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EDORA

(European Development Opportunities
for Rural Areas)

Country Profiles Report **FINLAND**

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Nordic Centre for Spatial Development



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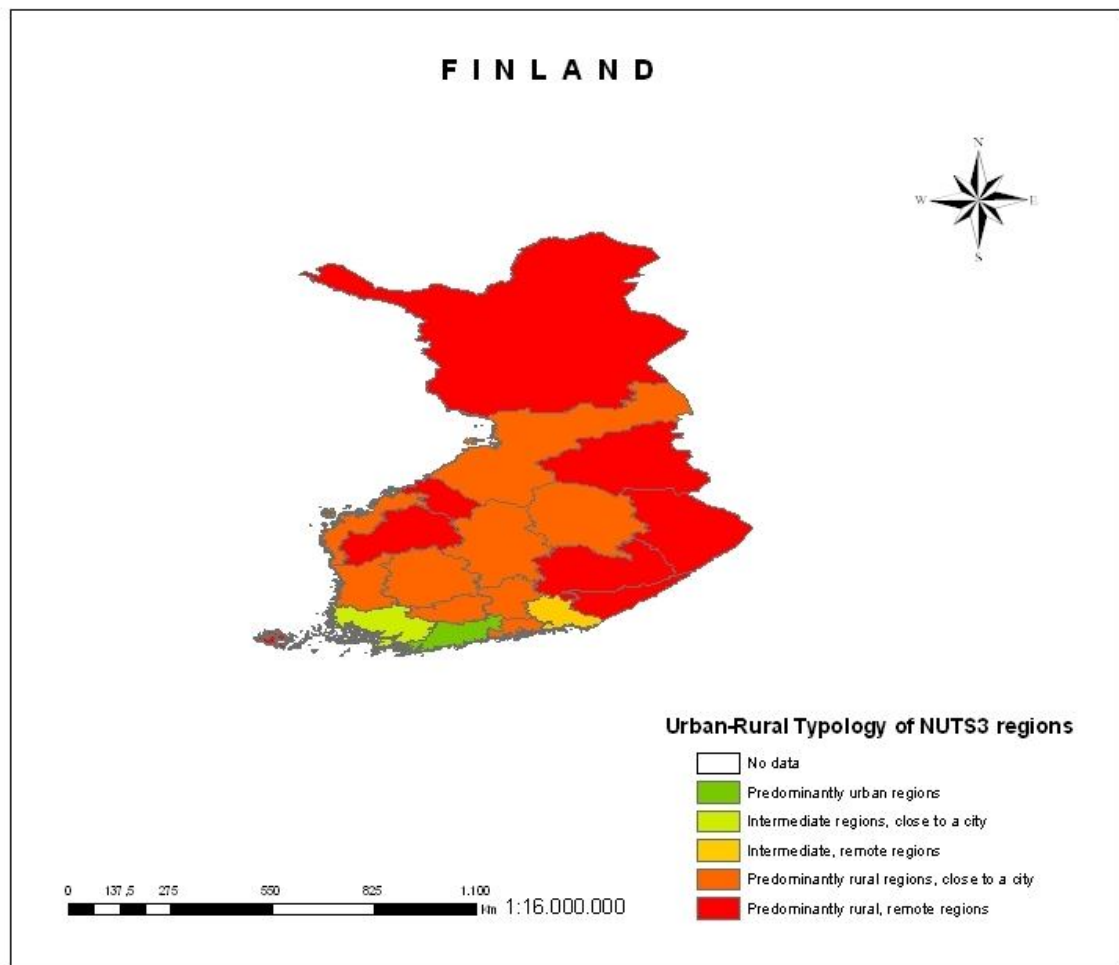
1. Introduction

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 Finland (ref. document “Narratives of Change Affecting Rural Areas of Europe”)

As shown in figure 31.3 the most urban areas of Finland is situated in the southern parts of the country. The only region classified as “predominantly urban” is the one where the capital Helsinki is located. In the northern and the eastern parts of the country the largest areas of remote rural areas are to be found. Finland is characterized by high levels of rurality and all but three regions in Finland are classified as predominantly rural.

Figure 31.1 DG Region modified Urban-rural typology of NUT3 regions: Finland



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.

Rural regions have the highest share of older people and this is also where the age dependency rate is the highest (Table 31.1). At a national level the average dependency rate was slightly below the EU 27 average in 2001 but in 2007 the national rate was well above the average EU figures.

In the last years the population change has been positive in all regions types, the urban and intermediate regions did however experience a stronger population growth. When it comes to educational level the “predominantly rural, remote regions” show a somewhat lower level and have a larger share of the population with lower levels of

education. In general the country average is above the EU 27, except for the share of population with ISCED between 0 and 2 and between 3 and 4.

The national average share of educational attainment among farmers is below EU 27 level. When broken down to a regional level the data does however show that only “predominantly rural regions, close to a city” have an average below the EU while the other ones have higher shares. The percentage of life-long learning is high in the rural areas of Finland, the highest share is found in urban and intermediate regions.

Table 31.1 Demography indicators

DEMOGRAPHY		PU	IRA	IRR	PRA	PRR	Average country	Average EU 27 +CH+HR +IS+LI+M K+NO+T R	Average EU 27
Variables		1	21	22	31	32			
Census population 2001	% people aged 0 to 14 years	18.41	17.19	16.47	18.48	17.93	18.09	16.75	16.70
	% people aged 15 to 64 years	70.18	66.59	65.79	65.66	65.21	65.76	66.62	66.65
	% people aged 64 years and over	11.41	16.22	17.74	15.86	16.86	16.15	16.53	16.55
	Age dependency rate	16.26	24.36	26.96	24.17	25.86	24.60	25.09	25.09
Population*	Population change 2001-2007 (Index pop. 2001=100)	103.37	103.37	103.37	101.66	100.39	101.41	96.58	96.31
	% pop. 0_14_2007	17.01	17.01	17.01	17.05	17.09	17.06	16.68	15.97
	% pop. 15_64_2007	67.77	67.77	67.77	66.06	65.49	66.09	69.75	70.18
	% pop. >64_2007	15.23	15.23	15.23	16.90	17.42	16.86	13.55	13.84
	Age dependency rate	47.56	47.56	47.56	51.44	52.72	51.37	44.08	43.17
uc ati	Natural increase change_01_06	22.04	109.47	36.66	361.90	-62.45	146.28	-5.99	-6.09

Net migration change_01_06	-7.74	-8.41	8.93	-25.03	-61.09	-36.06	7.09	8.97
% ISCED 0_2**	30.95	30.95	30.95	33.67	35.44	33.97	33.62	36.65
% ISCED 3_4**	37.72	37.72	37.72	39.99	42.18	40.52	43.29	47.14
% ISCED 5_6**	31.07	31.07	31.07	26.07	23.89	25.95	17.03	18.54
% of farmers with basic or full educational attainment	45.50	42.90	41.70	34.06	39.39	37.59	35.34	39.54
Life-Long Learning in Rural Areas*	23.57	23.57	23.57	22.29	21.01	21.97	7.69	8.61

*Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

**% ISCED by groups is calculated for population more 15 years.

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.

The average employment rate in Finland is slightly above the EU 27 figures but when looking at the data divided after age groups a more complicated pattern appears (31.2). It shows that among the population under 45 the rate is still higher in Finland. Among the population above 45 only the women are employed to a higher extent. The distribution of the employment between sectors follows quite closely the EU 27 average.

As further shown in table 31.2 the unemployment rate is the highest in remote rural regions and the country average shows an increase in unemployment between 2002 and 2005, rural regions saw the highest increase. The long term unemployment rate on the other hand has gone down the most in rural regions and this is also where the lowest rates are to be found.

Table 31.2 Employment indicators (a)

EMPLOYMENT		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
Employment rate*	T15_64 years	73.30	73.30	73.30	69.89	67.65	69.51	66.40	66.42
	Tmale 15_64 y	74.60	74.60	74.60	72.11	69.46	71.43	73.05	73.12
	Tfemale 15_64 y	71.90	71.90	71.90	67.58	65.79	67.51	59.72	59.70
	Total 15_24 y	47.50	47.50	47.50	44.63	40.33	43.34	39.66	39.67
	T 45_64 years	72.85	72.85	72.85	68.87	67.33	68.85	62.37	62.34
	Total 45_54	86.70	86.70	86.70	83.46	81.95	83.34	78.30	78.38
	Total 55_64	59.00	59.00	59.00	54.29	52.71	54.37	46.44	46.30
%Employment in principal sector	%Emp_primary	0.57	4.91	4.88	6.60	9.83	7.42	7.95	7.97
	%Emp_secondary	19.23	29.48	27.53	31.13	23.68	27.29	26.71	26.71
	%Emp_tertiary	80.20	65.61	67.58	62.27	66.49	65.29	65.33	65.31
Unemployment evolution 2002_05	Total > 15 years	93.49	83.62	74.44	420.43	145.80	266.11	187.25	188.17
	Total 15_24 years	92.14	86.79	89.29	205.47	209.19	188.52	255.25	257.16
	Total >25 years	94.14	82.26	67.74	54.73	57.94	60.12	82.27	82.21
	Female > 15 years	100.53	77.78	67.39	64.17	70.27	69.22	94.74	94.79

* Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

Table 31.3 Employment indicators (b)

EMPLOYMENT		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
Unemployment rate 2007*	Total >15	5.20	6.20	7.00	6.96	10.03	7.96	7.61	7.63
	Total Male >15	5.50	6.40	6.60	6.57	9.30	7.51	7.06	7.05
	Total Female >15	4.80	6.10	7.50	7.93	11.16	8.84	8.61	8.59
	Total 15_24	13.20	14.50	14.30	16.77	21.47	18.06	15.80	15.64
	Total >25	4.00	5.00	5.50	5.60	8.34	6.49	6.66	6.66
Long term unemployment*	% long term unemployment rate_07	24.95	24.95	24.95	23.05	18.68	21.58	43.07	43.12
	Evolution of long term unemployment 2002_07	97.16	97.16	97.16	90.49	87.19	90.32	111.33	110.94

* 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.

When comparing the Finnish country average in table 31.4 with the EU 27 average with regard to the distribution of firms by industry, the most obvious differences are the lower number of firms in real state, renting and business activities, and the higher number of firms in constructing. When looking at the different region types within the country, real state is the only sector where the highest number is found in the urban and intermediate regions, these also have the largest share of employed in that sector. In Finland a larger share of the work force is employed in manufacturing and transport, storage and communication while a smaller share is found in the wholesale and retail trade sector and the hotel and restaurant sector.

The employment in high and medium tech manufacturing activities is in all types of regions lower than the EU 27 average. In rural areas the lowest shares are to be found. All but “predominantly rural, remote regions” did however have shares higher than the corresponding figures for EU 25 was in 2004.

Table 31.4 Rural business development indicators (a)

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	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.56	0.67	0.55	0.30	0.30
	% Manufacturing	9.68	9.68	9.68	12.20	11.43	11.51	14.08	14.05
	% Electricity, gas and water supply	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.70	0.95	0.75	0.61	0.63
	%Construction	20.05	20.05	20.05	20.34	20.82	20.49	9.48	9.46
	%Wholesale and retail trade	25.02	25.02	25.02	25.25	25.27	25.22	23.02	21.83
	%Hotel and restaurants	5.88	5.88	5.88	6.02	6.94	6.37	6.52	6.15
	%Transport, storage and communication	10.03	10.03	10.03	11.33	12.78	11.72	8.69	8.46
	%Real state, renting and business activities	28.79	28.79	28.79	23.62	21.14	23.40	37.29	39.12
EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR OF OPERATION (1_2 digits)_2006	% Mining and quarrying	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.33	0.37	0.33	0.58	0.52
	% Manufacturing	27.84	27.84	27.84	35.89	32.56	33.35	29.18	28.08
	% Electricity, gas and water supply	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.27	1.32	1.27	1.14	0.89
	%Construction	10.52	10.52	10.52	11.18	12.02	11.42	9.09	9.14
	%Wholesale and retail trade	21.71	21.71	21.71	18.80	18.36	19.06	26.14	26.93
	%Hotel and restaurants	4.87	4.87	4.87	4.65	5.24	4.92	8.27	8.37
	%Transport, storage and communication	12.70	12.70	12.70	11.46	16.43	13.63	8.65	8.52
	%Real state, renting and business activities	20.99	20.99	20.99	16.36	13.63	15.97	16.78	17.51

* Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

Table 31.5 Rural business development indicators (b)

RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	PU	IRA	IRR	PRA	PRR	Average country	Average EU 27	Average EU 27
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Variables*		1	21	22	31	32		+CH+HR+IS +LI+MK+N O+TR	
Employment in high and medium technologies manufacturing activities_2004	Employment in high and medium tech manufacturing activities_2004_Media	7.20	7.20	7.20	6.97	4.79	6.13	6.88	7,42
	Employment in high and medium tech manufacturing activities_2004_%EU 25	102.87	102.87	102.87	109.40	77.61	95.70	95.89	107,13
%firms with own website		NA	NA	NA	42.80	42.80	42.80	50.21	50.21

* 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.

The average density of roads in Finland is below EU 27 average, in “predominantly rural regions, close to a city” the figure is considerably higher though (Table 31.6). When it comes to railways on the other hand the density is above EU 27 average and the highest number is to be found in the “predominantly urban” region.

The population density has increased during the last years, mostly so in the urban and intermediate areas. In comparison with the EU 27 average the population density of all region type in Finland is low. The density in “predominantly rural, remote regions” is 86 whereas the general average for EU 27 is 4066.

The peripherality (ie. travel time from each regions centroid to all others over the road network taking into account additional factors such as lower average travel speeds in mountainous areas or border waiting times etc) is higher in Finland, the country average is adjusted upwards significantly by the situation in the rural areas though.

The average time to get to markets by car and by rail is longer in Finland than in the EU 27. The population in the rural areas has to spend the longest times traveling.

Over 90 per cent of the finish population has internet access at home and more than 60 per cent have broadband access. There are some differentiations to be found between the types of regions and unsurprisingly the lower levels of access are located to the rural regions.

The number of beds per 100 000 inhabitants in hospitals in Finland is quite close to the EU 27 average. In 2000 the number was just above the European average and in 2006 the number was just below. Both Finland and EU 27 did however lower their numbers between the two years.

Table 31.6 Services of general interest indicators (a)

SERVICES OF GENERAL INTEREST	PU	IRA	IRR	PRA	PRR	Average country	Average EU 27 +CH+HR+IS+L I+MK+NO+TR	Average EU 27
	1	21	22	31	32			
Variables ¹								
Density of motorways	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	NA	0.01	0.04	0.04
Density of trunk road	0.19	0.15	0.05	0.10	0.05	0.08	0.17	0.17
Density of railways	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.10	0.10
Area (km2)**	6766.90	10855.00	5588.30	115585.50	192010.70	330806.40	5659749.80	4600910.40
DENSITY	Evolution density 2001_06 *							
	Density of population 2006***							
	4.18	1.90	-1.22	1.39	-1.53	0.26	0.93	0.92
	200.85	41.97	33.14	26.81	10.56	30.09	414.65	446.23
Daily population accessible by car	2230.00	2230.000	2230.00	2039.88	1390.50	1808.65	18078.54	19285.23
Time to nearest hospital	23.93	28.65	26.19	42.80	64.29	48.91	22.83	22.83
Time to nearest university	24.12	28.65	34.53	62.87	115.94	79.03	45.10	45.10
Time to nearest airport	37.60	28.65	34.53	126.28	176.16	132.33	83.44	83.44
% households with broadband access	68.00	68.00	68.0	66.22	63.2	65.42	49.07	48.00
% households with internet at home	93.00	93.00	93.00	90.88	90.00	90.89	81.46	81.20

* Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

** The findings of these variables are the sum of values, not the average, as the others.

*** These values are only indicatives and aren't reals because in the calculation there are values NUTS2 and NUTS3.

¹ Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2 due to the lack of Peripherality Index, area and lenght of road and railway network.

Table 31.7 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	29.31	29.31	29.31	25.48	24.23	25.62	29.59	29.46
	N°students ISCED_1 per 1.000 inhabitants	69.52	69.52	69.528	70.54	71.340	70.67	61.66	60.76
	N°students ISCED_2 per 1.000 inhabitants	37.398	37.39	37.39	38.76	40.11	39.04	43.21	43.28
	N°students ISCED_3 per 1.000 inhabitants	60.8	60.80	60.80	65.291	69.17	66.01	48.05	48.03
	N°students ISCED_4 per 1.000 inhabitants	4.583	4.58	4.58	3.63	3.23	3.63	3.06	3.10
	N°students ISCED_5_6 per 1.000 inhabitants	59.56	59.56	59.56	59.43	55.19	57.89	37.37	37.23
BEDS IN HOSPITAL PER 100.000 inhabitants*	N° of beds in hospitals per 100.000 inhabitants_05	637.800	637.800	637.800	716.144	777.038	728.750	696.9147	704.8804
	Evolution nbeds 2000_05	89.328	89.328	89.328	93.873	97.123	94.491	91.5367	91.9440
	Density of hospitals	0.47	0.19	0.20	0.19	0.13	0.18	5.44	5.44
	Hospital beds per head	4.06	3.91	3.63	4.48	4.01	4.20	4.98	4.98
	Doctors per inhabitant	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.61	133.11	67.02	171.35	171.35

* 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 31.8 shows the farm and farm structural change in Finland. When considering the regional distribution of farms of different sizes one can see that the proportion of economically small sized holdings is higher in rural areas, while medium sized holdings take up a larger share in urban and intermediate areas and the largest holdings take up largest shares in accessible intermediate regions. The small holdings with an economic size of less than 2 European Size Units (ESU) have increased significantly in numbers in all region types in recent years.

Holders are working full time to a larger extent in Finland, mostly so in the predominantly rural regions. The decrease has however been considerable in the last years. The economic size of the holdings is small compared to the EU 27 average while the share of holders within the Farmers Insurance Organization is higher in Finland.

A smaller share of the holders is at the age 55 or older, while a larger share is under 35, but the size of the group of older farmers has grown at a higher speed during recent years than what is the case in the EU 27. In the predominantly rural regions the increase is particularly strong. The share of younger is decreasing in both the two; the decrease is smaller in Finland though.

The average share of farmers with basic and full education attained does not differ much between Finland and the EU 27. When looking at the regional level within Finland one can see that the figures for predominantly rural areas are the lowest.

Table 31.8 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	5.32	4.68	4.07	6.17	8.13	6.73	33.42	33.89
	2 to 100 ESU	92.03	91.04	94.31	91.14	89.10	90.52	57.56	57.02
	>100 ESU	2.66	4.29	1.63	2.69	2.76	2.75	8.33	8.38
%CHANGING N° HOLDINGS 2000-2005	% Change in number of total holdings 2000-2005*	-11.47	-13.29	-13.38	-12.80	-13.69	-13.14	-9.53	-9.19
	% Change in number of holdings less 2 ESU 2000-2005	-44.83	-41.94	-47.37	-47.91	-49.55	-48.09	-2.22	-0.65
	% Change in number of holdings 2 to 100 ESU 2000-2005	-8.58	-12.05	-11.45	-9.45	-7.86	-9.00	-13.91	-13.73
	% Change in number of holdings over 100 ESU 2000-2005*	0.00	13.79	33.33	51.31	121.88	74.20	32.21	31.28

* Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

Table 31.9 Farm structural change indicators (b)

FARM STRUCTURAL CHANGE		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
HOLDERS	% Holders working full time 2005	26.29	33.06	33.33	38.79	47.26	40.99	35.42	35.50
	% Change in Number of Holders working full time 2000 - 2005	-25.49	-19.93	-26.36	-21.72	-17.48	-20.35	0.00	0.33
	Economic Farm Size (RDEU07)	23.90	28.40	22.60	24.66	25.00	24.84	41.93	41.93
	Farmers with OGA (RDEU07)	50.60	45.40	42.90	44.06	39.40	42.53	37.55	37.55
	% holders > 55 years 2007*	38.48	38.48	38.48	36.36	35.75	36.43	50.19	50.61
	% holders < 35 years 2007*	8.59	8.59	8.59	9.19	8.74	8.92	6.35	6.32
	% change in holders > 55 years 2000 – 2005**	27.62	29.36	29.36	33.97	39.51	35.41	5.88	5.61
	% change in holders < 35 years 2000 – 2005**	-12.31	-24.72	-28.12	-14.99	-24.67	-19.87	-34.00	-33.95
% farmers with basic and full education in agriculture attained (RDEU07)		45.50	42.90	41.70	43.78	39.38	41.76	42.29	42.29

*Values NUT3 are replaced by values NUTS2

**Some 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.

As shown below the average gross domestic product in PPS/inhabitant of Finland is above EU 25 average. Within the country the levels varies between types of regions and rural regions have lower rates than does the urban region. “Predominantly rural, remote regions” have the lowest gross domestic product in PPS/inhabitant and these regions do also have a lower level than what is the EU 25 average.

Table 31.10 Institutional capacity indicators

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY		PU	IRA	IRR	PRA	PRR		Average EU 27 +CH+HR+IS +LI+MK+N O+TR	
Variables		1	21	22	31	32	Average country		Average EU 27
GDP DISPERSION OF GDP 2005	GDP in Mio. Euro 2005	55961.1	13169.6	5291.6	6539.11	2986	7858.11	9722.69	9856.11
	GDP in PPS per inhabitant 2005	35583	24920.3	24559.4	22614.67	21100.71	22870.02	20926.83	21110.46
	GDP in euro per inhabitant in percentage of the EU average 2005	184.70	129.30	127.50	117.36	109.53	118.70	94.38	95.48

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.