

Indicators and perspectives for services of general interest in territorial development and cohesion

UK Partner:

University of the West of England

Main aims and concepts

- To provide an overview of the current territorial situation regarding services of general interest within Europe.
- Services of general interest can include electricity, gas, water, education, child care and health care, and can contribute to the overall competitiveness of the European economy.

Main research areas

- Existing classifications of services of general interest, and how they can be applied from a territorial cohesion and development point of view.
- Using indicators to measure the level of services of general interest.
- Mapping the current situation of services of general interest throughout Europe, e.g. distribution of services and areas of specialism.
- Studying territorial development potentials and constraints in different areas in Europe, focusing on current trends, territorial development paths and the relationship between governance and services of general interest.

Case study selection

The following countries have been selected to provide an examination of services of general interest. The case studies identify a range of geographical features, showing an overview of service provision across a set of diverse European areas.

Austria:	East Austrian Periphery
Germany:	Ruhrgebiet
Hungary:	Del-Alfold
Iceland:	North East
Norway:	Finnmark
Poland:	Mazowieckie
Romania:	Bucharest-Ilfov
Spain:	Navarre
UK:	South Gloucestershire

Main results envisaged

- Data input to the development, update and extension of the ESPON database by additional data on services of general interest.
- Indicators on services of general interest offering territorial information on the level of services at different geographical levels.
- Typologies of territories helping to classify areas based on relevant characteristics on services of general interest and their respective development perspectives.
- 4 - 6 case studies providing more detailed information on national situations.
- European maps showing the spatial distribution of services of general interest and territorial development perspectives in different areas as well as evidence from the case studies.

Contact us by Email: research@rtpi.org.uk or Telephone: 44 (0) 20 7929 9496
 ESPON current projects link: <http://www.rtpi.org.uk/item/1881>
 SeGi link: http://www.espon.eu/main/Menu_Projects/Menu_AppliedResearch/SeGI.html

