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EDORA

(European Development Opportunities
for Rural Areas)

Country Profiles Report **ICELAND**

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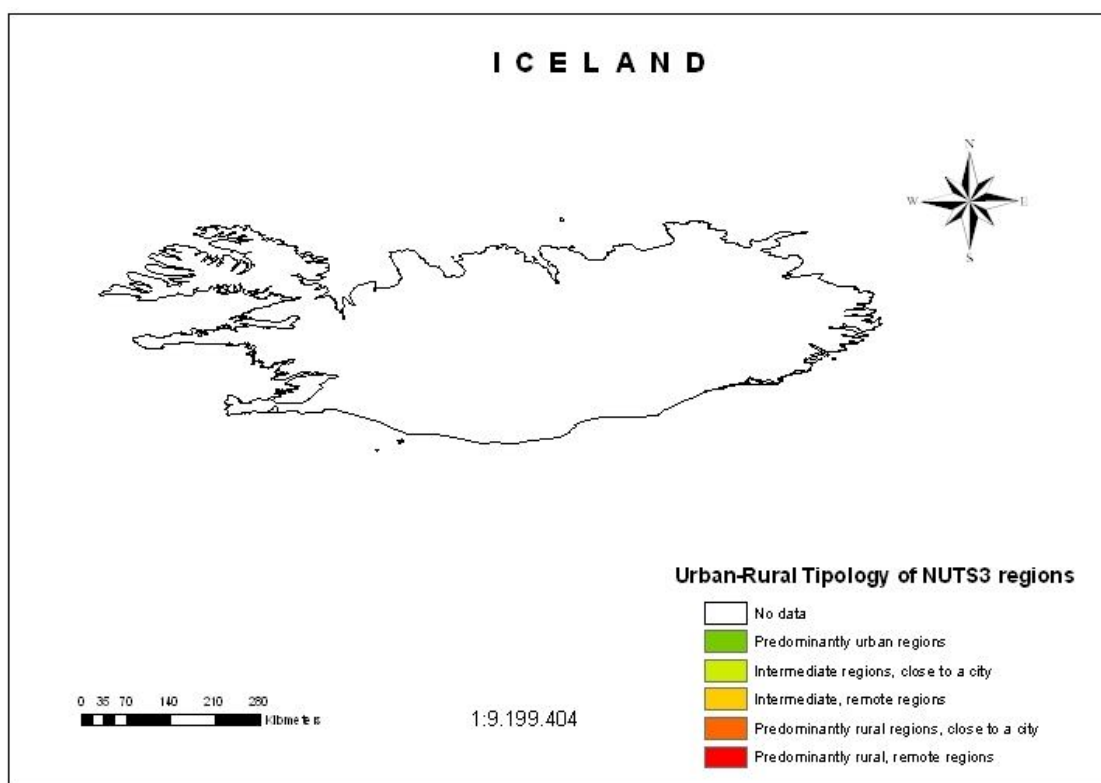
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1. Introduction

Guidelines: please, add comments based on your local knowledge on the following (when possible, support your comment on provided tables and/or other sources):

- Key ideas/comments on the resulting DG Regio Typology (reasonable classification?, processes hindered?, degree of internal variation?, etc.)
- Basic comments on the main Drivers, Opportunities and Constraints affecting different typologies of regions in the country
- Basic comments on the implications of the three “Grand Narratives of Change” described by Mark Shucksmith in the rural areas of Iceland (ref. document “Narratives of Change Affecting Rural Areas of Europe”)

Figure 12.1 DG Region modified Urban-rural typology of NUT3 regions: Iceland



Source: own elaboration from http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/focus/2008_01_rural.pdf

2. Demography

Guidelines: please, add comments based on your local knowledge on the following (when possible, support your comment on provided tables and/or other sources):

- Which are the main demographic processes in the country?
- Which are the features of the “natural growth”? (positive or negative growth, ageing process)
- Which are the features of migration processes? (dimensions, size, directions, prevalence, tradition, consequences on territorial model).
- Are there significant variations in the above processes depending of the types of regions considered (ie. PU, IRA, IRR, PRA, PRR)? Please, describe briefly.

Table 12.1 Demography indicators

DEMOGRAPHY		PU	IRA	IRR	PRA	PRR	Average country	Average EU 27 +CH+HR+IS+LI+MK+NO+TR	Average EU 27
Variables*		1	21	22	31	32			
Census population 2001	% people aged 0 to 14 years						NA	16.75	16.70
	% people aged 15 to 64 years						NA	66.62	66.65
	% people aged 64 years and over						NA	16.53	16.55
	Age dependency rate						NA	25.09	25.09
Population	Population change 2001-2007 (Index pop. 2001=100)						108.58	96.58	96.31
	% pop. 0_14_2007						21.28	16.68	15.97
	% pop. 15_64_2007						67.14	69.75	70.18
	% pop. >64_2007						11.58	13.55	13.84
	Age dependency rate						48.94	44.08	43.17
Education	%ISCED0/POP_07						NA	1.39	1.51
	%ISCED1/POP_07						NA	2.97	3.19
	%ISCED2/POP_07						NA	2.06	2.25
	%ISCED3/POP_07						NA	2.28	2.49
	%ISCED/POP_07						NA	0.14	0.16
	%ISCED5/POP_07						NA	1.77	1.92
	%ISCED6/POP_07						NA	0.05	0.05
	% ISCED0_2						NA	33.62	36.65
	% ISCED 3_4						NA	43.29	47.14
	% ISCED 5_6						NA	17.03	18.54
	% of farmers with basic or full educational attainment						NA	35.34	39.54
	Life-Long Learning in Rural Areas						NA	7.6985	8.6142

* Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

3. Employment

Guidelines: please, add comments based on your local knowledge on the following (when possible, support your comment on provided tables and/or other sources):

- Main processes and trends in relation to the labour market (employment/unemployment, disadvantaged groups and territories). Explanatory reasons
- Are there significant variations in the above processes depending of the types of regions considered (ie. PU, IRA, IRR, PRA, PRR)? Please, describe briefly.

Table 12.2 Employment indicators (a)

EMPLOYMENT		PU	IRA	IRR	PRA	PRR	Average country	Average EU 27 +CH+HR+IS+LI+MK+NO+TR	Average EU 27
Variables*		1	21	22	31	32			
Employment rate	15_64 years						NA	66.40	66.42
	Tmale 15_64 y						NA	73.05	73.12
	Tfemale 15_64 y						NA	59.72	59.70
	Total 15_24 y						NA	39.66	39.67
	Male 15_24						NA	42.60	42.65
	Female 15_24						NA	36.61	36.59
	T 45_64 years						NA	62.37	62.34
	M45_64 years						NA	87.55	87.67
	F45_64 years						NA	54.58	54.53
	Total 45_54						NA	78.30	78.38
	Male 45_54						NA	89.64	89.74
	Female 45_54						NA	71.20	71.25
	Total 55_64						NA	46.44	46.30
	Male 55_64						NA	85.47	85.59
	Female 55_64						NA	37.95	37.81
%Employment in principal sector	%Emp_primary						8.53	7.95	7.97
	%Emp_secondary						26.36	26.71	26.71
	%Emp_tertiary						65.12	65.33	65.31
Unemployment evolution 2002_05	Total > 15 years						102.08	187.25	188.17
	Total 15_24 years						150.00	255.25	257.16
	Total >25 years						78.13	82.27	82.21
	Male > 15 years						89.29	82.45	82.35
	Male 15_24 years						100.00	168.42	168.75
	Male >25 years						73.33	84.06	84.00
	Female > 15 years						120.00	94.74	94.79
	Female 15_24 years						275.00	212.41	212.30
	Female >25 years						81.25	94.50	94.50

*Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

Table 12.3 Employment indicators (b)

EMPLOYMENT		PU	IRA	IRR	PRA	PRR	Average country	Average EU 27 +CH+HR+IS+LI+MK+NO+TR	Average EU 27
Variables*		1	21	22	31	32			
Unemployment rate 2007	Total >15						NA	7.61	7.63
	Total Male >15						NA	7.06	7.05
	Total Female >15						NA	8.61	8.59
	Total 15_24						NA	15.80	15.64
	Male 15_24						NA	15.7726	15.64
	Female15_24						NA	17.8169	17.56
	Total >25						NA	6.66	6.66
	Male >25						NA	6.14	6.13
	Female >25						NA	7.69	7.64
Long term unemployment	% long term unemployment rate_07						NA	43.07	43.12
	% long term unemployment rate_02						12.19	38.99	39.43
	Evolution of long term unemployment2002_07						NA	111.33	110.94
Activity rate	Activity rate M>15						NA	8.93	8.43
	Activity rate F>15						NA	6.73	6.88
	Activity rate 15_24 years_M						NA	0.88	0.89
	Activity rate 15_24 years_M						NA	0.71	0.72
	Activity rate >45 years_T						NA	45.92	45.88
	Activity rate >45 years_M						NA	52.14	52.11
	Activity rate >45 years_F						NA	40.06	40.02
	Activity rate 45_64 years_T						NA	66.37	66.39
	Activity rate 45_64 years_M						NA	74.59	74.62
	Activity rate 45_64 years_F						NA	58.40	58.41

* Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

4. Rural business development

Guidelines: please, add comments based on your local knowledge on the following (when possible, support your comment on provided tables and/or other sources):

- Which are the features of the rural businesses (size, dominant activities, employment, profitability, innovation, use of IST, etc)?
- Which is the profile of the rural entrepreneur?
- Which are the niches of activity in which rural companies are being created?
- Which are the opportunity sectors for future rural business operation?
- Which are the main constraints that need to be overcome?
- Are there specific policies/programs/initiatives that could be labeled as “best practices” in rural business promotion?
- Are there significant variations in the above processes depending of the types of regions considered (ie. PU, IRA, IRR, PRA, PRR)? Please, describe briefly.

Table 12.4 Rural business development indicators

RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT		PU	IRA	IRR	PRA	PRR		Average EU 27 +CH+HR+IS+LI+MK+NO+TR	
Variables*		1	21	22	31	32	Average country		Average EU 27
N° FIRMS BY SECTOR OF OPERATION (1_2 digits)_2006	% Mining and quarrying						NA	0.29	0,30
	% Manufacturing						NA	14.08	14,04
	% Electricity, gas and water supply						NA	0.61	0,62
	%Construction						NA	9.48	9,45
	%Wholesale and retail trade						NA	23.02	21,83
	%Hotel and restaurants						NA	6.52	6,14
	%Transport, storage and communication						NA	8.68	8,46
	%Real state, renting and business activities						NA	37.29	39,11
EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR OF OPERATION (1_2 digits)_2006	% Mining and quarrying						NA	0.57	0,51
	% Manufacturing						NA	29.18	28,07
	% Electricity, gas and water supply						NA	1.13	0,89
	%Construction						NA	9.08	9,14
	%Wholesale and retail trade						NA	26.13	26,92
	%Hotel and restaurants						NA	8.26	8,36
	%Transport, storage and communication						NA	8.64	8,51
	%Real state, renting and business activities						NA	16.78	17,51
Employment in high and medium technologies manufacturing activities_2004	Employment in high and medium tech manufacturing activities_2004_Media						2.47	6.88	7,42
	Employment in high and medium tech manufacturing activities_2004_%EU 25						NA	95.89	107,13
%firms with own website							NA	50.20	50,20

* Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

5. Rural-urban relationships

Guidelines: please, add comments based on your local knowledge on the following (when possible, support your comment on provided tables and/or other sources):

- Are there established or incipient initiatives for cooperation between urban and rural areas?
- Is the “territorial approach” developed? (ie. Territorial Employment Pacts, supra-municipal planning, etc.),
- are there rural-urban partnerships? If so, which are their goals and ways of operation? Where is the power located?
- Which is the importance/extent of suburbanisations processes?
- What are the main demands/uses over rural areas from urban inhabitants? How these are met?
- Are there specific policies/programs/initiatives that could be labeled as “best practices” in promoting appropriate rural-urban relations?
- Are there significant variations in the above processes depending of the types of regions considered (ie. PU, IRA, IRR, PRA, PRR)? Please, describe briefly.

6. Cultural heritage

Guidelines: please, add comments based on your local knowledge on the following (when possible, support your comment on provided tables and/or other sources):

- Which are the main cultural resources?
- Which are the main cultural resources of rural regions?
- Is cultural heritage used? If so, in which senses (ie. tourism, other economic activities, identity reference, education, other non profit uses?)
- Which are the main demands upon cultural heritage?
- Are there specific policies/programs/initiatives that could be labeled as “best practices” in protecting/promoting sustainability of cultural heritage?
- Are there significant variations in the above processes depending of the types of regions considered (ie. PU, IRA, IRR, PRA, PRR)? Please, describe briefly.

7. Services of General Interest

Guidelines: please, add comments based on your local knowledge on the following (when possible, support your comment on provided tables and/or other sources):

- Which is the general situation of the services of general interest (SGI) in the country?
- Which are the main problems in relation to accessibility and provision to SGI for rural residents and visitors?
- Which are the main forms of provision of services in rural areas? Are there innovative solutions to low accessibility areas?
- Are there specific policies/programs/initiatives that could be labeled as “best practices” in promoting accessibility/provision of Services of General Interest, particularly in rural areas?
- Are there significant variations in the above processes depending of the types of regions considered (ie. PU, IRA, IRR, PRA, PRR)? Please, describe briefly.

Table 12.5 Services of general interest indicators (a)

SERVICES OF GENERAL INTEREST		PU	IRA	IRR	PRA	PRR	Average country	Average EU 27 +CH+HR+IS+LI+MK+NO+TR	Average EU 27
Variables		1	21	22	31	32			
'Length of road network (km) 2001							NA	310.27	310.27
'Length of railway network, km 2001							NA	143.03	143.03
Area (km2)							12207.80	3881.85	3531.01
DENSITY	Evolution density 2001_07*						108.58	96.58	96,31
	Density of population 2007*						25.20	3712.44	4066,61
Peripherality by car to population							NA	103.45	103.45
Daily population accessible by car*							1283.00	18078.54	19285.23
'Accessibility time to market by road 1997							NA	302.46	302.46
'Accessibility time to market by rail 1997							NA	313.92	313.92
%households with broadband access							NA	49.07	48.00
% households with internet at home							NA	81.46	81.20

* Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

Table 12.6 Services of general interest indicators (b)

SERVICES OF GENERAL INTEREST		PU	IRA	IRR	PRA	PRR	Average country	Average EU 27 +CH+HR+IS+LI+MK+NO+TR	Average EU 27
Variables		1	21	22	31	32			
N° STUDENTS ISCED 0_6	N°students ISCED_0 per 1.000 inhabitants						NA	29.59	29.46
	N°students ISCED_1 per 1.000 inhabitants						NA	61.66	60.76
	N°students ISCED_2 per 1.000 inhabitants						NA	43.21	43.28
	N°students ISCED_3 per 1.000 inhabitants						NA	48.05	48.03
	N°students ISCED_4 per 1.000 inhabitants						NA	3.06	3.10
	N°students ISCED_5_6 per 1.000 inhabitants						NA	37.37	37.23
	N°students ISCED_6 per 1.000 inhabitants						NA	1.10	1.10
BEDS IN HOSPITAL PER 100.000 inhabitants	N° of beds in hospitals per 100.000 inhabitants_00						NA	740.10	738.76
	N° of beds in hospitals per 100.000 inhabitants_05						NA	696.91	704.88
	N° of beds in hospitals per 100.000 inhabitants_06						NA	1014.67	724.64
	Evolution nbeds 2000_05						NA	91.53	91.94

* Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

8. Farm structural change

Guidelines: please, add comments based on your local knowledge on the following (when possible, support your comment on provided tables and/or other sources):

- Which are the main DOC in relation to agriculture?
- Are there specific policies/programs/initiatives that could be labeled as “best practices” in promoting agriculture?
- Are there significant variations in the above processes depending of the types of regions considered (ie. PU, IRA, IRR, PRA, PRR)? Please, describe briefly.

Table 12.7 Farm structural change indicators (a)

FARM STRUCTURAL CHANGE		PU	IRA	IRR	PRA	PRR	Average country	Average EU 27 +CH+HR+IS +LI+MK+ NO+TR	Average EU 27
Variables		1	21	22	31	32			
% HOLDINGS 2005	< 2 ESU						NA	23.24	23.45
	2 to 100 ESU						NA	67.54	67.22
	>100 ESU						NA	9.20	9.32
%CHANGING N° HOLDINGS 2000-2005	% Change in number of total holdings 2000-2005*						21.38	17.20	16.71
	% Change in number of holdings less 2 ESU 2000-2005						NA	34.16	21.19
	% Change in number of holdings 2 to 100 ESU 2000-2005						NA	17.91	17.66
	% Change in number of holdings over 100 ESU 2000-2005						NA	-34.21	-33.67
HOLDERS	% Holders working full time 2005						NA	35.42	35.50
	% Change in Number of Holders working full time 2000 - 2005						NA	-0.00	0.33
	Economic Farm Size (RDEU07)						NA	41.93	41.93
	Farmers with OGA (RDEU07)						NA	37.55	37.55
	% holders > 55 years 2007						NA	50.19	50.61
	% holders < 35 years 2007						NA	6.35	6.32
	% change in holders > 55 years 2000 - 2005						NA	5.88	5.61
	% change in holders < 35 years 2000 - 2005						NA	-34.00	-33.95
% farmers with basic and full education in agriculture attained (RDEU07)							NA	42.29	42.29

* Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

9. Institutional Capacity

Guidelines: please, add comments based on your local knowledge on the following (when possible, support your comment on provided tables and/or other sources):

- characteristics of the governance system (type of administrative system, levels of government, distribution of powers),
- Dominant types of interactions among levels of government (formal/informal, hierarchical/cooperative, open/closed, top-down/bottom-up, etc.)
- Which are the main problems in relation to government and governance?
- Are there specific policies/programs/initiatives that could be labeled as “best practices” in promoting better institutional capacity, particularly in rural areas?
- Are there significant variations in the above processes depending of the types of regions considered (ie. PU, IRA, IRR, PRA, PRR)? Please, describe briefly.

Table 12.8 Institutional capacity indicators

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY		PU	IRA	IRR	PRA	PRR	Average country	Average EU 27 +CH+HR+IS+LI+MK+NO+TR	Average EU 27
Variables		1	21	22	31	32			
GDP DISPERSION OF GDP_2005	GDP in Mio. Euro 2005						NA	9722.69	9856.11
	GDP in PPS per inhabitant 2005						NA	20926.83	21110.46
	GDP in euro per inhabitant in percentage of the EU average 2005						NA	93.42	94.24

10.Climate change

Guidelines: please, add comments based on your local knowledge on the following (when possible, support your comment on provided tables and/or other sources):

- Which are the main perceived threats in relation to climate change for population, authorities, interest groups?
- Are there any scientific evidence pointing to climate change? Please describe
- Are there specific policies/programs/initiatives that could be labeled as “best practices” in counteracting the effects of climate change, particularly in rural areas?
- Are there significant variations in the above processes depending of the types of regions considered (ie. PU, IRA, IRR, PRA, PRR)? Please, describe briefly.