

THE SPATIAL ORGANIZATION OF CENTRAL APENNINES

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The aim of this paper is to provide a **map of the Local Systems** of the area hit by the 2016-17 earthquake

Presentation Outline

- **Spatial description** of the so-called Crater area
 - The necessity to **strategically plan the future of this area**, which is considerably **heterogeneous** in terms of development trajectories
 - The reasons why local development projects shall be **implemented on the basis of local systems** instead of single municipalities
 - **The spatial organisation of the Crater** according with the National Strategy for Inner Areas” (UVAL, 2014) and Sistemi Locali del Lavoro (Istat, 2015)
 - **A map of the Local Systems** of the intermediate and remote areas of the Crater
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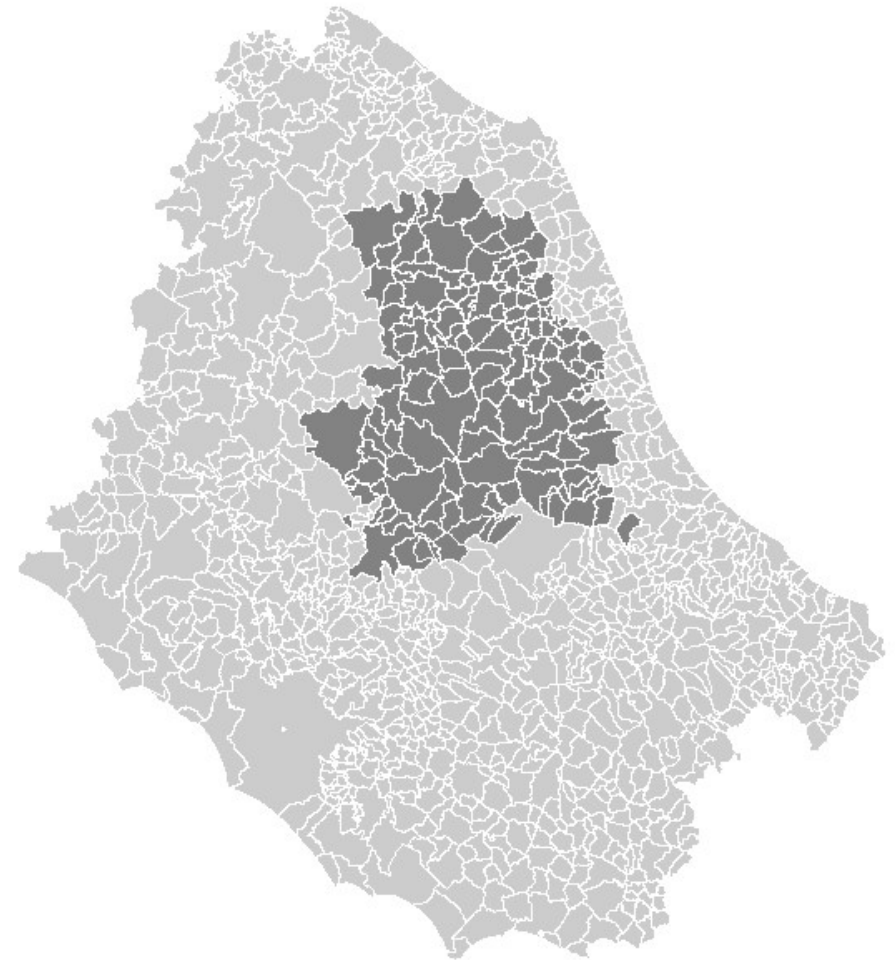
Between August the 24th 2016 and January the 18th 2017 a series of earthquakes (5,4 - 6,5 on the Richter Scale) repeatedly struck the inner areas of Center Apennines in Italy causing

- **human losses** (about 300 people died, nearly 400 were wounded, more than 40,000 were displaced)
- **severe damages** to its built environment (the Italian government estimated costs for 23 billion Euro)
- and, consequently, to **its social and economic organization**



Spatial overview of the so-called Crater area

- 4 regions - Abruzzo, Marche Lazio and Umbria
- **140 municipalities** covering an area of **8,000 km²** (the so-called “Cratere”, Crater), for a total of **600,000 inhabitants**.
- **Marche** was the region which mainly suffered from the earthquake (23% on total regional population and 60% on total crater population), followed by Abruzzo, Lazio and Umbria
- **40%** of these municipalities are **very small-sized**, population < 1,000 inhabitants
- **68%** with population < 2,000 inhabitants = 12% of the total crater population.



Municipalities of the Crater

The Crater is far from being a homogeneous area

- Part of its territory has been characterized by an **endogenous process of sprawled industrialization** since the '70s – presence of several Industrial Districts (Provinces of Macerata, Ancona, Spoleto)
- Part of its territory has benefited from an **exogenous process of industrialization** - Cassa per il Mezzogiorno (Rieti, Ascoli Piceno, L'Aquila, Teramo)
- Part of its territory has been affected by a **severe process of depopulation** since the '50s - **inland and disadvantaged areas**

..it follows that we cannot implement a single development project for this area, because of its level of **heterogeneity, complexity** and **polycentricism**...

Because of its spatial and territorial characterization, the earthquake raised again **political and academic awareness about the future of inland and disadvantaged areas**

..which a couples of years before culminated with the launch of the “**National Strategy for Inner Areas**” (UVAL, 2014) aimed at **improving the livability** for their citizens. **Inner areas:**

- territory where **population density is low** (as well as job opportunities) and citizen do not benefit from an adequate **supply** or an **adequate access to essential services**

But also:

- places which are **reputed to be extremely important** by the local and national communities, because of the **cultural, historical, architectural, and naturalistic values and services they provide**
 - because of the **links between urban and rural areas** and the role played by rural areas, which also contribute to growth and job creation (**circular economy**)
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It follows the **necessity to strategically plan** the future of these areas (a targeted reconstruction?)

In this process the **spatial identification of local systems** should feature prominently. Why?

❑ **Opinion of the Committee of the Regions — Towards an Integrated Urban Agenda for the EU” (2014) — a territorial planning based on integrated inter-municipal systems** could provide adequate responses to citizens in terms of:

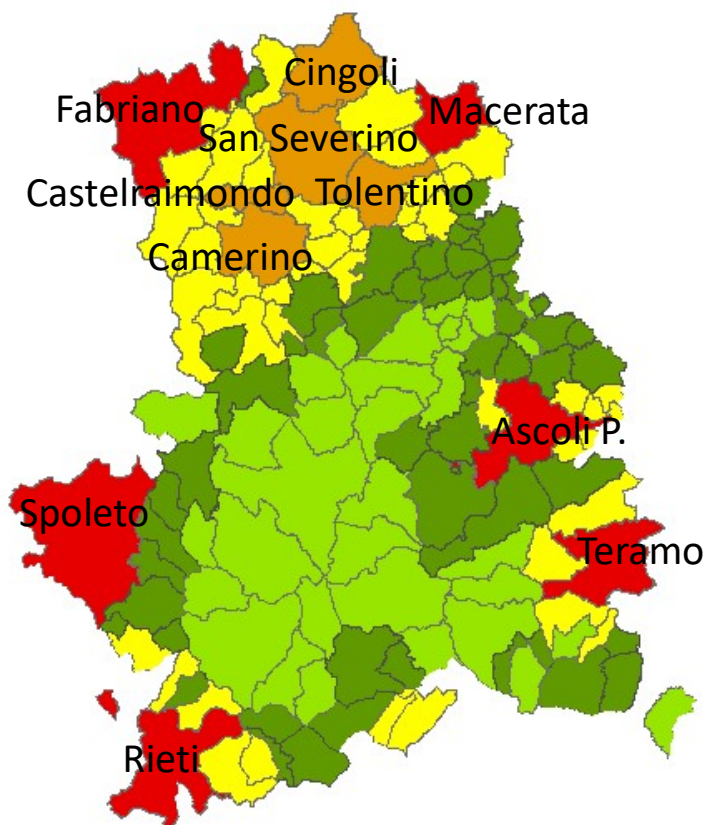
- organization of **public services** and **transportation**
- **labor policies**
- location of **industrial and commercial areas**

with benefits for smart growth and sustainability

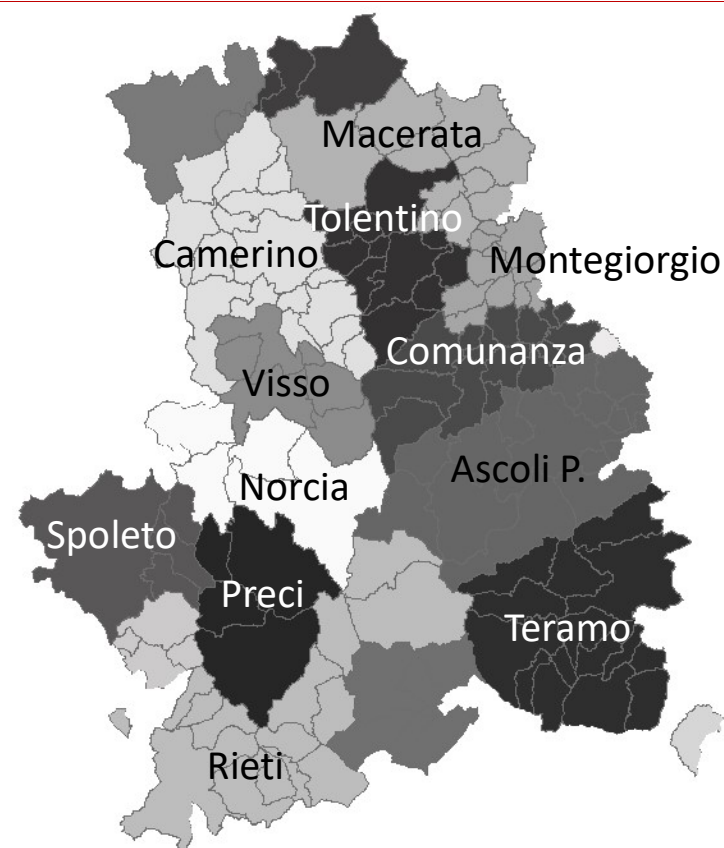
❑ The widening of daily urban systems from the ‘70s

- ❑ Possibility of **avoiding the fragmentation and dispersion of projects** - failing in attaining adequate **critical thresholds when seeking to implement or implementing a project**
- ❑ Most of municipalities with less than 10,000 inhabitants hardly has **European project managers** = lower capacity to launch projects funded by the several European programs. The introduction of the “**intercommunal European project manager**” could represent a workable solution.
- ❑ When considering inner areas we should avoid identifying local systems with **a large amount of municipalities** in order to consider homogeneous areas in terms of **socioeconomic identity**, to give value to **their territorial capital**, to avoid difficulties in finding the **agreement** among several majors
- ❑ Legge Delrio (l. 56/2014) about the **merge of two or more municipalities**. Proposals: Camerino, Muccia, Pieve Torina e Serravalle di Chienti, 10.530 inhabitants, Castelsantangelo sul Nera e Visso, 1.547 inhabitants, Camporotondo di Fiastrone in Tolentino, 20.675 inhabitants

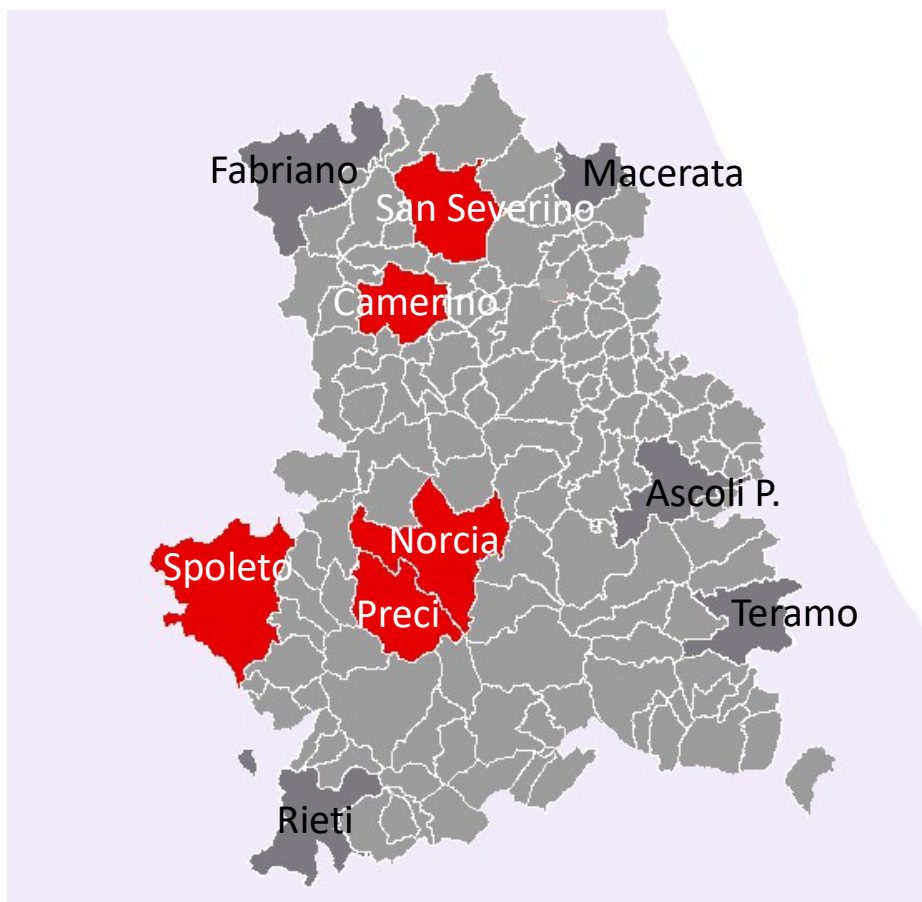
The spatial organisation of the Crater – UVAL and ISTAT



- Single municipality service centre (secondary schools, DEA, Railway station)
- Multi- municipality service centre
- Belt areas: < 20 min
- Intermediate areas: 20 – 40 min
- Remote areas: 40 - 75 min – **UVAL, 2014)**



Sistemi Locali del Lavoro – SLL (ISTAT, 2015)

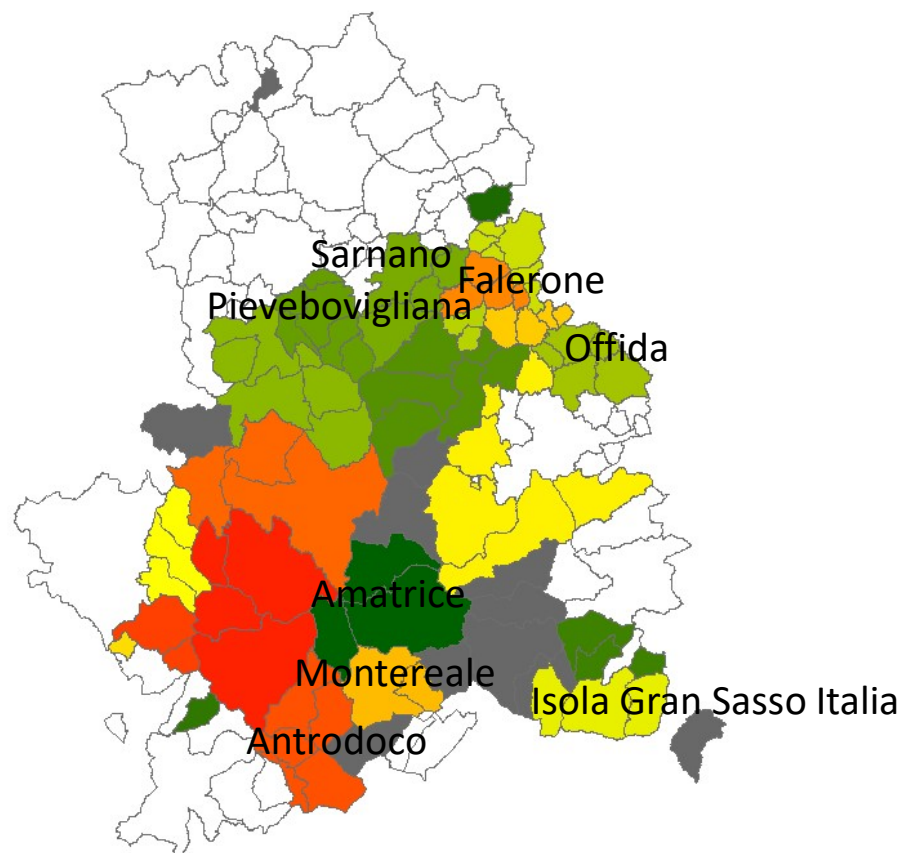


- First order centres - LQ Private and Public KIS > 1
- Second order centres - LQ Public KIS > 1

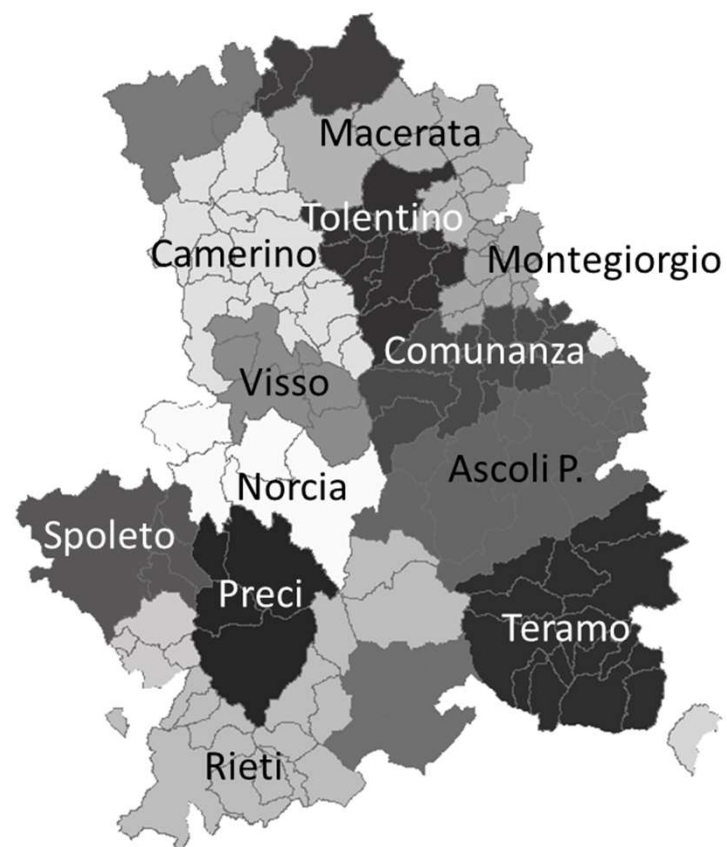
What about the other municipalities?

- Notwithstanding the polycentrism characterising the area, we must consider that, also at this level, there are some elements of **territorial hierarchy**.
- **Ranking the other municipalities** on the basis of the sum of their LQ in education, health, and wholesale economic activities **describes this kind of hierarchy**
- Considering time and distance thresholds from these **third order polarities**, along with commuting flows allows us to provide a map of the local systems of the Crater

The spatial organisation of the Crater: intermediate and remote areas



Possibility of isolated municipalities- grey areas
Third order polarities and their local systems



Sistemi Locali del Lavoro – SLL (Istat, 2015)

Some concluding remarks:

- ❑ Ongoing project and paper

- ❑ Considering LQ allows us:

- Identifying the third order polarities which contributes to the spatial organisation of the territory
 - Identifying related municipalities – local systems
 - Possibility of isolated municipalities
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Thanks for the attention

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