



**MedStrategy Project - Integrated Strategy for Sustainable
Development of Mediterranean Rural Areas**
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C3 – TERRITORIES AND INSTITUTIONS: diagnosis and ex ante evaluation

Phase 3 – SWOT Analysis

“SWOT Analysis”
Intermunicipal Consortium Tindari Nebrodi



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KAPE CRES | CENTRE FOR RENEWABLE
ENERGY SOURCES AND SAVING



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INTRODUCTION

The Partners, considering the results of the Framework Document, will develop an auto-evaluation activity of their contexts through a “SWOT” methodology, aimed at singling out the factors encouraging or impeding the implementation of integrated development strategies. This phase, which schedules occasions of comparison about the different institutional assets and specific issues, will allow each local reality to compare the results and the goals achieved in the 4 studied areas.

The final report (Diagnostic Report, DR) will compare the territories’ quality and the different governance systems. It will be drawn up on the basis of common criteria indicated by the Experts Board. The DR will be the reference document for the participation process.

1. Territorial SWOT analysis

The “Territorial SWOT analysis” includes 6 thematic areas and 2-3 key indicators per thematic area, the following ones:

- a. socio-demographic dimension (aspects)
 - population structure and evolution,
 - education and life style,
 - employment and Gross Domestic Product.
- b. settlement system
 - urban growth,
 - quality of urban areas,
 - transport infrastructures.
- c. system of environmental and historic-cultural resources
 - protected natural areas and other sites of natural interest,
 - archaeology, architectural and historic-cultural heritage,
 - environmental resources (air, water, soil).
- d. economic and production dimension (aspects)
 - industrial and traditional craft activities,
 - agriculture and zootechnical activities and fishing,
 - tourism / tourist activities.
- e. territorial services,
 - public transport,
 - school, social welfare, cultural and sporting facilities,
- f. environmental services
 - waste management,
 - protection and management of water resources,
 - energy production and distribution.

1.1 Thematic area: Socio-demographic dimension

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Population structure and evolution	<p>Significant growth (with increments ranging from 17% to 35%) of the resident population in the coastal municipalities of Falcone, Oliveri, Gioiosa Marea and Patti. In the same municipalities, the old age ratio is significantly lower than the the old age ratio related to the whole territory of the Consortium.</p> <p>In the territory of the Consortium the population density is lower (115 inhabitants/km²) than that recorded in Province of Messina (201 inhabitants/km²), in Region of Sicily (196 inhabitants/ km²) and at national level (200 inhabitants/km²). In inland municipalities of Basicò, Montalbano Elicona, Floresta, Raccuja and Ucria, the population density is even below/under 50 inhabitants/ km².</p>	<p>In the territory of the Consortium there is a significant decrease (-13.5%) of the resident population. In the inland municipalities of Basicò, Montalbano Elicona, Floresta, Raccuja and Ucria the resident population shows a significant decrease, even exceeding 40%.</p> <p>In the coastal municipalities of Falcone, Oliveri, Gioiosa Marea and Patti the population density shows high values (from 210 to 313 inhabitants/ km²) in relation to the national average.</p> <p>The composition of the resident population in the territory of the Consortium is characterized by a significant number of individuals aged over 45 years (46%) compared to individuals aged under 24 years (26%).</p> <p>Progressive ageing of the resident population and consequently high old age ratio and dependency ratio.</p>	<p>Attractiveness capacity of the coastal municipalities of Falcone, Oliveri, Gioiosa Marea and Patti.</p>	<p>Progressive ageing of the resident population with increase of old age ratio and dependency ratio.</p> <p>The limited job opportunities for young people could increase further the depopulation process already in place.</p>

Education and life style	<p>In the inland areas of the territory of the Consortium, the consumption of environmental resources is significantly lower than that one recorded at national level.</p>	<p>Low level of education and schooling of the resident population in relation to the national average. High rate of school drop out.</p> <p>Significant increase (+9.6%) in the number of vehicles and in the motorization rate</p> <p>Environmental quality of road vehicles inferior to that recorded in the national territory.</p> <p>Lack (absence) of information and sensitivity toward the issues of sustainable development and sustainable tourism.</p>	<p>Presence of training centers that can favour the increase of education levels and professional qualification.</p>	<p>Absence of awareness campaigns aimed at promoting the reduction of consumption.</p> <p>Increase of the demand for private mobility and of air pollution and the construction of new infrastructure that generates phenomena of fragmentation.</p> <p>Absence of awareness campaigns on the quality of life.</p> <p>Absence of specific measures aimed at reducing private mobility.</p> <p>Absence of policies and measures aimed at encouraging the diffusion of low environmental impact vehicles and in particular at enhancing the environmental quality of public road vehicle fleet.</p> <p>Weak connection between the system of training and the needs of the labour market and the economy.</p>
Employment & Gross Domestic Product	<p>Significant presence of environmental and historical and cultural resources that, if properly exploited, can be an important opportunity for the development of new activities, source of income and employment.</p> <p>Considerable number of small businesses and activities (<4 employees) related to the enhancement of local products.</p> <p>Widespread presence of accommodation facilities and catering services, especially in the coastal localities.</p>	<p>High rate of unemployment in relation to the national average.</p> <p>Limited availability of job mobility.</p> <p>Vocational training system poorly connected with the productive world/system.</p> <p>Significant presence of underemployment, undeclared work and precarious youth.</p>	<p>New opportunities arising from the growth in the activities related to organic farming and to valorisation of local productions.</p> <p>New opportunities arising from the increasing interest in cultural, rural, natural and gastronomic tourism.</p> <p>The recent establishment of the Tourist District "Thyrrenium Tyndaris - Parco Dei Miti" is an opportunity for the development of an integrated and quality tourist offer that can favour the increase in employment.</p>	<p>Total absence of development of small and medium enterprises.</p> <p>Insufficient entrepreneurial dynamism.</p> <p>Development of business affected by the presence of illegal activities (Mafia).</p> <p>Weak capacity to promote the local products.</p> <p>Weak forms of collaboration between companies, institutions and local actors for the socio-economic development.</p>

1.2 Thematic area: Settlement System

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Urban growth	<p>Contained presence of urbanized areas in relation to the total territorial surface in the inland areas of the Consortium Tindari Nebrodi.</p>	<p>Significant presence of urbanized areas in relation to the total territorial surface in the coastal municipalities of Falcone (10%), Oliveri (9%), Gioiosa Marea (6.5%) and Patti (5.9%).</p> <p>Significant increase in the number of dwelling units (+62%) in relation to the resident population that shows a decrease of -10%.</p> <p>High percentage of vacant (not used, not inhabited) dwelling units in the historic centers.</p>	<p>The significant presence of protected and constrained areas will favour the implementation of policies aimed at urban and territorial development compatible with respect for the natural environment and rural landscape.</p> <p>The forecasts of the Urban Plans current in force aimed at the satisfaction of housing needs through the recovery of the existing housing stock.</p> <p>The recovery of the vacant (not used, not inhabited) dwelling units in the historic centers, can favour the innovate and qualification of the tourist offer.</p>	<p>More than half of the Consortium Tindari-Nebrodi municipalities hasn't started the process of updating of the urban plans.</p> <p>Absence of policies aimed at the recovery and restructuring of existing housing stock.</p> <p>Absence of specific initiatives and interventions aimed at improving the energy efficiency of public and private buildings and consequently to reduce energy consumption.</p>
Quality of urban areas	<p>High quality of the cultural and historic built heritage.</p> <p>According to the "Regional Coordination Plan for the Protection of the Environment Air Quality", the territory of the Consortium lies entirely in areas where levels of pollutants are below the limit value.</p> <p>The historic center of Montalbano Elicona, recently redevelopment, is a pole of attraction for tourism.</p>	<p>Green areas and urban services undersized in relation to the needs of the resident population and to the tourist potential of the territory.</p> <p>Absence of Restricted Traffic Zones (RTZ), pedestrian areas and cycling paths.</p> <p>Absence of air quality monitoring sites.</p>	<p>The Region of Sicily started a project aimed at strengthening and reorganization the air quality monitoring network.</p> <p>The strategic planning tools are an opportunity to favour the increase and improvement of the quality of urban services.</p>	<p>Absence of policies and initiatives aimed at strengthening and enhancing the urban green areas and services.</p> <p>Absence of policies and specific tools aimed at the mobility management (such as Urban Mobility Plan, Urban Traffic Plan), at the improvement of urban public transport and at the promotion of innovative modes of transport.</p>

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Transport Infrastructures</p>	<p>The connection between the municipalities of the Consortium Tindari - Nebrodi and the main urban centers of Sicily is guaranteed by the highway A20 Palermo-Messina, A19 Palermo-Catania and A18 Messina-Catania, by the state roads SS113, SS116 and SS185 and by a dense network of secondary roads.</p> <p>The coastal municipalities of Falcone, Gioiosa Marea, Patti and Oliveri are the only ones of the Consortium, crossed and served by the railway.</p> <p>Good accessibility to the ports of national interest (Messina, Milazzo)</p> <p>Good accessibility to the airports of national major traffic. (Palermo, Catania)</p> <p>Proximity to the Milazzo's port, node of the connection between Sicily and the Aeolian Islands.</p>	<p>The secondary roads appear inadequate to link the inland areas with the coastal areas and to connect the primary roads with the interchange nodes modal of roads and rail.</p> <p>Presence of road infrastructures subject to natural events such as landslides and geological instability.</p> <p>The railway network doesn't represent an alternative to road transport.</p>	<p>The completion of the highway A20 Messina-Palermo and the construction of the highway Siracusa-Gela and Catania-Siracusa will contribute to improve the links / communications between the main centers in the Region of Sicily.</p> <p>The program of the Italian Railways related to the doubling of railway track along the lines Messina - Catania and Messina - Palermo, may offer new alternative opportunities to the road transport.</p> <p>The "Transportation plan" of the Sicilian region provides for greater ease of connection with the inner areas and with the smaller islands.</p>	<p>Reduction of public investment in primary infrastructure due to the processes of containment of the public spending.</p>
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1.3 Thematic area: System of environmental and historic-cultural resources

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Protected natural areas	<p>Presence of a significant number of protected areas: Nebrodi Park, Natural Reserves (R.N.O. Bosco di Malabotta and R.N.O. Laghetti di Marinello) and Natura 2000 Sites that cover 12% of total territorial surface.</p> <p>Presence of quality natural areas with high tourist potential.</p>	<p>Poor capacity to manage in a systematic and innovative way the use and the valorisation of the protected areas.</p> <p>Weak and fragmented knowledge and awareness of the potentiality of the system of natural resources by citizens and by local businesses.</p>	<p>The Territorial Plan of Nebrodi Park will guarantee an efficacious protection and enhancement of the environmental resources.</p> <p>The “Management Plans” of Natura 2000 sites establish appropriate strategies aimed at the protection of habitats and species.</p>	<p>The “Arrangement Plans” and the “Utilization Plans” of the natural reserves haven’t been yet drew up.</p> <p>Absence of specific interventions directed to enhance and protect biodiversity, extending the surface of protected areas and ensuring their sustainable management.</p> <p>Reduction of public investment aimed at the preservation, restoration and enhancement of natural heritage.</p>
Archaeology, architectural and cultural heritage	<p>Presence of a significant number of archaeological, architectural, historical and cultural resources, of great tourist attraction. Archaeological site of “Tyndaris” in correspondence of Tindari’s promontory (Municipality of Patti), which includes the ruins of a settlement of the Hellenistic- Roman age, a basilica and a greek theater dating from the third-fourth century B.C., which in summer is used for the performance of classical plays, concerts and various kinds of performances. Within the archaeological site, a museum collects archeological finds of prehistoric, Greek and Roman age, of great archaeological interest and explanatory panels, floor plans and reconstructions that allow to retrace the history of Tyndaris.</p> <p>Presence of the Sanctuary of Black Madonna of Tindari, of national and international importance, which attracts many faithful for the whole year.</p> <p>Presence of the ruins of a roman late imperial villa, in the municipality of Patti.</p> <p>The historic centers of the municipalities maintain the original ancient and medieval structure.</p> <p>Widespread presence of historical paths crossing and linking the inland areas of the territory.</p>	<p>General state of deterioration of the historic centers and of the historic built heritage in general, not sufficiently emphasized and subject to a process of abandonment.</p> <p>Presence of significant number of architectural, historical and cultural resources that are in a state of decay and neglect, not properly subject to policies of protection and enhancement.</p> <p>Inadequate knowledge and awareness of the value and opportunities connected to the valorization of historical, cultural and ethno-anthropological heritage.</p> <p>Absence of expertises specific in the management of cultural heritage and of territorial resources.</p> <p>Lack of services and facilities to support the enjoyment of archaeological, historic and cultural resources.</p> <p>Absence of plans for the integrated management of environmental, historical and cultural resources.</p>	<p>The archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage, is a strong element of attractiveness potential of the territory.</p> <p>The archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage, if properly subject to redevelopment and enhancement, could represent an important opportunity for the development of new activities, source of income and employment.</p>	<p>Inadequate activities of protection, maintenance and restoration of archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage. Absence of territorial policies aimed at the synergetic enhancing of these resources.</p> <p>Progressive degradation of the historic centres due to the absence of interventions aimed at the protection and enhancement of the historic buildings.</p> <p>Inadequacy of funds (Underfunding) for the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of the cultural heritage.</p> <p>Lack of interventions aimed at enhancing and promoting the potentiality of historical, architectural and cultural resources.</p>

Environmental resources	<p>Agricultural landscape of high value environmental and natural.</p> <p>Significant presence of agricultural areas (49%) and natural and semi-natural areas (46%).</p> <p>Presence, in the municipality of Patti, of an area of particular environmental interest subject to constraint that includes the archaeological site of Tindari and the Natural Reserve "Laghetti di Marinello".</p> <p>Presence of natural and semi-natural habitats with high biodiversity.</p>	<p>Absence of awareness by citizens toward the environmental resources and the landscape protection.</p> <p>Lack of data and information aimed at describing the current state of most environmental components and critical issues related to the effects on the human health.</p> <p>Lack of activities oriented toward families and schools aimed at the information and awareness on environmental heritage and landscape and on the problems related to its conservation and protection.</p> <p>Lack of awareness and training of technicians, administrators and economic operators on new opportunities of innovation related to environmental sustainability.</p> <p>Unavailability and lack of systematization of the environmental data and of the information necessary for the creation of a database for all agencies/organizations operating in the territory.</p> <p>Absence of territorial and urban policies aimed at protecting and preserving the landscape and the environment.</p>	<p>Significant presence of high value landscapes subject to environmental protection.</p> <p>The implementation of the forecasts contained in the landscape and territorial plans will ensure the protection of the constrained areas aimed at the conservation of landscape and of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage.</p> <p>The national and European Union policies oriented to the preservation of environment and of landscape and to the promotion of sustainable development.</p> <p>Development of new economic activities as the rural and agro-industrial tourism as a defence of territorial environmental quality.</p>	<p>Absence of regulations and plans aimed at ensuring the conservation and enhancement of the natural resources and the respect of the constraints arising from the implementation of these tools.</p> <p>Absence of measures aimed at the protection of areas with high level of naturalness and environmental value.</p> <p>Reduction of the environment defence/ garrison due to the progressive abandonment of agricultural practices.</p> <p>Progressive abandonment of agricultural areas in the mountain areas could determine a widespread environmental degradation (eg hydrogeological instability)</p> <p>Reduction in public investment in environmental issues due to the economic crisis</p> <p>Increase "uncontrolled" of the human pressure on the coasts and on the territories due to illegal activities controlled by organized crime.</p>
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1.4 Thematic area: Economic and production dimension

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Industrial and traditional craft activities	<p>Tendential increase in the number of Local Units and employees in the "Industry" sector and in the "Trade and Services" sector.</p> <p>Presence, although limited and not yet widespread, of enterprises that adopted Environmental Management System.</p> <p>Absence of industrial activities and plants at major accident risks.</p> <p>Widespread presence of small handcraft activities and of local productions.</p>	<p>Infrastructural facilities and services undersized or inadequate to the needs of enterprises.</p> <p>Lack of integration of spinneret and strong presence of isolated enterprises particularly in the agricultural sector.</p> <p>Low commercial enhancement of local productions.</p> <p>Weak diffusion of technology and innovation in the enterprise system.</p> <p>Absence of coordination and cooperation between local administration and production system.</p> <p>Small size and fragility of a large part of manufacturing activities and low propensity toward associative behaviour.</p>	<p>Enhancement and strengthening of the production and marketing of the local products</p> <p>Strengthening and enhancement of local traditional handcraft.</p>	<p>Absence of local and regional policies that encourage the diversification of productive activities as from the enhancement capacity of territorial resources.</p> <p>Absence of policies and incentives aimed at favouring a wider diffusion of environmental management systems within the enterprises and the public administrations.</p> <p>Phenomena of globalization, which might marginalize some local manufacturing activities.</p> <p>Unfavourable trend in the marketing of traditional products.</p> <p>Absence of initiatives aimed at implementing conditions of particular advantage for the establishment of innovative activities with low environmental impact.</p>

Agriculture and zootechnical activities and fishing

<p>Increase in the number of organic farms.</p> <p>Presence of a wide range of typical agro-food products (eg. salame of S. Angelo Brolo), which can reach niche markets facilitating the tourist sector.</p>	<p>Increase in the abandonment of agricultural areas in the hilly and mountain areas determined by the low level of income.</p> <p>Agricultural system based on the predominance of agricultural holdings to "directly owned", managed mainly by "family manpower", with small extension of the agricultural area (from 1 hectare to 10 hectares).</p> <p>Agricultural holdings with low propensity to new production and commercial strategies.</p> <p>Lack of knowledge of the real possibilities related to the development of activities related to rural tourism.</p> <p>Insufficient integration of local products with the tourist offer.</p> <p>Absence of adequate structures for the promotion and marketing of local and quality products.</p> <p>Low commercial enhancement of agricultural production and agro-food typical local (Typical products registered PDO/PGI and wine -gastronomic itineraries)</p> <p>Significant decrease in the number of farms and heads of livestock.</p> <p>Inadequate development of the industrial sector linked to the transformation of agricultural products.</p> <p>Weak capacity of cooperation between entrepreneurs and public body in the definition of common strategies for creating food spinnerets aimed at the enhancement of local products.</p>	<p>Increasing demand for quality agricultural products, organic and typical products, with safety requirements, authenticity, traceability.</p> <p>Increasing interest in rural and enogastronomic tourism.</p> <p>Opportunity to integrate the income of farmers through the resort to other activities linked to the agricultural practises such as rural tourism and traditional crafts.</p> <p>Growth of other activities related to the agricultural practices (rural tourism, direct sales of agricultural products of certified quality) aimed at integrating the income of farmers</p> <p>Increasing demand for organic products and certified quality products.</p>	<p>Absence of local policies aimed at increasing agricultural production and at strengthening the agricultural production system, against the phenomenon of abandonment of agricultural and forest territories.</p> <p>Absence of initiatives aimed at promoting the technological innovation and a more efficient organization of production systems within the agricultural holdings.</p> <p>Progressive decrease in the prices of agricultural products, unprofitable of the production factors.</p> <p>International competition with the cheap imported products.</p> <p>Reduction of the action aimed to contrast the hydrogeological risk and protect the landscape due to the further abandonment of agricultural activity.</p> <p>Lack of generational change in the agricultural sector.</p>
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Tourism / Tourist activities

Tourist attractiveness determined by the quality of natural resources and landscapes, by the archaeological sites and by the architectural heritage.

Significant demand for religious tourism originated by the presence of the sanctuary of the Black Madonna of Tindari that attracts over one million of visitors every year.

Presence of a dense network of paths to be exploited for the individuation of paths for the enjoyment of the territorial resources.

Popular and religious traditions as a tourist attraction.

High quality of food and gastronomic products.

Significant growth, in recent years, of accommodation facilities (in particular other accommodations as B&B, Farms holidays, Camping, Accommodations for rent).

Accommodation capacity characterized by different types of accommodation facilities (hotels, B&B, Farms holidays, Camping, Accommodations for rent, etc..) although mainly localized/distributed in the coastal resorts.

Widespread presence of catering/food services.

Constitution of District Tourist "Thyrrenium Tyndaris - Myths Of the Park".

Persistence of a seasonal tourist model and for short stays.

High concentration of tourists during the bathing season in the coastal resorts.

Inadequate promotion of tourism.

Lack of proper organization and synergetic coordination of tourism.

Insufficient awareness of the opportunity that may arise from the protection and enhancement of environmental and cultural resources for tourism development.

Lack of facilities and services as a support for the tourist activities and for the enjoyment of natural and cultural resources.

Low quality standard of existing tourist services.

Difficult accessibility to environmental and cultural resources located in the inland areas.

Tourist offer little functional to the needs of a tourist "multi-interest".

Lack of integration between the bathing tourist offer and that one environmental, historical, cultural and religious.

Limited presence of accommodation facilities in the inland areas.

Low level of professional expertise in the tourist sector (knowledge languages, marketing, customer service).

The "Tourist Development Plan" (2010) represents an opportunity to promote the implementation of an integrated tourist offer and consequently increase the tourist demand in the different months of year.

Increasing tourist demand of high quality with wide possibility for diversification (environmental, cultural, rural, food and wine and religious tourism, etc ...) and for deseasonalization of tourist flows.

Proximity to areas of exceptional environmental and historical-cultural interest (Aeolian Islands, Nebrodi Park, Taormina, Giardini Naxos).

Optimal climatic conditions for the extension of the tourist season.

Significant number of historic rural buildings and not used dwelling units in the historic centers to use for increasing the offer of accommodation facilities.

National and community programs and funding for the integrated enhancing of environmental and cultural resources related/linked to the tourist sector.

Coordination with other local governments (regional, provincial governments) for the integrated promotion of the tourist offer.

Absence of policies aimed at increasing the accommodation facilities favoring the recovery of historical and architectural heritage and of not used dwelling units.

Absence of policies and interventions aimed at improving the "environmental performance" of the existing accommodation facilities.

High competition with the other regional tourist areas. (excessive pressure of competing areas on tourism demand).

Absence of policies and measures aimed at improving the real and potential tourism products in the forms required and recognized by the market.

Fragmentation of the tourist offer due to the lack of coordination between the public administrations and the private tourist operators.

Lack of marketing strategies that connect the promotion of local products with the preservation of historical and cultural resource, the safeguard of landscape and the promotion of sustainable tourism.

Absence of measures aimed at improving and promoting the enjoyment of cultural heritage.

1.5 Thematic area: Territorial Services

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Public transport		<p>Urban congestion due to the weak integration of the urban transport system.</p> <p>Weak public transport connections between rural and urban areas.</p>		<p>Absence of policies and specific tools aimed at the mobility management (such as Urban Mobility Plan, Urban Traffic Plan), at the improvement of urban public transport and at the promotion of innovative modes of transport.</p>
School, social, cultural and sporting facilities		<p>Unequal distribution on the territory of public and private services, which are mainly localized on the urban and coastline areas.</p> <p>Services and facilities undersized and inadequate in relation to the needs of the resident population and to the tourist potential of the territory.</p> <p>Difficult accessibility to the territorial services mainly located along the coastal areas.</p> <p>Lack of social and welfare services.</p>		<p>The presence of areas inadequately equipped with facilities reduces the attractiveness of the territory towards the population and the tourism.</p>

1.6 Thematic area: Environmental Services

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Waste management	<p>Organization of the integrated waste management through the ATO (Optimal Territorial Area) in accordance with the Community directives.</p>	<p>The ATO (Optimal Territorial Area), responsible for the integrated waste management, is inefficient and has not yet started a system of integrated waste management.</p> <p>The integrated waste management by the ATO is inefficient and didn't improve the quality of management services.</p> <p>The percentage of separately collected waste is lower than that recorded at regional and national level and doesn't comply with the provisions of Community directives.</p> <p>Presence of sewage treatment plants of old technology and undersized in relation to the demand.</p> <p>Sewage system mainly mixed (not differentiated by the white water and black water) and insufficient.</p>		<p>Absence of effective policies and specific initiatives aimed at: reducing the amount of municipal waste produced and conveyed in the landfills and increasing the percentage of separately collected in relation to the total municipal waste production.</p>
Protection & management of water resources	<p>Good quality of surface water sources.</p> <p>High percentage (over 98%) of bathing coast (high quality of marine water sources).</p> <p>Good quality of underground water sources.</p>	<p>Water resources insufficient in relation to the demand during the summer period, due to the inefficiency of the networks (crumbling municipal water networks) and to the significant losses that occur in the distribution network.</p> <p>Insufficient monitoring activities on the quality of drinking water.</p> <p>Absence of a monitoring system on the efficiency of the water distribution networks, which involves a lack of confidence on the quality of drinking water and a general use by the citizens of bottled water.</p>	<p>The "Plan for the Waters Protection" of the Sicilian Region provides the monitoring on the quality of the surface waters, of the underground waters and of the marine waters.</p>	<p>Absence of initiatives aimed at improving the water management systems.</p> <p>Absence of policies by local authorities aimed at defining the measures to protect the quality of surface waters, underground waters and marine waters.</p>

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Energy production and distribution</p>	<p>Environmental conditions favourable to the installation of alternative energy sources and innovative technologies for energy saving.</p>	<p>The Local bodies (municipalities and province) haven't yet started a proper strategy for the promotion of energy conservation and renewable sources of energy.</p> <p>There isn't a database of energy data (energy consumption, current projects).</p> <p>Inadequate training activities addressed to the staff of public administrations about the opportunities to develop projects and obtain funding for the use of renewable and for a more efficient energy consumption.</p> <p>Inadequate information activities addressed to the citizens on energy saving and on the renewable energy.</p>	<p>Regional, national and community funds/incentives for the introduction of innovative technologies aimed at energy saving and the production of renewable energy (wind and solar).</p> <p>Regional, national and community funds/incentives for the renewal of the energy distribution networks (in particular relating to the industrial uses with large capacity).</p>	<p>Absence of local policies aimed at reducing the energy consumption and improving the energy efficiency of production processes and of the final electric devices used in housing, in the tertiary sector, in the productive activities and in the transport systems.</p> <p>Lack of local incentives for the public and private building aimed at ensuring the rationalization of consumption and the use of renewable sources.</p>
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2. Institutional SWOT analysis

The aim of the institutional SWOT analyses is to investigate the capacities of local authorities to:

1. cooperate with the different levels of government for the territorial management,
2. foster growth & innovation in a competent, efficient and effective way,
3. develop policies, programs and government actions for sustainable development, and
4. promote a shared vision of sustainable development through participatory processes.
5. promote and support innovative local development processes in accord with the local enterprises

To correctly evaluate the abovementioned capacities, partners should answer to relevant questions, such as:

- What plans or programs have been elaborated and/or adopted by the Local Authorities in relation to those foreseen by the Legislative System for the territory under study (Region, Province, Country etc....)?
- What sustainable management activities (by sector) have been activated by the Local Authorities?
- What strategic and/or regional marketing plans or programs have been elaborated and/or adopted in collaboration with other Institutions/Authorities and in accord with the local private enterprises (specify the year)?
- Which and how many resources from EU funds have been used by Local Authorities in the last 5 years?
- Which and how many resources from EU funds have been used for the construction of infrastructures, facilities and/or equipment? / for the drafting of plans and strategic programs?
- How many local resources have been devoted to programs and activities aimed at the valorization of cultural and environmental heritage in the last 3 y?
- How many participatory processes / channels have been activated in the last 5y:
 - towards citizenship in the last 5 years?
 - towards institutions/association/communities?

2.1 Thematic area: Institutional System

Thematic areas	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
The capacity to cooperate with the different levels of government for the territorial management	<p>Local authorities participated in several Territorial strategic programs.</p> <p>The Intermunicipal Consortium Tindari-Nebrodi plays a coordinating role for the promotion of Integrated Strategic Plans</p>	<p>The territorial planning is not seen as an opportunity for the local development planning/programming.</p> <p>The potentialities of the strategic programmes adopted aren't always valued.</p>	<p>Presence of a strong local identity linked to the agricultural productions.</p> <p>Presence of a significant number of historical, cultural and environmental resources.</p> <p>Several EU Programmes are aimed at enhancing the environmental, historical and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Constitution/establishment of Tourist District "Thyrrenium Tyndaris "</p>	<p>It wasn't developed a "common vision", shared with private operators and aimed at orienting the local development policies.</p>
The ability of the Local Authorities in fostering growth and innovation in a competent, efficient and effective manner		<p>The EU funds were mainly used for the construction of municipal/local infrastructure.</p> <p>Weak initiatives, public and private, aimed at improving the energy efficiency of buildings.</p> <p>Technical and professional skills inadequate to the development of strategic and innovative projects that are able to intercept the EU funds.</p>		<p>The municipalities are not attracted by the opportunity to implement policies aimed at improving the efficiency of key sectors.</p> <p>Permanence of the low level of computerization of the Public Administration, inadequate to the national and Community standards.</p>
The capacity of the Local Authorities to develop policies, programs and government actions oriented at the sustainable development	<p>In 2006, the "Consortium Tindari Nebrodi" started the process of Local Agenda 21 with the drafting of the "Environmental Report"</p>	<p>Plans and Programs approved and implemented are not always oriented to the definition of integrated development strategies and regional marketing.</p> <p>None of the municipalities has started projects aimed at achieving the Environmental Quality Certification.</p> <p>Local resources (human and financial) insufficient to support the development of innovative projects on socio-economic and territorial issues.</p>	<p>The quality of environmental and cultural resources represents an point/element of strength upon which to build strategies for sustainable development.</p> <p>The maintenance of agricultural practices is an important garrison for the protection of landscape and environmental</p>	<p>Lack of knowledge and awareness of the potential role, innovative and strategic, of the historical and cultural resources.</p> <p>Difficulty to find qualified human resources and expertise within the public administration.</p>

<p>The capacity of the Local Authorities to promote a shared (common) "Vision" of the sustainable development through the activation of participative processes</p>		<p>The drafting of the Strategic Programs has not been used properly to ensure the participation of the stakeholders in the planning stage.</p> <p>The stakeholders are not perceived as surplus/added value to define a shared vision, but as beneficiaries of funding.</p>	<p>The recent constitution/establishment of the Tourist District represents an opportunity to start the participation process with the local communities in order to the definition of the development programs</p>	<p>Little consideration of the effectiveness of participation processes on the part of the 'Leadership' and of the private entrepreneurs.</p> <p>Loss of confidence in the institutions by the citizens.</p>
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