



Counter-peripheralization strategies require a focused intervention logic and integrated implementation structures

Inner peripheries exist all over the European territory. However, only those located in Germany, central eastern Europe, the Baltic states and Portugal are characterized by a down-trend in terms of population growth between 2000 and 2015.

Planning for inner peripheries should focus on drivers and triggers of peripheralization and on factors that can counteract the decline of these areas. Four kinds of policy instruments can be identified for local strategies to receive policy support in the context of inner peripheries:

(a) integrated territorial investments (ITI), (b) community-led local development (CLLD), (c) other forms of integrated approaches funded by EU programmes (e.g. a territorial pact or an integrated value chain scheme) and (d) specific national/regional territorial approaches.

Evidence shows that these different forms of place-based approaches are usually perceived as more suitable than the territorially blind mainstream programmes for local development and social needs.

Further reading: PROFECY - Inner Peripheries: National territories facing challenges of access to basic services of general interest (ESPON, 2017).