

SPECIFICATION

ESPON Targeted Analysis Based on User Demand 2013/2/12

Metropolisation and Polycentric Development in Central Europe (POLYCE) (2010-2012)

(o) Targeted analyses within the ESPON 2013 Programme

The ESPON 2006 Programme provided integrated analysis and long-term spatial scenarios which enriched the European policy debate and knowledge base. Tying in with the achievements of the previous programme period, the ESPON 2013 Programme continues conducting applied research on European territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion. At the same time, a new type of projects is carried out in the form of targeted analyses based on specific demands expressed by stakeholders and making use of existing ESPON results.

The priorities describing the work-programme of the ESPON 2013 Programme are structured in four strands:

1. **Applied research on territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion: Evidence on European territorial trends, perspectives and policy impacts**

The applied research projects will create information and evidence on territorial challenges and opportunities for success in the development of regions. Cross-thematic applied research will be a major activity integrating existing thematic analysis and adding future analysis of new themes. Territorial impact studies of EU policies will be another focus under this priority.

2. **Targeted analysis based on user demand: European perspective on development of different types of territories**

This priority responds to a clear demand of practitioners for user and demand driven actions within the ESPON 2013 Programme. By convening an analytical process where ESPON findings are integrated with more detailed information and practical know-how, new understanding of future development opportunities and challenges may arise, which could be transformed into projects and actions.

3. **Scientific platform and tools: Territorial indicators and data, analytical tools and scientific support**

The scientific platform and analytical tools built up within the ESPON 2006 Programme will be maintained and further expanded. New actions shall be undertaken to develop current achievements and make use of existing indicators, data and tools.

4. **Capitalisation, ownership and participation: Capacity building, dialogue and networking**

Under this priority, actions are foreseen that will make the evidence and knowledge already developed operational through raising awareness and involving stakeholders in the results and practical application of them.

Targeted analyses under Priority 2 enable stakeholders to obtain customised and up-to-date information on their particular territorial context and opportunities for development which can be used for policy development. Given the targeted focus of these projects on specific territorial entities, targeted analyses will contribute to the use of ESPON results in practise and to the involvement of policy makers, practitioners and scientists in a joint synergetic process.

(i) General objectives of targeted analyses under Priority 2

The general objectives of targeted analyses within the ESPON 2013 Programme are the following:

- Provision of evidence and knowledge based on ESPON results on the strengths and weaknesses of individual regions and/or larger territories seen from a European perspective, or a global context, giving European regions the option to compare themselves to other regions and hereby finding competitive advantages for development and cooperation.
- Improvement of the usefulness of ESPON results by testing new, experimental and innovative options such as (1) analysis of themes of interest for groups of regions, partly based on case studies, (2) methodological frameworks for translating territorial development goals and policy aims into concrete actions and (3) technical, methodological and analytical support to territorial planning processes and spatial programming and visions.
- Provision of analytical support and evidence based on ESPON results on thematic priorities in cooperation with other Structural Funds Programmes.

The aim is to carry through targeted analyses in partnership with policy makers and/or practitioners showing an interest in gaining awareness of European evidence, information, experience and/or knowledge on common challenges related to their territorial and/or urban development.

The individual targeted analysis shall support better informed policy decisions by:

- Integrating ESPON findings with more detailed information and practical know-how, either from a territorial part of Europe or from a sector authority.
- Contributing to a sound knowledge of territorial development perspectives/trends through new understanding of future development potentials and challenges for the respective territorial and/or urban development.

This project shall contribute to these objectives during its implementation by ensuring a close cooperation and partnership with the stakeholders who expressed their need for this targeted analysis.

(ii) Types of Action under Priority 2

Projects under Priority 2 can have different foci and accordingly vary in their content. In order to have a clear distinction between the various possible project orientations, each project needs to be clearly allocated to one of the following types of action:

1) Integrated studies and thematic analysis

This type of action is foreseen to follow a “traditional” analytical approach using existing results of ESPON applied research and other studies. The analysis can integrate several themes relevant for certain types of territories, regions and/or cities or they can be less comprehensive in the approach by focusing on one or a few themes.

The main objectives are:

- a) To provide added value for territorial development of specific types of territories¹ by offering new comparative insight and understanding on territorial potentials and challenges from a European perspective;
- b) To ensure that other (similar) types of territories/regions can benefit from the output of the analysis.

2) Knowledge support to experimental and innovative actions

This type of action clearly allows for the implementation of projects that differ from the mainstream of the ESPON 2013 Programme by being more experimental and/or innovative in character. It is in a way a laboratory for developing ways of meeting main territorial challenges that Europe is confronted with.

The objectives are:

- a) To support experimental and innovative actions carried through in partnership with stakeholders with European knowledge on territorial structures, trends, perspectives and policy impact;
- b) To provide methodological support to experiments and innovative efforts.

3) Joint actions related to other Structural Funds Programmes

The joint actions related to other Structural Funds Programmes take a geographical starting point in the area covered by these programmes, be it transnational, cross-border, interregional, regional or urban territories. The content of these actions can be integrated and thematic analyses or they can be experimental and innovative of nature (as described above). A main prerequisite is that they are justified by supporting Structural Funds Programme implementation.

The objectives are:

- a) To provide information and analyses on the European position of these areas, their comparability with other similar areas, and their potentials and challenges, useful for Structural Funds Programmes (regional, cross-border, transnational, interregional and urban);

¹ Types of territories codified for the territorial dimension, include urban, rural-mountains, rural-islands, rural-area (sparsely and very sparsely populated), rural-other, former external border, area dependant on fisheries, outermost regions, transnational cooperation areas, cross-border cooperation areas and interregional cooperation areas (as listed in the ESPON 2013 Programme, p. 9).

- b) To provide methodological support for strategic processes, including visions and scenarios for spatial development and planning.

Independent of the type of action, each project should have a European perspective (i.e. supporting the understanding of the wider European context), a clear transferable character and a concrete implementation part, focusing on specific territories.

The analytical approach can provide integrated, cross-thematic analyses, study individual themes or sectors, or focus on a specific type of territories. At any rate, ESPON findings shall be integrated and supplemented with more detailed information and practical know-how, either from a territorial part of Europe or from a sector authority. Analysis can include/be based on case studies. The geographical coverage will normally have a more limited territorial coverage than the entire European territory.

(iii) Scope and rationale of the targeted analysis

The project shall address the polycentric network of metropolitan functional urban areas in the Danube Region. In order to detect opportunities for sustainable urban development at macro-regional and city-level the project shall carry out a territorial analysis at both levels. The Central European capital cities Vienna (Austria), Prague (Czech Republic), Budapest (Hungary), Bratislava (Slovakia) and Ljubljana (Slovenia) shall be analysed in depth. The targeted analysis aims at creating a better understanding of the role and territorial position these cities currently have and can have in the future in the wider macro-regional, European and global territorial context.

Main characteristics of the territory to be addressed

The European Commission considers in the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (2 February 2010) that this integration zone is one of the most important areas in Europe. It covers several Member States and neighbouring countries in the river basin and in the coastal zones of the Black Sea. The area of the whole river basin can be considered to cover 800.000 km², with a population of over 100 million, centred on - but not exclusively - the 3.000 km of the Danube River passing through ten countries (more than any other European river). Along the river lie four capital cities, and significant other important centres are part of the region. There are many major issues to be addressed in the region including economic and social disparities, infrastructure deficiencies, environmental status, prevention against risks, and so on. Following the EU enlargements in 2004 and 2007, there is a need and an opportunity to overcome the legacy of former divisions and for the potential of the region as an integral part of the European Union to be more fully realised.

The polycentric urban system forms together with the Danube River an important carrier for territorial development in the Danube Region. The metropolitan and capital city areas are important drivers for development of the entire macro-region. In this respect the cities share important common characteristics and interests. However each city also knows its own specific characteristics and policy challenges:

The city of **Bratislava** is the capital city of Slovakia. The size of the city is 367 km² and the number of inhabitants is 425.533. This results in a population density of 1231 inhabitants per km². The city knows a relative low unemployment rate of 3.24%. The key developments of the city are located around the main bus station (Twin city), the main railway station and the North-Western area of Bory. A strong development can be recognised along the Danube River. The urban development policies focus at Bratislava becoming an important centre of research and science and to reinforce its role as administrative and cultural centre of Slovakia. The city furthermore wishes to further transform its economic structure by rescheduling and developing more sophisticated production in order to find a more sustainable balance with the urban and natural environment as well as living conditions and quality of life for its citizens. In order to reach these objectives Bratislava wishes to better integrate the city in the European urban space and to become an essential city of the Centroe region

The city of **Budapest** is the capital city of Hungary and counts 1.7 million inhabitants. Demographic trends recently show some change after a severe population decrease (1990: 2.0 million). Mortality loss is today counterbalanced by both inland and international immigration. Since 1990, the city revived also in ethnic diversity: opening up formerly closed borders started a migration boom. The number of foreign citizens residing in Budapest is steadily increasing from a stock of 39.200 persons (2,2 % of the population) in the year 2000 to nearly 80 thousand people in 2008 (4,7% of the population). Foreign citizen immigration to Budapest indicates the increasing attractiveness of the city. The economic structure is already for a long time much service oriented. The transformation period in the early nineties particularly boosted sectors like finance, consulting and retail. The IT sector, and more recently the pharmaceutical sector, benefit from foreign direct investment. Rocketing real estate markets and increasing investments in building and construction stimulate further growth and diversification of the service sector, like accounting, shared service centres, business analysis and consulting, but also arts and education. SMEs benefit from the flourishing local economy. After a boost of small scale personal services (e.g. gastronomy, arts, health and beauty) now also creative businesses (e.g. marketing, design and media) arise. The urban dynamics are nowadays much focused on the Danube embankment, providing appropriate scale and environmental quality for further metropolitan development. Former brown field areas as well as underused embankments along the Danube provide the last preserves of urban growth required by post-crisis metropolitan development. Further integration of metropolitan catchment areas into urban development planning is an ongoing project. The political arena is becoming more aware of the metropolitan dimension of urban policies although policy documents don't yet fully reflect this. The suburban rail and motorway schemes and the downtown renewal programme that adapts to private investment tendencies tapping the potential of the Danube axis have stimulated this rise of a new political mindset. New forms of metropolitan planning and co-operation are being set up. The emphasis Budapest puts on polycentric urban integration is consequently also growing. The city for instance runs the initiative of Danube Partnership Network.

The city of **Ljubljana** is the capital of Slovenia. The city has 267.386 inhabitants of which 43.989 are students (2006) living on 115 km². This results in a population

density of 4.011 inhabitants per km². The city welcomes over one million tourists a year that add up to 3.210.000 overnight stays (2008). The average gross wage is 1.745 EUR and the unemployment rate is 6,4%. The municipal spatial plan to be adapted in the summer of 2010 shall lay down the spatial policies for the city. Some key objectives are the improvement of municipal public transport and reinforcing regional public transport development as well as the establishment of a regional public transport authority. The inner city general traffic policy is also important for the city as is the upgrading and reduction of motorised traffic. Furthermore the reduction of land and housing prices is a key ambition of Ljubljana. The regeneration project “Partnership Šmartinska” together with the so-called 22 Mayors' projects form key developments of the city. The city also initiated 86 ongoing development projects (housing, offices, economic parks).

The city of **Prague** is the political, cultural and economic centre of the Czech Republic. With a population of 1.233.211 inhabitants, Prague is the largest city of the country. The area of the city is 496 km². Prague is one of Europe's richest regions (NUTS 2) – it produces 171,8 % of average GDP per capita for the EU. With regard to key developments the city enforces expansion the new city-wide centre and to develop current or new centres in localities that are well-served by public transport, mainly by the subway system. The area, which is directly linked to the international airport at Ruzyně, has great potential to become an important administrative and commercial centre within Central Europe. The key policies of the city are to complete the Prague Inner Ring Road, the Prague Outer Ring Road (in cooperation with the state and the neighbouring region Central Bohemia) and to initiate the extension of the subway line A to the west of the city centre. The R&D branch is also the city's priority.

The city of **Vienna** is the capital of Austria. The city counts 1.680.266 inhabitants. Compared to other European cities, Vienna has seen a substantial population growth rate over the past ten years and the population forecasts show that the Vienna Region will gain 450.000 residents in the period until 2035 (Source: Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning, 2005) due to immigration. The income and purchasing power is comparable to the situation in other well-off Western European capital cities. The city of Vienna shows considerable efforts in becoming a competence centre in Biotechnology and Life Sciences. The city is leading in terms of supply of public services like public transport, water, social services, and healthcare. Social housing has a long tradition in Vienna and one of its top priorities is to provide affordable quality housing for all income brackets. These factors contribute to the high level of the city's quality of life. The Urban Development Plan STEP 05 defines 13 target areas that have special potential and a key function for the city's further development (e.g. Aspern – Vienna's Urban Lakeside, Main Railway Station, Danube Canal). The City of Vienna has started to cooperate with other federal provinces on regional issues at a very early stage. Successful examples in this context are: the Planning Community East (Vienna, Lower Austria and Burgenland) existing since 1978, the strategic and integrated Urban Development Plans of the City of Vienna (1984, 1994, 2005), comprehensive provincial development concepts, active and forward-looking land policies, the Regional Transport Board for East Austria (VOR), and the City Environs Management Programme for Vienna and Lower Austria (*Stadt-Umland-Management SUM*).

The city of Vienna put more and more emphasis on being integrated in a wider polycentric city-network and takes part as an active player within:

- Danube Strategy
- Centroe Region (project Centroe Capacity)
- Twin City Region Bratislava Vienna
- The project JORDES 2002-2005 (Joint Regional Development Strategy) sets the professional basis for cooperation activities between Bratislava, Győr and Vienna in terms of urban and regional planning.

The Transnational Project Group (TPG) implementing this targeted analysis is expected to demonstrate in the proposal a profound knowledge of the urban system in the Danube Region in general and of the spatial development of the cities involved in particular.

Thematic scope for the targeted analysis

The settlement structure of the European territory can be described as a dense and polycentric urban pattern. Population and economic activities tend to concentrate in larger urban areas. Cities in these areas show important growth figures and progressively become nodes of the world network of the advanced service economy. They are therefore expected to deliver a major contribution to the Europe 2020 Strategy in terms of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and job creation.

Polycentric and balanced territorial development can be traced back to many EU policy documents. The European Commission builds in the Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion on earlier steps in the policy debate on spatial planning and territorial cohesion like the European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) and the Territorial Agenda for the European Union (TAEU). It refers to territorial cohesion phenomena as “balanced and sustainable development” and “the creation of networks of cities” in order to find an answer to the question what territorial organisation Europe needs in order to have the economic advantages of concentration and agglomeration without losing the advantages of the overall existing settlement structure.

The polycentric network of the capital cities Vienna, Prague, Budapest, Bratislava and Ljubljana has known important liaisons in history. The cities experienced about half a century of territorial fragmentation until the year 1989. The changed geopolitical context has restored polycentricism and territorial integration as key assets for territorial development of which the approval of the earlier discussed Danube Strategy is a good example.

This project builds further on the intensified political and practical co-operation in the field of spatial planning and urban development between the cities of the last decade. The capital cities wish to strengthen their position as network of metropolises within the European and global territory. They do not only want to be the driver of development for their direct hinterland but as a network they also want to be a driver of development for the entire Danube Region as global integration zone.

The cities involved wish to enhance their metropolitan competitiveness. By making use of their metropolitan territorial potential they expect to be able to bring added

value (“smart, sustainable and inclusive economic growth”) to the entire development of the Danube Region. In particular the attraction of green and creative economic activity is a key objective as well as innovation and knowledge economy (including research and innovation). The metropolitan identity (e.g. design, innovation and cultural exchange), quality of life and the quality of services of general interest are considered as potential levels for development and hence require important attention in this project. The cities involved also wish to strengthen the networking amongst each other in order to make better use of complementarities and to create synergies between cities.

The territorial functionality of the cities as metropolises goes beyond administrative boundaries. The project shall therefore approach the cities as functional urban areas and is hence expected to make use of the territorial definitions and categories for urban areas (FUA / MEGA) that have been developed within the ESPON framework.

The position of the cities involved in macro-regional corridors therefore requires a deeper understanding. In particular the establishment of Corridor 5, connecting Piedmont-Lombardy with the Eastern European markets crossing booming regions of Adriatic harbours, major Slovenia urban centres (Ljubljana among others), advanced manufacturing cities in Hungary and Budapest, should be considered by the project. Together with the Danube a kind of triangle arises from these three axes. The axis created and advanced communication with Slovakia, Ukraine and Russia and accommodates further business opportunities benefitting of an advanced transnational network. Corridor 5 is according to the stakeholders behind the project more than a transportation axis: this is an organic extension of the Mediterranean growth area aiming at expanding to the Balkan and further towards Eastern Europe. Corridor 5 provides also an alternative access to Belgrade and further Balkan cities. This aspect contributes to the competitiveness of the metropolitan network and should also be part of the research.

Objectives of the targeted analysis

This targeted analysis aims at describing the state of affairs of the process of metropolisation in Central-Eastern Europe in order to formulate strategic territorial development options for its capital city authorities and its respective functional urban areas that wish to add up to the EU Strategy for the Danube Region.

The project is expected to answer the following questions:

1. What are the characteristics of the polycentric system on Central European level and metropolitan level?

The project is expected to identify the competitive and cooperative aspects between the five metropolises and describe and assess the polycentric system/development within these metropolitan regions as well as the positioning of the involved cities within wider polycentric systems. The project shall develop indicators to measure and distinguish different types of polycentric relations at macro-regional and metropolitan level (e.g. on the basis of traffic flows or economic collaboration). The indicators shall be used to describe and estimate the

polycentric relations between the different cities involved as well as other Danube Region metropolises such as Bucharest.

2. What are the distinct characteristics and profiles of the involved metropolises and their relevant territorial capital?

The project shall characterize the structure, forms and functions etc. of the metropolises involved and shall describe their respective territorial capital covering the social, human and real capital dimension. Also the social capital (identifying and assessing relational capital and cooperative initiatives) is expected to be analysed.

3. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the involved metropolises?

The project will define and calculate innovative indicators regarding potentials and development perspectives and shall identify strengths and weaknesses through stakeholder assessment and benchmarking on macro and meso level. The project shall disclose different perceptions of characteristics (own vs. third party perception). It shall also depict interdependences and relations between the selected cities on macro and meso level.

4. Which recommendations/strategies can be derived for the positioning of the five metropolitan areas through strengthening the polycentric structure on macro and meso level?

The project is expected to formulate possible development perspectives for the cities involved supporting them in establishing further integration at macro-regional level and strategic positioning in the wider European and global context. The project therefore supports and enhances the overall knowledge base on metropolisation, elaborates strategic projects activating territorial potentials, supports and assesses policy strategies. The cities involved are much interested in developing sustainable territorial development perspectives. Particular attention should hence be given to possibilities like managing and facilitating growth, re-use of land (brownfield development), prevention and regulation of urban sprawl and enhancing the use of collective transport modes.

The project shall draw general conclusions on the role and position of metropolises in macro-regions on the basis of the analysis of the five case study metropolises. The methodological framework and analytical tools the project develops are expected to be transferable to similar cases throughout the European territory.

(iv) Implementation methodology and project governance

Partnership in the project implementation is vital in order to achieve useful results. This applies to both, the partnership between the ESPON Programme and stakeholders, as well as between the team of researchers (TPG) and the stakeholder representatives.

Stakeholder involvement is essential throughout the project's life-cycle and starts off with the definition and development of the specific theme for the targeted analysis. During the implementation phase of the targeted analysis, stakeholders play an active role by providing and giving access to information relevant for the project, as well as by steering and guiding the work of the TPG.

The participating stakeholders will take charge of the participation of responsible officers, policy makers and local experts in the workshops.

Steering Committee

A Steering Committee will be established for the duration of the life-time of the project. The Steering Committee consists of representatives from the Lead Stakeholder (City of Vienna), the Partner Stakeholders (Cities of Bratislava, Budapest, Ljubljana and Prague) and the ESPON Coordination Unit. The representatives all work within urban and strategic planning departments.

The objective of the Steering Committee is:

- To ensure the involvement and an active participation of stakeholders in the project steering;
- To safeguard the policy relevance of the project output for the stakeholders;
- And to facilitate the information and data flow between the Transnational Project Group, the group of stakeholders and the ESPON Coordination Unit;

The role of the Steering Committee is to advise the ESPON Monitoring Committee and the ESPON Managing Authority on the overall decisions with respect to the project. By doing so it shall in particular give feedback to project reports, provide guidance to the next steps of the project implementation and advise on major changes in project activities and/or possible reallocations of the project budget.

The Steering Committee intends to meet between 5 to 15 working days after the submission of each project report.

The Lead Stakeholder (or a Partner Stakeholder) takes care of the practical organisation of the Steering Committee meetings (e.g. invitation, meeting room). The TPG shall support the Lead Stakeholder in this and can be asked to deliver project related input (e.g. presentations).

The first Steering Committee coincides with the Kick-off meeting and takes place at the premises of the ESPON Coordination Unit in Esch-sur-Alzette.

Political body

The group of stakeholders shall install a political body that follows the project. The body consists of politicians and / or high-level policymakers from the five cities involved and from other institutions (e.g. EC DG Regio).

The political body shall meet twice during the projects' lifetime in order to discuss intermediate project results. It comes together late spring 2011² and back-to-back to the Steering Committee meeting following the delivery of the Draft Final Report. The

² Due to elections in most cities involved this will be the moment that new local governments will be installed.

objective of this meeting is to inform politicians and / or high-level policymakers about the project and its results as well as to obtain a political feedback. The meetings of the political body should hence support the TPG to deliver outputs that correspond to the policy expectations.

The group of stakeholders is responsible for the practical organisation of the meetings of the political body and the TPG, in close collaboration with the stakeholders, takes care of the content related preparation of the meeting.

The stakeholders offer their premises to host the workshops and take care of the catering.

Involvement of regional and local experts / practitioners

The project shall organise 5 workshops (one in each city) in order to involve regional and local experts and practitioners of the five cities in order to guarantee a mutual knowledge transfer. The involvement hence aims at communication of project results as well as getting local/regional knowledge on board of the project.

The stakeholders shall provide the TPG with a list of names of experts to be involved at the start of the project.

The stakeholders can offer their premises to host the workshops. Additional costs are expected to be born out of the project budget.

Final event

The project shall at the end of its lifetime organise a wider event allowing a discussion on the project results. The event is expected to allow for creating synergies between the project results and related policy and research initiatives. The participants in the earlier workshops shall also be invited.

This event may involve ESPON Monitoring Committee Members and representatives from other metropolitan cities of countries located in the Danube Region. Umbrella organisations such as Eurocities, Metrex and CEMR and parties involved in the Danube Strategy may also be considered to take part in the event. The Steering Committee shall decide on the list of invitees.

The event is organised back-to-back to the final political event and the Steering Committee meeting following the delivery of the Draft Final Report.

The Lead Stakeholder take cares of the practical and technical organisation of the final event and shall be assisted by the TPG.

The stakeholders can offer their premises to host the workshops. Additional costs are expected to be born out of the project budget.

Project implementation and language

The project team shall possess sufficient language skills of the respective national languages represented by the five cities covered by this targeted analysis to implement the project.

The working language of the project will be English. Local circumstances, however, might require (profound) knowledge of local languages in order to implement the project. The TPG should take into account that local data sources in English are very limited or limited in all involved cities. The TPG also should be aware that local practitioners and experts have limited skills in English in the following cities: Bratislava and Prague.

The meetings of the Steering Committee and the political body and workshops will be in English. The stakeholders shall provide translation if needed.

(v) Envisaged results of the targeted analysis

The empirical analysis should provide relevant information at the geographical level of each individual metropolitan region as well as at the geographical level of the metropolitan urban system of the Danube Region as a whole. The results will demonstrate disparities within and between metropolitan regions as well as relevant strengths and weaknesses.

The results comprehend a territorial benchmark of the metropolitan areas and the Danube Region as global integration zone. They support the formulation of strategic actions at the two geographical scales mentioned, taking into account the policy competences of the stakeholders.

The results should cover at least:

1) Basic information on:

- Macro-regional polycentric structures in Europe (as inspiration base for the project)
- Demographic and economic structure and development (e.g. migration, aging, income, employment, specialisation, innovation)
- Urban structure (e.g. urban sprawl, suburbanisation, land-use, accessibility)
- Quality of life (e.g. environmental factors, leisure facilities)
- Governance (e.g. strategic instruments, participation)

2) Specific information on:

- Strengths and weaknesses in different fields of metropolitan development
- Identification of assets and deficits of metropolitan positioning
- Identification of development opportunities
- Assessment of and development of indicators for polycentric development on macro and meso level
- Definition of new strategic and cooperative initiatives.

(vi) Stakeholders' envisaged use of the targeted analysis

The stakeholders behind the project would like to use the project results to formulate policy actions they can undertake within their own competences in order to contribute to the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region. They especially wish to undertake actions that support territorial integration by strengthening the

polycentric city network they belong to as well as their individual metropolitan territorial assets.

The project results will deliver clear profiles of the metropolitan regions revealing their particular strengths and weaknesses in relation to other cities. Thus, the main benefit of the research should be the empirical base for knowledge-based strategic concepts of urban policy for defining strategies for future polycentric development on the meso and macro level. In that way the stakeholders will not only be confronted with problems and challenges but they will also get applicable recommendations for real political action in practice on different spatial levels. The policy makers can use these recommendations to develop or to adapt strategic plans, to sharpen their cities' profiles or to improve the effectiveness of marketing.

Furthermore the comparison of different metropolitan regions can help to develop effective co-operation strategies of the cities involved. In addition it will also provide good practices which can possibly be used as a stimulating example for other stakeholders.

In order to support the operational use by stakeholders the project shall present (intermediate) project results at up to one (policy) event per stakeholder. The stakeholders provide a list of events the latest at the kick-off meeting.

(vi) Outputs and timetable

The project is expected to start in October 2010 and have a life-time of about 18 months. The project shall result in a series of reports during the project lifetime. The timing foreseen for the targeted analysis looks as follows:

- Inception Report: January 2011

This report focuses on the elaboration of the analytical framework and the research approach of the project and shall in particular integrate the results of a further detailing of the user demand. The report includes a detailed overview on the analytical approach to be applied, the methodology and hypothesis for further investigation, as well as a review of the main literature, data sources (including ESPON), etc. The report also demonstrates how the project is inspired from experiences in other macro-regional polycentric structures in Europe.

- Interim Report: August 2011

This report focuses on the presentation of intermediate project results at the level of each individual city-region and at the level of the entire city-network in relation to the potential contribution to the Danube Strategy. The report also provides an insight on how the project is expected to formulate recommendations. The report targets the stakeholders behind the project and potential end users of the project results.

- Draft Final Report: February 2012

This report presents the final results of the project and focuses on relevant conclusions and recommendations at the level of each individual city-region and at the level of the entire city-network in relation to the potential contribution to the Danube Strategy. The report targets the stakeholders behind the project and potential end users of the project results.

- Final Report: April 2012

This report is in principle a revision of the Draft Final Report taking into consideration final comments and suggestions from the stakeholders and end users, the ESPON Monitoring Committee, the European Commission and the ESPON Coordination Unit. Simultaneously, the datasets, maps and figures used and produced within the framework of the project should be delivered.

The TPG is expected to give presentations of (intermediate) results at the occasions mentioned under “(v) operational use of the targeted analysis”.

(vii) Budget for the targeted analysis

The maximum budget foreseen for this project amounts to € 350.000,- including VAT if applicable. Proposals exceeding this amount will not be considered.

The amount will include all costs for the TPG for completing the project including all travel expenses and the attendance at ESPON Seminars (taking place twice a year in June and December – June 2012 included) and Steering Group meetings as well as the events mentioned above.

Travel costs in relation to dissemination events organised by the stakeholders or for which participation of a representative of the TPG would be requested from the stakeholders will be covered by the latter.

ESPON projects are generally conducted in a partnership of several bodies from at least three EU Member and Partner States (from three different countries taking part in the ESPON 2013 Programme).

(viii) Existing access points

The access points listed below serve the purpose of providing the TPG with useful information for preparing a proposal. They are by no means meant to be exhaustive, but should be considered as information that can be helpful as background information.

- Results of the ESPON 2006 and 2013 Programme, data and maps: www.espon.eu

ESPON 2013 Results:

- Priority 1 “FOCI” on cities and urban agglomerations

- Priority 1 “DEMIFER” on demographic trends
- Priority 2 “METROBORDER” on cross-border polycentric metropolitan areas
- Priority 2 “CAEE” on agglomeration economies

ESPON 2006 Results:

- 1.1.1 Polycentricity - regarding MEGAS, FUAS
 - 1.1.2 Urban-rural - regarding classification of urbanisation
 - 1.1.3 Enlargement and polycentricity - regarding cross-border situations
 - 1.1.4 Demographic trends - regarding types of areas
 - 1.3.2. Natural heritage - regarding settlement structures
 - 1.4.1. Role of small and medium cities - regarding the role of smaller cities
 - 1.4.3. Urban functions - regarding functions of metropolitan areas
 - 2.2.1. Transport trends - regarding cross-border situation
 - 2.3.2. Governance - regarding governance in metropolitan areas in planning
 - 2.4.1. Environment - regarding settlement structures
 - 2.4.2. Zoom in - regarding regionalised analysis of ESPON results
 - 3.1. Coordination - regarding different spatial concepts
 - 3.2. Scenarios - regarding the perspectives of different types of regions
 - 3.3. Lisbon strategy - regarding the demands on global competition
 - INTERACT-ESPON: Cross-border Cooperation Study
 - INTERACT-ESPON: Polycentricity Study
- EU Strategy for the Danube Region (http://www.interact-eu.net/danube_strategy/285) and related studies.
 - The stakeholders behind the project have prepared a common paper on understanding themselves as functional urban areas. The paper can be made available on demand.

Key studies on cities:

Bratislava:
City Bratislava urban plan

Budapest:
Budapest is able to share the brief of the Budapest Metropolitan Economy Orientation Study in English. (Please indicate whether it is required and the deadline when the study brief should be available in English.)

Prague:
The Planning Analytical Materials of the City of Prague (<http://www.urm.cz/en/uap2009>, the document is only in Czech, some basic information in English is on the web site)
Yearbook Prague Environment2008 ([http://envis.praha-mesto.cz/\(cp0wkqrrzftwwujc4sibnc45\)/rocenky/Pr08_pdf/index.htm](http://envis.praha-mesto.cz/(cp0wkqrrzftwwujc4sibnc45)/rocenky/Pr08_pdf/index.htm), Czech-English version)
Statistical Yearbook of Prague (<http://www.czso.cz/xa/edicniplan.nsf/p/101011-09> , Czech-English version)

Vienna:
[in German]:
Regionale Kooperation - Eine Voraussetzung für zukunftsweisende
Stadtplanung (2007)
<http://www.wien.gv.at/stadtentwicklung/studien/b008046.html>
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Key policy documents from the cities:

Bratislava:
Social and economical development program

Budapest:
Podmaniczky Programme Mid-term Urban Development Programme of
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Prague:
Strategic Plan for Prague, 2008 Update
(http://www.urm.cz/en/strategicky_plan, English version)
Programme for the Implementation of the Prague Strategic Plan for the 2009-
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Vienna:
The Urban Development Plan (Stadtentwicklungsplan - STEP) 2005 – with a
strong focus on regional development:
<http://www.wien.gv.at/stadtentwicklung/strategien/step/step05/download/index.html>

Vienna Strategy Plan (Strategieplan Wien 2004)
<http://www.wien.gv.at/stadtentwicklung/strategien/strategieplan/index.html>

Information on Centrepe:
www.centrepe.info

The Traffic and Transport Master Plan, drawn 2003
https://www.wien.gv.at/wienatshop/Gast_STEV/Start.aspx?artikel=10772