

ESPON 2013. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

1 INSTITUTION

Departamento de Urbanística y Ordenación del Territorio (DUyOT)	Department of Urban Studies and Land Planning
Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura.	Faculty of Architecture.
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid	Polytechnic University of Madrid

<http://www.aq.upm.es/Departamentos/Urbanismo/index.html>

Short description

The Department of Urban Studies and Land Planning is a renowned academic institution, within one of the most prestigious and long-standing technical universities in Spain. Besides teaching subjects on urban studies, land and territorial planning of the Architecture's Degree Curriculum to more than 400 students each year, it offers a University Masters Degree in Urban and Territory Planning - Speciality in Urban Planning in Spain, and two other Masters in Chile.

Members of the department are involved in different research lines related to sustainability of cities and regions:

- territorial foresight and economic competitiveness,
- strategic planning, management and governance,
- economic viability of large urban developments,
- sustainable urban transport,
- urban renewal and complexity in urban areas.

This research is readily translated into practice at different scales, as the Department works closely with local, regional, national and international organizations.

In 2005 the Department launched the R&D&i **Research Group on Architecture, Urbanism and Sustainability** (IAU_+S) to promote the principles of sustainable development at territorial, urban and architecture scale.

(<http://www2.upm.es/observatorio/vi/index.jsp?pageac=grupo.jsp&idGrupo=133>)

The Department is also responsible for the digital library **Cities for a more sustainable future** (<http://habitat.aq.upm.es/org/infoeng.html>) involved in the knowledge and divulgation of the actions and experiences nominated to the award for "Best Practices" by the United Nations' Conferences on Human Settlements

The Department staff includes 4 professors, 12 titular teachers, 19 associated teachers, 2 emeritus and 3 ad-honorem teachers. It edits **Urban**, one of the main journals on urbanism published in Spanish and **Cuadernos de Investigacion Urbanistica**, a research publication edited with the collaboration of 17 Latin American Universities.

2 INTEREST IN PROJECT PRIORITY 1

We would like to join a consortium on one of the following projects:

ESPON ARP 2013/1/16. **Indicators and Perspectives for Services of General Interest in Territorial Cohesion and Development**

ESPON ARP 2013/1/16. **European Perspective on Specific Types of Territories**

3 RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

The Department has a solid trajectory of analyzing current urban dynamics as well as future change trends. Economic, environmental, social and political dimensions are carefully taken into consideration when dealing with the complexity of urban processes.

It has recently carried out different research projects on Territorial Prospective and Regional Strategic Plans, Deprived Neighbourhoods, Changing Territorial and Urban patterns and Sustainability of metropolitan suburbs peripheries.

The Department is also involved in an in-depth case study of a Spanish region subject to increasing polarization and facing the challenge of unbalanced territorial development. The ever-increasing concentration of functions and services in very few nodes results in a growing dependence –and demographic decline– of the rest of the territory. The analysis of the urban evolution over the last decades reveals anticipated trends for the future and highlights key levers and options to rebalance the process.

4 CONTACT

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