Current projects and framework contracts

ESPON ERMES - European research for maritime eco(nomic) cluster governance strategies

Together with Ecorys Netherlands, Spatial Foresight participates to the development of scenarios and recommendations for the development of economic clusters in a set of maritime regions (Liguria, Crete, East Flanders, Malta). On the basis of statistical and geographical evidence, the project aims at elaborating scenarios through a participative process. Spatial Foresight is involved in graphic design to support scenario development and eventually in drafting a atlas of the regions. This atlas will highlight possible futures for maritime regions and ports, and the role of clusters in shaping it.

Client: ESPON EGTC, Ecorys
Duration: February 2020 - February 2021

ADRION operational and impact evaluation

Spatial Foresight, in a consortium led by t33, will contribute to the evaluation of the ADRION Cooperation Programme. The evaluation will provide evidence and recommendations concerning the governance and management structure as well as the communication strategy, the implementation of the Programme (operational evaluation) and the achievement of its strategic goals (impact evaluation). Spatial Foresight will contribute to the impact evaluation, assessing the effects of the Programme implementation to the regional integration and analysis the mechanisms producing the impact, understood as the Programme’s contribution to change. Spatial Foresight will also look into the contribution of the Programme to the EUSAIR, as regards the Programmes thematic and governance support to the strategy.
Active subsidiarity and the European Semester: the involvement of cities and regions in policy-making for investment and structural reform

In the framework contract for the European Committee of the Regions on economic policies and governance, Spatial Foresight, in a consortium led by t33, has been awarded a contract on the analysis of the concept of active subsidiarity and the European Semester. The objective is to develop recommendation on how to implement the concept of 'active subsidiarity' in the context of the European Semester, in particular with a view to LRAs and the principles of partnership and multi-level governance. Spatial Foresight will contribute, inter alia, through case studies.

Client: t33 / European Committee of the Regions
Duration: December 2019 - March 2020

Assessing the need for a modification of the state aid rules for the phasing-out of coal

Spatial Foresight, in a consortium led by t33, has been awarded a contract on the analysis of state aid modification needs for the phasing-out of coal. This analysis will be conducted within a framework contract awarded by the European Committee of the Regions. The objective of the study is to provide insights into available state aid rules and needs for adjustments to better facilitate the transition of coal regions. Spatial Foresight will conduct, inter alia, two case studies on coal regions in Northrhine-Westfalia and Castilla y Leon.

Client: European Committee of the Regions
Duration: December 2019 - February 2020
Socioeconomic analysis of the French-Belgium border region

Spatial Foresight will support the Interreg Programma France-Wallonie-Vlaanderen in their development of the 2021-2027 cooperation programme by performing a socioeconomic analysis of the cross-border region. The socioeconomic analysis will support the selection of future programme priorities and specific objectives. Therefore the analysis will focus on the specific strengths, weaknesses, treats and opportunities with regards to cross-border cooperation needs and possibilities. The analysis will be based on document studies and statistical analysis.

Client: Joint Secretariat of the Interreg programme France-Wallonie-Vlaanderen
Duration: November 2019 - February 2020

EPRS framework contract for expertise on impact assessments and European added value

Spatial Foresight has been contracted a framework contract by the European Parliamentary Research Services (EPRS) for the provision of external expertise in the fields of ex-ante impact assessment, ex-post evaluation, estimating European added value and stress testing of EU policy. ÖIR is the lead partner of the contract, while other partners are Arcadia, M&R Facotry, TRT, and VVA.

Client: European Parliamentary Research Services (EPRS)

Challenges and opportunities for developing entrepreneurship at the EU external
Spatial Foresight has been contracted by the ESPON EGTC to analyse challenges and opportunities for development of entrepreneurship and attracting investments for business development in the cross-border areas at the EU external borders of Latvia, Lithuania and Romania. The main outcome is expected to be a concrete list of recommendations and support mechanisms in each stakeholder territory on development of entrepreneurship and attracting investments in the cross-border areas at the EU external border by using this specific location and other conditions as an asset.

Duration: October 2019 - September 2020
Client: ESPON EGTC

Analysis of the impact of Social business initiative

Spatial Foresight has been contracted by the DG Employment to provide a comprehensive and evidence-based analysis of the impact of Social business initiative (SBI) on the development of social enterprises/social economy and their operating environments both at national and EU level. Its impact will be measured against the key objective of the policy initiative, i.e, creating enabling conditions for the development of social enterprises/social economy. Particular emphasis will be put on system level changes, such as changes in legislation, institutions, policy design processes, networks or financing markets identifying the possible need and most pertinent scope for any future policy action in this field. The project will be conducted jointly with EURICSE (Italy) and ECSF (Germany).

Duration: October 2019 - July 2021
Client: European Commission, DG Employment
Possibilities for future transnational cooperation in the North-West European cooperation area post 2020

Spatial Foresight has been contracted by the Rhineland-Palatine Ministry of the Interior and Sport to analyse possibilities for future transnational cooperation in the North-West European cooperation area post 2020. The analysis will focus on the interest and potentials for Rhineland-Palatine and the regional stakeholders. The analysis will, inter alia, identify thematic priorities of particular interest of Rhineland-Palatine and develop proposals for future support of regional stakeholders for their participation in transnational cooperation. The project will be conducted jointly with TAURUS ECO.

Duration: October 2019 - May 2020
Client: Rhineland-Palatine Ministry of the Interior and Sport

EGTC Monitoring Report 2018-2019

Spatial Foresight has received a request from the Committee of the Regions to develop the EGTC
Monitoring Report 2018-2019. For the first time, the Monitoring Report will focus around good examples and story telling of EGTCs putting less emphasis on EGTCs' formal information. Apart from presenting good EGTC practices in particular in the field of territorial cooperation, the report will analyse the implementation of the EGTC regulation in national legislation, the set-up of new EGTCs and EGTCs currently under constitution. Spatial Foresight will coordinate the project. Other partners involved in this assignment are ÖIR, t33 and Merit.

Client: European Committee of the Regions  
Duration: October 2019 - March 2020

Blue Biotechnology in Europe

Spatial Foresight has been contracted by the JRC Seville (Territorial Development Unit) for a sector analysis. In support of the Annual Report on the EU Blue Economy 2021, the objective of this contract is to analyse policy activity, results and evidences coming from project interventions, collaborative frameworks, industrial advancement and research activity in the emerging sector of Blue Biotechnology in Europe.

Client: Joint Research Centre (JRC) for the European Commission  
Duration: August 2019 - December 2019

Territorial Agenda 2020+

#TerritorialAgenda  
A future for all places

During the German EU Presidency in 2020 a New Territorial Agenda of the European Union will be
agreed by the ministers responsible for Spatial Planning and Territorial Development. The New Territorial Agenda will be based on an updated and revision of the Territorial Agenda of the European Union, which dates back to 2011. Spatial Foresight supports the forthcoming German EU Presidency in the drafting of the New Territorial Agenda and the development of pilot actions putting it into practice. For this Spatial Foresight as teamed up with EPRC and blue!

Follow the progress of work at territorialagenda.eu.

Client: BBSR
Duration: June 2019 - December 2020

Analysis of the cooperation area of the future Interreg VI Grande Région programme

As part of the preparation of the future Interreg VI Greater Region (Grande Région) cooperation programme, the Managing Authority has selected Spatial Foresight and Eureconsult to carry out a socio-economic analysis of the cooperation area. The study will provide an overview of economic, social and territorial disparities that characterise the cooperation area, in order to enable the partner authorities responsible for drawing up the future programme to have access to in-depth and up-to-date evidence. This evidence will be used to develop the programming strategy, including the selection of strategic objectives by partner authorities. Particular attention will be paid to common investment needs

Client: Interreg VA Grande Région
Duration: June 2019 - February 2020

Think piece on spatial inequalities

Spatial Foresight support the EIB in its development of a Think Piece on spatial inequalities. The questions to be addressed include (a) What are the dimensions of spatial inequalities, both in terms of indicators to look at and phenomena to address such as the urban-rural divide and socioeconomic segregation within cities? (b) How do spatial inequalities unfold? How have they evolved over the recent past? (c) What are
the consequences of spatial inequalities (e.g. the urban-rural divide with urban congestion and rural
desertification, hollowing out of city centres, ghettoization, and rise of populism)? (c) What can policies
related to investment and capacity building in different sectors do to address the root causes of spatial
inequalities and/or stem its undesirable consequences?

Client: European Investment Bank
Duration: May 2019 - November 2019

Alpine Space evaluation

Spatial Foresight supports the Alpine Space Interreg VB programme by conducting the impact assessment. Impacts of all four programme priorities will be assessed and lessons for future programme design gathered. In this context, Spatial Foresight will be responsible in particular for gaining insights into the relation between the Alpine Space programme and the EUSALP. The evaluation is coordinated by t33 and will be implemented in two phases until the end of 2022.

Client: Alpine Space Interreg VB programme
Duration: May 2019 - December 2022

Housing policy in Luxembourg

Luxembourg prepares a new housing policy "Housing Pact 2.0" to increase the housing supply and better meet the growing demand for affordable housing in Luxembourg. The cooperation between national and local authorities will be a key element in the new policy. In preparation of the new policy, there will be a series of 6 participatory workshops with Luxembourgish municipalities to explore possible concrete measures which could be included in the design of the new policy.

In cooperation with Zeyen+Baumann, Spatial Foresight has been commissioned by the Luxembourg Ministry of Housing to develop the participatory concept for the workshops, to moderate the workshops and to draw conclusions on objectives, measures and instruments to be considered in the new policy.
Territorial dimension of future scenarios for Luxembourg

Spatial Foresight will contribute to a NEXUS FUTURES study by the University of Luxembourg. The study develops possible future scenarios for Luxembourg based on different assumptions about the societal and political systems, and the economy, technology and environment in 2045. The scenarios have been created in a series of workshops with different stakeholders from the private and public sector. Several independent experts provide more detailed information issues such as the economic, infrastructure, agriculture and forestry conditions in Luxembourg. As a result, the scenarios have a strong thematic focus with little spatial differentiation. Spatial Foresight will highlight the territorial dimension of the three scenarios, providing for each one indicative and thought-provoking map.

Client: University of Luxembourg
Duration: March 2019 - December 2019

CGET ERDF European comparison

Spatial Foresight has been chosen to identify and describe good practices in the implementation of ERDF programmes by the French General Commission for Territorial Equality. For this purpose, an extensive network of national experts covering all EU countries has been mobilised. The study will in particular focus on factors of success to achieve good progress in programming, national coordination arrangements for ERDF programmes, programme governance and partnerships. We will also look carefully at programme management systems in different parts of Europe. The study feeds into a wider set of enquiries designed to prepare French authorities for the design and implementation of ERDF programmes in the 2021-2027 programming period, under the coordination of the French consultancy group Rouge Vif.

Client: CGET-Commissariat Général à l'Egalité des Territoires
Duration: February 2019 - September 2019
EU-CELAC Cooperation on Territorial Cohesion

Spatial Foresight is part of a consortium led by Technopolis selected to carry out INNOVACT II – the second phase of the EU-CELAC INNOVACT Platform [www.innovactplatform.eu](http://www.innovactplatform.eu) on behalf of the European Commision (DG REGIO). The aim of the project is to systematise and structure the knowledge transfer from European countries and regions to Latin American (LATAM) cross-border regions in terms of regional innovation promotion, cross-border cooperation and territorial governance. In addition to the previously selected 6 Latin American countries (Peru, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala and Mexico), now also Bolivia and the Triple Border Argentina-Brazil-Paraguay will benefit from capacity building and support to develop new value chains and regional innovation projects. European regions and cross-border areas will be invited to offer their knowledge to the LATAM regions and to exploit opportunities for cooperation.

Client: Technopolis Group Paris-Bogota / DG REGIO
Duration: January 2019 - July 2020

Green economy in the Alps II

Spatial Foresight is part of the winning Consortium with blue! (leadpartner) and CIPRA for a project contracted by the German Federal Environment Agency (UBA) in support of the sector development of the Green Economy in the Alps. The project builds on the Action Programme for a Green Economy that has been elaborated by the Consortium during the past two years. Spatial Foresight will especially contribute to the sector analysis of the Green Economy in the Alps and the preparation of stakeholder activation for their involvement.

Client: Umweltbundesamt - Federal Environmental Agency
Duration: January 2019 - April 2020
Territorial scenarios for the Baltic Sea Region

The aim of the ESPON project is to produce trend analysis and territorial scenarios for the Baltic Sea Region. Key topics to be addressed under various policies related to the Baltic Sea Region's territorial development will be identified and the role of the Baltic Sea Region in a larger European and global context. The project is lead by Nordregio and the team includes besides Spatial Foresight also Spiekermann & Wegener Urban and Regional Research and the Institute of Geography and Spatial Organisation Polish Academy of Sciences.

Client: ESPON EGTC
Duration: November 2018 - September 2019

CIPU II - National information platform for urban policies 2018-2021

Spatial Foresight was awarded together with Zeyen+Baumann with the follow-up of the 'Cellule nationale d'information pour la Politique Urbaine' (CIPU - National information platform for urban policies) for Luxembourg. During the past year, we have been working on the re-establishment of the CIPU.

The CIPU contributes to the exchange of information and expertise of urban actors from different levels by creating an environment for common reflection on matters of urban development. The platform functions as interface between local, national, European as well as between scientific and application
In cooperation with the bureau Zeyen+Baumann, Spatial Foresight will now continue the work we have started last year until 2021. We will again contribute to all tasks under the next CIPU, namely drafting the annual action programme, organising the regular expert forums, creating an online database of good-practice projects and organising the internal communication and documentation.

Client: Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures - DATER, Ministère du Logement, Ville de Luxembourg, Ville d'Esch-sur-Alzette, Ville de Dudelange
Duration: October 2018 - September 2021

**RE-CITY - reviving shrinking cities**

Spatial Foresight has been awarded a Horizon 2020 grant as part of a consortium including 16 universities and 9 research institutes, agencies and consultancies under the lead of the University of Kaiserslautern. This research project will focus on finding new ways of maintaining or improving the quality of life in shrinking cities.

Cities with a declining population have to cope with various issues. One of the issues concerns the question how to maintain the supply of infrastructure if the declining population causes reduced tax revenues. These issues can be dealt with in various ways. The RE-CITY project perceives shrinkage as an opportunity in the years to come. Hence, the RE-CITY project aims at finding creative and innovative solutions to these types of issues. The knowledge produced by the RE-CITY project can be incorporated into new interdisciplinary concepts in urban planning. To do so, the project promotes young scientists. Within the framework of a graduate school, 13 PhD students will conduct research in the project's international network from April 2019. The project includes setting up a structured training program to deal intensively with the topic in workshops, lectures and internships.

Spatial Foresight’s role in this research project consists on the one hand of supporting the research by providing inputs from the practical field and organising workshops. On the other hand, Spatial Foresight will host one of the PhD students by offering a placement with a practical focus.
More information about the project can be found on: www.uni-kl.de/re-city

Client: University of Kaiserslautern  
Duration: October 2018 - September 2021

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 813803

Interreg Baltic Sea Evaluation

Spatial Foresight has been commissioned to carry out the Study "Monitoring of the state of institutional capacity in the region and mid-term evaluation of Programme impact" by the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014-2020. The study covers two main tasks: 1) monitoring of the state of institutional capacity in the Baltic Sea Region in 2018 and in 2020 in order to up-date the situation of the result indicators defined by the Programme, and 2) the mid-term evaluation of the impact of the Programme. For the monitoring and the evaluation different methods such as documentary review, interviews, surveys, focus groups and case study analysis will be used.

Client: INTERREG Baltic Sea Region  
Duration: February 2018 - November 2018, Up-date in 2020

ESPON Territorial Reference Framework
The ESPON study on Territorial Reference Framework for Europe is a preparatory step towards the development of the upcoming policy debate on a Territorial Agenda post 2020. More precisely the study will develop a long-term territorial development perspective for Europe in order to assist in informing and shaping the territorial dimension of post-2020 EU strategic policies. Furthermore the study will elaborate mid-term policy proposals for the integrated governance of Territorial Agenda post-2020, and strategic investment programmes in Europe’s territories, regions and cities, as a means towards the advancement of the long-term territorial development perspective. An important part of the work are pan-European stakeholder dialogues. The study is led by Mcrit in cooperation with Spatial Foresight and the European Policy Centre (EPC).

Client: ESPON EGTC
Duration: November 2017 - May 2019

**AT ERDF evaluation**

Spatial Foresight is part of a consortium with convelop, ÖAR, KM Forschung Austria and ÖGUT and led by ÖIR (all from Austria) who has been awarded the on-going evaluation of the Austrian ERDF programme 2014-2020. Spatial Foresight is mainly involved in the quality control in view of international comparison and experience of ERDF evaluations.

Client: ÖIR GmbH
Duration: December 2017 - December 2023

**ESPON BRIDGES**

The project led by Spatial Foresight and implemented together with 13 other partners aims at analysing regional development processes in Territories with Geographical Specificities (TGS) and at making proposal for innovative strategic development policies. TGS are approached considering their relations and functional interactions with surrounding areas. Empiral work includes 20 local and regional case studies in
EGTCs - Support in their preparation

Spatial Foresight has been awarded a contract to provide support to EGTC foundations. The project has been commissioned by BBSR to further develop solutions for stakeholders engaged in the foundation of an EGTC. Different questions arising for stakeholders regarding the internal relations of the EGTC as required in articles 8 and 9 of the EGTC regulation will be discussed in detail. Selected foundation processes with German participation may receive individual support to solve certain legal aspects that are of interest also for other EGTCs and that can help to reduce the complexity and high burden for EGTC foundations. Against this background, the project furthermore seeks to promote the exchange of experience between recently founded EGTCs and EGTCs in foundation, respectively. The project will be conducte together with the legal advisers from Hempel Krzymuski Partner.

Client: Bundesinstitut für Bau-, Stadt- und Raumforschung (BBSR)
Duration: November 2017 - March 2020

Ongoing evaluation of the Channel cross-border cooperation programme

Spatial Foresight, in a consortium lead by t33, will contribute to evaluation of the Interreg Channel programme between French and English regions. The evaluation encompasses the implementation and impact of this cross-border cooperation programme. The project team will assist the programme with
establishing the best methodology for conducting the implementation evaluation, with quality reviewing the results of the evaluation, and with the assessment of the feasibility of some of the proposals for improving implementation. In the impact evaluation the extent to which the programme has achieved the intended change on the programme area will be assessed through quantitative and qualitative methods. Furthermore, the future of cooperation between stakeholders in the France Channel England Programme area after the UK’s exit from the EU will be explored.

Client: Norfolk County Council  
Duration: August 2017 - October 2022

ESPON Database portal II

Spatial Foresight contributes to setting up the ESPON 2020 Database Portal, as part of a project coordinated by the University of Geneva. It is responsible for the integration of data and metadata from projects and other ESPON activities. This involves the design of processes for data collection and quality control in view of their integration in the database. Previous experience from the ESPON 2013 programme will be capitalised upon, based on an active collaboration with UMS RIATE and Maynooth University. MCRIT and the Autonomous University of Barcelona will also contribute to this work.

Client: ESPON EGTC  
Duration: February 2017 - February 2020

Urban nodes in transnational transport
Spatial Foresight has been awarded a study on the role of urban nodes in Germany in the context of transnational transport and potential opportunities for strategic development. First, the current status of the 13 urban nodes is to be analysed. This comprises the collection of information on (i) challenges, requirements and opportunities that result from the role as urban nodes, (ii) existing strategic approaches and plans to better link different transport modes and integrate transport and spatial planning, (iii) the exchange between urban nodes and (iv) available funding sources. Based on this comprehensive analysis, proposals will be developed how urban nodes (a) can better position themselves, (b) further develop their integrated approaches, (c) learn from each other and (d) strengthen linkages with other players. In order to support this exchange, two workshops will be organised. The project will be conducted by Spatial Foresight, Rupprecht Consult (lead partner) and TCP International.

Client: BBSR
Duration: February 2017 - March 2019

Committee of the Regions Framework contract on Cohesion Policy

Spatial Foresight has been awarded a framework contract for studies in the field of Cohesion Policy commissioned by the Committee of the Regions. Studies requested shall support the rapid response capability of the Committee of the Regions and will support the development of opinions. Topics potentially to be covered include economic, social and territorial cohesion, ESIF, spatial planning, macro-regions, territorial cooperation and regional statistics and indicators. The framework contract will be coordinated by Spatial Foresight and the studies will be elaborated in cooperation with t33, ÖIR, MCRIT and Sweco.

Client: Committee of the Regions
Duration: November 2016 - November 2020

INTERREG NWE evaluation
The 2014-2020 regulatory framework, in particular the Common Provisions Regulation (CPR) and the ETC regulation, emphasizes the result orientation of the ESIF programmes and stresses the central role of the evaluation in the programme lifecycle. In the 2014-2020 period, evaluation shall assess the programme contribution to the programme objectives at least once during the programming period and a summary of the evaluations shall be drafted by 2022.

Spatial Foresight will support the 2014-2020 INTERREG North-West Europe programme by implementing an integrated evaluation approach within the framework of a robust monitoring and evaluation system

Within the scope of this contract, Spatial Foresight will offer the necessary support to implement the evaluation of the two-step approach to project selection, the operational evaluation to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the programme funding and the final impact evaluation on all three programme priority axes. The project will be coordinated by Spatial Foresight in cooperation with t33.

Client: INTERREG North-West Europe
Duration: October 2016 - March 2022

Committee of the Regions framework contract on economic and social policy

Spatial Foresight has been contracted a framework contract by the Committee of the Regions for the provision of external expertise in the filed of economic and social policy. This regards several fields of activity, among others industrial policy, SME policy, economic and monetary policy, internal market, mobility, employment policy, equal opportunities. The lead partner of the contract is t33, while other partners are ÖIR and SWECO.

Client: Committee of the Regions
Design, development and implementation of an integrated evaluation approach for the INTERREG 2 Seas Programme 2014-2020

Spatial Foresight has been awarded a framework contract for the design, development and implementation of an integrated evaluation approach for the INTERREG 2 Seas Programme 2014 – 2020. Within the scope of the contract, the programme will receive methodological support in defining and setting-up the monitoring and evaluation system and input to the Evaluation Plan and Annual Implementation Reports. Together with the lead partner t33, and in cooperation with three external experts, Spatial Foresight will contribute to the Programme Performance Evaluation and Programme Impact Evaluation.

Client: INTERREG 2Seas Programme 2014-2020

Sustainable urban development and urban planning, green urban mobility and transport under the EUAID China R&I Partnership

Spatial Foresight is contributing to a project on EU-China Research and Innovation Partnership and more specifically to lot 3 on “Sustainable urban development and urban planning, green urban mobility and transport”. The project focuses on the economic and social dimensions of urban sustainability and aims at building the capacity of local governments of medium cities to develop socio-technical innovations and meet the challenge of rural migrant integration. Spatial Foresight is part of a consortium led by CNRS (Laboratory Géographie-Cités, Paris) and involving the Institute of Political Science of Aix-Marseille, the Hangzhou Normal University (Institute for Urban Studies), the University Ca'Foscari in Venice and the University of Lausanne (Institute of Geography and Sustainability).

More information can be found on the project's website: http://mediumcities-china.org/#

Client: Delegation of the European Commission in Beijing
Duration: 2014 - 2018

FINALISED PROJECTS - European coverage
State of the art and challenges ahead for Territorial Impact Assessments

Spatial Foresight received a request from the Committee of the Regions to draft a file note on the "State of the art and challenges ahead for Territorial Impact Assessments (TIA)". The analysis brought together different methodologies and experiences gathered with TIA for further improvements and supporting the outreach of TIA. Spatial Foresight and ÖIR developed the file note with support by Mcrit.

Duration: October 2019 - November 2019
Client: European Committee of the Regions

Reviewing intervention logics and results indicators for Urban Innovative Actions

Spatial Foresight was contracted by the UIA Permanent Secretariat to increase internal knowledge and capabilities to help assist projects in developing coherent project intervention logics and result indicators, in line with the European Commission ESIF result-oriented framework for 2014-2020. UIA - Urban Innovative Actions is an Initiative of the European Union promoting pilot projects in the field of sustainable urban development. The final objective of the assistance was to improve the quality of guidance and support tools on the measurability of the projects' results.

Client: GEIE GECOTTI PE - Urban Innovative Actions Permanent Secretariat
Duration: September 2019 - October 2019

The impacts of metropolitan regions on their surrounding areas
Metropolitan areas are 'engines' of European economic development. They have various functional links with their surrounding areas. These may imply positive and negative spill-over effects between the areas concerned. But what are these links and effects and how can they be measured? A File Note, contracted by the European Committee of the Regions, investigates this. It shows the main characteristics of these links in general and through case studies. In the File Note, Spatial Foresight highlighted innovative ways of collecting statistical data on flows and also contributed with two case studies. These were the examples of the Frankfurt Rhine Main region and the Nantes - PETR Pays de Retz cooperation. The project was led by ÖIR. You can download the File Note here.

State of play and challenges of the EU policy framework on SMEs

European Committee of the Regions

Spatial Foresight contributed to the study on the "EU policy framework on SMEs: state of paly and challenges" commissioned by the European Committee of the Regions. Apart from contributing to the research on the added value of EU policies for SMEs, Spatial Foresight team members were responsible for carrying out the analysis of the proposals for EU programmes post-2020 with a view to their relevance on SMEs. Results of this study feed into further policy processes for the 2021-2027 programming period. The project is a cooperation of t33 (the lead partner), Spatial Foresight and ÖIR.

Client: European Committee of the Regions
Duration: March 2019 - June 2019
Implementing a place-based approach to EU industrial policy

Spatial Foresight carried out two case studies on circular economy and its link to innovation and new business and employment opportunities in a regional and local context, in the framework of the report 'Implementing a place-based approach to EU industrial policy strategy' for the European Committee of the Regions. The project was a cooperation of t33 (the lead partner), Spatial Foresight and ÖIR. The final report can be found here.

Client: European Committee of the Regions
Duration: December 2018 - February 2019

EESC Circular Economy Strategies and Roadmaps

The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) is closely following the development of circular economy initiatives at the European level and has produced a number of opinions on the matter. Further, the EESC together with the European Commission initiated the circular economy platform https://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform/ The platform aims to facilitate exchange and interaction among stakeholders of involved in the circular economy and to make the change to a circular economy happen faster to the benefit of all.

Spatial Foresight supported the EESC to further their knowledge and understanding concerning the state of
the art of circular economy roadmaps and strategies in Europe. The specific objective of this project was
to analyse differences and commonalities of existing national and regional Circular Economy strategies,
and to identify potential for cooperation, by jointly analysing the state of the art of this type of strategies at
the European level.

The final report of this study is available for download here.

Client: European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)
Duration: November 2018 - May 2019

**Territorial approach to SDG implementation**

Supporting the European Committee of the Regions to produce an opinion reacting to the EU Reflection
Paper on a Sustainable Europe by 2030 about the state of play of the SDGs, and the place of cities and
regions in their implementation. t33 was awarded a contract for providing background information about
the territorial aspects of the implementation of the SDGs in the EU, with a particular focus on the type of
involvement of regions and cities, the political leadership of such involvements, and multi-level governance
arrangements. Spatial Foresight contributed to the work with one case study and interviews.

The final report can be download here.

Client: European Committee of the Regions (CoR)
Duration: November 2018 - December 2018
ESPON Study on cross-border public services

The ESPON project on Cross-border Public Services (ESPON CPS), coordinated by Spatial Foresight, has been successfully completed. The project resulted in several publications available on the ESPON webpage - www.espon.eu/CPS. Based on European wide data collection on cross-border public services including all internal and external EU borders, the first inventory of such services has been developed covering nine policy fields. The process was driven by stakeholders from ten cross-border regions and the AEBR that allowed deeper insights into their development, challenges and solutions of cross-border public services. Together with these stakeholders new service developments were initiated in their cross-border areas addressing their individual service needs. The Final Report provides an overview of the EU inventory of cross-border public services, their rationales and benefits. Ten Case Study Reports show more in-depth insights into selected services in view of the actual solutions found. A Good Practice collection summarises the main features for about 30 existing services, which shows how challenges and solutions differ not only at different borders but between policy fields. Finally, a Practical Guide, developed together with practitioners from the case study regions describes and structures the main steps towards developing cross-border public services for any of the policy fields addressed.

Client: ESPON EGTC
Duration: November 2017 - October 2018

Interreg Europe evaluation

Spatial Foresight, together with Technopolis and Eure Consult, carried out the intermediate evaluation of the Interreg Europe programme. The evaluation consisted of two separate lots. Lot 1 referred to the operational evaluation, and it addressed the efficiency and effectiveness of the programme structures and procedures to administer, implement and manage the programme. Lot 2 focused on the results evaluation of Interreg Europe, and it tackled the progress made towards the achievements of the thematic specific objectives, and therefore the intervention logic of the programme.

Client: Technopolis France
Duration: May 2018 - December 2018
EU - CELAC Cooperation on Territorial Cohesion

Spatial Foresight was part of a consortium led by Technopolis that has been selected to develop the EU-CELAC Innovact Platform on behalf of the European Commission (DG REGIO). This project was a major endeavour to systematise and structure the knowledge transfer from European countries and regions to Latin American (LATAM) cross-border regions in terms of regional innovation promotion, cross-border cooperation and territorial governance. 6 Latin American countries (Peru, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala and Mexico) benefited from capacity building and a strategic support to develop new value chains and regional innovation projects in cross-border regions. European regions and cross-border areas were invited to offer their knowledge to the LATAM regions and to exploit opportunities for new cooperations.

Client: Technopolis UK / DG Regio  
Duration: April 2017 - December 2018

Assessing the use and impact of specific additional allocation to outermost regions

Spatial Foresight was awarded a contract by DG REGIO under the multiple framework contract for a study to trace the use and impact of the specific additional allocation for the outermost regions. The study aimed at gathering spending data from Operational Programmes funded by ERDF, ESF and YEI in all European outermost regions and evaluating the possibility to develop an additional allocation in the ESF. Such an allocation is already provided by ERDF to offset costs related to the outermost situation. Spatial Foresight cooperated with t33, SWECO and IGOT for this study.

Client: DG REGIO  
Duration: December 2017 - September 2018

Comparative Analysis of Territorial Governance and Spatial Planning Systems in
Europe

The ESPON study "Comparative Analysis of Territorial Governance and Spatial Planning Systems in Europe" (ESPON COMPASS) provided an authoritative and comparable reference on spatial planning systems, policies and territorial governance throughout Europe in order to improve knowledge sharing and to illustrate some of the key challenges and opportunities which arise in the territorial implementation of EU cohesion policies. The following key policy questions have been answered:

• What changes in territorial governance and spatial planning systems and policies can be observed across Europe over the past 15 years? Can these changes be attributed to the influence of macro-level EU directives and policies?
• What are best practices for cross-fertilisation of spatial and territorial development policies with EU Cohesion Policy?
• How can national/regional spatial and territorial development policy perspectives be better reflected in Cohesion Policy and other policies at EU scale?

Spatial Foresight particularly worked on quality control, policy conclusions and the spatial planning and territorial governance system in Luxembourg. The study was led by Delft University of Technology (TU Delft), and conducted together with the German Academy for Spatial Research and Planning (ARL), Nordregio, Politecnico di Torino, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (RKK), the Polish Academy of Sciences (IGSO), the University College Dublin, the German Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development (ILS) and a wide network of national experts.

Client: ESPON EGTC
Duration: 2016 - 2018

Assessment of administration cost and burden in the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)

Spatial Foresight has contributed to a project for DG Regio under the multiple framework contract on administrative cost and burden in ESIF. The overall objective of this study was to establish a new baseline concerning the administrative costs and burden of the current ESIF programme period, with a common approach for all five ESI Funds. Furthermore, the study compared the baseline to results of pervious studies and assist the Commission Services with simulations on how possible regulatory changes for post 2020 might affect administrative costs and burden. Spatial Foresight led the study, supported by t33 and a wide range of national experts.
**Future common ESIF indicators**

Spatial Foresight contributed to a study for DG Regio on the development of a system of common indicators for European Regional and Development Fund (ERDF) and Cohesion Fund (CF) interventions. The study assessed the possibility of expanding the current list of common output indicators and the feasibility of developing a list of common direct result indicators for post 2020 ERDF and CF interventions. Besides Spatial Foresight, the team includes t33, ÖIR, SWECO, Berman Group, Nordregio and a broad network of national experts.

The final report of the study can be found in the following links:

[Development of a system of common indicators for European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund interventions after 2020 - Part I – Thematic Objective 1, 3, 4, 5, 6](#)

[Development of a system of common indicators for European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund interventions after 2020 - Part II – Thematic Objective 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11](#)

**Executive Summary**

Client: DG Regio
Duration: November 2017 - November 2018

**DG Regio Multiple Framework Contract**

In cooperation with a European-wide team led by Kai Böhme on behalf of Sweco, Spatial Foresight won four competitive multiple framework contracts with the European Commission Directorate General on
Regional and Urban Policies. The contracts concerned the provision of:

- impact assessments related to the future development of Cohesion Policy and the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) (lot 1),

- studies assessing the impact of other European Union policies on economic, social and territorial cohesion (lot 2),

- studies related to the future development of Cohesion Policy and the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) (lot 3) and

- studies on administrative costs, administrative capacities, IT systems and fraud prevention and detection measures (lot 4).

Client: DG Regio
Duration: 2014-2018

Simplification measures in the Cohesion policy proposals for 2021-2027 and impact of the CoR political work

Spatial Foresight assessed the impact of the political work of the CoR on simplification measures for Cohesion Policy. The assessment supports the CoR’s Commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy and EU Budget (COTER) in their preparation of a new opinion on the Common Provision Regulation proposal by the European Commission.

In preparation of this opinion Spatial Foresight assessed to what extent the previous opinions and recommendations have been taken on board in the proposed CPR as well as to what extent the new proposals for simplification affect local and regional authorities.

Spatial Foresight with support of t33 compared CoR opinions on this topic with the legislative proposals for Cohesion Policy 2021-2027.

Client: Committee of the Regions
Duration: July 2018 - September 2018
Assessment of the application of EGTC regulation

Spatial Foresight was awarded by DG REGIO to carry out the evaluation of the amended EGTC regulation (Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013). The project shed light on the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, European added value and scope for simplification of the EGTC regulation as it is currently in place and was based on information collected in the framework of the recent EGTC monitoring report.

Client: DG REGIO  
Duration: March 2018 - April 2018

Committee of the Regions EGTC best practices

Spatial Foresight has received a request from the Committee of the Regions to develop a best practice brochure of EGTCs. The brochure details selected actions undertaken by EGTCs including the obstacles encountered, addressed and solved to provide transferable information to other EGTCs in Europe. Best practices for different policy fields have been reviewed as well. Spatial Foresight has coordinated the project. Other partners involved in this assignment were ÖIR and t33.

The brochure with good practices can be downloaded [here](#).

Client: Committee of the Regions  
Duration: November 2017 - May 2018

European Investment Bank Service Contract

A team involving Sweco, Spatial Foresight, t33, Infeurope and EPRC supported the European Investment Bank.
Bank (EIB) with horizontal assistance and advisory services concerning the use of Financial Instruments under the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) 2014-2020. The services targeted in particular EU Member States and Managing Authorities of ERDF, ESF, EARD and EMFF Programmes, but also the European Commission (EC) and the general public. The services led to the establishment of the fi-compass platform. A one-stop-shop for EU Member States, Managing Authorities and other stakeholders involved in the set-up and implementation of ESIF financial instruments.

Spatial Foresight contributed in delivering services to assist the EIB on capacity building. Spatial Foresight was among others responsible for the successful implementation of awareness raising events in almost all Member States of the EU as well as Fund specific events in a large number of EU Member States. In addition, Spatial Foresight contributed to the task of knowledge creation, for example with the drafting the coordination of case study research.

Client: European Investment Bank
Duration: 2014 - 2018

**Areas of territorial cooperation**

Spatial Foresight was awarded a targeted analysis on how to "think and plan in areas of territorial cooperation". The study took as a starting point the Swiss experience in defining so-called “action areas” as new forms of soft governance spaces with fuzzy, flexible boundaries that span across (national) administrative boundaries and link urban and rural development policies. Collaborative and bottom-up approaches of territorial development also emerge in other parts of Europe as public authorities intended to adjust the scale and geographic boundaries of policy design and implementation so that they are meaningful from a functional point of view.

The project, in a first step, identified examples comparable to the Swiss action areas. In a second step, the most relevant ones identified were analysed in depth regarding organisational forms and governance structures, policy fields addressed, cooperative planning methods used, embeddedness in existing multi-level governance systems, links to statutory planning system. On this basis, guidance and policy recommendations have been developed.

Spatial Foresight implemented the study in cooperation with the University of Geneva and the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg.
The final report can be downloaded on the ESPON webpage [here](#).

Client: ESPON EGTC  
Duration: December 2016 - December 2017

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**Systemic analysis improving the understanding of SMEs' competitiveness and performance**

The ESPON study "Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises in European Regions and Cities" acknowledges that SMEs are the backbone of the European economy and as such crucial for regional development. SMEs are anything but a homogeneous type of business and are prevalent in all economic sectors. Their distribution e.g. according to size, sectors and performance varies across European regions. The study aims to fill the gap of a systematic analysis at regional level for improving the understanding of SMEs competitiveness and performance linked to national and regional conditions.

Spatial Foresight contributed to several tasks, in particular to the literature review, case studies and development of recommendations. The study was led by ÖIR and conducted together with the Austrian Institute for SME Research, Oxford Group, VVA Europe and EUROREG.

Client: ESPON EGTC  
Duration: 2016 - 2017

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**Committee of the Regions EGTC Monitoring Report 2017**

Spatial Foresight has received a request from the Committee of the Regions to develop the EGTC Monitoring Report 2017. Similarly to last year's report, the monitoring report 2017 will analyse the implementation of the EGTC regulation in national legislation, elaborate on the activities of EGTCs during 2016 with a special focus on their involvement in implementing ESIF and European Territorial Cooperation programmes and projects in particular. The specific thematic focus of the monitoring report 2017 is on the evaluation of the EGTC regulation. Spatial Foresight will coordinate the project. Other partners involved in this assignment are ÖIR and t33.
Possible European Territorial Futures

The ESPON study “Possible European Territorial Futures” stands in the tradition of past ESPON scenario and territorial impact assessment studies. Different future scenarios and their territorial impacts are explored to generate new insight on possible future developments. These support policy makers in assessing the robustness and ‘future-proof’ of their policies.

More concretely, the objectives of this study were twofold: (A) Enhancing the understanding of possible territorial futures especially concerning three themes: a new place-based economic organisation as part of a circular economy, a European energy supply and consumption that is a 100% renewable, and a collapse of the European property markets; and (B) writing general conclusions and recommendations on how to conduct European territorial foresight studies.

The study was carried out by Spatial Foresight (lead partner), MCRIT, Spiekermann & Wegener, the Institute of Studies for the Integration of Systems and wide network of experts.

Besides the general management of the project and drafting the reports, Spatial Foresight organises different focus groups to exchange ideas on possible territorial futures with a wider audience. Updates on the focus groups organised in the frame of this study can be found on the project's webpage.

The final report of this project can be downloaded from the ESPON webpage.

Client: ESPON
Duration: April 2016 - October 2017

Territorial Impact of Brexit on European regions and cities

Spatial Foresight contributed to a study for the European Committee of the Regions that aimed at
providing input for the preparation of the Territorial Impact Assessment of Brexit on regions and cities. The study (i) mapped the socio-economic links between the EU27 regions and the UK, (ii) defined specific scenarios in light of the ongoing negotiations and assessed their possible impact on regions, cities and economic sectors, and (iii) analysed a number of case studies from individual local and regional authorities. Spatial Foresight contributed to the third task by conducting a case study in Germany. Besides Spatial Foresight, the team included t33 (lead) and ÖIR.

Client: European Committee of the Regions
Duration: November 2017 - January 2018

Use of SCO in ESIF

Spatial Foresight contributed to a study for DG Regio on the 'Use and intended use of Simplified Cost Options in ESF, ERDF, CF and EAFRD'. The objective of the study was twofold. First it carried out an e-survey among ESF, ERDF, CF and EAFRD managing authorities across all EU Member States to collect information about the use of SCOs. Then it aggregated, process and analysed the data collected through the e-survey and formulate conclusions and recommendations. Spatial Foresight experts took part as national experts for a number of EU Member States in support of the e-survey implementation and analysis. The study was performed together with t33 and Sweco. The final report of the study can be downloaded [here](#).

Client: DG Regio
Duration: July 2017 - January 2018

DG REGIO Study on administrative simplification

Spatial Foresight was part of a consortium lead by SWECO performing a study for DG REGIO. The study's objective were to assess how the simplification possibilities in the new regulatory framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds have been taken up by Member States during the early implementation phase, to compare and quantify the impact of regulatory changes in the overall delivery mechanism on the administrative burden and costs for beneficiaries and programme authorities and thirdly to assess and quantify the potential burden for beneficiaries resulting from additional rules applied at
The study showed that Standard Cost Options (SCOs) are among the different instruments, the tool that mostly contributes to further simplification of ESIF. The full report can be downloaded from the Commission's webpage:

Client: European Commission, DG REGIO
Duration: August 2015 - March 2017

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**ESPON 2020 Mapkits**

Spatial Foresight was part of the consortium that was awarded the contract for 'ESPON 2020 MapKits'. The project produced 29 MapKits that all ESPON projects use to visualise and analyse geographical data. The tasks comprised the design of a new ESPON MapKit layout and an update underlying mapping files. Specific MapKits for the representation of macro-regions, local and urban areas, Europe in its neighbourhood and world-wide patterns and trends are produced. The project complemented and developed further the MapKits that were previously available for the ESPON 2013 projects. Spatial Foresight was in charge of providing an update of the geodata of the European LAU2 units in a simplified geometry and also draft the guidance documents that will help ESPON projects to produce clear and consistent maps. The project was led by UMS Riate and conducted in collaboration with the University of Geneva.

Client: ESPON
Duration: October 2016 - February 2017

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**EU Territorial Review**
Spatial Foresight was awarded a contract to elaborate the ESPON EU Territorial Review Report. The report aimed at communicating the main territorial development trends in relation to key European challenges and highlighting specific patterns of development in cities, rural areas, specific regions and macro-regions in Europe. It also presents innovative ideas and reflections on EU post 2020, focusing mainly on the objective of the European territorial cooperation. For this, three thematic workshops with a selected pool of experts were organised. The report covers the entire ESPON space and, if relevant, other territories and include observations and key policy recommendations. The EU Territorial Review Report is also developed in an interactive digital format for web publishing, building on ESPON’s comparative advantage of tailor-made territorial support at different geographical levels. The interactive web version is conducted together ADM Interactive OÜ.

Client: ESPON EGTC  
Duration: February 2017 - November 2017

Disseminating and deepening the experience of EGTC

After successfully finalising the study on the use of the EGTCs (European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation) in Germany, Spatial Foresight was contracted by the German Federal Institute for Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Planning (BBSR) to carry out a new study on the EGTC instrument. This new study aimed at deepening the findings and understanding of the EGTC instrument and especially those aspects that pose difficulties when setting up an EGTC. Furthermore, the study aimed at the dissemination of previous and new findings on EGTC to support the wider understanding of the instrument. In order to achieve the above, the study focused on selected cases of EGTC and analyse their development. In addition, a set of workshops in different German regions have been conducted in cooperation with European institutions, such as the Committee of the Regions, in order to attract as many interested stakeholders as possible.

The German version of the final report can be downloaded [here](#).

The English version of the final report can be downloaded [here](#).

Client: BBSR  
Duration: September 2014 - October 2016

Challenges for local and regional authorities on state aid rules for SGEI
Every two years Member States report on the application of the Services of General Economic Interest (SGEI) Decision. This Decision, together with the SGEI Framework, set out the frames for applying state aid rules to SGEIs. Spatial Foresight lead this study under the Multiple Framework Service Contract for the realisation of socio-economic studies on behalf of the European Committee of the Regions.

The study aimed at assessing the role of local and regional authorities in the development of these Member States reports as well as assessing the main difficulties faced by local and regional authorities when assessing the economic and social natures of SGEIs against State Aid rules. In doing so the study focused on SGEIs with a social character such as health care, labour market improvement and social housing.

The final report is available on the webpage from the CoR and can be downloaded [here](#).

Client: European Committee of the Regions
Duration: January 2017 - April 2017

Entrepreneurship on islands and other peripheral areas

Islands and other peripheral areas in Europe face particular challenges and obstacles regarding
entrepreneurship and business development. For example due to their small market size, remoteness or low accessibility. The Maltese presidency requested the CoR to draft an opinion on this topic. Spatial Foresight conducted this study in support of the development of this CoR opinion. This study is part of the Multiple Framework Service Contract for the realisation of socio-economic studies on behalf of the European Committee of the Regions.

The aim of the study was an analysis of the particular challenges and obstacles faced by entrepreneurs and SMEs on islands and in other peripheral areas, including inner peripheries, when starting up and running a business. Therefore Spatial Foresight, together with t33 and ÖIR, conducted six cases studies covering insular regions and sparsely populated areas across Europe.

The final report of the study can be downloaded [here](#).

Client: European Committee of the Regions
Duration: March 2017

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**Mapping Research and Innovation Plans & Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3) on Bioeconomy**

Spatial Foresight conducted a study for DG RESEARCH & INNOVATION regarding the "Mapping of EU Member States'/Regions' Research and Innovation Plans & Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3) on Bioeconomy for 2014-2020". The study generated evidence on the intended activities in EU Member States regarding their strategic bioeconomy focus. Successful regional research and innovation initiatives
related to the bioeconomy and their transfer potentials have been identified as well as corresponding bottlenecks and gaps. The study was led by Spatial Foresight and conducted in collaboration with SWECO, Nordregio, INFYDE, Berman Group, t33 and ÖIR.

The final report of the study can be downloaded here.

Client: DG Regio / DG Research & Innovation  
Duration: June 2016 - January 2017

Improving regional and local governance of SME and entrepreneurship policy

Spatial Foresight contributed to a study on governance process in support of SME and entrepreneurship policies. In the frame of the multiframework contract led by t33, Spatial Foresight contributed to the report coordinated by OIR by collecting data and analysing the governance systems and processes in 6 regions - Brandenburg, Helsinki-Uusimaa, Southern Denmark, North Brabant, Flanders and Copenhagen.

The final report has been published by the CoR and can be downloaded here. The report identifies three important governance aspects for effective process. (1) cooperation between public and private stakeholders, (2) target strategies creating a common vision between actors, and (3) a strong reflection on economic needs.

Client: European Committee of the Regions  
Duration: January 2017 - February 2017

ESPON brief on territories with geographic specificities
Spatial Foresight has been asked to help the ESPON EGTC to draft a policy brief on specific types of territories. This brief provides the Maltese Presidency with evidence on the current situation and recent trends in islands, mountains, sparsely populated regions and coastal regions in Europe. Many of these territories are in a favourable position from an economic, social and ecological perspective. However, they all require special attention when it comes to spatial planning and regional development to address challenges and opportunities associated with their specificities. The project benchmarked regions concerned by such specificities from an economic and social point of view. It also focused specifically on accessibility, building on results from an ongoing service contract on “Scenarios for accessibility by the sea, road, rail, air and multimodal”. The output informs policy debates on territorial development in these parts of Europe, and contribute to improved territorial observation and territorial analyses in the framework of the ESPON 2020 Programme.

The policy brief as well as the working paper have been published on ESPON's website and can be downloaded [here](#).

Client: ESPON EGTC  
Duration: November 2016 - January 2017

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**EGTC Monitoring Report 2016**

Spatial Foresight received a request from the Committee of the Regions to develop the EGTC Monitoring Report 2016. This was the first request for services under the framework contract in the field of Cohesion Policy. The monitoring report analysed the implementation of the EGTC regulation in national legislation, elaborate on the activities of EGTCs during 2016 with a special focus on their involvement in implementing ESIF and European Territorial Cooperation programmes and projects in particular. The specific thematic focus of the 2016 monitoring report is on the analysis of the impact of the Schengen area crisis on the functioning of EGTCs. Spatial Foresight coordinated the project. Other partners involved in this assignment were ÖIR and t33.

The report is available on the CoR website and can be downloaded [here](#).

Client: Committee of the Regions  
Duration: December 2016 - March 2017
Gold-plating in the European Structural and Investment Funds

In the implementation of European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) European as well as national and sub-national regulatory frameworks need to be applied. In some cases there are national, regional or local rules and regulations (or failures to apply simplification measures) which make European Union legislation unnecessarily complicated and hence costly when implemented in the Member States. This is understood as gold-plating.

To better understand the nature of gold-plating the European Parliament commissioned a study on gold-plating in ESI Funds and its impacts on the administrative work and burden for programme bodies and beneficiaries under all five ESI Funds (ERDF, CF, ESF, EAFRD, EMFF). The study addressed a range of questions through the combination of different methodologies that included a general overview on all 28 EU Member States and some in-depth studies for selected countries. Among others a focus group has been organised in the frame of the study. The results of this focus group can be found on the project's webpage.

The study was led by Spatial Foresight and conducted in collaboration with ÖIR and t33.

The final report of the study can be downloaded here.

Client: European Parliament
Duration: July 2016 - January 2017

Added value of macro-regional cooperation: Collecting practice examples

The added value of macro-regional cooperation has been debated for many years and in different contexts. All these debates have shown that there is need for more solid evidence on the actual added value. INTERACT commissioned Spatial Foresight to conduct a study to collect evidence on the added value of the macro-regional strategies for the Baltic Sea Region and the Danube Region. The primary focus was on concrete projects and the added value both for the funding programmes involved and the macro-regions in general.

The final report has been published on INTERACT's website and can be downloaded here.

Client: INTERACT Office Turku
Implementation of the performance frameworks in 2014-2020 ESI Funds

Under LOT 3 on “studies related to the future development of Cohesion Policy and the European Structural and Investment Funds” of the DG Regio Multiple Framework contract, Spatial Foresight contributes to a study on the “Implementation of the provisions in relation to the performance framework during the programming phase of the European Structural and Investment Funds”. The aim of the study is to develop an evidence-base on how regulatory provisions relating to the performance framework have been applied in the programming phase. The study covers almost 300 Operational Programmes in all 28 Member States of the European Union, Partnership Agreements and all Operational Programmes receiving funding from ERDF and CF, including multi-fund programmes. The project is led by Kai Böhme, involving Sweco, ÖIR and a wide network of national experts.

The study The implementation of the performance frameworks in 2014-2020 ESI Funds can be downloaded here.

Client: DG Regio
Duration: October 2014 - December 2015

Implementation of the partnership principle and multi-level governance in 2014-2020 ESI Funds

Under LOT 3 on “studies related to the future development of Cohesion Policy and the European Structural and Investment Funds” of the DG Regio Multiple Framework contract, Spatial Foresight contributed to a study on the “Implementation of the partnership principle and multi-level governance during the programming phase of the European Structural and Investment Funds". The overall objective of the study was to assess how the partnership principle and multi-level governance have been implemented in all 28 Member States during the programming of the ESI Funds. The project was led by Kai Böhme, involving Sweco, Nordregio, EPRC, ÖIR, t33, LSE and a wide network of national experts.
The presentation of the final results is available here.

The study Implementation of the partnership principle and multi-level governance in 2014-2020 ESI Funds can be downloaded here.

Client DG Regio
Duration: November 2014 - January 2016

Inventory of statistical needs for INTERREG cross-border cooperation programmes

Spatial Foresight contributed to a study to assess the need to be addressed by INTERREG cross-border cooperation programmes. The study aimed at developing a comprehensive inventory of statistical data that could support the assessment and mapping of crucial territorial integration needs of border regions. The project was lead by t33 and is part of the framework contract with DG REGIO lead by SWECO.

The final report of the study has been published by DG REGIO and can be downloaded here.

Client: DG REGIO European Commission
Duration: December 2015 - September 2016

European Parliament Framework Contract on Regional Development, Transport and Tourism

The European Parliament is planning to conclude a multiple framework service contract in eleven lots for the provision of external expertise in the field of Impact Assessment and European Added Value. Spatial Foresight has been contracted for Lot 7, which focuses on the Regional Development, Transport and Tourism. The regional and cohesion policy, the operation of the European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund, as well as the common policies for rail, road, inland waterways, maritime and air transport, postal services and tourism, and the Trans-European Networks for transport are among the
issues that will be covered in the study. Lead partners of the contract is t33, while among the partners are also ÖIR, Mcrit and VAA.

Client: European Parliament
Duration: 2013-2014

**Review of adopted ETC programmes**

Spatial Foresight has contributed to a study commissioned by the European Parliament on a comprehensive analysis of ETC programmes adopted for the 2014-2020 period. The study assessed to what extent ETC programmes have used the opportunities introduced by the new ETC regulation for the period 2014-2020. The assessment offers insight in the state of play and evolution of ETC programmes in comparison to the 2007-2013 period, the changes of the programming strategies, potential synergies, changes of the management structures and implementation possibilities. The study is led by t33 and conducted in cooperation with EureConsult.

The [final report](#) can be downloaded via the European Parliament's website.

Client: REGI Committee of the European Parliament
Duration: December 2015 - May 2016

**Labour Mobility and Local and Regional Authorities: benefits, challenges and solutions**

Spatial Foresight contributed to a study on “Labour Mobility and Local and Regional Authorities: benefits, challenges and solutions" for the Committee of the Regions. The Committee of the Regions will be formally consulted on the Labour Mobility Package which was announced by the European Commission. Hence, this study aimed at complementing and updating past studies and opinions of the Committee of the Regions on labour mobility in order to include up-to-date data and case studies at local and regional level.
in the new opinion. Under the lead of t33, Spatial Foresight contributed to this study with a number of local and regional case studies of initiatives in the field of labour mobility in Austria and Germany.

Client: Committee of the Regions
Duration: January 2016- February 2016

The impact of demographic change on European regions

Spatial Foresight has contributed to a study on “The impact of demographic change on European regions” for the Committee of the Regions. The study addressed changing internal and external influences and highlighted the specific needs and challenges faced by local and regional authorities in the light of demographic development, namely demographic change and increasing inner- and outer-migration. Spatial Foresight contributed with ÖIR under the lead of t33 to the provision of an overview of demographic changes and projections in Europe and to the exploration of the opportunities and perspectives of demographic change for local economic development.

Client: Committee of the Regions
Duration: December 2015 - March 2016


Cohesion in Mountainous regions of the EU

Spatial Foresight has coordinated a study on the potential contributions of Cohesion Policy to balanced and sustainable development in European Mountain Regions for the European Parliament. The study shows that Mountain areas are too diverse to elaborate an integrated European strategy. However, a framework
for development strategies in mountain areas can be developed. The group of experts that produced inputs to this report includes Martin F. Price, Andreja Borec, Thomas Dax and Benito Giordano in addition to Erik Gløersen from Spatial Foresight.

The study can be found here.

Client: European Parliament
Duration: October 2015 - February 2016

Study on Services of General Interest in the funding period 2014-2020

Spatial Foresight performed a study commissioned by the European Parliament’s Committee on Regional Development (REGI) on Services of General Interest (SGIs) in the Funding Period 2014-2020. The study focused on how the European Structural and Investment Funds can contribute to overcome key challenges for the provision of these services. It considered in particular the effects of the economic crisis and current austerity measures, and different levels of access to SGIs in European regions and localities. Inputs also provided perspectives for Cohesion Policy after 2020.

Please click here to download the report from the European Parliament's website.

Client: European Parliament's REGI Committee
Duration: August 2015 - January 2016

Forward Looking Analysis of Grand Societal Challenges (FP7 - FLAGSHIP)
FLAGSHIP is a project funded under the 7th Framework Programme. The objectives of FLAGSHIP were: i) Understanding and assessing the state of the art of forward looking methodologies in relation to Grand Societal Challenges; ii) Applying an enhanced set of forward looking methods and tools to support EU policies; iii) Driving change, producing a set of EU-relevant policy recommendations on the potential of the EU for transition and change. In relation to these objectives the project: i) took stock of the existing forward looking studies: reviewed the central questions, key trends, critical uncertainties and scenario frameworks; ii) proceeded to apply and combine enhanced qualitative and quantitative methods mastered by the project partners in a coherent framework, producing a combination of GSC-driven qualitative and quantitative scenarios - coping with a range of possible global paradigm shifts and geo-political changes - and engaging a community of experts and stakeholders in a scenario thinking and assessment exercise; iii) focused further on EU policy responses to emerging transition challenges, and the potential role of EU in shaping global governance as well as new territorial dynamics within the continent, aimed to deliver policy recommendations to support the formulation of strategic EU policy agendas. Spatial Foresight has been one of 16 partners in the project, lead by ISIS.

Results from the final conference are published on: http://flagship-project.eu/events-workshops/final-conference/

The final report can now be downloaded here. The report intends to answer the following questions:

- Which trends will affect the future development of Europe’s cities and regions?
- What will the European territory look like in 2050 under the assumptions of the FLAGSHIP storylines?
- How can territorial governance respond to the various challenges and their impacts?
- How much can territorial governance contribute to Europe’s ability to better cope with the main challenges and their impacts?


Client: ISIS, Italy / 7th Framework Programme
Duration: 2012-2015
Understanding territorial governance

Spatial Foresight conducted a study for the European Parliament to better understand the concept of territorial governance. Territorial governance is a relatively new and complex concept. It brings together the place-based approach and multi-level governance.

This analysis supported the understanding of territorial governance, mainly with regard to EU Cohesion Policy. Depending on the institutional and political context, as well as past experience, territorial governance in Cohesion Policy can have different forms. In all cases, stakeholders must have institutional capacity.

The results of the report have been published and discussed during a workshop at the European Parliament.


Client: REGI Committee European Parliament
Duration: June 2015 - August 2015

Supporting the Luxembourgish Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Following the adoption of the Territorial Agenda for Europe under the Hungarian Presidency in the first half of 2011, the Luxembourgish Presidency (2015) wanted to assess the way how the European Union’s territorial cohesion objective is implemented and the necessity to revise the Territorial Agenda 2020. In preparation of the work, Spatial Foresight assisted the Ministry of sustainable development and infrastructures of Luxembourg in that assessment, focusing on pulling together existing resources and preparing on that basis short and targeted inputs to the discussions and work of the Network of Territorial Cohesion Contact Points (NTCCP). Document studies have been complemented by an online survey as
well as interviews with selected key stakeholders.

In addition, Spatial Foresight has drafted a report based on a workshop on “Territorial Scenarios and Visions of Europe for 2050”. Its aim was to further the debate about perspectives for the European territory, focusing on making the future European territory visible, understanding the future territory of Europe, and finding appropriate answers today for the challenges of tomorrow. The workshop addressed a wide range of policy fields and territorial levels. The workshop was organised by the incoming Luxembourg Council Presidency in the framework of the IT-LV-LU trio Presidency Programme and took place on 23rd of April 2015 in Luxembourg city. More information on the workshop can be found at this link.

Several conclusions from the work by Spatial Foresight have been integrated in the Presidency’s conclusions.

Client: Luxembourg ministry of sustainable development and infrastructures
Duration: September 2014 - June 2015

**Study on EGTC as an instrument for promotion and improvement of territorial cooperation in Europe**

Under the European Parliament Framework contract, Spatial Foresight has been contracted for a study on the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) as an instrument for promotion and improvement of territorial cooperation in Europe. The study aims at analysing the potential of the EGTC as an instrument for promoting and improving territorial cooperation in Europe. Thus, the role of EGTCs in Cohesion Policy are assessed and the involvement of EGTCs in the implementation of the Cohesion Policy 2014-2020 is analysed. The analyses shall draw lessons from existing and planned EGTCs as regards their motivations, challenges, achievements and legal implications. They shall furthermore indicate the perspectives for the future role of EGTC in EU Cohesion Policy and in particular for European Territorial Cooperation. The consortium is led by ÖIR and also includes t33 and the Technical University of Delft.

Client: European Parliament / ÖIR
Duration: December 2014 – July 2015

**Promoting multi-level governance in support of Europe 2020**
Local and regional public authorities play an important role in conceiving and delivering public policies relevant for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. At the same time local and regional authorities in the EU have very diverse mandates, capacities and resources and work under different institutional and governance arrangements.

The main purpose of the study was to identify the process and success factors leading to strong, high quality political and administrative partnerships across levels of governance. This is realised at the example of two policy fields, namely energy efficiency policies and social inclusion in an urban context. Based on eight case studies various types of learning platforms were established incl. two multilateral events, 16 twinning exercises and one final conference. Spatial Foresight lead this study involving partners such as t33, Nordregio, IPoP, Sweco, ID and Metrex.

The final report can be downloaded [here](#).

More and detailed information on the results and presentations of the organised events, the summaries of the case studies, but also on the twinning meetings and the final conference are available [here](#).

Client: DG Regio
Duration: 2013-2015

**Ex-post evaluation 2007-2013 - Workpackage 0 - Data collection and Quality Assessment**

EU Cohesion Policy 2007-2013 was to be evaluated and this evaluation started with Workpackage 0 laying
the ground for the later thematic evaluation. Workpackage 0 gathered and assessed physical data reported by the Managing Authorities in their annual implementation reports and assessed the feasibility of gathering financial data broken down by priority theme at NUTS 3 level. The work done in this study formed the backbone for the following studies concerning the ex-ante evaluation of EU Cohesion Policy. Spatial Foresight coordinated Workpackage 0 in cooperation with ÖIR and t33. The lead partner was t33.

Client: DG Regio / t33
Duration: 2013-2015

Awareness raising factsheets and case studies

The European Investment Bank (EIB) appointed a team consisting of t33, EPRC and Spatial Foresight to prepare content related factsheets to awareness raising for Financial Instruments under the European Structural Funds. This supported the launch of the Technical Advisory Platform under EU Structural and Investment Funds, which the EIB will develop for several European Commission services. The aim was to increase the implementation of the Financial Instruments in the 2014-2020 funding period. The work involved both the developing and drafting of factsheets and a series of case studies on the use of Financial Instruments. The team was led by t33.

Client: European Investment Bank / t33
Duration: August 2014 - December 2014

ESPON ETMS (European Territorial Monitoring System)

The ESPON ETMS project provided a continuous monitoring of territorial trends and structures able to provide policy relevant information to target groups on key trends occurring for European regions, specific
type of territories, metropolitan regions, cities and towns in relation to the policy aims and priorities of the Europe 2020 Strategy, EU Cohesion Policy and the TA 2020”.

Client: ESPON / Mcrit / University of Geneva
Duration: 2012-2014

Scoping study on European Territorial Cooperation

It is widely recognised among the stakeholders of the European territorial cooperation (ETC) and the Interreg programmes that there is lack of systemic EU-level evidence on what territorial co-operation delivers, where it works best and how it works. In light of the above INTERACT seeked support of experts with a good understanding of ETC to establish basis for further efforts aimed at collecting EU-level evidence on European territorial co-operation. As part of this work INTERACT has commissioned a scoping study to be carried out by a team led by Eureconsult, involving t33 and Spatial Foresight.

Client: INTERACT / Eureconsult
Duration: September 2014 - December 2014

Framework contract - ESPON External Expertise Support

Spatial Foresight won the tender for the framework contract on the ESPON External Expertise Support. Spatial Foresight assisted ESPON to capitalise on the research work carried out and to draft texts that are easy to understand for a wider public and communicate the key results and relevant policy conclusions of
ESPON results and maps.

In the main, we supported the ESPON Coordination Unit to develop and elaborate a range of editorial products varying from substantial policy oriented and scientific publications to easy accessible policy briefs and fact sheets with a more journalistic touch as well as presentations.

Client: ESPON
Duration: 2012-2014

Expanding ESPON Online MapFinder

Spatial Foresight has been contracted by the ESPON Coordination Unit to update and expand the ESPON Online MapFinder, in order to strengthen the use of ESPON results and maps. The project prepared and incorporated texts describing and explaining 60 additional maps as results from the ESPON 2013 Programme. Spatial Foresight drafted and presented a short text for each map, providing the main information needed to understand the map and thereby allowing the reader to better grasp its message and implications for policy-making as well as for the general understanding of European territorial patterns and trends.

Client: ESPON Coordination Unit
Duration: August 2014 - December 2014

ESPON Data Gaps

As part of its Core Database Strategy (CDS), the ESPON programme set up a database with a limited number of regularly updated stock variables. This for example includes population by age, births, deaths, net-migration and employment by sector. Even for such basic indicators, there are significant gaps in Europe. Changes in regional boundaries have for example generated broken time series. To fill these gaps,
the project applied a range of estimation methods and Spatial Foresight was in charge of validating the output of these estimations, e.g. by checking the consistency of the output data and by collecting some additional figures from national sources.

Client: ESPON / ÖIR
Duration: May 2014 - January 2015

Ex-ante evaluation of the ERDF OP Interregional Territorial Cooperation 2014-2020

The preparation of the operational programmes for the next period of the Structural Funds 2014-2020 is underway. Spatial Foresight conducted the ex-ante evaluation for the future interregional cooperation programme (Interreg Vc). The evaluation included all ex-ante evaluation elements as proposed by the European Commission - especially the evaluation of the programme strategy, indicators, monitoring, financial allocation, contribution to the EU2020 Strategy. The evaluation was led by EureConsult and the evaluation team included also t33.

Client: Interreg IVc / EureConsult
Duration: 2013-2014

Territorial Evidence Packs for Structural Funds Programmes
This ESPON TerrEvi project analysed and presented available ESPON results so that they can be useful for the development of Structural Funds Programmes post 2013. This includes more specifically:

a) To develop a methodological concept for using (European) territorial evidence available for more strategic, result-oriented programming for the post 2013-period;

b) To develop supporting tools for the programming process in order to make the methodological concept operational;

c) To enable the programme partners of SF programmes, including the Managing Authorities and Technical Secretariats of all type of programme areas, to base their decisions on public investment priorities, on measures and on targets on territorial evidence for their programme area;

d) To demonstrate the full potential of the methodological concept and tools developed in ten pilot cases.

The project lead is Metis, with T33 and FGGI as project partners. Spatial Foresight is involved as sub-contractor.

Client: ESPON / Metis
Duration: 2012-2014

Potentials for transnational and cross-border partnerships by using EGTC

In Europe territorial cooperation across national borders is funded by Structural Funds but it is also realised beyond EU programmes. One means to improve the framework conditions for cross-border and transnational territorial cooperation is provided by the EGTC (European Groupings for Territorial Cooperation). This project illustrated the opportunities and limitations of EGTC for transnational projects, networks and programmes and their extended potential use in German border regions. Legal, organisational, governance, institutional and financial aspects were analysed in order to illustrate the potentials of EGTCs.

Here you may find and download the available publications of the project:

Population data collection for European local administrative units from 1960 onwards

DG Regional Policy faces an increasing demand for EU-wide, harmonised regional and urban data analysis. Although a lot of data and indicators are collected at regional level and at the level of bigger cities and agglomerations, the geographical distribution of population at local level has proven to be an essential additional data source when analysing the diversity of the territories in Europe. In order to enable a broader historical perspective on the population evolution of territories and agglomerations, DG Regional Policy wishes to create a database with historical population figures for local administrative units of 2011. This database will provide populations figures for 1961, 1971, 1981, 1991, 2001 and 2011.

After a competitive bidding process, Spatial Foresight was awarded the task of compiling this database. It covered all 28 European Union countries, the EFTA countries Iceland, Norway, and Switzerland, Liechtenstein and in the candidate countries FYROM, Serbia and Turkey. A wide network of national experts provided assistance to Spatial Foresight in this task.

Client: European Commission DG REGIO
Duration: 2013
ESPON Data Navigator

The ESPON Data Navigator - established in 2003 - provides unique information on the principle sources of relevant European statistics. It offers access to main statistical series, geographical data sets, maps and databases and territorially relevant data on different regional levels. It also contains metadata on nomenclatures, periodicity, projection, scale, scope and quality of data. The task of this assignment was it to update the information in the ESPON Data Navigator covering all 19 thematic areas of the data navigator for the 31 countries of the ESPON space. The assignment was led by Mcrit and Spatial Foresight was mainly responsible for specific inputs and the development of the user guide.

Client: Mcrit / ESPON
Duration: 2012-2013

Analysis of the financial and physical data of Objective 1 & 2 Programmes, 2000-2006

The main objective of the service is to provide the European Commission, DG Regio with an analysis of the financial and physical data of the Objective 1 and 2 Programmes financed during the period 2000-2006 in 25 Member States. The analysis built on the work undertaken in the data feasibility study carried out under the ex-post evaluation of cohesion policy programmes 2000-2006 co-financed by the ERDF (‘the data feasibility study’), which assembled indicators in a database containing the physical indicators (output, result and impact indicators) presented in the 2006 Annual Reports of the Programmes, and included information to be collected through the examination of the Final Implementation Reports. Tasks included a massive data collection effort, as well as comment and elaboration of the information gathered concerning expenditures by areas of intervention of the programmes, and indicators used. In addition, the service proposed by the consortium includes a commentary, based on a review of the indicators reported in the Final Implementation Reports and the core indicators by the Commission for 2007-13, on the use of indicators by the programmes, and suggestions for adding possible new core indicators in the future.
The project is carried out in cooperation with T33 in Italy, ÖIR in Austria and a large number of national experts.

Client: DG Regio / T33
Duration: 2011

Administrative costs and burden of EU Cohesion Policy - Scenarios

This study was about measuring the impact of changing EU regulatory requirements to administrative cost and administrative burden of managing EU Structural Funds. In a previous study we have analysed the administrative costs of EU Cohesion Policy. This study received considerable attention around Europe and is currently used as baseline for the debate on the framework for the next program period. The aim of the new study was to assess the impact of changing EU regulatory requirements on administrative costs and administrative burden of managing EU Structural Funds. The focus was on the upcoming debate of the regulatory framework for the Structural Funds period post 2013, and to what degree envisaged changes will reduce the administrative cost for the programme bodies and the burden on the beneficiaries.

Client: DG Regio / T33 / SWECO
Duration: 2010-2011

LAU2 population data 1960-1990 - Feasibility study

DG Regional Policy faces an increasing demand for EU-wide, harmonised regional and urban data analysis. Although a lot of data and indicators are collected at regional level and at the level of bigger cities and agglomerations, the geographical distribution of population at local level has proven to be an essential additional data source when analysing the diversity of the territories in Europe. In order to enable a broader historical perspective on the population evolution of territories and agglomerations, DG Regional Policy aims to establish a database on the boundaries of the local administrative units and their population figures. Ideally, this database would cover every decade, starting in 1960 (with one data point per decade, typically the census years).
After a competitive bidding process, Spatial Foresight was awarded the task of assessing the feasibility of such a database. This feasibility was being assessed in all 28 European Union countries, in the EFTA countries Iceland, Norway, and Switzerland, Liechtenstein and in the candidate countries FYROM and Turkey. A wide network of national contact points provided assistance to Spatial Foresight in this task.

Client: European Commission  Directorate-General for Regional Policy  
Duration: 2012

INTERREG IVC - Exchange of experience processes

The purpose of the INTERREG IVC study on exchange of experience processes was to better understand how the exchange of experience among project partners is organised and how it can directly influence the policy framework of regions. This was done to help improving the way the exchange of experience is carried out in the present and also in the future programme period. The analysis was based on in-depth desk and literature research, surveys to project partners and interviews with selected key stakeholders at project level. The lead partner for this study was EureConsult.

The final report is available on the Interreg IVC website.

Client: Interreg IVC / EureConsult  
Duration: 2012-2013

ESPON Map Finder

Maps are a powerful communication tool and one of the main trademarks of ESPON. Past experience has shown that the maps produced by ESPON are widely acknowledged and used. In order to strengthen the use of ESPON results and maps and in particular to facilitate the search and use of the main maps, ESPON set up an ESPON MapFinder.

This MapFinder goes one step further than just allowing a user-friendly approach to finding relevant ESPON maps for a certain topic. ESPON maps are often rather complex both as regards the underlying
methods and concepts, as well as the interpretation of the map. Therefore the MapFinder shall also present a short text of roughly 500 words for 80 selected maps allowing the reader to quickly grasp the main information needed to understand the map. This shall also include information which allows the reader to draw policy relevant conclusions from the map, without risking unintended misinterpretations.

Accordingly, the purpose of this exercise was to strive for presenting results in a very communicative way, which can support the policy development in the field of territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion.

Client: ESPON Coordination Unit
Duration: 2012

**ESPON TERCO**

This ESPON project is part of the applied research strand of ESPON and analyses the role of European territorial cooperation for growth, jobs and quality of life. The main objective of this project was to assess the relationship between international territorial co-operation and the socio-economic development of EU and neighbouring regions. In a first phase theoretical concepts of territorial cooperation were examined and data on different types of territorial cooperation and other regional characteristics will be collected and structured. In a second phase various qualitative and quantitative methods were applied in order to investigate the mentioned relationship. This is followed by the development of typologies on territorial cooperation and of policy recommendations. The lead partner of this project was EUROREG at Warsaw University. Spatial Foresight was involved as a sub-contractor and carried out the foreseen German-Polish case study and contributed to statistical analyses.

Client: ESPON / EUROREG
Duration: 2010-2012

**ESPON INTERCO**

The ESPON Scientific Plattform Project on territorial indicators and indices constitutes an important
element of the ESPON monitoring platform. Following a first phase of screening existing territorial indicators and indices for the ESPON space, selected territorial indicators and indices were made operational for the ESPON Programme. The selection of these indicators and indices reflect their usefulness for territorial policies and the needs of the policy community. The lead partner for this project was the Department for Geography at the University of Genève. In collaboration with Susan Brockett Plan og Prosess, Spatial Foresight—as sub-contractor—was in charge of the dialogue with the policy community.

Client: ESPON / University of Genève
Duration: 2010-2012

Regional Challenges in the Perspective of 2020 Deepening and broadening the analysis

The EU Commission publication “Regions 2020” and the set of follow up studies “Regional Futures 2020 – Regional challenges in the perspective of 2020” have set the frame for a first prospective analysis of the likely regional impact of four of the biggest challenges facing Europe: globalization, demographic change, climate change, and energy supply. This study deepened and broadened the analysis presented in “Regions 2020”. For that ÖIR has brought together an international team involving also Spatial Foresight. Spatial Foresight was mainly responsible for the globalization issue and was also involved in the analysis of the overall policy implications.

Client: DG Regio / ÖIR
Duration: 2010-2011

Knowledge Support: Regional Sensitivity to EU Directives

ESPON has launched a study to further develop existing territorial impact methodologies and explore the impacts of EU policies to be expected at regional level and the types of territories that will benefit most and least from EU policy intervention. In this study the main focus was on the assessment of the regional sensitivity to EU Directives. The task of Spatial Foresight was to follow the ESPON study and provide
critical reflections and support.

Client: ESPON, the European observation network on territorial development and cohesion
Duration: 2010-2012

ESPON 2013 First Synthesis Report

Synthesis Reports are an important means for the communication of ESPON results to a wider audience. Since the publication of the last Synthesis Report in 2006, may new ESPON projects have been initiated and some of them have already presented first results. ESPON as commissioned Spatial Foresight to draft a new Synthesis Report. This report brought together the key messages and findings of the present ESPON research and informed policy development related to the future of EU Cohesion Policy and Territorial Cohesion.

Client: ESPON
Duration: 2010

Regional governance in the context of globalisation

For the 2007-2013 period more than 300 Structural Funds programmes are under implementation in the EU Member States. The purpose of this study was to review governance and administrative structures at national and regional level for the ERDF and Cohesion Fund programmes during 2007-2013 period. The administrative costs were to be examined on a structural, functional and territorial basis within programmes and projects.

Client: DG Regio / SWECO
Duration: 2009
**Knowledge Support: Territorial Impact Assessment**

ESPON has launched a study to further develop existing territorial impact methodologies and explore the impacts of EU policies to be expected at regional level and the types of territories that will benefit most and least from EU policy intervention. The task of Spatial Foresight was to follow the ESPON study and provided critical reflections and support.

Client: ESPON, the European observation network on territorial development and cohesion  
Duration: 2008-2010

**ESPON Typology Compilation**

The task was to provide a compilation of existing territorial typologies and propose a set of eight territorial typologies which can be used throughout the ESPON 2013 programme. These typologies need to be relevant and acceptable in the context of European cohesion policy. Furthermore, they must be based on sound methodologies, built on robust data, have a high explanatory power and communicative value and be of policy relevance. The project was carried out in co-operation with the IRS in Germany and Eurofutures Finland.

Client: ESPON, the European observation network on territorial development and cohesion  
Duration: 2009-2010

**Territorial Agenda for the EU. What happened to the Action Programme?**
Following-up on the Territorial Agenda, an Action Programme with 15 different actions has been adopted. In preparation of the Swedish EU presidency, this study aimed to assess to what degree these actions have been implemented to what the results are. Based on this, proposals were elaborated for the future work with the Territorial Agenda and its implementation.

Client: Swedish Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications / SWECO
Duration: 2009

Ex-post evaluation of the management and implementation systems for EU Cohesion Policy

This Work Package 11 of the Ex-post evaluation of the EU Cohesion Policy Programmes 2000-2006 focused on the management and implementation systems. The aim was to illustrate the diversity of these systems across Europe, and their contribution to the performance of the programmes, the community added value and sustainable development.

Client: DG Regio / European Policies Research Centre (EPRC) / SWECO
Duration: 2008-2009

Ex-post evaluation of the rural development aspects of EU Cohesion Policies

This Work Package 9 of the Ex-post evaluation of the EU Cohesion Policy Programmes 2000-2006 focused on the rural development. The aim was to illustrate to what degree and how EU Structural Funds and Cohesion Funds have contributed to the development of rural areas in Europe.

Client: DG Regio / Metis / SWECO
Duration: 2008-2009
Position: EU Green Book on Territorial Cohesion

ARL, the German Academy for Spatial Research and Planning was preparing for a position paper on the EU green book on territorial cohesion. The task of Spatial Foresight was to establish and chair an ad-hoc working group which would draft the ARL position paper.

Client: ARL, the German Academy for Spatial Research and Planning
Duration: 2008-2009

Potential for EU Structural Funds to contribute to the Lisbon and Göteborg objectives

The aim of this project was to analyse to what degree and how the ERDF programmes 20007-2013 contribute to achieving the aims set out in the Lisbon and Göteborg Agendas for growth, jobs and sustainable development.

Client: DG Regio / Nordregio / SWECO
Duration: 2008

Regional expenditure of EU Structural Funds 2000-2006

The overall purpose of the project was to determine the regional breakdown of European Structural Funds expenditure at NUTS II and NUTS III level for each general category of expenditure. The project
examined expenditure related to the funding period 2000-2006 in 25 countries which where EU Member States in that period.

Client: DG Regio / SWECO
Duration: 2007-2008

FINALISED PROJECTS - Transnational coverage

Interreg Central Europe Evaluation

Spatial Foresight has been awarded the operational evaluation of the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE 2014 - 2020 Programme. Supported by t33, Spatial Foresight will evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of programme management and implementation, appraise the appropriate functioning of the programme management settings, and carry out a first assessment of the Programme's mid-term progress towards the achievement of its objectives. An effective method mix will applied, consisting of desk research, in-depth interviews with programme stakeholders, a participatory action research and co-design approach to the evaluation of programme management settings and processes and a systemic approach to the assessment of the programme's governance structures.

Client: Interreg Central Europe Programme
Duration: July 2016 - March 2019

Expertise for cross-border public services in the Saxon-Polish border

Spatial Foresight, together with Hempel Krzymuski Partner, will develop an expertise on opportunities to develop cross-border services of public interest in the Saxon-Polish border. The focus will be on the four twin city areas located along this border. These areas are strongly affected by demographic change. Cross-border service provision will be investigated as an opportunity to improve living conditions and
attractiveness of the areas in the long-run. The study will elaborate the local and regional needs, identify good practices from other European border areas and scrutinise their transferability and needs for adjustment to the conditions at the German-Polish border. The expertise is embedded in the cross-border Interreg project "Smart Integration" and carried out on behalf this project's lead holder, the Saxon State Ministry of the Interior.

Client: Saxon Ministry of the Interior
Duration: February 2019 - June 2019

**Interreg North-West Europe Evaluation Task II**

In 2018, Spatial Foresight with cooperation partner t33 carried out the Implementation Evaluation for the 2014-2020 Interreg North-West Europe Programme within the integrated framework of the monitoring and evaluation system. The evaluation aimed to analyse and verify the effectiveness and efficiency of the programme, as well as the expected Programme contribution to the socio-economic changes in the territory.

Client: INTERREG North-West Europe
Duration: March 2018 - September 2018

**Interreg Greater Region evaluation**

The aim of the project was to provide a first impact evaluation of the programme INTERREG VA Greater Region. The evaluation targeted three main elements of the activities of the crossborder programme: the environmental action (under Priority Axis n°2), the communication of the programme (in relation with local stakeholders and beneficiaries), implementation of horital principles.

Client: INTERREG VA Grande Région
Duration: January 2018 - December 2018
**Green economy in the Alps**

The German Federal Environment Agency (UBA) had commissioned blue! in cooperation with Spatial Foresight and CIPRA is for elaborating an action programme in support of Green Economy in the Alps. The project translated the findings related to the key topics of the 6th Report on the State of the Alps "Greening the Economy of the Alpine Region" into actions. Spatial Foresight especially contributed to the conceptual development of the action programme and the stakeholder workshops that fed into actual actions and project proposals implementing a green economy.

Client: German Federal Environment Agency (UBA)
Duration: March 2017 - January 2019

**Alpine Space evaluation**

Spatial Foresight performed the operational evaluation of the Interreg Alpine Space Programme 2014-2020. This evaluation focused on the evaluation of the communication strategy, the effectiveness in achieving objectives and output indicators of the programme and the stakeholder involvement and partnership structures.

Client: Interreg V B Alpine Space Programme / Amt der Salzburger Landesregierung; Abt. 1/01
Duration: November 2017 - June 2018

**EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region after 2020**
Spatial Foresight was awarded a contract by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia for study on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region after 2020. The purpose of the study was to analyse how projects of the EUSBSR have developed and been implemented in support of the main objectives and sub-objectives of the Strategy, as well as the role of its key implementers, with a special focus on the 'Save the Sea' objective. This input was an important step to assess the current implementation of the EUSBSR objectives and provide recommendations considering its future implementation also vis-à-vis future trends. The findings of the study were presented at the plenary and at a workshop, at the 9th EU Annual Forum for the Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and served as a basis for discussions on a better alignment of the macro-regional strategies with the next programming period after 2020. The final report of the study can be downloaded [here](#).

Client: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia  
Duration: November 2017 - June 2017

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**Improving the impact of territorial area wide cooperation in Adriatic-Ionian region**

Experts from Spatial Foresight supported the OECD LEED office in Trento (Italy) in conducting a Project aimed at contributing to a more effective cooperation in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region through fostering integrated local development and improving the consistency and the effectiveness of the Interreg V-B Adriatic-Ionian 2014-2020 Operational Programme (ADRION), in particular with regard to the European Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR), the macro-regional strategy endorsed by the European Council in 2014.

Client: OECD LEED Trento Centre for local development  
Duration: August 2017 - October 2017

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**Monitoring needs in the European Strategy for the Alpine Region**

The European Union Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP) is the most recent macro-regional strategy
in Europe. It targets an increased cooperation within the Alpine region in order to better address challenges and to promote a balanced territorial development. The assignment helped the EUSALP players to develop a framework for monitoring and identify relevant indicators. The key element of the assignment was an interactive workshop held with EUSALP stakeholders in late November 2016.

Clint: DG Regio
Duration: November 2016 - December 2016

Monitoring indicators and targets in the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

The European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) is the first macro-regional strategy in Europe. It aims at reinforcing cooperation within the region to face several challenges by working together as well as promoting a more balanced development in the area. The assignment on monitoring indicators and targets in the EUSBSR took stock of the situation as regards the monitoring of the objectives and sub-objectives of the EUSBSR by making use relevant indicators, identify monitoring needs by key stakeholders, allowing it to feed the results into the establishment of a macro-regional monitoring system. The main element of this analysis is an interactive workshop with relevant players which took place in late June 2016.

Client: DG REGIO
Duration: May 2016 - September 2016

Foresight study on a vision for the Baltic Sea Region in 2030
Since the adoption of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) and the development of the current version of its Action Plan and sub-priorities some years have past and new development and governance challenges have emerged as global and regional contexts have changed both in terms of economic and geo-political developments. The 7th Strategy Forum for the EUSBSR focused on a vision for the Baltic Sea Region 2030. In preparation of this, a team led by Spatial Foresight was asked to review relevant development trends to assess:

- In a 2030 perspective, what major global trends can be expected to fundamentally impact the future of the Baltic Sea Region?
- Which major trends in the immediate neighbourhood of EU Baltic Sea Region should the Member States take into account when pursuing the long-term objectives of the EUSBSR?
- Which trends could seriously affect the twelve sub-objectives of the EUSBSR Action Plan?
- To what extent is the Region prepared for these developments?

Spatial Foresight carried out this study in cooperation with MDI in Finland. The final report of the assessment can be downloaded on the Strategy Forum website.

Client: Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth (Tilväxtverket)
Duration: April 2016 - November 2016

INTERACT funding sources in the EUSBSR

Spatial Foresight has conducted a study for INTERACT Point Turku on the funding sources available for the EU macro regional strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. The study provided a comprehensive list and collect respective data on funding sources / policy implementation instruments in the Baltic Sea Region. Furthermore the most important needs for accessing the relevant information by different categories of users were identified. The study contributed to increased alignment of funding in the Baltic Sea Region.

After the project, INTERACT and other stakeholders for the Baltic Sea Region continued developing the
Municipalities in the West Nordic countries (Faroe island, Iceland and Greenland) look quite different: The Faroe Islands (population: 48,500 inh.) comprise 30 small municipalities. Debates on merging them into 7 new ones have stalled because of a lack of political support at the national level. Since 2009, Greenland (population: 56,800 inh.) is subdivided in only four very large municipalities, with an average population of 14,000 inhabitants. These municipalities comprise between 8 and 40 settlements, none of which are connected by roads. Iceland (population: 320,000 inh.) has 75 municipalities. Their number has fallen rapidly from over 200 in the 1980s. These contrasted patterns in countries that share similar challenges, with small, isolated settlements that are highly dependent on natural resources, create a potential for exchanges of experience and good practice. Furthermore, current debates on changes in municipal structures could usefully be informed by international literature. The objective of the project is to produce an integrated evidence base for these discussions, that could later be used as a basis for organising transnational exchanges within this field. The municipal structures will be approached from the perspective of local democracy, public service provision and development potentials. A limited number of interviews will be carried out with local stakeholders, as a complement to the review of literature and policy documents.
The Territorial Agenda 2020 aims at implementing territorial cohesion. This asks for intensified collaboration between sector and spatial policies. Transport policy, i. a. in the context of the core network, is spatially sensitive, which suggests a closer cooperation between transport policy and spatial planning. This project aims to illustrate how this cooperation was achieved in selected INTERREG projects and wants to observe and support related planning processes in selected German regions. The project is conducted in collaboration with Spiekermann & Wegener.

Here you may download the available publications of the project:


Client: BBSR, Germany
Duration: 2012-2014

Cooperation methods and tools applied by the 2014-2020 ESI Funds programmes to support implementation of the EUSBSR

Spatial Foresight performed a study on “Cooperation methods and tools applied by the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) programmes for 2014-2020 to support implementation of the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region”. The purpose of this study has been to analyse how a selection of ESI Funds are foreseen to support implementation of the EUSBSR during the 2014-2020 programming period. The final report can be downloaded here.

Client: INTERACT point Turku
Supporting the preparation of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region

DG Regio assigned Kai Böhme as external expert for the impact assessment of the Alpine macro-regional strategy (EUSALP) in the fields of: 1) competitiveness, prosperity and cohesion of the Alpine Region; 2) Assistance in the stakeholder consultation; and 3) overall expert assessment to provide the Commission with strategic advice on policy challenges. The expert's tasks lead to a synthetic report, including recommendations and readiness in preparation of a Commission Communication and Action Plan for a EU Strategy for the Alpine Region, which will be submitted to the Council during 2015.

Client: DG Regio  
Duration: September 2014 - March 2015

Ex-ante evaluation of the ERDF OP 2 Seas 2014-2020

Spatial Foresight conducted the ex-ante evaluation for the territorial cooperation programme 2 Seas. The evaluation included all ex-ante evaluation elements as proposed by the European Commission - especially the evaluation of the programme strategy, indicators, monitoring, financial allocation, contribution to the EU2020 Strategy as well as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The evaluation was led by t33.

Client: Interreg 2 Seas / t33  
Duration: 2013-2014
Ex-ante evaluation of the ERDF OP France (Channel) - England 2014-2020

Spatial Foresight conducted the ex-ante evaluation for the territorial cooperation programme France (Channel) - England. The evaluation included all ex-ante evaluation elements as proposed by the European Commission - especially the evaluation of the programme strategy, indicators, monitoring, financial allocation, contribution to the EU2020 Strategy as well as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The evaluation was led by t33.

Client: Interreg IVA France (Channel) - England / t33
Duration: 2013-2014

Ex-ante evaluation of the ERDF OP Alpine Space 2014-2020

Spatial Foresight conducted the ex-ante evaluation for the territorial cooperation programme Alpine Space. The evaluation included all ex-ante evaluation elements as proposed by the European Commission - especially the evaluation of the programme strategy, indicators, monitoring, financial allocation, contribution to the EU2020 Strategy as well as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The evaluation was led by t33.

Client: Interreg Alpine Space / t33
Duration: 2013-2014
Study on the new role of macro-regions in European Territorial Cooperation

Spatial Foresight contributed to a study on macro-regional strategies in Europe as part of a framework contract with the European Parliament. The objective of the study was to identify the “new role of macro-regions in European Territorial Cooperation”. It analysed the governance approach, efficiency and effectiveness of existing and emerging macro-regional strategies. Spatial Foresight carried out a case study on the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) addressing, among others, the process, the actors and the added value of the macro-regional strategy. The consortium was led by the Austrian Institute for Spatial Planning (ÖIR) and also includes t33 and the Technical University of Delft.

You may download the study [here](#).

Client: European Parliament
Duration: May 2014 - January 2015

Ex-ante evaluation of the ERDF OP North-West Europe 2014-2020
Spatial Foresight conducted the ex-ante evaluation for the territorial cooperation programme North-West Europe. The evaluation included all ex-ante evaluation elements as proposed by the European Commission - especially the evaluation of the programme strategy, indicators, monitoring, financial allocation, contribution to the EU2020 Strategy as well as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The evaluation was led by EuroConsult and SEA was led by Dr. Dräger & Thielmann.

Client: Interreg NWE / EureConsult
Duration: 2013-2014

Analysis of transnational cooperation: Green Growth and Blue Growth

Blue Growth and Green Growth are key concepts as regards implementing the Europe 2020 strategy and the Territorial Agenda 2020 and achieving their specific objectives. Blue Growth highlights the maritime dimension of the Europe 2020 strategy and encompasses smart, sustainable and inclusive growth related to the resources and potentials of oceans, seas and coastal areas. Green Growth is closely linked to sustainable growth. In accordance with the Europe 2020 strategy, Green Growth emphasises the relevance of energy- and resource-efficient economic growth in order to achieve long-term sustainable development. This project aimed to illustrate how transnational projects contribute to Blue and Green Growth in Germany and how they therefore facilitated the implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy and the Territorial Agenda 2020.

Here you may find and download the available publications of the project:


Client: BBSR
Duration: 2013-2014
EU Macroregional Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region

As part of the Europe 2020 strategy, the Commission adopted the 'Innovation Union' flagship initiative in October 2010. It sets out a comprehensive innovation strategy for Europe to enhance Europe's capacity to deliver smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. DG Regio has assigned Kai Böhme as external expert for the impact assessment of the Adriatic & Ionian macro-region (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Montenegro, Italy, Serbia, Slovenia) in the field of: 1) innovative maritime and marine issues that draw on smart specialisation in the macro region; 2) overall expert assessment to provide the Commission with strategic advice on policy challenges. The expert's tasks lead to a synthetic report, including recommendations and readiness and impact assessment to assist the Commission services in the preparation of a Commission Communication and Action Plan for an EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region, which was submitted to the Council during 2014.

Client: DG Regio
Duration: 2013-2014

West Norden Foresight 2030: The rural communities' Perspective

The rural communities of West Norden (Iceland, the Faroe Islands and Greenland) face particular social and economic development challenges related to their isolation, the small size of their local communities and extensive economic specialisation in sectors linked to the extraction and exploitation of raw materials. The objective of the study was to carry out a foresight process focusing on these territories, identifying potential shared ambitions and visions in a 2030 horizon and formulating some strategies to overcome the challenges they are facing. Spatial Foresight coordinated the implementation of the project. The lead stakeholder was the Greenlandic government. The steering group also included the Icelandic, Faroese and Greenland associations of local authorities and the Faroese Research Centre for Social Development. Nordregio was also part of the project team, providing important background data and maps.

Client: The Nordic Council of Ministers' Arctic Co-operation Programme
Needs and potentials of CENTRAL EUROPE

In 2011, the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme for territorial cooperation started the internal debate on the future of transnational cooperation in its area, under consideration of the wider framework of the Europe 2020 Strategy and the proposed political framework for EU Regional Policy after 2013. This project aimed to support the Programme that it will meet regional challenges, satisfy concrete needs and use existing potentials for future cooperation in the next funding period 2014-2020. Spatial Foresight contributed to this analysis of challenges, needs and potentials as expert for the German regions included in the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme.

Client: Managing Authority of Central Europe Programme / ÖIR
Duration: 2012

Cross-programme evaluation in the Danube area

Regional development is influenced and supported by a wide range of regional, national and European programmes. The INTERACT cross-programme evaluation in Central and South-eastern Europe (incl. the Danube area) analysed and characterised the joint contribution of a range of programmes or initiatives to the development of the Danube area. The analysis had a particular focus on specific on possible synergies, overlappings, cooperation links and missing connections between the different programmes and initiatives. European Territorial Cooperation Programmes (INTERREG) were in the main focus of the cross-programme evaluation.

Client: INTERACT
Duration: 2009 – 2010
SME involvement in European territorial cooperation programmes operative in North-East Europe

A main issue of this study was to identify the ways in which the ETC programmes have an ability to create and support ties that allow the SMEs to participate fully in the European Territorial Cooperation Programmes operating in North East Europe. The critical tasks included identifying, describing and analysing the level of SME involvement the programmes and the dimensions of SME involvement that contribute to the regional competitiveness and innovation of the participating regions. The critical issue was to identify the bottom-up qualities of the actions implemented and draw conclusions that are relevant to the Client, the programme secretariats, as well as the SMEs and other project partners. The study was carried out by Net Effect in cooperation with Sweco and Spatial Foresight.

Client: INTERACT / Net Effect
Duration: 2010

Monitoring and Evaluation in European Territorial Cooperation

In the INTERREG community monitoring and evaluation are increasingly debated. In the framework of these debates, Spatial Foresight was a continuous peer reviewer concerning the elaboration of an INTERACT guidebook on monitoring and evaluation. Furthermore, Spatial Foresight was in charge for various INTERACT workshops with Programme Secretariats and Managing / Steering Committees.

Client: INTERACT
Duration: 2009

Arguments and values in administrative reforms
The Nordic countries were all in various phases of administrative reforms. The aim of this project was to illuminate one important aspect of the public debates that were taking place in all Nordic countries, namely the arguments that were used (rather than describing the process itself). This increased the transparency of the debate and was of use when decisions were made.

Client: Nordic Research Programme / Blekinge Institute of Technology
Duration: 2007-2008

**East-West Transport Corridor Strategy and Action Programme**

The Interreg IIIC project “East-West Transport Corridor” has set out to further develop the link between Klaipeda in Lithuania and Esbjerg in Denmark to an important node in the increasing trade between East and West. The aim of this project was to prepare a strategy and mid-term action programme which helped the corridor to position itself globally and strengthen it links to destinations in Russia, the Fare East and Western Europe.

Client: Region Blekinge / SWECO Eurofutures
Duration: 2007

**FINALISED PROJECTS - National and regional coverage**

**Scoping document on the future of Interreg NWE**

Spatial Foresight supported the Luxembourg Ministry with food for thought concerning the future orientation of Interreg North-West Europe. For the Interreg programme North-West Europe (NWE), the
Cohesion Policy period post 2020 implies a wide range of uncertainties and changes due to Brexit. This offers also an opportunity to take a closer look at possible future programme geographies and cooperation topics. By analysing prevailing linkages and functional relations between territories involved in the current NWE programme and beyond.

Client: Luxembourg Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure  
Duration: November 2018 - February 2019

Interreg Upper Rhine Analysis

Spatial Foresight conducted a study to prepare the Interreg A Cross-Border Programme ‘Upper Rhine’ between neighbouring regions of Germany, France and Switzerland for the upcoming Cohesion Policy funding period. Through a socio-economic and territorial analysis, challenges and potentials for future cross-border cooperation were identified, feeding into the strategic orientation of the Upper Rhine Programme for 2021 - 2027.

The analysis was based on an extensive literature and data review. A workshop was organised with members of the programme authorities to complement the gathered information with first hand-knowledge about political priorities of each programme partner. In addition, the analysis described existing functional links between the territories.

The interim report as well as the final report were drafted in two languages, respectively French and German. Spatial Foresight lead the study in collaboration with Reeleaf from The Netherlands.

Client: Direction du Rayonnement Transfrontalier, International et de l'Europe  
Duration: April 2019-July 2019

Land use scenarios for Luxembourg in 2050

The study presents different scenarios for the future of land use in Luxembourg. 12 scenarios show possible land uses under continued demographic and economic growth as well as under the assumption of
different approaches to land management. The scenarios were differentiated according to two aspects: (a) the expected population development - closely linked to expected economic and job developments and (b) the possible land use policy - closely linked to the objectives of sustainable development. These two categories have been combined to make statements about land use in 2050 under different socio-economic assumptions.

Client: Luxembourg Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure
Duration: December 2018 - March 2019

### Euregio Air Accessibility

Spatial Foresight, together with TCP International, the University of Münster (WWU) and DTV Consultants, conducted a study on air accessibility in the German-Dutch border area of the EUREGIO. The study consisted of three work packages. First, two large-scale surveys on mobility needs in aviation of both households and enterprises were conducted. In addition, the current status and accessibility of relevant airports were assessed. Finally, different scenarios on future development were developed. The study was led by TCP International. Its results fed into an Interreg project led by the EUREGIO with the provinces, counties, regions and cities as project partners. The reports of this study are available in [Dutch](language_url) and [German](language_url).

Client: EUREGIO / TCP International
Duration: April 2018 - February 2019

### Relevance of TEN-T for Stockholm Mälarregionen

Stockholm Mälardalsrådet wanted to explore the larger geographical context of the region with regard to the trans-European transport networks (TEN-T). Spatial Foresight supported the region in the discussion of the question which role the capital region plays in trans-European transport flows and how the region can be better positioned in the mid-term.

Client: Mälardalsrådet
Transfer agency for BMVI / BBSR publications

Spatial Foresight contributes to the transfer agency, which has been contracted to support the production of publications and brochures which are edited by the German Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI) and published by the German Federal Institute for Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Planning (BBSR). The provided services include, i.a., editing, creating the layout and print files etc. Spatial Foresight will be responsible for language editing with regard to the correct use of German and English terms in the field of spatial planning and development. The transfer agency is led by CONVIS Consult & Marketing.

Client: BBSR
Duration: August 2015 - July 2017

National information platform for urban policies - Luxembourg

Spatial Foresight contributed to the reintroduction of the 'Cellule nationale d'information pour la Politique Urbaine' (CIPU - National information platform for urban policies) of Luxembourg. CIPU is a platform for urban actors to exchange information and expertise on urban development matters. The platform
serves as interface between local, national, European spatial planners and spatial planners and scientists.

During 2017 and 2018, a range of activities were realised. Three events were held including two workshops focussing on the instruments and tools at hand to promote social housing. The third event, the CIPU Info-Day was held in July 2018 and presented European initiatives and programmes to support authorities in the realisation of their projects. In addition, CIPU drafted the Luxembourgish position on the topic of eGovernance in the framework of the Estonian presidency of the Council of the European Union.

In order to promote Luxembourgish spatial planning in Europe, a range project sheets were drafted in English. The project sheets shed light on interesting projects and initiatives explaining the rationale for action, the objectives, the timeframe, results and much more. They are available for download in the CIPU project library here. Also, the social media channels and the public relations work of the platform were restarted. In cooperation with the bureau Zeyen+Baumann, Spatial Foresight contributed to all tasks of the project.

Client: Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures - DATER
Duration: March 2017 - March 2018

**Convention Areas in Luxembourg**

In Luxembourg, many spatial planning issues can be better solved through inter-municipal cooperation. In formal terms, this can be done through conventions between the involved municipalities and the state level. These conventions are a pretty flexible tool, which has produced many interesting approaches to territorial cooperation between municipalities and the state level in different parts of Luxembourg. Voluntary cooperation exemplifies the efforts made at the local level to implement strategic approaches by turning them into concrete projects. By collecting manifold experience made with conventions in spatial planning, the aim of the study was to stimulate a debate on how to further improve the tool to be used more widely and better meet the challenges of regional development processes in Luxembourg. The project was led by Zeyen+Baumann in cooperation with Spatial Foresight.

Client: Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure, Luxembourg
Duration: November 2017 - March 2018
The spatial dimension of the 3rd industrial revolution in Luxembourg

Spatial Foresight conducted a study on the territorial implications and preconditions concerning the 3rd Industrial Revolution in Luxembourg. A vision and strategy for the country’s transition to the 3rd Industrial Revolution has been developed in the so-called Rifkin study, which was commissioned by the Ministry of Economics of Luxembourg. The objective of our follow-up study was to debate and highlight the territorial consequences and patterns that may result from the implementation of the transitions, proposed by the Rifkin study. The study was conducted in collaboration with Zeyen+Baumann which contributes with local knowledge about the country.

Client: Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure, Luxembourg
Duration: December 2017 - February 2018

Enhancement of financial instruments in Lithuania and Croatia

Spatial Foresight was part of a consortium led by BGI Consulting that was selected to support Lithuanian and Croatian authorities to enhance their capacities of financial instruments in consistency with other forms of public interventions. The project assessed the added value of financial instruments in relations to other government interventions in nine different policy sectors. Spatial Foresight was mostly responsible for capacity building and organises site visits in the two countries, trainings and final conferences.

Client: BGI Consulting / Central Project Management Agency, Lithuania
Duration: May 2017 - February 2018

Spatial observation system in the German-Danish cross-border area
Spatial Foresight was part of a consortium that has been awarded a contract to identify and assess the need for, and prepare the establishment of a joint spatial observation system in the German-Danish cross-border area. In a first phase, which has focused on the general need for such a system, two events have been organised: (i) A regional workshop to involve various stakeholders, reaching from line departments, planning authorities and statistical offices to chambers of industry and commerce, universities, tourism and environmental associations, and identify their interests and needs; (ii) a focus group with experts from different statistical institutions as potential data providers to further develop the results of the regional workshop and discuss general availability of data. The second step focused on preparing the implementation. This included technical aspects, cost estimates and the identification of priorities as starting points for a joint online platform. For this purpose, expert rounds with technical, statistical and GIS experts have been organised in Denmark and Germany. The project has been conducted by Spatial Foresight and RRG Spatial Planning and Geoinformation in Oldenburg i.H.

The final monitoring system can be accessed online: http://www.danishgermandatabank.eu/DDRP/DE/Home/home_node.html

Client: State Chancellery of the State of Schleswig-Holstein
Duration: December 2016 - December 2017

Evaluation of EEA projects in Spain

The objective of the final evaluation of the Spanish National Programme (7 Programmes) implemented within the financial mechanism of the European Economic Area (EEA Grants 2009-2014 for Spain) consisted in assessing the results and effects generated as well as the effectiveness with regard to the two broad objectives of the EEA Grants (to reduce inequalities and to strengthen bilateral relations), as well as the specific objectives established for each programme. A specific impact evaluation reflected larger impacts and sustainability of the supported actions for the Programme ES02 (Programme Operator: CDTI).

Client: Ministry of Finance, Spain
Duration: July 2017 - October 2017

EUREGIO Freight Corridor
Spatial Foresight performed a study to analyse the logistics sector in the EUREGIO. The EUREGIO initiated the INTERREG A project "EUREGIO Freight Corridor" to elaborate a joint development strategy for the logistics sector in the German-Dutch border region. Under the cross-border project, the EUREGIO commissioned this study, which collected detailed information on the status quo and possible future developments with regards to the logistics sector and goods transport. This way the study will provide evidence for the elaboration process of the EUREGIO’s strategy.

The study consisted of four Lots, focusing on (1) current and future goods flows as well as the logistics profile, (2) the infrastructure network, current and future bottlenecks, (3) obstacles in the field of interoperability, and (4) pilot cases contributing to green corridor development. Spatial Foresight coordinatds the overall study, lead the last two Lots and also contributed to the first two Lots. The study is conducted together with TCP International and TNO.

Client: EUREGIO
Duration: April 2016 - November 2016

Brochure of the Thuringian ERDF Operational Programme 2014-2020

Spatial Foresight contributes to the communication of the Thuringian ERDF Programme 2014-2020 by drafting a brochure of the Operational Programme. The brochure shall inform beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries and other interested players about the main features of the Thuringian ERDF Programme 2014-2020. This brochure is part of the Managing Authority’s communication strategy.

Development of the evaluation plan for the Thuringian ERDF Programme 2014-2020

Spatial Foresight contributes to the evaluation plan for the Thuringian ERDF Programme 2014-2020 by identifying and describing the list of the envisaged evaluations during the programming period. Apart from desk research this encompasses in particular close interaction with the Managing Authority and responsible sector policies involved in the implementation of the ERDF programme. The list will include all relevant
evaluation details as regards objective, extent, crucial questions, methods, time frame, data needs and budget for each of the listed evaluations.

Client: Thüringer Ministerium für Wirtschaft, Wissenschaft und digitale Gesellschaft (Thuringian Ministry for Economic Affairs, Science and digital society)
Duration: March 2015-July 2015

Ex-ante evaluation of the ERDF OP Saarland 2014-2020

The preparation of the operational programmes for the next period of the Structural Funds 2014-2020 was underway. Spatial Foresight conducted the ex-ante evaluation for the ERDF programme of the Saarland. The evaluation included all ex-ante evaluation elements as proposed by the European Commission - especially the evaluation of the programme strategy, indicators, monitoring, financial allocation, contribution to the EU2020 Strategy as well as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The project was conducted in collaboration with EureConsult, Dr. Dräger & Thielmann and PRAC.

Client: Ministerium für Wirtschaft, Arbeit, Energie und Verkehr - Saarland
Duration: 2013

Local adaptability to global and regional economic trends

The project aimed at increasing knowledge about the adaptability of enterprises and regional and local governments and stakeholders in the Mazowieckie region in Poland. Adaptability here refers to the need to adjust to social, economic and other external developments, including the use of ICT. For making this knowledge available to local and regional stakeholders in this region, Spatial Foresight identified and analysed good practices of local governments etc. in Germany and other European countries.
Ex-ante evaluation of the ERDF OP Thuringia 2014-2020

The preparation of the operational programmes for the next period of the Structural Funds 2014-2020 was underway. Spatial Foresight conducted the ex-ante evaluation for the Thuringian ERDF programme. The evaluation included all ex-ante evaluation elements as proposed by the European Commission - especially the evaluation of the programme strategy, indicators, monitoring, financial allocation, contribution to the EU2020 Strategy as well as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The project was conducted in collaboration with EureConsult, Metis and PRAC.

Client: Thuringia Ministry of Economy, Employment and Technology
Duration: 2012-2013

Ex-ante evaluation of the ERDF OP Bozen - Südtirol / Bolzano - Alto Adige 2014-2020

The preparation of the operational programmes for the next period of the Structural Funds 2014-2020 was underway. Spatial Foresight was involved in the ex-ante evaluation for the ERDF programme of the autonomous province of South Tyrol (IT). The evaluation included all ex-ante evaluation elements as proposed by the European Commission - especially the evaluation of the programme strategy, indicators, monitoring, financial allocation, contribution to the EU2020 Strategy as well as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The project was conducted in collaboration with t33 (lead partner) and Archidata.
Using ESPON results in Norway

The Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development wanted to explore how findings and methodologies from the ESPON 2006 and 2013 programmes could inform Norwegian spatial planning and regional policy debates. Spatial Foresight has previously been the Lead Partner of a pre-project whose objective was to review potentially relevant indicators and typologies. Spatial Foresight contributed to the present more detailed analysis of ESPON projects as a subcontactor of the Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR).

Client: NIBR
Duration: 2012

The Territorial Dimension of Future EU Cohesion Policy
The objective of territorial cohesion has obtained new policy relevance as of its inclusion in the Lisbon Treaty. Although the 5th Cohesion Report, published in November 2010, has confirmed this new role, it is not yet decided how the objective of territorial cohesion will affect EU policies. This project aimed to illustrate how the principle of territorial cohesion can be integrated in different EU sector policies. Therefore, EU policies which highly affect cities and regions, such as Regional Policy, Environmental Policy, Transport Policy as well as other relevant policies were considered.

This project analysed different understandings of territorial cohesion in the EU and especially in Germany. Content as well as governance related proposals were made concerning the integration of territorial cohesion in EU policies. The project assisted the BBSR (German Federal Institute for Research on Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Development) and the BMVBS (German Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Development) in developing corresponding proposals.

Client: BBSR (German Federal Institute for Research on Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Development)
Duration: 2010-2012

Territorially differentiated implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy in Germany

Europe 2020 needs a territorially differentiated implementation. The overall European targets need to be translated into regionally differentiated targets, in order to ensure that all regions can contribute with their potentials to achieving the overall aim.

This study identified the potentials for territorial differentiated implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy in Germany. It investigated two main aspects of such an approach. Firstly, we researched governance mechanisms used for steering development through agreements on quantifiable target values. Secondly, we conducted a regional analysis of German regions to identify potentials for territorially differentiated targeted values related to the Europe 2020 Strategy. This work comprised also a number of
case studies and an open dialogue with various German stakeholders.

The final report can be downloaded at: [link](#)

Client: BBSR (German Federal Institute for Research on Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Development)
Duration: 2011-2012

**Cyprus EU Presidency in 2012: Preparatory support**

The scope of the contract concerned the provision of services for the preparation of a Background Report titled “Territorial Cohesion Issues in Europe during the Cyprus Presidency 2012 and beyond” to be used to define the theme(s) of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the second semester of 2012, and more particularly with regard to the coordination by the Government of Cyprus of the intergovernmental cooperation among EU Member States in the field of Territorial Cohesion. In detail the work comprised a background report on territorial cohesion issues in Europe and a shorter report on the territorial state and perspectives of Cyprus within the EU.

Client: Ministry of Interior, Republic of Cyprus
Duration: 2012

**Polish EU Presidency in 2011: Preparatory support**

Following the adoption of the new Territorial Agenda for Europe under the Hungarian Presidency in the first half of 2011, the Polish Presidency wanted to ensure progress on the implementation. This was tightly linked to the policy debates about Europe's future Cohesion Policy.

In preparation of the work under the Polish EU presidency, the Ministry for Regional Development has brought together a group of external experts to support the work of the Ministry and prepare a background document. Key aspects in the work were the scrutiny of EU cohesion policy and its territorial dimension, a strengthened dialogue with other sector policies, furthering the debate on key territorial cohesion
indicators, and the mobilisation of key stakeholders. Spatial Foresight had mainly an advisory role in this work, providing input from the rich experience in other related works.

Client: Polish Ministry of Regional Development
Duration: 2011

Pre-project - Using ESPON results in Norway

The Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development wanted to explore how findings and methodologies from the ESPON 2006 and 2013 programmes could inform Norwegian spatial planning and regional policy debates. The objective of this pre-project was to produce a review of potentially relevant indicators and typologies, which in future, a more comprehensive project would analyse in further detail.

The review was produced by a consortium led by Spatial Foresight, with participation by Nordregio and Eurofutures Finland. It was finalised in June 2011.

Client: Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development (KRD)
Duration: 2011

Urban policy case studies in France and Germany

This project aimed at providing an overview of policy approaches in Germany and France supporting urban sustainable development. This can include innovative solutions for different fields of urban planning, especially transport, environment, management and living conditions. The indication and description of particular important and/or interesting corresponding policies supported VINNOVA’s strategic and operational work in the field of sustainable cities in Sweden.

In particular the following questions were answered:
Are there specific centers for research and development for sustainable urban development in Germany or France? Are there good example of centers, programmes or initiatives for the commercialization or for
Study on Mountain Areas in Southern Norway

Norwegian regional policies have traditionally focused on peripheral areas and in particular on the challenges facing the northernmost parts of Finnmark and Troms. The Ministry for Local Government and Regional Development has commissioned a study to enquire whether mountain areas of southern Norway could also be the object of targeted measures. The objective was to check whether specific economic and social development conditions can be identified in this part of the country. The research consortium led by the Lillehammer-based research organisation Østlands-forskning, and Spatial Foresight as a partner, was selected to carry out this study on the basis of a competitive bidding process. The first task was to delineate these mountain areas, using criteria such as altitude, slope, ruggedness and possibly vegetation. Their specificities in terms of social and economic performance, access to services and infrastructure endowment have then been considered. Workshops involving stakeholders from the concerned areas were also organised, in view of better incorporating the governance and future development potentials of mountain areas in the analysis. The final report was produced during the summer of 2010.

Client: Norwegian Ministry for Local Government and Regional Development /Østlandsforskning
Duration: 2010

Continuous evaluation of the Structural Funds management in Sweden

The Swedish management of the ERDF and ESF programmes 2007-2013 has established a continuous evaluation of their management system in order to facilitate organisational learning and reflection. The key questions that were discussed concerned the implementation system, the compliance with EU and national regulations and the effectiveness and efficiency of the programme management.

Client: NUTEK / SWECO
Analysis of ESPON results for Germany

To understand the final results of the ESPON 2006 Programme in a national or regional perspective was not an easy task. The project aimed at analysing the final ESPON results with regard to their picture of the territorial development in Germany and their possible implications for Germany.

Client: German Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) / Institute for Regional Development and Structural Planning (IRS)
Duration: 2007-2008

EU funded transport projects and national transport policies

During 2000 and 2006 various transport projects have been carried out with EU funding. The aim of this project was to study such projects in Sweden, analyse to what degree the work carried out by these Structural Funds and INTERREG projects complemented national Swedish transport policies and to what degree EU funding was used more strategically in the field of transport policies.

Client: Swedish Association of Local Authorities & Regions / SWECO
Duration: 2008

Evaluation practice in assessing the effects of regional policy interventions
The Polish Ministry of Regional Development was interested to learn from Ireland, UK and Sweden in order to improve the Structural Funds management. The tasks of this project was to provide a review of good practices and innovative solutions in assessing real, longer term effects of regional programmes. Spatial Foresight contributed with the Swedish perspective.

Client: EUROREG - Warsaw University
Duration: 2008

Assessment of research on the socio-economic consequences of the a nuclear waste repository

Various research projects have been carried out in preparation of the application for a final nuclear waste repository in Sweden. The aim of this project was to assist the assessment of these search activities by asking the critical questions.

Client: Swedish Nuclear Power Inspectorate (SKI)
Duration: 2008

Contribution of the EU budget to regional growth

The Swedish Institute for Growth Policy studies was carrying out an analysis of the multi-annual budget for the period 2007–2013 and beyond. The aim was to scrutinize the budget, particularly in what way it may contribute to economic growth. Based on existing knowledge, this project iwas intended to suggest steps towards a reform of the EU budget both on short and long term.

Client: Swedish Institute for Growth Policy Studies (ITPS) / SWECO
Duration: 2007
Preparatory study on the on-going Structural Funds evaluations

The classical mid-term evaluation has been replaced by an on-going evaluation in the Structural Funds period 2007-2013. The aim of this project was to collect past experience and issues of the current debate in a number of European countries. This information supported the setting up of the evaluation plans and mechanisms for the on-going Structural Funds evaluation in Sweden.

Client: NUTEK the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth / SWECO
Duration: 2007

Economic impact assessment of the masterplan for Gothenburg

The municipality of Gothenburg was drawing up a new masterplan, ÖPXX. This project assessed the economic implications of the draft masterplan which has been presented to the public. The impact assessment was based on a methodology which has been developed in the framework of ESPON for territorial impact assessments of EU policies.

Client: Municipality of Gothenburg / SWECO
Duration: 2007

International benchmarking of the urban and demographic developments in Malmö
The municipality of Malmö was facing a number of urban and demographic challenges related to ongoing transition processes. This project reflected the present challenges and strategies in a wider European perspective and compared the situation in Malmö to developments in other cities such as Newcastle, Dortmund and Metz.

Client: Municipality of Malmö / SWECO EuroFutures
Duration: 2007

**Skåne in a European perspective**

ESPON, the European Spatial Planning and Observation Network, and the Urban Audit have produced a huge amount of comparative European analysis. These analysis allow European cities and regions to better see their comparative advantages and disadvantages. The aim of this project was to analyse the vast amount of European comparative information with regard to the European position and potentials of the Swedish region Skåne.

Client: Region Skåne / SWECO Eurofutures
Duration: 2007