

**ESPON 2013: CALLS FOR PROPOSALS / EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

The launch of the first calls for project proposals under the ESPON 2013 Programme is being announced by the Planning and Priorities Coordination Division, Office of the Prime Minister (OPM). The ESPON 2013 Programme aims to support policy development in relation to territorial cohesion and to strengthen the harmonious development of the European territory by providing comparable information on the development of regions, cities and territories.

Four calls for proposals and expressions of interest are currently open, namely:

- (1) Calls for Proposals relating to applied research projects covering the following themes:
 - Cities and urban agglomerations: their functionality and potential for European competitiveness and cooperation;
 - Development opportunities in different types of rural areas;
 - Demographic and migratory flows affecting European regions and cities;
 - Climate change and territorial effects on regions and local economies;
 - Effects of rising energy prices on regional competitiveness;
 - Territorial Impact Assessment of policies.
- (2) Calls for Interest and ideas for the use of analysis based on ESPON results.
- (3) Calls for Proposals relating to the ESPON 2013 database.
- (4) Calls for Interest in the Knowledge Support System, creating a pool of experts in the field of territorial research and analysis.

The deadline for submitting proposals and / or express interest in these calls is 22nd March 2008. Further information on the ESPON programme may be obtained from the following website: <http://www.espon.eu>, from www.ppcd.gov.mt or from the Territorial Cooperation Unit at PPCD on info.ppcd@gov.mt.

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