Functional Area Approach

Ministry of the Interior of Lithuania Taurage district municipality

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2014-2020 - lessons learned

- Improving public infrastructure did not necessarily mean improving the living environment;
- Locally led initiatives for regional economic development were clearly lacking. "One size fits all" principle did not help to reduce regional disparities and address the underlying causes of outmigration;
- Incoherent supply for different modes of travel clearly diminished the benefits of investment for wider functional areas.
- Possibility to cooperate capacities of various innovation actors (universities, business development organisations, regional institutions, municipalities) was not utilized;
- Urban and economic aspects of development must go hand in hand;
- Regional institutions should be responsible for the comparative advantage of regions (regional specialization), in the same way that national institutions shape the comparative advantage of countries;







Post 2020 policy changes

- New Comprehensive Plan compact city and cooperating cities concepts;
- Proactive measures at regional level: adressing low economic activity, long - term and structural unemployment, shortage of highpayed jobs;
- Functional area as a planning principle;
- Acessibility as critical factor.







New generation of regional development plans (regional ITI-s)

- Making use of industrial agglomeration, bio-, circular-, digital, social, grey economy, feminist etc. perspectives (regional specialization);
- Not only a targeted investment support, bus also a combination of workplace, household, institutional and community arrangements at local and regional level;
- Not limited to administrative boundaries
- Tested by pilot initiatives (Tauragė+; Šalčininkai+)









TAURAGĖ+ FUNCTIONAL AREA

MINISTERIJA



MUNICIPALITIES

4 municipalities (93 695 inh.):
Tauragė Distric Municipality (38 290 inh.)
Jurbarkas District Municipality (25 452 inh.)
Šilalė District Municipality (22 410 inh.)
Pagėgiai Municipality (7 543 inh.)

PARTICIPATION IN PILOT INITIATIVE – PRINCIPLES

Agreement on regional specialization – basis for further discussions

Baseline – to cooperate not to compete

Open process – everyone can take part at any stage

Shared leadership between municipalities

Visibility of the process by various means









STARTING POINT - KEY PROBLEMS AND PRIORITIES

MINISTERIJA

COMMON PROBLEMS



- Low investment attractiveness and low-paid workforce
- Public transport system that does not provide access to jobs and services
- Failure to ensure sufficient quality of public services
- Declining and aging population
- Unsustainable (technically, financially, environmentally) water management system in small towns and villages
- Untapped potential for tourism in the region

COMMON PRIORITIES



- Increasing investment attractiveness and promoting business development
- Promoting sustainable mobility
 - Ensuring the quality of public services and increasing attractiveness of the region as a place to work and live
- Increasing sustainability of water supply and sewage disposal systems in small towns and villages
- Increasing tourism attractiveness











WORK IN PROGRESS



DONE

Several rounds of meetings and regional events were held Problems identified and potential assessed Draft strategy on three priorities (investments attraction, mobility and public services) elaborated and short-term actions have been agreed

Agreement reached on establishment of joint entity responsible for public transport, investment attraction, business support and tourism promotion

DOING

Further elaboration of the strategy - discussions, refining priorities, long-term actions plan and model of implementation for the strategy

Finalizing the description and approval of the priorities

Preparation for implementation of short-term actions











AGREED JOINT ACTIONS – EXAMPLES



PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

Creation of joint regional public transport system – establishment of joint operating entity, e-ticket and route planning systems, adaptation of bus stations for multimodal travel (P+R, B+R), developing incentives to residents and business to use public transport, transition to electric transport (buses, charging stations).

Linking infrastructure – bikeways, pathways, missing asphalt roads links (for public transport and connections between municipalities)

PROMOTING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Development of missing infrastructure in urban industrial areas, construction of by-pass of Tauragė city - linking industrial area to TEN-T road network

Promotion of region as attractive place for investments Creation of joint SME support system of municipalities





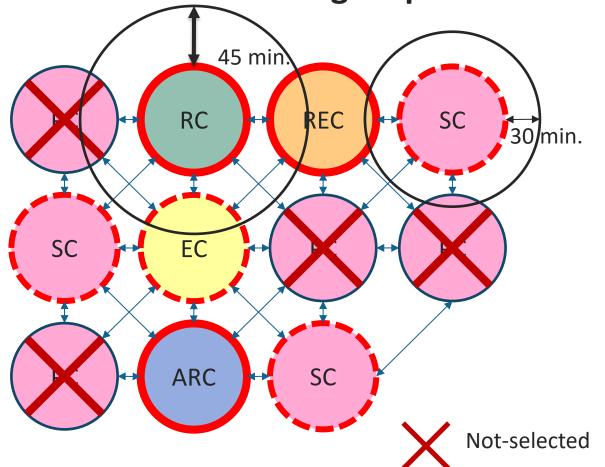






Targets for target territories	Compact cities (urban sprawl)	Inter- regional disparities	Internal disparities (economic)	Specializati on (secondary	Regional services/ consolidati
Urban clusters (cities) (Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipėda, Šiauliai) Urban clusters (towns) (Tolžiai Plungė)	+	(economic)		topics)	on +
Regional centres (cities: Panevėžys, Alytus; towns: Marijampolė, Utena, Regional centres (cities: Panevėžys, Alytus; towns: Panevėžys, Alytus; towns:					•
Tauragė, Mažeikiai, Ukmergė) Aditional regional centres defined by national urban		+			+
policy (Comprehensive plan): Biržai, Rokiškis) and (or) centres of peripherial areas: Visaginas, Šalčininkai, Raseiniai,			+		+
Specialized economic centres SEC				+	+
Service centres SC					+

Functional area setting = optimization of centers and catchment areas

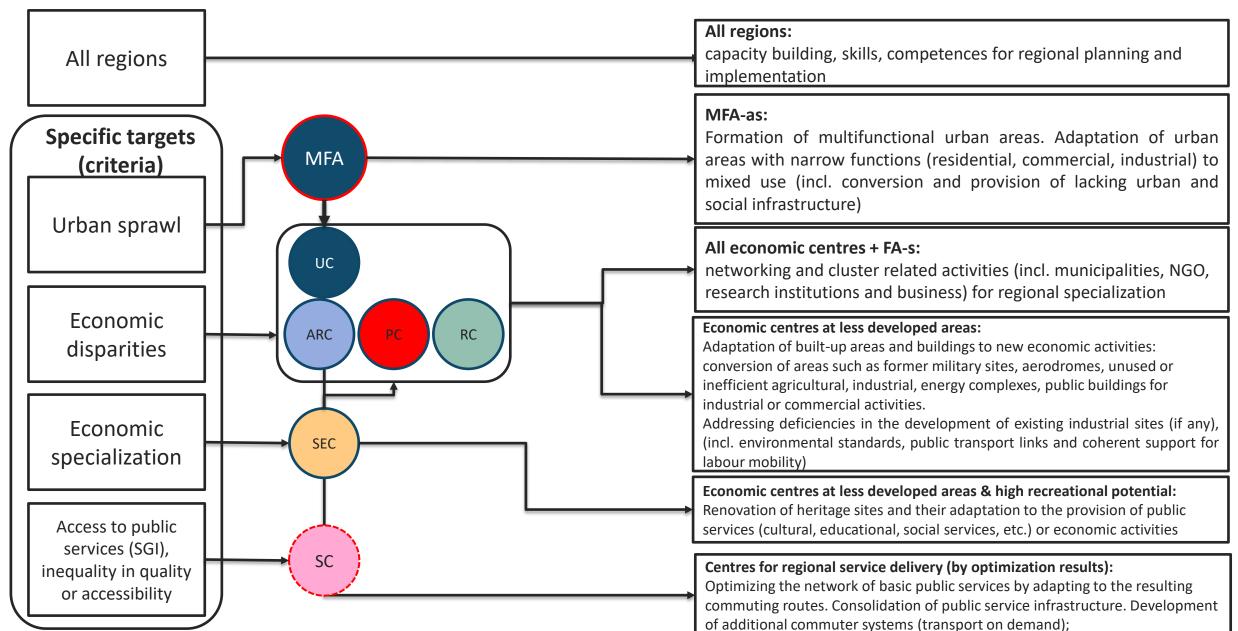


- Compact service centres (up to 30 min travel distance) and economic centres (45 minutes catchment areas) with sufficient potential are selected for optimal delivery (the largest target group at the lowest cost).
- Priority shall be given to sites with combined economic, service delivery and / or recreational potential (integrated development)

Developed as an economic and service center (45 min. catchment area)

Developed as a service consolidation center (30 min. catchment area)

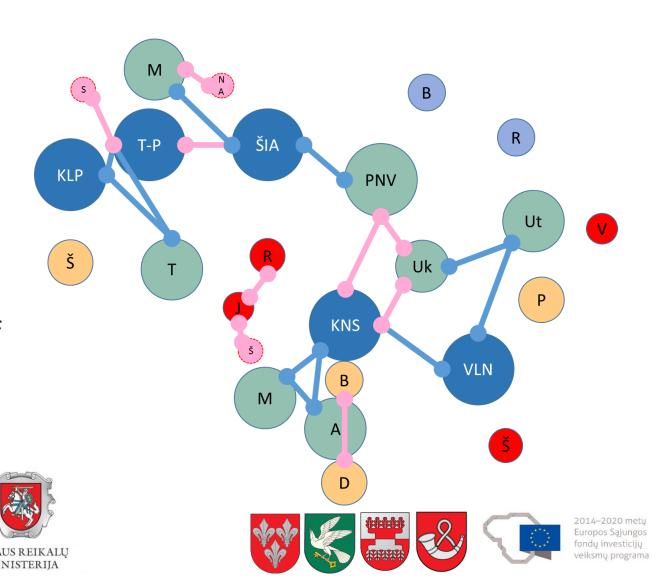
Types of intervention by targets (criteria) (PO5)

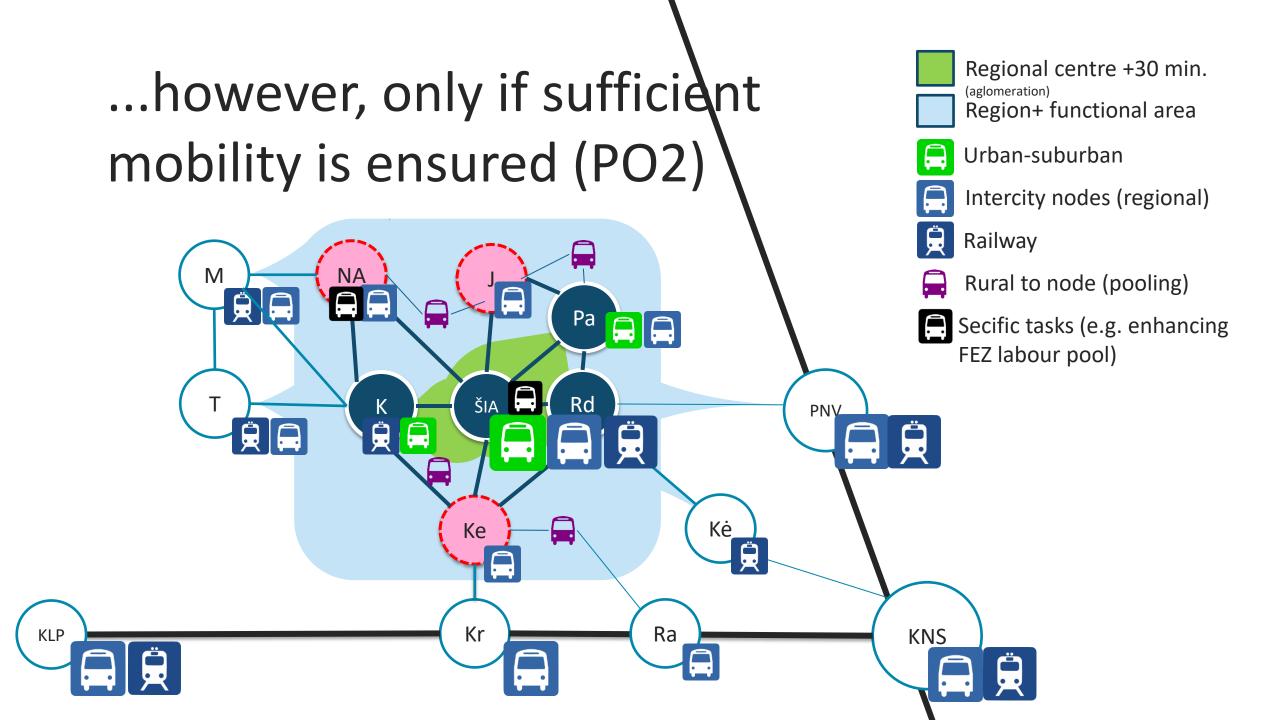


Location of centers and interregional linkages

Provides for:

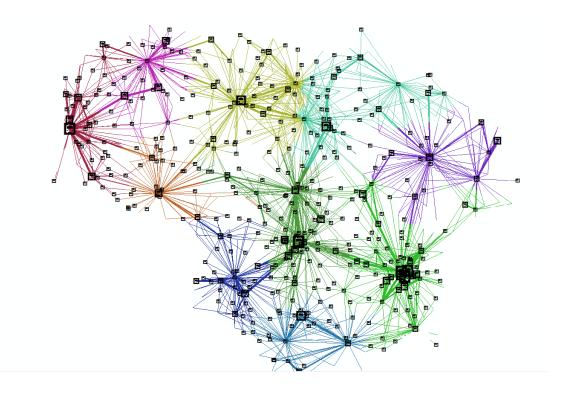
- Interregional cooperation: networking, cooperation, exchange of experience and cluster-related activities for regional specialization;
- 45 minute labour catchment areas;
- 30 minutes to quality services of general importance (kindergartens, schools, doctors)





Regional public transport system

- an ex-ante condition for the development of functional areas;
- a set of rules and toolboxes is currently under development,
 based on principles of:
- ☐ investing in saving measures;
- \square multimodal system;
- organization through an independent body;
- □ cost-benefit analysis
- equal opportunities
- combination of traditional and on-demand modes
- \square strategic planning (as part of the regional development plan);
- \square speed and availability (short but high density routes).
- \square regional policy intervention (balancing structural imbalances);
- Part of Tauragė+ pilot strategy













Thank You







