Future options and perspectives for the post-2020 governance of territorial policies in general and the Territorial Agenda in particular

Input on behalf of the AT Presidency:
Helmut Hiess
13.11.2018
Statement 1: Challenges of today and tomorrow call for intersectoral and territorial responses

Territorial challenges such as
- fragmentation and disintegration
- growing interdependencies and externalities
- mismatch of functionalities

Sectoral challenges such as
- demographic and social change
- climate change and sustainable energy system
- knowledge based society and digitalization

Call for intersectoral response

Create a need for territorial and place based approaches
Statement 2: Action and implementation are not a one-way road

- European level
  - Call for action
    - Territorial challenges ↔ Intersectoral response ↔ Sectoral challenges
    - Partners for joint action
      - Impact assessment for fine tuning
  - Call for action
    - Harmonizing framework conditions
    - Support and solidarity
  - National, regional, local and urban level
Landscape of European territorial policies

Source: Own representation

13/11/2018  Governance of the Territorial Agenda post-2020
Statement 3: The territorial policy system at European level relies on soft policies

(1) There is no legal competence for spatial and urban policy making at the European level

(2) The main tools of intervention are incentives ("soft" policies), funds ("hard" policies) and sectoral policies with territorial impacts

(3) The territorial policy system at the European level is a complex landscape developed step by step over the last decades

Soft policies systems need innovative and tailor-made governance approaches beyond the routine of administrative systems!
Topics, functions and tasks of territorial European policies

Source: Own presentation
Statement 4: The Territorial Agenda has a relevant function for territorial and intersectoral policies but little impact

(1) The only policy system featuring explicitly territorial objectives and addressing place based and intersectoral tools is the Territorial Agenda.

(2) But in contrast to the Urban Agenda or the Macro-regional strategies its governance system is weak and so is its relevance.

(3) This is due to insufficient owner- and leadership, weak implementation focus, lacking organizational capacity and cooperation intensity.
Assessment of territorial governance systems of European territorial policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>ESI funds</th>
<th>Territorial Agenda</th>
<th>Urban Agenda</th>
<th>MRS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ownership</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission involvement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involvement of states</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involvement of regions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involvement of cities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involvement of interest groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation focus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Well defined implementation areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organisational capacity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperation intensity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Own assessment

13/11/2018  Governance of the Territorial Agenda post-2020
Statement 5: Strengthening the governance system of the Territorial Agenda is crucial for a better implementation of territorial policies and intersectoral policies at European level

Territorial Agenda post 2020: options put for discussion

- Business as usual but better → failed in the past
- Leadership by the commission → paradigmatic shift in competences
- Elaborate a remake of the European Spatial Development Perspective → does not overcome implementation barriers

A governance system triggering multilevel cooperation aiming at better implementation
Option: Thematic policy labs as implementation partnerships for the Territorial Agenda post-2020

Source: Own presentation
Option: Regional policy labs to trigger implementation of the Territorial Agenda

Objectives of the Territorial Agenda

- O1
- O2
- O3
- O4
- O5
- O6

Implementing actions and cooperative governance in model regions

- Regional policy labs
- Regional policy labs
- Regional policy labs
- Regional policy labs

Recommendations to decision makers and administration

- Sectoral level
  - EU
  - National
  - Regional
- Territorial level
  - EU
  - National
  - Regional
Option: Incremental enhancement of the landscape of territorial European policy systems is a chance to close the gap between Urban and Territorial Agenda
Learning from existing implementation partnerships

- Strong ownership for setting up the system and leadership for the operational phase is needed
- Participation of the commission is important
- A management unit which conjoins thematic expertise with project management skills is crucial, personal and financial support has to be explored
- An organisation of the partnerships is needed, which guarantee effective working is a precondition for success
- Consider carefully the number of partnerships and topics, which should be launched at the beginning (capacity bottlenecks)
- Ensure the way of up taking the results and recommendation in the administrative routines and the political decision making process
Give informal orientation to help streamline the work of the Trio presidency and the Task Force for the renewal of the Territorial Agenda post-2020 as regards the future governance