

# // The ESPON Programme and European territorial evidence

ESPON EGTC

27 October 2021

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# What is ESPON ?

# ESPON contributes to the Cohesion Policy since 2002

European Spatial  
Planning Observation  
Network

Creating a network of  
the European scientific  
community in the  
fragmented field of  
spatial development

14  
mil.

2002 - 2006

European Observation  
Network for Territorial  
Development and  
Cohesion

Providing evidence on  
the territorial potentials  
for improving regional  
competitiveness and  
territorial cohesion

47  
mil.

2007 - 2013

European Territorial  
Observatory Network

Reinforcing the  
effectiveness of Cohesion  
Policy as well as national  
and regional territorial  
development policies

48  
mil.

2014 - 2020

European Territorial  
Observatory Network

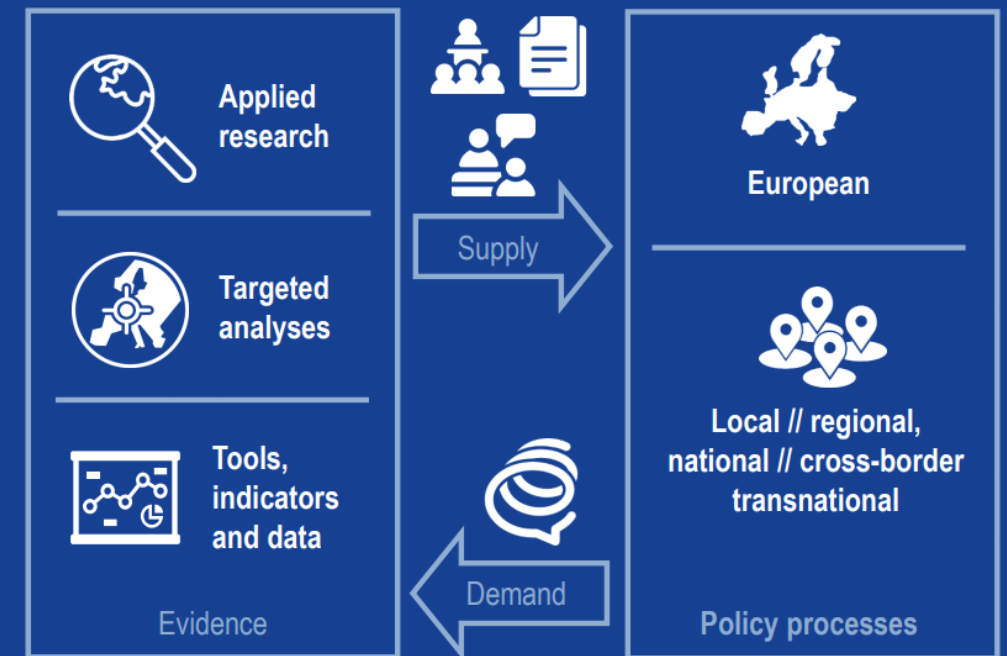
Supporting the implementation of  
EU Cohesion Policy and other main  
priorities (recovery strategy from the  
COVID, Territorial Agenda 2030,  
Green Deal...)

58  
mil.

2021 - 2027

# What ESPON does

The primary mission of ESPON is to deliver evidence, data and advice to policies



# ESPON 2020 in a nutshell

**32 member and partner states**  
(EU, EFTA, UK)



Around **300 active** transnational, cross-border, national, regional and local stakeholders involved in the programme **and more than 5000 researchers and policy makers** in contact with ESPON over the past 6 years



**50 million budget**



**Around 80 territorial studies and 80 policy and thematic papers**



**Territorial evidence, maps and data**



**Scenarios and territorial visions**



**Territorial insights and policy briefs**

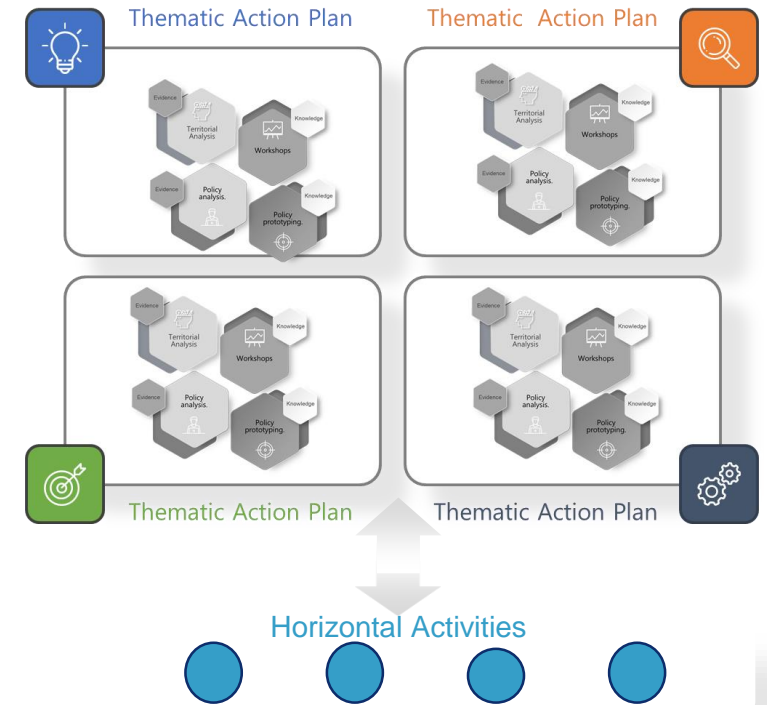


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# The ESPON 2030 Programme

# The ESPON 2030 Programme

- Planned to be implemented by the ESPON EGTC from 1 July 2022
- A more strategic approach via thematic work streams called “Thematic Action Plans”
- Complemented by a series of cross-cutting “Horizontal Activities”



# Thematic Action Plan



A strategic document on the specific theme,  
which describes:

- The territorial trends and drivers that challenge the policy making in that specific thematic field;
- The available territorial evidence, including data and research methodologies, as a starting point;
- The further evidence gaps that ESPON should be suited to fill;
- The knowledge gaps among policy makers at all levels that prevent them from delivering effective policy response;
- Some major thematic activities to bring the evidence to the policy makers and transfer it into actionable knowledge





## Thematic Action Plan

A TAP is composed of several activities.

On one side, the activities related to the production of **evidence** (such as European-wide projects, targeted analyses, case studies, data, maps etc.)

On the other side, the activities related to the **knowledge** development, intended to deliver the evidence to the policy makers

# Kick-off information day

- Raise the **awareness of programme stakeholders** about the specific thematic work streams ESPON will be opening to support policymaking
- Engage in an **exchange with policymakers** at all levels on the general policy needs that could be addressed and in which way
- Engage in an **exchange with scientists** on the state-of-the art of the existing territorial research in the related fields of each TAP and to collect a wide range of proposals for programme research activities to ensure the relevance and added value of ESPON evidence production

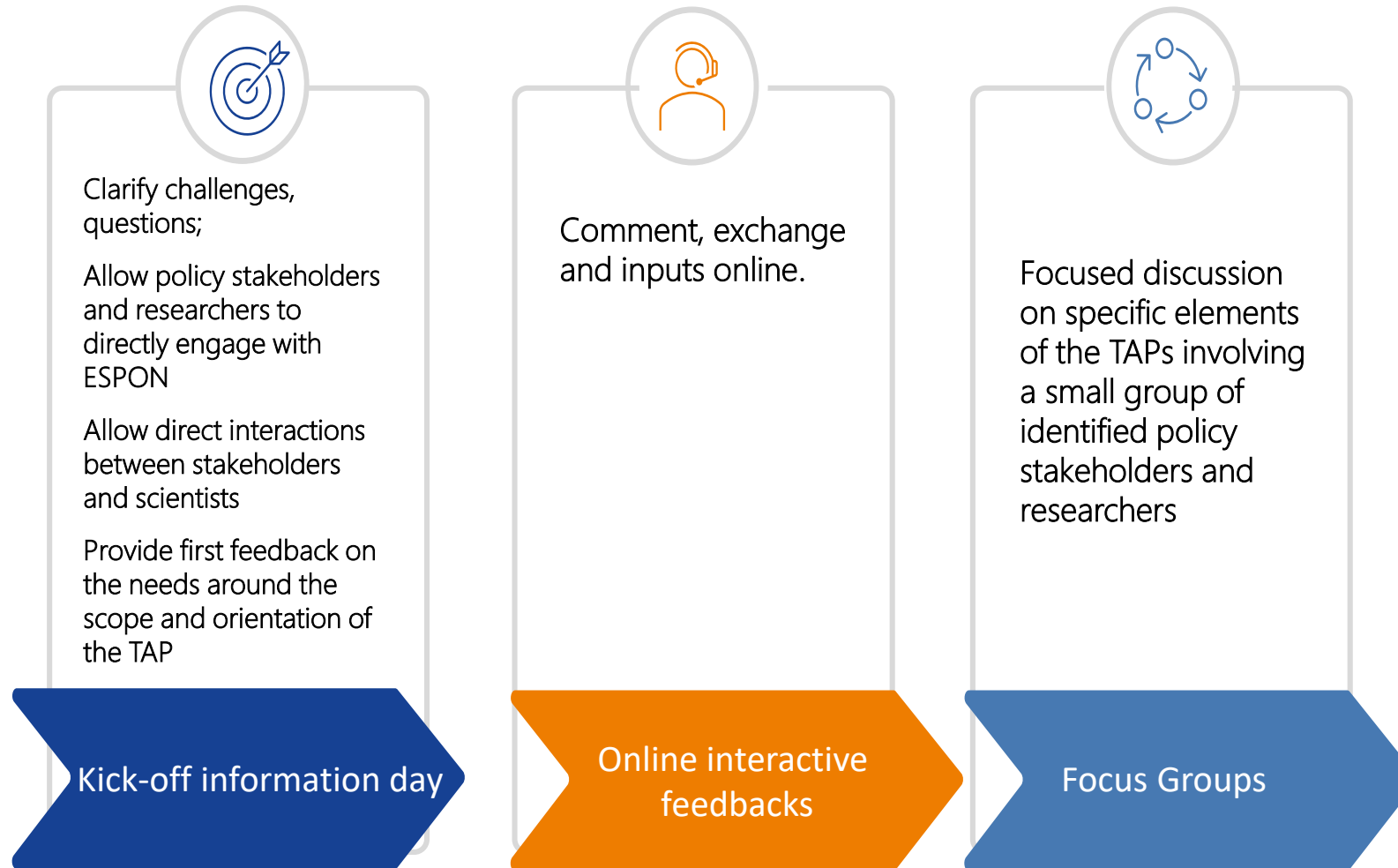
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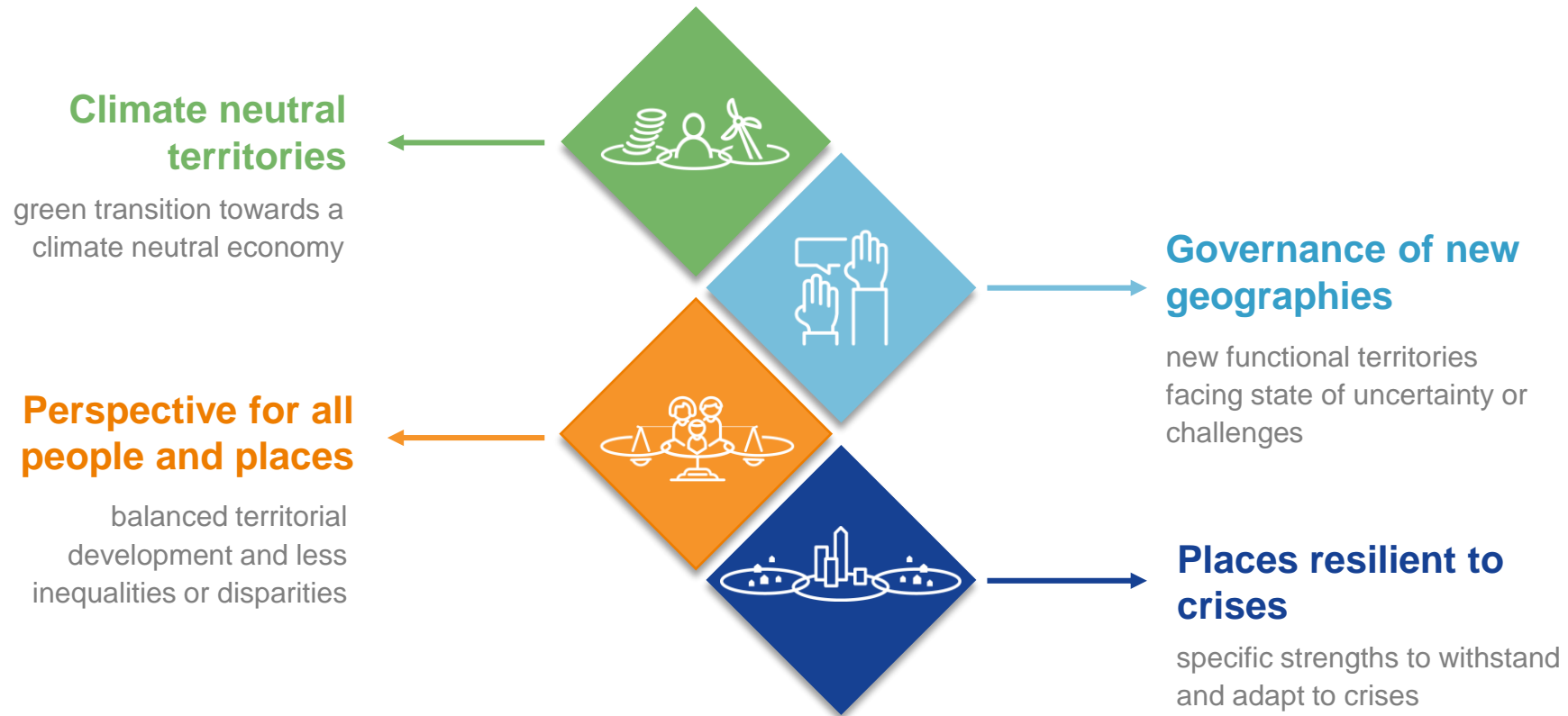
**30 November 2021**



# Thematic Action Plan consultation process



# Consultation open for the TAP themes:





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Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

espon.eu



# Thank you

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<https://www.espon.eu>