



WG2 Case study profile (updated March 2014)

WG2 Thematic group	WG2.2. Children and childcare
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Institution	Università <i>Mediterranea</i> di Reggio Calabria
Title of case study (and priority ranking)	Territorial cohesion and early childhood education and care (ECEC). A comparative analysis of supply trajectories in Emilia Romagna and Calabria
Country/region/place investigated	Italy Calabria and Emilia Romagna
Social service sector(s) investigated <i>(Erase non relevant ones)</i>	<i>Short description</i> The paper investigates the different trajectories of two regions placed at the extremes of the current Italian ECEC coverage spectrum in the development of such services since the establishment of ECEC as a public service in 1971.
Category of case study ('what' is investigated) <i>(Erase non relevant ones)</i>	<i>Short description</i> The paper describes the very different trajectories undertaken by the Emilia Romagna and Calabria regions in the implementation of the national legislation and investment plan enacted in 1971. Structural, institutional and cultural factors are mobilized to explain the different regional performance within the same national legislative framework. Among actors, the key role of the regional and local government institutions is stressed and their relationship with other local collective actors. The conditioning role of local structural factors, i.e. different economic structures and labour markets, is also highlighted, as well as the different social norms concerning childcare.
Time frame considered <i>(from when to when)</i>	From 1971 (First National Law establishing daycare as a public services) to date.
Five 'perspectives' <i>(Erase non relevant ones)</i>	<i>Short description</i> Special attention is given to the governance dimension, where institutional differences among the two regions are most marked. The different attention to and implementation capabilities exhibited in what concerns ECEC, then reverberate on the social and territorial cohesion dimension, the gender dimension, i.e. the access of women to the labour market, and the employment condition of workers. In all these dimensions Calabria appears far behind. The two regions also exhibit different behaviours in the way they react to the crisis.
Three processes in restructuring + crisis <i>(Erase non relevant ones)</i>	<i>Short description</i> All three processes are investigated. In Calabria financial support to ECEC was never a priority, whereas in Emilia Romagna the management of such services underwent a process of optimization. In what concerns the vertical
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children/Childcare 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsector/policy/programme (meso-level) • Actor(s) • Places (regions) 	



<p>arrangements between <i>government</i> levels)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Horizontal</i> subsidiarity (involvement of/outsourcing to other suppliers) 	<p>relations among government scales, Calabria exhibits hierarchical features, whereas Emilia Romagna has developed inter-scalar cooperation. In what concerns horizontal relations, Calabria has abdicated from the beginning to an unregulated private supply, whereas Emilia Romagna, despite a growing trend to outsourcing, maintains a strong public regulation.</p>
<p>Specific questions/focus</p>	<p><i>Short description</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 'What' has happened - 'Why' - 'How' it is affecting people
<p>Local Stakeholder Network (LSN)</p>	<p><i>Do you intend to set up a LSN:</i> YES</p> <p>A LSN involving different actors (public institutions, private suppliers, the third sector, and users) operating in the city of Reggio Calabria has been set up and a LSW has been organized on 19 November 2013.</p>