



Glasgow, November 12, 2015
European Policies Research Centre
School of Government and Public Policy
University of Strathclyde

***IMPLEMENTING THE PLACE-BASED APPROACH
THE ITALIAN STRATEGY FOR INNER AREAS***

*by Fabrizio Barca**

* Director General, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Italy. As any other output of the Strategy, the note summarises a collective work of a team of about 30 people led by Sabrina Lucatelli

ORIGIN AND DEFINITION OF PLACE-BASED APPROACH

- The place-based approach (as any innovation) is the outcome of a **conflict**: against space-blindness* and its attempt to stop/divert EU cohesion policy.
- It is **not just** an “integrated approach” nor a “local/communitarian development approach”*.
- It is based on three assumptions:
 - new knowledge (**innovation**) is the main source of growth + social inclusion (= development);
 - only an **open/heated/informed debate** delivers it;
 - development of a place is generally prevented **by rent-seeking local elites**.
- The place-based approach can then be defined as:
the use of public spending/institutions to destabilise local equilibrium and to trigger strategic innovation through a cognitive filiere and a social/economic coalition.

* On this see:

Barca, F. (2011) “Alternative Approaches to Development Policy: Intersections and Divergences”, in OECD Regional Outlook 2011: Building Resilient Regions for Stronger Economies, OECD, 2011.

Barca, F. and McCann, P. (2011) “Outcome indicators and targets. Towards a new system of monitoring and evaluation in EU Cohesion policy”:
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/evaluation/doc/performance/outcome_indicators_en.pdf.

THE FIVE INGREDIENTS OF A PLACE-BASED APPROACH

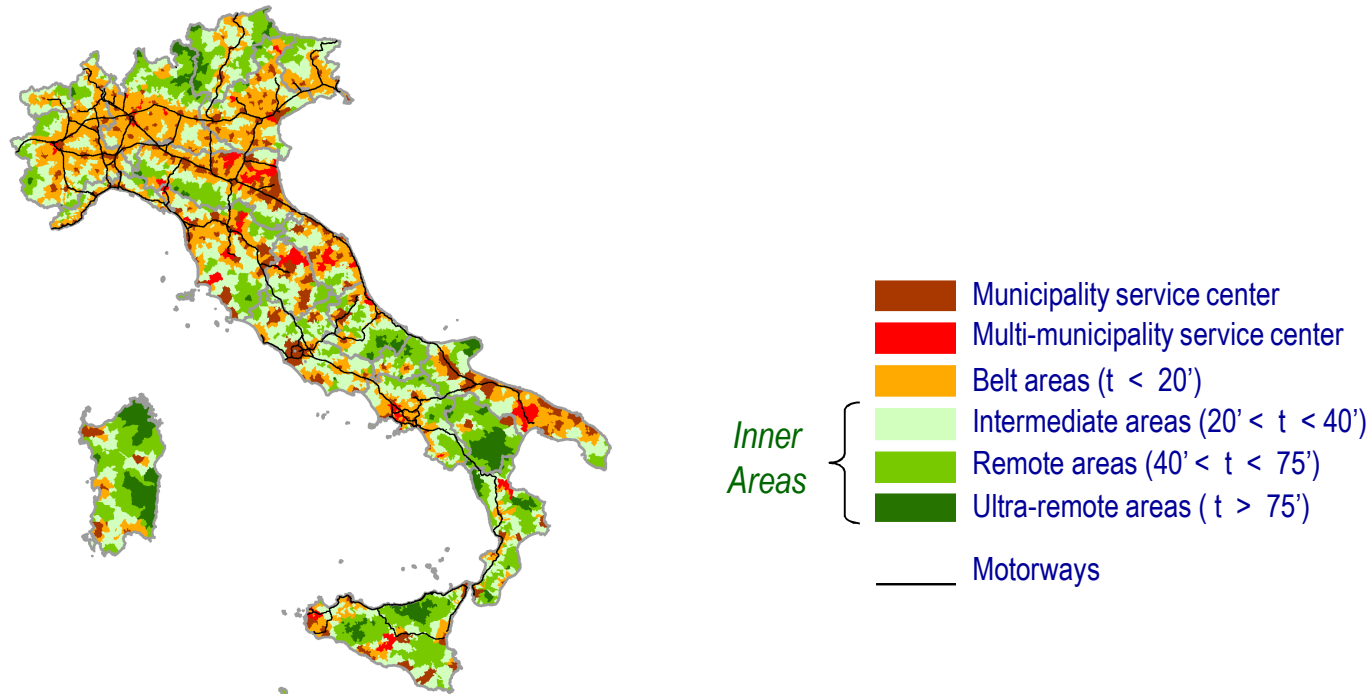
1. Integrated approach ↔ **Territorialising sectoral policies.**
2. Combining **ownership by a coalition of local leaders** with an adequate dose of **central paternalism.**
3. An **heated, open and informed debate among “relevant” actors** (not only representative ones).
4. Focusing on communicating, monitoring and evaluating **expected measurable outcomes.**
5. **Recognizing our ignorance:** the road of democratic experimentalism.

WHAT IS LEFT OF THE PLACE-BASED APPROACH IN THE EU COHESION 2014-2020

- An adequate answer would require an empirical analysis of Member State's actual policies.
- An *ex ante* cursory assessment of 2014-2020 Regulation shows the following progress on each of the five ingredients:
 1. A greater emphasis on “territorial” cohesion, but economic, social and territorial are still separate.
 2. A greater role for national/european conditionalities, but no strengthening/adjustment of DGs human resources.
 3. “Relevant” gains a role in the European Code of Conduct, but it is supported only by a mild moral suasion.
 4. A strong role for “result” and “result indicators” close to policy.
 5. No progress.
- I.e.: Member States can skip place-basedness, but **they can now more easily implement it if they wish to do so.**

THE CASE OF THE ITALIAN STRATEGY FOR INNER AREAS

- **Beyond rural vs urban: the accessibility to essential services (education, health, mobility)**

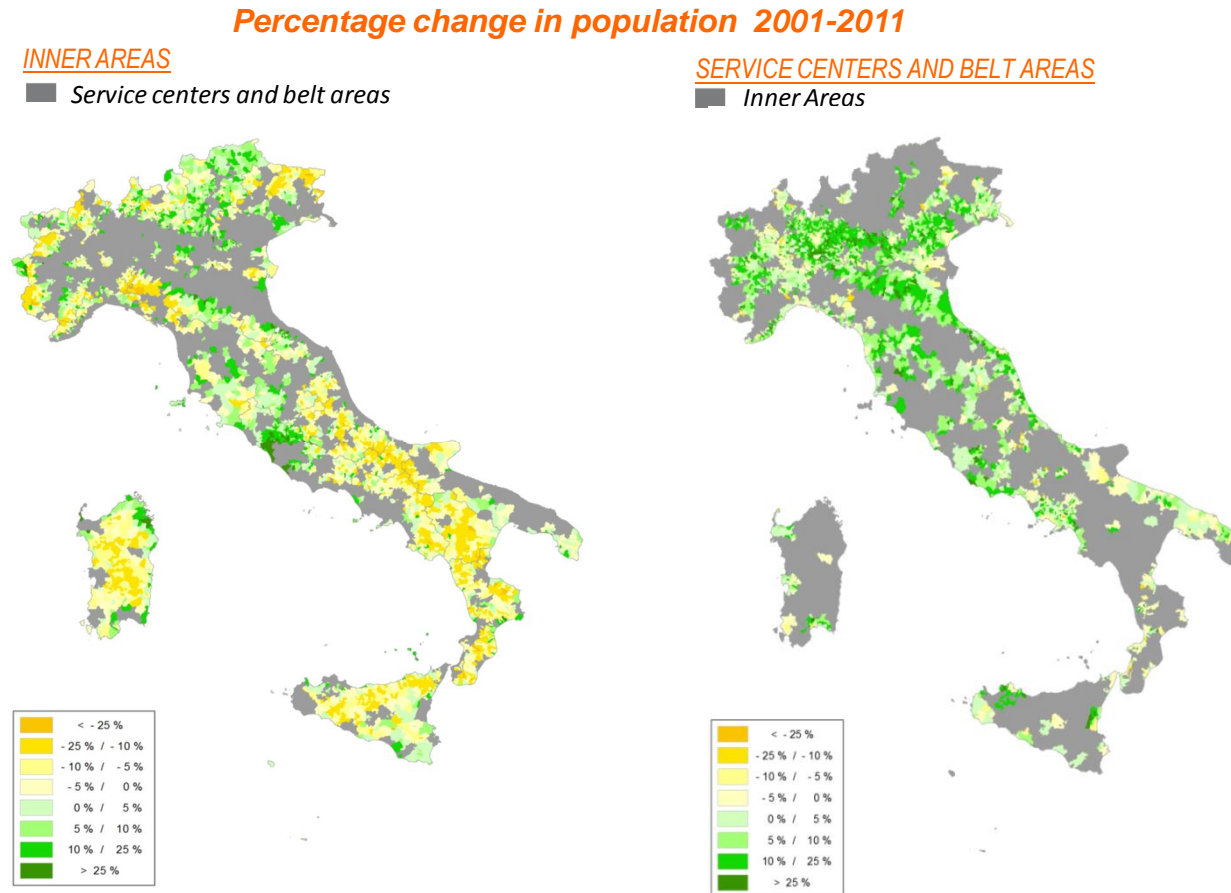


Source: UVAL-UVER-ISTAT elaboration on data from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and RFI (Italian Railway Network)

- **Remote/Ultra-remote areas: 30,6% of the soil, 7,6% of population, 1,4% population drop in 2001-2011.**
- **No South-North divide.**

THE CASE OF THE ITALIAN STRATEGY FOR INNER AREAS

- People vote with their feet.



Source: DPS elaboration on Istat data . Population Censuses 2001 - 2011

- And 100 more indicators on service quality and economic development confirm accessibility as a good proxy.

THE CASE OF THE ITALIAN STRATEGY FOR INNER AREAS

- The inner areas demographic decline is of national interest for two reasons:
 - The **natural/cultural diversity** of inner areas is a largely untapped reserve of quality of life for Italian and foreigners.
 - The decline produces a **high social cost** for the country as a whole in terms of land erosion/slides, river overflowing, and no-resilience to earthquakes and climate change.
- The National Reform Programme mission: stopping demographic decline in Inner areas by addressing at the same time employment (**market**) and essential services (**citizenship**).
- Beneficiaries: about 1.8 millions people in 65 area-projects with about 950 municipalities.

IMPLEMENTING THE FIVE INGREDIENTS OF A PLACE-BASED APPROACH

1. Territorialisation

- The Strategy combines all four structural funds (about 2% of the EU cohesion budget) and a national budget for education/health/mobility: on the whole, between 7 and 20 mln euros per area-project.
- The citizenship target is addressed by contextualising national sectoral policies.
- Human resources: “embedded” territorial units (in sectoral Ministries) and the “35.000 km-in-the-bus-device”.

2. Local ownership and central paternalism

- Creating permanent coalitions of majors (15 municipalities each, with about 28 thousands inhabitants).
- The local leader co-signing a Region-State Agreement.
- Retaining at the Centre a veto and gate keeping power.
- A central task force operating on the ground.

IMPLEMENTING THE FIVE INGREDIENTS OF A PLACE-BASED APPROACH

3. Heated debate and relevant actors


- Focus groups and other tools of deliberative democracy as means of both destabilization and empowerment.
- 3 steps in the Strategy: a Draft , a Preliminary Strategy, the Strategy.
- The sequence: relevant actors, then strategy, then expected results, then projects.

4. Expected results

- Starting from a suggested list of result indicators.
- Choosing result indicators.
- A taste of a theory of change.

5. Experimental approach

- Partnership Agreement (the “contract”) is signed 1½ year after the beginning of the Strategy.
- A learning process: adjusting Guidelines.
- Just 1 pilot per Region and no hurry to catch up.



***For more info and for follow upÅ
Inner Areas Strategy is OPEN GOVERNMENT***

<http://www.dps.gov.it/it/arint/index.html>

DPS Dipartimento per lo Sviluppo e la Coesione Economica
Ex art. 10 del decreto legge n. 101/2013 convertito, con modificazioni, dalla legge n. 125/2013 (in G.U. 30/10/2013, n. 255)

UNIONE EUROPEA Fondo Europeo di Sviluppo Regionale **UNA PA PER LA CRESCITA**
POI Governance e Assistenza Tecnica 2007-2013

HOME | IL DIPARTIMENTO | NOTIZIE E DOCUMENTI | POLITICHE | STRUMENTI | MONITORAGGIO E VALUTAZIONE | SERVIZI

Homepage > Aree Interne

AREE INTERNE

Strategia Aree Interne

Rinnovata la sezione del sito DPS dedicata alle Aree Interne!
Sono ora disponibili tutte le informazioni relative al processo di selezione delle aree-progetto, oltre ai rapporti di istruttoria Stato/Regione - provincia Autonoma

Le Aree Interne rappresentano una parte ampia del Paese – circa tre quinti del territorio e poco meno di un quarto della popolazione – assai diversificata al proprio interno, distante da grandi centri di agglomerazione e di servizio e con traiettorie di sviluppo instabili ma tuttavia dotata di risorse che mancano alle aree centrali, con problemi demografici ma anche fortemente policentrica e con forte potenziale di attrazione.

L'Italia nel Piano Nazionale di Riforma (PNR) ha adottato una Strategia per contrastare la caduta demografica e rilanciare lo sviluppo e i servizi di queste aree attraverso fondi ordinari della Legge di Stabilità e i fondi comunitari.

DOCUMENTI PROGRAMMATICI

- > Relazione annuale al CIPE sulla Strategia nazionale per le Aree interne (file PDF, 1,50 MB) - Allegati (file PDF, 3 MB)
- > Programma Nazionale di Riforma. Consulta le sezioni nel Documento di Economia e Finanza (Def) 2015 approvato dal Consiglio dei Ministri il 10 Aprile 2015
- > Delibera CIPE n. 9 del 28 gennaio 2015 pubblicata sulla Gazzetta Ufficiale n. 91 del 20 aprile 2015
- > Estratto della Legge di Stabilità 2015 (file PDF, 100 Kb), commi 674-675. Consulta il documento completo dalla Gazzetta Ufficiale dello Stato;
- > Estratto del Programma Nazionale di Riforma (file PDF, 1,2 Mb) deliberato dal Consiglio dei Ministri in data 8 aprile 2014 (scarica il documento completo dal sito del MEF);
- > Estratto dell'Accordo di Partenariato (file PDF, 700 Kb), trasmesso alla Commissione europea a chiusura del negoziato formale (consulta il documento completo);
- > Strategia Nazionale per le Aree Interne del Paese (file PDF, 985 Kb);
- > Estratto della Legge di Stabilità 2014 (file PDF, 500 Kb), articolo 1, commi da 13 a 17 - Consulta il documento completo dalla Gazzetta Ufficiale dello

NOTIZIE / COMUNICATI

ULTIME NOTIZIE E COMUNICATI
STAMPA

Siracusa, 06 novembre 2015
I risultati del gemellaggio AGIRE POR "Verso la Smart City" fra i Comuni di Siracusa e Perugia

Roma, 04 novembre 2015
Accordo tra l'Agenzia per la Coesione Territoriale e l'ENEA per l'attuazione della Strategia Europea 2020

Roma, 03 novembre 2015
Presentazione del nuovo Programma Operativo FESR Basilicata 2014-2020

Firenze, 29 ottobre 2015
Incontro annuale fra la Commissione europea e le Autorità di gestione dei Programmi operativi (PO) cofinanziati dal Fondo Europeo di Sviluppo Regionale (FESR)

Roma, 28 ottobre 2015
Valutazione delle candidature per il conferimento di incarichi per n. 16 Componenti del Nucleo di Verifica e Controllo (NUVEC)

■ ARCHIVIO NOTIZIE

POI GOVERNANCE E CAPACITÀ ISTITUZIONALE 2014-2020

UNIONE EUROPEA **POI** GOVERNANCE E CAPACITÀ ISTITUZIONALE 2014-2020

ENTRA NELLA SEZIONE

POI GOVERNANCE E ASSISTENZA TECNICA 2007-2013

UNIONE EUROPEA **POI** GOVERNANCE E ASSISTENZA TECNICA

File Trova Disabilita Visualizza Immagini Cache Strumenti Convalida Modalità browser: IE10 Modalità documento: standard IE8

18:39 06/11/2015