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## Presentation of the ESPON TeDi project

# ESPON Seminar 3-4 June 2009 in Prague Workshop on Territorial Impact Assessment

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## The ESPON TeDi project

- Focus on opportunities for growth and sustainable development in areas with geographical specificities:
  - mountain areas,
  - islands,
  - sparsely populated areas
  - areas with high a population density in peripheral position such as islands





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## The ESPON TeDi project

Initiated by

- -The Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development (Lead Stakeholder),
- -The Cyprus Ministry of the Interior, Department of Town Planning and Housing,
- -The Finnish Ministry of Employment and Economy,
- -The Malta Environment and Planning Authority,
- -The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth,
- -The Romanian Ministry for Development, Public Works and Housing,
- -The Swiss Federal Office for Spatial Planning.

The North Sea Commission, Euromontana and Iceland have observer status.



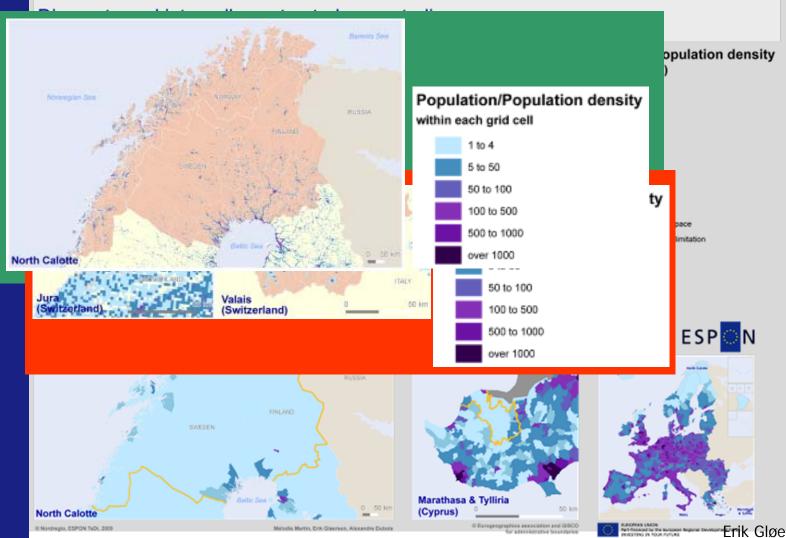
#### Background for ESPON TeDi

Objectives:

- Identify development opportunities and challenges in areas with geographical specificities outside the Pentagon
- In view of developing differentiated regional and spatial policies that make it possible to draw the full potentials from these areas
- → How can these regions best contribute to the Lisbon and Gothenburg objectives?



#### Case study areas

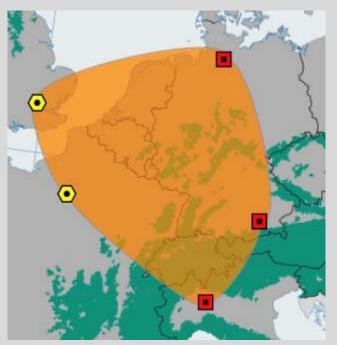


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## Geographically specific ≠ peripheral

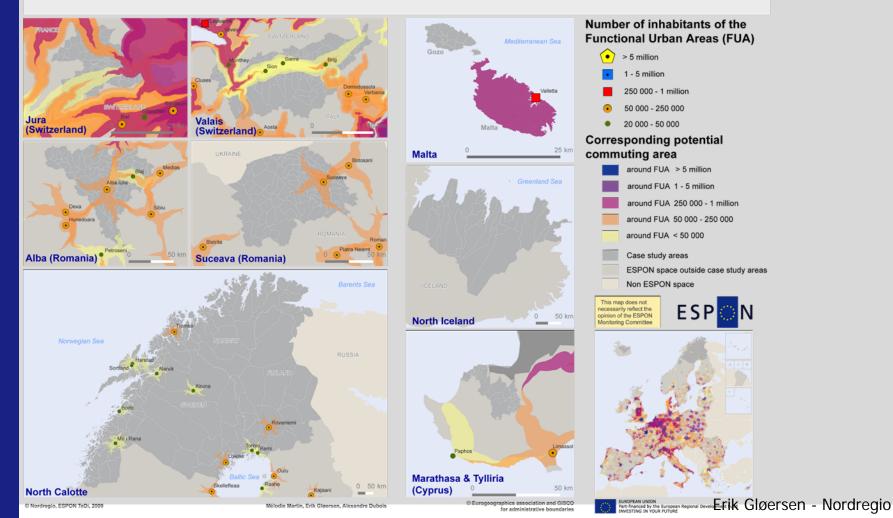
Overlay of mountain areas (DG REGIO Mountain Study, 2004) and Pentagon (ESPON 1.1.1)





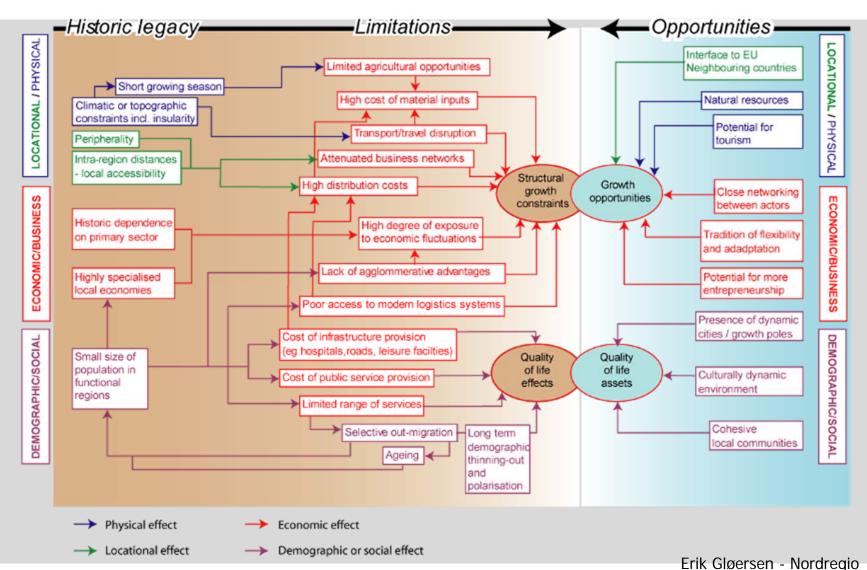
#### Access to urban nodes: a critical parameter

#### Access to urban nodes





## Social and economic impact of geographic specificities





### Background for ESPON TeDi

Thematic focus:

- Sustainable development based on regional comparative advantages
- Supporting innovation and entrepreneurship
- Conservation and management of natural resources
- Long-term improvement of quality of life



#### Conclusions

- The territorial organisation of settlement contributes to determine the differentiated impact of policies
- A challenge for ESPON to compile more detailed knowledge in this respect
- Geographic specificities are multiple and multifaceted
- Geographically specific ≠ peripheral
- Access to urban nodes is a critical parameter.
- How to take advantage of different types situations?
- Complex processes leading from geographic specificities to a range of limitations and opportunities
- Where should one focus policy measures?