

PADIMA

Policies Against Depopulation in Mountain Areas



What demographic trends have been observed during the last 20 years in the study areas ?

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Supported by:



Introduction



Recently, in different European mountain territories demographic trends have become positive. This phenomenon is still limited to specific mountain areas but at the same time it is an important *sign* that something is changing.

New ideas, new solutions, new activities... are proposed by mountain territories. Local inhabitants seem to implement development paths *conscious of* the potential of their territories.



Another image - that is different from the past - of the "mountaineer" has been created.

so... What is happening?

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Until last century European mountains were generally considered a territory of *emigration*



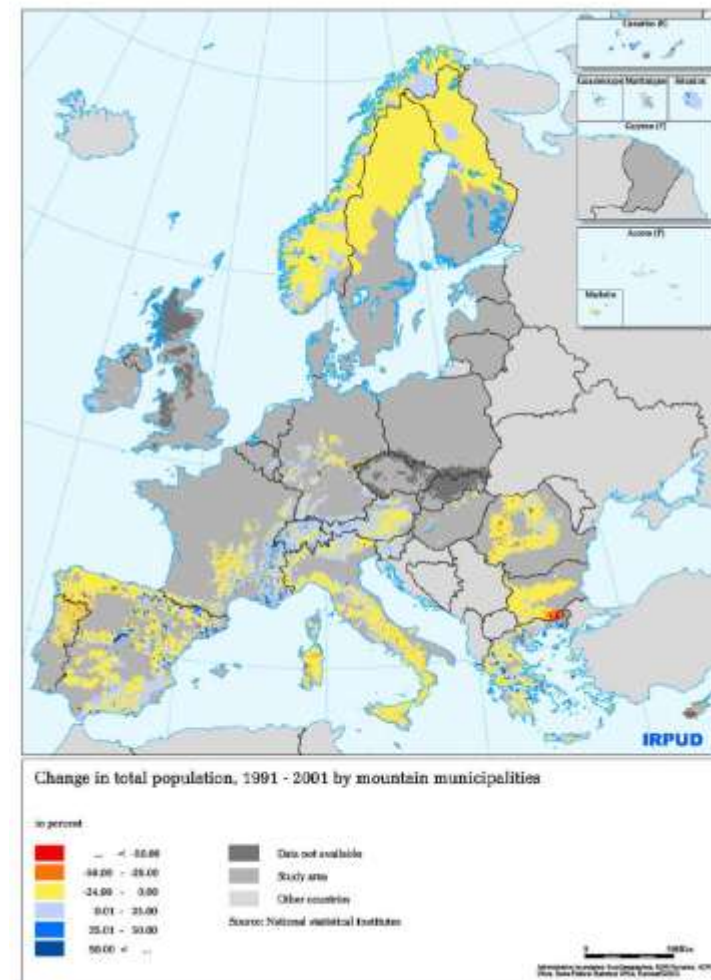
PADIMA study areas:

- **Mountain region of Buskerud** has had a decline in population over the last 10 years. The four municipalities with the greatest decline also have the largest average birth deficit
- In **Hedmark** all the mountain municipalities have suffered from depopulation during the last 60 years (except Tynset) for two reasons: birth deficit and negative migration rate
- **Rural municipalities in Dalarna** have decreased a lot during the last 60 years (around 25% of population)
- **Massif Central** saw a strong decrease in population until the end of the last century
- The **Province of Teruel** has lost 42% of its population in the last 50 years
- Western Italian Alps (**Susa and Chisone Valley and Brembana Valley**) registered a long decline and negative demographic trends



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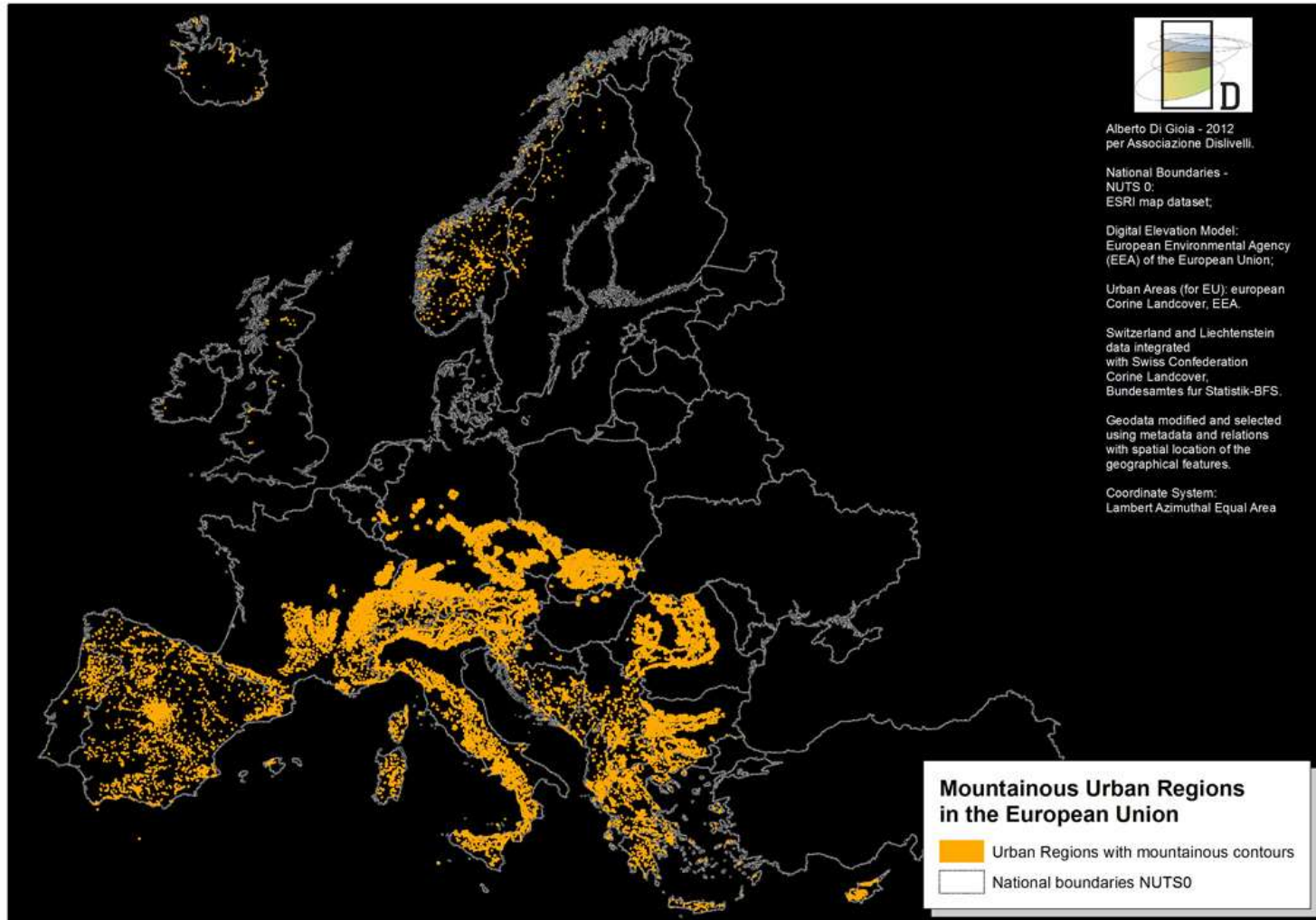
Figure 5.12. Change in total population, 1991-2001, in mountain municipalities



PADIMA and *different* mountain territories in Europe



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Demographic trend in PADIMA study areas: A chance



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PADIMA study areas	Net migration	Increase in population
	2005-2010	2005-2010
Mountain territory of Buskerud	0,20%	-0,30%
Buskerud County	4,70%	5,80%
Norway	3,60%	5,50%
Mountain territory of Hedmark	-0,40%	-2,10%
Hedmark County	2,20%	1,20%
Norway	3,60%	5,50%
Dalarna Region	1,10%	0,10%
Sweden	2,80%	3,70%
	Net migration	Increase in population
	2004-2008	2004-2008
Brembana Valley	-0,36%	0,20%
Lombardy Region	-2,09%	0,10%
Italy (2005-2010)	3,69%	7,88
Mountain area of Chiusella, Sacra and Dora Baltea Valley	5,58%	3,83%
Mountain area of Susa Valley-Olympic Valley	5,44%	5,08
Piedmont Region (2005-2010)	4,20%	2,66%
Italy (2005-2010)	3,69%	3,19%
Province of Teruel	10,46%	7,88%
Spain	8,50%	8,68%
	Net migration	Increase in population
	1999-2008	1999-2008
Massif Central	0,46%	0,37%
France	0,26%	0,68%

Different types of regions?

- Proposed typology

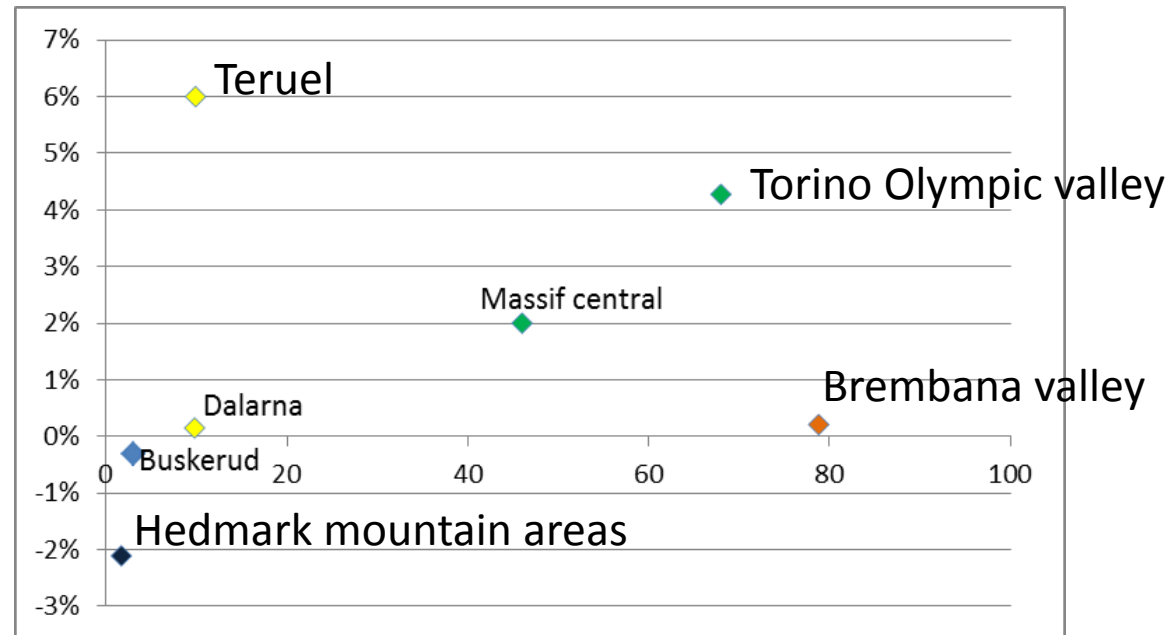
	Low population density (below 12 inhab/km ²)	Higher population density (above 12 inhab/km ²)
Population decreasing	Severely depopulated regions	Declining regions
Population increasing	Recovering regions	Dynamic regions



Typology in PADIMA regions



- PADIMA partner mountain study areas according to typology



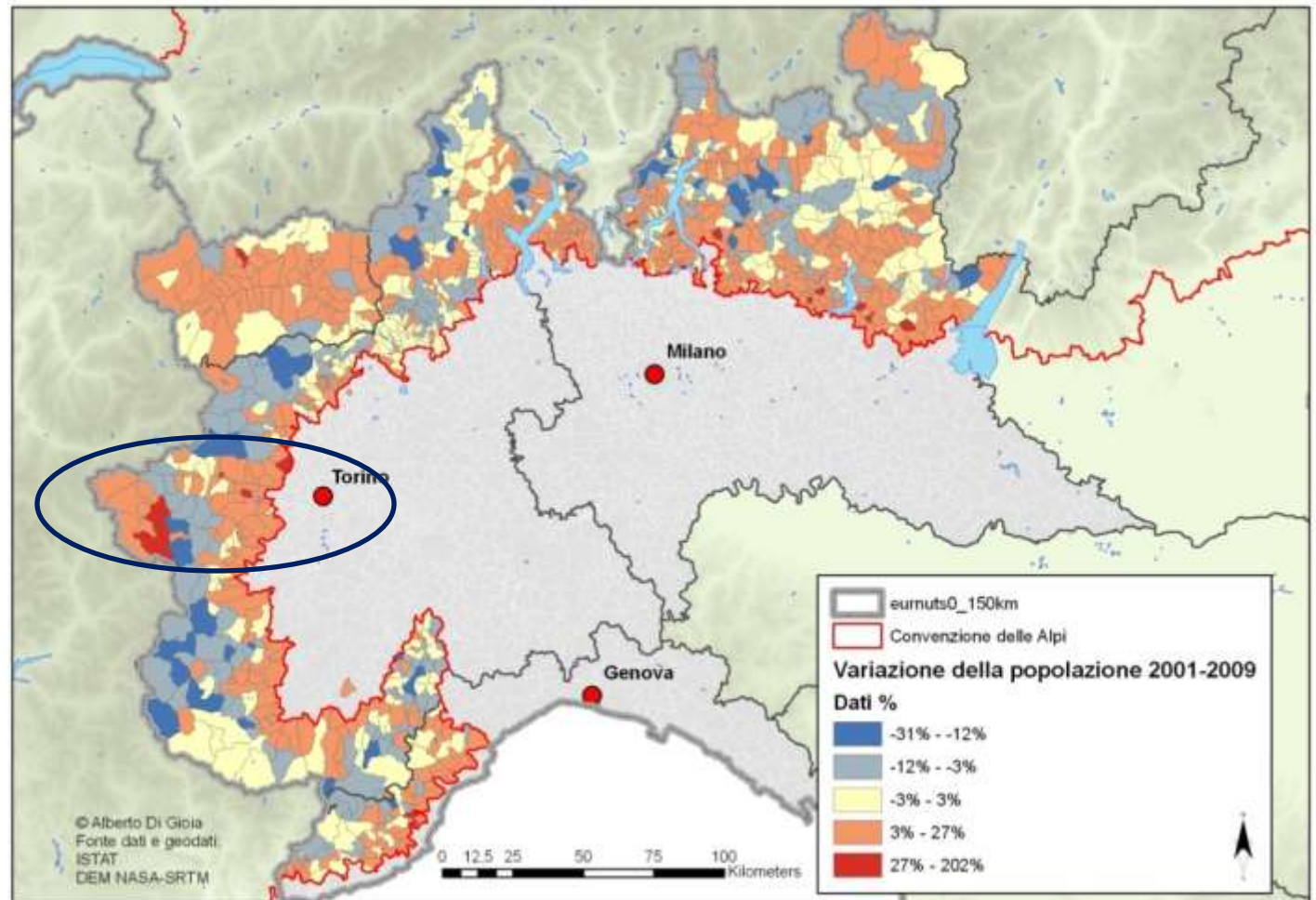
- Need to refine at municipal level (will be done in next steps of the project)

Changing the scale of observation...

The example of Susa Valley (Piedmont Region, Italy)



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Towards repopulation...



The re-population of European mountain territories is especially linked to processes of immigration



“New” inhabitants



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“New inhabitants” typologies included in target groups



Permanent inhabitants

- Mountain peri-urban migrants
- Returnees
- Creative class
- Immigrants for condition
- Neo-rural
- Multi-local dwellers

Temporary inhabitants

- Second homes
- Seasonal workers...



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Target groups of PADIMA project



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PADIMA TARGET GROUPS		Gender	Origin		
			Local	Domestic	Foreign
Age	Young	M/F	Young pupils and students		
			<i>Subgroup: Young migrants</i>		
	Working age	F	<i>Sub-group: Women</i>		
		M/F	Working age adults - domestic	working age adults -	
	Retired	M/F	Retired people		

Why are people moving in or out?



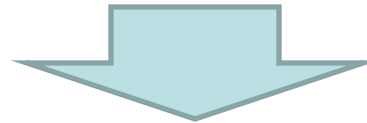
- Quality of life
- Natural environment
- Job opportunities
- Low cost of living
- Close to family and friends

Some reasons to move out ...

- lack of access to services
- Insufficient community integration
- long distances to work and services
- lack of cultural activities
- too small communities (too “transparent” society)
- harsh climatic conditions
- search for better or more diversified job opportunities



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“new” inhabitants represent the opportunity to face the traditional challenges of mountain areas in *innovative* way



Thank you for your attention!

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