



Supply of essential services to citizens: comparing rural and urban areas in Calabria

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Cologne, 3 April 2008

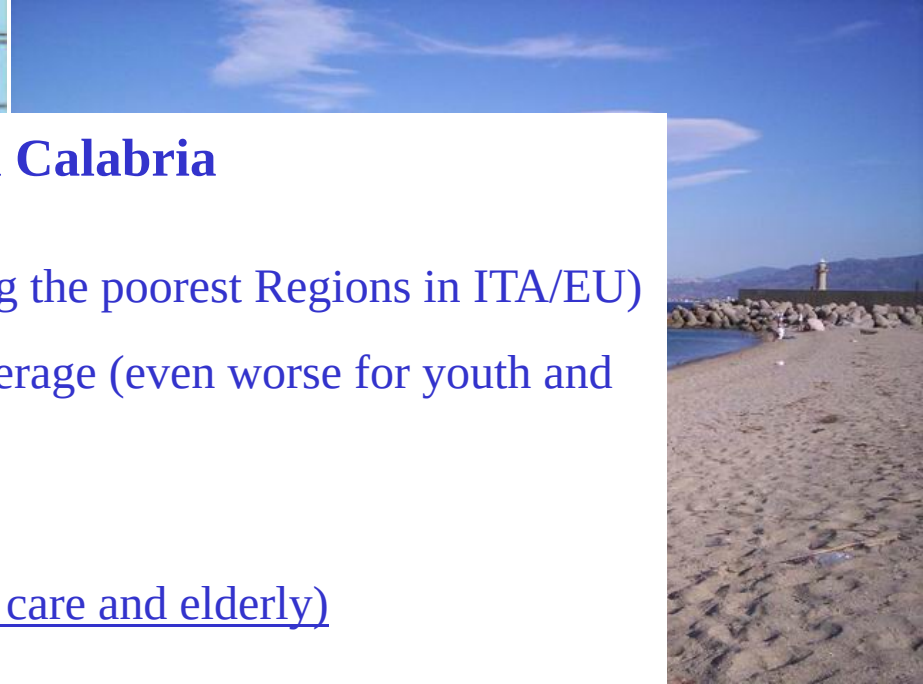


Rural areas in Calabria

- 64% of Italian average income (among the poorest Regions in ITA/EU)
- unemployment rate twice than nat. average (even worse for youth and female)
- Illiteracy in rural areas
- low level of services (especially child care and elderly)



PEOPLE ARE LEAVING





A New Approach to analyse services needs of Rural Areas

- a New Mapping system
- 11 rural FOCUS Groups
- a mix of Field Analysis and Desk Analysis
- policy Suggestions

UVAL



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The old Policy Model

Predominance of a *sectoral approach*

No 'rural proofing' of sectoral policies (Education, Health, Transport etc.)

Modest Knowledge of Socio-Economic Conditions of different areas ...

Regional and central Institutions perceived as *Strangers*





Selected Interviews + *Focus Group*

11 Focus Groups in main rural areas = **10 % of total population living in rural Calabria**

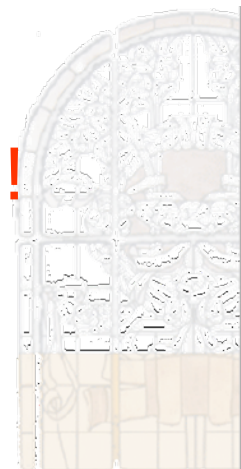
Local active people, **Without Intermediaries:** doctors; religious; schoolteachers; voluntaries; entrepreneurs;

Interviews with Mayors and Local Administrators, if necessary

“Understanding” the **key Challenges**

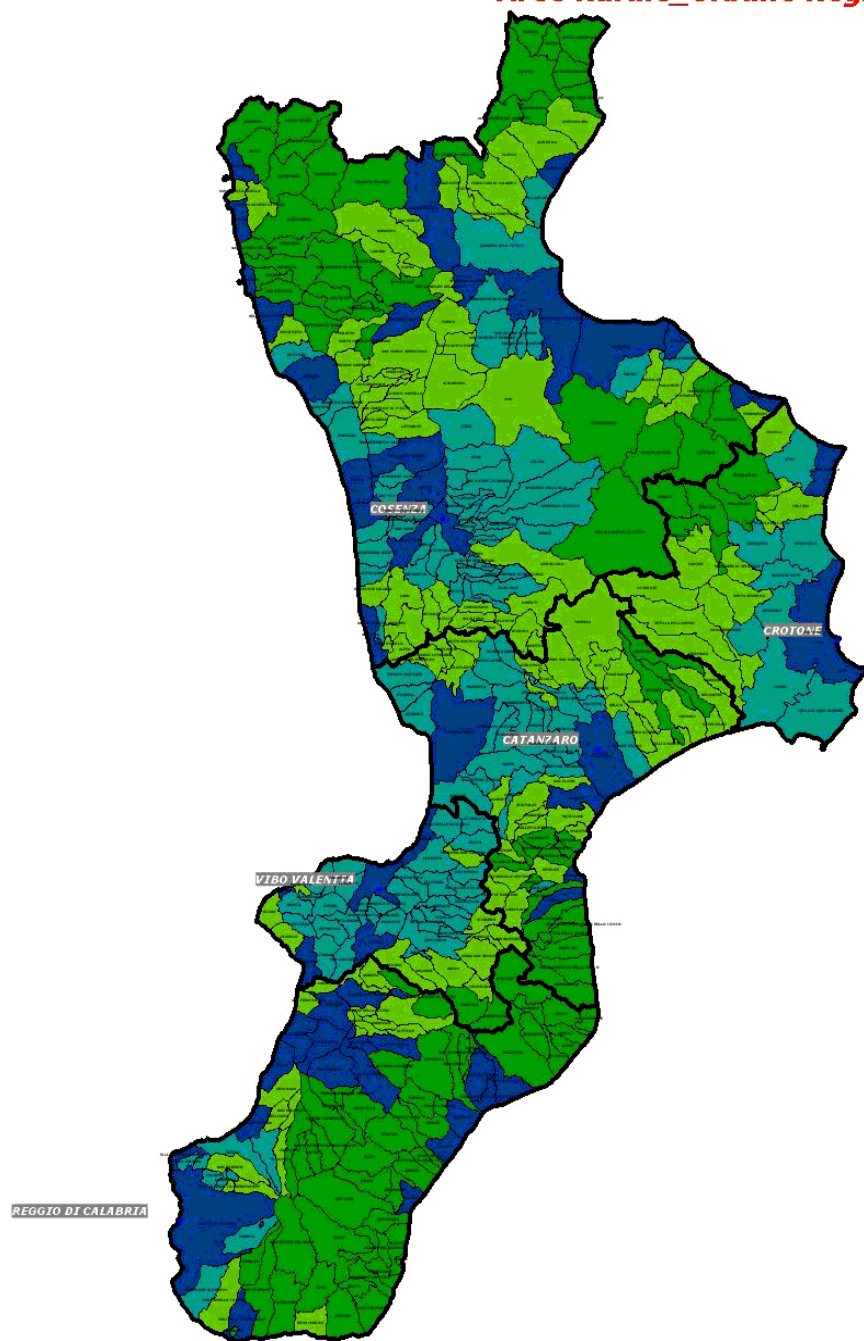
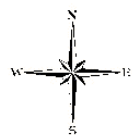
Every Local meeting has been Filmed!

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Aree Rurale_Urbane Regione Calabria



Legenda

capoluoghi_Calabria

- Rurale Periferica
- Rurale Intermedia
- Urbana
- Rurale Periurbana



Linkages between essential services supply and liveability of rural areas

The problem of young people living in rural areas

The high level of woman non activity rates (no regular working conditions and high opportunity costs)

The difficulty of old people in managing their daily life and in accessing even essential health care services

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Young people, Free Time and Schools

Focus Group Results:

Lack of opportunities for Free Time– Weakness of Secondary Schools (11-13 years)

A good school network, but problems with **Classes Composition**

Few Schools with **Special Activities** in the afternoon (spontaneous Initiatives of “leading groups”)

The Issue of school Transportation, particularly at **High school level**

High **Teachers Turnover** and a **Quality** problem (parents opt for the nearest urban school)

No **incentives** to teach in “**rural schools**” and no special training for rural teachers

No relationships Secondary School Local Community

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Desk Analysis and Indicators

Quite good education attainment level (in line with the national level):
territorial discrimination!

High levels of illiteracy in Rural Areas (double than urban areas
...especially women)

Discrimination starts at **High School** and **University** level (5,6% with
a University degree, half than people in urban areas)

Quite good **primary** and **secondary** schools network (Indicators!)

Only 16% of Rural Municipalities have at least two of these structures
(**football fields; library; cinema and theatre**)!

Teachers Mobility: Not Strong Difference Between Urban and Rural
Areas

Essential Services Targets

Early School Leavers: *share of secondary school students dropping out the
school in 2006-2007 (no transfers), higher in rural areas, because of Peri-Urban
Rural Areas!*





Old People and Social and Health Care Services

Focus Group Results:

An Elderly People Issue: a lack of **Daily Care** (*especially for old woman*)

Remoteness is particularly hard for weak groups

Key Actors: **general practitioners** and "Home Nursing" (often immigrated)

Territorial Health Network particularly weak, especially in the poorest rural areas (Locride and Crotonese)

Transportation of old people to specialised Hospitals guaranteed just by voluntaries groups and people (Red Cross)

Indicators:

A quite good distribution of **general practitioners**, but problems with *paediatricians in rural areas*

More Hospitals in Urban Areas (*still too many, with high quality problems*), not Adequately compensated by territorial services (Local **Surgeries**, for analysis and specialised visit)

People benefiting **Home Assistance** (*difficulties with figures and some rural districts with no service*)

Crisis of The Traditional Family Model

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Policy Suggestions Equal Opportunities?

A) **Differentiated Policies:**

Special policy solutions for special needs (managing a school in a small village; organising soft daily care services for old people; micro child care services)

B) **Building Up Local Voice and Listening to Territories**

Problems **Perceptions!** (Especially for Child Care Services and young woman)

Administrations (Local and Central) not able to organise “**local voices**”

C) **Policies Incentives for Local Solutions: FLEXIBILITY!**

Accreditation of autonomous solutions vis à vis of local authorities

Building up *infra local networks*

Local Strong Actors helping Weak Local Actors (at both public and private level)

D) **Policies affording the “Scale Dimension”**

To reason at single Municipality level is not yet feasible (even not for schools!)

Giving Incentives and Helping Municipalities Networks





What Policies for What Solutions

A **Light Policy** for Small Problems needing Targeted Policy Answers

- school transportations; small daily old care services
- projects to facilitate the Strongest helping the Weakest (the local cooperative and school restaurant)
- overcoming the High Variability of Local Project Capacity
- to broaden the use of existing local Presidiums (financing one Football Field for a number of Municipalities)

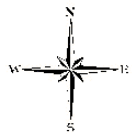
Development Policies: both Regional and Rural development Policy

Important Policy Solutions for Important Issues

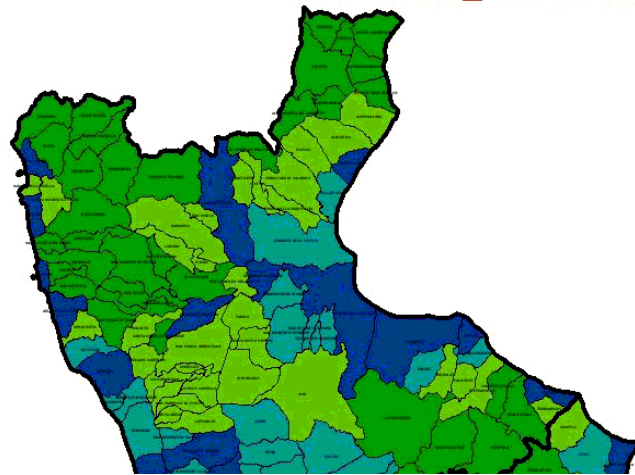
- The Accessibility Issue and the Local Transportation System
- The lack of an appropriate Health Care Territorial Network

Ordinary Policy Proofing and Helping Ordinary Policies to have a Territorial Approach

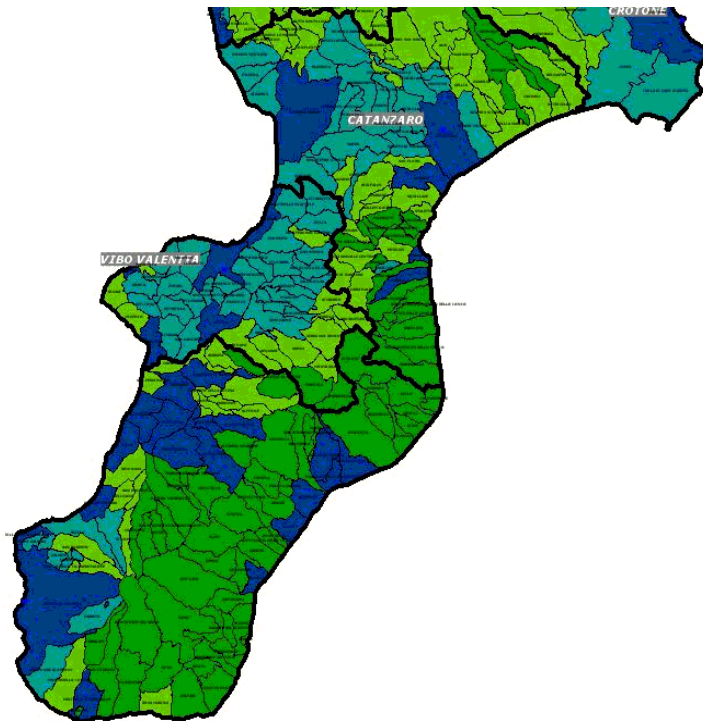




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Thanks for your Attention!!



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