



SEMINÁRIO INTERNACIONAL | INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR  
SERVIÇOS SOCIAIS DE INTERESSE GERAL  
E COESÃO TERRITORIAL: EXPERIÊNCIAS E DESAFIOS

SOCIAL SERVICES OF GENERAL INTEREST  
AND TERRITORIAL COHESION: EXPERIENCES AND CHALLENGES

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

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Ministers



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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



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## 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*).

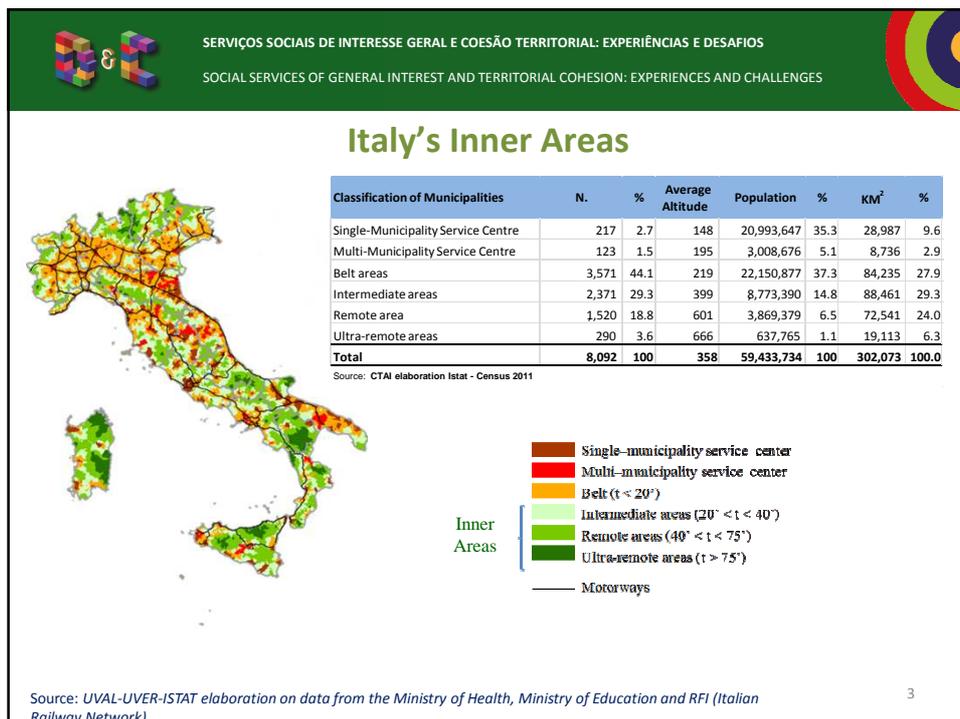
**NO DEMOGRAPHIC CRITERIA HAVE BEEN APPLIED**

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

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## 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)



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## 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.



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## 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**:

*e.g. 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 ....*

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## Selected project areas



\*Source: Inner Area Strategy

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.

## A sample of indicators



	Project Areas	Inner Areas narrow definition	Inner Areas broad definition	Belt Areas and Centres	Italy
Population 2016	2,072,718	4,466,956	13,376,675	47,288,876	60,665,551
Change in population 2001-2011	-4.4	-1.3	2.3	4.9	4.3
Change in population 2011-2016	-2.3	-0.6	0.2	2.6	2.1
Share of population aged 65 or more (%)	25.4	22.1	21.2	20.8	20.8
Share of foreign residents 2011 (%)	4.4	3.8	5.4	7.2	6.8
Share of foreign residents 2016 (%)	4.8	4.9	6.4	8.8	8.3
Share of primary school classes with 15 students or less (%)	54.3	43.2	34.6	14.5	19.2
Competence level in mathematics in 8th year of school	49.7	n.a.	49.3	n.a.	50.1
Avoidable hospitalisation rate	620.7	n.a.	516.5	n.a.	570
<i>*Source: Inner Areas Strategy</i>					

## 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 ONLUS member or chief

..... Discussing and analysing the OPEN KIT data on healthcare local services



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## FINANCIAL COVERAGE OF INNER AREAS STRATEGIES



MACRO REGION	Inner Area	Stability Laws 2014-2016	RSP EAFRD	PO FSE	ESF OP	TOTAL
NORTH	Alta Valtellina	3.740.000	2.831.000	3.750.000	9.500.000	19.821.000
	Valchiavenna	3.740.000	2.831.000	3.440.860	9.500.000	19.511.860
	Antola Tigullio	3.740.000	1.260.000	200.000	725.000	5.925.000
	Valli Maira e Grana	3.740.000	2.500.000	450.000	4.000.000	10.690.000
	Alta Carnia	3.740.000	1.500.000	1.000.000	2.114.000	8.354.000
	Bassa Valle <sup>2</sup>	3.740.000	5.692.979	800.000	1.893.084	12.126.063
	Tesino	3.740.000	742.000	810.000	1.860.000	7.152.000
	Appennino emiliano	3.740.000	15.249.370	330.000	2.671.000	21.990.370
	Spettabile Reggiana	3.740.000	2.000.000	672.500	1.500.000	7.912.500
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33.660.000</b>	<b>34.606.349</b>	<b>11.453.360</b>	<b>33.763.084</b>	<b>113.482.793</b>
<b>% TOTAL</b>	<b>29,7</b>	<b>30,5</b>	<b>10,1</b>	<b>29,8</b>	<b>100,0</b>	
CENTER	Appennino basso pesarese e anconetano	3.740.000	2.002.000	1.200.000	2.499.000	9.441.000
	Casentino-Valtiberina	3.740.000	1.440.563	1.754.437	545.000	7.480.000
	Sud-ovest orvietano	3.740.000	4.835.000	1.421.623	1.866.300	11.862.923
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11.220.000</b>	<b>8.277.563</b>	<b>4.376.060</b>	<b>4.910.300</b>	<b>28.783.923</b>
<b>% TOTAL</b>	<b>39,0</b>	<b>28,8</b>	<b>15,2</b>	<b>17,1</b>	<b>100,0</b>	
SOUTH	Basso Sangro Trigno	3.740.000	1.600.000	1.400.000	2.539.540	9.279.540
	Madonie	3.740.000	1.020.000	1.312.000	30.999.650	37.071.650
	Alta Irpinia <sup>3</sup>	3.740.000	10.700.000	1.707.000	9.879.482	26.026.482
	Matese	3.740.000	300.000	506.000	2.212.000	6.758.000
	Alta Marmilla <sup>4</sup>	3.740.000	683.000	1.140.000	2.950.000	8.513.000
	Montagna materana	3.740.000	5.760.757	806.105	21.111.012	31.417.874
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22.440.000</b>	<b>20.063.757</b>	<b>6.871.105</b>	<b>69.691.684</b>	<b>119.066.546</b>
<b>% TOTAL</b>	<b>18,8</b>	<b>16,9</b>	<b>5,8</b>	<b>58,5</b>	<b>100,0</b>	
ITALY	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>67.320.000</b>	<b>62.947.669</b>	<b>22.700.525</b>	<b>108.365.068</b>	<b>261.333.262</b>
	<b>% TOTAL</b>	<b>25,8</b>	<b>24,1</b>	<b>8,7</b>	<b>41,5</b>	<b>100,0</b>

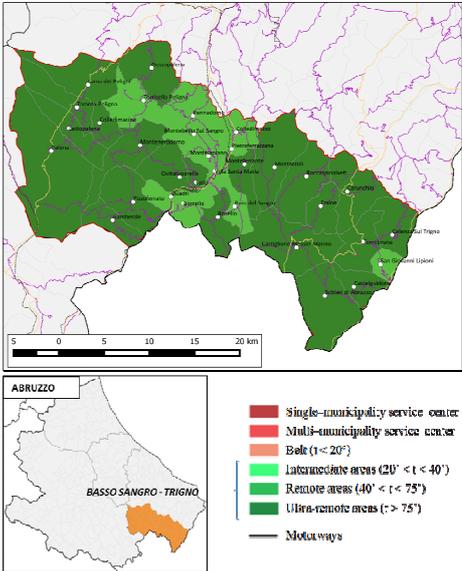
## THE BASSO SANGRO TRIGNO



	Project area	Abruzzo Inner Areas	Italy
Number of municipalities	33	230	8,092
Population 2011	22,568	484,353	59,433,744
Population 2016	21,289	479,924	60,665,551
Pop. var % 2016-2011	-5.7	-0.9	2.1
Pop. var % 2011-2001	-13.7	-0.5	4.3
Pop. var % 2011-1971	-43.8	-4.0	9.8

Expected outcomes	Actions
Improvement of students' skills, security and usability of school institutes, territorial school activities, and improvement of didactics.	Creation of a single poly-functional centralised school institute in Celenza sul Trigno
Enhancement of infrastructure network and of provision of territorial healthcare and social services.	Community Hospital New emergency service locations
Enhancement of the transport system for the elderly, students and workers.	Fragility nurse Social-aim transport



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## How do we monitor results?



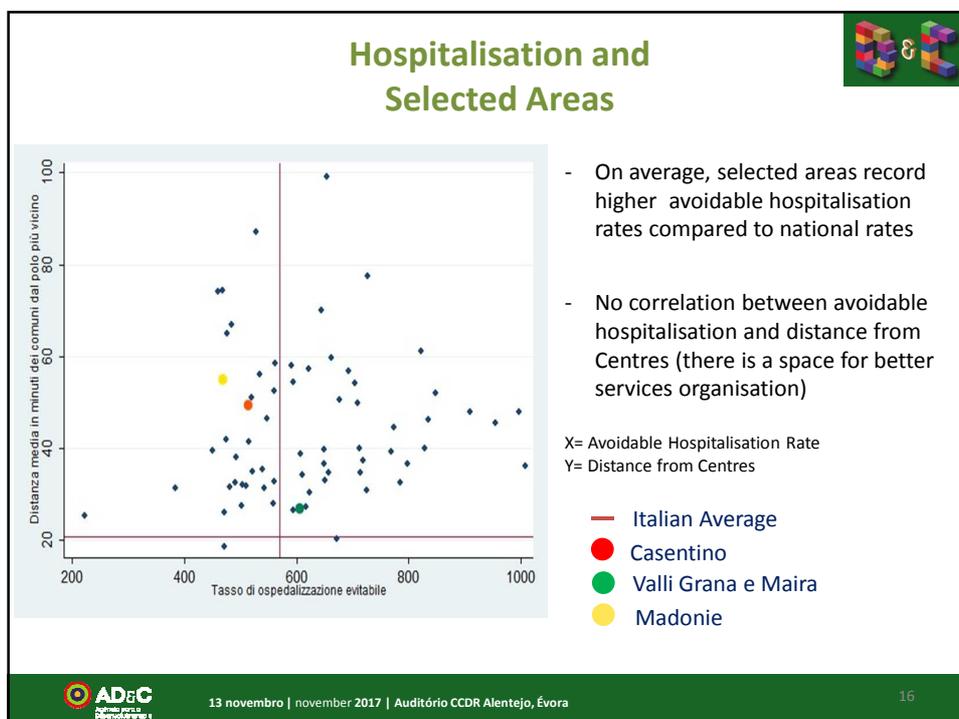
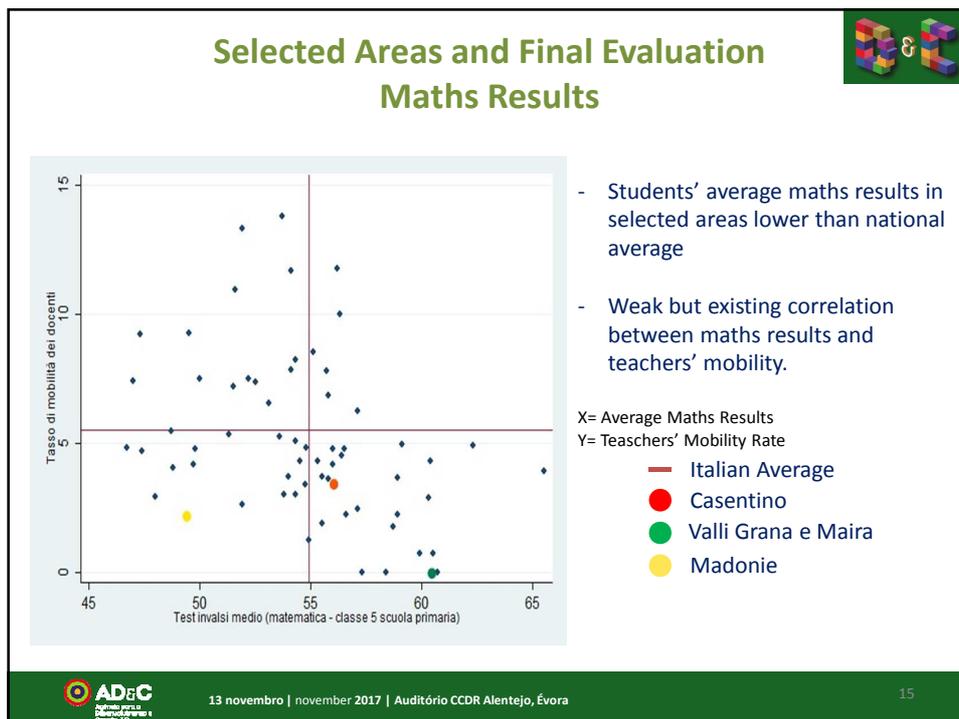
— an example —

Result Indicators to measure healthcare improvements:	Actions:
Reduce the time (in minutes) between the start of the emergency telephone call made and first aid vehicle's arrival at the site	➔ 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	➔ Promote social inclusion, fight against poverty and all forms of discrimination
Increase specialist outpatient services provided per 1,000 residents	➔ Increase/Enhancement of care services and healthcare and social service infrastructure.
❖ Percentage	



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## 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.



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### A picture



**Oltrepò Pavese Area: A working group in action to define mobility outcomes**

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**OBRIGADO | THANK YOU**

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