



Territorial indicators ?

Moritz Lennert, IGEAT - ULB
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« Territorial indicators »: decomposing a void term

- « Territorial indicators » = consensus concept
- Proposal for (overlapping) components:
 - regional indicators: “classical indicators” at regional scale
 - regional characterisation indicators: provide framework (types) for other analysis (rural-urban, mountainous, industrial, etc)
 - “topological” indicators: topological situation of regions (distance/proximity, neighbourhood, network linkages)
 - multi-scalar indicators: placing a region into different contexts

Special dangers of regional scale data

- MAUP, MAUP, MAUP, MAUP, MAUP, MAUP
- Some indicators territorialised down via proxies: what do we really measure ?
- Don't forget...MAUP
- Different contexts, e.g. unemployment
- Measuring at regional scale implicit push for more regional autonomy
- Did I mention MAUP ?

Dangerous liaisons: composite indicators

- Dream of the Über-indicator
- Dangers of “simple” composite indicators:
 - correlation of components
 - loss of information
 - loss of differentiations
- Multi-variate techniques more complex, but much more informative
 - factor analysis, clustering
 - take into account correlation
 - decompose information

Some reflections

- ESPON needs to provide clear definitions in project specifications
- Privilege observation indicators (unemployment, CO2 emission, GDP), not for conceptual indicators (regional competitiveness, innovative creativity)
- Priorities:
 - fine spatial resolution
 - long-term time series
 - data collected at regional scale
- Dissociate analysis from administrative units