

Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

VACANCY

DIRECTOR of the ESPON EGTC

Deadline for Applications: 15 March 2020

The ESPON EGTC is recruiting a new Director to lead an international team in Luxembourg working on European territorial evidence informing policy making.

The Director of the ESPON EGTC implements the Single Operation under the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme. The new Director is supposed to take up the position as early as possible during 2020.

[Please read before applying: What is the ESPON Programme and ESPON EGTC?](#)

The job of ESPON EGTC Director

The Director has the overall responsibility for the ESPON EGTC. This includes the coordination, management, steering, planning and implementation of the Single Operation, including the proposals for Annual Work Plans and amendments to the Multiannual Work Programme (if needed), the delivery of Progress Reports, the budget and contract management and the necessary processing related to the Monitoring Committee and other bodies of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme.

The Director plays a key role in the external promotion of the EGTC and the territorial evidence resulting from the activities carried through by the EGTC. In particular, the Director is the main interlocutor with the European policy arena related to territorial development and cohesion policy.

The Director represents the ESPON EGTC in the Assembly and towards the Managing Authority for the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme.

Another key role for the Director is the overall responsibility for the internal coordination of the EGTC in close cooperation with the two Heads of Unit. This includes task management and planning at the level of the Single Operation, timely delivery of activities listed in the Single Operation, budget compliance and respect of Operation Implementation Guidance and relevant European regulations.

The Director also has the overall responsibility for functioning of the ESPON EGTC. This includes the overall responsibility for staff matters and recruitment.

What profile and experience should the ESPON EGTC Director have?

The post as ESPON EGTC Director requires leadership experience from comparable engagements to exercise the following tasks:

- the promotion of ESPON and territorial evidence in relation to policy processes at European level;
- the overall responsibility for the EGTC delivering according to the Grant Agreement signed with the ESPON 2020 Managing Authority and the approved Single Operation for the implementation of the content the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme;
- the responsibility for the production, uptake and wide use of ESPON territorial evidence;
- ensuring correct, efficient and effective performance of the EGTC including the responsibility for the management of the employed staff members.

The director consequently should dispose of a multifaceted profile and a wide range of background experience. Ideally, the ESPON EGTC Director should meet the following characteristics:

- charismatic and integrative personality with good contact to the policy circuit at EU and national level;
- European policy understanding and experience in policy fields relevant for territorial development and cohesion;
- proactive supporter of an integrated, place-based approach and the need for European territorial evidence in policy development;
- scientific insight and belief in the benefits of evidence informed policy making;
- high-level communication skills and profound experience in dialogue towards policy makers;
- proactive and result-oriented leadership approach with demonstrated ability to deliver with the right timing.
- recognised strong leadership and coordination experience from prior employment with direct responsibility organising a team and handle staff matters, exploring staff capacities skills and ensuring high level of motivation among staff;
- financial management and budget experience from prior engagement;
- good credentials in organisational management and in leading a team.

Which qualifications are required for the post?

- a relevant university degree for the job as director of the ESPON EGTC;
- leadership experience in policy relations, making use of research and evidence in policymaking;
- preferably more than 10-15 years of relevant work experience of which 5-10 years of successful leadership in managing an organisation, complex processes and/or programmes including in staff management;
- experience linked to territorial development, regional policy and/or spatial planning and / or engagement in European policy development in the context of cohesion policy and territorial cohesion;

- leadership experience from a corresponding policy environment in a European institution, a European body or organisation, a national ministry, or a regional or local administration;
- communication skills in English are at a high level to communicate ESPON territorial evidence into the European policy arena and promoting ESPON at different administrative levels;
- experience to work under short deadlines and to frequently travel for work.

Applying for the post

The application shall include:

- A motivation letter expressing the motivation and expectations as well as the qualifications and experience in relation to the post.
- A curriculum vitae (preferably in Europass format) including the main details of the professional experience and educational background as well as the personal and language skills.

All documents should be in English language.

In case of selection for the post the presentation of certified copies of degree/diplomas will be required.

Please send your application (motivation letter and CV) by e-mail to recruitment-Esponegtc@mat.etat.lu, indicating **Director** in the subject line of the email.

The deadline for submitting your application is **15 March 2020**.

Selection procedure

The ESPON EGTC will establish a Selection Board, which will invite the most qualified candidates for an interview. All interviews will take place in Luxembourg and are planned to be organised in April 2020.

The ESPON EGTC applies the principle of equal opportunities.

Conditions of employment

An indefinite contract with the ESPON EGTC will be awarded related to the implementation of the Single Operation of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme.

A competitive salary will be offered. The workplace is at the premises of the ESPON EGTC located in Luxembourg City, in a multicultural environment close to European institutions and international schools. The post implies travelling to various EU Member and Partner States.

The ESPON EGTC is serving a pan-European Programme which is mirrored in the composition of staff. The ESPON EGTC currently employs staff from about 13 different countries in Europe and offers a multi-cultural working environment which favours cooperation and teamwork.

Requests for additional information

You may request further information about the vacant post and the ESPON EGTC by sending an email to recruitment-Esponegtc@mat.etat.lu or by calling Ms Ilona Raugze the current Director on +352 20 600 280 10.

Personal Data Protection

Any personal data provided by the applicants will be processed according to the provision of different regulation on personal data protection, in particular Regulation (EU) 2016/679. This applies in

particular to the confidentiality and security of such personal data. Personal data will be processed solely for the purposes of this selection procedure.

Should the applicant have any questions concerning the processing of his/her personal data, s/he shall address them at the following e-mail address: recruitment-Esponegtc@mat.etat.lu.

What is the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme?

The ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme aims at promoting and fostering a European territorial dimension in development and cooperation by providing evidence, knowledge transfer and policy learning to public authorities and other policy actors at all levels.

The mission of ESPON 2020 is to continue the consolidation of a European Territorial Observatory Network and grow the provision and policy use of pan-European, comparable, systematic and reliable territorial evidence.

The objective of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme is to support the reinforcement of the effectiveness of EU Cohesion Policy and other sectoral policies and programmes under European Structural Investment (ESI) funds as well as national and regional territorial development policies, through the production, dissemination and promotion of territorial evidence covering the entire territory of the 28 EU Members States, as well as 4 Partner States of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

The ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme has a budget of EUR 48 million for the period 2014-2020 which is financed mainly by the European Commission, as well as by the 28 EU Member States and 4 Partner States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. Luxembourg is the seat of the Managing Authority.

What is the ESPON EGTC?

The ESPON EGTC is a European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation and has been established to deliver the content envisaged by the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme.

What is the mission of the ESPON EGTC?

The ESPON EGTC is the Single Beneficiary of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme established in Luxembourg to implement:

- Applied research projects on themes defined by policy demand where the European process needs better information and evidence.
- Targeted analyses in cooperation with stakeholders from national, regional and local authorities as well as other programmes under European Structural and Investment Funds and European Macro-regions.
- Observation and monitoring of territorial trends and dynamics within Europe as a basis for policy consideration covering the entire European territory, its regions and cities as well as European Macro-regions and cross-border entities.
- Development and maintenance of a “toolbox” relevant for information and use of the territorial evidence base for policy making including data and indicators in the ESPON Database as well as tools for territorial analyses, urban benchmarking, mapping etc.
- Outreach activities at European level as well as in the transnational and national contexts in order to promote the European perspective of territorial development and cohesion.

As an important element in the renewal of ESPON, the ESPON EGTC has been equipped to serve ongoing policy processes upon demand to deliver rapid analytical responses such as short papers, policy briefs, etc. based on the ESPON evidence base. At the same time, the ESPON EGTC is as a legal entity bound to a sound management and implementation of its activities.

The ESPON EGTC currently employs 22 people within two units:

- Unit for Evidence and Outreach devoted to the evidence production and outreach activities to be implemented as part of the Single Operation;
- Unit for Administration and Management responsible for financial, legal, administrative and human resource issues of the ESPON EGTC.

ESPON 2020 – More information

ESPON EGTC

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The ESPON EGTC is the Single Beneficiary of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme. The Single Operation within the Programme is implemented by the ESPON EGTC and co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund, the EU Member States and the Partner States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.