

## USESPON VLE NEWSLETTER No 1

Dear USESPON Users,

### **USESPON Virtual Learning Environment has been launched !**

The USESPON Virtual Learning Environment was built within the framework of the ESPON-USESPON Project. Course design and development of the learning modules, were elaborated by the Greek ECP to be consistent with the ESPONTrain VLE<sup>1</sup> design. USESPON -VLE develops additional educational modules and can be accessed via the [ESPONTrain VLE](#).

The USESPON curriculum consists of **3 modules**, available to all USESPON VLE users. These modules are aiming at making ESPON findings more accessible and easier to implement in practice. They have been specifically designed for policy makers and practitioners dealing with territorial development and cohesion strategies and plans. Particularly, guidance on using ESPON results in policy-making and practice will be provided through the use of the following methodological tools:

- NEXUS
- DELPHI
- URBAN BENCHMARKING

The learning material for each of these modules has been trialed through our face-to-face workshops where we learned what worked and what needed adjusting. The new VLE- modules thus complement the ones produced within ESPONTrain without duplicating them. It also complements the dissemination achieved during the interactive workshops and provides an opportunity to those who have been involved in the workshops **to continue with the use of ESPON tools**. The tools being presented through the USESPON-VLE are easy to understand, can be applied through a step-by-step procedure and do not require a specialized software or a strong understanding of multi-variate statistical methods.

The USESPON VLE has been designed for use by independent learners, and thus including self-assessment exercises with multiple choice questions, links to further reading and an active forum for each of the learning module, where participants can exchange ideas or information about a specific methodological tool.

If you want to take part in the USESPON VLE courses please send an e-mail (in English) to [support@wideservices.gr](mailto:support@wideservices.gr) in order to receive further information for logging and using the VLE.

Attached to this newsletter is a USER'S GUIDE with instructions about the platform.

**Have a nice e-learning journey using the USESPON –VLE!!**

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<sup>1</sup> The ESPONTrain Project developed the first ESPON educational platform, a distance learning tool making ESPON knowledge accessible and familiar to a targeted public, including postgraduate students and practitioners/stakeholders through a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).