A STRATEGY FOR ‘INNER AREAS’ IN ITALY

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Introduction

- The greater part of Italian territory is characterized by small towns and villages which often have restricted access to essential services:
  - “Inner areas” are those areas far away from large and medium-sized urban centers, and from their associated infrastructure;
- Since September 2012 - Italy is developing a National Strategy in favour of Inner Areas with the aim of:
  - improving the quality of life and economic well being of people living in its relatively isolated and sparsely populated areas and
  - in the long term - “reverting” demographic trends ...
- Strong Technical Support (Department for Development Policies, Central Bank; Institute of National Statistics ...);
- Political Agreement Between Ministry of Territorial Cohesion; Agriculture; Health; Transports; School and Labor ...
Robust Territorial definition of Inner Areas - (1)

The first step in the development of the strategy has been the elaboration of criteria to identify territories as ‘Inner areas’.

The methodology was developed from two main concepts:

- the Italian territory is characterized by a dense and varied network of urban centers which offer a wide range of essential services like healthcare, education, and transport. These centers represent a 'point of convergence' for people living in remote areas;

- the distance from these urban networks affects people’s quality of life, and their sense of social inclusion
Methodology – (2)

‘Service Centers’ have been defined as those municipalities that offer

- an exhaustive range of secondary schools;
- at least a 1st level DEA hospital ;
- at least a ‘Silver - type’ railway station (RFI).

NO DEMOGRAPHIC CRITERIA HAVE BEEN APPLIED

Areas have been mapped according to the distance (travel-time) from these ‘Service Centers’ as:

- ‘Belt’ areas – up to 20 minutes far from the centers;
- ‘Intermediate’ areas – from 20 to 40 minutes;
- ‘Remote’ areas – from 40 to 75 minutes;
- ‘Ultra – remote’ areas – over 75 minutes far

Inner Areas
### Classification of municipalities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification of municipalities</th>
<th>N.</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Average elevation</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Km²</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single–municipality service center</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>21,223,562</td>
<td>35.7</td>
<td>29,519</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi–municipality service center</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>2,466,455</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>6,251</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belt areas</td>
<td>3,508</td>
<td>43.4</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>22,202,203</td>
<td>37.4</td>
<td>81,814</td>
<td>27.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate areas</td>
<td>2,377</td>
<td>29.4</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>8,953,282</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>89,448</td>
<td>29.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remote areas</td>
<td>1,526</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>3,671,372</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>73,256</td>
<td>24.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ultra – remote areas</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>916,870</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>21,784</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,092</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>358</strong></td>
<td><strong>59,433,744</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>302,073</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DPS elaboration on Istat – Population Census 2011
Inner Areas: main features and trends

DEMOGRAPHY
- Remote and Ultra-remote: negative demographic trends since the late 70’s;
- steep increase in the percentage of elderly people;
- Increasing migration flows into these areas.

NATURAL ASSET
- reduction in the percentage of land exploited for agriculture In the last 30 years;
- increasing forest land;
- increasing exposure to landslip and flooding risks.

ECONOMY
- major (but declining) role of primary sector (especially in the South);
- Regional specialization in secondary sector (inner areas of the Northern regions, such as Piedmont, Lombardy or Veneto)
- Regional specialization in third sector (regions close the Alps like Valle d’Aosta or Trentino Alto Adige and regions such as Campania or Calabria)
- Stronger fragility of productive structure
Italy - Percentage change in population 1971 - 2011

INNER AREAS

SERVICE CENTERS AND BELT AREAS

Centers +11.6%
Inner Areas +4.2%
- remote areas -8.1%
- ultra-remote areas -5.3%
ITALY +9.8%

Percentage of population change by type of Areas

## Percentage of population 1971-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Single–municipality service center</th>
<th>Multi–municipality service center</th>
<th>Belt Areas</th>
<th>Intermediate Areas</th>
<th>Remote Areas</th>
<th>Ultra remote Areas</th>
<th>Totale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Piedmont</td>
<td>-18,0</td>
<td>19,3</td>
<td>18,5</td>
<td>2,5</td>
<td>-27,6</td>
<td>-41,0</td>
<td>-1,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valle d'Aosta</td>
<td>-7,6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>46,3</td>
<td>7,0</td>
<td>18,1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>16,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lombardy</td>
<td>-17,1</td>
<td>10,3</td>
<td>39,4</td>
<td>8,2</td>
<td>4,5</td>
<td>-1,4</td>
<td>13,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trentino Alto Adige</td>
<td>9,7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>42,4</td>
<td>24,3</td>
<td>15,9</td>
<td>13,9</td>
<td>22,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veneto</td>
<td>-7,7</td>
<td>31,2</td>
<td>38,6</td>
<td>15,9</td>
<td>11,3</td>
<td>-33,3</td>
<td>17,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friuli Venezia Giulia</td>
<td>-13,7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>19,4</td>
<td>5,0</td>
<td>-35,5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liguria</td>
<td>-24,9</td>
<td>-5,8</td>
<td>4,3</td>
<td>1,0</td>
<td>-41,4</td>
<td>-34,3</td>
<td>-15,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emilia Romagna</td>
<td>-0,2</td>
<td>24,5</td>
<td>35,5</td>
<td>14,9</td>
<td>-8,5</td>
<td>-52,0</td>
<td>12,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuscany</td>
<td>-4,3</td>
<td>15,6</td>
<td>24,0</td>
<td>1,0</td>
<td>-15,6</td>
<td>6,6</td>
<td>5,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umbria</td>
<td>13,3</td>
<td>9,5</td>
<td>32,1</td>
<td>7,9</td>
<td>5,2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>14,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marche</td>
<td>5,9</td>
<td>15,2</td>
<td>37,0</td>
<td>2,3</td>
<td>7,5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>14,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lazio</td>
<td>-1,0</td>
<td>36,2</td>
<td>67,7</td>
<td>59,1</td>
<td>11,2</td>
<td>27,4</td>
<td>17,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abruzzo</td>
<td>6,9</td>
<td>42,5</td>
<td>42,5</td>
<td>2,5</td>
<td>-23,9</td>
<td>42,8</td>
<td>12,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molise</td>
<td>44,8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>17,1</td>
<td>18,3</td>
<td>-34,7</td>
<td>-46,9</td>
<td>-1,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campania</td>
<td>-10,6</td>
<td>38,3</td>
<td>45,0</td>
<td>3,7</td>
<td>-16,6</td>
<td>10,5</td>
<td>14,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apulia</td>
<td>3,1</td>
<td>15,3</td>
<td>26,7</td>
<td>17,0</td>
<td>-1,5</td>
<td>9,5</td>
<td>13,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basilicata</td>
<td>25,2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>57,6</td>
<td>1,9</td>
<td>-10,1</td>
<td>-22,1</td>
<td>4,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calabria</td>
<td>2,5</td>
<td>8,6</td>
<td>17,2</td>
<td>1,7</td>
<td>-18,2</td>
<td>10,6</td>
<td>-1,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sicily</td>
<td>-2,7</td>
<td>5,6</td>
<td>63,0</td>
<td>7,4</td>
<td>-8,1</td>
<td>21,1</td>
<td>6,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sardinia</td>
<td>-10,9</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>81,5</td>
<td>11,3</td>
<td>-4,5</td>
<td>13,9</td>
<td>11,3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Italy**                  | -6,8                              | 22,7                              | 35,8       | 11,6                | -8,1         | -5,3              | 10,0   

*Dps elaboration on Istat data - Population censuses 1971 - 2011*
Italy – Percentage of population aged 65 and over - 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INNER AREAS</th>
<th>SERVICE CENTERS AND BELT AREAS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centers</td>
<td>20,7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inner Areas</td>
<td>21,2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITALY</td>
<td>20,8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DPS elaboration on Istat data – Population Census 2011
Italia – Share of foreign resident population on total population 2011

Fonte: ISTAT – Censimento della popolazione 2001 e 2011
## Access to education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of school</th>
<th>% of municipalities with at least one school</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>90.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary School</td>
<td>71.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school</td>
<td>23.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DPS elaborations on Ministry of Instruction data – school years 2010-2011
Distance from Hospitals

Distance from the closest municipality with hospital

- Italia: 0, 4.1, 9.4, 17.8, 28.3, 38.1
- Nord Ovest: 0.1, 8.9, 16.2, 27.2, 40.3
- Nord Est: 4.4, 9.6, 15.9, 23.4, 29.2
- Centro: 5.2, 10.8, 19.1, 26.7, 27.9
- Sud: 4.5, 9.4, 20.5, 31.4, 44.9
- Isole: 0, 13.6, 11.2, 29.8, 33.1

Distance from the closest DEA

- Italia: 1.1, 6.8, 12.6, 25.5, 45.7, 71.8
- Nord Ovest: 0.5, 3.5, 11.9, 24.6, 41.2, 46.7
- Nord Est: 0.5, 9.8, 12.2, 25.6, 47.3
- Centro: 0, 7.7, 14.0, 28.1, 39.4, 35.6
- Sud: 1.8, 7.3, 12.3, 26.8, 46.1
- Isole: 4.6, 13.6, 21.1, 30.9, 52.8, 80.0

Legend:
- Polo
- Polo Intercomunale
- Cintura
- Intermedio
- Periferico
- Ultrapriferico
A Strategy for Italian Inner Areas

The Department of Development and Economic Cohesion is working on the final draft of a National Strategy for the development of Inner areas within the Country.

Aims of the strategy:

• reallocate Inner areas in a strategic position for the Country;
• set up a set of interconnected projects focused on few selected priority fields of intervention and linked with the ordinary policy (supply of services).
Targets of the Strategy

local targets
• improving wealth and well-being of the population;
• restoring vitality of local communities

national targets
• population growth/stability and increase in occupation;
• definition of new functions for under-utilized human, natural and economic resources;
• reduction in social costs linked to population dynamics.

Ultimate goal of the strategy: reinforcement of the demographic structure of Inner Areas.
Development Factors

• The strategy will focus on Specific Factors with great potential for socio-economic growth in Inner areas.
• Strategic projects will concentrate on a number of selected fields (development factors):
  - land management and forests;
  - local food products;
  - renewable energy;
  - natural and cultural heritage;
  - traditional handicraft and SMEs (*Saperi Locali*)
Implementation of the Strategy (1)

Key steps:

• **Strategic Approach**
  - a National Committee with strategic analysis charges;
  - negotiation with regions and establishment of a common operative framework;
  - signature of the Partnership Agreement with the Commission and high level commitment from key Ministries and President of the Regions;
  - organization of a Platform to put projects in a Net-Work.
Implementation of the Strategy (2)

• **Project Approach**
  Selected projects need to have a number of specific characteristics:
  - create new employment through action on at least two of the selected development factors;
  - strong participation of the local Community;
  - constant monitoring and evaluation process on pre-established results;
  - strong “Assistance”;
  - action on both development factors and improvement of basic services.

• **Pre-Conditions:**
  - Central Ministries engage in improving services (health; School; Local Transport);
  - Municipalities do Associate (Unions; Consortiums; etc. ...)
A Multilevel Governance...

THE CENTRAL LEVEL

- Fosters and Monitors the Strategy’s Application
- Encompass main elements of the Strategy into the Partnership Agreement 2014-2020 (rendendola cogente)
- Manages the Federation of Projects

THE CENTER AND THE REGIONS: check pre-conditions!

THE REGIONS

- Financial Allocation for Inner Areas in the Programs (ITI?); Selection of Specific Areas / Projects; Political Support;

MUNICIPALITIES (associated) and Provinces

Application of the Strategy at territorial level; Participate in the Framework Agreement selecting projects; manage services ...
Governance of Area projects

Area = Framework Programme Agreement

Ministries; Regions; Provinces; Municipalities and/or Municipalities Associations

Promotion and joint planning of Area projects
Projects and interventions appraisal and selection
Projects funding and financial management
Thank you for your attention

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