

« Challenges, necessities and opportunities of territorial cooperation in mountain areas »

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What is Euromontana?



- A network in the EU and the Eastern countries: 60 national or regional organisations
- A multisectoral network development agencies, regional and local authorities, environmental agencies, agricultural organisations, research institutes
 - to *exchange* with institutions, other networks
 - to coordinate *co-ordination* projects
 - to contribute to a better *expertise* on mountain development
- A 'light' co-ordination office based in Brussels
- An evolving network

Our General Activities



- Information / policy observatory
- Consultation
- Projects
 - FAO – SARD–M
 - Interreg and Interact

Perspectives



- State aids
- The externalities of mountain farming /multi-functionnality
- The development and added-value of mountain food products

Networking & cooperation



- Social capital
- Rural development regulation
 - Provision for European Rural Network

Expectations of ESPON

- Recognition of the issue
 - Mountain areas in Europe: Nordregio 2004
- Analysis at appropriate level of disaggregation
- Interface/liaison

CHALLENGES

- ⌘ Practical – fragmented communities, communication, air, road, ICT, oncosts, the accelerating polarisation of economic activity
- ⌘ Policy – ‘SAPIR approach to the Lisbon Strategy’ – growth pole concentration
- ⌘ Operational – cash flow challenge, lead partner burden

OPPORTUNITIES



- ⌘ Principal reservoir of diversity
- ⌘ Quality/purity cachet
- ⌘ European Charter for Mountain Quality Foods
- ⌘ Commonality of shared challenges

NECESSITIES

⌘ Recognition of mountain specificity e.g. designation of Mountain Quality label – Positive Externalities of Mountain Land Management

⌘ Quantification/Qualification

☑ Nordregio Mountain Areas in Europe Study

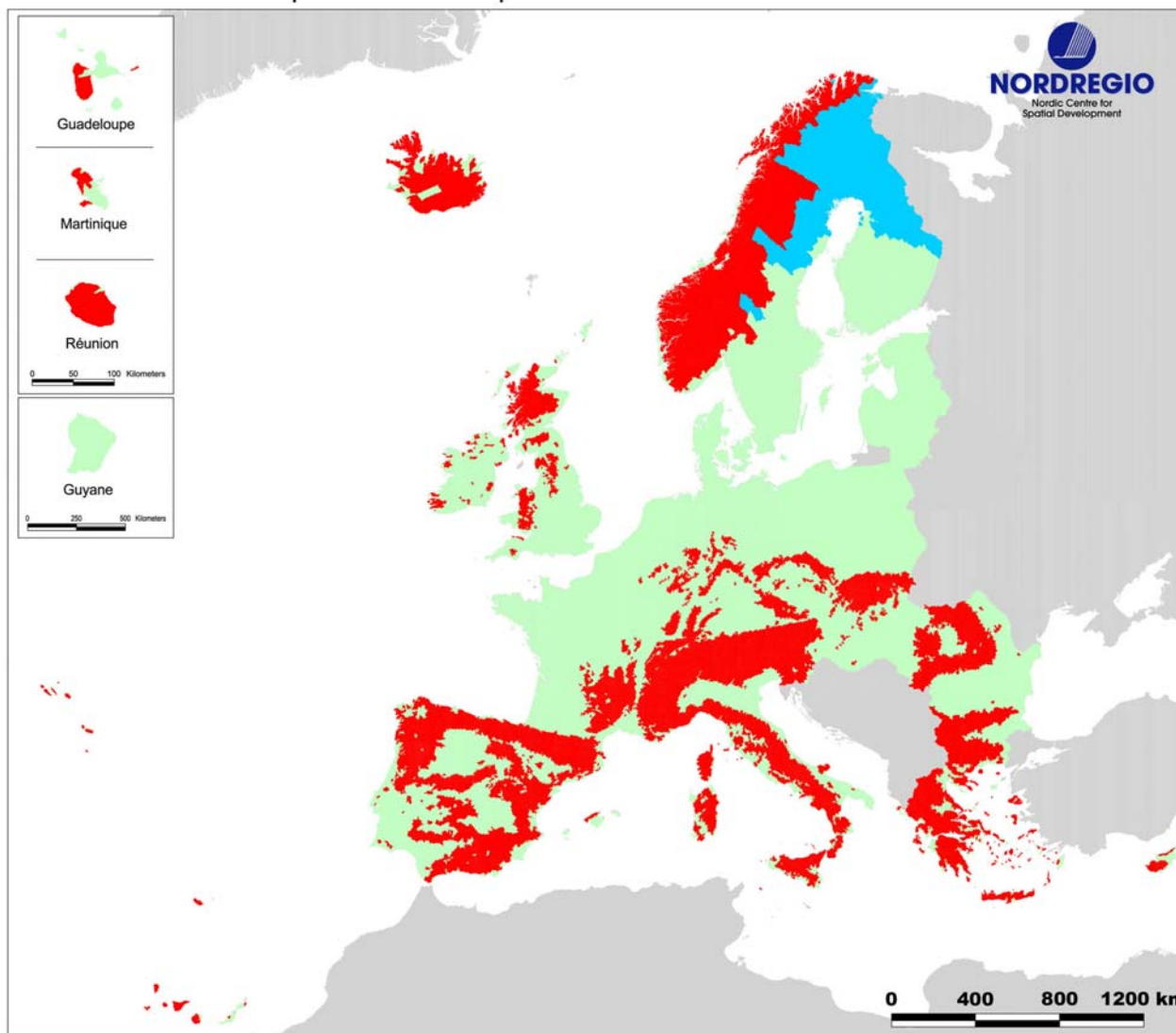
☑ Flaws

☑ Refreshment Imperative

Mountain delimitation

- 41% of the European territory:
- 20% of its population
- 27 % of its municipalities (33 865 out of 125 681)

Mountainous municipalities in Europe



Sources: Eurogeographics, NCRD, ESRI Romania, Eurostat GISCO

ESPON PROGRAMME



Assessment/Expectations

Worry about:

⌘ Absence of *significant* mountain profile
but

**Awareness Raising Priority Seminars and
Events Action – Stakeholders' Locus**

⌘ Pervasive 'regions and larger territories'

ESPON PROGRAMME



Assessment/Expectations

Welcome

Focus on Territorial Cohesion/geographic balance of economic development

Recognition of concentration/preference for polycentric development

Priority 3 – comparative regional data at detailed geographical scale

References to evidence based policy development