



Roadmap towards promoting and enhancing an integrated, territorial approach based on the Territorial Agenda of the European Union 2020

prepared by the Polish Presidency

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I. PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

Territorial approach was conceived to support development. However Territorial Agenda of the European Union 2020 agreed by the Ministers responsible for Spatial Planning and Territorial Development in Gödöllő, not being formally adopted by any EU body because the territorial process has been so far essentially intergovernmental (TA2020 has a different political status than for example Europe 2020 strategy), constitutes a main reference point of any territorial interventions. The first attempt to fill the gap between intergovernmental territorial process (NTCCP/UDG) and the formal EU policies' actions was undertaken, in the context of the Barca report (Fabrizio Barca, An agenda for a reformed Cohesion Policy. A place-based approach to meeting European Union challenges and expectations) in Seville. Directors General responsible for territorial development policy underlined the importance of inter-linkages between Territorial Agenda and the EU2020.

Polish Presidency dedicates much of its attention to the question of the territorial dimension of public policies. Using several valuable contributions of previous years, this document converts key topics of the EU reflection into concrete actions to be taken for the purpose of integrating the territorial approach into the EU strategic planning, coordination of policies and institutional arrangements when delivering the Europe 2020 strategy (EU2020).

The table presented below contain a proposal of concrete actions for enhancing integrated territorial approach at different levels of management (European, national regional and local). They were formulated on the basis of *Territorial Agenda of the European Union 2020* and reflect also the outputs of discussions held during the Polish Presidency including NTCCP and UDG joint meetings, the seminar *Territorial dimension of development policies* and the conference *Effective instruments supporting territorial development*. The proposed actions take also into account the *Toledo Declaration* and the new draft regulations package for Cohesion Policy post 2013 published on 6th October 2011.

The paper was presented for the discussion during the meeting of Directors General responsible for the EU Cohesion Policy (Regional Policy), Territorial and Urban Development (3-4 November 2011). Directors General recognised that there is a need for a framework to manage the implementation of commitments relating to the Territorial Agenda. It was noted that previous experience in this area was characterised by a lack of consistent progress and by ad hoc responses.

During the Informal Meeting of Ministers responsible for EU Cohesion Policy (Regional Policy), Territorial and Urban Development (24-25 November 2011) the vast majority of countries supported the Roadmap and indicated the potential areas for cooperation.

A roadmap could facilitate more coherence and systematic tracking of actions. National Territorial Cohesion Contact Points could act as a coordinator of the implementation of the Roadmap.

II. ACTIONS RESULTING FROM TERRITORIAL AGENDA OF THE EUROPEAN UNION 2020, TOLEDO DECLARATION AND COHESION POLICY PACKAGE

	Actions	Country or Institution	Time-frame	Reference to TA2020/ Toledo Declaration/Cohesion Policy package
1.	<p>Preparation of a survey on how Members States integrate place-based approach into public policies on national, regional and local level.</p> <p>Develop a methodology on how to integrate the place-based approach into public policies on national, regional and local level.</p> <p>Dissemination of the methodology and results of the survey as good practice throughout exchange of best practices, workshops, conferences, publications.</p>	PL	2012	<p><i>TA2020: MS when designing and implementing public policies should take into account territorial contexts and principles and objectives of TA2020 (para 44).</i></p> <p><i>TA2020: MS authorities encourage regional and local authorities to prepare and implement integrated strategies and spatial plans. (para 61)</i></p>
2.	Working out a guidance paper on how to prepare territorially oriented evaluations.	Evaluation Networks, CoR	ASAP	<i>TA2020: MS integrate territorial considerations when evaluating and reporting results and impacts of EU policies.(para 49)</i>
3.	<p>Preparation of a handbook on territorial impact assessment methods and their application on the EU level and in Member States.</p> <p>Dissemination of best practices existing in the EU countries throughout workshops, conferences, publication of the handbook.</p>	MS/COM, UK, RO, FR, NL (in kind contribution)	2013	<p><i>TA2020: MS improve territorial coordination of national policies by using the assessment of territorial impact.(para 43)</i></p> <p><i>Integrated impact assessment for all significant EU policies and programmes should be developed based on stakeholders inputs. (para 50)</i></p>
4.	<p>Preparation of a draft communication strategy for TA2020 to strengthen the common understanding of the territorial dimension.</p> <p>Presentation of the report on the effects of implementation of the TA2020 in Member States.</p>	MS, RO, EST	Multi-annual Starting from 2012	<p><i>TA2020: MS elaborate and coordinate a communication strategy for a successful implementation of TA2020, including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>-Territorial Agenda Annual Conferences,</i> <i>-Annual multi-sectoral conferences (dissemination of findings from territorially-sensitive studies, good practices of cross-sectoral approaches). (para 67)</i>
5.	Strengthened coordination of preparation of long-term work plans for NTCCP, UDG, TCUM as well as for relevant Commissions of CoR and Committees of EP.	Subsequent Presidencies with COM, EP, CoR, CY		<i>TA2020: Continue coordination of NTCCP and increase cooperation with European Institutions and other stakeholders.(para 65)</i>
6.	Start of the Dissemination Phase of the Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities (RFSC) on a voluntary basis, in accordance with the declarations made by Directors General during the meeting in Warsaw (3-4.11.2011) and as set out in the document "The Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities (RFSC) – Outline of the dissemination phase".	COM, CoR (dissemination hosting the Annual RFSC event), MS (financial contribution declared by: COM, FR, DE, NL; in kind contribution declared by: BE,BG, CY,	2012-2013	<i>Toledo Declaration: Point B: On supporting the continuation of the Marseille process and the implementation of the Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities</i>

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		LV, SK, MT, RO, UK, EE, GR, CZ, SE; LU, PL translation by all MS)		
7.	CSF should give strategic guidance on how to make best use of the territorial approach in implementing EU2020 goals taking into account TA2020 priorities and challenges.	COM	First draft – Winter 2011	CP package TA2020 (para 4, 47, 48)
8.	Organisation of a debate on the territorial approach of the EU policies to be carried out at the General Affair Council on the annual basis.	Subsequent Presidencies, CoR, CY	2012	CP package TA2020 (para 63)
9.	Partnership Contract and Operational Programmes' content should take account of the territorial dimension to the maximum extent possible, using TA2020.	MS, CoR	2013	CP package TA2020 (para 47, 48)
10.	1. Evaluation of the results of ESPON providing the basis for its future work 2. Elaborating proposals and making decisions necessary for establishment of a new framework for ESPON post 2013 as European Territorial Observation Network. 3. Preparation of Operational Programme and other statutory documents accordingly to the institutional setting adjusted to the new framework of ESPON post 2013.	COM MS with ESPON MA, COM, CoR MS with ESPON MA, CoR and COM	2012 2012/2013 2013	CP package TA2020 (para 51)
11.	1. Elaboration of a methodology and a study on how to integrate the place-based approach into public policies on EU, national, regional and local level 2. Publication – preceded by the EU-wide consultation with Member States - of a White Paper on the territorial dimension of EU policies. The White Paper should analyze possibilities for formal (legal) inclusion of the territorial dimension into EU policies.	COM/PE COM/MS, CoR LU, PT, BG, GR	2012/2013 2015	TA2020
12.	Setting up a intergovernmental working group in order to discuss a scope and possible implementation mechanisms of the different networking instruments for cities.	NL (chair), DE, BE, FR (co-chair), CoR	2012/2013	Toledo Declaration, CP package