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NWE strategies supporting Territorial competitiveness and cohesion

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Content presentation.

- **NWE**
- **NWE Challenges**
- **NWE Answers**
- **Personal considerations**

Programme Area North West Europe



Countries:

Belgium
Ireland
Luxemburg
United Kingdom
Switzerland

France
Germany
Netherlands

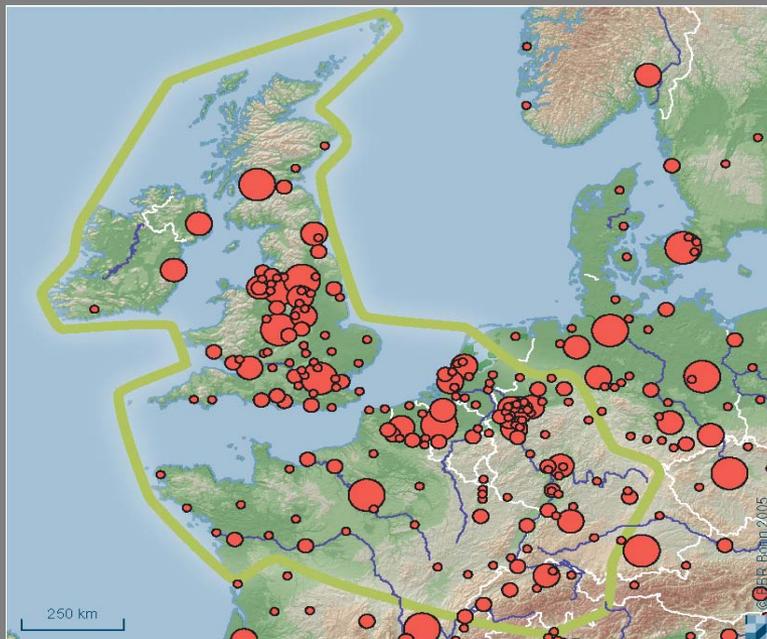


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Strategic documents

- 1999 ESDP
- 2000 NWE Spatial Vision
- 2005 NWE Framework for Action
- 2007 NWE Operational Programme
- 2009 NWE Reaction to Green Paper TC.

Area Description



Heights in meters

below 0
0 up to 100
101 up to 200
201 up to 500
501 up to 1000
1001 up to 1500
1501 up to 3000
3001 and more

Cities with more than 100000 inhabitants

1000000 and more
500000 up to 1000000
250000 up to 500000
100000 up to 250000

845.000 km² (20% EU)
 180 m people (35% EU)
 213 inhab/km² (113 EU)
 75% < 500 inhabitants/ km²

Relatively:

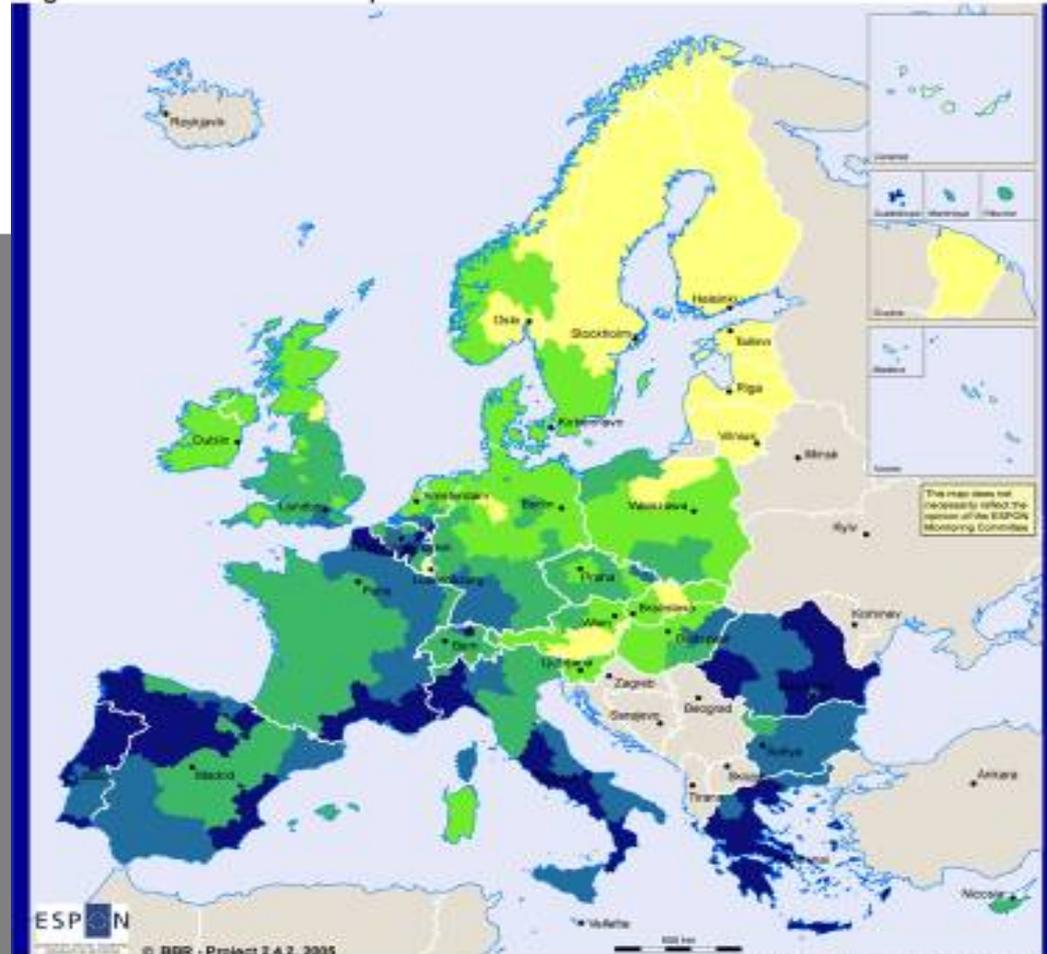
- high GDP
- high employment rates
- skilled labour
- patent applications
- agriculture
- much transport



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Natural Hazards according to ESPON

Regional Classification of Europe: Natural Hazards



Degree of natural hazard exposure as an aggregate of 5 indicators:

- Flood events (Regional average number of flood events 1957-2002) -
- Winter storms (Approximate probability of having winter storms) -
- Earthquakes (Earthquake hazard potential) -
- Dry spell & drought (Change of dry spell combination with drought) -
- Forest fires (Forest fires hazard 1997-2003 in biographic correlation) -

- Below average
- Moderately below average
- Average
- Moderately above average
- Above average

© EuroGeographics Association for administrative boundaries
 Regional level: NUTS 2
 Origin of data: ESPON 1.3.1 GTK,
 ESPON 2.4.2 BBR, own calculations
 Cyprus: data for government controlled areas only
 Source: ESPON database

Standardised based on the European mean value



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Priority 1: NWE knowledge-based economy

€90 m ERDF

Priority 2: Natural resources + risk management

€87m ERDF

Priority 3: Improving connectivity in NWE

€90m ERDF

Priority 4: Strong and prosperous communities

€69m ERDF

and

Strategic Initiatives



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Policies served by structural funds

- **COHESION POLICY**
 - **ECONOMIC**
 - **SOCIAL**
 - **TERRITORIAL**
- **LISBON POLICY**
- **GOTHENBURG POLICY**



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Mission statement

COHESIVE EU SOCIETY
THROUGH COOPERATION
ON EU CITIZENS DAILY LIFE



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NWE territorial cohesion:

Mainly making the best of assets

Reinforcing its structures

Not the biggest disparities

NWE biggest challenges

- Demography
- Economy
- Climate



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INTERREG NWE: test garden

- **Cross sector projects.**
- **Transnational cooperation**
- **Strong partnerships**

investments/actions through joint decisions

Trying out new forms of governance



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Challenging known solutions

- Governance (19th century → 21st century)
- Local action ↔ Global issues

- Economy: growth
- Demography: growth
- Climate: !!!

NWE *dense* area: an asset?

Quick fix or long term structure?



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NWE IVB 2009 CALENDER

- 5th Call ends 7 October 12.00h
- ANNUAL EVENT 8 and 9 October
ROTTERDAM (NL)
CLIMATE CHANGE + 4 priorities



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FUTURE INSTRUMENTS?

- Obj3: Cheap, high EU added value: efficient.
- Simpler, more flexible and more transparent:
 - Merge A, B and C
 - Message on EU level: aggregated info
 - Programme as technical level: PO-box
 - Message on project level: detailed info



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Some personal thoughts:

- Definition of growth?
- Market a religion? Pricing (oil, land)
- Democracy at its limits?
- Limits to demographic growth?
- Different levels and sorts of governance



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INVESTING IN OPPORTUNITIES

www.nweurope.eu