

**ESPON**



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# PREPARED Policy Rethink: Progress

Rhine-Alpine Talk 18 - PREPARED

06 June 2025

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# Task 1

## *Data collection*



# Presentation of TASK1 Data Collection

Demographic Trends

Economic Trends

Preliminary Corridor Bottlenecks Analysis

SWOT analysis

# Demographic Trends - Population at NUTS-3 Level

## High Growth Areas (>5%):

- e.g. Southern Germany and Switzerland, – driven by strong economies and quality of life.

## Moderate Growth (2–5%):

- e.g. Benelux and southern France – urban stability, positive migration.

## Stagnation/Decline ( $\leq 0\%$ ):

- e.g. Paris–Lyon axis and Grand Est, – due to ageing, deindustrialisation.

## Depopulation Hotspots (<–5%):

- e.g. Central France, and Northern Italy (except Milan).

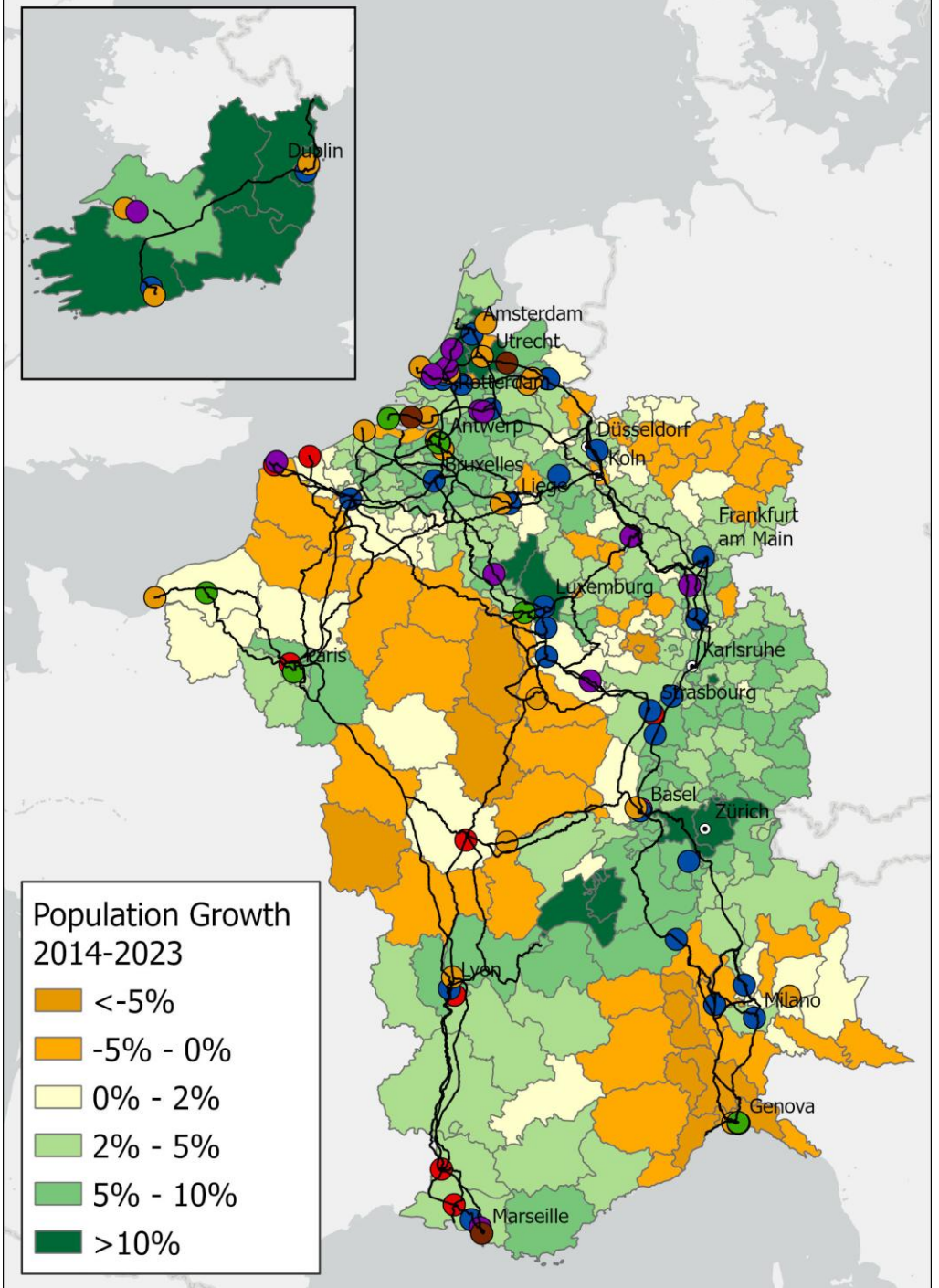
## Implications:

Pressure on infrastructure in high-growth zones (e.g., Milan, Zurich).

Central but stagnant areas need strategic interventions.

Cross-border coordination essential.

Declining areas may need resilience-oriented planning.



# Economic Trends - GDP at NUTS-3 Level

## General Trends:

- Most regions: +25–75%; few >100% (e.g., Ireland); some <25%.

## High Growth:

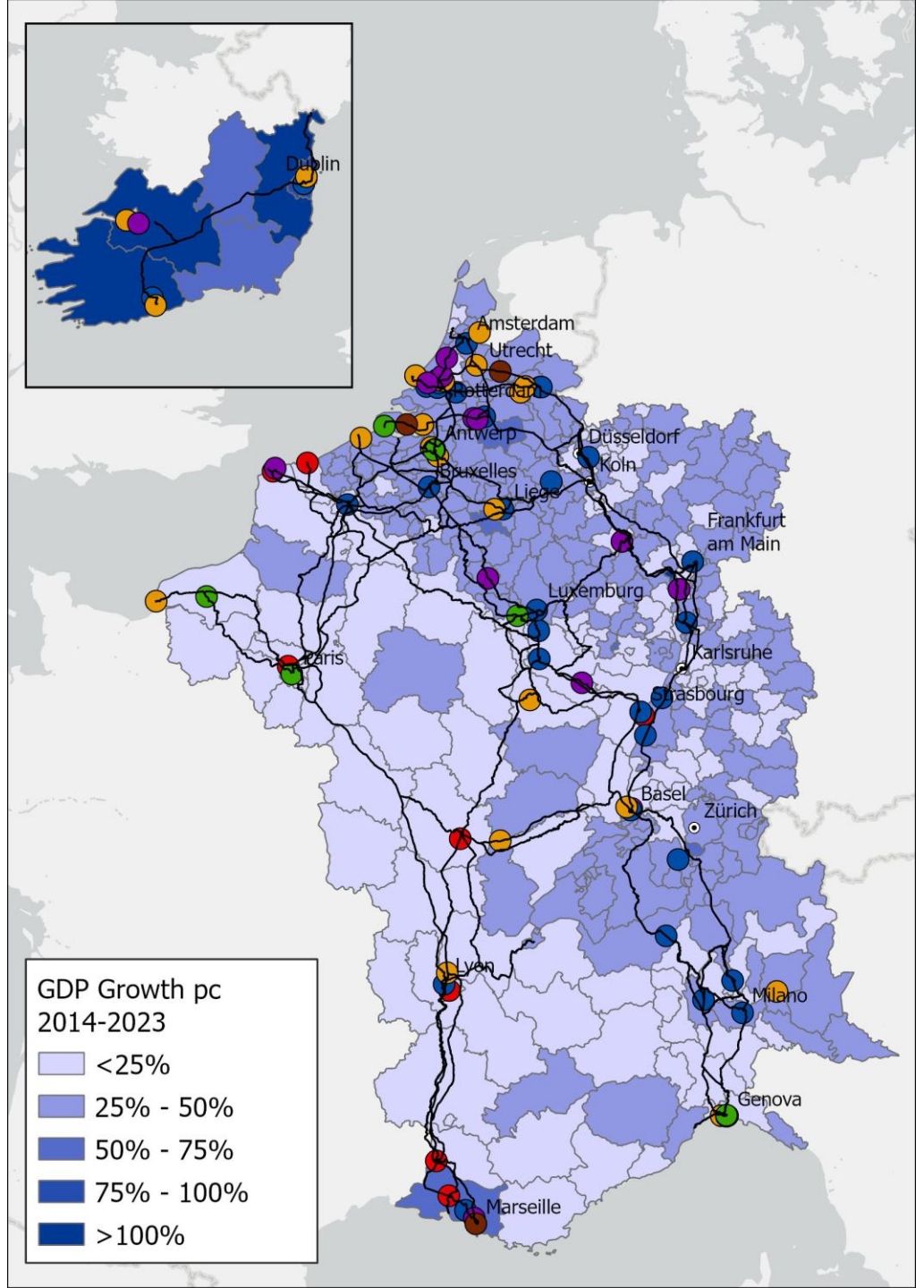
- e.g. Ireland (tech, FDI), Marseille (logistics).

## Low Growth:

- Several regions spread on the whole corridor.

## Considerations:

- Bottlenecks affect both high/low growth areas
- Invest in low-growth corridor areas.



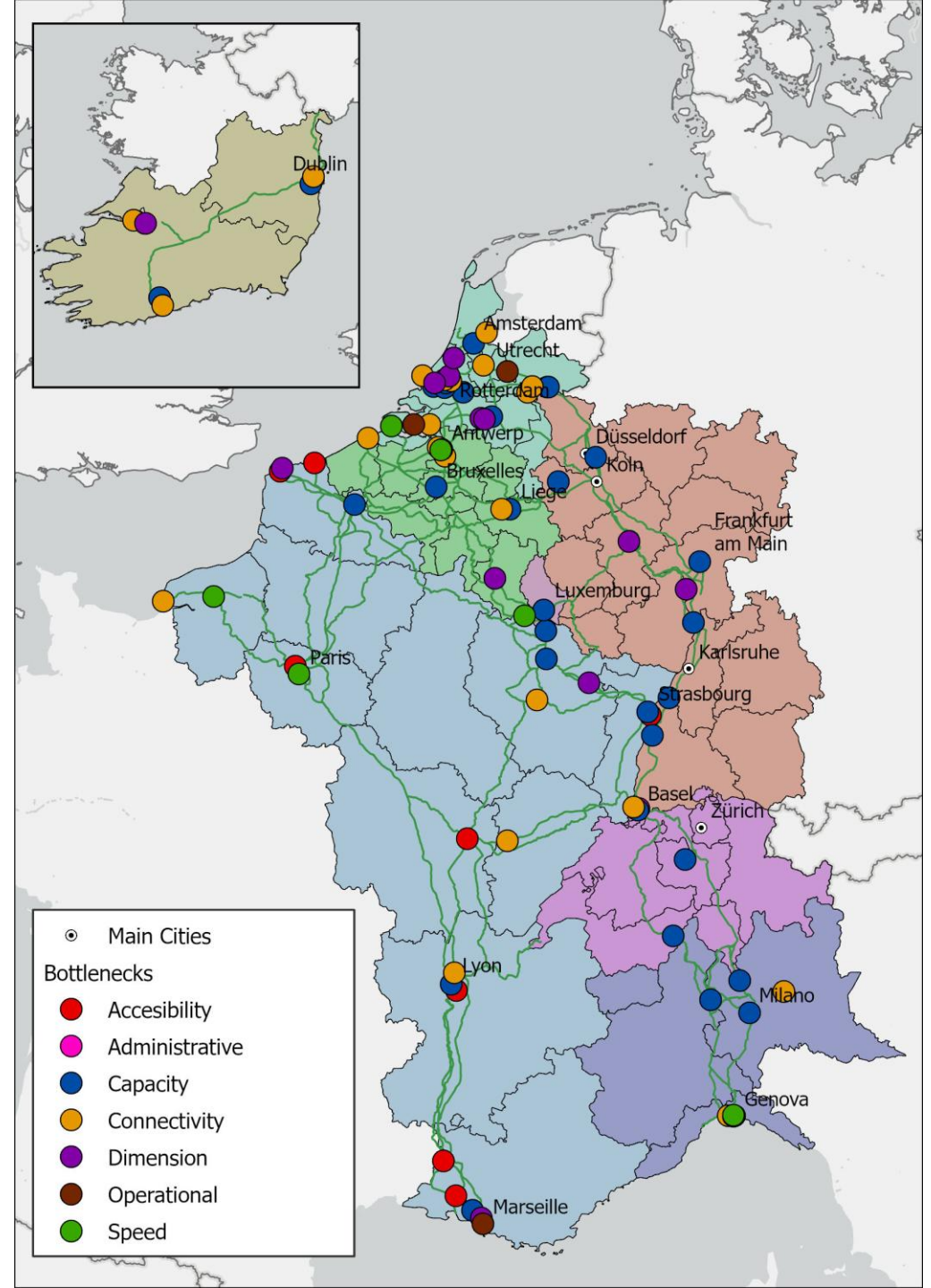
# Preliminary Corridor Bottlenecks Analysis

## 7 Key Bottleneck Types in the Corridor

- **Accessibility** – Poor access from surrounding regions.
- **Administrative** – Regulatory/institutional delays.
- **Capacity** – Infrastructure can't meet demand.
- **Connectivity** – Gaps in cross-border/multimodal links.
- **Dimension** – Incompatibility with standards (e.g., train length).
- **Operational** – Inefficient service/infrastructure management.
- **Speed** – Speed limitations reduce performance.

## Hotspots:

- **Core nodes:** Rotterdam, Antwerp.
- **Rail limits:** Italy, Belgium (<740 m trains).
- **Cross-border friction:** FR-DE-CH-IT junctions.
- **Capacity/road constraints:** e.g., Maasvlakte–Barendrecht (NL).



# SWOT Analysis

## Strengths

Internal, Positive Factors

- Strategic economic hub connectivity
- World-class ports
- Strong multimodality
- Innovation in cities
- EU policy support.

## Opportunities

External, Positive Factors

- EU green/digital funding
- Modal shift
- Smart cities
- Clean logistics
- Digital infrastructure (5G, twins)

## Weaknesses

Internal, Negative Factors

- Ageing infrastructure
- Demographic decline (rural/intermediate)
- Congestion (Paris, Milan)
- Fragmented standards
- Slow project delivery

## Threats

External, Negative Factors

- Climate change
- Geopolitical tensions
- Economic uncertainty
- Competition with other corridors
- Opposition to projects
- Labour shortages.

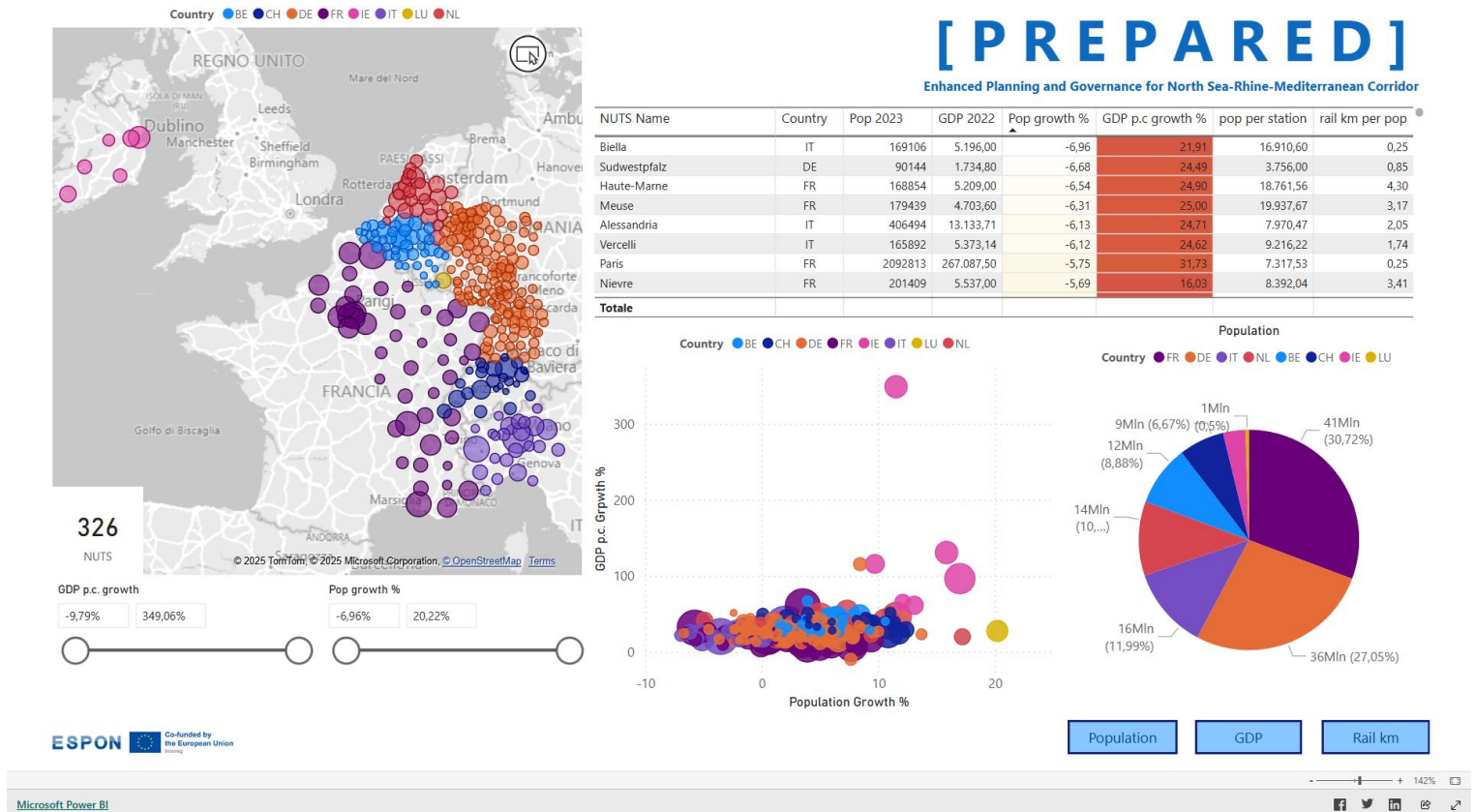


# Mapping and Visualization

BI Interface to visualize data and integrate the visuals into an interactive and user-friendly web page.

The BI will be structured in different pages:

- NUTS3
- Urban Nodes
- Networks
- Bottlenecks

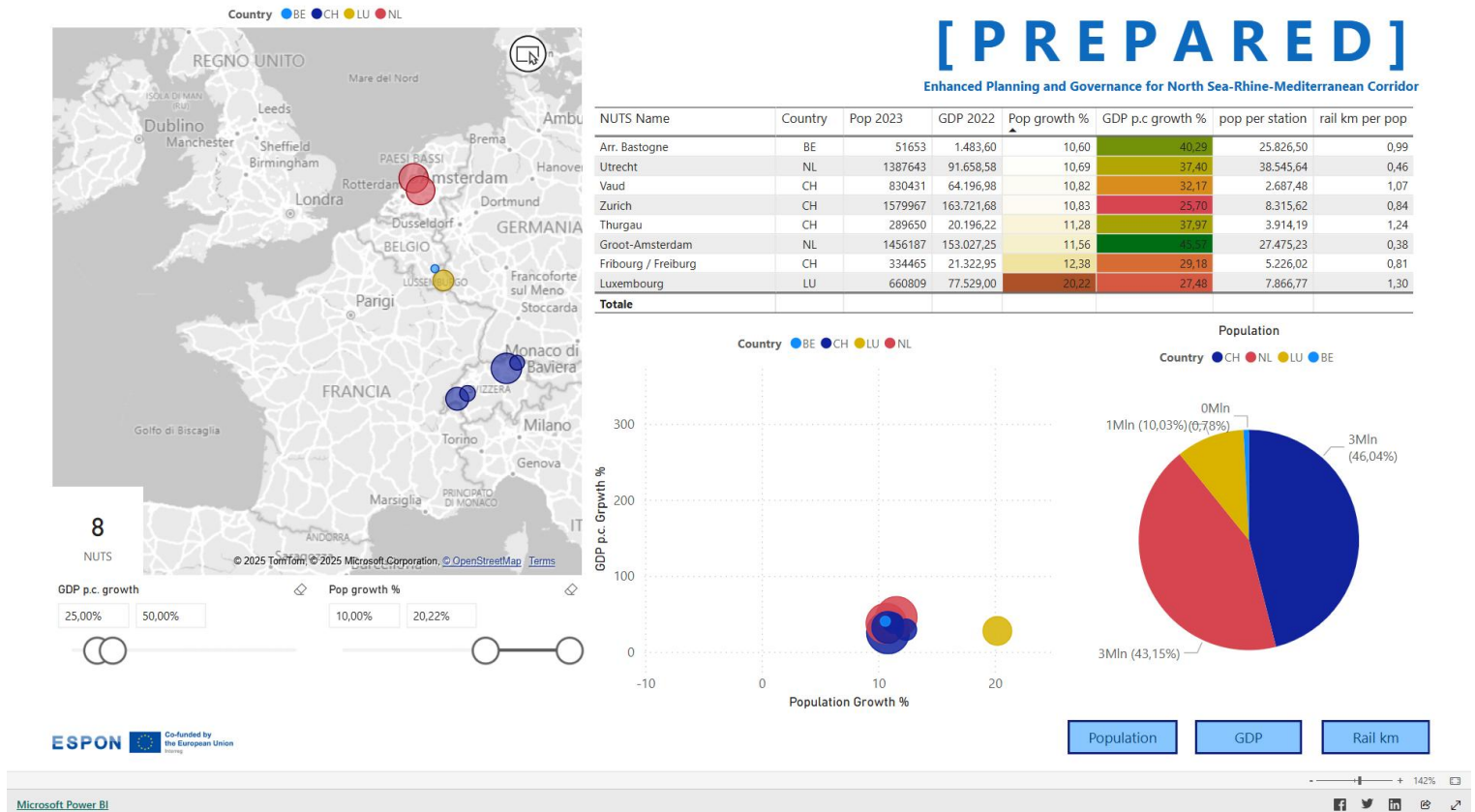


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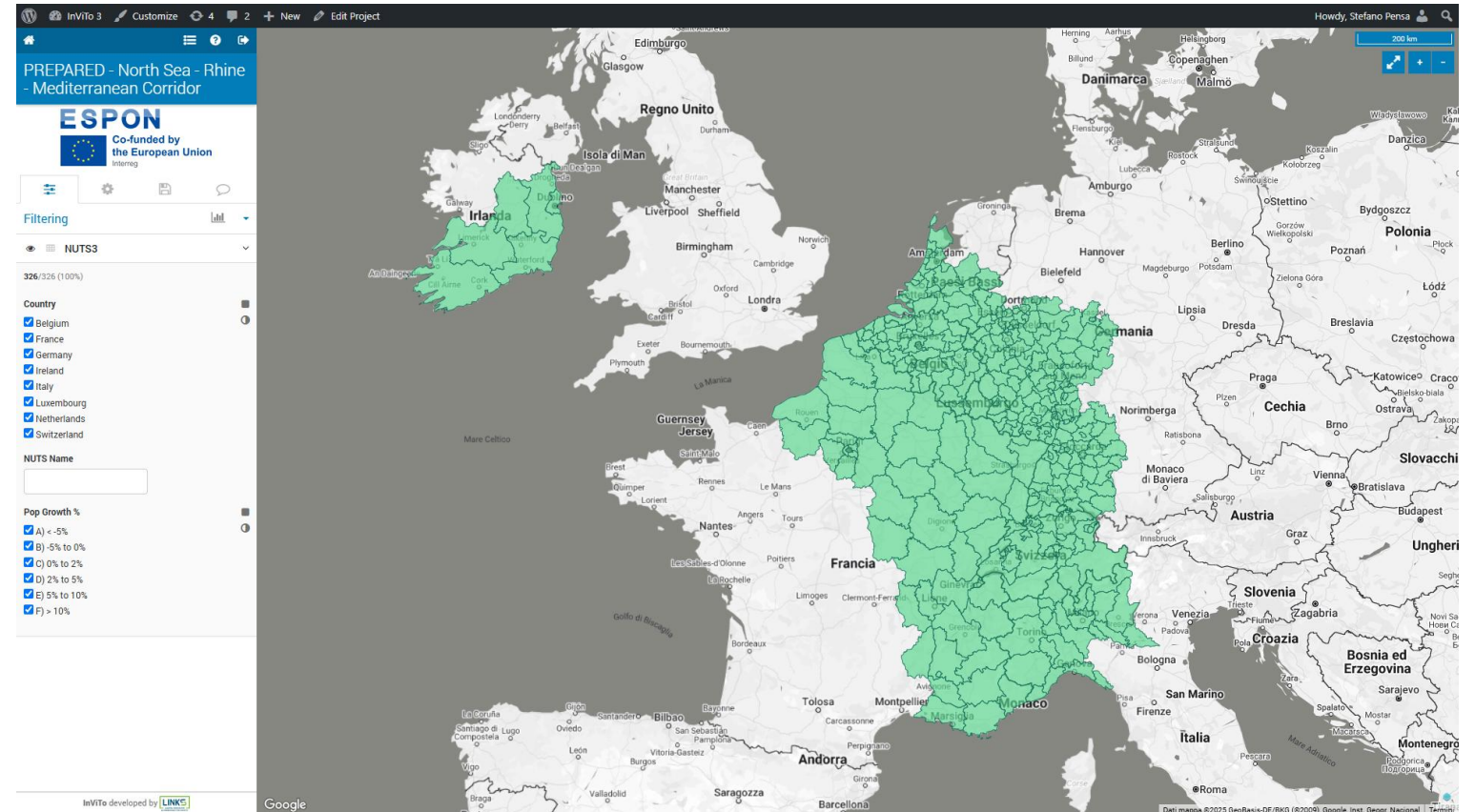


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Web-GIS platform will be used to share data and provide a very easy interface to navigate, filtering and overlapping different dataset.

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