



ΠΑΝΤΕΙΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ
ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΚΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΩΝ ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΩΝ

Transnational Experience and Needs for Territorial Information

The Mediterranean perspective of the ESPON 2013 Programme

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EU policies addressed to the Mediterranean region : Some history (1)

- ▶ Since the very beginning of the European Integration process, the EU has had **specific policies addressed to the Mediterranean region** arising from the many important links that bind the countries on both shores.
- ▶ These are not only **cultural and historic** – mainly with countries such as France, the United Kingdom, Italy and Spain, former regional colonial powers – but also **economic**.

EU policies addressed to the Mediterranean region : Some history (2)

- ▶ The first general EEC policy for the region came with the establishment of the **Global Mediterranean Policy (GMP)** launched in the early 70s, in the context of the oil crisis, and has been in force until the beginning of the 90s.
- ▶ the results of the **GMP were unimpressive.**
- ▶ This unsatisfactory outcome, together with the new political situation (the Gulf War and the support to Iraq granted by the Maghreb/Mashrek countries, the end of the Cold War and the fall of the Berlin Wall) **led the EU to change its approach to the region.**

EU policies addressed to the Mediterranean region : Some history (3)

- ▶ **A Renewed Mediterranean Policy** was launched in 1992, increasing the amount of **development aid** (the MED programmes of decentralised cooperation were created) and extending trade preferences. **Cooperation was also to cover subjects such as human rights, the environment and the promotion of democracy.**
- ▶ Nonetheless this policy did not bring the expected development to the region and was seen merely as a continuation of the previous phase.

EU policies addressed to the Mediterranean region : Some history (4)

- ▶ The political situation, the concerns with Eastern European enlargement, the economic trend towards globalisation, together with regionalisation and the completion of the Single European Market, led to the general belief in Europe that the policy towards the Mediterranean needed a reorientation.
- ▶ Spain proposed the creation of a Euro–Maghreb free–trade area in March 1992; This was confirmed by the **European Council at Lisbon** (June 1992). Negotiations were started, but some constraints (EU–Libya relations and the crisis in Algeria) prevented this regional initiative from being successful.
- ▶ After this failure, the **EC considered the extension of the initiative to the whole Mediterranean region**. The **Corfu European Council** charged the Commission to review current policy towards the area. The Commission drew up a proposal for the creation of a **Euro–Mediterranean Association**, accepted by the **Essen European Council** in 1994.
- ▶ The Southern countries favoured an approach based upon more aid and fewer trade concessions than the Northern Member States (who advocated the maintenance of the current aid ratio of 5:1 in favour of the **Central and Eastern Europe Countries** (CEEC). At the end the ratio was raised to 5:3.5.
- ▶ It was in this context that the **Barcelona Conference** took place on the 27th and 28th November 1995 and the **Barcelona Declaration** was adopted, inaugurating the so–called **Euro–Mediterranean Partnership** (EMP) or **Barcelona process**.

The Barcelona Process

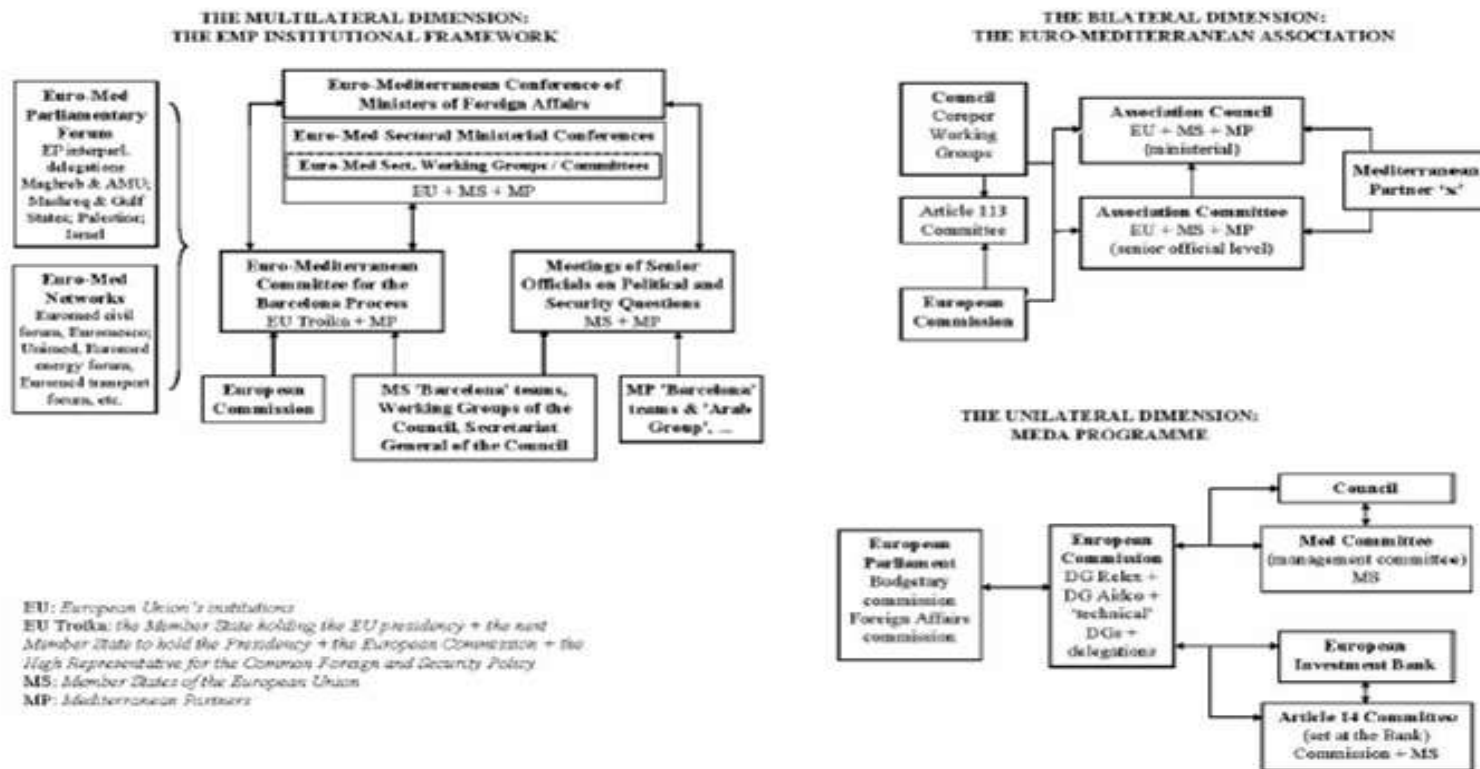
- ▶ The **Euro–Mediterranean Partnership** (or **Barcelona Process**) started in 1995 with the Barcelona Euro–Mediterranean Conference. It was organized by the **European Union** to strengthen its relations with the countries in the **Mashriq** and **Maghreb** regions.
- ▶ The **European Union** enlargement of 2004 brought two Mediterranean countries (Cyprus and Malta) into the Union, while adding a total of 10 new Member States.
- ▶ The Euro–Mediterranean Partnership today comprises 37 members: 27 **EU Member States** and 10 Mediterranean Partners (**Algeria**, **Egypt**, **Israel**, **Jordan**, **Lebanon**, **Morocco**, the **Palestinian Authority**, **Syria**, **Tunisia** and **Turkey**). **Libya** has had **observer status** since 1999.

The Barcelona Process

- ▶ The Barcelona Process is a unique and ambitious initiative, which laid the foundations of a new regional relationship and which represents a turning point in Euro-Mediterranean relations. In the Barcelona Declaration, the Euro-Mediterranean partners established the **three main objectives of the Partnership**:
 - ❑ **The Political and Security Basket** : Definition of a **common area of peace and stability** through the reinforcement of political and security dialogue
 - ❑ **The Economic and Financial Basket**: Construction of a **zone of shared prosperity** through an **economic and financial partnership** and the gradual establishment of a **free-trade area**
 - ❑ **The Social, Cultural and Human Basket** : Rapprochement between peoples through a **social, cultural and human partnership** that aimed at encouraging **understanding between cultures** and **exchanges between civil societies**


EMP, a complex institutional structure

Figure 1. The three organisational dimensions of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership



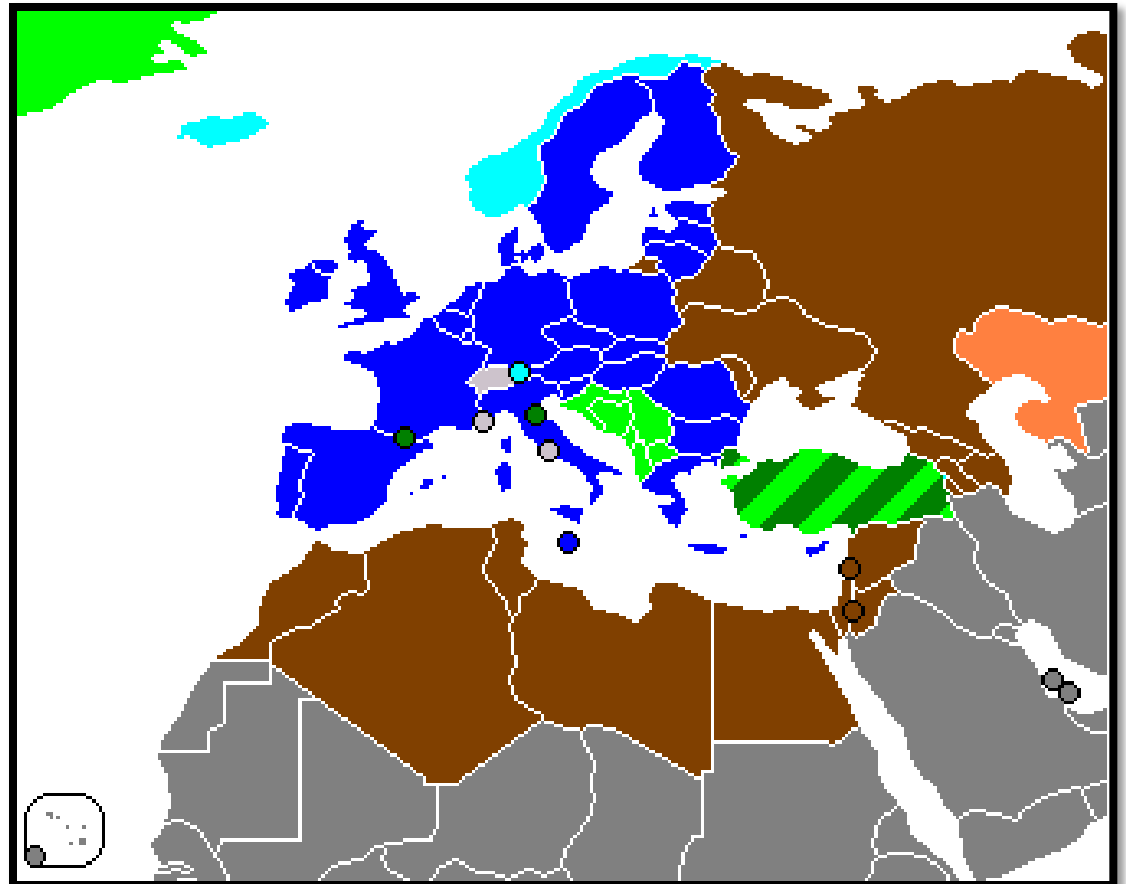
Source: Philippart, E. (2003), *The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership: Unique features, first results and forthcoming challenges*, CEPS Middle East Working Paper No. 10, CEPS, Brussels, April.

Regional aspects

- ▶ **Regional dialogue** represents one of the most innovative aspects of the Partnership, covering at the same time the **political, economic and cultural fields (regional co-operation)**.
 - ▶ Regional co-operation has a considerable strategic impact as it deals with problems that are common to many Mediterranean Partners while it emphasises the national complementarities.
 - ▶ The multilateral dimension supports and complements the bilateral actions and dialogue taking place under the Association Agreements.
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The European Neighbourhood Policy

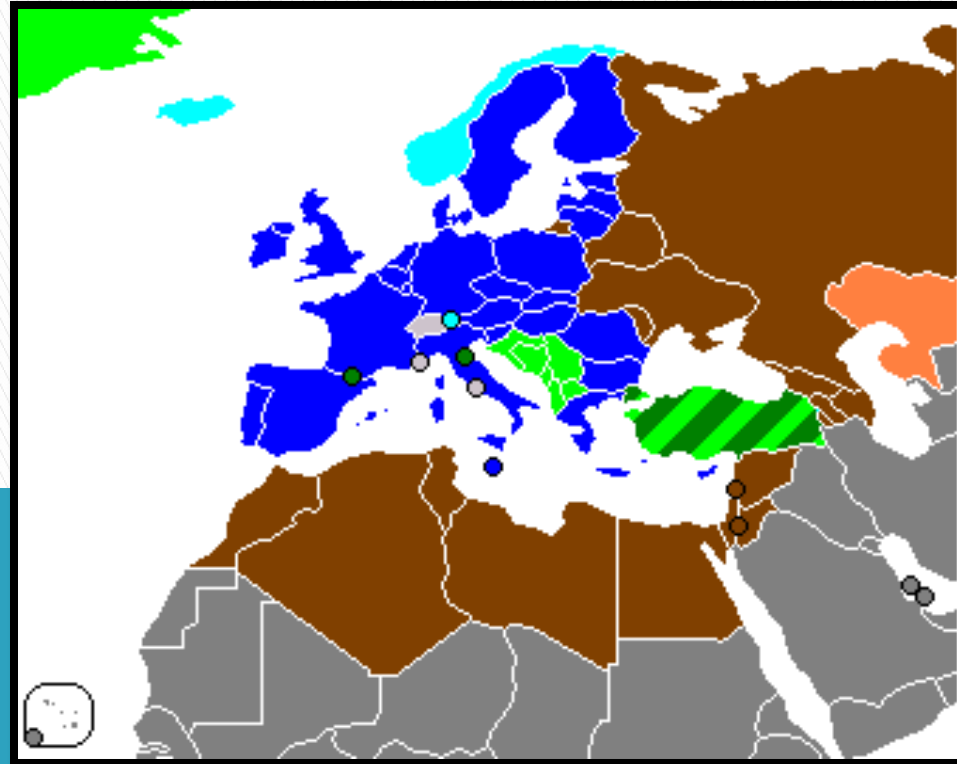
Since 2004 the Mediterranean Partners are also included in the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and are funded via the ENPI.



The European Neighbourhood Policy

- ▶ The countries covered include all of the Mediterranean shores of Africa and Asia.

The objective of the European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) is to share the benefits of the EU's 2004 enlargement with neighboring countries. It is also designed to prevent the emergence of new dividing lines between the enlarged EU and its neighbors. The vision is that of a ring of countries, drawn into further integration, but without necessarily becoming full members of the European Union.



The European Neighbourhood is the region beyond the frontier of the European Union. It comprises primarily developing countries, who seek one day to become either component states of the European Union itself, or more closely aligned to the economy of the European Union.

The European Neighborhood and partnership Instrument

- ▶ **ENPI** is a proposed financial instrument that will cover the ENP countries
- ▶ Inside of it will merge **MEDA** fully (as all of its current beneficiaries are ENP states) as well as **TACIS** partially.
- ▶ The **Pre Accession Instrument** will replace current Enlargement programmes Phare, SAPARD ,ISPA...

Discussion

- ▶ Different approach necessary for the Mediterranean countries because they have no accession perspective (Art. 49 EC Treaty)?
- ▶ How can further enlargement rounds affect the Barcelona Process?
- ▶ The ENP aims at „supplementing“ the EMP – to what extent can these two policies coexist?
- ▶ What can be the role of the cohesion policy given the existing framework ?

The Union for the Mediterranean

- ▶ The Union for the Mediterranean is a proposed community of European Union member states and countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea planned to be established in July 2008.

It was suggested by French President Nicolas Sarkozy as an alternative to Turkish membership of the European Union, which would instead form the backbone of the new union, but with the scaling down of plans in March 2008 that idea has been abandoned. When Turkey was offered a guarantee in March 2008 that it would not be an alternative to the EU, Turkey accepted the invitation to participate.

The Union for the Mediterranean

- ▶ It was hoped that an institutional core will be established by the end of the French presidency of the European Union in 2008




Possible membership of the Mediterranean Union:
Countries bordering the sea (blue)
The rest of the European Union (dark grey)

STATEMENT ON "BARCELONA PROCESS: UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN"

- ▶ In march 2008, **the European Council approved the principle of a Union for the Mediterranean** which will include the Member States of the EU and the non-EU Mediterranean coastal states.
- ▶ It invited the Commission to present to the Council the necessary proposals for defining the modalities of what will be called **"Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean"** with a view to the Summit which will take place in Paris on 13 July 2008.

A “Union project”

- ▶ In Lisbon, [Alain Le Roy](#), ambassador in charge of implementing the project, detailed for the first time the contents of this French initiative to all the countries concerned.
 - ▶ The Mediterranean Union would be a forum for annual or bi-annual exchange between countries bordering the Mediterranean, but not a new institution.
 - ▶ It would be a "union project" based on specific programs, such as a **water agency responsible for combating pollution of the Mediterranean**, or a development agency for small and medium enterprises. **Each initiative is only supported by those countries that wish it.**
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What about the cohesion policy?

- ❑ The cohesion policy needs to give priority to:
 - ❑ The territorial cooperation and balanced spatial development between the member states of the EU and the neighbours at the external frontiers
 - ❑ Need for specific spatial measures focused on the less favored countries of the new European periphery, integrating the territorial cohesion concept and sustainable development
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Sustainable development, sense and reality of a common future

- ▶ The populations living along the coasts of the Mediterranean Basin are united not only **by ancient historical and cultural ties**, but also by the fact that they belong to the same **ecosystem or ecoregion**.
- ▶ The future of the Mediterranean basin depends on its **people's ability to conceive a collective management, manifest interdependencies linking them, whether geographical (the sea), political, economic (trade), social (migratory flows) or cultural**
- ▶ Sustainable development can restore the sense of a **common future for this region** and can provide the opportunity to ensure **the convergence of strategies led by various agents (various EU policies included)**

Sustainable development as a regional test case (MAP)

- ▶ The Mediterranean is potentially one of the eco–regions in which the concept of sustainable development could be implemented, **as a regional test case**, due to :
 - ▶ its rapid development,
 - ▶ the scarcity of its natural resources,
 - ▶ the different levels of development between riparian states
 - ▶ Certain spectacular developments specific to the region, such as **tourism development and competition for the coastal region**

Source : UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan

The SD-Med Observation network

- ▶ The SD-MED Observation Network is a joint Greek, French and International **non-profit enterprise**. Its aim is to strengthen cooperation in the field of sustainable territorial development and sustainable spatial planning in the region.
- ▶ Its partnership concept is in line with French policy (as outlined at the Johannesburg Summit of September 2002) on the need to work together in the region in order to allow a **common vision of the Mediterranean 's future to emerge**.
- ▶ SD-MED has been formal in 2004 and **has mostly contributed to the establishment of a network of cooperation** between the spatial policy institutes of the region and especially those focusing on sustainable development issues. **This network is encouraging research and observation of spatial transformations in the region** focusing on the environmental impacts and sustainable development policies.





Core members of the SD-Med Observation network

In GREECE : Spatial Planning and Sustainable development Unit of Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences of Athens directed by Dr Stella Kyvelou.

- ▶ The Unit possesses both expertise, infrastructure, information systems and data bases produced by the UEHR/ESPON 2000–2006 ECP in the frame of the ESPON 2000–2006.

In FRANCE : The Physical Geography Laboratory (LGP) in Meudon (CNRS) Directed by Prof.Charles Lecoœur, at the Paris I–Pantheon–Sorbonne University (focusing on climate and social changes)

In TURKEY:

- ▶ **Division of Regional Planning of the Department of City and Regional Planning of the Yildiz Technical University in Turkey and the Institute for Research and Development in Urban Studies, directed by Prof.Ayse Nur OKTEN**
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....and an efficient network in the Mediterranean

- ▶ **A Network of Spatial Planning Institutes in the Mediterranean and Balkan countries countries**
(Jordan, Tunisia, Egypt (Alex-MED, Bibliotheca Alexandrina) , Malta, Cyprus, Bulgaria...)
- ▶ SD-Med Observation Network **brings together experts** from a variety of fields and ensures links with International Organisations (OECD, UNEP, AWISH etc)
- ▶ SD-Med is currently working on projects bringing together Mediterranean partners, financed by the **Ana Lindh Foundation promoting cultural dialogue in the Mediterranean**, based in Alexandria.
- ▶ SD-Med is being supported by the French Embassy in Greece and by the Greek Government.



SD-MED is based in three countries

- ▶ GREECE

- ▶ Address : 5, Fratti Str, Athens 117 42, Greece

- ▶ FRANCE

- ▶ Address: 7, Rue Lhomond, 75005 Paris

- ▶ EGYPT

- ▶ Address : 85, Ramses Str, Cairo

SD-Med has organised a series of events on spatial development and territorial cohesion since 2003 (e.g the one held by the Greek Ministry of Interior, under the auspices of the DATAR and the Council of Europe)

The more recent one : a Major Event SB08MED on the “ Mediterranean city facing climate change : innovation, investment, governance for a low-carbon city”, Athens, 10-11-12 January 2008

(www.sd-med.org)



SB08MED&EXPO
10-11-12
JANVIER 2008
ATHENES GRECE
Technopolis
Centre Culturel de la Ville d'Athènes
100, rue Pireos, 118 54
Athènes, Grèce

“Construisons la ville sobre en carbone pour une planète durable”

“La ville méditerranéenne face au changement climatique
Innovation, Investissement, Gouvernance pour une ville à bas-carbone”

Sous le haut patronage de l'Ambassade de France en Grèce, de la Ville d'Athènes et de l'Université des Sciences Politiques et Sociales Panteion



SD-MED ORGANISATION

à l'initiative de l'Association Franco-Hellénique et Internationale SD-MED



Rencontres Franco-Helléniques et Internationales

Quelles politiques d'aménagement urbain dans le contexte du développement durable? Transformations du fait urbain, du cadre bâti et du marché de l'immobilier



LE GUIDE

Auditorium de l'Institut Français d'Athènes
31, Rue Sina, 106 80 Athènes



Athènes 16-17 Mai 2007


Major Event SB08MED

“ The Mediterranean city facing climate change : innovation, investment, governance for a low-carbon city”, Athens, 10-11-12 January 2008 (www.sd-med.org) under the aegis of the French Embassy in Greece, the Greek State and the City of Athens

- ▶ Le Président du Comité du Parlement pour la protection de l'Environnement M.Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Le Secrétaire d'Etat du Ministère de Développement M.Stavros Kalafatis, L'Ambassadeur de France en Grèce M.Christophe Farnaud, Le Ministre de l'Intérieur M.Prokopis Pavlopoulos, Le Recteur de l'Université Panteion M.Panayotis Tsisir et la Présidente de SD-Med Dr Stella Kyvelou, lors de l'ouverture de la SB08MED.




Future needs for ESPON 2013– territorial information

- ▶ Extend the **Data Navigator and the ESPON Web Based GIS** with data from some selected Mediterranean countries
 - ▶ Define **priority policy fields** to enrich the data-base probably in compliance with already developed policy fields (e.g environmental policy)
 - ▶ **Ensure links with Organisations of the EMP** having developed relevant indicators (e.g the Blue Plan and some sectoral organisations)
 - ▶ Ensure links with ENP (European Neighborhood Policy) to exchange territorial information and ensure resources
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Existing territorial data for the Mediterranean region

- ▶ In the frame of the ESPON 2006 the “Western Balkans” project led by the Greek ECP, has produced a set of core indicators in cooperation with other ECPs for some Mediterranean countries : Croatia, Albania, Serbia – Montenegro...
- ▶ This project can easily be updated accordingly with recent reforms and extended to some other mediterranean countries to be chosen by the ESPON Monitoring committee and coordination Unit
- ▶ The CEMAT and the BLUE PLAN can certainly be of help in this project

Future needs for ESPON 2013

- ▶ **Setting-up of a well structured Network of spatial planning and territorial development Institutes in the Mediterranean countries**
 - ▶ Athens (Panteion University and SD-Med) can play a significant role in this task, being a (rather weak) centre of this network
 - ▶ Panteion University can undertake a feasibility study concerning the above network
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A proposal for the ESPON 2013 MED structure (operational part)

We propose an ESPON MED Technical Unit (The SD–Med Observation Network assisted by Panteion University and the Greek ECP can successfully play this role)

- ▶ The Technical Unit may be a permanent body managed and financed by the ESPON 2013 Programme and probably by a group of operators acting on behalf of their governments:
 - coordinate and provide assistance and recommendations to the **National Focal Points**
 - support the activities of the ESPON Coordination Unit and the Monitoring Committee
 - act as an **International Focal Point**. In this role, it will be responsible for collecting data on institutions, for documentation, training, research and development and data management at international level (relevant for the Euro–Mediterranean region).
 - manages an information portal, **acting as a single access point for the Euro–Mediterranean region**, and providing access to international information and NFP websites. It can also work towards reaching agreements with international initiatives and projects.

- ▶ **The National Focal Points in the Mediterranean countries**

The National Focal Points (NFPs) should be small teams working in a public organization responsible for spatial planning–related documentation and information.
- ▶ Their tasks consist in creating and developing a **national information server**; organising communication processes and access to vetted information; **ensuring information availability in the working languages**, developing access to the information and maintaining relations with the users in their country.

- ▶ Main medium and long-term targets to be achieved through ESPON 2013 networking:
 - the enhancement of **cultural dialogue and economic solidarity in the “ common sea”**
 - **Creation of an intellectual solidarity network to contribute to the establishment of a new Mediterranean territorial identity , beyond the historic one, during the XXIst century**



Invitation to a new SD–Med Event in November 2008

Location : Athens

Title :

“EU Regional Policies and sustainable territorial development : the Mediterranean perspective”

Under the aegis of the Greek parliament (Environment Committee), the French Embassy in Greece(tbc), and the Ministry of Economy (tbc) and we hope, under the umbrella of the ESPON 2013 Programme...

Thank you for your attention !

For further info, please contact :
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