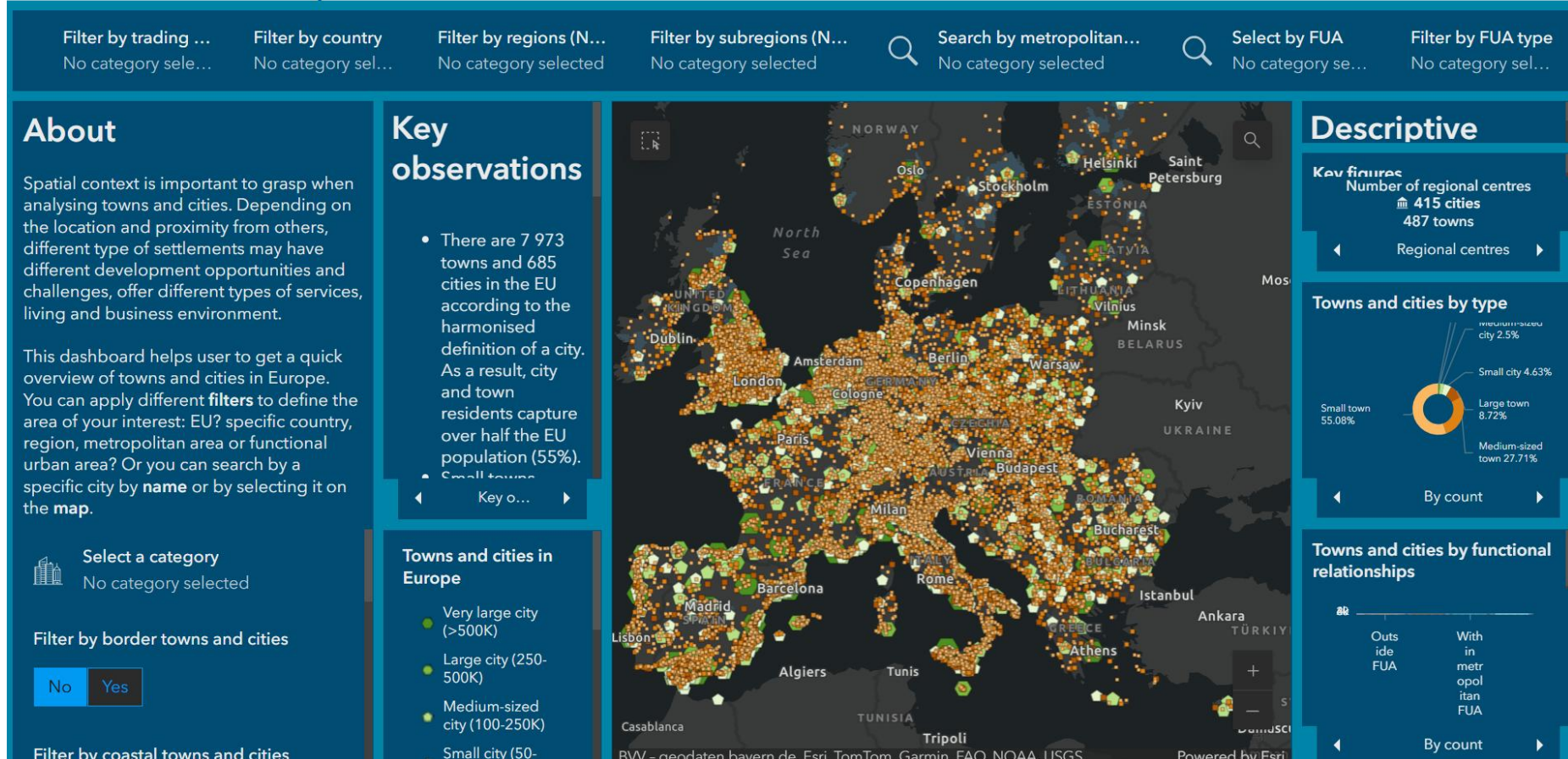


Additional ESPON resources

ESPON Portal: datasets, web maps and data stories; applications and dashboards

<https://gis-portal.espon.eu/arcgis/apps/sites/#/espon-hub>

Towns and cities in Europe



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Thank you