DELIVERABLE 5.5.1- MONITORING OF THE EXPERIENCES AND OF THE MODELS IN THE REGION OF APULIA

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CHAPTER 1: MONITORING OF THE EXPERIENCES AND THE DEVELOPMENT MODELS IN APULIA

1.1 ANALYSIS OF THE APULIA REGIONAL CONTEST

The diagnosis of the state of the Apulia economy converge in shaping a situation that remains critic since2001, after four years 1997-2001 of substantial improving of the main economic indicators. In this frame there have been accentuated in the last period criticisms of structural character that seem to underline a negative tendency of long period.

In particular it seems to shrink the capacity of export, it is reduced the dynamic of productivity, it stays modest the medium rate of innovation and it confirms the difficulty to create new jobs. These elements underline a scenario of structural criticality despite the presence of poles and single champions of excellence present in the Apulia textile sector.

1.1.1 FORMING AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE PIL

The Apulia economy is going through a slowing down phase started in the year 2000 and gone up to all 2004; this slowing down is documented by the all the main indicators at disposal. In the period 2000-2004 the **real PIL** in Apulia is grown of the 3,5% (next to a annual average rate of 0,7%). In the period in question, in fact, it is registered a slowing down of Apulia economic growth compared to the record rate registered in the years immediately before, as indicated by the annual medium rate calculated on the longer period 1996-2004, equal to 1,5% and equal also to the relative medium rate of Italy of the same period. The stagnation phase of the Apulia economy is confirmed also by the comparison with the already low rhythm of annual growth (annual medium rate 2000-2004 equal to 1,3%) and with the correspondent data for the South. In the last five years, in fact, the economy of the South has grown at a annual medium rate equal to 1,5%; however also the South present a slowing down in the period because the rate of growth 1996-2004 is of 0,7%.

The contribution of the region to form the PIL in 2003 has been equal to 4,7% of the national PIL and 19% of the South PIL, quotes almost unchanged compared to the same values of 2000: the weight on the Italian PIL has been identical, while the weight on the total of the South has been 19,3%. If it is considered that, instead, the contribution of the whole area of the South on the total of the Country is gone from 24,4% of 2000 to 24,9% of 2003, it can be understood that the critical phase of the region tends to make it loose field compared to the other region of the South.

Despite this tendency, Apulia continues slowly to progress in terms of welfare, even if only measured in terms of PIL per person: also with a registered setback in the last two years, the PIL per person in Apulia is gone from 66,4% of the Italian one in 2000 to 67,2% in 2004. The decrease of Apulia gap of only 8 tenths of point, in reality, it contrasts with the faster process registered in the South: the gap on the area of the national total is decreased of 2,1 points, going from 67,5% of 2000 to 69,6% of 2004.

The sectarian productive structure of the added value of Apulia in 2003 is characterized from a weight of the industry equal to 21,5%, less to the Italian average (28,1%) but higher of that of the South (20,9%). Compared to 2000 the industry has lost importance to every territorial level considered. In particular Apulia has lost seven tenths of points, that, together with the point percentage lost from the primary sector, have gone to the services sector.

The dynamic of the Apulia industry has been negative in the period 2000-2003 (-0,5% variable annual media), in front of a positive dynamic of the South (whose industry grows of 1 point percent annual) and of a substantial immobility of the sector in Italy. If it is just considered the industry, it grows the perception of the constant fall: of the seven tenths of points lost in the period 2000-2003, six are to be given to the industry, while the building sector stay stable with a quote of the 5,5% on the total regional added value, in line with the correspondent values for the South and a little more of those Italian one.

The Apulia services sector – the only one that shows a rate of positive medium growth for the reference period 2000-2003 – it is instead over represented compared to the relative value of the Country: its weight of the 73% is in fact superior to that national one) 69%), while instead it is less of the South one (about 75%). But it doesn't necessarily constitute an element of development, because the Apulia tertiary – like that of the whole South – it is substantially constitute by services of the traditional type and from the Public Administration. The tertiary part that contributes more to the growth and the innovation of the local economy, the so called advanced tertiary, register a presence of the companies equal to 8,6% of the total companies registered in 2003, while the relative Italian data shows a higher percentage equal to 14,8% on the total of the companies.

The primary sector, in constant fall in all the Italian territory, shows a negative dynamic even more accentuated in Apulia, given the more weight that it has on the total of the regional added value. The annual average variable is -3,6% in Apulia has reduced the weight of the agricultural sector from 6,8% of 2000 to 5,8% of 2003. But despite the negative tendency and the sectarian reconstruction going on, Apulia continues to have an agricultural sector higher to that of the South and of almost double importance compared to the weight that it has in Italy (2,8%), so confirming the strategic importance that this sector has and the potential of development that it can contain if adapted to the new technologies and oriented to the "new" demand expressed for the agricultural products.

The productivity of the Apulia economy, in the period 2000- 2003, shows an absolute stillness, in line with the reality of the South and the whole of Italy. The sectors in which there has been some significant variable in the productivity have been those of the food industry, artisans (in a more consistent measure that in South and in Italy), and in general in the PMI, as consequence of a wider gap to fill. In the industrial textile field, tourism, agricultural and business, the productivity has decreased in all considered territorial levels.

The regional fixed gross investments in real terms is substantial steady from 2000, with minor fluctuations: from 9.688 millions of Euros (1995) of 2000 is gone to 9.634 millions of euros of 2003. This stability is due to the fact that the investments in buildings are more or less in decrease, while the sector made up from the machinery and other equipments is increased in the last three years 2001-2004. As it has been often put in evidence, the regional dynamic of the investments doesn't have the necessary autonomy to give a strong impulse to the development of the region. It appears, as confirmed by the Tagliacarne Institute, excessively tied to the dynamic of the interventions originated by the Structural Funds: it is observed, in fact, a certain cyclic line that reveals strong variations increasing in proximity of the completion of the structural cycle, as it has already happened in 1999 with a 10% variation and in less measure in the following years.

So, the investments don't get characterized by an autonomy such as to promote the regional growth. Considering the intensity accumulation of the capital as fixed gross investments in relation to the PIL, it is evident a minimum but constant growth of this indicator for Apulia, from 22,2% of 2000 to 23,1% of 2002. These variations are more or less in line with the ones had in the South (from 22,8% to 24%), even if the indicator in question continues to maintain on lower levels.

The Apulia final internal expenditure has increased in the period 2000-2003 of 2,9%; a large part of this variable is due to the expenditure of the non profit institutions and of the public administrations (+6%) more than to the families expenditure (+1,8%). This going confirms both that of the South than that of Italy: the total variations are respectively of the 3, 6% and of the 3,2% due also in these cases more to the public expenditure (8% and 8,2%) than that of the families (2% and 1,8%). Despite the expenditure of the Apulia families have increased in the period 1995-2003, they have increased in a reduced way compared to the rates of the South and of the whole Italy.

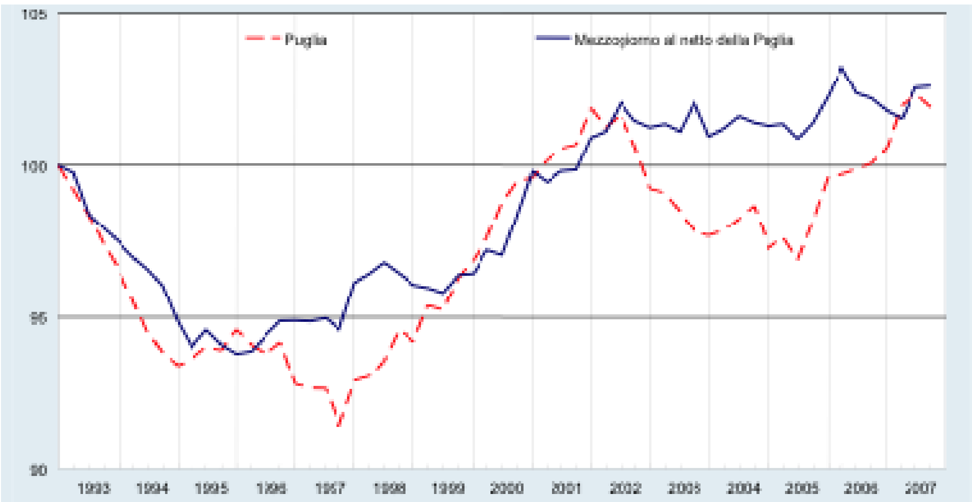
1.1.2 JOB MARKET

1.1.2.1 EMPLOYMENT

The phase of the weak development of the regional economy is accompanied by a sustained increase of the employment in 2007, grown with a rhythm similar to that of 2006. In 2007 the employment increase has been stronger for the autonomous working positions and of short time period. According to the workforce Observation of the Istat data, the number of working people in the region has been equal to the average of 1.284 thousand units, a 2,2 percent increase compared to 2006. The job demand increase has resulted more intense of that relieved at national level (1,0 per cent); in the South instead the employment has stagnated. The employment rate between the people of age between 15 and 64 is grown of about 1 percent, going to 46,7%.

Figure 1: Employment in Apulia and in the South

(out of season trimester data; index: January 1993=100)



Font: Bank of Italy, 2008

Starting from 2003 the employment dynamic in the region is significantly moved from that of the other southern regions. Between 2003 and 2005 the number of employed in Apulia have been reduced significantly, feeling the weak internal demand and of a model of productive specialization particularly vulnerable to the mutations in act in the global contest; in the same period the job application in the other southern regions has resulted substantially stable (fig. 1). From 2006 the employment in the region has started to increase, benefiting of the cyclical upturn followed by a prolonged period of stagnation; in the course of 2007 the job application has overcome the previous peak of 2002, going again to the long period tendency of the area of reference.

As in 2006 the increase of the employed has regarded both genres. It has been particular intense the job offer for the female component (5,0 per cent). The increase of the number of employed has covered both the self-employed (13 thousand units and 4,0 per cent) and the employed (14 thousands and 1,6 per cent). The growth of the employed has resulted more intense in the component short time employment, compared to the previous year. The total quote of the employed people with a short period contract is gone to 14,0 per cent, compared to the national average of 9,8 percent.

Figure 2: Employment structure in Apulia

(thousand of unity and percentage values)

VOCI	2007		Variazione 2007-06	
	Migliaia di persone	Quote percentuali	Migliaia di persone	Valori percentuali
	Per posizione nella professione			
Occupati dipendenti	940	73,2	14,4	1,6
A tempo indeterminato	*760*	*59,2*	*6,2*	*0,8*
A tempo determinato	*180*	*14,0*	*8,2*	*4,8*
Occupati indipendenti	344	26,8	13,3	4,0
	Per tipo di orario di lavoro			
A tempo pieno	1.149	89,5	8,7	0,8
A tempo parziale	135	10,5	18,9	16,4
Totale occupati	1.284	100,0	27,6	2,2
Maschi	869	67,7	8,0	0,9
Femmine	415	32,3	19,6	5,0

Font: Bank of Italy, 2008

In line with the tendency in act from a long time, the growth of the employment is concentrated on the tertiary sector (24 thousands units and 3,0 per cent); the employed in the industry in a strict sense and in the building companies have raised respectively 1,8 per cent and 0,7 per cent, while those employed in the agricultural sector have decreased of 1,1 percent.

The region is anyway characterized from an employment rate inferior the medium breakdown of its belonging (in 2004 45% against 57,4% of the Italian level and 46,1% of the south). In 2000[1] the employment rate for Apulia was substantially the same (44,,8%), while in the South was of 1,5 percent less (44,4%) and in Italy 2,6 percent less (54,8%): the Apulia region doesn't keep up with the growth of the employees registered in the other regions of the South and in Italy. Another characteristic (negative) of the Apulia employment concerns the employed of people aged between 55-64. In 2000 they had an occupational rate equal to 30,4%, a higher value of the Italian data (27,7%) and equal to the South data (30,8%), while in 2004 the situation was worse: the employment rate of "old" workers is 28,5% in Apulia, while the performance of the workers in the South and in Italy of the correspondent age is improved, registering a rate respectively equal to 31,5% and 30,5%.

1.1.2.2 JOB OFFER AND UNEMPLOYMENT

During 2007 the people in search of a job were 23 thousands units less than the previous year (-12,3 per cent), bringing the unemployment rate to 11,2 per cent (12,8 per cent in 2006), in line with the southern regions average (11,0 per cent). The decrease of people in search of a job has seen both genres. It has been accompanied to the relevant increase of those group of people that, even though are willing to work, don't search job actively so that they could be classified among the people searching for a job.

To the decreasing unemployment is accompanied the stagnation of the job offer. The rate of activity of the people of working age it has not modified compared to the previous year. Also the differential between the rates of male and female activities have reduced only marginally (from 36,0 to 34,7 percent), remaining the highest among the Italian regions.

In 2006 the rate of activity of people in working age has been equal to 52,5 per cent, in front of a national average and of the U.E. to 15 Countries respectively equal to 62,7 and 71,6 per cent. The significant gap compared to the considered areas remains mainly due to the insufficient rate of female activity (34,7 per cent). The participation of the woman to the job market results a deficit in all considered age class; the delay compared to the European average is higher in the middle age, going over 35 percent for the woman aged between 35 and 54 years. For the male population compared to the European, there are lower rates of activity for the young and of people around 55.

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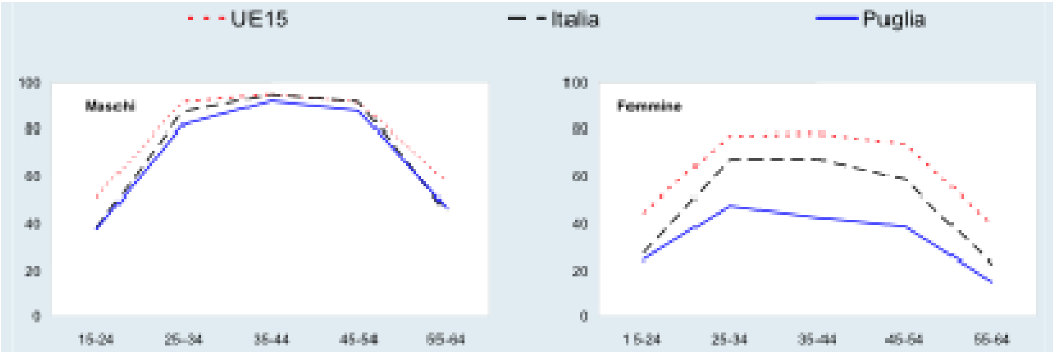
[1] From 2004, the Istat does observation data of the employment market based on the inquiry of a continuous character and not anymore of trimester character has it was till 2003. The data here refer to the "new" series where possible when recalculated for those before to 2003, and to the "old" series when not recalculated.

Figure 3: Rates of Activity for activities and gender in 2006
(Values percent)



Font: Bank of Italy, Eurostat, 2008 data elaboration

On the unemployment front, Apulia has improved going from 17,3% of 2000 to 15,5% of 2004, following the tendency of the South and Italy that has seen reduced the respective rates of about two points. The regional data remains, in 2004, the highest of the South (15%) and of Italy (8%), with a worse performance than that of the regions non objective 1, whose rate of unemployment stays on a "natural" level (5%). But it is mainly between the young (15 24 years) that the situation acquires a dramatic character: despite the young unemployment rate has decreased between 2000 and 2004, of 10 points in Apulia, it remains on alarming levels equal to 35,4%, against 37,6% of the South (55% in 2000) and 23,5% of Italy.

The sectarian segmentation of the Apulia employment shows that in 2004 about 64% of the employed belongs to the services sector, with a percentage substantially equal to the Italian average (64,9%) and inferior to that of the South (68,7%); it follows the industry sector with the 16,6% of the employed (22,5% Italian average and 13,9% that of the South); the agricultural sector with 9,8% of the employed results higher than the South average (7,5%) against the 4,4% of Italian average; finally the construction (building) sector with 9,5% of the employed (8,2% Italian average and 9,9% southern average).

The picture so far presented of the Apulia job market, as that of the south, doesn't take into consideration the pervasive presence of the submerged job market. To give a brief account, it is important to recall the data on the submerged[2] economy updated to 2003. The irregular [3]rate of unity in Italy in 2003 is of 13,4%, in low decrease compared to the Italian average of 2000 equal to 15%

The Apulia irregular work rate is around 20% (it was 20,4% in 2000), while that of the South is not changed significantly (in 2003 22,8% and in 2000 22,4%). In Apulia the highest irregular work rate is in the agriculture (41%), followed by the buildings (26%) and the services (18%), conformably with what happens at Italian level and of its sections, even though the respective values are inferior, and in Italy the second sector most irregular is that of the services.

Despite at provincial level are not available updated data, it can be said that they have also had some reductions (in 2001 it went from a minimum of 24% in Bari province to a maximum of 45% in Brindisi province), even with the given clarifications from Istat

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[2] *Istat, September 2005*

[3] *Defined as total irregular job units on the total of regular units*

about a propensity to irregular work in the provinces with a agriculture vocation (i.e. Foggia). In any case, the range of the irregular work rate of the Apulia provinces goes from 20% to 31%. The composition of the Apulia irregular work sees prevailing the quote of the so called irregulars workers compared to the other typologies made by not resident foreign people and second jobs.

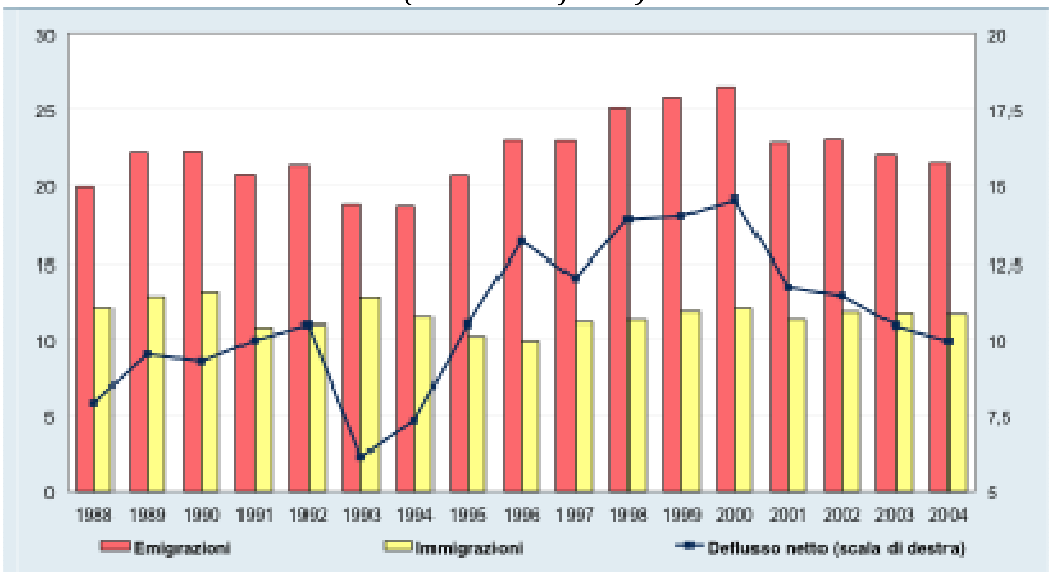
1.1.2.3 WORK FORCE MOBILITY

Apulia is one of the Italian region historically more interested by the migration phenomenon. Starting from the second half of the nineties the transfers of residence towards the North Centre has resumed intensity; it has grown their content of human capital. According to the data Istat related to the register and cancellation of the Communities Registry in 2004, the number of Apulia people that have moved in an other regions has been equal 26 thousands units. The migration balance, equal to the difference between registration and cancellation on the Registry to and from other regions, has been negative and has overcome the 10 thousands units. In comparison to the resident population, the migration rate has resulted equal to -2,5 people for every thousands residents.

Considering the period between 1988 and 2004 the net outflow of residents has overcome 180 thousands units, equal to 4,6 per cent of the resident people. Such phenomenon feels from one way the scarce attractive capacity of the region towards the other areas, from the other the resumption of migratory flows towards the North Centre.

Starting from 1955 the number of transfers from Apulia towards the north centre regions is significantly grown, reaching the 27 thousands units in 2000; in the following years it stayed on levels near 23 thousands units. For effect of the substantial stability of the re-entries the demographic net outflow is widened significantly until the start of the decennium, to partially reduce until 2004 (fig.3)

Figure 4: Migration fluxes between Apulia and the North-Centre *
(thousands of units)



Font: Bank of Italy, 2008
**The data refer to the migrations from Apulia towards the North-Centre and from the North-Centre to Apulia.*

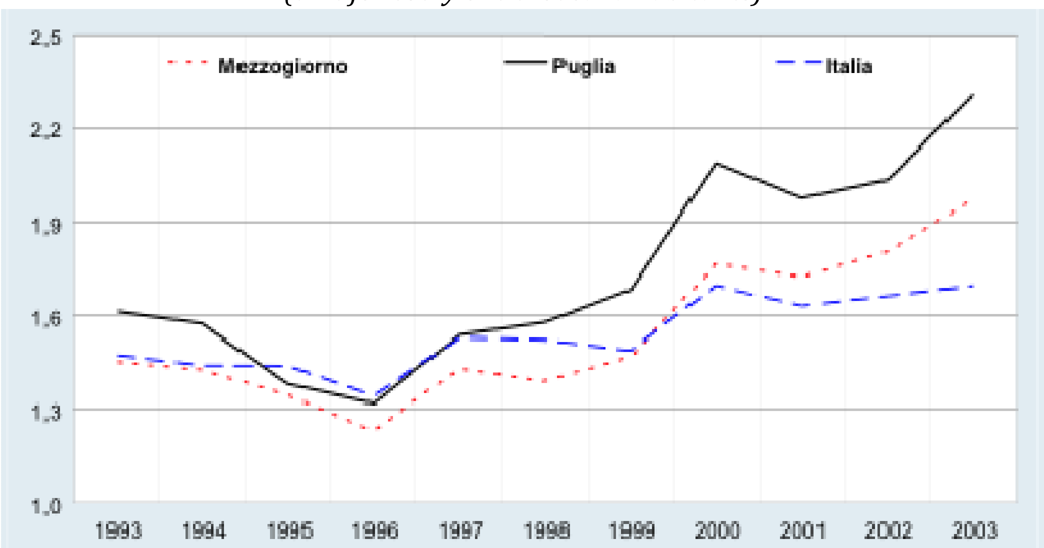
The prevalent destination of Apulia migrants is the North East, that during the years has intercepted the increasing flows reaching in 2004 about 40 per cent of the region migrants. The attractive capacity of the North West regions is instead considerably decreased compared to the past: in 1988 54,0 per cent of Apulia people that went to the North-Centre chose to move the residence, nearly 20 percent more compared to 2004.

Once they have decided to move, the migrants transfer away their level of knowledge and competences. In 2003 about 3 thousands graduates have transferred their residence from Apulia to one of the North Centre region, a number three times superior to that of 1990. Graduates emigration it doesn't result counterbalanced by an incoming flow from the North Centre: the net outflow of the graduates that move from Apulia towards the northern central regions is increased considerably in the considered period, remaining between 2000 and 2003 on values three times higher of those of the first half of the nineties.

Such trend is not the result of a generalized rise of education in the people but of the tendency increase of the graduates living in the region to emigrate to more developed areas of the Country. In 2003 the relation between the quote of graduates on the total of the migrants (12,3 per cent) and the quote of the graduates on the total of the resident population (5,3 per cent) was equal to 2,3 for the region, compared with a national and South average equal to 1,7 and 2,0 percent (fig. 5). In the considered decennium the tendency of the graduates to move the proper residence to other regions is significantly raised.

Figure 5: Tendency of the graduates to migration*

(unit for every one thousand habitants)



Font: Bank of Italy, 2008

**Rate of the immigrants that transfer to another region compared to the rate of the graduates on the resident population. The data are distinct for the area of cancellation.*

1.1.3 MANAGERIAL FIELD

The sectarian composition of the Apulia managerial field is 30% of the companies active in the primary sector (it was 35% in 2000) and an equal quote in the Business sector equal to 30,6%, against 28,7% of 2000. The remaining 40% is to be given half to the industry (whose half of the quote is of Building companies) and for the other half by the services sector. Between these, about 10% is made by the Public Administration companies and other public services, 3,7% is touristy – receptive companies and 2,9% travelling companies. The higher contribute of the presence of active companies comes from the Bari province, followed by Foggia (20%) and Lecce (18%), while Taranto (11,9%) and Brindisi (10,7%) stay behind.

The Apulia managing sector, as that of the South and of the whole Italy, is characterized by the massive presence of companies with less of 10 employees: 96% for Apulia – and similar values that go around 96% for the Apulia provinces, from 95,1% of Bari to 96,8% of Foggia, for the South and 94,9% of the Country.

The companies employees, however, are concentrated only for 59,4% in the companies with less than 10 employees, while only about 10% is absorbed by companies with employees between 200 and over 1000. The Apulia managerial field register however the presence of some productive local systems of high level of specialization diffused on the entire regional territory both in the mature light manufacturing and in the productive activities of high added values.

Such systems have given to the regional economy development an important contribute in the last decennium, and they at the moment result marked up by important phenomenon of development and strategic-competitive repositioning following the processes of integration and internalization of the markets in full development.

1.1.4 THE CREDIT MARKET

After the recent restructuring of the credit market, that has seen a substantial reduction of the credit institutes working on the territory and the progressive removal between the owners and managing team of the banks and the final users of the credit, the considerations on the local credit market must take into account the differences existing on the entire national territory.

The index of intensity credit[4] is gone, for Apulia from 26,6% of 2000 to 27,5% of 2003, more or less on the same levels of the South even if the value of 2000 was of 27% and that of 2003 of the 26,2%. Both the index are 20 points less compared the national average index, that has gone from 44,1% of 2000 to 48,5% of the 2003.

Also the capacity of financing , expressed as a differential of the short term rate on the cash finances with the North Centre, remains substantially stable, with differentials that go from 1,9% of 2000 to 1,8% of 2003, while for the South it is registered a increase in half tenths of point till 1,94% of 2003. A possible justification for the persistence of this differential stays in the high rate of risk of the territory in which the banks operate, more accentuated by a strong indebtedness at short and by not so clear accounting practices, with the result of a higher rate of suffering (in percentage of the employed) just in the weaker areas and in a strong credit need. There is also to add that the percentage of the sufferings on the employment is in decrease in all of Italy, included Apulia, where it is gone from 21,7% of 1999 to 13,2% of 2004. In last year, this indicator has been equal to 11,2% for the South and 4,7% for Italy. A last aspect, not for importance, it regards the differential between deposits and employment: in 2002, the

[4] Average consistency of the bank employed in percentage of the Pil in current prices.

Apulia deposits were equal to 4,1% of the total of the Italian deposits (those in the South 20,8%) and the employment of Apulia clients has been only 2,7% (while those of the South 13,6%). Obviously the data for the North Centre shows the biggest volume of employment compared to the less volume of deposits.

1.1.5 INNOVATION AND COMPETITIVENESS

The expenditure in Research and Development (R&S) can contribute to give an idea of the grade of innovation reached on the national territory. In 2002 the expenditure in R&S on the regional Pil is confirmed at 0,6% of the Pil, value substantially equal to 2000 and even slightly inferior to the South (0,77%), equal since 2000. Compared to Italy, the Apulia data represents just over the half (1,16% in 2003, slightly over the data of 2000 equal to 1,07%). An interesting aspect comes from reading the data of the expenditure in R&S for subject doing research: Universities, Public Administrations, No-profit Institutions and Companies, with universities and companies as main subjects. A very singular data comes from a simple ordering of the data done for the years 2002 and 2003: the main quota of the Research and Development of the southern regions comes from the University, while the main quota of expenditure in R&S of the northern regions comes from the companies; moreover the two quotas of expenditure seem to be inversely related, because the region that has the primacy for one stays behind for the other. For Apulia in particular, we can say that in 2003 58% of the expenditure in R&S came from University, while only 24% from the companies, occupying respectively the 6° and the 15° place in the regional ranking. Incidentally, Calabria has the primacy of the expenditure in R&S of the university and the negative record of the R&S expenditure of the companies.

1.1.6 INFRASTRUCTURE ENDOWMENT

The infrastructure system of Apulia shows at 2004 a delay compared to the whole Country: the Tagliacarne Institute[5]indicator reports an economic infrastructure endowment equal to 75,9% of the Italian average endowment, value anyway higher compared to that of the entire South that has an infrastructure endowment equal to 73,6% of the Italian average. If, to the endowment of the economic infrastructure we associate that of the social infrastructures (education, health, recreational), the index goes to 79% of the Italian average for Apulia, anyway higher to the relative index for the South (about 76%).

The only sector in which Apulia has a bigger endowment in the Country is that of the railways (111,3%), with a difference of what happened in 2001 when also the network port presented an index higher than the national average. Compared to the South in 2004 Apulia has a higher endowment of the railways, but also of the electric lines and of the bank and credit networks.

The social infrastructures are still very poor, both in Apulia and, also mainly in the South, whose endowments are indicated respectively at 82,3% and at 76,6% of the Italian one. In particular, for Apulia, the are the cultural and recreational endowments (47,2%) that lower the general average of the indicator, because the infrastructure for

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[5] Tagliacarte Institute 2004 in regional statistics Starnet Unioncamere

education and health are lined up with the Italian ones and higher of those of the South, that still shows a delay in having such infrastructures.

At provincial level, Bari results best equipped in health and educational infrastructures, but if for the first showed a tendency to increase since 1991, for the second the data is in decrease, certainly caused by the reorganization of the Apulia health system that registers declining values also for the other provinces. The tendency in the provinces for these indicators (generally very low) is towards the increase of the infrastructure endowment , with the exception of those cultural ones in the province of Bari (80,5% in 2001 and 74% in 2004) and of these of the education in the province of Brindisi (78,6% in 2001 and 73,5% in 2004). In synthesis, the province with the biggest social infrastructures is Bari (114,7%) and that with the minimum Foggia (48%).

1.1.7 POPULATION DEMOGRAPHIC DEVELOPMENT

The Apulia population at 31 December 2004 results equal to 4.068.167, equal to 19,6% of the whole South and about 7% of the Italian one, with the highest concentration in the province of Bari (39,2%). The region presents an index of structural dependency up to 31 December 2003, equal to 48,8%, with a maximum value for the province of Foggia (51,4%) and a minimum value for the province of Taranto (46,8%). This indicator gives an approximate idea of the relationship between the dependent people (children and old people) and people of active age. It is really very similar to that of the South and of Italy. If it is considered the index of old people dependency and the index of the young dependency, it is evident that the dependency, given the structure of the people by the age, is mainly due to the presence of older people compared to the young, except for the provinces of Bari and Foggia, where the index of the old aged people is lower compared to the other provinces, all with values over 100 equal to Apulia, the South and Italy.

The regular presences of the foreign people at 31 December 2003 were around 42.985 units in Apulia, 47% of which in the province of Bari. 90% of these presences is made, both in Apulia and approximately in the single provinces by extra- communitarian people. The percentage breakdown of the foreign presence for the Country of origin is equal to the provincial level, apart for the immigrants coming from these Countries of new entry, that were 43% of the foreign presences for the province of Foggia (against 28%). In total, in the region are present 1.056 foreign people every 100.000 habitants, with a variable range of 1.270 units in the province of Bari to the 665 units in province of Taranto. Their values for the South and for Italy remain for the same period, at 1.224 e 3.404 units respectively. Finally, Apulia present a positive demographic balance equal to 27.177, due mainly to the positive balance of the province of Bari, followed by the other provinces, between which the only one with a negative demographic balance is Foggia with -1.145.

It is possible to have a further rudimental idea of the inhomogeneous development of the Italian region taking into consideration the poverty index, that indicates how many people live in families under the poverty limits. In Apulia in 2003 (without any variations of the previous year) 25% of the people live in poor conditions, against the poverty index related to the South of 22,5% in decrease. The value of the index for Italy goes under 11,8% for 2003, with an average for the regions non objective 1 of 6,1%. Apulia has this sad primacy with Sicily and Calabria(27% and 26%), while in Lombardy only 4,2% of the people live in poverty.

1.1.7.1 WOMEN IN APULIA

The access of the female component to the job market, in Apulia, results today to be still very limited:

- The rate of the female activity to 31/12/2003 was, in fact, very modest (36,9%) even more if compared to the male one (62%);
- The situation of strong female disadvantage in the region appears even more evident if it is observed the employment rate that shows in Apulia a gap particularly accentuated between male (employed 63,7% of the male population of age between 15 and 64) and female (employed the 26,5%);
- The low rate of female employment is marked by the comparison with the analogue value in Italy in its complex (42,7%);
- Concomitantly with the scarce participation of the Apulia women to the job market, both compared to regional male population and to the Italian women, is registered in the region also a high level of unemployed women (21,1%).

A further investigation to the female job weakness can be seen when it shows that 12,2% of the Apulia employed female work in the agriculture (in the South is only the 5,5% and in Italy the 3,7%) against the even high percentage of the male correspondence equal to 10,5%.

In the industry work 13,2% of the employed female (essentially in the sector of the industrial processing), while 32% of the Apulia male workers work in the industry, with quotas almost equally distributed between buildings (13,3%) and processing (17,7%). Further 79,6% of the Apulia employed female are dependent workers, while the quota drops to 70% for the male workers, in line with the national and southern percentages.

On a condition traditionally difficult were grafted cyclical dynamics that have seen Apulia affected, in a more serious way, by the crisis of large sectors of the manufacturing industry.

All this is shown clearly from the data on the employment that clearly shows as the first victims of the employment decline are the women. In fact the data show as the crisis hits in particular the female component with a rate of unemployment increasing from 20,6 of 2002 to 21,8% of 2004 in contrast compared to the similar male data that goes from 10,7 al 10,2% and more compared to the data of southern regions, where it goes from 26,4 to 25,3% for the women and from 14,1 to 13,8% for the men. It exists then a real emergency in the production sectors in which is higher the female presence, such as textile, clothing, shoes, than in the past years had sustained the female employment.

Between the sectors of the economic activity, only trade has shown a positive trend of the female employment in 2004 compared to the year before with a +2,2%, while all the other sectors have shown a negative dynamic with peaks of -8,3% in the artisan sector of the production and -2% in the manufacturing sector and in the advanced tertiary.

Other elements contribute to stress the difficulties of the female condition in the region:

- education data show as the percentage of female that transit from school to secondary high school is lower compared to the male one, in counter tendency to what happens in the rest of Italy;
- even if the female job offer is presented with levels of professional qualification often better of those of the male component (for example, the rate of passage

from secondary high school to university, in the academic year 2001-2002, is 72,1% for the women and of 57,8% for the men; further the female graduates every one hundred women 25 years old are 20,4%, while the graduates are 15,4% of the male of the same age), the distribution in the professions shows a strong sub dimensioning of the female presence in the higher positions and endowed with greater decisional autonomy, compared to the professions that require, instead, a lower qualification and a minor autonomy.

- The absence or the insufficiency of a proper welfare system is not only an obstacle to improve life conditions and the independency of the women, but it is a real discriminatory act that, makes more difficult their active participation to the job market. In fact the fundamental request of the women is that of a bigger endowment, a bigger efficiency and quality and a bigger rationalization of the services of the trade distribution, of educational character, of care and mobility job integration.

1.1.8 APULIA IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

Apulia, sited in the periphery of South East Europe represent today, for the people and for the Institutions of these area, a fundamental reference point and a forced crossroad towards the Mediterranean and Adriatic Countries, according to centuries old vocations and directives.

Is therefore of primary interest to strengthen its international role so to play a co-author role in the Italian and European international politic. This enlarged area and of strong economic potential, is in fact considered as a strategic European region for the Countries of the Eastern Central Europe and the Balkans. All this can be favoured by the overcoming or anyway by the attenuation, of the existing institutional, socio-cultural and economic barriers compared to the near regions. Its geographic position puts it in an enlarged optic of the actual Union to 25, in a particularly crucial contest that sees involved the Mediterranean area and that of the Balkans.

In the scenario of the South of Italy, Apulia is without doubts one of the region with a bigger foreign vocation after Campania, even though the ample presence of Apulia companies in the traditional sectors of the “Made in Italy”, actually subject to strong competitive pressures by the emerging Countries, imposes to the regional enterprise system to quickly increase its competitiveness so to maintain and improve the acquired positions on the international markets.

The goods export from Apulia in 2004 have represented 2,2% of the total Italian exports, and about 21% of that of the South. In the period 2000-2004 the Apulia exports, after a period of slow growth, started to increase at an average rate of 4,6% more or less equal to the national exports rate speed growth, rather than that of the South, whose exports increase at a 6% rate.

The capacity of Apulia exports measured as goods exports in percentage of the relative Pil, stays around 9,4%, in 2003, in decrease from 2000 (10,9%) but anyway always more to the relative data of the South. However the gap with the indicator of export capacity of Italy remains wide and constant on 10 percent. The values for the period 2000-2003 show anyway a loss of this capacity on all considered territorial levels. The same tendency shows the indicator for the grade of opening of the markets (goods imports on the Pil). In this case, the values are decreasing on all three territorial levels considered, and with values for Apulia inferior to both the South and Italy: in 2000 goods were imported for a value equal to 8,8% of the Apulia Pil and in 2003 equal to8%. In Italy it has gone from 22,2% of 2000 to 20,2% of 2003.

The main receivers of the Apulia export flow is the U.E. at 15, with a quota of 63,7%, that increases to 66,6% if we include the new members. In reality if considering the U.E. market as an “internal” market, at 13 years distance from the competition of the Common Market, it could be said that Apulia is little internationalized. The geography of the receivers of the South and of Italy, even with little variations in numbers, retraces the same trajectories of the flows of Apulia export. It remains the characterizing data for which, if we consider “internal” the U.E. at 25 market, 70% of the southern export and 71,7% of the Italian export are to be considered “internal” exports.

From a complex analysis of the development factors of the international competitiveness of the local productive systems comes out the necessity to intervene at institutional level to support the processes of internationalization of Apulia region, primary through the strategies and the politics intended to create more favourable conditions of access to the new market areas.

In such contest, assumes particular importance the potential role of the regional Administration as a protagonist of a more active and dynamic presence of the “Apulia system” in the processes of internationalization, also in the following ways:

- the promotion and development of partners agreements and of economic cooperation at trans national level;
- the promotion and diffusion of structures and qualified services so to facilitate the access of the companies to instruments and specific know how related to the business opportunities present on the foreign markets;
- the coordination and the integration of the politics and initiatives of internationalization in favour of “Apulia System” put in being by the various institutional subjects at national and local level;
- the support to the diffusion of the Information Society and of the processes of innovations internal to the local productive systems with the aim to increase the respective competitive advantages in the global market;
- the integration between the politics that sustain internationalization and those finalized to reinforce the economic infrastructure in favour of the local productive systems, especially in relation to the infrastructural and immaterial connections towards the foreign countries;
- the creation of better conditions of access to resources and ways of financing, especially for the realization of internationalization programs.

1.1.9 THE TENDENTIAL EVOLUTION OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMY

According to Lisbon objectives, Europe must became “within 2010 the economy based on the more competitive and dynamic knowledge of the world, able to realize a sustainable economic growth, with new and better jobs and better social cohesion and respect of the habitat”.

To persecute such objective Apulia must become first of all a more open region, innovative, competitive and inclusive with new and better jobs in which the objectives of sustainability and competitiveness of the development can be reached together with those of social cohesion and higher level of well-being and quality of life.

This is also more evident if it is considered that the concept of competitiveness appears focused on the capacity of the region to persecute a constant and sustainable development of its economy, granting however at the same time an increasing wellbeing to its citizens. In this way sustainable development (in its different economical, social and environmental meanings), competitiveness and social cohesion not only appear in antithesis, but vice versa are strictly interrelated between them with a view to prosecution of the common objective of the development and quality of life.

Apulia must become a more open region from the point of view of the economy and of the productive systems, where the internationalization promotion and the role of the international cooperation can consolidate the concept of "Mediterranean Region"

Such objective can be reached through two directives of development strongly connected between them:

- the qualification of the regional projection picture on the main world markets and the consolidation of the relative international position through the enhancement of the territorial sectarian and cultural excellences, and the strengthening of the participation to the processes of partnership and of cooperation especially in the prospective of the central role of Italy and with Apulia in the first place, in the realization and participation to the free market exchange in the Mediterranean, expected for 2010 according to Barcelona Process objectives.
- The reinforcement of the project-active capacity of the regional members in the different economic, cultural and institutional sectors, in relation to the participation both to the internationalization and cooperation processes, looking to the Countries external to Europe, with a particular attention to the emerging markets, also to the advantages of the internal European market, because of a greater and better access to knowledge, competences and the necessary financial instruments.

The objectives not only of bigger and better occupation, but also of the opening of the region and a better cohesion and social inclusion can be prosecuted with better efficiency and real benefit for the entire community of its citizens if accompanied by a sensitive and appreciable rise of the actual levels of innovation and competitiveness of the entire regional economic system.

To create new and better jobs is not enough to act on the side of the offer, but it needs to intervene also on the conditions of development of the demand in the first place because the creation of new jobs depends fundamentally by the level of the economic activity and by the evolution of the productive structure; in second place because to have better jobs don't depend only by the quality of the offer: it's enough to think that the elevation of the competences and skills in posses of the workers could not correspond with the quality of the demand expressed in the ambit of the organization of the production of the companies system, whose evolution must instead be favourite and stimulated with the proper actions.

Innovation appears today one of the main engines of the development also for what concerned the achievement of the goals of the main occupation: in this case it necessary to intervene to fill the gaps of the scientific potential and of the innovative capacity of the companies that represent one of the main reason of the crisis of the competitiveness in Apulia.

This results even truer if it considered that the future Apulia will register with some probability development directives strongly different from the actual, with an industry with a better specialization that develops on the territory competences and functions more qualified at the expense of the traditional tasks tied to the productive cycle, and with an economy of services in increase characterized also by the evolution towards higher levels of knowledge and integration (to think, for example, of the role that the promotion of new tourisms in the cultural and environmental fields is intended to achieve in Apulia in the next few years, and also to the development of real services and of services tied to ICT).

It is needed therefore to guide the processes of re-conversion and of transition of the regional productive system in full development following the new international division of the job and of the production that makes even less competitive the offer of most of the Apulia companies.

In this perspective that ties the objectives of the competitiveness with those of the cohesion and social inclusion, the vision of an Apulia more open, innovative, competitive and inclusive with new and better jobs must be pursued through a strategy made on some priority directives[6]:

- to pursue a higher level of concentration of the interventions and the resources compared to what already has been realized with the program 2000-2006, further reducing the dispersion and the fragmentation of the interventions;
- in order to pursue the objective of the employment and to act contemporarily on the side of the demand and the offer it is necessary to accompany the job politics to the politics of development, so that they are not only compatible but also complementary the one towards the other about the combined effects on the objectives of the growth of the levels of economic activity and employment;
- to finalize the actuation of the objectives towards the territorial dimension of the development, giving priority to the capacity of the territories to get organized and to start systems of governance adequate to the challenges in act, because the factors affecting the competitiveness of the companies are territorial located (human capital, logistic, institutions, governance, infrastructures etc.);
- to intervene with decision in the production of public goods of general interest, with specific reference not only to the material goods (goods and collective services of quality) but also of immaterial goods, such as the construction of interactive networks, the activation of circuits of production, diffusion of knowledge, etc.;
- pointing to insert binding targeting elements for some essential services also in social and socio-medical field, and also environmental, individuated not so much and not only starting with the objectives of containment and rationalization of the expenditure, but also by the objectives connected to the full benefit of the social rights of all the citizens, and to the principles of homogeneity of the endowments compared to the needs and equal opportunities of the services access; these reflections will not prejudice the necessity to reinforce the social programs of the territorial ambits because it could be able, with a support in terms of actions and added resources, to activate structural changes in the local system of the services offer;

[6] *Strategical document of Apulia Region 2007-2013, Bari 2006*

- to privilege the interventions to improve the contest and the qualification of the communication and network infrastructures, to advantage the companies competitiveness and the quality of life of the citizens, also through the promotion of regional projects intervention for what concern strategic interventions that interest more regions of the South;
- in supporting the productive system give priority to the interventions on the systems and productive sectors present in the territorial contests and less to the single productive units considered isolate, to promote aggregations, consortiums and cooperation processes;
- to articulate the interventions to support the main strategic functions of the companies by governing them always more at "system " level to affect more the processes; this means to intervene and to strengthen the different systems that go to reinforce the conditions of the contest and the economy external to the companies as that of the science-innovation system, the trade system and the internationalization, the credit system and companies financing, the human capital system and the job market, the system of the material and immaterial infrastructures;
- to integrate inclusion politics and health protection in general with the development politic and in particular with the politics of urban re qualification, pointing to realize the entire chain of the integration: economic, social and political through inclusive politics (an inclusive society is that able to offer opportunities –training, time, occasions, relation, resources – and to guarantee contents in where such opportunities can be expended for the growth of the single and families nucleus, with the objectives of their autonomy, and not of the creation of new dependences and new social fragilities);
- to reinforce the principle of subsidiary, intended both in vertical way, in order to bring near as much as possible the offer of the services and the need to the institutional level more appropriate, and horizontal way, so to increase and qualify the construction of those "chain of solidarity" that permits to actuate concretely the right of citizenship also compared to the social needs;
- to innovate the local public administration from bureaucratic referent of the norms and the procedures to key decision of the governance of the development, in which are formed valuable skills (capacity building) and with respect to the complex interaction between the social and economic dynamics of the territory, and with reference to listen methodologies and of the participate involvement of the active citizenship in the programming and the realization of the interventions;
- to spread and consolidate in a more significant measure the interventions in support of policies in general, either through an increased awareness of the public and private operators against the relevance of the integration in the dimension of gender projects, and also for what concerns the recourse to procedures and awards criteria finalized to favour the implementation of the interventions the achievement of the objective of equal opportunity.

1.2 BROADBAND IN APULIA

The beginning of the third millennium sees in Apulia for the first time the elaboration and the implementation of significant policies and strategies in the ambit of the society of information: in 2001 is drawn the Regional Plan for the Society of the Information; in 2002 is established the Regional Centre for Rupar; in 2003 are started 47 e-government projects on the regional territory; in 2004 is signed the Agreement Frame Program (AQP) " concerning e-government and society of information in Apulia Region"; in 2005 begins the implementation of the regional project for broadband, it is signed the First Integrative Act of AQP SI, and is started by the regional Authority the programming process 2007-2013 which identifies, in a clear and definite way, the society of information as a crucial and indispensable element for the future development of the region; during the first months of 2006 is subscribed the Second Integrative Act of the AQP SI and it is elaborated the Preliminary Strategic Document of Apulia Region 2007-2013.

All the setting up – the complex strategy of the Apulia Region translated into programs, projects and interventions have mobilised from the year 2000 till today a total of almost 600 millions of euros of public financing, remittances from different regional, national and European resources and put at disposal mainly by Regional Operative Program 2000-2006, by the Agreement Frame Program and by the national Programs inherent the society of information (I and II phase of the national e-government; "Broadband Program"). A surely interesting and consistent import intended to achieve the fundamental objectives already set out in 2001 in the Regional Plan of the SI. Objectives then translated in final – transposing also the mutations and the new addresses, in the meantime intervened, at national and international level – in the three axes program officially exposed in 2004 in occasion of the drawing of the APQ:

1) infrastructures of broadband communication;
2) federal system of e-government;
3) digital innovation of the economic and productive system.

Such axes have become the three pilasters of the regional politics and strategies, to them are to be re conducted all the choices done from 2000 to today. Inside each axe are individuated sub-axes that directly refer to precise themes.

Figure 6: The axes, the themes and the financial public resources of the Society of Information in Apulia, 2000-2006

Assi e tematismi	Risorse finanziarie pubbliche (migliaia di euro)
Infrastrutture di comunicazione a larga banda	125.984
Infrastrutture	82.740
Reti	43.344
Sistema federato di e-government	226.401
Spc	20.707
e-government degli EELL	77.449
Centri Servizi per la PA locale	11.200
Sit (sistema informativo territoriale)	38.280
e-government per sedi locali di PA centrale	5.852
Sil (sistema informativo del lavoro)	7.841
e-health	34.774
e-democracy	749
e-inclusion	17.500
Diffusione della IV conoscenza	5.701
Università on web	4.000
Osservatori SI	1.620
Formazione per la PA	10.769
Innovazione digitale del sistema economico e produttivo	201.430
Turismo e beni culturali	57.777
Sistemi locali di sviluppo	27.554
Centri servizi settore	11.343
Sistema imprese e professioni	32.500
Rinnovamento della competitività di settore	18.700
Azioni pilota	10.000
Formazione a supporto della net economy	43.077
TOTALE RISORSE FINANZIARIE SI 2000-2006	563.314

Font: Crc Apulia, 2006

From the data reported above - obtained according to the distribution of the different programs, projects and interventions for prevalent theme – it is noted as in these years it was meant to intervene, even if with different financial weights, on the more relevant sectors in the SI ambit.

In particular, for the **axe I (Infrastructure of broadband communication**) from one side it is decided to make available to the citizens, to the companies and to the public administration, the “enabler” infrastructure, from the other it focused the attention on the technological network for the development, the sharing, the integration and the diffusion of the informative patrimony and the data of the P.A.

Regarding the **axe II (Federal System of e-government),** the period 200-2006 is characterized by two distinctive phases, typical of the process of diffusion of the society of information: the first to the realization of the interventions on the services given by the local authorities, to make them available through new forms of diffusion the second focused on specific themes, which are, for the given relevance, the e-health, the e-inclusion, the Sit.

The axe III (Digital innovation of the economic and productive system) finalized to intervene on the Apulia economic and productive system so to increase productivity, proposes different approaches compared to the different components: (*i*) interventions of sectors (tourism and cultural heritage, services centre sector, renewal of the sector competitiveness), (*ii*) integrated interventions on precise area vocation (local development system), (*iii*) interventions dedicated to the managerial field (companies system and professions), experimental interventions (pilot actions).

To underline that some themes, and in particular e-learning, even if there are present in a relevant way in many programs, projects and analysed interventions, have not been classified in autonomous form, for their transversal nature.

The represented frame registers, at levels of single programs, projects and interventions, layout of different realization. In view of the physical progress and given the deadlines laid from the different regional national and communitarian financing fonts , it can be said that within December 2008 the interventions so far programmed will be concluded.

Articulated on three programmatic axes, the Agreement Frame Program "concerning e-government and society of information in Apulia region" represents the main instrument through which Apulia region has wanted to realize the politics, the strategies and the regional programs concerning e-government and the society of information.

The three programmatic axes, already cited, and the relative objectives are:

1) infrastructures of broadband communication, to create an efficient network communication in some suburban areas of Apulia region where the risk of the digital divide is bigger"[7];
2) "federal system of e-government, to censure services of connectivity and access to the infrastructures with the intention to reach a better efficiency of the public administration and to improve the quality of the given services "[8];
3) "digital innovation of the Apulia economic system through the widening and the potential of digital technological capacity" [9].

The added value that is attributed to the activation of APQ is such to permit the individuation of precise objectives that such instrument will contribute to persecute. Such added value refers in fact to the capacity to activate in a unique and specific matter a shared interest by the different actors on national and local scale around a few but ambitious objectives.

In particular, the activation of the APQ should aim to reach the following objectives:

1) homogeneity of standards on the networks and infrastructure at international, national and European level;
2) homogeneity of standards and quality of services made available to the citizens by intervening on the central themes for the quality of life;
3) homogeneity of standards at international, national and European level, on quality of services, on the typology of the delivery channels , on the operative instruments made available by the companies in order to support the presence on the global market.

7 Agreement Frame Program "concerning e-government and society of information in Apulia region

8 Agreement Frame Program "concerning e-government and society of information in Apulia region

9 Agreement Frame Program "concerning e-government and society of information in Apulia region

1.2.1 THE EXISTING SITUATION IN APULIA

Here are the progresses and the results of the most important projects going to be realized or already done on the Apulia territory and/or by the local Authorities and on some cases, by the Cnipa and by the Dit. It is important to underline that few services have been released and made available to the three considered segments: (citizens, companies, P.A.).

In the present paragraph has been taken into consideration the interventions in the projective or actuation phase. For a precise choice, because each intervention apart for its financing font is in a determined strategic line of the Apulia Region, it has been decided to consider the interventions based on the first of the programmed axes individuated in the Agreement of the Frame Program "concerning e-government and society of information in Apulia region" or **Infrastructures of broadband communication.**

1.2.2 INFRASTRUCTURES OF BROADBAND COMMUNICATION IN APULIA REGION

1.2.2.1 THE INRASTRUCTURES

Development program of broadband in the South, Apulia region

In order to reduce the digital gap in Apulia, the Region and the Infratel society – Infrastructure of Telecommunication for Italy S.p.A. – have provided a plan of intervention that contemplates the complete coverage of territory with all the technological infrastructures that can enable broadband. The program, actuated in different allotments of interventions and with different financing resources, has the objective to favour the competitiveness of Apulia companies, to improve the functioning of the P.A. and to ensure the residential people the access to the innovative services.

By the entire plan has been taken away a first implementing intervention that provides investments for a total of 53 million euros to permit the realization of networks in fiber optic and/or via radio, in particular in the Apulia communities of the internal areas at the moment not serviced by broadband and the cabling of the capitals of province (Metropolitan Area Network) of Bari, Brindisi, Foggia, Lecce and Taranto and of the main Apulia industrial areas. This first intervention includes, between other, the project "Communication infrastructure in broadband " inserted inside the APQ SI, whose main objective is the realization of a broadband communication infrastructure in those areas of Apulia territory - Sub Appennino Dauno, Gargano and South Salento – that represent a high risk of digital divide because of the scarce housing density and of the development levels. The project involves the creation, the strengthening and the streamlining of specialized infrastructure on which are based technology and broadband services. These infrastructures will be available for the sector operators (supplier of TLC services) that will use them to offer broadband services to the final users: companies, public administrations, citizens.

Always in such ambit is inserted the intervention " realization of a broadband network in the area Pit 2 Apulia", included inside the II integrative Act of the APQ SI. The plan is integrated with the "development program for broadband in the South" widening the diffusion in area Pit 2 – North Bari Area. In fact, it is intended to proceed to the realization of the connection to the main towns of the area so to permit to reach the Asi borders that are in the same territory. In particular will be connected the centres of the local P.A. of the three cities of the sixth province (BAT), by realizing a network similar to MAN networks programmed in the other 5 capitals of province.

Programmatic/realized instrument: development program for broadband in the South, Apulia region – I and II realized intervention; Agreement Frame Program "concerning e-government and society of information in Apulia region"; Agreement of Part II – Frame Program "concerning e-government and society of information in Apulia region" – II Integrative Act.

Total public import 58.000.000 euro

Fastweb – Program of industrial investment

The investment program Fastweb provides the realization of network infrastructure in fiber optic to permit the extension of the innovative services of telecommunication to the following communities: Andria, Bari, Barletta, Bisceglie, Bitonto, Brindisi, Foggia, Lecce, Modugno, Mola di Bari, Molfetta, Ruvo di Puglia, Taranto, Trani.

Such services, of telephones, internet and high speed video, based on xDSL e FTTB technologies, are addressed both to families and companies. The 500,000 families, that represent the potential catchments area, will have fast internet, fixed telephone lines, interactive Television and video communication. The companies around 18,000 between small, medium and large and about 90,000 micro companies and trade business, besides telephone and fast internet, will have at disposal also the video surveillance systems, interconnection and data transport, e-learning, telework and video conference. The project, inclusive of Fastweb quota, has a total value of 49.825.019 euro.

Programmatic/realized instrument: Apulia POR 2000-2006 and CdP; Agreement Frame Program " Realization of interventions as Support to the Local Development".

Total public import: 24.739.500 euro

1.2.2.2 NETWORKS

Apulia Information Data Network

The decision to realize the Unified Network of the Regional Public Administration gets into the strategy of the Region about the development and the diffusion of the society of information

Apulia RUPAR articulated in five main knots sited in the capitals of province, Apulia RUPAR realizes the information technology connection Apulia Local Administrations and through the National Network (RN), it permits them to connect to other Italian Public Administrations. In particular, the connectivity between the different centres of the regional public administration is made through the use of transmission circuits physical and virtual, including in these last ones also the infrastructure of virtual private network on IT protocol. The infrastructure permits, further, the monitoring of any circuit, the registration of the traffic volumes, the emission of objections to the single administrations and the individuation of the anomalies in the circuits given to the networks.

The management of application services is realized through an infrastructure that support the cooperation between the involved administrations, guaranteeing the quality and the certification of the given services. The application services ensured to the infrastructure include the inter-exchange of information and documents between local and central Administrations, the real identification of the supplier and the user of the service, the management and the control of the Rupar integration inside the public system of connectivity.

The transport services of the inter operability of the Rupar, have been furnished by two distinctive operators the work in competition between themselves. The digital signature, is also available by two further suppliers. It is expected that at scheme will adhere to the Rupar 350 communities and Apulia provinces

Programmatic/realized instrument: Apulia POR 2000-2006 and CdP

Total public import: 33.488.000 euro.

Rupar wireless: widening of the regional component of broadband SPC

The actual project – in strict synergy with Apulia Rupar projects, "Broadband communication infrastructures" and SPC – has the objective to complete the wireless broadband coverage in the communities not included in the intervention plan of the already mentioned Broadband Development Program in Apulia.

The intervention wants to eliminate the digital divide permitting the fruition of the broadband services also in the Apulia communes and Mountain Communities, for which are not justified, in terms of come back business, the infrastructure investments from the privates. The project has also the objective to realize a synergy between the Rupar infrastructure, that at the moment doesn't have broadband qualified mobile users, and the application objectives of the Health (118 service) and Civil Protection, which will soon development in Apulia.

The Regional Technological Centre Tecnopolis Csata, identified as the subject actuator of the intervention, has published and awarded the contract either for the acquisition of the services installed and managing of mobile multimedia services on wireless networks UMTS and WI-MAX, also to have hardware infrastructure for the widening of the regional communication services of SPC.

Programmatic/realized instrument: Apulia POR 2000-2006 and CdP; Agreement Frame Program "concerning e-government and society of information in Apulia region" – I Integrative Act.

Total public import: 7.000.000 euro.

Innovation of the technologies and of the infrastructures of the local authorities – Pit 9

The interventions wants to fill up the deficit of technological type of the public administrations interested by Pit 9 – Salento Territory of Lecce. The project, in fact, will sustain the investment processes in ICT technologies finalized to the applicative inter operability and to the inter-change of data and services. To such endowment, it wants to proceed to acquiring of technologies aimed to completing the thematic networks LAN and WAN and to immaterial investments as the re-engineering of the processes that see the introduction of automatic procedures.

The project includes a material intervention – that involves the network infrastructure – and a immaterial intervention, regarding the services to engraft in the same infrastructure. Compared to the first one, the activities are finalized to the completion and the up dating of the local network for the communities that present a partial infrastructure and to the realization of the VoIP systems. The immaterial intervention, instead refers to the activation of functions related to the organization, managing and administration of the network.

Programmatic/realized instrument: Apulia POR 2000-2006 and CdP; Pit

Total public import: 2.443.749 euro.

Information System "SIP" - Pit9

The intervention "Information System Pit 9 – Salento Territory of Lecce" wants to realize an information system to support the managing of the whole Pit. The objective is prosecuted through the development of the infrastructure that integrates information data services and the realization of a web site that facilitate the collaboration and the sharing of ideas and information among the involved actors, in terms of efficacy and economy. The described system has the function to support the management of all the subjects' actions that have the responsibility of the Pit implementation. To this end it is expected the use of the groupware (software for the communication between groups) to facilitate the collaboration among members of the same work group located in different areas. It permits the tracing and the control of all the processes allowing the actors the maximum usability of the information and the change of collaborative capacity through instruments of collegiate work. Further functions are represented from: communication and collaboration channels functional to necessities of security and privacy; prevention of phenomena of non conformity products and services guaranteeing the full answer to the requirements set quality standard; monitoring and checking of the advanced state of the projects thus facilitating the next phase.

Programmatic/realized instrument: Apulia POR 2000-2006 and CdP; Pit

Total public import: 312.500 euro.

1.2.3 THE USE OF BROADBAND SERVICES IN APULIA

In the following paragraph are analyzed the data related to the endowment and the use of ICT in the Apulia families, in the companies and the Public Administration.

1.2.3.1 THE ENDOWMENT AND THE USE OF ICT IN THE FAMILIES

The graphic of figure 7 shows the percentage of families that have PC, internet connection and broadband internet connection, with reference to three different territorial contests: Apulia region, Southern Italy and the entire national territory. The data refer to the first quarter of year 2005 and are elaborated according to Eurostat standard to allow comparison at European level[10] . with reference to the three territorial ambits observed is noted that a significant percentage of the families that have PC have internet access.

However, such value results definitely inferior for broadband connections. This put in evidence a significant delay in the observed three territorial contests in the adoption of high speed connections to the web, in particular way compared to the media UE that is at 23 per cent of the families[11]. By observing the PC endowment and internet connection, it shows that the percentage of data referred to the Apulia families (respectively equal to 42,9 per cent and 30,2 per cent) are less either to the national one (respectively 49,1 per cent and 38,6 per cent), and to those of South Italy (respectively 45 per cent and 33 per cent). Otherwise happens for what regards the percentage of families endowed of broadband network access. In fact, Apulia index (10,4 per cent) even if it is less than the Italian one (13 per cent) overcomes that referred only to the South(9,4 per cent).

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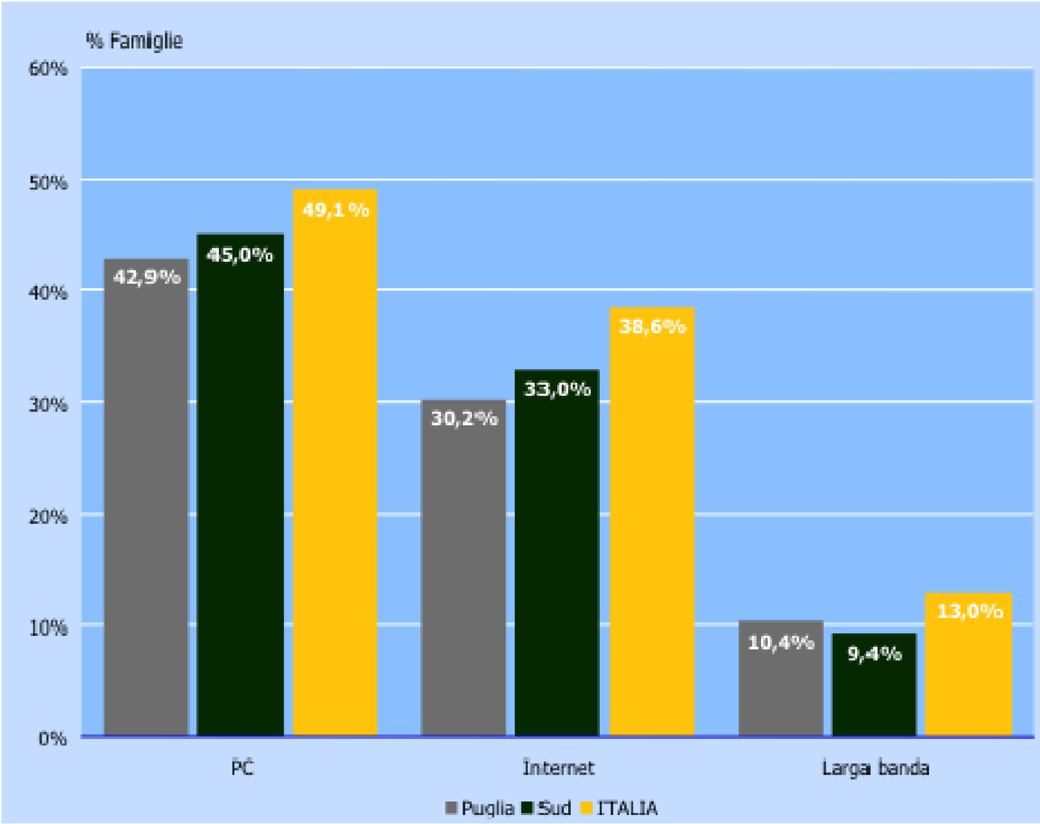
[10] There are considered families in where at least one member has from 16 to 74 years. The data are directly compared with the last publication EUROSTAT "Use of the Internet among individuals and enterprises, Statistics in focus, 2006".

[11] *Use of the Internet among individuals and enterprises, Statistics in focus*, EUROSTAT 2006.

Figure 7: Apulia families which have PC and typology of internet connection



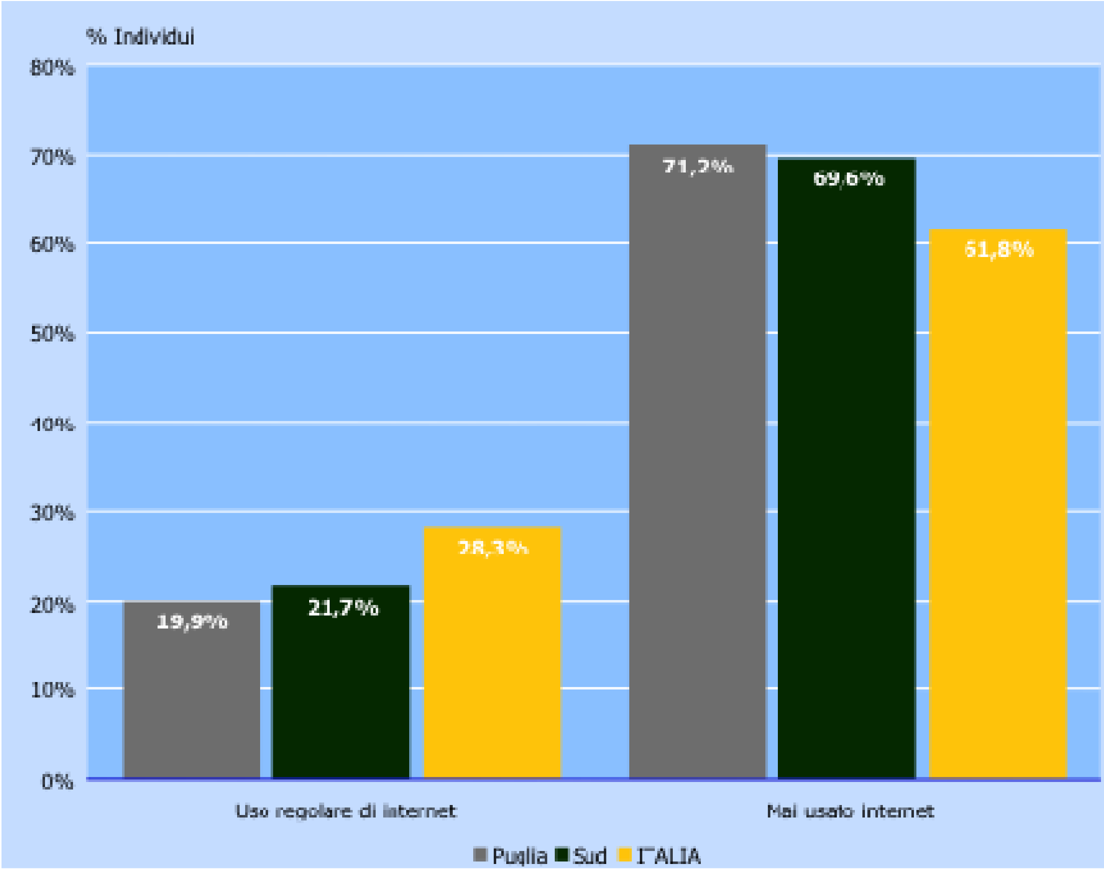
Font: Crc elaboration on data Istat, 2006

The graphic of figure 8 shows the percentage of people that use internet at least once a week and of those that say they have never used internet, with reference to the three territorial contests: Apulia region, Southern Italy and the entire national territory. Also in this case the data refer to the first quarter of year 2005 and are elaborated according to Eurostat standard to allow comparison at European level[12] . With reference to the three territorial contests here considered, it is evident as still today there is not a full familiarity with Internet.

What said is confirmed by the comparison of the European media 11 regarding either those that use internet regularly (43 per cent), and those who have never used internet (43 per cent). On the regular use of Internet, the Apulia data is less of almost two points percentage compared to that of South Italy. Even wider is the percentage difference compared to the Italian media. In line with these considerations, with reference to those who declare that have never used internet, the percentage of Apulia (71,2 per cent) is higher to those of the South of Italy and of the Nation.

[12] Are considered the people between 16 and 74 years old. The data are so, directly compared with the last publication EUROSTAT" Use of the Internet among individuals and enterprises, Statistics in focus, 2006"

Figure 8: Apulia citizens and Internet use



Font: Crc elaboration on data Istat, 2006

1.2.3.2 THE ENDOWMENTS AND THE USE OF THE INTERNET IN THE COMPANIES

By observing the represented classes in figure 9, is noted as the Apulia companies object of the investigation with reference to internet, broadband web site and intranet show a percentage of usage inferior compared to the national media, and of that of South Italy. Only in the case of the extranet, the companies of the Apulia territory are in a position of advantage compared the expressed media of South Italy.

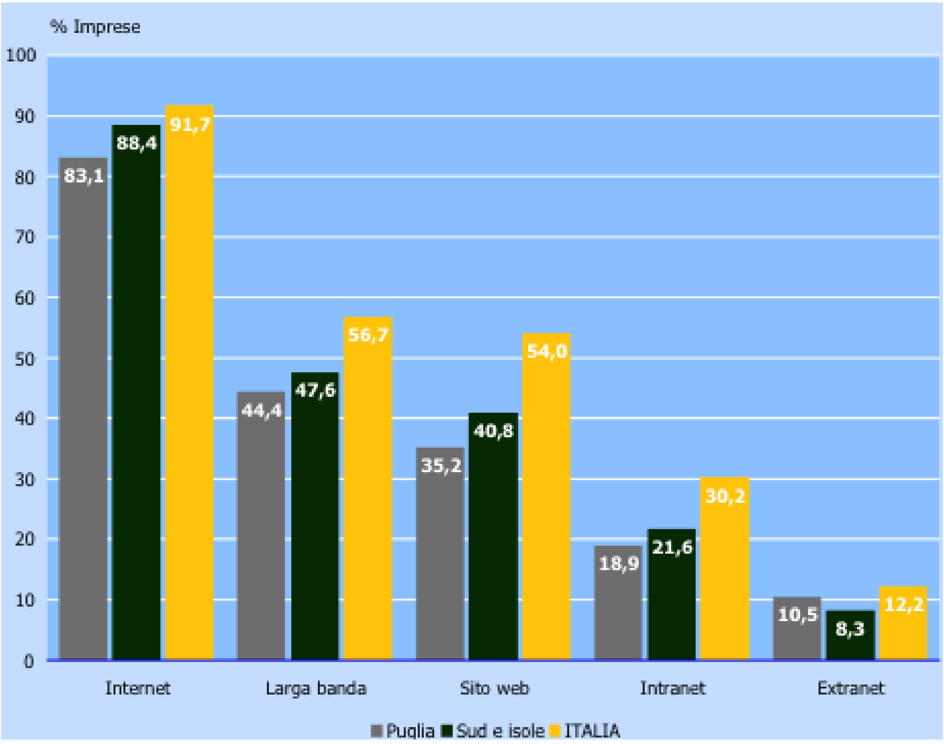
In particular the gap is very consistent in the cases of intranet and broadband, with a detachment of about 12 percent of the national media, while it results slightly less in the cases of internet use or of the presence of the web site, that express a difference between 8 and 9 points percentage.

The investigation shows that in the companies of Apulia region the use of Internet for the use of public services [13]is concentrated on classes that are of low level of interactivity.

[13] ISTAT investigation from where the data were taken doesn't consider large part of electronic interactions relating to important and diffused administration measures of tax and social security type that are done for the companies observed through other services. Further many of them have less than 10 employees and are not included in the observation camp.

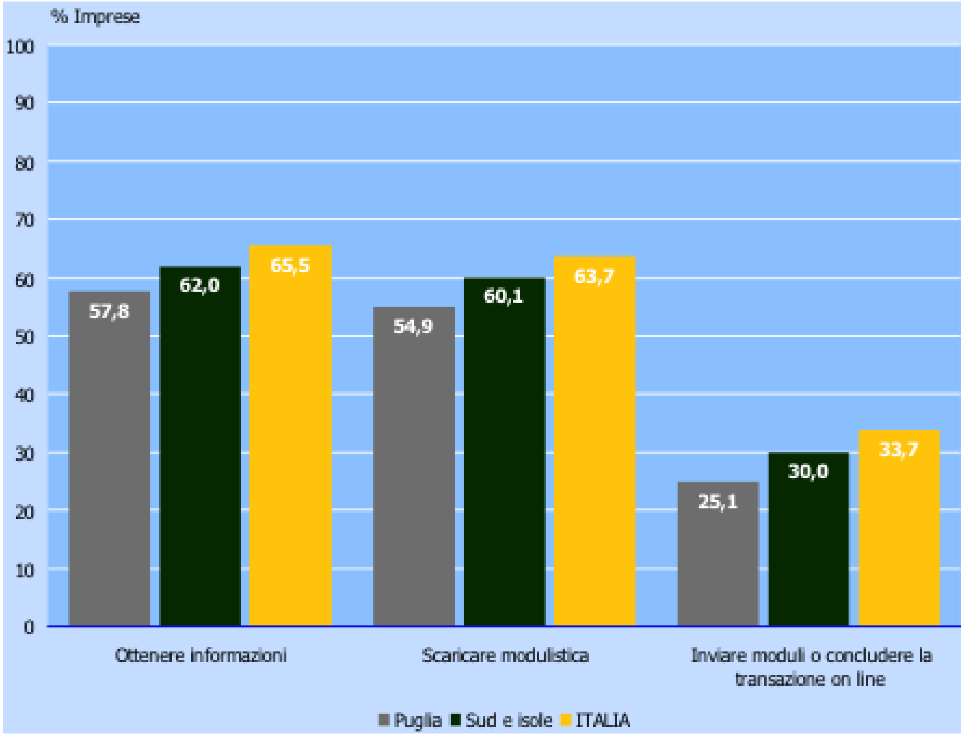
All the typologies of interaction individuated in Apulia register data more inferior compared to the other two analyzed territorial compartments. The gap becomes even more evident if are compared the regional data with the national ones: almost eight points percentage to "obtain information", just less than nine for "download forms" and "to send forms or make on line transactions".

Figure 9: Companies in Apulia with less than 10 employees for typology of connection and technological endowments



Font: survey Istat, on "ICT in the companies", 2005

Figure 10: Companies in Apulia with less than 10 employees for activity done through the public administration websites



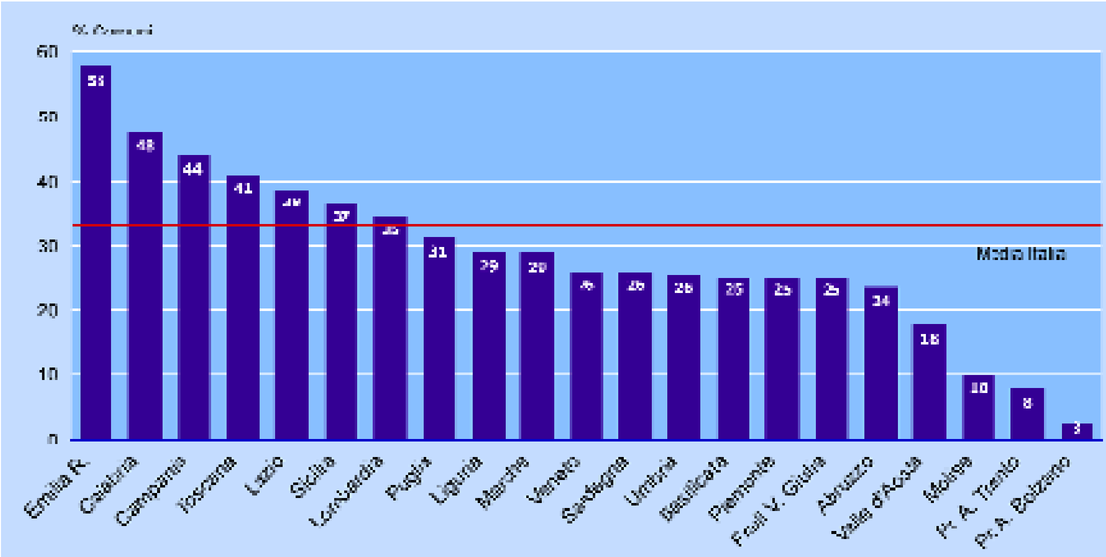
Font: survey Istat, on "ICT in the companies", 2005

1.2.3.3 BROADBAND ENDOWMENT ON THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

From the experimental survey on the "ITC in the PAL" survey included in the National Statistic Program 2007-2009 and done by Istat at the end of 2005 with the collaboration Apulia Region, it emerges that the percentage of the Communities that have declared to have Internet broadband access (>2Mps), independently by the typology used to connect to the network (ADSL, optic fiber, other systems).

The value shown by the research related to the Apulia Communities (31 per cent), even if resulting just less than the national media (33 per cent), is better compared to almost all the southern regions, with the exception of Sicily, and it puts the Apulia region eighth in the national ranking.

Figure 11: Communities with broadband, 2005



Font: Istat, experimental survey on "ICT in the PAL", 2005

1.2.3.4 THE BARRIERS FOR BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT IN APULIA REGION

Apulia in 2006 already is, according to the Between Report, one of the Italian regions that has the highest levels of ADSL coverage, it has more than 90% of the population (Between Report, 2006 and 2007). The diffusion of broadband in the Apulia community reaches 70%, against 61% of North – Centre.

The opening of a new phase of development requires that must be faced the structural bounds that can stop the pervasiveness of broadband

The broadband development barriers in Apulia are represented from one side by the delay in the informatics education of Apulia people, on the other side by a missed development of the competition in the sector; The always wider availability to advanced broadband services requires a further development of the competition and the continuation of the process to reduce prices already in force, and of quick passage to the consumer charging mode (that remains an important "invitation to the test") to those *flat* prices, that guarantee the definite entry in network eco-system (*always on* connections).

Therefore, Apulia shows a strong interest to the development of the ICT, and with the full implementation and availability of the services finalized to sustain the promotion in a inclusive and exposing way of the Society of Information and to ensure maximum accessibility and use of ICT technologies, in particular in Societies and Citizens, including the social categories with a higher rate of exclusion (old people and disabled) it can be said that in the near future in Apulia will occur a significant expansion to the use of technologies that will bring the desiderate reduction of the "digital divide".

The Apulia Region is however continuing to invest in this direction with an adequate support in POR 2007 – 2013.

It can be said that with the activated projects has been reached in local P. A. a good level of infrastructural endowment. Much has been done in training the employees in the use of the instruments and the new technologies, now it is necessary to sensitize the employees, making them feel part of the developing process of the territory as expected in the new regional program.

It is on this point that it is necessary to impress an efficient regional strategy with the aim to overcome the scarce sensibility for innovation in the Public Administrations, displaying the economical and social advantages, and also those linked to the administration efficiency.

The demonstration that, before a public investments, can be obtained a reduction of management costs and a better quality of services, give and take, it can be a strong factor to change motivation.

It is advisable therefore to encourage, in the public institutions, the awareness of its role of leverage for the total development of the territory, the perception of the importance to base the proper choices on citizen satisfaction, seen as the central subject of the political and administrative action.

Such an objective presumes an evolution of the political culture in order to bring and qualify the government functions towards the capacity to know and to interpret the necessities and the territorial potential and also the capacity to translate them in objectives and strategies.