

ESPON EVENTS: FIGHTING POPULATION DECLINE IN RURAL AREAS



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Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence



INTEGRATED TERRITORIAL INVESTMENT

PREAMBLE

Castilla-La Mancha is part of the Spanish Forum of Regions with Demographic Challenges (FREDD) consisting of the Autonomous Communities of Galicia, Principado de Asturias, La Rioja, Aragón and Castilla y León. Combined, they gather 4,463 municipalities (55% of Spain's municipalities) and more than half of Spain's territory with 52.8% of its surface. However, they only account for 21% of the Spanish population.

We seek a Common Position leading to the debate on and approval of the European Union's upcoming Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for the next programming period that includes:

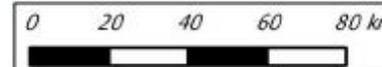
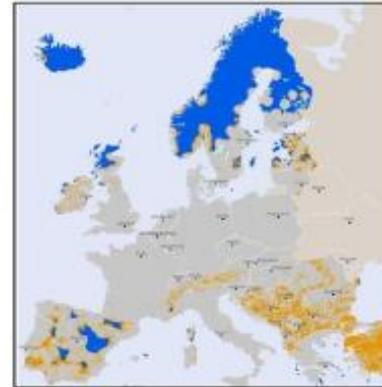
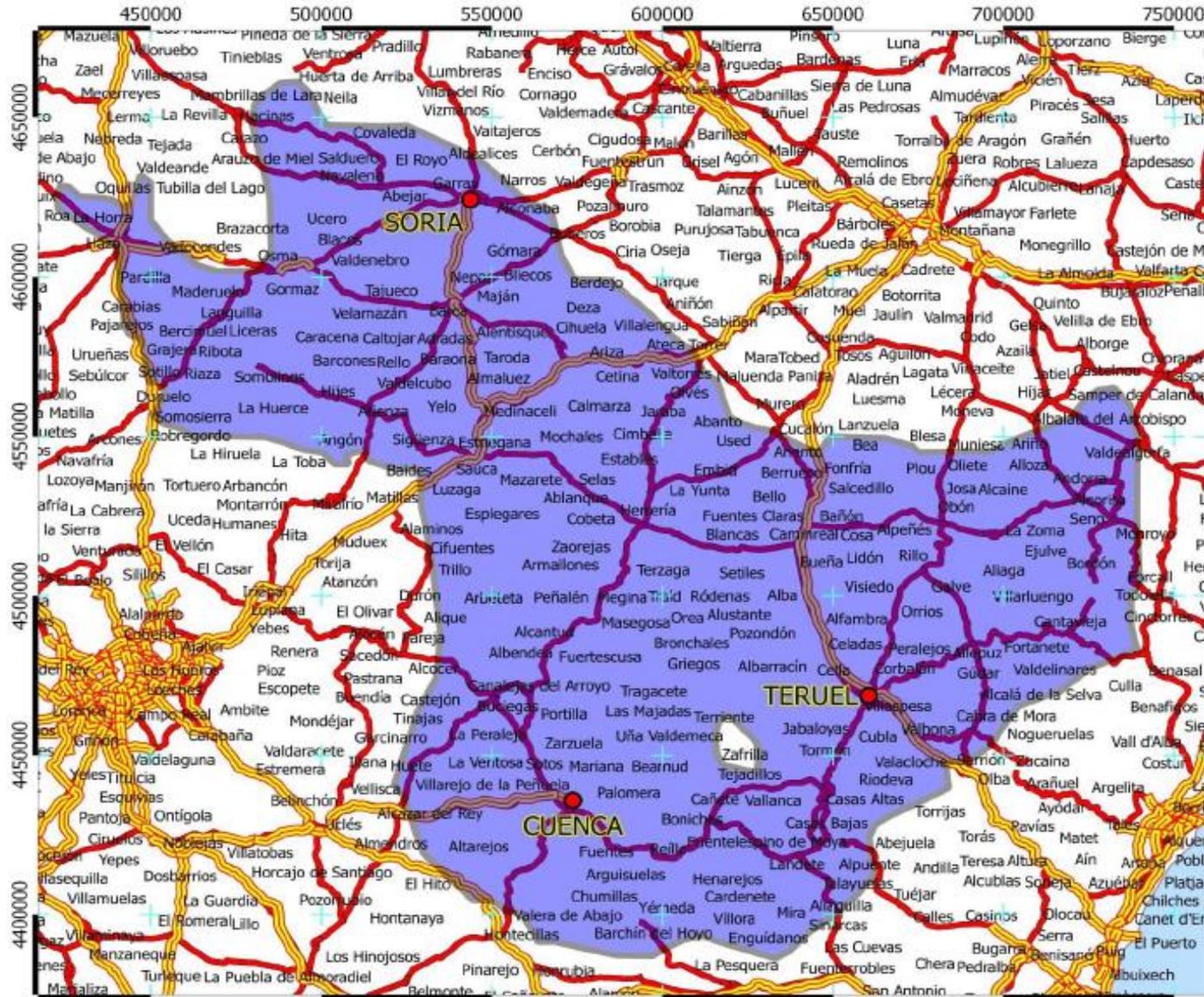
- A precise definition of the concept 'serious and permanent demographic disadvantages.'
- The need for a European strategy on demographic change that coordinates all of the Union's instruments and funds.
- Post-2020 Cohesion Policy must confront new challenges faced by the EU. These include demographic challenge, as pointed out by the European Parliament and the Committee of the Regions.
- Cohesion Policy must remain a priority in funds and efforts. Funding for other priorities cannot call into question the EU Cohesion funds. It is essential to – at least - maintain funding at its current level and if possible to increase it so as not to jeopardize the progress of regional and local development during the next programming period.
- Cohesion Policy, its funding and the modulation of its co-funding criteria cannot be based on a single indicator - GDP per capita. We propose the following criteria: demographic change (i.e. intense and continuous demographic loss), population density and sustained decline, aging, emigration of young and adult population and the ensuing fall in birth rates or territorial dispersion.
- Cohesion Policy should provide specific instruments to those areas most affected by demographic challenges.

During the 2014-2020 programming period, the Regional Government has developed a strategy aimed to fight population decline, which I will now explain to you.

MAP OF THE SOUTH-SOUTHERN EUROPEAN AREA– SESPA (Southern Europe Sparsely Populated Area)



Castilla-La Mancha



CRS - EPSG : 25830

Southern Europe Sparsely Populated Area (SESPA)



1

Introduction: an ITI for Castilla-La Mancha.

Keys to defining Castilla-La Mancha's ITI:

1

The **GOVERNMENT OF CASTILLA-LA MANCHA** has launched an **Integrated Territorial Investment Plan (ITI)**. It aims to encourage new activities in especially depressed areas due to problems of population and socioeconomic decline.

2

The ITI Plan is a powerful tool aimed to implement strategies in an integrated way and in a specific territory. The ITI Plan makes it possible to combine investments from European Funds in Castilla-La Mancha: EAFRD, ERDF and ESF.

3

Castilla-La Mancha needed to review operational programs (Castilla-La Mancha OP's) to implement an ITI for the region.

4

Conceiving an ITI has required a **STRATEGIC DOCUMENT** justifying an intervention within the territory.



Castilla-La Mancha



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Launching the ITI: key dates.

ITI Regulation.

European Commission.

Article 36 of Regulation 1303/2013, laying down common provisions on European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), enables the use of Integrated Territorial Investments as tools for implementing urban or territorial development strategies whenever these require an integrated approach involving investments from the ESF, ERDF or Cohesion Fund under more than one priority axis of one or more operational programmes (at state, regional or cross-border levels).

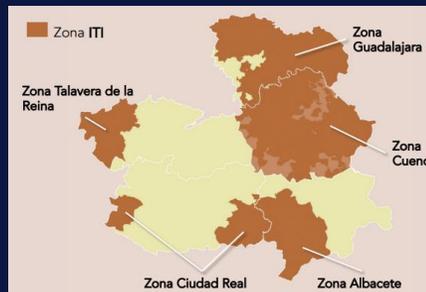
December 17, 2013

Castilla-La Mancha's ITI Plan delimitation.

Castilla-La Mancha's Governing Council Agreement.

Delimitating areas with specific development needs where Integrated Territorial Investments will be implemented

April 26, 2016



ITI Strategy.

Castilla-La Mancha's ITI: Diagnosis, Strategy and Implementation.

SWOT diagnosis, Challenges - Strategic lines - Actions, Implementation and Management, Participatory Process, Funding, etc.

July /November 2016

ITI Governance.

Decree 31/2017, April 25, on a governance procedure for Castilla-La Mancha's ITI.

Setting out the legal support for Castilla-La Mancha's Integrated Territorial Investment.

April 2017

Including the ITI in Structural Funds calls managed by Castilla-La Mancha.



Castilla-La Mancha

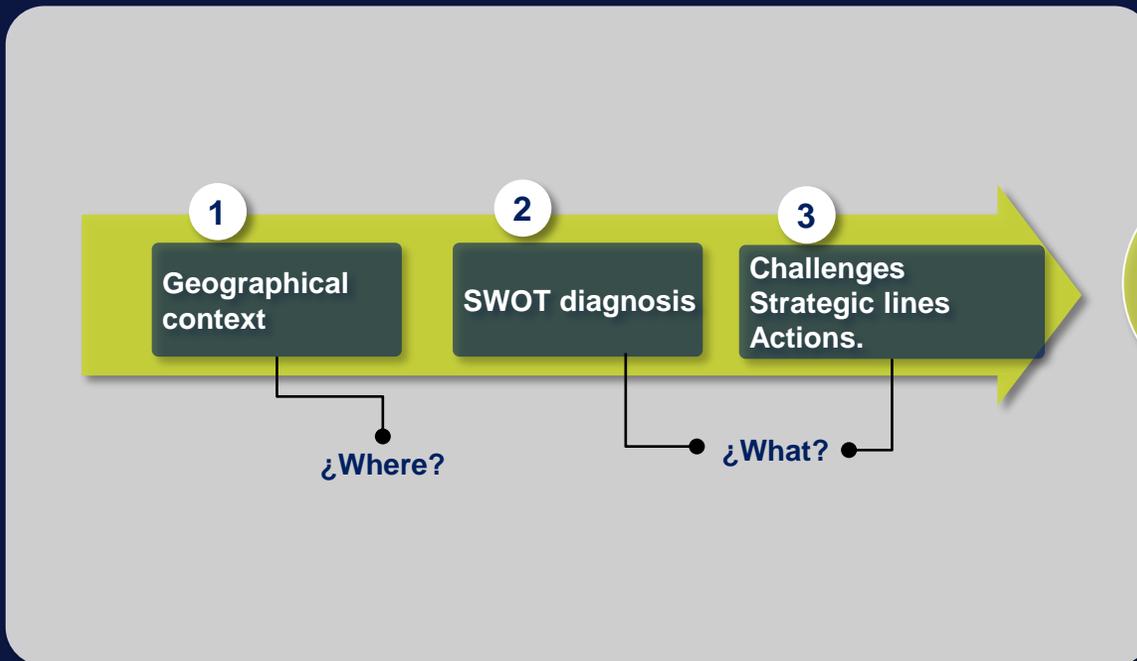


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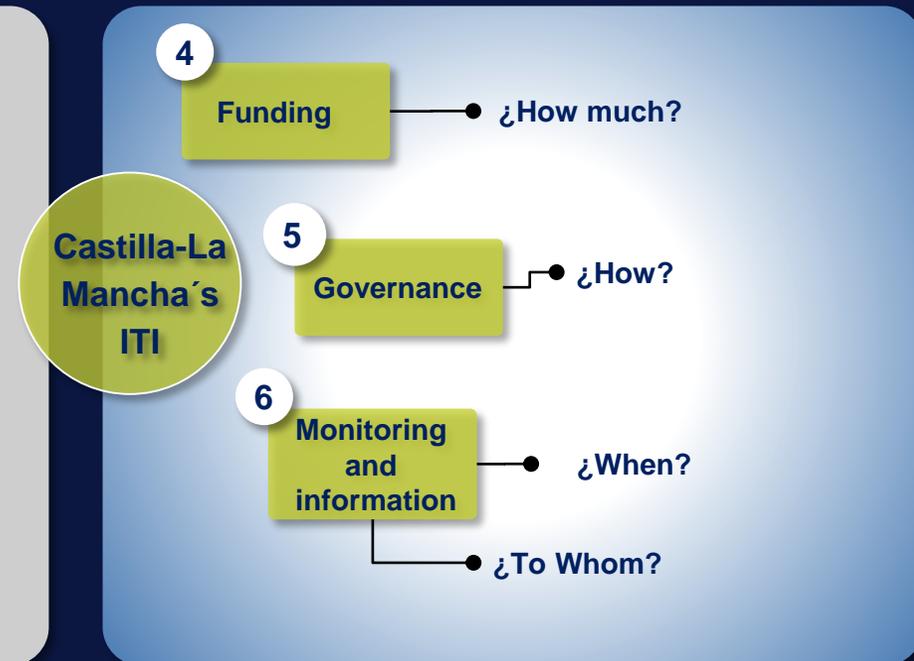
The process of designing Castilla-La Mancha's ITI.

Designing an ITI has required a strategic document justifying the need to intervene within the territory. The ITI proposal comprises six points defining both the initial phase / strategic approach as well as the subsequent phase of implementation of Castilla-La Mancha's ITI:

Strategic document



Implementation





Castilla-La Mancha

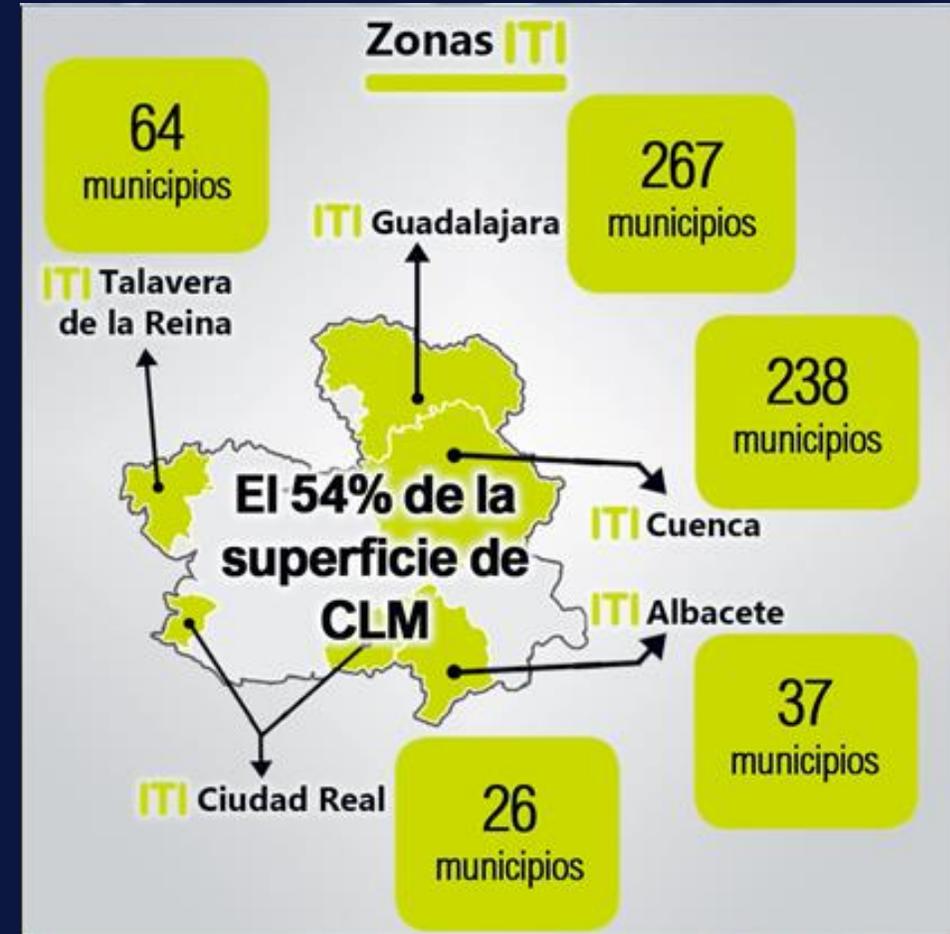


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Geographic Scope.

The socioeconomic problems entail an ITI intervention in selected areas, specifically:

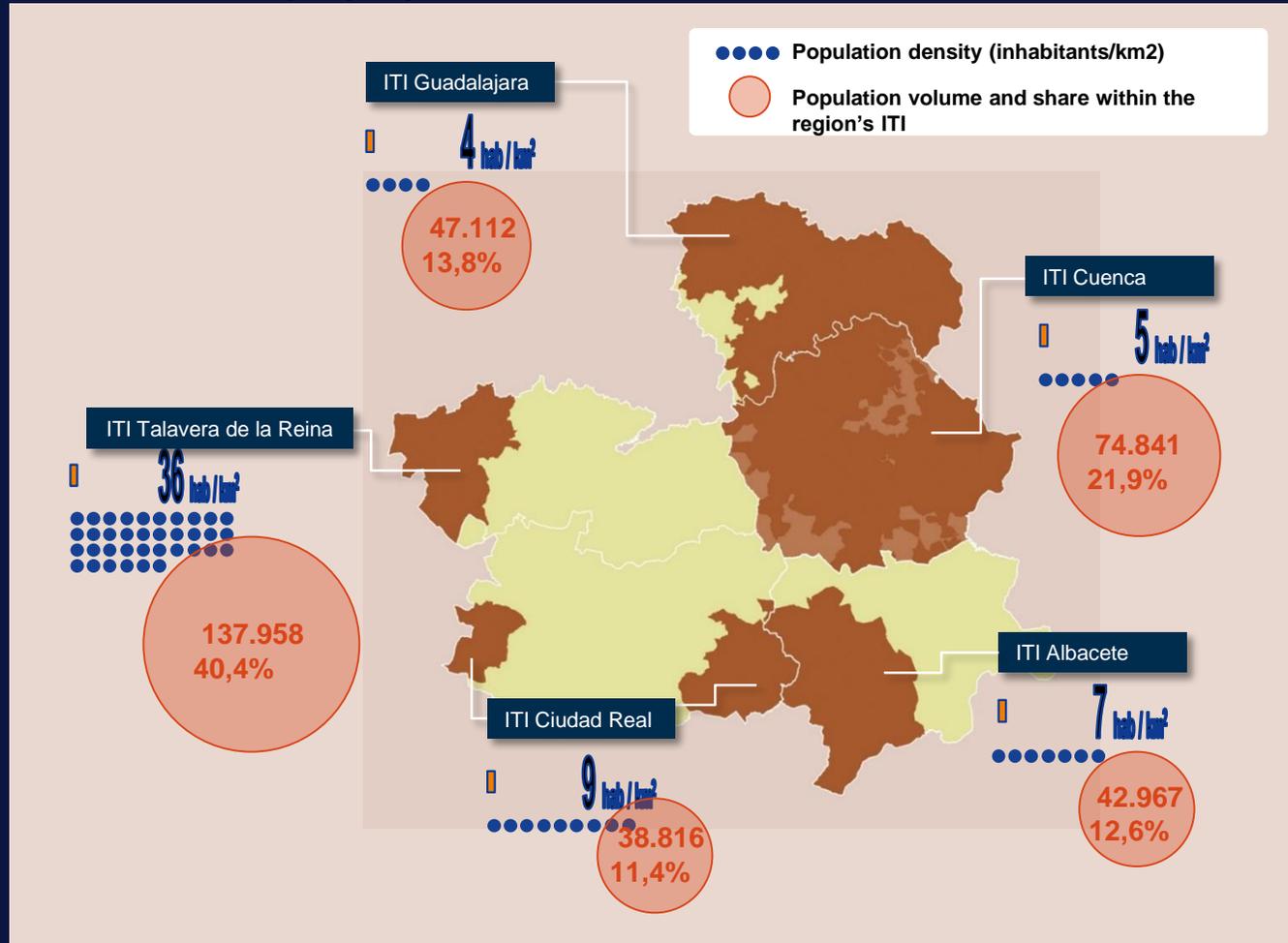
- Comarca de Talavera & Comarca de la Campana de Oropesa (province of Toledo).
- Comarca de Almadén & Comarca de Campo de Montiel (province of Ciudad Real).
- Comarca de Sierra de Alcaraz & Campo de Montiel & Sierra del Segura (province of Albacete).
- Province of Cuenca (preferably municipalities with less than 2.000 inhabitants).
- Province of Guadalajara except for Corredor del Henares.





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**Uneven population share in ITI areas
within provinces.**



Population density is extremely low in all ITI areas (except for Talavera de la Reina) accounting for less than 10 inhabitants per square kilometre (turning it into a 'demographic desert' in the European context). In the ITI area of Guadalajara and Cuenca, population density accounts for around the threshold of 5 inhabitants/km². In the case of the Talavera de la Reina's ITI area, population density reaches a higher value than the regional average, but when excluding the city of Talavera, population density amounts to 14 inhabitants/km².

Regarding population volume, the ITI area of Talavera de la Reina stands out with more than 40% of the population within the entire regional ITI. This leading position is a consequence of the location of the Talavera urban nucleus (being the second city under the regional urban hierarchy). The ITI area of Cuenca comes in second place with more than a fifth of the population due to its high territorial share.

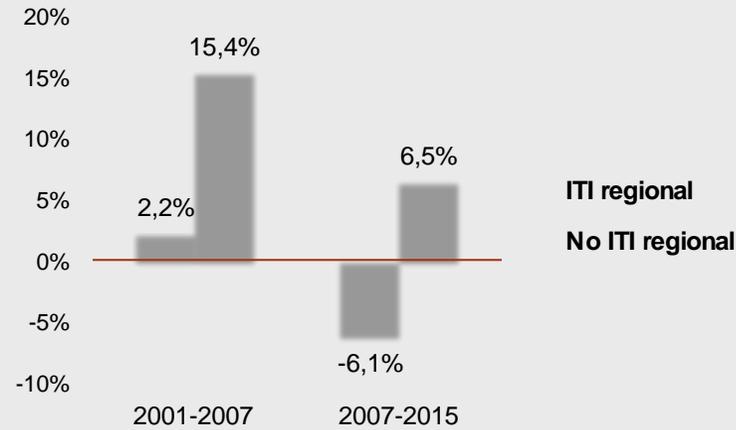


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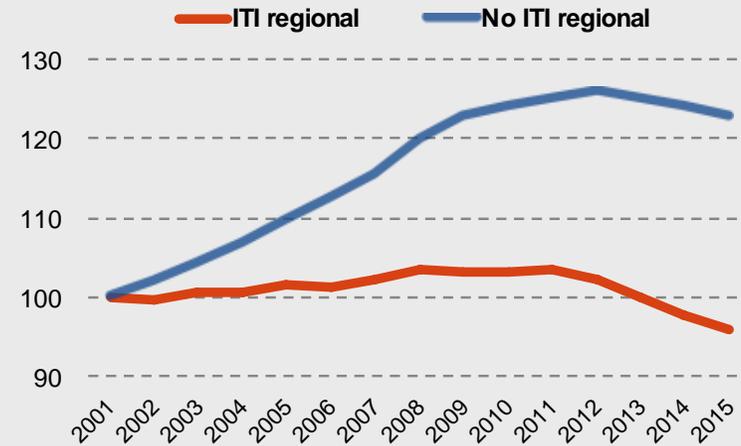
Demographic Trend.

Demographic trend 2001 – 2015

Variation %



2007 = 100



Absolute population variation 2007 – 2015

Regional ITI area

-22.207

Regional non-ITI area

+104.094



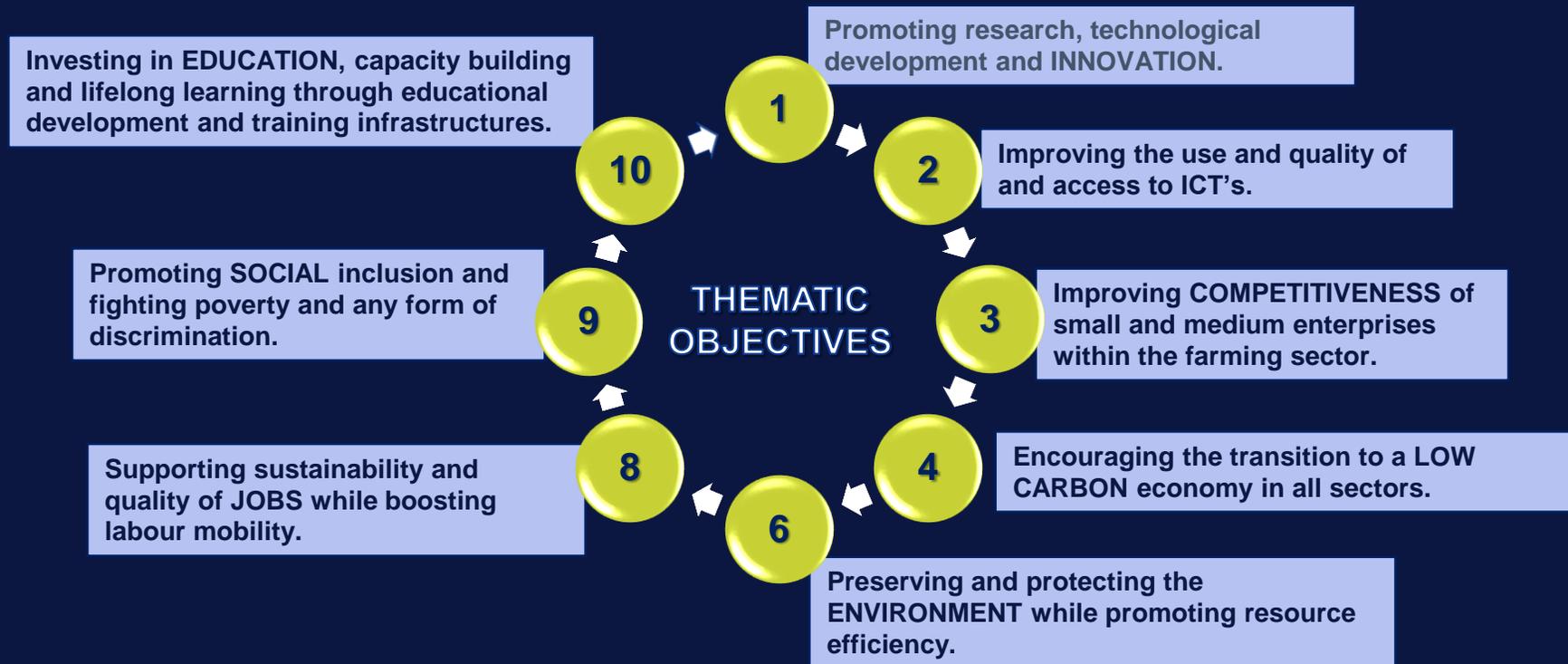
Castilla-La Mancha



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Diagnosis Methodology.

The SWOT diagnosis and matrix are based on Castilla-La Mancha's **Thematic Objectives (TO's)** *:



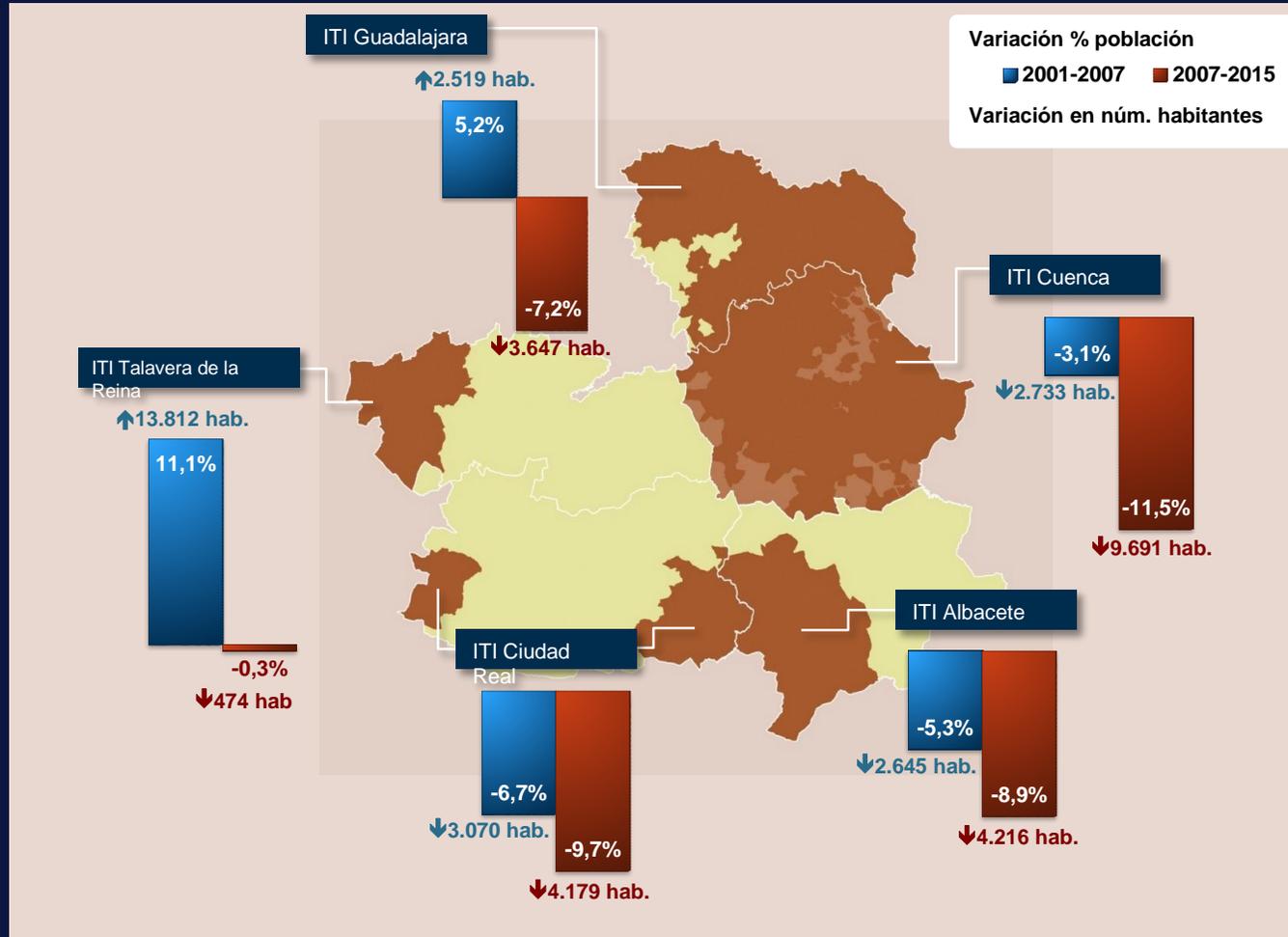
The diagnosis of the entire ITI regional area is supplemented with ITI subarea diagnoses identifying territorial peculiarities.

* TO's 5 and 7 are not included in Castilla-La Mancha's OP.



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Demographic trend in ITI areas.



↳ ITI areas of Cuenca, Albacete and Ciudad Real are undergoing a deep demographic decline worsened by the recent economic crisis.

↳ During the 2001-2007 period, characterized by the region's population increase, these areas did not interrupt their regressive trend. However, ITI areas of Talavera de la Reina and Guadalajara did manage to increase their population..

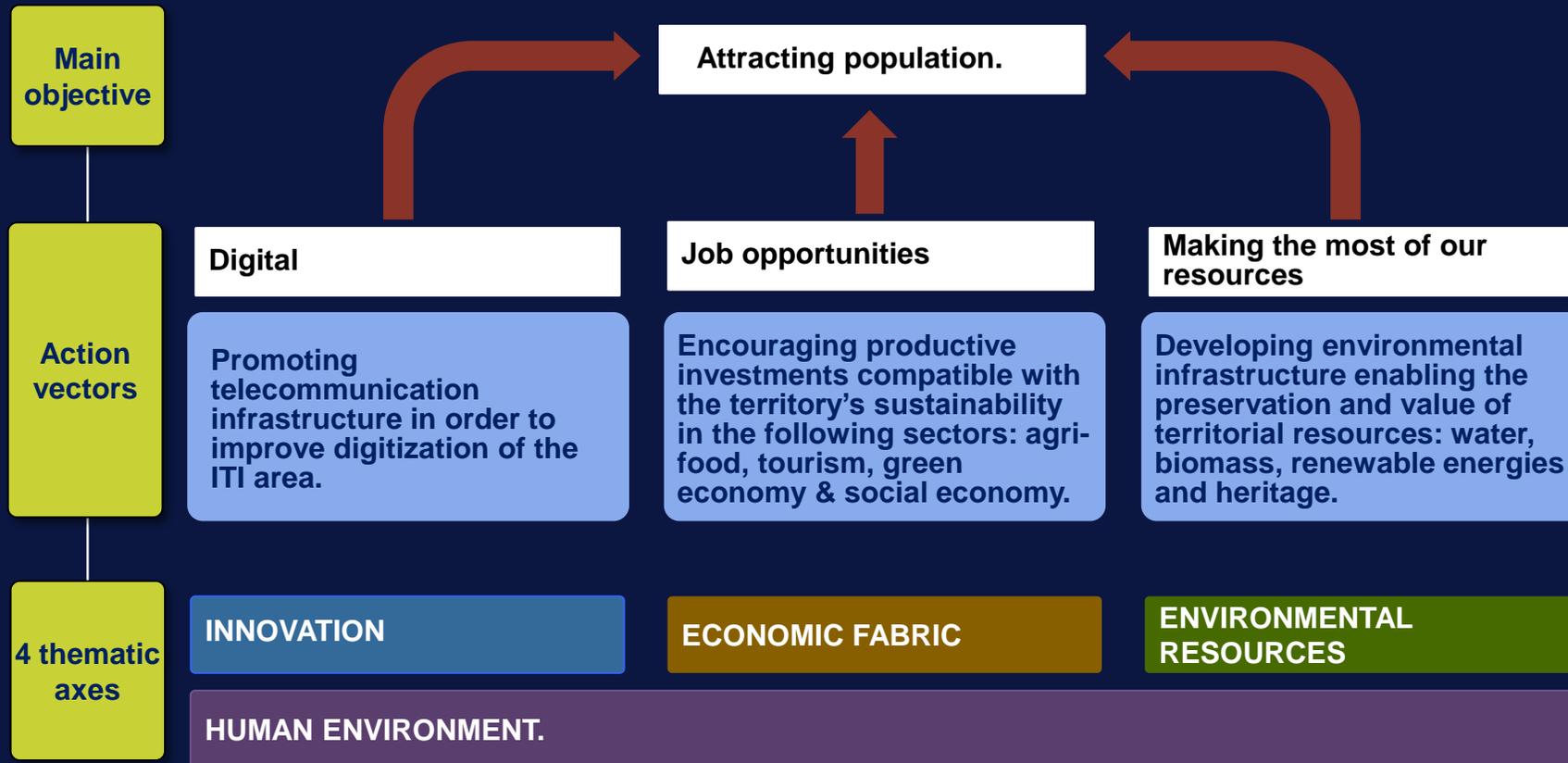
↳ During the last phase (2007-2016), the economic crisis affected all ITI areas and more particularly those of Cuenca, Ciudad Real and Albacete. In absolute terms, the decrease in Cuenca's ITI amounts to 44% of the whole regional ITI population decline.



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**What do we propose to turn this
geographic scope into?**

→ The Strategy's main goal is the sociodemographic recovery of ITI areas by means of three development vectors: digitizing the territory, boosting economic activity and supporting a sustainable use of available resources.

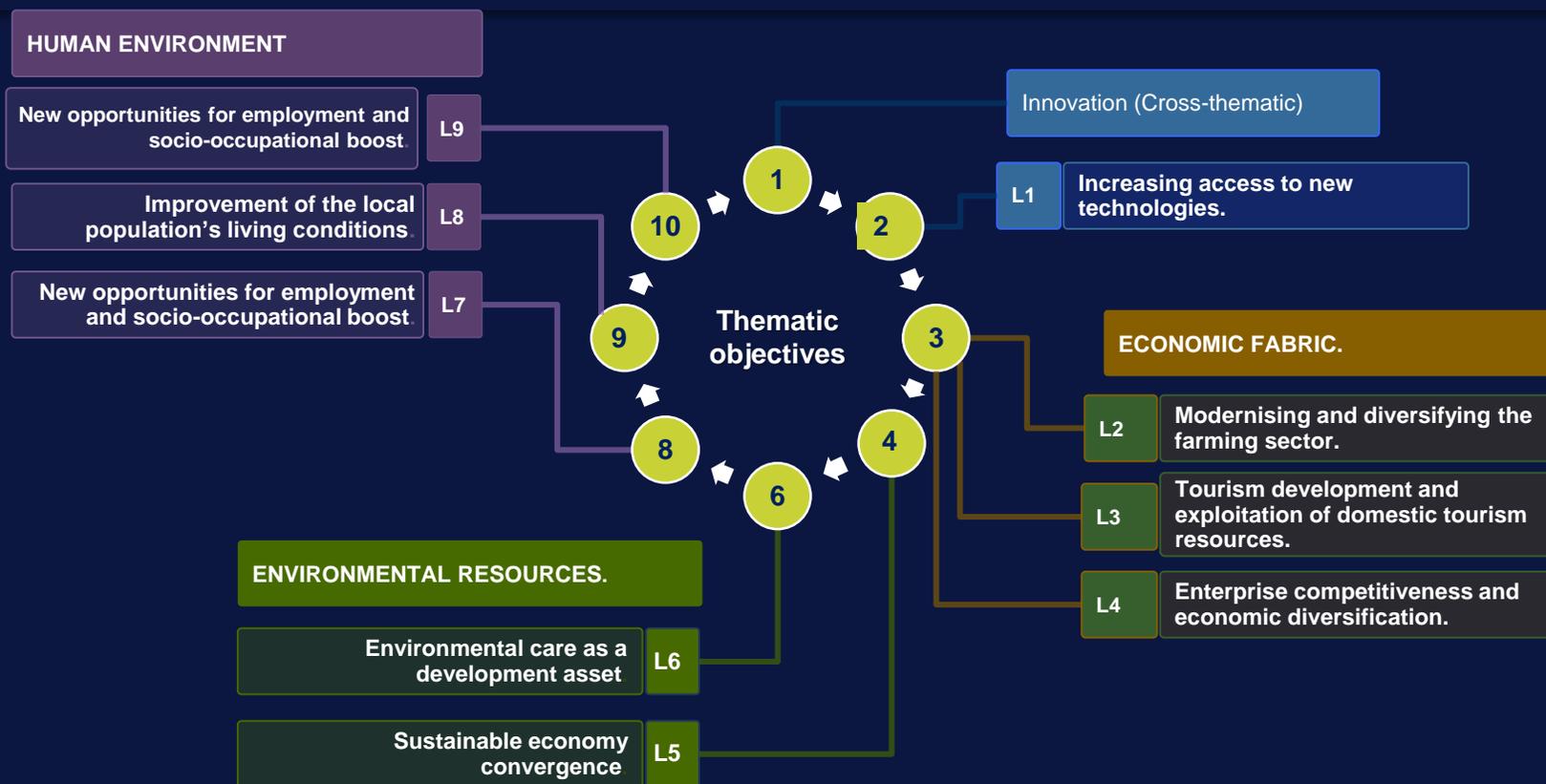




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**Which strategy do we propose to adopt
in order to reach this goal?**

→ The strategy includes 9 Strategic Lines designed in accordance with the Thematic Objectives of Castilla-La Mancha's OP and based on the 4 thematic axes shown below:



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STRATEGIC LINES, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

**How many actions are considered by the
ITI strategy?**

→ Strategic lines are shaped in accordance with **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES** or goals. This allows us to assess the success degree of the strategic lines proposed for ITI areas.

→ **ACTIONS** are the highest level of strategic concretion and also the basis for proposing projects in ITI areas. A total of 92 actions have been selected, prioritized by local actors and their consistence with the Structural Funds.



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How is the ITI funded?

CASTILLA-LA MANCHA'S FUNDING FOR THE ITI

As laid down by the 2014-2020 Operational Programme for European Funds (EAFRD, ERDF, ESF).

→ This only includes the 2014-2020 Operational Programmes' axes and funding lines enabling positive discrimination for ITI areas against the rest of the region.



→ Plus the funding corresponding to the 2014-2020 Operative Programmes' non-territorialized calls which have been taken on by the 92 ITI actions.

	Total funding	ITI Strategic Lines	ITI Budget Reserve
	Total Cost	Bound lines	Budgetary allocation per bound line
OP ESF 2014-2020 <i>Castilla - La Mancha</i>	236.805.624 €	169.776.794 €	48.335.453 €
OP ERDF 2014-2020 <i>Castilla - La Mancha</i>	669.562.443 €	522.922.120 €	132.374.400 €
RDP EAFRD 2014-2020 <i>Castilla - La Mancha</i>	1.484.083.301 €	1.046.414.272 €	294.572.636 €
TOTAL OP 2014-2020 <i>Castilla - La Mancha</i>	2.390.451.368 €	1.739.113.185 €	475.282.489 €

	Axes	ITI € (budgetary reserve)
EAFRD	M1- Knowledge transfer and information activities	NO -
	M10- Agri-environment and climatema	NO -
	M11- Organic farming	NO -
	M12- Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive payments	NO -
	M13- Assistance to areas with natural limitations or other areas with specific limitations	NO -
	M14- Animal welfare	NO -
	M15- Forestry & climate services and forest preservation	NO -
	M16- Cooperation	1.085.757,54
	M19- LEADER local development support (CLLD, community-led local development)	38.267.179,60
	M2- Counselling, management and agricultural holding replacement services	NO -
	M20- Technical assistance	NO -
	M3- Agri-food products quality schemes	2.165.997,60
	M4- Investment in physical assets	105.440.095,12
	M6- Agricultural holdings & enterprises development	25.994.913,10
	M7- Basic services and renewal in rural areas	2.441.168,12
	M8- Investments in forestry-related technologies and forest product transformation, mobilisation and commercialisation	116.918.272,54
	M9- Setup of producers' clusters and organisations	2.259.252,67
	Total	294.572.636,28

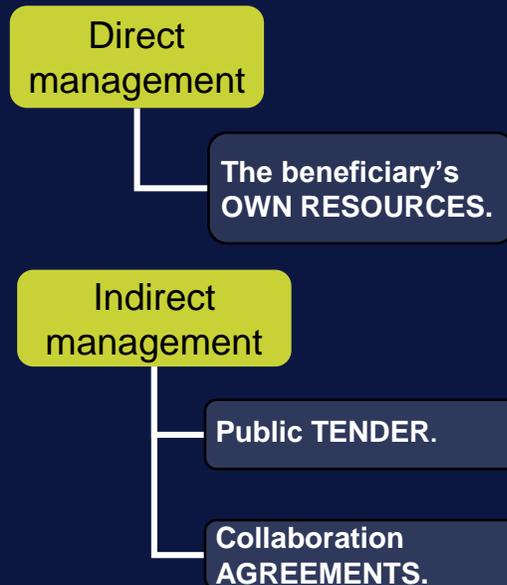
	Axes	ITI € (budgetary reserve)
ERDF	EP1- Boosting research, technological development and innovation	8.500.758,00
	EP10- Investing in education, training and vocational training leading to capacity building and lifelong learning	1.657.368,00
	EP13- Technical assistance	NO -
	EP2- Improving ICT use, quality and access	19.167.066,00
	EP3- Improving SME competitiveness	37.899.557,00
	EP4- Fostering a cross-sectoral transition to a low carbon economy	9.743.079,00
	EP6- Preserving & protecting the environment and fostering resource efficiency	55.406.572,00
		Total

	Axes	ITI € (budgetary reserve)
ESF	1- Sustainable & quality jobs and worker mobility	28.409.203,45
	2- Fostering social inclusion, fighting poverty and any form of discrimination	11.967.458,45
	3- Investing in education, training, improving professional skills and lifelong learning	7.958.791,35
	8- Technical assistance	NO -
	Total	48.335.453,25

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Financial management procedure for Castilla-La Mancha's ITI actions.

We have not created new intermediate organisms, nor new management authorities.



✓ Regional Ministries (Consejerías) shall identify **projects** linked to **broadband enlargement, water infrastructure, energy and the use of natural resources** to be developed in the ITI area through:.

- Own resources.
- Public tender.

✓ We seek **to boost projects** through **agreements** with other administrations (Provincial Councils - Diputaciones provinciales) so as to strengthen the ITI Strategy investment capacity in those areas where there are shared or specific executive competences.

- Collaboration agreements.



- ✓ We seek **specific budgetary reserves for ITI areas or preferential conditions** in those calls bound to the ITI Strategy. These include areas such as the retail sector, entrepreneurship, energy efficiency in enterprises, the use of renewable energies, boosting enterprises based on the social economy as well as the development of insertion companies in a sectoral way in order to encourage the productive development of the tourism, agri-food and forestry sectors, and the improvement of social services for care-dependent person
 - ❑ **As long as there is no demand (projects), these funds would be allocated to Castilla-La Mancha's general line.**
- ✓ We seek to encourage other selection criteria that allow us to **prioritize applicants within ITI areas** even in **identified lines of action** which contain no specific benefits to ITI areas but are equally relevant to the ITI Strategy.
- ✓ We seek to lay down preferential conditions or a specific amount of **reimbursable financial instruments that facilitate the financing of productive projects in ITI areas.**
 - ❑ Instituto de Finanzas de Castilla – La Mancha, SODICAMAN, ...

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Governance model of Castilla-La Mancha's ITI.

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, COORDINATION AND MONITORING OF THE ITI

Attached to the Castilla-La Mancha's First Vice-presidency

Inter-administrative body with representation of Intermediate Bodies and the Management Authority for EFSI managed by Castilla-La Mancha as well as Regional Management Bodies with lines bound to the ITI.

Representatives of other Public Administrations may join as long as they take on operational and / or financial responsibilities.



TERRITORIAL SUBCOMMITTEES ON PARTICIPATION IN EVERY ITI SUBAREA

Discussion-enabling body with the ITI areas, consisting of local representation, the University and organisations representing local socio-economic interests..

Representatives of other Public Administrations may join as long as they take on operational and / or financial responsibilities.

Comarca de Talavera y Comarca de Campana de Oropesa

Comarca de Almadén y Campo de Montiel

Comarca de Sierra de Alcaraz y Campo de Montiel y Sierra de Segura

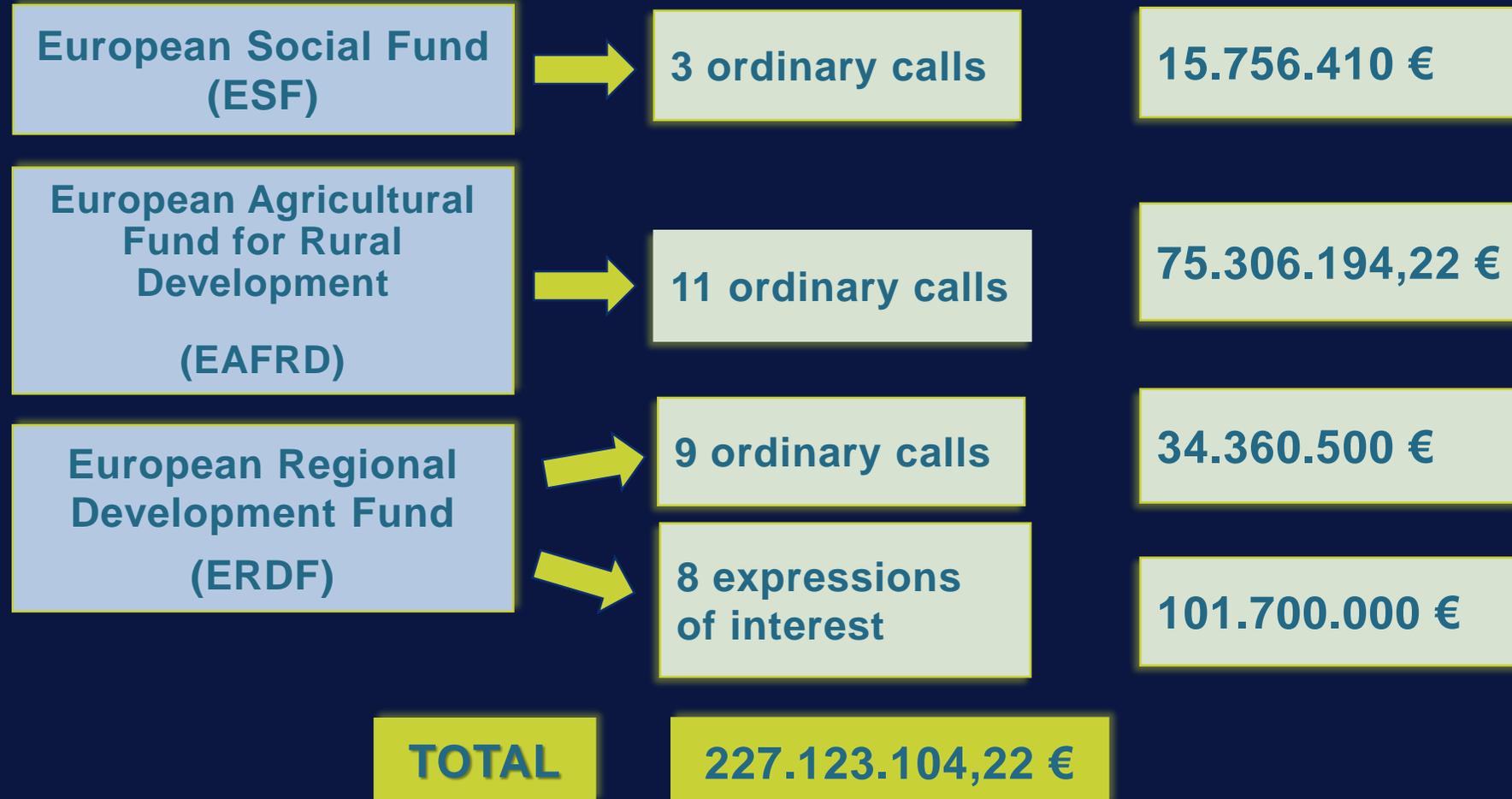
Provincia de Cuenca

Provincia de Guadalajara (Sin Corredor del Henares)

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FEFSI aid and Grant calls.

EFSI AID AND GRANT CALLS *



* In addition, 6 calls have been carried out with regionally-owned funds amounting to 15.680.400 €

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MONITORING MODEL, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION PLAN

MONITORING MODEL

The processes and procedures provided for the management and control of the Operational Program 2014-2020 will not undergo any modification stemming from the implementation of Castilla-La Mancha's ITI. Thus, each Intermediate Body or Management Authority will not have their management and control system modified.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION PLAN

A specific website section with all the relevant information related to the ITI has been created and will be maintained by the Directorate-General for Coordination and Planning belonging to the First Vice-Presidency.

<http://iti.castillalamancha.es/>



INVERSIÓN TERRITORIAL INTEGRADA

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION

Estrategia para el desarrollo de zonas
con despoblamiento y declive
socioeconómico en Castilla-La Mancha



Castilla-La Mancha



UNIÓN EUROPEA
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Inversión Europeos