A STRATEGY FOR “INNER AREAS” IN ITALY
Fostering growth through Inner Areas development

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Inner Area: what does it mean?

Inner Areas are those territories characterized by:

- a NOT adequate offer of/access to essential services to assure citizen's rights;
- being rich in natural assets (water resources, agricultural systems, forests, natural landscapes) and cultural resources (archaeological settlements, abbeys, small museums, craft centres);
- low population density;
- often: high seismic risk.

In Italy inner areas cover almost 60% of the whole national territory embracing about 23% of its total population and more than 4,000 municipalities.

Methodology to identify Inner Areas

‘Service Centres’ have been defined as those municipalities that offer:

- an exhaustive range of secondary schools;
- at least a 1st level DEA (highly specialised) 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 Centres’ as:

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

Inner Areas
Italy’s Inner Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification of Municipalities</th>
<th>N.</th>
<th>% Average Altitude</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>sq/km</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single-Municipality Service Centre</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>20,003,447</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>23,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Municipality Service Centre</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>3,006,576</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>8,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belt areas</td>
<td>1,571</td>
<td>44.1</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>22,315,877</td>
<td>37.3</td>
<td>84,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate areas</td>
<td>2,371</td>
<td>29.3</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>8,773,150</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>88,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remote area</td>
<td>1,550</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>601</td>
<td>3,869,379</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>72,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ultra-remote areas</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>666</td>
<td>327,765</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>19,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8,092</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>59,433,734</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>302,073</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ITALIAN DEELA - ISTAT 2017

Why an National Strategy for Inner Areas?

Territorial Cohesion Objective

- To give true content to the EU Cohesion Policy Territorial Objective;
- To overcome the rural-urban dichotomy;
- To empower territories and people to restore growth and well-being over marginalised areas, recognising their diversity;
- To recover not enhanced natural and cultural assets, reducing territories’ depopulation and consequent abandonment costs.

Ultimate Goal: Reinforce Inner Areas demographic structure
**Inner Areas Strategy INNOVATION**

5 main innovations

- National dimension and multilevel governance (Centres – Regions – municipalities and inter municipalities cooperation)
- In the project areas - **at the same time** - services improvements (mainly through national policy) and investments in selected development factors (energy; agriculture; crafts; cultural heritage; **regional policy**)
- Multi-fund attitude (EAFRD, ERDF, ESF and National Funds)
- Participatory approach to local development
- Municipalities Associations and Mayors attention to **Policy Results** (accountability)

**Inner Areas’ Selection Criteria**

**The Open Inner Areas method:** over 100 indicators and filed work to detect:

- Territories with people living mainly in Inner Areas;
- Inner Areas losing populations;
- Inner Areas with consistent elderly characteristics;
- Inner Areas with good project implementation capacities;
- Inner Areas with strong local leadership and municipalities’ capacity to work in association.
Open Method & Criteria for Area Selection

Two-step assessment process:

- Desk analysis (Inner Areas Open Kit)
  Each pre-selected area is thoroughly analysed with respect to a series of demographic and socio-economic parameters:
  - Population losses and demographic structure,
  - Utilized Agricultural Area (UAA) trends,
  - Deforestation,
  - Hydrological risk,
  - Entrepreneurship,
  - Tourism and cultural heritage,
  - Quality of education,
  - Mobility and healthcare services,
  - Digital Divide

- Field analysis (National Committee’s visits to pre-selected areas)
  A number of focus groups are organised at local level aiming at “meeting territories” – e.g. local authorities, mayors, public officers in charge of services delivery, school directors, teachers, students, hospital managers and physicians …. 

Selected project areas

At the current stage, selected areas within the Strategy are:

- 72 project areas with about 2mln. total residents and 1,077 municipalities;
- On average: 15 municipalities and 29,000 residents per project area;
- About 3% of Italian population and 16.7% of Italian territory;
- 55% of those 2 mln. live in remote and ultra-remote areas;
- 4.4% population drop among selected areas between 2001 and 2011, and 2.3% between 2011 and 2016.

*Source: Inner Area Strategy*
## A sample of indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Project Areas</th>
<th>Inner Areas narrow definition</th>
<th>Inner Areas broad definition</th>
<th>Belt Areas and Centres</th>
<th>Italy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population 2016</td>
<td>2,072,718</td>
<td>4,466,956</td>
<td>13,376,675</td>
<td>47,288,876</td>
<td>60,665,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in population 2001-2011</td>
<td>-4.4</td>
<td>-1.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in population 2011-2016</td>
<td>-2.3</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of population aged 65 or more (%)</td>
<td>25.4</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>20.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of foreign residents 2011 (%)</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of foreign residents 2016 (%)</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of primary school classes with 15 students or less (%)</td>
<td>54.3</td>
<td>43.2</td>
<td>34.6</td>
<td>34.5</td>
<td>19.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competence level in mathematics in 8th year of school</td>
<td>49.7</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>49.1</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>50.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avoidable hospitalisation rate</td>
<td>620.7</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>516.5</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Inner Areas Strategy*

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### Inner Areas National Strategy Method

The Technical Committee along with Regions analyse Inner Areas through a desk-analysis and a field-analysis process.

Quantitative data and qualitative information are used to identify and select weakest Inner Areas.

Each selected area define its local development strategy.

A local development strategy is an integrated path aimed at development and growth.

It is based on local essential services improvements and local development projects support.
Inner Areas Focus Group

The Focus Group is organised by the Italian Committee on Inner Areas in collaboration with Regions and local territories. On average it lasts 3 hours, broken down as follows:

- **4 sessions**: local development, healthcare services, education, transport services;
- **16 speakers**: 3 local actors + 1 expert from relevant ministry each session.

A typical **session focused on local healthcare system**

- 1 speaker from the Ministry of Healthcare – Directorate General health services
- 1 chief medical officer representing local healthcare system
- 1 Social Care Supply Worker
- 1 NGO or ONUIS member or chief

……… **Discussing and analysing the OPEN KIT data on healthcare local services**

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**FINANCIAL COVERAGE OF INNER AREAS STRATEGIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MACRO REGION</th>
<th>Inner Area</th>
<th>Stability Laws 2016-2016</th>
<th>RSP EAFRD</th>
<th>PO FSE</th>
<th>ESF OP</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
<td>Alta Valtellina</td>
<td>3.740.000</td>
<td>2.831.000</td>
<td>3.750.000</td>
<td>9.500.000</td>
<td>19.821.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Valchiavenna</td>
<td>3.740.000</td>
<td>2.831.000</td>
<td>3.440.860</td>
<td>9.500.000</td>
<td>19.531.860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Antoia Tigliu</td>
<td>3.740.000</td>
<td>1.260.000</td>
<td>200.000</td>
<td>725.000</td>
<td>5.925.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Valli MAira e Grana</td>
<td>3.740.000</td>
<td>2.500.000</td>
<td>450.000</td>
<td>4.000.000</td>
<td>10.600.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alta Carnia</td>
<td>3.740.000</td>
<td>1.500.000</td>
<td>1.000.000</td>
<td>2.114.000</td>
<td>8.354.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bassa Valtellina</td>
<td>3.740.000</td>
<td>5.892.979</td>
<td>800.000</td>
<td>1.893.084</td>
<td>12.136.063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tesino</td>
<td>3.740.000</td>
<td>742.000</td>
<td>810.000</td>
<td>1.860.000</td>
<td>7.152.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Appennino emiliano</td>
<td>3.740.000</td>
<td>15.249.370</td>
<td>330.000</td>
<td>2.671.000</td>
<td>21.990.370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spezzente Reggiano</td>
<td>3.740.000</td>
<td>3.000.000</td>
<td>673.500</td>
<td>1.500.000</td>
<td>7.912.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>31.660.000</strong></td>
<td><strong>34.606.340</strong></td>
<td><strong>11.453.360</strong></td>
<td><strong>33.763.084</strong></td>
<td><strong>113.482.783</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **% TOTAL**

- **Appennino basso pavese e anconetano**
  - Alta Valtellina: 3.740.000
  - Valchiavenna: 3.740.000
  - Antoia Tigliu: 3.740.000
  - Valli MAira e Grana: 3.740.000
  - Alta Carnia: 3.740.000
  - Bassa Valtellina: 3.740.000
  - Tesino: 3.740.000
  - Appennino emiliano: 3.740.000
  - Spezzente Reggiano: 3.740.000

- **TOTAL**

| SOUTH        | Bassa Sangro Trigno             | 3.740.000                | 1.600.000 | 1.400.000 | 2.534.540 | 9.279.540 |
|              | Madonna                        | 3.740.000                | 1.020.000 | 1.312.000 | 10.999.560 | 37.071.560 |
|              | Alta Insubria                  | 3.740.000                | 10.700.000| 1.707.000 | 9.879.482 | 26.087.482 |
|              | Matese                         | 3.740.000                | 300.000   | 506.000   | 2.212.000 | 6.758.000 |
|              | Alta Marmilla                  | 3.740.000                | 683.000   | 1.140.000 | 2.950.000 | 8.513.000 |
|              | Montagna materana              | 3.740.000                | 5.760.357 | 906.105  | 21.111.012 | 31.417.874 |
|              | **TOTAL**                      | **22.440.000**           | **20.063.757** | **6.871.105** | **69.691.684** | **119.066.546** |

- **% TOTAL**

| ITALY        | **TOTAL**                      | **67.320.000**           | **62.947.660** | **22.700.325** | **108.365.058** | **261.333.262** |

- **% TOTAL**

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How do we monitor results?

--- an example---

**Result Indicators to measure healthcare improvements:**

- **Reduce the time (in minutes) between the start of the emergency telephone call made and first aid vehicle’s arrival at the site**
  - Actions: Increase transport organisation and efficiency that influence inhabitants’ access to healthcare services

- **Percentage increase in population aged 65 and over treated via Integrated Home Care (ADI) services**
  - Actions: Promote social inclusion, fight against poverty and all forms of discrimination

- **Increase specialist outpatient services provided per 1,000 residents**
  - Percentage
  - Actions: Increase/Enhancement of care services and healthcare and social service infrastructure.
Selected Areas and Final Evaluation

Maths Results

- Students’ average maths results in selected areas lower than national average
- Weak but existing correlation between maths results and teachers’ mobility.

Italian Average
- Casentino
- Valli Grana e Maira
- Madonie

Hospitalisation and
Selected Areas

- On average, selected areas record higher avoidable hospitalisation rates compared to national rates
- No correlation between avoidable hospitalisation and distance from Centres (there is a space for better services organisation)

Italian Average
- Casentino
- Valli Grana e Maira
- Madonie
Conclusions

- About 46 Italian Inners Areas are building up their Strategies to reverse their demographic and socio-economic decline
- They are strongly working on Education systems (reorganising school settings, classes and pedagogical methods)
- Better linkage between education options and jobs opportunities
- They look for a new equilibrium between hospitals and local healthcare networks with a reinforced role for nurses and midwives
- Strong emphasis both on tourism and agriculture.

A picture

Oltrepò Pavese Area: A working group in action to define mobility outcomes
OBRIGADO | THANK YOU

Obrigada! Palavras-chave: nome da empresa. Obrigada!