

CHAPTER EIGHT

Integrative Approaches to Understanding the CRISOLA Phenomenology

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8.0 Introduction

The previous chapter gave an overview of the main findings identified across the diverse methods used in this study as based on statistical analysis, interviews with policy makers and administrators at the NUTS levels as well as on-the-ground research. This chapter focuses on the visual identification of the hotspot approach in an attempt to review whether the crime-social and landuse aspects as seen by the policy-makers and administrators and as visualised from the ground through surveys. This is then compared to the spatial statistics outputted from the Maltese point data analysis, which allows for a comparison of the perspectives emanating from the interviews and the reported data as mapped in space.

A detailed study of the CRISOLA structures as covered by this project sought to understand the outcomes of the realities faced by the people on the ground, the experts in the implementation agencies pertaining to the three pivots as well as the administrators who manage the day-to-day running of the areas.

The project's emphasis on the spatial analysis of crime through an immersive process was aimed at investigating the relationships between the activity and the social and urban spaces they occur in. The horizontal approach is evident where GI data layers are created for each activity and the relevant correlations investigated. As identified in the project proposal, this process builds a visual map of the offences, the social relationships they pertain to and the landuse aspects they partake in. The project attempts to identify the linkages between the socio-economic/cultural parameters towards an understanding of poverty and deprivation as a surrogate for social and community health, the offences as a measure of attractiveness of an area and focuses on offender data as a measure of social disorganisation and the landuse zoning as a measure of affluence, leading to an understanding of opportunity structures.

The horizontal dynamics resulted in the identification of the social-spatial constitution of the areas which leads to a social-zoning structure which identified whether an area is taken up by a specific zoning type, whether the activity that pertains to that area is related

to the economic activity dominant in the area. In turn, the study sought to review the presence of criminal-spatial constitution of the areas which leads to the creation of maps outlining the crime-zoning structure and that of the physical constitution of areas leading to a landuse-zoning structure. The study builds up an understanding of the study areas' dynamics and the relative impact on social capital and social cohesion, that on security and safety and that on spatial capital. The analytical results would in turn aid the researchers to propose policy change based on a pivot of social change, criminological change and landuse change as based on the main finding in the area under question.

The project sought to understand how these different pivots fit together under one roof and primarily the main issue that surfaced concerned the validity of the NUTS3 regions as the best identifier for the CRISOLA model, but proposes a more detailed study at NUTS5 level due to the latter's intrinsic hands-on approach to policy making as against the more distant policy and decision-making taken at the NUTS3 layer.

This issue was made very apparent part-way through the project on two counts:

- i. The volatility of the NUTS 3 region and the administrative and functional utility of this NUTS level. Case in point was experienced during the lifetime of the project when the Trapani province associated partner – The Provincia Regionale di Trapani retreated from the project due to administrative changes in the divisions of the regions in Sicily which stated that the NUTS3 region was abolished on 20th March 2013 and in turn their funding and administrative capacity curtailed. This also led to the restructuring of the project activity;
- ii. In addition, small countries' use of the NUTS delineation as an administrative boundary becomes technically redundant due to the country's small size, which may have a main governmental structure (national level) and the least administrative unit being composed of specific towns or an aggregation of a number of hamlets. This was the case in the island of Malta where the main island does not have a specific NUTS3 designation whilst the island of Gozo has an administrator designated at NUTS4 (District) level but is also represented through a Ministry within the national Cabinet.

This situation was mitigated by the fact that the researchers where possible built up a knowledge base as based on the smallest possible zone, generally building up towards a comprehension of what the more abstract zones were comprised of. Thus it was deemed best to tackle this issue from the study of the NUTS5 or relative zones (Local Councils in Malta and Comune in Sicily) up towards the aggregated Districts at NUTS4 for Malta (in Sicily no such designation exists) and the original province structure, nine of which comprise the Sicilian island, whilst in Malta the national information was elicited, since the Gozitan island was already tackled at NUTS4.

The main fulcrum of this analysis was based on addressing the Prevention of and

Fight against Crime programme themes and objectives aimed at the prevention of crime through horizontal approaches, particularly the two themes of crime prevention and criminology as well as law enforcement. This was handled through the identification of the CRISOLA pivots as investigated through the identification of the relevant legislation, the administrators who handle the zonal safety and mitigate the impacts as well as the policy-makers who tackle such issues at the national level, which then filters down to the reality on the ground in the form of the local councils/comune administrators. This was made possible through the taking up of two objectives that aimed:

- i. to stimulate, promote and develop horizontal methods and tools necessary for strategically preventing and fighting crime and guaranteeing security and public order. This was carried out through the triangulated method employing both qualitative analysis and hi-end spatial information systems which helped to analyse the relationships through the identification of the similarities and differences identified in the comparative analysis of what was highlighted by the administrators and the actual statistics. This was particularly more evident in the Maltese islands where data was available at high detail levels, that of the incident point level and the resultant outputs from the spatio-statistical analysis. Building up from such small data levels enhances the realities of what is expected on the ground allowing for a higher knowledge-base on which to develop policy making. The next chapter sections tackle this issue from a spatial perspective and propose change through the analysis of the perspective differences.
- ii. to promote and develop coordination, cooperation and mutual understanding among law enforcement agencies, other national authorities and related European Union bodies. This objective was tackled through the building up of coordination measures and activities that made experts aware of the process, particularly through the expert interviews, the indicator structure and the resultant seminar as well as ongoing debate between the partners and their sustainers, particularly those experts who hold representation at national and international levels such as the ESPON network, the territorial cohesion aspects, CEPOL, amongst others. It is at this level that the projects' output are being taken to the other countries, especially where the dynamics between the different pivots are not taken up or treated in isolation.

Objectives

Whilst the main objectives of this project will strive to create a working model of the criminological, social and physical urban (CRISOLA) interactions that impinges on the implementation of crime-prevention strategies at source. The main aim is to study the process from a bottom-up approach taking the NUTS3 regional spatial level as base level since it includes both administrative regions and active communities. The project will

map crime and identify the relationships between the three parameters that keep a society intact through social cohesion and build up social capital in order to reduce crime. It will enable policy-makers to take informed action.

Methodology

The project is based on a socio-technic research approach. It is structured around a mindmap of the CRISOLA interactions in each of the participating NUTS3 regions. An initial desk-based study reviewed the available legislative and operational documentation to ascertain data and policy lacunae. The next phase undertook the creation of a series of indicators resulting in a data mining exercise to gather data on crime, social and landuse parameters using hi-end technologies as spatial information systems. The analytical process within the diverse chapters investigated the relationships between the CRISOLA parameters and the linkages to the documentation. The final phase in turn defined the current thematic structure through a series of maps showing the overlays between the pivots as well as the perspective emanating from the interviews and the spatio-statistical analysis as based on raw data. It finally posits recommendations for policy change and implementation, focusing on the critical themes that affect change, identifying the relative spatial constructs, highlighting the impact on capital and cohesion and finally targeting policy implementation strategies. The process also entailed the drafting of a number of academic articles published in conjunction with this report, which publication identified those crucial elements that require intervention.

Expected Results

The project's outcome is this policy-oriented document based on implementation of the CRISOLA model, though the creation of a series of visual and analytical data aids for policy-makers. The same results also depict the development of a crime-prevention information policy tool mapping criminal activity within the social and physical structures. The results are depicted in this chapter outlining a knowledge-based guidance highlighting the interaction between: a) the crime characteristics of the regions through an analysis of offender and offence composition where appropriate, b) the social characteristics of an area through an analysis of its poverty/deprivation as available, and c) the physical characteristics of an area, particularly its landuse, structural and zoning parameters. The resultant disparities between the different perspectives would present officers with a tool to act in preventing criminal behaviour.

Outputs

The project's outputs include the interview outcomes, with the policy-makers and enforcers as well as the administrators' perspectives on the CRISOLA relationships within

the NUTS3 regions of Trapani Province (IT), Malta Island (MT) and Gozo Island (MT). This was made possible through the previous chapters' reviews of legislation, policy measures and best-practice operational crime-prevention activities. The integration of the outputs serves as a tool to enable policy-makers to identify sources of social-cohesion/capital change through the use of a series of indicators which were created as part of this project from the desk-based and in-situ studies.

8.1 Methodology

As identified in the earlier chapters diverse methodological processes were employed in order to establish findings. Initially a study of the legislative tools at EU and national level (Italy and Malta) was carried out which enabled the establishment of a series of interviews which were conducted with policy makers and enforcers in the field who elicited their overarching perspectives on legislation and its enforcement by sector. This was compared set against national and EU legislation, together with social and environmental issues, land use issues and crime issues.

The four themes are repeated with the parallel research interviews held with the local council or comune representatives, additionally focusing on the visual perspectives of where the different CRISOLA sectors could be identified.

The analytical process was further delineated through a the identification of a series of indicators listed in chapter 6 and the findings section in chapter 7 as based on the analysis of the perspective interviews of the experts, the administrators of the NUTS level and the on-the-ground research.

The target areas under study consisted of the NUTS3 level as based on interviews with the NUTS5 level in Malta based on 68 administrative units, whilst in the Sicilian NUTS3 level interviews were held in the 9 provinces. As indicated in chapter 7 JANUS study concentrated on the Trapani Province which is located at the North-West part of the island. As indicated in previous sections, the Sicilian NUTS structure does not hold a NUTS4 or NUTS5 form but has the Comune designation, which is relative to the Maltese Local Councils (NUTS5). The analysis of the JANUS study focuses on the Provinces in general across all Sicily but essentially focuses on the NUTS5 equivalent for the Trapani province in particular.

8.2 Tools and Technologies

The study was based on the employed of diverse research tools using a triangulation method, with interviews held as based on a qualitative approach whilst the quantitative method was based on the employment of raw statistics as acquired from diverse statistical sources such as ISTAT (Italian Statistics Office) and NSO (Malta National Statistics Office) and from GIS data emanating from the Formosa (2007) study, the www.crimemalta.com

website and the spatial data acquired from on-the-ground data trawling.

To this effect the use of spatial statistics is made in order to generate thematic maps as depicted in chapter 7. The scope of this chapter is not to recreate the findings of the chapter but to review the different outputs together in one section. This chapter serves as an integrative study which brings together all the CRISOLA aspects in line with some very specific outputs emanating from the cross-thematic research outcomes.

8.3 Zoning

The Zoning study was held in both Malta and Sicily and covered the entire territory of Malta and that of Trapani. This was due to the fact that the project concentrated on the main areas of study being Malta and Gozo and Trapani as NUTS3 regions. Figures 8.1 and 8.2 depict the NUTS3 (Island) and NUTS5 (Local Councils) for the Maltese Islands whilst Figures 8.3 and 8.4 depict the NUTS3 (Provinces) and NUTS5-relative (Comune) for Sicily.

Fieldwork Zone:

Figure 8.1 NUTS3 – Islands



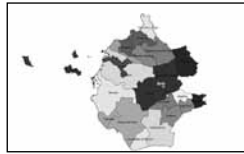
Figure 8.2 NUTS5 – Local Councils



Figure 8.3 Sicily NUTS 3



Figure 8.4 Trapani Comune (relative to NUTS5)



8.4 Thematic Aspects CRISOLA – Crime

In order to understand the CRISOLA pivots and how they relate to the two islands under study, sections 8.4, 8.5 and 8.6 bring together the findings from the different chapters through an initial discussion of the findings as based on each of the themes identified in Chapter 6.

The statistics show that there is similarity between the crimes and structures available for mitigating crime at the diverse levels with country-specific issues pertaining to both capacity and enforcement.

The situation emanating from the data analysis is also reflected through the feedback of the agency experts, where the Maltese thematic (administrators from the diverse agencies interviewed in the first session) experts findings identified various crucial issues, mainly that the agency representatives were well aware of their legal obligations and took its enforcement seriously. There were differences between those who saw enforcement as having an educative as opposed to a disciplinary function. Respondents pointed to diversity and differentiation in types of enforcement, confirming the emergence of the so-called ‘extended police family’. Agency representatives saw themselves as having an inclusive role within the contours of the genesis of legislation, its development and its implementation. They saw themselves as operating ‘with’ rather than ‘for’ government.

The Sicilian experts exhibited high levels of professionalism and competences of specialised operators, though emphasising the fact that there is a lack of knowledge on the part of citizens, mainly due to the scarce executive actions in national legislation due to absence of integration, an excessive bureaucracy or inadequate allocation of resources, of which there is high fragmentation.

8.4.1 Incidence

C1	Incidence	Number of Crimes by Category of Crime (C)
C2	Incidence	Number of Crimes by Category of offender (CO)
C3	Incidence	Number of Crimes per 1000 persons (CR)

The incidence of offences was analysed as based on the number of crimes by category of crime, that of offender category and the number of crimes per 1000 persons.

The Maltese Islands' reported crime structure is mainly related to the island of Malta, which is predominantly theft amounting to 56%, followed by damages at 17% and in turn by bodily harm and domestic violence at 6.6% as at 2012.

Following an in-depth scientific analysis of 138,000 crimes reported from 2004 to 2012, shows that whilst theft comprises an 82,000 component, it is followed by 24,000 damages, the third highest and significant number relates to bodily harm at 10,000. The rest comprise 28 different offence categories. The studies take the form of a RISC assessment (Relative Index of Spatial Crime), trend analysis and spatio-statistical analysis.

Sicily's crime structure is found in the main city provinces, primarily Palermo and Catania, followed by the relatively affluent province of Messina and the agri-industrial province of Trapani. Interestingly, the poorest province reports the least offences, indicating a situation which requires further research. As in Malta, the Sicilian main offence component is theft reaching 50% of all offences. It diverges from the Maltese structure where theft is followed by the category 'others' and in turn by damages, all three components totalling 79%.

Whilst data pertaining to the number of offences by category of offender is not available for the Maltese islands due, the Sicilian component shows that the main city provinces of Palermo and Catania total over half of all offences in the provinces, the structure shows that Catania has the highest component of minor offenders, foreign offenders, female offenders, minor female offenders and foreign females. This structure is followed by Palermo and Messina, with the lowest ranking being Ragusa. The 95% Siracusa rate is highly alarming considering that it harbours 29,415 incident reports in one year.

In terms of offence rates across the islands, with a rate of 39.2 offences per 1000 persons, Malta ranks relatively high compared to the Gozitan low figure of 15.4 offences per 1000 persons. In comparison to other EU states which range between 100 and 10 crimes per 1000 persons, the Maltese Islands have a relatively low rate. The double insularity experienced by Gozo brings to the surface the issue that offences in isolated or semi-isolated (through distance to the continent, to the main city or to the capital city), which results in either lower reporting rates through *omerta* (higher incidence of the dark figure) or lower actual crime incidents.

The Sicilian counterpart, on the other hand, shows that even the most insular areas experience higher rates than the Gozitan situation, with rates ranging from 25.88 offences per 1000 persons in Enna through 38.58 (on par with the Malta NUTS3) to 45.5 in Catania. The city provinces, Catania and Palermo experience the higher rates, pointing towards a higher propensity to report offences in the urban high density zones as against the lower rates comprising touristic-agricultural areas such as Agrigento and Enna. This perspective shows that the perception that offences in the Sicilian provinces are comparatively low due to a higher *omerta'* level is not the case due to the comparable rate in the Maltese Islands when analysed at Province (NUTS3) level. What is interesting in such an analysis is that at the higher detailed scale at NUTS5 such an *omerta'* is evident as discussed in the interview chapters. Crime analysis requires studies at the more detailed levels as such levels indicate that parochialism (everyone is linked to other citizens in small townships/villages and self-control is evident) or control by organised crime which deters reporting to the authorities in order to ensure that the enforcement agencies do not visit the area and thus highlight offence hotspots. This control explains why non-resident enforcers are at most kept away from the areas under control of both types of 'ruling group', something that is also experienced by the Maltese authorities in their strive to understand offence trends that occur in the insular, smaller and village-based Gozitan island.

8.4.2 Category

C4	Category	Proportion of Serious Crimes (SR)
C5	Category	Proportion of Non-Serious Crimes (NSR)

In contrast to the rate of crime described in the comparative analysis of crimes per 1000 persons, those NUTS3 zones that registered the smallest rates in contrast register the highest rates of serious crimes. In fact Gozo registers 13% serious crimes as against the 9.4% with high counts for bodily harm, drugs and violence against public officers for Gozo, with violence and drugs taking second and third place to bodily harm for the Malta island.

Similarly, Sicilian serious offences rate highest in the lowest reporting provinces, those of Enna (18.5%) and Agrigento (17.9%). This occurrence posits a potential for further study based on the fact that the lower the reporting rate points towards the occurrence that in these provinces people report more serious than non-serious offences, which strengthens the argument that the relationship between non-reporting and low rates is the result of a social structure that only partakes to bringing attention to offences to the justice system only when the worse of the worst occurs as the non-serious offences are handled through other social structures that are based on the PREFE structures. The political, religious,

educational, family and economic parameters governing such social interactionism serves as this controlling factors especially in larger countries where people live far from the main administrators established in the main cities or in areas where such societies are located in isolated, insular or double-insular physical circumstances.

In terms of non-serious offences, Malta's structure is mainly composed of theft, damages and domestic violence. As against the serious crimes analysis, the Malta island has less reports registered for serious crimes than Gozo but inversely higher figures for non-serious offences.

As in the Maltese scenario, Sicily's non-serious offence structure reflects a higher rate of non-serious offences, with provinces hosting the major cities registering the highest rates of reported crimes, mainly theft, other offences and damage. The eastern provinces register higher rates of non-serious offences, whilst the central and western/south-western areas register the lower rates of reporting, which include Trapani, Agrigento, Caltanissetta and Enna.

8.4.3 Police

C6	Police	Structure of Police Agencies (PA)
C7	Police	Number of Police Officers per 1000 persons (PR)

In terms of the structure of the Malta Police Force, Malta is divided in two regions-Region A (South) and Region B (North). Each Region is headed by an Assistant Commissioner. Region A covers districts 1 to 5 while Region B covers districts 6 to 10. Each district is headed by a Superintendent and there are several divisions in each district headed by an Inspector. Generally community policing is the duty of the district police, although all other branches of the force assist in this mission. There are also the specialised branches which form part of the Malta police force.

The structure of the Italian policing agency is made up of five principle bodies: la Polizia di Stato, the Carabinieri, the Corpo Forestale dello Stato and the Guardia della Finanza. There exist also a number of policing agencies such as the Polizia Municipale, the Guardia Costiera and the Polizia Penitenziaria that have policing functions that are more specific. For example the Polizia Municipale is responsible for the control of the municipality, the Guardia Costiera are a custom's police with responsibility to guard the coastal waters of Italy while the Polizia Penitenziare are responsible for prisoners.

The total police force strength in the Maltese Islands as of 09th October 2013 was 1,941. Of these, 1,814 are stationed in Malta while 127 are stationed in Gozo. Such a structure results in a rate of 4.65 Police Officers per 1000 persons. In the Italian structure, the number of Police Officers per 1000 persons amounted to 4.53. The figure shows that

the two countries have a relatively common rate of police per 1000 persons, with slightly less police in Sicily than the Maltese component.

8.4.4 Prisons

C8	Prisons	Number of Prisoners by Type of Crime, Sex, Age, AT/Sent (PI)
C9	Prisons	Rate of Incarceration per 1000 persons (PIR)
C10	Prisons	Immigrant Inmate rate (IIR)
C11	Prisons	Officer/Prisoner rate (OPR)

Malta's offender structure is based on those persons who were incarcerated at any specific time and which only covers those offences that result in incarceration as against those offences which were awarded alternative types of sentencing, such as suspended sentencing, conditional discharges, and probation, amongst others. In Malta the bulk is sourced from the Malta Island (mainly other, drugs and theft) and very few offenders from Gozo end up incarcerated for drugs and other offences. The 352:4 ratio is very stark considering that for every Gozitan there are 100 incarcerated Maltese offenders.

Sicily's offence structure is recorded in more detailed variable subdivision, which were divided by sex, where the main offender component is a male one, with the main cohorts ranging between 25 and 34 years with a wider range from 18 to 44 years. Palermo has the highest number of offenders with 7,493 as at 2005, followed by Catania, with nearly half that amount, followed by Messina and Trapani, then progressively smaller through the other provinces with Enna hosting the least offenders. Female offenders who are incarcerated in similar fashion as the total categories. In terms of age categories, females, particularly in the main cities also host older aged inmates aged 45 to 64 years.

The incarceration rate for the Maltese Islands stands at 1.49 persons per 1000 persons when accounting for all 622 persons in prison inclusive of the non-Maltese component which is covered in indicator C10 and which accounts for 35.9% of the incarcerated population.. The Maltese imprisonment rate refers to the total national rate as there are no figures for Gozo since the island does not host a prison.

Incarceration rates for the Sicilian provinces vary from a very low rate in the province of Enna which stands at 1.58, slightly lower than Malta and grows steadily to 5 times that amount or 6.04 inmates per 1000 persons in Palermo. Sicily hosts an average 4.5 inmates on the island with 22,500 inmates as at 2005. The figure is comparatively very high in Trapani considering that it host less serious crime than Catania but comes in a close second at 5.25 inmates per 1000 persons. All Sicilian provinces except for Enna host at least twice the Maltese counterpart, even for Agrigento, Ragusa, Siracusa and Trapani which have a quasi-similar population structure to the Maltese Islands.

The Maltese prison hosts 622 offenders of which 223 or 35.9% were foreign as of the cut-off data of 15th November 2013. These figures show a relatively high rate of foreign population composed mainly of Northern/Eastern and sub-Saharan African origin as well as Eastern European origin. The British component is also quite large during this period. In terms of sex, of the 223 foreign inmates, 198 were males (of whom 126 were sentenced and 72 were awaiting trial) and 25 female (of whom 20 were sentenced and 5 were awaiting trial). Interestingly, whilst there are more Maltese males than foreigners in prison (377:198), foreign females outnumber Maltese inmates (25:22).

The Sicilian immigrant inmate rate is drastically different than the Maltese structure, mainly due to the smaller percentages of foreign persons in prison. Of the 22497 foreigners in Sicilian prisons, these comprise 7.4% of all inmates. These figures range from 15.6% in Ragusa to 10.7% in Trapani and 10% in Agrigento, all areas that host large numbers of foreigner residents. The province registering the least percentage foreign inmates is Caltanissetta at 5.2%. More detailed analysis shows that inversely to the Maltese situation the foreign female component amounts to 4.8% of all female inmates, whilst males comprise 7.8%. Minors comprise surprising figures as the foreign component hosts a sizeable percentage of young inmates from all the minors' population, mainly 17% (foreign minors/all minors*100) in Enna, 11% in Trapani and 10% in Palermo. Considering that both Enna and Palermo did not feature highly in the general immigrant inmate rate, the figures for Enna and Palermo are relatively high.

Figures for prison officer/offender rates are available for the Maltese Islands and show a ratio of 0.3 or 3.5 inmates per officer, which in real-terms is higher due to the working-shifts that officers work through as well as administrative officers. Comparable rates for Sicily range from 0.2 officers (5.2 inmates per officer) in Augusta to 1.6 officer per inmate (0.6 inmates per officer) in Nicosia. The average ratios in Sicily is that of 0.5 officers per inmate (1.9 inmates per officer) or nearly double the load on the officers in the Maltese situation. In effect, only 1 prison in Sicily has a rate lower than the Maltese prison, 1 has the same rate and the other 25 have a higher officer per inmate ratio or in other words fewer inmates per officer.

8.4.5 Services

C12	Services	Probation Officer/Probationer rate (OPPR)
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In terms of probation services, the Maltese Probation Officer/Probationer rate (OPPR) is calculated on the number of cases per probation officer which relates to 908 cases catered for by 26 probation officers which rates at 35 cases per officer.

The Sicilian probation officer/offender rate gives a rate of 42.4 cases per officer for the

Trapani province, for which data was available. The number of officers for all of Sicily comprises 157 probation officers for a population exceeding 5 million. This structure is spread across all the provinces, except for Enna that did not register probation figures. The Trapani figures show that whilst consultation and treatment comprised the main case structure dissemination across 13 probation officers with 551 cases with another 1598 cases under treatment or reporting (Source UEPE).

8.5 Thematic Aspects CRISOLA – Social

The need for deep social analysis based on the PREFE model is required to ensure that the socio-cultural and socio-economic realities faced by the citizens is reflected into the administrative efforts targeting cohesion. The experts' views on the social structures of the areas under study is reflected through the expression that although the subtle distinction between land use and location was not used by the majority of respondents, they were clear and emphatic in their views about the criminogenic localised nature of certain social variables in the Maltese Islands.

These included internal migration of low socio-economic status persons from central areas to what might be called new satellite towns (with St Paul's Bay, Qawra and Bugibba being the most frequently mentioned), often with a disproportionate percentage of single parents, with consequential effects on adults and children and without an appropriate level of community support or cohesion. These areas would be seen formally as areas of extreme social dislocation.

There was a high level of agreement that the most useful ways forward as regards agency interventions included substantial investment in education and social and community support services orchestrated on an inter- agency partnership basis.

These views were shared across the agencies with a high degree of concordance between respondents in relation to problem identification and problem resolution.

The Sicilian experts maintained that there is a need for the mitigation of the socio-environmental problems and the need to implement prevention processes through various means, such as the need to tackle the strong preoccupation towards high rates of unemployment and the lack of integration of detainees and immigrants. These issues, as supported by the data analysis stresses on the issues of reinventing social cohesion through the reinforcement of socio-cultural policies and through intensive collaboration between the different realities which operate in the territory. Such is necessary in order to aim for new strategies of valorisation of the territory and social promotion.

The main crime issues identified in the countries under study related to both the police-related offences but also to other domains. Whilst crime and disorder are perceived as a major issue, experts bring up the need for prevention measures to prevent the radicalisation of crimes linked to theft, trafficking and violence. They also stress that

disorganisation is linked to unemployment and drug dependency, on all the provincial territory, directly and indirectly associated to low levels of income and to illegal work. In Sicily there was mentioned the need for a reform of the judicial system. As a mitigation aspect, the employment of young persons who grossly outnumber all other age categories in unemployment rates is seen as a source of social peace. In addition, they link the fact that the introduction of innovation economic policies and effective valorisation of the territory would lead to societal restructuring and in turn the reduction of poverty and crime.

8.5.1 Demography

S1	Demography	Population (Age and Sex) (Pop)
S2	Demography	Population Composition (Immigrant/Total) (PopR)

Malta's population structure is composed of an ageing society with a very high population density base (over 417,000 persons residing in 315 square kilometres as at Census 2011), reading over 1,300 persons per square kilometre where Malta's density stands at 1,558 and that of Gozo at 458 respectively up from 1514 and 456 in 2005. This disparity is mainly due to the insularity that the second island experiences where fewer people live in Gozo as against the Maltese main NUTS3 area of Malta, which at deeper levels also shows that at the smaller 130-household Census enumeration areas most of the population lives in very small and concentrated zones. The population structure is also one that is rapidly growing old from a younger but stabilising population in 1986 to a declining and aged population structure in 2050, heavy on the older cohorts and very low on the child and employable cohorts. This rapid change brings up issues that require analysis in terms of safety and security at these different time periods.

The Sicilian population parameter shows a contrast to the Maltese situation with the highest density experienced in Catania at 305 persons per square kilometre followed by Palermo at 249 and at the other end is Enna with 38 persons per square kilometre. This structure is mainly related to the vast tracts of land available to the Sicilian population, which is employed for various activities, mainly agricultural. Of note is the fact that Caltanissetta, Messina and Enna are all showing a population decline which has been occurring since at least 2000, which could be related to an ageing population, movement to the cities or migration to other regions outside of Sicily.

The Maltese Islands population structure has a foreign component which stands at 2.93% for Malta and 3.68% for Gozo as of 2005, where the main attractors were those related to the *costa geriatrica* phenomenon which experiences the downward migration of elderly from the northern colder countries towards the southern warmer countries. The

figures as of 2005 did not account for immigrants registered under refugee, irregular and any other terms designated for persons who have not been registered or normalised. Gozo again has a higher rate than Malta as its is seen as a quiet rural area popular for retiring persons and those employed in location-less ‘virtual’ employment such as digitally-based and small industries.

The Sicilian provinces exhibit less than the Maltese counterparts, even the lower one of Malta, except for Ragusa which has a 5.6% foreign component, indicating a zone popular with migrants participatory in industry-related activity. Messina, the most affluent province comes second at 2.45% followed by Siracusa and Trapani with Enna having the smallest number of migrants.

8.5.2 Education

S3	Education	Educational Attainment (EDR)
S4	Education	Early School Leaving (ESLR)

Educational Attainment is an indicator aimed at identifying the level of available capacity for a society to move up the social ladder, which in the case of Malta such a structure is showing an increasing attainment at the tertiary level with higher acquisition levels for males at 11% in Malta and 9% in Gozo as against 9% and 8% respectively for females. At the other end of the scale there are more females who have no schooling background at 3% for both islands as against 2% for males.

Sicily’s available data shows that at the diplomati scale there are more females who acquire a diploma as against males who do. This trend is found right across the provinces with the widest distance between the two found in Enna where a 55.1%:44.9% is evident, with Trapani a close second (54.8%:45.2%). The other provinces have a closer balanced structure.

The rate of Malta’s early school leavers stood at 22.6 per cent in 2012 according to a document launched for consultation on the 5th April 2013. For the first time, Malta has a figure that is comparable with that of other EU countries. The figure is calculated according to an international formula that takes into account students between the ages of 18 and 24 who did not get their O levels, as per National Statistics Office director general report to the Times of Malta (2013). The educational factor requires further study in order to elicit better the relationships between these categories of persons, their social background and their employment status.

The Sicilian school leaving rate is not available but the attainment figures for those aged 15 years and over, when taken as a surrogate identified as pre-primary, primary, shows that 25.1% of all Sicilians fall under this category. Such information would be useful should more information have been available by age, sex and province.

8.5.3 *Employment*

S5	Employment	Main employment structure (ES)
S6	Employment	Unemployment Rate (UR)

The Maltese employment structure is based primarily on employed salaried persons with 85% located in Malta and 81% in Gozo. Self-employed persons in Gozo who do not employ others comprise 11% whilst those who employ others comprise 7.2% as against a lower rate for Malta which has a 9.1% and 5.4% component respectively. In addition less than 1% are registered as family workers. Such figures indicate that the entrepreneurial spirit in insular areas is more evident as the distance from the main city and commercial areas affect income, even in such small countries as Malta. In addition,, the geographical barrier offered by the sea channel between the island, even if albeit very narrow, still serves as a hindrance for economic growth.

The data available for analysis in the Sicilian Island shows that the main employment provinces in 2012 is mainly are Ragusa, Messina and Trapani all exhibiting less than 50% employment rate with Ragusa registering 47.6% and Caltanissetta the least at 38.16%. These figures were reviewed in detail as all province saw a relative decline over the year, mainly from 2008 except for Caltanissetta which saw a 3-year increase from 2009 and then rapidly declined in 2012. Some areas experienced a decline as from 2004 with some micro spikes in unique years (Ragusa), which situation shows that the employment structure has been experiencing stress earlier than the iconic 2008 recession year.

Poverty and in turn deprivation is seen as the main issue pertaining to the decline of social cohesion and in turn to a rise in offences and social disorganisation (Chapter 2). Such a situation is nominally analysed through unemployment as the main drive for poverty, due to its intrinsic factor that points towards a lack of income and in turn the need to acquire income from other sources, legally and illegally.

In Malta and Gozo, the unemployment levels are very low where in 2005, Malta registered a 3.3% (1.29% females and 5.02% for males) unemployment and a slightly higher 3.68% in Gozo (1.37% females and 5.69% for males).

Sicily's unemployment rate is a phenomenon through rate analysis, ranging from 16.3 in Catania to 21.7 and 21.9 in Enna and Caltanissetta respectively. Unemployment in Sicily appears as a long-standing reality with some provinces experiencing similar levels in 2004 as in 2012, but the effort made to reduce unemployment over the 2004-2007 period was short-lived as unemployment rapidly escalated back to the initial figures.

8.5.4 Economy

S7	Economy	Main Economic Drivers (ED)
S8	Economy	Economic Dependence on State (EDS)

The Maltese economy is based on manufacturing (17.6%), wholesale and retail trade in addition to public administration. Gozo's economic drivers are mainly based on the educational sector (12%), wholesale and retail trade (11.9%) and construction (11%) and other drivers in lesser percentages.

Sicily's business statistics point towards mainly services then industry with 'others' being defined as the highest generator though this needs to be further subdivided into more defined activities. This is followed by retail and transport/communications commerce being the main economy generator followed by raw industry and agriculture.

In terms of the individual NUTS3 dependency on the state, as both Malta and Gozo form part of the same NUTS1_2 aggregation, with a minister for Gozo in the national cabinet, this indicator is not applicable for this analysis.

Sicily, on the other hand was analysed for its dependence on the Italian state, which analysis shows medium dependence on the state as against full dependence for income generation.

8.5.5 Professionals

S11	Professionals	Availability of Rehabilitation Professional Services (professionals per 1000 persons) (RSP)
S12	Professionals	Professional Services Graduates (PSG)

The availability of professional rehabilitation services for offender management in Malta is that of 0.07 per 1000 persons. This variable should read per 100,000 persons which would render the result as 7 officers per 100,000 persons.

The Sicilian provinces, except for Caltanissetta, which has a slightly higher rate than Malta, exhibit on average half the rehabilitation officer rate than the Maltese counterpart. Agrigento and Ragusa have 3 officers per 100,000 persons whilst Enna posits no such service.

8.5.6 Community

S13	Community	Social and Community Facilities (Social Capital) (SCF)
S14	Community	Cohesion Level (Social Cohesion) (CLS)

An analysis of the main entities and structures required for the maintenance of social capital through the provision of established services, shows that in Malta the social and community facilities have a physical footprint in terms of space of less than 1%. Malta, with an area totalling 316 square kilometres and a total of 32% (101 km.sq) soil-sealed, has space for such facilities, even if such are not deemed too large, even when considering the major footprint taken up by the university, the hospitals, etc.

Sicily's social and community facilities take-up is analysed differently than that of Malta due to the non-availability of data pertaining to the whole of a region as against the urban zones. The latter zones, the facilities cover as much as 7.3% but this figure cannot be cross compared to the Maltese Islands one.

8.5.7 Integrating social issues at higher detail

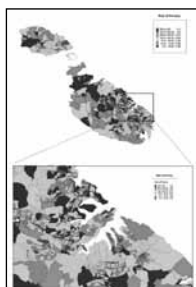
Formosa (2007) established that on studying crime at the smallest area possible (at enumeration area level) offenders tend to cluster in high population density areas, the best way forward to understand what these areas constitute is to look at the relationship between population density and poverty rates and then logically to review offender density with poverty rates. This would help identify consistencies in the population and offender analysis in terms of correlations to poverty.

The analysis for poverty is based on risk assessment where unemployment is being used as a surrogate for poverty. Spearman's rho indicates a very weak relationship between population density and poverty at 0.107 and a p at 0.002, which is not significant at the stringent rating of 0.001 used in this study but still significant at $p = 0.05$.

Results show that 402 or 47.9% of all EAs register a higher than the national poverty rate. This indicates that relative poverty is quite high. When analysing the above-100 poverty group, 16.2% fall within low population density areas with the rest experiencing higher than standard poverty and higher than standard population density. Surprisingly, some areas exhibit huge differences between the expected and the observed poverty data, reaching an extreme of 363 (recoded to 101 to 500 In the Table above) or 3.63 times the expected figure. This is alarming, especially since the worst five areas registering a rate of poverty over 300 are located as follows; an area in Valletta with the 363 figure, followed by another area in Valletta, Marsa, Hamrun, and two areas in Bormla; all areas within the harbour region.

Figure 8.5 identifies those EAs that have a higher than standard poverty rate, the results clearly showing the high rates of poverty within the Grand Harbour region with the main highlights once again being the Three Cities and Valletta. This finding is in line with the Malta Economic Survey (2000), which reports that when compared to a national average, the Grand Harbour area registered drastically lower income.

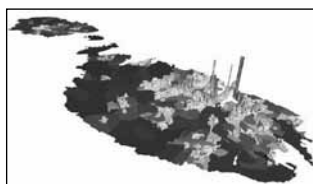
Figure 8.5: Graphical Poverty Rate – Enumeration Areas



The best way to review this result is to generate a series of maps in 3D that allow both population (Figure 8.6) and poverty (Figure 8.7) to be interpolated with the poverty map overlaid onto the population density. Visual analysis is then carried out to identify if the high- rate offender density colour can be found in the population density spikes (Figure 8.8).

Step 1: The population density map (Figure 8.6) depicts those EAs at the national level of 1,200 persons per square kilometre in blue and the areas that have high densities in red.

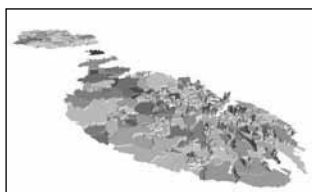
Figure 8.6: 3D population density map – Enumeration Areas



Source: Formosa (2007)

Step 2: The risk of poverty (Figure 8.7) depicts the EAs that have high poverty as red, green being the national level and blue indicating low poverty.

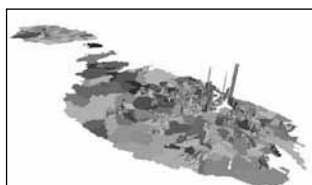
Figure 8.7: 3D risk of poverty maps – Enumeration Areas



Source: Formosa (2007)

Step 3: A combination map of Risk of Poverty map draped over a population density map is given in Figure 8.8. The result indicates that the areas of high poverty risk coincide with the areas of high population density, mainly in the areas within the Grand Harbour with red poverty spikes in Figure 8.6 highlighting the red population density spikes in Figure 8.7. Other areas, such as the northern part of the conurbation show that population density there is not related to poverty as most spikes are green in colour mainly representing the national poverty rate.

Figure 8.8: Risk of Poverty map draped over a population density map



Source: Formosa (2007)

8.6 Thematic Aspects CRISOLA - Landuse

In terms of landuse issues related to social change and the reduction of offences, experts mention the need for a revamping of the use of the territory and the need to tackle the inadequacy of economic and territorial exploitation policies. There is also the need to counter environmental exploitation, which is uncontrolled in Sicily as against the strict regime in Malta which also requires enhanced enforcement. Such activities have rendered either major overdevelopment or alternatively are associated to forms of abandonment of the territory. Thus, the need for urban requalification plans and urban works, already underway in the Maltese Islands, are urgently required in Sicily.

8.6.1 Island Type

L1	Island Type	Size of Island (sq km) (SI)
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As indicated in previous sections, the size of the Maltese Islands amounts to an area of 68.67 square kilometres for Gozo and 246.49 for Malta.

The Sicilian regional area amounts to 25,730.60 square kilometres or 81 times the size of the Maltese Islands.

8.6.2 Island Administration

L2	Island Admin	Island Distance to Mainland (IDM)
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This indicator is not applicable for the Maltese Islands due to the fact that it is an EU state with its own capital city, Valletta.

The distance between Sicily and the main city Rome is 573km (based on spatial Euclidian centroid distance), indicating requirements for air travel in order to conduct administrative activities and ensure cohesion between the central administration and the peripheral regions and provinces.

8.6.3 Town Insularity

L3	Town Insularity	Category of Town (Village, town, city) (CT)
L4	Town Insularity	Structural Insularity - Metropolis, Satellite, Isolated (Town, Village, Hamlet) (SIT)

Malta is composed of 68 local councils as set up through the Local Councils Act in 1993. There are 54 NUTS5 local councils in Malta and 14 in Gozo. The categories are based on the conurbation structure which depicts that the main fortified cities are designated as historic cities (6 in number), 11 suburban towns, 17 peripheral towns, 24 villages and 10 seaside towns. Due to the high population density and high urban density experienced by the Maltese islands, such categorisations could be termed as hypothetical, especially due to the sprawl factor which has overtaken most towns and integrated them into one major metropolis.

In addition to the above, local councils can be categorised for their metropolitan, suburban, insular or double-insularity structure. In fact, the Maltese towns whilst in their majority (38) fall within the metropolitan (conurbation) or suburban agglomerate, another 16 NUTS5 areas are relatively insular with the entire Gozitan councils termed as

double insular due to their geographical distance from the main island which hosts most if not all routes to commerce, travel and employment.

The Sicilian diversity in the towns and cities' categorisation was employed differently than in Malta, particularly due to the availability of a specific index of rurality and urbanisation which categorisations allowed for the creation of a very specific categorisations for the Towns in Trapani. Interestingly, the Sicilian Trapani province shows a propensity for Low or very low urban density in both urban and rural settings, with the largest category being comune with low urban densities in a rural setting (6 in number) followed by low and very low urban densities in a rural-urban balanced setting (4 and 4 comune respectively). In contrast the smallest categories are those related to either very low densities in entirely rural settings or to very high urban densities in rural settings (all building concentrated into a very small area that is surrounded by very large rural areas).

An analysis of the Sicilian Trapani comune shows that of the 24 comune, 6 are in the urban zones and can be termed as having low insularity, 3 have medium insularity, 15 exhibiting high to very high insularity, mainly due to the large distances from the main city, access to urban areas and the index of rurality.

8.6.4 Landuse

L5	Landuse	Main Landuse/Landcover (MLL)
L6	Landuse	Secondary Landuse/Landcover (SLL)

Malta's main landuse/landcover category resides in the rural zoning (71.4%) followed by the residential sector at 12.8% and in turn by industrial areas (6.37%). Even at a relatively large percentage taken up by the rural areas, Malta remains one of the highest rated urbanised countries.

The Sicilian landuse/landcover component shows that all provinces except for Palermo and Messina have a predominantly agricultural (rural) activity ranging from 93.4% for Caltanissetta to 52.1% in Enna. Whilst in Palermo the largest category is still agriculture the combination of the other landuses is greater than this single activity, whereby forestry takes second place. In Messina, however, forestry and semi natural areas take the main category with agriculture again taking second place.

8.6.5 Housing

L7	Housing	Main Housing Category (H)
L8	Housing	Housing Availability – Emigration Driver (HA)

The Maltese Islands Housing structure is predominantly terraced housing (34.1% Malta and 48.9% Gozo) following by and slowly being taken over by apartments (29.7% Malta and 28.5 Gozo), with census figures show that the trend is increasing particularly due to the fact that between 2006 and 2010 the largest volumes of approved dwellings constituted apartment blocks. This has rendered high urban densities, population movements and a subsequent reduction in cohesion as well as the depopulation of the urban cores. This has resulted in a situation where 53000 units remained vacant as at 2005 with the resultant problems ensuing from both massive overdevelopment and the unavailability of funds to buy such units.

The vacancy component should offer an opportunity for migration, but such requires an analysis of which dwellings are in reality available on the market, either due to inheritance issues, very small units that cannot be developed unless combined with other units and other physical and social restrictions that hinder development. Interestingly, whilst Gozitans live mainly in terraced housing very few live in apartments, at the same time they have developed over 4,500 apartments that stand vacant, supposedly for summer tourism and foreigners. Considering that there are approximately 10,000 households in Gozo, at the same time there is the same additional stock available as vacant.

The Sicilian data is categorised based on calculations of conventional buildings though not by category. shows that the number of dwellings being approved still results in a large percentage of vacant dwellings, ranging from 15.4% in Catania to 37.3% in Agrigento. This as in the Malta case related to second homes and dwellings built for the summer seasonal migration, mostly in illegal non-designated housing areas.

8.6.5 *Status*

L9	Status	Dilapidation/Ruins (DRR)
L10	Status	Rustbelt/Sunshine Status (RSS)

The Maltese figures depict a situation where 6 percent of all dwelling units are in an advanced state of deterioration/dilapidation and need urgent repairs. This means that nearly 12,000 units are not available for housing purposes and it is in such a scenario that such units fall prey to squatting, drug abuse and other offences.

Data for this indicator is not available for Sicily, however, what is interesting is that Sicily hosts large areas depicting ruins that have resulted from a 1960s earthquake and are still destroyed, a situation much worse than the Maltese type of dilapidation.

In terms of zonal status, the Maltese Islands host a unique phenomenon found in most industrial cities that have migrated their industry either to other countries or to other areas within the same country. This is reminiscent of the industrial complexes in American

cities and other cities linked to the termination of the British Empire bases. Such was the case in Malta where the main cities in the Grand Harbour area went through a rundown in the 1960s and 1970s which saw the closure of shipyard activity related to the navy and large outmigration. In turn other areas such Msida and Birzebbugia enjoyed resurgence through new technologies and industrial processes linked to hi-end technology. In turn, Kalkara is expected to enjoy such a sunshine status once the main industrial area becomes a technology centre.

Rustbelt-Sunshine data is not available for the Sicilian Island.

8.6.5 *Transport*

L11	Transport	Distance to main Island City (DMC)
L12	Transport	Distance to State Capital City (DSC)

The distance from Gozo to Malta (Victoria to Valletta) is 29.4 Km (Figure 7.49)

The Sicilian analysis depict the distances from each town to the main city, which indicator points to another aspect of insularity, that pertaining to the need to travel long distances to the main regional city in order to acquire goods and services in some cases travelling 195 Km from Siracusa to reach Palermo.

In addition, further analysis of the insularity component shows that the distances from each town to the national city, which is where most head offices for services and other activities reside make a difficult situation worse. In difference to the Malta-Gozo dynamic where a mere distance of 29km exists, the Sicily-Italy structure is very problematic since such distances (up to 646 Km) points towards either self-reliance in all the modes offered by opportunity or despondency should the residents deem that the state has abandoned their needs.

8.7 **Perspectives from the CRISOLA pivots**

The CRISOLA perspectives were analysed as based on the interviews with the thematic experts and enforcers as well as the administrators of the local and provincial regions. The results were then analysed against the data emanating from the data analysis and the spatial analysis.

Due to a dearth of data at the Sicilian point level, most outputs were either very abstract such as data at the Island or province level. However, at the fieldwork level, the information elicited from the main spatial data provides for the first time a provincial map pertaining to the three pivots. The project, at this level managed to acquire information for more than the designated Province of Trapani but also a mapped information base for all the provinces, with a higher detailed one for the Trapani province, particularly due to the

interviews and fieldwork carried out in each of the *comunes* in the province. Such is why it was deemed highly important for the information build up at the local level as such a process elicited a number of issues for change across the three CRISOLA pivots.

The Maltese scenario is comparatively highly advanced in terms of data provision at the high-detailed level which allowed for the mapping of data which was not available in the Sicilian scenario such as data on offender and offence location, poverty maps and other landuse maps, each of which could be overlaid. Therefore the Maltese scenario is delivered in higher detail and actually allows for better policy-making proposals.

The next sections review the integrative efforts from an island based scenario process, initially covering the Sicilian scenario, followed by the detailed Maltese scenario.

8.7.1 The Sicilian Scenario

With a relatively large area (25,730.60 square kilometres), a spatial analysis of the pivots shows that there are distinct areas across the whole of Sicily that are either taken up solely by social issues or solely by offence activity. The landuse aspect is reviewed in detail in the Trapani *comune* areas since at the provinces level most of the landuse was designated as agricultural areas, due to the major land taken up by this activity. Thus the landuse spatial aspect was removed to allow for a clear depiction of the social and crime data layers.

The maps depict polygonal shapes that are not precise but in ellipsoidal format due to the fact that they are based on an interpretation by the interviewer or the expert/administrator who generally find it very difficult to identify areas on a map and one has to interpret the perceived locational aspects pertaining to the social and crime aspects. In terms of landuse, these were generally generalised and could also be elicited from the Corine Land Cover map. The landuse aspect is investigated in the detailed Trapani area against the entire province arena.

It is interesting to note that whilst preliminary crime and social maps were available for the Maltese Islands, these are the first social and crime maps for the Sicilian region. Very evidently, Figure 8.9 depicts highly concentrated crime zones (red areas), some large and distinct which were designated as mapping organised crime. It is vital to note that the term organised crime is here presented in its abstract form, since it includes all forms of such crime, inclusive of Mafia-related activities. In fact the larger zones depict such activities. The interactive map identifies better those zones based on the relative offence activity related to both individual acts and Mafia actions.

Figure 8.9: Sicily Interview Perspectives



In order to better understand the relationship between the different pivots, a province-based analysis was carried out, which provides better reading and interpretation. Text is elicited from the relative Chapter 5 with interventions based on the spatial interpretation of the findings.

Province of Palermo

The Province, which also hosts the capital of the Region, in virtue of the progressive urbanisation and building expansion in the last years, has seen a real changeover in the landscape (particularly the agricultural centres in the hinterland). Such a change has rendered rapid changes from an agricultural base to an economy primarily based on the tertiary sector, inclusive of some big industrial areas as well as a touristic component based on its environmental and cultural resources.

The issue identified through the indicators of proximity to the main country city and its core administrative function has been mitigated to a certain extent through its connections from an inter-provincial and international airport.

While the number of residents at Palermo has decreased in the last 40 years, on a provincial level the opposite is the case, with particular reference to the Metropolitan Area of Palermo: the surrounding areas, attractive for their way of life, has undergone an urbanisation process, which created major congestion on the arterial roads.

With regards to security, and prevention of criminal activities, the Police Forces, despatched in various stations, in order to cover all the territory, are not only occupied in the direct contrast of organised crime, but also first-hand interventions done by mobile radio sections above all in the area of Palermo.

Chapter 5 summarised the types of crimes which include drugs run by the Palermo Mafia, a strong increase in economic crimes and fraud against the State and international organisations, common crimes such as extortions, usury and aiding offenders to avoid justice, thefts from supermarkets, private apartments and other dwellings and crimes related to the environment.

Figure 8.10 identifies those areas that whilst appearing highly concentrated, are mainly identified outside of the main city and deal with public disorder and prostitution, tourism-

related illegal development, dumping of toxic, particularly in the Madonie zone where the Mafia is well established. Illegal dumping of toxic refuse poses another problem. The city itself hosts particular areas that are very problematic such as the ZEN (Zone di Espansione Nord) which posits a highly-negative social cohesion in terms of interaction with the surrounding areas, where also ironically an adjacent zone is deemed as very safe due to its zone control exercise by organised crime. This circumstance is even more so identified in Zona 8 – where two social realities are located near each other with poor and rich residential areas (Politeama and via Libertà) together with a unique situation where 100m from the high-end commercial area, there exists a large dilapidated area, which only now has focused on the rehabilitation of some buildings damaged during WWII.

Interestingly in Zona 7, social problems leading to extreme dysfunctionality are highly evident, where the council tried to attract investment to solve problem the created a huge shopping mall, which is right next to the ZEN, problematic area with high social dysfunction, high criminality within the Zen and low educational attainment. On a seemingly other-worldly perspective, this zone is located right next to an area identified as Mafia territory and in turn seen as safe by the residents due to their impact on crime reduction. This issue points towards the need to understand social cohesion and what works in such situations; whether to accept the fact that an area is extremely disorganised and left to its own devices due to lack of enforcement and capacity or alternatively to allow the Mafia or organisation seen as non-cohesive to effect their presence in the reduction of crime. This project elicited such a finding and posits the need to understand the Mafia's impact on cohesion in terms of the reduction of crime. Ironically organised crime is here perceived as the main tool which minimised crime in certain areas of Palermo.

As can be seen in Figure 8.11, the crime zones overlap with the poverty zones, reaching 64% of all crime concentrations. This issue is also identified in the Maltese scenario both through the professional expert input and the administrator information as well as the spatial analysis.

Figure 8.10: Sicily Interview Perspectives - Palermo Province

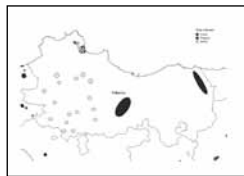
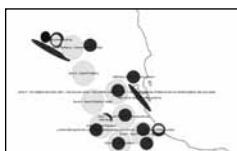


Figure 8.11: Sicily Interview Perspectives - Palermo City



Among the strategies proposed to reply to the collective need for security, it is advisable to adopt an integrated prevention between repression and interventions in the social sector to work on certain causes of criminality and to remove the conditions which favour the vicinity to criminality by young generations.

Province of Messina

Messina hosts a concentration of population with high education standards and activities in the tertiary sector with the main part of gainfully occupied persons employed in the services sector (public administration, education, business and tourism), followed by an industrial sector linked to shipyard and energy related activities. This, in addition to citrus-fruit cultivation, hazelnut cultivation, vine cultivation, which sector experienced a slow and constant decline due mainly to growing production costs forcing some local entrepreneurs to abandon the territory.

As in other realities of the South, even the province of Messina is affected by a progressively ageing population which has the highest levels in the comunes of the hinterland, with less than 2000 inhabitants (particularly Novara di Sicilia). The population decline is happening in favour of bordering comunes or even farther territories, other phenomena of a social level such as a particular decline in the young generation. Due to this shift, the resident foreigner's component is high when compared to the regional average, composed of a large Asian, Romanian and Moroccan community. This is greater in the districts of Taormina and the Eolian Islands. The main part of residents complains about the absence of an integration policy for immigrants.

The rate of employment is a little higher than the regional average with a slightly inferior average income, the lowest registered in the comunes of the "Nebrodi" The services, concentrated in principal urban centres, are reduced or absent in bordering zones, structurally linked to such centres; the principal infrastructures dislocated on the coast, penalising connections with towns in the hinterland.

With regards to socio-assistance and territorial services, even if in the last years, there has been a re-distribution of resources from the Capital to the intermediate centres (Patti, Milazzo, Sant'Agata di Militello, Barcellona and Capo d'Orlando), the internal realities of the territory remain substantially emarginated. The real stronghold of Messina is the

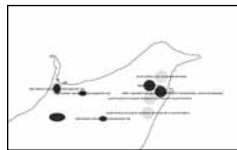
presence of the tertiary sector especially the developed social services section, which is also aided by various associations.

With regards to crimes, Messina is considered as one of the safest provinces at a regional level, even if Authorities investigations have evidenced the existence of a strong relationship between institutional figures and mafia phenomena (the contrasting actions resulted in judicial investigations but even and above all in the confiscation of illicit properties and the precious collaboration deriving from those who side with the authorities “pentiti”. Corruption and abuse of public office crimes are increasing in percentage, even economic crimes. In fact, the perception of safety is also gleaned from Figure 8.12 where few areas are identified as hosting both crime and social overlays, which are related to pollution. These areas are located in zones of high unemployment. Messina is highly particular for its social zoning areas which indicate two major zones of social inequity based social housing not properly developed which has led to social problems (Figure 8.13). This is a direct indication of the interactivity between growth of social problems emanating from poor development strategies.

Figure 8.12: Sicily Interview Perspectives - Messina Province



Figure 8.13: Sicily Interview Perspectives - Messina overlays



A tragic situation, which every year reaps many victims, is represented by numerous homicides and serious body harm, deriving from the violation of the Highway Code regulations; on the increase are accidents at place of work mainly involving the foreign workforce.

Technological crimes have almost doubled and there is a relevant increase in car and house thefts, in a minor quantity the number of robberies/hold-ups; abusive buildings have increased, although construction speculation has not assumed the exasperated aspect

as in the coastal areas of other regional provinces. The territory with major environmental risk is that of the industrial coastal area of the Messina district, which is problematic considering the touristic appeal of the area, inclusive of Taormina which is also victim to tourism-related offences. The share of minor criminality is superior to the regional average, so the promotion of projects aimed at legality, are brought forward by research institutes in order to render the younger generation more sensible to this aspect.

Province of Catania

The province of Catania has a strong demographic consistency and in the last twenty years there has been an increment of the population, although not homogeneously distributed. There is a progressive increase in centres nearest to Catania, deriving partly from a constant emigration from the province capital, which consequently tends to diminish in population. This movement is resulting in squatting in the dilapidated areas and the reactive measures resulting in the installation of CCTVs (Figure 14). Other offences in the city outskirts relates to high rates of reported domestic violence.

The population is mainly young although the phenomenon of ageing and the decrease in birth rates is starting to have a certain weight (particularly in centres further away from the city). The foreign residents in the province come mainly from Eastern Europe, followed by North Africans, occupied particularly in agriculture, manufacture and personal assistance services. In the cities of Catania and Misterbianco there is a high concentration of Asians, mainly Chinese involved in business activities as well as a specific Rom area (Figure 15).

The positive demographic trend is due to the presence of numerous entities, primarily the commercial sector, followed by the agricultural, construction and manufacturing sector even if the Province has a gross domestic product inferior to the Sicilian average.

Therefore the economic aspect is being dominated by the tertiary sector, while year after year the contraction of the primary sector is increasing together with the slow decline of the secondary sector. Although agriculture still represents a solid aspect of the economy particularly in areas at the foot of the mountains, it is characterised by a strong impasse linked to a scarce adjournment and a low propensity to take risks on the part of agricultural entrepreneurs who, isolated, are unable to face the challenges offered by a global market.

The reduced concentration of the hospitality sector reveals the missed realisation of important aspects of the tourism sector and the incapacity to promote assiduously archaeological, architectural (Baroque) and environmental resources linked to the presence of the volcano Etna.

The rate of unemployment in the province of Catania, although particularly high, is among the lowest in Sicily, while part of the economy is strongly influenced by illegal work and Cosa Nostra.

Figure 8.14: Sicily Interview Perspectives - Catania & Enna Provinces

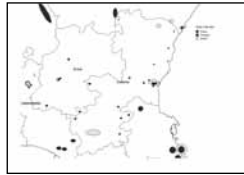
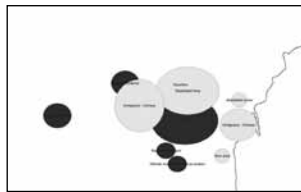


Figure 8.15: Sicily Interview Perspectives – Catania City



Province of Enna

The Province of Enna is situated in a central position on the inside of the Sicilian Island. However, the territory has always been quite emarginated vis-à-vis other Provinces (Figure 14).

Most of the twenty Comunes have an economy based on agriculture, and a diffused system of small and medium artisan activities. The demographic distribution is characterised by a strong concentration of the population in the urban centres, emigration and in converse the stable number of immigrants who do not compensate for the los.

From a social point of view, there are strong identity values, and certain cohesion of family groups is evident. Primary and Secondary education is around the 80% level, particularly in comunes where there are scholastic institutes and the main Centres.

Unemployment is less dramatic than in other areas, thanks to a sustained growth of independent jobs, even though the phenomenon of poverty and a general impoverishment urge many persons to seek help from local diocesan structures.

Physically, the zone San Pietro, where there are popular settlements, is one of the oldest zones of the city and even one of the poorest, from an urban point of view. There are many degraded buildings. , However, Enna is host to educational institutes, a university and the majority of retail and wholesale shops.

In terms of security, the Comune installed about thirty video cameras and reinforced security patrols in the area. Crimes most frequently reported include breaches of the law with regard to the disposal or recycling of special and dangerous waste products. A Mafia presence, although with a low profile in activity, conditions the economic and social

networks. Limited episodes of extortion and damages done by organised crime, even if this is down-sized due to lack of reports by businessmen or commercial entities.

Other offences include the Mafia's control over various financial sectors, usury, micro-criminality, thefts from dwellings, crimes against persons, prostitution of minors and crimes against heritage.

Authorities retain that criminality needs to be contrasted by repression and promotion of the culture of legality in schools, involving even families. One needs to invest in education and culture, with benefits and positive results in a civil community, since where the standard of education is low, much stronger is the presence of delinquency.

The Province of Siracusa

The province is characterised by a decrease in and ageing of the population. Increasingly, tourism and renewable energy, together with horticulture form part of the economic drive. The population is made up of an extremely heterogeneous social class: freelance professionals, employees, artisans, businessmen, but also labourers, low income families, unemployed or non-EU immigrants. A large part of families has a matriculation certificate. Many own second houses, used in summer, which contribute to a deteriorating landscape and environment due to lack of primary urban works.

Offences related to the environment derive from an excessive use of the territory linked to the intensive presence of greenhouses, and abusive constructions. In terms of education, Siracusa hosts a higher percentage of graduates and diploma holders in the comune Capital and a mixed presence of literate and illiterate people in the internal and southern comunes; and medium to low standards of education due to scarce higher and specialised formative courses in the Province.

With regards to criminality, there is a consistent Mafia component, rooted all over the territory active in drug trafficking but also in control of the agricultural sector, usury; micro-criminality related to thefts (houses and copper) and robberies (banks and post offices). Interestingly Enna hosts prostitution governed by Romanians who are active in female trafficking. A criminal phenomenon particularly diffused in the Capital is arson, particularly setting vehicles on fire. This is the majority however, in the majority of cases, is not linked to organised crime but to feuds between individuals.

Educational activities hosted by the University of Catania has helped to refurbish zones. However these zones following this educational and cultural enhancement process have been exposed to an increase in micro-criminality}. The residents of this zone are really preoccupied about security because of the proliferation of illicit activities and strong social degradation which compromise their way of life.

In terms of physical structures, many areas are composed of blocks of flats, ruined by vandalism and graffiti, abandoned, full of rubbish heaps and in some cases even

abandoned asbestos. Siracusa has great environmental problems linked to pollution due to the presence of the industrial areas in the extreme north. The irregular and fast urban expansion, determined by the growth of the new economy is at the base of a high rate of abusive buildings, especially in the peripheral zones of the city which, without services and infrastructures, have heterogeneous family groups of the same traditions.

The Provincial Headquarters of the Carabinieri of Siracusa in order to accentuate preventive measures and control of the territory and therefore, guarantee more contrasts to criminality by enforcing a sense of security in the population has affected various extraordinary supervision duties including the use of air surveillance.

As demonstrated in Figure 8.16, the main social issues that overlap with the crime areas are those related to the main city. The other forms separate zones.

Figure 8.16: Sicily Interview Perspectives - Siracusa and Ragusa Provinces



The Province of Ragusa

The province of Ragusa, situated at the extreme South-eastern part of the Sicilian region, represents an extremely smaller reality vis-à-vis other areas. Figure 8.16 depicts a small social issue zone that is located in the same area as the crime-related and security zone. The coastal territory is also under pressure by settlements intent on tourism but also agricultural interests. A number of towns in Ragusa have become principal destinations for nightlife.

Notwithstanding that economic crisis has greatly affected the economy of Ragusa province, it has an extremely contained rate of unemployment and an income pro-capita among the highest in Sicily, a situation determined by the development of the tertiary sector and the effective contribution given by the greenhouse horticultural sector, which situation has led to an increase of immigration towards these zones.

Even school truancy is extremely contained, evidencing more the relative socio-cultural well-being of residents (even if one cannot deny that in agricultural zones, there is a higher percentage vis-à-vis the provincial average, due to the necessity of families to make use of all resources, inside the families themselves, for activities relating to farming). However, the economic recession is causing calls for assistance to minors in a state of misery, mainly Italians, who turn to Caritas centres operating in Ragusa, Vittoria and Comiso for support.

Diverse social categories are exposed to risk, as are immigrant families and separated persons; among immigrants, communities from Eastern countries are in the most difficult situations. Besides psychological support, Caritas offers material support as well, sometimes even financial (by means of subsidies forms of credit). There is a diffused micro-criminality, active in robberies and drug trafficking due to the presence of non-EU groups of citizens particularly in the coastal zone, arson against economic operators and illegal work especially in agriculture and commercial services.

Particularly in the coastal areas (often uninhabited during winter and scarcely illuminated, so more appetising for thieves), there is a number of thefts which lately have focused on the industrial zone, where robberies, vandalism, thefts and abusive collection of material (relative above all to iron materials, copper, various metals) has been experienced. Although such phenomena have not yet assumed preoccupying proportions, many are requesting reinforcement of control services in the entire zone by law enforcement ably supported by video-surveillance system addressing zones considered more at risk.

Caltanissetta Province

The Province is made up largely of small and medium entities operating mainly in the agricultural and commercial sector, with an absolute superiority of the tertiary sector. The development of the industrial sector was initially accompanied by a rise in employment levels and social well-being in an area traditionally considered among the poorest in Sicily. In the long term the province experienced a constant decrease in the workforce together with the rapid increase in cost of living, with the progressive abandonment of agricultural activities and increase in unemployment rates.

The most Western tip is less populated, the towns are smaller, and have gone through a process of emigration. These towns are the most influenced by the phenomenon an ageing of the population. From a social point of view, there is not yet a great disaggregation of family nuclei, although there was a slight contraction in the composition of groups (two, three components per family). The province of Caltanissetta, together with that of Enna, is in the last place in female employment amongst the provinces); this is due to the absence of adequate work policies. It is, however, good to remember that behind these very high unemployment levels there are many cases of illegal work, not always conducive to organised crime.

An extremely poor province, where there are very high rates of school truancy and alarming thresholds of illiteracy, where many families live in poor conditions and the best solution for a better future is to emigrate. A reality which exposes the province, not only clans linked to Cosa Nostra, but also to an autonomous criminal organisation named "Stidda" (particularly active around Gela and Niscemi, traditionally areas at risk) which operate, sometimes together, in the aggression of public and private heritage (specifically

in the assignment of tenders re public works to industries controlled by extortions, taxes to entrepreneurs and businessmen).

In contrast with the past however, many businessmen have started to rebel against the imposition of the “pizzo” (a form of corruption), particularly, intent to re-launch the culture of legality in the city of Gela, where there is a very active association, the same as the one in Caltanissetta. The district of Caltanissetta has the sad national record of minors incriminated for Mafia crimes; minors carry out robberies and aggravated extortions, damages to property for intimidation purposes and some homicides. This phenomenon seems to move, hand in hand, with an often hidden school truancy. In a clear decline, sexual violence and stalking which, however, are still diffused due to poor socio-cultural contexts, if not degraded, inside family nuclei or against persons incapable of taking care of them, being minors or disabled.

There are many crimes against public administration. There has been a slight decrease in crimes against heritage (however the number of car and apartment thefts and robberies is still alarming) due to efficient prevention and territory control by law enforcement. Damages are perpetrated by means of arson mainly against business entities, motor vehicles, scooters, agricultural cultivations (diffused vandalism, used as a means of revenge for futile reasons sometimes in order to defraud insurance companies).

The territory and bordering zones around Gela stand out for a general negligence in the management of public property. A generally difficult situation accentuated by insufficient control thus a perception of insecurity by the population, but which is also due to shortage of essential services. Infractions in the health and safety sector at work are also numerous (often immigrants are involved), against which there should be supervisory actions, by means of a coordinated and permanent activity, by the various competent authorities together a major awareness of workers.

Many areas in the town centre have been abandoned for a long time, the result of a strong exodus and social impoverishment, particularly, the old Arab quarters of San Domenico, to the east of Piazza Garibaldi, characterised by many houses, most of which dilapidated and abandoned by residents; rented at high prices to groups of non-European citizens. The quarters are a refuge for neglected individuals and the homeless.

Paradoxically, even due to emigration towards the North, there is a town centre dominated by dilapidated constructions where numerous family groups live in extreme precarious conditions (not infrequent episodes of evacuation due to dangerous structures), while a big part of the outskirts area is widely under-utilised. In reality, the local Administration is carrying out vast refurbishment works for the recovery of some buildings with the aim to reconvert them for social purposes. There is, moreover, a scarce environmental sensibility. Many areas, particularly the quarters Angel in the town centre, have become open air landfills due to disposal of different waste products by residents.

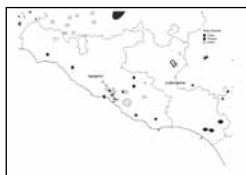
Caltanissetta is the Italian city with the highest index of absolute poverty, and represents a transit point for the migrant population. Over the past few years, the movements of people towards the Province of Caltanissetta have greatly diminished. However, those requesting international protection from other Sicilian provinces and zones of the peninsula still remain. There is also a community centre for refugees in zone Pian del Lago, where in emergencies, extra-communitarian citizens requesting asylum, pass the night in a camp, in tents or simply covered with blankets, in the space in front of the gate of the Community Centre; when they go out of the Centre in order to go to the city, they are forced to use a road with very heavy traffic but without pavements or illuminations (a dangerous situation which compromises these people's lives and that of the drivers themselves).

In order to enforce territory control, there is a vigilance service; a coordinated plan to control the regularity of stay of these foreigners; the empowerment of vigilance and prevention in scholastic Institutes; the prevention of drug dependency; the prevention of damages to scholastic structures, by means of patrol duties in civilian clothes, and to guarantee the smooth running of didactic activities; but also the vigilance and monitoring of parts of the communal roads effected by heavy rainfall etc., a better monitoring system by the Central Operations centre utilising video-surveillance cameras.

Other offences include arson attempts on cars and doors, intimidations with the aim of extortions against commercial activities. There is also a diffused micro-criminality, mainly among minors, specialised in thefts from dwellings, looting, pick-pocketing and robberies from shops.

Figure 8.17 shows that the central city zone is composed of overlapping social and crime zones and a series of offence zones situated in the far south related to development offences (construction of public works and racketeering).

Figure 8.17: Sicily Interview Perspectives - Caltanissetta and Agrigento Provinces



Province of Agrigento

A province dedicated mainly to zoological techniques and agriculture, in recent years has been witness to a number of hospitality services linked to rural tourism and typical products. Many of these zones are burdened by heavy demographic loss, diffused unemployment

and underemployment for example. The Province of Agrigento is considered as one of the most difficult to reside in, mainly with regards to living conditions and development, among all the Sicilian provinces. There is a high level of birth rate and at the same time a high level of emigration which has favoured a general tendency of abandoning the country zones.

The most common element as regards to the standard of education is the lower secondary school certificate, followed by the upper secondary school diploma and a few graduates. There are quite a consistent number of persons without a school certificate. The Province has high rates of school truancy; extremely frequent is the unskilled work of minors with low wages. There is an absence of socio-cultural meeting places particularly destined for the young generation for whom, thanks to the Department of Sociology in Agrigento, there is a call centre inside the scholastic institutions; besides a vast number of the population working as state employees, there is a high level of unemployment, above all among the younger sector. In reality, in most cases, statistics seem to be exasperated by the presence of a strong hidden economy.

The conditions of under-development of the Agrigento context are strictly linked to socio-economic difficulties of the population, which cannot be remedied in a short term. Weak points in the system result also by the absence of efficient territorial connections and the ability of governance by public administrations which, along the years, have enabled the downgrading of the territory.

This already difficult context is, moreover, aggravated by the pressing presence of Mafia criminality, considered among the most active on a regional and international level (Canada and United States of America). The organisation is one employing the traditional type of delinquency such as arson, intimidations particularly towards business activities, artisan and industrial activities, with extortion purposes, but which often involve politicians and public employees. This is a territory in which the assassination method as an extreme act of punishment has not completely vanished.

The scarce reporting by the citizens in reporting crimes is attributed to the serious economic and occupational crisis which, for decades, exists in the territory. It is also the reason that escalates the increase of a diffused criminality. This does not exclusively adhere to the logics of organised crime, but more often unknown individuals are active in thefts from summer residences (uninhabited during the winter months) or theft of copper and violent pick-pocketing. There is a certain increase in armed robberies, drug trafficking, gambling (carried out in clandestine clubs or in gambling houses by video poker), and the sale of counterfeit goods. There are also episodes linked to stalking, and although on a smaller scale, sexual violence acts on minors.

This has resulted in a decrease in the control of the territory and therefore an increase in micro-criminality; this necessitates the participation of administrative personnel to

patrol and control the territory in uniform; increasing the personnel on foot and by car; integrating also a number of district police officers.

The Southern part is characterised by coastal settlement of San Leone (preferred destination seaside resort, with a small touristic port) and the district Zingarello, a small seasonal residential settlement made up of abusive multi-storey buildings.

The socio-economic characteristic of the population of the province capital are not substantially different those of the surrounding territory, even if there are some differences regarding institutions and cultural events, which in the capital have a major consistency.

Inside the city, bureaucratic and administrative centre of the whole province has different public schools even for infant years; there are also some public libraries, managed by institutional bodies and none (Local Council, Church and private individuals); numerous cultural associations, social cooperatives and many voluntary associations.

It is evident by the analysis of general infrastructures (economic and social) present in the territory, that such resources are not enough and inadequate for the needs of the whole population. The ageing population requires socio-health assistance, the increase in foreign presences, the diffusion of criminality linked to drug and alcohol dependency, are all phenomena leading inevitably to different needs and demands from the public system. Even illegal work represents a spreading social problem. In fact, hidden economy involves more than half the working population.

The geographical position and the close vicinity to the island of Lampedusa make Agrigento a proper "frontier" in the Mediterranean and therefore, continually forced to face illegal and clandestine immigration; there is a presence of immigrants coming mainly from different countries in North Africa (Morocco and Tunisia).

The control of the territory is ensured by the presence of a video surveillance system, activated in some zones of the centre (piazza Marconi, piazza Cavour) and piazza Aster at San Leone, retained at particular risk with regards public order. The installations of other cameras is in line, even in peripheral zones; the use of a mobile camera is intended to be used in order to discourage the usual uncivilised people who use public places as a landfill.

Province of Trapani

The twenty four districts of the Trapani province are characterised by a very inhomogeneous distribution of the population, with a huge concentration in the big urban centres of Alcamo, Castelvetro Erice, Marsala, Mazara Del Vallo, Trapani (many of which in the proximity of the coastline) and scarcely inhabited in the hinterland districts.

This area still has visible damages, especially in zones close to the epicentre. There are many abandoned buildings in countryside and urban centres. There are many newly built areas in cement, to replace the temporary lodgings brought down after many years. The Belice experience represents, in a symbolic way, the failure in rebuilding and reintegrating

the territory, undertaken by the State. Many historic buildings, only partly hit by the earthquake, were totally put down for “security” reasons. In many cases the use of public funds gave way to controversies (many used the funds received to build the second and third home) which brought about the decrease in number of central nuclei of the population. Untraditional urban models were used thus giving way to excessive spreading out over large areas of the inhabited parts, hindering local entities in the management and maintenance of such a vast urban area. This brought about the phenomenon of using these dwellings for other purposes other than those social uses for which they were destined (such as 6 of the social and civic centres became local administrative offices, with the exception of Salaparuta which social centre was handed over to a Cultural Association). Even the pulling down of the barracks, built by huge amounts of asbestos posed numerous problems to the communities when it came to destroying such dangerous material.

Research on the labour market throughout the provincial territory puts in evidence that most of the population is employed in public administration and there is a clear predominance of the agricultural sector in respect to other economic sectors. In fact this amounts to over 40 per cent of the entire entrepreneurial system, assigning a proper record to the province with regards to other areas in Sicily.

As regards the labour market, one can see a negative trend in the fully employed, determined above all by the decrease in the construction and services sectors. This has concerned both genders; although one has to point out that the province has one of the lowest rates female unemployment. The labour market is not that flexible and favours precarious work. Indefinite contracts have diminished thus giving way to irregular contracts. One can notice much irregular work and illegal work conditions (particularly in the construction and agricultural sectors) discrepancies also exist between the exigencies of the labour market and the actual workforce due to lack of formative structures (this has given way to a strong nucleus of a non-specialised workforce) and a socio cult (aural system oriented towards highly qualified professionals in sectors which have little impact on local economy).

From the social point of view there are 2 elements that characterise the provincial panorama: the progressive ageing of the population (with an index of elderly people higher than the regional one) in line with national standards and a decrease in birth rate thus diminishing family nuclei. The Province is registering a slight demographic increase partly due to an increase in immigrants, consistently present in Pantelleria and the comune of Mazara Del Vallo. The highest number of foreigners comes from Romania, followed by North African countries. There is also a large Chinese community which has invested in commercial activities and restaurateurs throughout the territory.

In terms of social assistance policies, although along the years a plurality of policies has been promoted towards different social groups even in liaison with private entities,

infrastructures re disabled, migrants and centres for the prevention of violence on females are lacking. A real mapping of the territorial needs does not exist as regards social emergencies in areas where assistance centres, semi residential and day care are lacking.

The restructuring in the health sector, determined by exigencies of rationalisation of public resources, has moreover contributed to heavy pressure of resources in the hinterland and smaller centres, which population is often forced to move about in order to make use of specialised services. There is no coordination between administrators and workers thus failing to provide a high level personalised assistance.

Levels of security in the province of Trapani are quite close to the regional average, but this is highly influenced by the characteristics of local organised crime, which is totally apart from the economic and political network thus making it difficult for the authorities to suppress and even influences the level of security perceived by the inhabitants.

The actual orientation of the Mafia gangs, headed by Castelvetro boss Messina Danaro, is made up of money laundering of sums of money derived from illegal drug trafficking, which is subsequently invested in apparently legal activities run by persons who operate in different sections of the economic system.

This has been proven by certain activities of mafia gangs in the assignment of public tenders linked to construction and health, even by means of public auctions; numerous economic crimes are also connected to false contracts and fraud. Particular interest was shown by criminal organisations towards power plants for the production of alternative energy, which, as is known, benefit from certain forms of subsidised public financing. Many wind farms on the territory are under investigation by judicial authorities.

This criminal phenomenon can be seen also in the recycling of waste products and in the management of abusive landfills (which often involve the various quarries spread all over the territory). From the environmental point of view, although many court proceedings exist against local administrators for assumed irregularities in the management of public landfills, one has to state that this phenomenon is strengthened by inappropriate behaviour of private entities (individuals but also businessmen who work in the marble and construction sectors) who have transformed some areas in abusive spaces to recycle waste products.

The presence of Mafia organisations on local territory is due to the failure of state politics carried out in the past years by the central government. The Mafia has used this to the full in order to gain power and enrich itself resulting from the problems and aspirations of an area characterised by an ever spreading social discomfort.

The actual precarious economic situation, the difficulty of credit access by banks, have moreover aggravated the phenomenon of usury, intrinsically tied to gaming and betting environments, both legal or illegal, which are establishing themselves even in small communities. The Mafia knows the cultural value of the confiscation of properties, so much

so that there is a certain stepping back from intimidation (often social cooperatives) which is entrusted with the management of this heritage; contemporarily there is an attempt to regain the confiscated properties, part of which put up for auction after reacquiring them.

Moreover a micro criminality specialised in crimes against public administration and heritage is present in the territory. In order to ensure adequate security levels to the population (even considering the reduction of certain workgroups), one has tried to rationalise the presence of the Police Force on the territory by means of road blocks and prevention services.

As regards environmental crimes, reports re violations and abuse in the construction sector have increased (especially in coastal zones); such behaviour often brought forward by allowance of subsidies and exemptions during construction of buildings. One can note that usually reports are directed solely to land owners; a way to seriously hinder this phenomenon could be to punish the constructors also.

The major problems are the numerous abusive buildings, mostly in coastal areas, many of which – often acquired by communal entities – should be demolished; only the Comune of Marsala, following the adoption of some twenty ordinances to clear the occupancy of abusive property, has correctly activated the procedure, setting up the necessary acts to gain tenders for the removal of furnishings and demolition works (Figures 8.18 and 8.19).

The problem re management of migrants' arrivals remains, particularly clandestine arrivals along the coasts of Pantelleria and Trapani, especially during the summer months

Although there was a slowdown thanks also to international agreements with countries of origin for the control of coastal areas, the situation is still critical. Firstly, security forces specialised in immigrants' arrivals do not exist which means that these have to be deployed from elsewhere in the territory. Secondly, the strategy of criminal clans in immigrants trafficking has undergone profound changes, instead of using big boats suitable for hundreds of people, easily intercepted, there is a clear preference to modestly sized boats harder to intercept, without counting arrivals via land.

Around Trapani, there are different prison structures both for adults and minors, which are in a difficult situation due to overpopulation. Considering this dramatic increase in prison population, the major problems regard the difficulty, in respect to limited financial resources and personnel, of having to predispose the most appropriate and suitable measures so as to guarantee to all detainees these services of a socio cultural and psychological nature; in this sense the opening of an outside executive office to motivate the use of alternative detention measures.

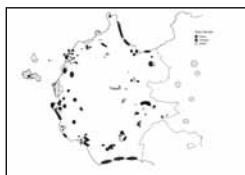
To this regard re the Pact of Security for Trapani province, a convention together with Erice, has been set up in order to activate a video surveillance system in public areas surrounding the correctional facility of Trapani, with the objective of recuperating Police prison wardens, employed in services of external vigilance. The absence of norms, the

fragmentation of social network, the desegregation of family nuclei instigated violent episodes against weaker subjects (minors and women) which seems to involve not only family groups but also public employees assigned to vigilance and prevention duties (between June 2011 and June 2012 there were around 50 court proceedings for sexual violence, paedophilia and some thirty others for stalking).

The number of cases of child violence denounced to the Judicial Authority represents only a small part of abuses committed against children and refers to those episodes, so evident, that they cannot be tolerated or misunderstood. Many reports are put forward by employees, who, due to their functions, cannot set aside their precise legal obligations.

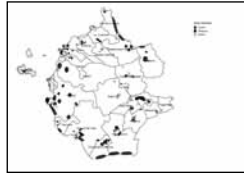
It seems evident, then, that the socio territorial context of the Province is quite problematic. There is a growing discomfort among citizens who live in a precarious situation, not only financially, but also socially. The exodus phenomenon from Comunes in the hinterland, the work crisis, the logics of nepotism which regulate the labour market, the sense of impotency are linked to a certain acceptance of the impossibility to change. A number of problems intersect each other thus involving choices done by the Institutions during the last years. There is a sense of profound mistrust against a State which is not succeeding in guaranteeing sufficient security and is not able to offer politics of an adequate development.

Figure 8.18: Sicily Interview Perspectives – Trapani CRISOLA



Interestingly Figures 8.18 and 8.19 depict a detailed outputs of the areas identified at comune level which areas are dominated by the coastal crimes related to Mafia activity in the construction industry, which many areas covered by crime ranging from theft to arson. Note is taken that quite a number of social areas overlap the other social layers again indicating an intrinsic factor that points towards the relationship between both poverty and crime, particularly the inner comune areas, and the outer touristic zones that serve as attractors for offences.

Figure 8.19: Sicily Interview Perspectives - Trapani Comunes



A more detailed study of the comune of Marsala shows that the interaction between the 3 pivots becomes more intense where the zones experience high population and high urban density. Figure 8.20 shows the Marsala area with its specific pivot zones that are distinct on the outskirts and overlap in the urban zones, the green open spaces and the residential zones. This reflects the realities faced by the researchers and their interviewees as shown in the field study of Marsala and Petrosino (Figure 5.21) with offences occurring in the peripheral areas of the urban zone as against the internal zones as well as on the coast.

Areas suffering from poverty and deprivation are in close proximity to the offence zones, which issue requires a seachange on how best to tackle this phenomenon. It also points towards the need for niche intervention, which implements very small area (those areas where poverty and crime exits in dilapidated areas as against a blanket investment in all areas. Managing small areas into a sustainable socio-physical mode is more sustainable than trying to tackle whole comunes in an environment that offers low finances in a period of recession, lack of professional capacity (as identified in the small relative number of probation and parole officers). The small niche targets would receive the expert input for the creation of social cohesion and capital.

Figure 8.20: Sicily Interview Perspectives - Marsala Petrosino Comunes

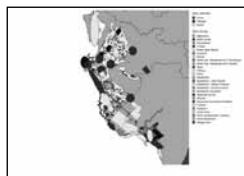
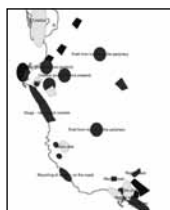


Figure 8.21: Sicily Interview Perspectives – Marsala detail



8.7.2 The Maltese Scenario

In contrast to the Sicilian Scenario, Malta has two NUTS3 regions but only one functioning through a national Ministry; Gozo which also has its own regional president. As in the case of Sicily, the Maltese study tackled the individual NUTS5 to ensure the build-up of specific analysis based on the hotspot approach which was not possible in the Sicilian scenario.

As drafted in the Sicilian province analysis, this section will bring up the main points of the main districts under study and then identify those issues that pertain to the actual comparison with the finding from the data and the spatial statistical analysis.

Figure 18.22: NUTS 4: Districts



District One: Southern Harbour District

The area is designated as a rust-belt zone with rapid population loss and an elderly population that is growing at a high rate. This is crucial in the undertaking of policy measures due to the fact that the elderly are perceived as the main potential or actual victims of crime, where the fear of crime is tangible, especially among the elderly. In addition, due to a weaker social cohesion, this district experiences a case where teenagers are also considered as potentially at risk from crime/criminals (mainly the uneducated and poor youngsters who become easy prey to criminals and addicted to narcotics).

Physically, the zone is very dense and polluted. This is due to various factors, mainly from the shipyards, power station, traffic congestion and other infrastructural issues. As regards to health and safety in this district, it is claimed that unfinished infrastructural works (example, those being done to Bacir Number 1 at Bormla), pose a danger; heavy

traffic, lack of parking spaces and traffic pollution pose a major threat to the health and safety of the residents; The pollution emanating from the Marsa power station and the industrial zones are also considered as hazardous to the health and safety of the residents.

Financial insecurity and poverty is very high, highlighting the issue that the social housing area is a probable crime and social problems' hotspot, which structures have resulted in a sense of learned helplessness, resignation and apathy that taken over this district. Since the Marsa ex-trade school is now being used as an open-centre for irregular/illegal migrants, residents complain that this area, particularly the Albert Town area, has been taken over by immigrants. Offences associated with these irregular migrants are: hate crime (inflicted by the Maltese upon immigrants, and/or amongst themselves) loitering, heavy drinking and unacceptable behaviour in public gardens.

In terms of security and safety, there are no official neighbourhood watch schemes. The installation of some CCTV cameras might have helped reduce crime. This stated, with the exception of Paola, Zabbar and Bormla, the level of crime is not alarming.

Thefts from cars and vandalism have decreased over the past years but drug-abuse/trafficking seems rampant and worsens the already precarious financial situation many residents might already be experiencing. Ironically, it is claimed that, in Bormla, the main hotspot is right next door to the police station. This spot is known for blatant and continuous drug-abuse.

Other offences include gambling, loitering/prostitution, domestic violence (and rape), nuisances, squabbles/fights, an extent of gang activity, vandalism, littering and illegal dumping are also problems. With the exception of Fgura, Floriana and Valletta, in general, police performance in this district is considered as unsatisfactory, particularly in Paola (Police absence in Paola is felt to the extent that it has become a major issue for the local council. There are CCTV cameras installed at the local council premises as well as at the police station, however the police seem to either take a long time to react or even refrain from taking any action when law-breaking gets recorded on camera), Zabbar (Zabbar residents seem to have lost faith and confidence in the police) and Bormla (it is claimed that drug-abuse is practised blatantly in the area next to the police station). However, if one refers to the regular police-council meetings, communication with the police could be considered as good but not as effective as expected. In fact, police-council-police communication channels are open, but results seem to be another matter. Residents seem to feel more confident to report offences to the local council rather than the police. They evidently, seem to feel more comfortable reporting to the local council because, it is claimed, only the local council can guarantee anonymity.

Figure 8.23: Southern Harbour District



Figure 8.23 outlines the different zoning as perceived by the administrators which zoning shows both distinct offence areas as well as overlaps between the different pivots. According to these persons the links between the physical areas such as industrial estates and crime is highly evident, whilst the interaction between the poverty areas and crime areas is highly evident in such areas as Marsa and Bormla as well as Santa Lucija in parts of the town.

District Two: Northern Harbour District

The Northern Harbour District hosts a major commercial zone and entertainment areas, which affect the social and wellbeing of the zones. There is high population and dwelling density, with major projects constantly effecting both health and wellbeing. This district is home to a former general hospital and a new general hospital, the University and private social and community facilities. It is also home to schools and services. Traffic is a major cause of concern,

The housing estates can be considered as potential crime hotspots since, in some cases, they seem to have become a breeding ground for delinquency (committed mainly, it is claimed, by deviant youths). Single parents and separated parents are on the increase, leading to a diminished quality of life and poor child-supervision. A perceived steady increase in teenage pregnancies, separations and drug abuse (particularly in playing fields and public toilets) was expressed. The level of crime is exacerbated by the general mediocre level of education in some of the towns, which also includes the main prostitution area in the Maltese Islands. The dark figure of crime was elicited due to the fact that there is a tangible reluctance to report.

Crime in general is perceived to be on the decrease. However, recorded crimes include theft from residences and shops (most of which takes place while residents – mostly elderly – attend the 7 am mass), vandalism pick pocketing and drug abuse. Thefts from shops are kept to a minimum as most shops are equipped with CCTV cameras. Interestingly, in one commercial area, Hamrun, in front of the piazza, adjacent to the Police Station, illegal gambling is perceived to form a very active occurrence.

On the whole, communication with the police is very good but most zones require more police presence.

Figure 8.24: Northern Harbour District

Figure 8.24 outlines the different zoning as perceived by the administrators which zoning shows both that those in the southern councils within the district area more aware of the convergence between the offences and the related landuse as against the northern part where the social aspect and the relative crime overlays are of concern. This is mostly due to the northern councils' heavier ratio of elderly persons, the impact of the commercial zones, particularly Sliema and San Giljan on the surrounding residential zone. The presence of a newly built residential area in Pembroke in the northern part of the district shows their concern for future potential problems emanating through a new cycle of young residents who will be living in a predominantly gray area.

District Three: South Eastern District

This district hosts the main industrial areas in the Islands comprising the Freeport, the fishing port/s, the major industrial estates of Hal-far and Bulebel, the airport and the quarry industry, amongst others. The zone host some relatively new towns such as Marsascala, a town that has maintained its seasonal status through progressively become mainly used for annual residence. The main offences are perceived to be theft, drug-abuse, domestic violence, driving without a license, over speeding plus other traffic contraventions, offences-related-to-village-feasts (getting drunk, disturbing the peace, urinating in public, indecent exposure and fighting) littering plus illegal dumping and vandalism.

Although few and far apart, some CCTV cameras have been installed in this district and in the case of one town a neighbourhood watch is in place. Although, as a whole, communication with the police is satisfactory, there seems to be a general lack of confidence in the police and omertà is tangible. In fact, it seems that residents find it easier and more natural to report crimes to the local council, rather than to the police. The elderly have been victimised by criminals in the past and thus are generally afflicted by an acute fear of crime and thus need police presence.

The residents that live close to the airport (this district is close to the airport) feel somewhat at risk precisely because of their proximity to the airport and fireworks factories

which did explode in the past. It is claimed that the Dellimara power station and the Freeport industrial zone (found in this district) pose a threat to the safety and security of residents that live close by.

Figure 8.25: South Eastern District



Figure 8.25 outlines the different zoning as perceived by the administrators which zoning shows both that the industrial zones are perceived as crime hotspots especially in Marsaxlokk and Birzebugia. Whilst in the old villages to the west, the main concerns relates to the offences perceived in or in proximity to the village cores, in the seaside recreational towns, such an overlap between the pivots concerns crime and the social/ tourism areas.

District Four: Western District

The western district is predominantly taken up by agricultural activity, a major recreational zone (a former aerodrome) and tourism spots. The councils are quite insular due to the fact that they are located in the rural part, which incidentally in turn bring tourism to the zones. In terms of crime, the councils suffer from thefts from houses, cars and fields as well as snatch and grab, drugs and vandalism as well as illegal dumping. Interestingly the use of foul language is perceived as a nuisance due to its common occurrence, in turn pointing at the parochialism of the social interactionism in the area. The elderly feel they are potential targets of criminals and thus fear crime.

In terms of mitigation, there seems to be the perception that neighbourhood watch systems create more problems than it solves.

Figure 8.26: Western District

Interestingly, as against the inputs from the debates, Figure 8.26 highlights very few offence areas but those that are mapped have significant zones delineated. This is due to the fact that the Ta' Qali recreational zone is quite large. Rabat has a major crescent-shaped area depicting the urban periphery which is subject to considerable incidents. Interestingly, very few offence areas overlay social areas.

District Five: Northern District

The Northern District has a diversified structure with traditional villages and large towns. Located in this district is the fastest growing, highly diverse seaside town that hosts a large number of ethnic groups, an exponentially growing seasonal population. The zone hosts the largest sandy beaches attracting both tourism and the relative offences through the opportunity provided by the same visitors.

In terms of social issues, through increasing family dysfunction and breakups, the adverse consequences of this phenomenon are perceived to also be on the increase. These consequences include: violence, fights, mental issues and children left roaming the streets unsupervised. St Paul's Bay seems to be the worst hit, socially and crime-wise (there have even been cases of incest reported). This particular residential structure is mainly composed of apartment blocks, mostly very small and having low rents, which situation has resulted in an influx of lower-earning persons both of Maltese origin in addition to a major influx of persons hailing from foreign origin. The town is a veritable metropolitan cultural mix.

In terms of offences, offences include, vandalism, drug abuse/trafficking and the illegal disposal of syringes, child abuse and prostitution have also been reported in this district. In addition, theft and hold-ups are also reported.

Figure 8.27: Northern District



Figure 8.27 depicts the perspectives outlined by the administrators, mainly the fact that the most comprehensive council delineated in sub-zones is that of San Pawl il-Bahar (top center), which exhibits 4 different crime zones, one social zone and a major infrastructural area. The latter, uniquely shows that the administrator sees the whole urban zone as one main area in a state of flux, where each pivot depends on or causes the other/s. On the bottom right is the town of Naxxar which shows layering between the crime and physical zones. On the other hand the agricultural village of Mgarr only depicts a very small area of offence, whilst Mellieha's administrators depicted all their beaches as suffering from offences, whilst an affluent area is depicted as a large area, which zone is composed of villas that have a 20x RISC (Relative Index of Spatial Crime, Formosa, 2007) rate, which reviews the potential risk that an area has compared to the national rate. The residential zones in the area have twenty times the probability of being burgled than any other within the national rate.

District Six: Gozo and Comino District

Gozo is a small sister island situated 20 minutes by ferry away from Malta. Gozo is considered as more rural and subsequently less developed. The population of Gozo is of about 31,000 persons as of 2005, comparable to the combined population size of two of the largest towns in Malta: Birkirkara and Attard. Since the young Gozitan generation tends to prefer living in Malta (perhaps because the main university campus is in Malta and perhaps because young Gozitans tend to be lured to Malta by job prospects), the Gozitan population is perceived to be an ageing one. In Gozo everybody seems to know everyone, so one would expect the inhabitants to live by the code of *omertà*, binding Gozitans to mind their own business and treat outsiders with suspicion. Consequently, one cannot expect conducting research on social problems and crime issues in Gozo to be easy.

In terms of economic activity, the level of unemployment in Gozo reflects the national average though slightly higher. In terms of education, the standard of the Gozitans reflects the national one, and attainment is on the rise. In terms of population structure, Gozo's population is an ageing one.

Although the Gozo crime rate is considered as low, it does not mean that crimes, such

as murders, do not occur in Gozo. Examples of killings are the two murders that took place in Marsalforn (that of Dr Grech the lawyer and Ġiġi Galea known as ir-Rizzu who was thrown in a well near the Ghasri valley). Drug trafficking and drug abuse appear to be pressing problems in Gozo. In fact used syringes (left by drug-abusers) are frequently found lying around, even in public places. In terms of the impact of offences, Gozitans appears to experience fear of crime which seems to be particularly felt by the elderly. In Gozo, crime victimization is mainly associated with the elderly, however, it is claimed that there exists bullying among schoolchildren of any school age. In addition, there might also be cases of domestic violence (including child abuse).

Interestingly, the interviewees always claimed that crimes are perpetrated by outsiders. In terms of the internationalisation of criminality, Gozo was home for some fifteen years to Totò Riina (the Sicilian Mafia boss) actually took residence in Rabat, Gozo, before finally being apprehended. Perceived safety is still the norm in most Gozitan towns. There are still Gozitans with the habit of leaving the key in the front door or leaving the car key in their open vehicle.

Besides traffic congestion, over-speeding, heavy trucks damaging residences and the roads, pollution and parking problems, clubbing and revelling seem to be the activities that have the greatest negative impact on the safety and security of Gozitans.

Figure 8.28: Gozo and Comino District



Reviewing the spatial map, the main offence areas are to be found in the small island of Comino, which forms part of the council of Ghajnsielem in Gozo, which islands hosts summer-related offences in the main beaches. Only one family lives there and most crime is related to the tourism activities. This is also the case for the seaside zones of Dwejra, Xlendi and Marsalforn which towns experiences offences due to the large influx of internal tourism and foreign tourism. In terms of reporting of crimes, interestingly, cross-pivot overlaying is found mainly between crime and the physical areas.

As detailed in Chapter 5, the main aspects emanating from the Maltese NUTS3 can be summarised as analysed through the perspectives of the administrators who were mainly categorised in the following:

In Malta, the crime rate is not perceived as alarming. However, financial insecurity and poverty seems to reign in areas considered as industrial and working/lower class. Here, it is

held, a sense of learned helplessness, resignation and apathy has taken over and residents, particularly the young who are not academically successfully and are unemployed, tend to resort to escapisms such as substance abuse.

As, it appears, marital separations and family break-ups are fast increasing in Malta, the adverse consequences of this phenomenon seem to also be on the increase. These consequences include: violence, fights, mental issues and children left roaming the streets unsupervised. It seems that the housing estates can be considered as potential crime hotspots since, in some cases, they seem to have become a breeding ground for delinquency (mainly, it is claimed, by deviant youths) and violence. The frequent occurrence of nuisances, squabbles/fights is a problem, particularly amongst neighbours and in bars/entertainment zones. The use of foul language seems to be a common occurrence. In addition, administrators stress that there is a steady increase in teenage pregnancies, single parenting and marital separations, leading to a diminished quality of life and poor child-supervision.

Perceived crime in general seems to be on the decrease as against the real figures which show an increase as of 2009. However, although theft from houses and shops is sporadic (most of which takes place while residents – mostly elderly – attend mass), it occurs. In fact, thefts from houses, hold-ups, theft from cars, theft of bicycles/vehicles/boats, theft from fields, theft from beaches, pick-pocketing as well as snatch and grab cases have been reported.

The perceived main offences are theft, drug-abuse, domestic violence (even child abuse and incest), traffic contraventions (dangerous driving, driving without license, abusive parking, not wearing seat-belts and using mobiles while driving) seem very frequent, offences-related-to-village-feasts/carnival (getting drunk, disturbing the peace, urinating in public, indecent exposure and fighting) littering and vandalism. Illegal dumping is a problem – including dumping of used syringes associated with drug abuse, spray cans that are alleged collected and use by youths as inhalants and dumping of dead animals and other waste.

In terms of victimisation, teenagers are also considered as potentially at risk from crime/criminals. The elderly are perceived as the main potential or actual victims of crime, having potentially been victimised by criminals in the past and thus are generally afflicted by an acute fear of crime.

Irregular/illegal migrants seem to be viewed with suspicion and resentment. They have been, in fact, associated with offences such as: hate crime (inflicted by the Maltese upon them, and/or amongst themselves) loitering, heavy drinking and unacceptable behaviour in public gardens.

Neighbourhood watch schemes are rarely operative. There seems to be the general perception that neighbourhood watch systems create more problems than they solve. The

installation of CCTV cameras as a means to maintain public order is minimal despite the fact that, there seems to be the perception that, the installation of some CCTV cameras might have helped reduce crime.

Although, on the whole, though communication with the police is ongoing, there seems to be a general lack of confidence in the police and *omertà* (the typical Mediterranean code of silence, whereby everyone is expected to mind his/her own business) is tangible. In fact, it seems that the Maltese find it easier and more natural to report crimes to the local council, rather than to the police (because, it is claimed, only the local council can guarantee anonymity). Evidently, it is felt that most zones require more police presence and improved police performance. This is especially felt in industrial, lower/working class areas where it is felt that, the authorities have given up and criminals have taken over.

Having reviewed the different NUTS4 and NUTS3 Maltese CRISOLA structures, the next step is to understand the relationship between the outcomes of the administrators/experts perception and the data emanating from the indicators which was transposed to the CRISOLA maps as designated by Figures 8.29 to 8.39. The overlaid pivots are integrated into the SIS in order to allow for comparative outcomes based on the different spatial analysis made.

The Comparative Approach – Spatial Analysis and Perception

A comparative exercise was held between the data emanating from the statistical outputs and the perception of the experts and administrators. This comparison was held throughout the areas and in this analysis the generic trends are reviewed in order to understand the issue at NUTS3 (Malta and Gozo as distinct Islands).

The process entailed the depiction of all the three pivots as delineated in Figure 8.29. As in the Sicilian comune case, all the zones were mapped and layered in the same map, allowing for a review of the overlaps between the different pivots: crime, social and landuse. Interestingly the perception of the different stakeholders varies by pivot and by the location in itself, depending on the thematic perceptions they have of the locality as well as knowledge of the physical area itself. In some cases, such was lacking but in others the level of detail was such that the outcomes proved consonant with the target to mitigate the thematic problems being faced in the area.

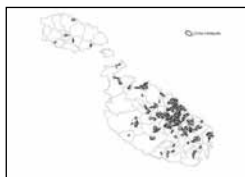
Figure 8.29: CRISOLA administrator's perceptions



Having mapped all the perception layers as discussed in the NUTS3/NUTS4 descriptions above, then entire state was mapped through the CRISOLA perceptual process, to be reviewed against the data acquired through the diverse indicators.

The first map (Figure 8.30) depicting one of the crime themes relates to the offence-based geostatistical analysis using standard deviational ellipsoids, which identified those crime hotspots spread across the islands. The scope is to then review these ellipsoids as against the thematic maps inclusive of the administrators' perspectives. The crime concentration is based mainly in the conurbation with other hotspots located in the seaside towns and a few in Gozo.

Figure 8.30: Crime Pivot – Police Reported Offences Hotspots SDE



The second thematic map, Figure 8.31, depicted the poverty hotspots based on the number of persons receiving welfare benefits particularly unemployment benefits. The poverty concentrations are highly detailed and identify those areas that host a high concentration of the relative thematic aspect. The data is based on a spatial analysis of over 9.300 individual streets and depicts hotspots in practically every local council

Figure 8.31: Poverty Pivot – Unemployment Hotspots SDE



The next overlaying step (the laying of different datasets on top of each other to allow cross-thematic analysis) consisted of the building of the administrators/policy makers’ perception with that emanating from the data. Figure 8.32 depicts the integrated findings where the project findings were overlaid with the crime data sourced from the Police Incident Reporting System (PIRS) and www.crimemalta.com.

The overlays are immediately evident with overlays seen through the dark red ellipsoids representing the crime layer and the pinkish hue representing the perception layer.

Figure 8.32 CRISOLA Interview & Crime Pivot – Police Reported Offences Hotspots SDE



The next overlaying step consisted of the building of the administrators/policy makers’ perception with that emanating from the data. Figure 8.33 depicts the integrated findings where the project findings were overlaid with the poverty data sourced from the pre-2013 Ministry for Health, the Elderly and Community Care as at the time of data acquisition, currently the Ministry for the Family and Social Solidarity.

The overlays are again evident with overlays seen through the dark green ellipsoids representing the poverty layer and the yellow polygons representing the perception layer.

Figure 8.33: CRISOLA Interview & Poverty Pivot – Unemployment Hotspots SDE



The final overlaying step consisted of the building of the administrators/policy makers' perception with that emanating from both sets of crime and poverty data. Figure 8.34 depicts the integrated final findings. The overlays at this stage appear cluttered due to the zooming level and also the fact that the maps have too many details depicted in a small space. This issue is tackled in the next steps using zoomed levels that depict the areas in better clarity.

Figure 8.34: CRISOLA Interview & Crime - Poverty Pivot – Police Reported Offences Hotspots SDE & Poverty Pivot – Unemployment Hotspots SDE



Figure 8.35: CRISOLA Interview & Crime - Poverty Pivot – Police Reported Offences Hotspots SDE & Poverty Pivot – Unemployment Hotspots SDE: Gozo Overlays



Initiating a detailed analysis of the three layers (Figure 8.35), it is interesting to note that the perception of the Gozitan population has a strange relationship with the reporting of crimes. The perception of the policy makers is such that offences are committed in most local councils though some such as Qala either report no instances or very small areas where offences occur. Note must be made at this stage that offences occur in many areas,

but the concentration method using SDE or NNH ensures that only those areas where high concentrations of incidents occurring in close proximity to each other are analysed. This is also countered by the open method used with the administrators who did not pinpoint every crime incident but the generic area of offences that have concentrations of crimes.

The disparity with reporting to the Police is very evident in that the only hotspots extracted from the crime data layer pertains to those areas that have a tourism-entertainment component such as Xlendi, Marsalforn, Mgarr ferry port, Rabat and Xewkija which is where the University Gozo campus is located. These areas are mainly frequented by Maltese and foreigners, which could imply that most reports made to the Police are brought forward by non-Gozitans. Further study is required here as evidently once more the omerta issue is brought to the fore.

This finding elicits a possibility that the mitigation of crime is not taken to the police but either not reported at all or in contrast, the victims take up his/her own means to get justice. Of 28 crime hotspots outlined by the policy maker, only 8 are highlighted in the offences (Police reporting) clusters. In turn, the poverty hotspots show that whilst there is an overlay with the social zoning as perceived by the administrators, most yellow social zones relate to the tourism and recreational aspect as against indicators of social stress. The only area which would need mitigation in Gozo in relation to poverty relates to Munxar where the poverty hotspot correlates with a large concentration of elderly.

Investigating the Northern Malta map (Figure 8.36), the main issue which is very evident concerns the seaside town of San Pawl il-Bahar. As mentioned previously the administrators are very aware of their surroundings and how the pivots operate around their day-to-day delivery. Interestingly the San Pawl-Bugibba-Qawra perceptions they have on crime is correlated to the actual crime hotspots as reported to the police. One surprising issue concerns Xemxija Hill which was not considered an offence area in their perception but an area mainly preoccupied with development (the blue ellipsoid). In terms of poverty, the spatial statistics shows a positive spatial correlation between poverty and crime and again the local council has painted a near perfect picture of the situation.

In contrast, the perceived offence area in Mellieha Santa Marija Estate does not even register in the police crime hotspot, whilst the main concern of the administrator is on the touristic area as against poverty zoning, which is evident from the green poverty hotspots in the old town centres but no mention is made of any such area in the debate with administrative representatives.

Figure 8.36: CRISOLA Interview & Crime - Poverty Pivot – Police Reported Offences Hotspots SDE & Poverty Pivot – Unemployment Hotspots SDE: Northern Malta Overlays



Of note in the towns of Naxxar and Mosta, is the fact that no mention is made of any social issues in the centres when the geostatistics highlight highly distinct areas spread over the urban zone. The council is either not aware of the situation, the issue is hidden in plain sight or that the intention not to report is deliberate due to a stigmatisation aspects. Incidentally, Naxxar mentioned the main development located at Maghtab as part of an embellishment programme and the touristic area in Bahar ic-Caghaq which has two highly distinct crime hotspots that were not highlighted as causing safety issues. This suggests the need to be more knowledgeable of the zone under administrative domain, a requirement for executives who know the area and the drive to acknowledge the situation which in turn would help in mitigation. One other town located in this map, Gharghur exhibits a correlation on social issues and poverty with the statistical data but omitted the issue of offences in the core.

A close investigation at the South Eastern Map elicits distinct outcomes in some places such as Marsascala mirroring the San Pawl il-Bahar aspect with certain zones clearly defined (such as the old core) and others omitted such as the offences committed in Saint Thomas Bay. The immediate impression emanating from this study is that administrators in many cases have a totally different picture on the crime and social realities of the area under their jurisdiction, particularly where specific locations are concerned. Whilst poverty and crime correlation in the spatial statistical analysis, such is rarely the case in the perception study, except for some towns such as Bormla, island and Birgu, walled cities that have been stigmatised from as far back as the post-WWII ending. It is these towns that show the same close correlation to the statistical analysis. Acceptance of the reality leads to mitigation steps followed by long-term change implementation strategies.

This is also the case in Paceville, where the correlation and perception are found in both groups, however such is not found in the Sliema council, even when such information on poverty zones was made available as far back as 2007 (Formosa, 2007). The first pivot to suffer is the social aspect and even where mentioned, the spatial location indication is hard to come by. The debates did not seek to extract this information but to guide towards

the indication of the existence of such areas, however in some cases this was to no avail. It is important to note at this stage that the representatives of the local administrators have knowledgeable persons who are aware of the locality happenings and also of the real area as well as to put forward a realistic picture to the interviewer/debater. This study was in two instances surprised that the highest offence ranking council refused and kept postponing the sessions, at the same time seeking to create a joint crime-reduction strategy. The other case related to a mayor who refused to participate and on the day of the session ensured that the researcher knew she was in the office and would not grant a few minutes to the session. Luckily in this case, the executive secretary was an old timer who lived in the locality and could offer sounder knowledge on the zones.

The second pivot to suffer from this disparity relates to the crime pivot where most councils did not state the areas posing problems but either very specific areas or none at all. Where mentioned in such cases, these normally related to recent incidents. Ironically, this issue requires in-depth approaches to mitigate such crisis management as few have a long-term strategy on crime mitigation or even try to understand the dynamics between the physical structures they manage in the towns, their relationship to the eradication of poverty and in turn the reduction of crime.

Interestingly, one council that sought to ensure its crime zones being highlighted and which was spot on the same locations as identified by the geostatistics, related to the Swieqi locality, which has a major crime hotspot that is the direct result of economic activity which has nothing to do with the town but everything with the entertainment business industry of Paceville, but suffers the effluent of its activity through damages, theft, bodily harm, amongst others.

Figure 8.37: CRISOLA Interview & Crime - Poverty Pivot – Police Reported Offences Hotspots SDE & Poverty Pivot – Unemployment Hotspots SDE: Eastern Malta Overlays



In addition, one highly surprising result related to three areas indicated as pertaining to the commission of crime and how no crime hotspots were elicited in the same areas from the official geostatistics. This related to the southernmost town Birzebbugia, (Figure 8.38) which houses the industrial areas, the immigrant communities, Freeport activities and

the recreational racetrack area. The perceived perception could offer either pointers to activity that is never reported in official statistics due to fear or disinterest or that this phenomenon could be a reactive aspect of perceived potential offences. On other terms it could also indicate knowledge of the activities compiled with difficulty to bring proof to bear.

Figure 8.38: CRISOLA Interview & Crime - Poverty Pivot – Police Reported Offences Hotspots SDE & Poverty Pivot – Unemployment Hotspots SDE: Southern Malta Overlays

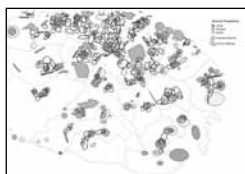
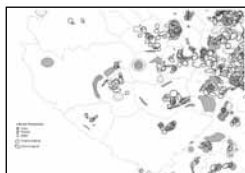


Figure 8.39 highlights one main spot already mentioned earlier which spot relates to the Ta' Qali recreational area where offence zones are delineated but official statistics do not depict a hotspot.

Figure 8.39: CRISOLA Interview & Crime - Poverty Pivot – Police Reported Offences Hotspots SDE & Poverty Pivot – Unemployment Hotspots SDE: Western Malta Overlays



Interestingly, the field research showed that crime problems are perceived as minimal by the local councils, with the island of Gozo being perceived as relatively crime free and what crime occurs it is blamed on outsiders. In Gozo people still leave their keys hanging outside their doors. The major preoccupation was shown vis-à-vis the number of family breakdown and family problems such as teenage pregnancies and single parent families. The problems mentioned were those of drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, prostitution and the young as potential trouble makers – morally based crimes, indicating that society feels safe. There is the mention of the elderly feeling unsafe, this being mainly

due to the fact that often times the elderly are targeted by criminals. Although there is good co-operation with the police by the local council, a number of councils said that people prefer to report crimes to them rather than go to the police. This was found in both Malta and Gozo. This feeling of *omertà* is typical in the Mediterranean islands, indicating that the Maltese islands are still a closed knit society where the neighbours are more to be trusted than outsiders.

Interactivities

Other information elicited from the findings shows that offences committed by convicted offenders fall within increasingly high dwelling concentrations, particularly apartment areas, low population density areas, occur in vacant dwelling concentrations and are mostly found within areas zones for apartments. They are also to be found in Urban Conservation Areas, linked to specific social and community areas such as schools though not for serious crimes. Finally very few high-poverty areas serve as crime attractors.

Crime and Landuse

In order to check for relationships between offence and residential dwelling types it was necessary to look at the available data and run a series of density tests by dwelling category. Dwellings are categorised per established nomenclatures used by NSO and EUROSTAT. The tests were based on both the convicted offenders' offences as well as the crimes reported to the police as found within a residential zoning spatial layer created for this purpose through a series of buffering, overlaying and cutting queries.

Malta is a highly dense country both in terms of population and development uptake leading to 32% soil-sealed by 2013 (MEPA). Development of dwellings is very high and rapid leading to large areas being developed for apartments, terraced housing, maisonettes and a variety of high-end units such as villas and bungalows. Each category tends to group in close proximity to their type both through choice and zoned requirements. Each category attracts different rates of residential offences, though apartments by far exceed the rest. In fact, basing a GIS study of police-reported offences by area taken up by each dwelling type, apartments overtake the sum of all the other categories' densities by three times.

This indicates that apartments serve as the main areas where crimes occur followed by villas, terraced dwellings, farmhouses and bungalows in that order. This also indicates that areas of high dwelling densities are prone to more offences than low density and more affluent areas. High affluence units such as villas, farmhouses and bungalow areas register 8.4% of residential burglaries occurring in all the residential areas. Apartments host 69.5%, whilst terraced houses host 22.1%. Such results indicate that the affluent dwelling types attract crime though at relatively small rates. Wikstrom's (1991) assertion that residential

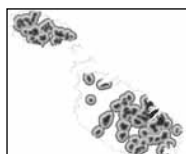
burglaries tend to occur in areas of high-socio-economic status is not readily verified in the Maltese construct particularly due to the fact that apartments have recently become the main development type and figures are not yet available on their economic status.

Following an analysis of offences as against various residential categories at a national level, the next section looks at the relationship between crime and the officially designated areas, focusing on the issue of village cores. As in the case of offender analysis, analysing offences based around the village cores and their 100m buffer areas, one can see that the Urban Conservation Area_Village Cores (UCA_VC) host most offences with decreasing rates the further out one moves from the boundaries. The results show that there is a similar trend for offences reported to the police and offences committed by convicted offenders.

However, in contrast to the poverty structure, where the UCA had lower rates than its immediate boundary, the offence categories sees the cores as having the highest rate of offender residences as well as offences occurring therein. The figures range from 33% of all offences reported to the police with another 21% and 10% in the immediate 100m and 200m boundaries totalling 64% of the offences registered within 1km from the town centre. This figure is nearly replicated by the known offenders' offences which totalled 78% in the same areas with 49% committed within the cores, thus indicating a higher propensity for these offenders to predate in the centres. Considering that offences within the core boundaries comprise 90% of all registered crime, the village cores are the main attractors for the larger part of all offences, particularly so for known offenders (Formosa, 2007).

As described above, the inner sectors of the village cores host most offences, however further detailed analysis shows that offences do diminish in number the further one moves from the cores, namely away from the social and community centres, retail areas and moves into the residential areas of a town. Offences gradually die out by the tenth dufer indicating that most offences in reality occur within a very short distance from the centre where up to 73% of offences occur within 300m of a core. This finding is an effective tool for decision makers to concentrate their efforts in a relatively small area in comparison to the rest of the islands, considering that this area totals 70 sq.km (inclusive of entire areas Valletta and the Three Cities) from the total 316 sq.km.

Graphical representations in top and 3D perspectives are given in Figure 8.39. The red zones represent the highest density areas ranging towards the blue (least) through yellow. The 3D perspective shows clearly the rate at which offences drop the further they move away from the red centre (UCA_VC boundary).

Figure 8.39: Offence Densities: Top Perspective

Offences and Social Community Structures

Along with landuse parameters that directly impinge on the social and environmental aspects of a society there are other more specific categories that have a direct relationship to offences. One spatial unit that was identified in the literature review concerned the other socially-specific area of education. This was highlighted due to its intrinsically critical importance in the identification of incidence of crime that relates to young victims. Maltese legislation states that any crime occurring within 100m of a school would induce harsher penalties, at least one sentence grade higher for serious crimes. This section looks at the total offences and then analyses drugs as the serious crime of choice.

In the case of total crimes, averages of 16.2% of all offences are located within close proximity to schools (Formosa, 2007).

Interestingly, since the areas taken up by schools fall within other areas that may harbour different uses such as leisure areas, a case in point being Paceville and Sliema, this analysis elicits the need to review crime by time. In view of this, generic crime and drugs offences were analysed against time in hours. This was taken as a percentage of the crimes within the educational zones by time. The result shows that there was a high rate of general crimes within the school period particularly around 12:00 to 13:00 (break time) though this was not replicated in the case of drugs which were very low during this time. On a day average, offences reported in the buffer zones during the school time were less than total offences (12% against 16.1%) whilst drugs registered 3.9% against 4.3% during the period.

Offences and Unemployment/Poverty

As analysed in the offender to poverty relationship, an offence to poverty relationship is necessary to the extent of identifying the main areas that attract crime and whether they have a poverty construct. In an attempt to analyse whether there is any relationship between areas of high unemployment and where offenders commit crime, a test was carried out on risk of poverty and risk of offence, a Spearman's rho of -0.024 and a $p > 0.001$ at 0.493 shows that there is no relationship between areas of high poverty and offence locations.

Further spatial Hotspot analysis of poverty and offences committed therein shows that the offence clusters are radically different from the poverty ones, in that there are fewer

offence hotspots as against poverty hotspots, primarily due to the concentrated areas that opportunities are located in, already discussed such as the high rates of offences in recreational areas and commercial areas. The offence hotspots immediately bring to mind the evident relationship between offences and the specific areas such as Paceville in San Giljan, Valletta commercial area, industrial areas and other leisure-oriented areas such as Qormi, Marsascula and Birzebbugia.

A cross poverty-offence analysis shows that very few poverty hotspots intersect with offender hotspots at 1 Standard Deviation; in fact only 10.8% do so. However, taking a perspective of offence hotspots shows that 75.9% of them intersect with poverty areas, though mainly in places such as San Pawl il-Bahar which has a mixture of residential and leisure areas.

The social parameters that affect offenders

Following a review of the relationships between offenders and their environment, the next step entails the understanding of poverty in Malta, which would lay the ground for further analysis in the relationship between offender residence and poverty. This review takes a wider look at which parameters distinguish specific areas in having higher or lower rates of poverty. The analysis is based on residential zones and their different components, which study tries to identify whether the areas that offenders live in and that had earlier been identified as having high rates of offenders, are significantly different from other low-offender- rate areas.

This section investigates the level of relationships that can be found between poverty and categories of residential units. The data is calculated using welfare data hotspots that indicate poverty based on the unemployment data (in this case unemployment benefit). The hotspot layers resulting from the 1NNH were analysed using SQL spatial querying against different residential- related data layers.

A poverty against dwelling unit analysis shows that relatively 'poorer' persons live mainly in terraced units with over 51.5% spatial intersections of poverty hotspots as layered over dwelling category. This figure is higher than that of 41.2% for apartments. The relatively high terraced dwelling figure indicates that 'poor persons' may have access to large dwellings though they do not necessarily claim ownership, either due to renting, subsidised renting as well as squatting.

In view of this, a direct relationship between poverty and residence type could not be established and in turn the research question is not readily answered.

Poverty and the Cores

Interestingly, the next analysis shows a very high relationship between poverty and UCA_Village Cores which areas contain nearly 62% of all poor persons. The rest of the poverty

component are analysed using buffering methodology to facilitate a better understanding of poverty, which analysis shows that poverty decreases steadily with every 100 meters movement outwards from the village core, from 49% contained within the first buffer to 2.9 % one kilometre out from the UCA boundary.

A buffer analysis based on the UCA_VC was carried out at the standard set of 100m buffers radiating out from the UCA boundaries up to 1000m. The analysis of poverty was based on an unemployment per 1000 persons in the buffer areas as based on a street centroid point data within the 100m buffers.

Results show that the immediate buffer zones out from the boundary experience an increase in poverty rate which alternatively declines and increases though generally declining over distance from 0.207 per 1000 persons at 100m to 0.116 at 1000m.

Poverty and the Housing Estates

A final analysis of poverty areas and residential aggregation centres on the HOS and reviews whether they are centres of poverty. Analysing whether HOS host poorer persons at different rates than other areas that did not have HOS within them, results in the fact that 37.3% of all poverty hotspots have some kind of spatial intersection with the HOS boundaries. In addition HOS host 46.9% of all persons who registered as falling above the national standard poverty rate, indicating a large percentage of poorer residents.

In summary, this section's results show that there is no easily discernable relationship between dwelling type and poverty. They also show that poor people live close to the village core but not essentially within, as well as there being no relationship between dwelling density and poverty, and finally HOS host nearly half of all poor areas, with particular concentration of the latter close to or within the harbour region.

Offenders and Poverty

This phase attempts to look at the relationships between offender location and a number of social parameters. Each parameter is analysed in relation to the selected others using both tabular statistical tools such as SPSS and spatial statistical tools as CrimeStat III. This section relies heavily on and extends Craglia et al's (2000) risk assessment methodology that essentially creates rates of offences for small areas as compared to national rates. This methodology was used to define those areas that have a lower or higher than the national standard rates and the resultant rate is compared to the other variable's rate in order to identify any relationship.

The workings employed through this method were created through a stepped process aimed at identifying any relationships between offender densities, population density and poverty rates. The rates as calculated were based on the entire Maltese Islands' Enumeration Areas (EAs – totalling 843). The Craglia methodology initially elicits the national rate (for

example, employment) against which to compare the small-area results. It then establishes the expected number of persons pertaining to that category within specific small areas such as the EAs and then rates the result against the observed figure, in turn calculating the potential rate for that particular parameter.

The residential areas comprise the majority of offences in the Islands with residences taking up to 44% of all offences with a higher relative percentage of serious offences registered than the non-serious category. At 43,931 offences occurring within the residential areas, this component is very large and is best further analysed through type of crime analysis, shown later in this section.

In its review of seriousness by area, shows that the only category where serious offences exceeded the non-serious in a relative percentage analysis was the residential area. Other categories such as the commercial and the social-community zones showed nearly equal relationship.

Whilst residential areas comprise the larger part of offence location, the next largest category of offences fall within the development zones (21%), which includes areas being built up and those within the planning schemes. This is followed by commercial areas at (14%), rural areas (8%) and then recreation areas at 7%. The latter can be integrated with the commercial areas since it is a sub-category of commercial and both fall within closely clustered areas. In effect, the commercial and retail areas add up to 21%, registering the second highest landuse category equal to the development zones. The study results depicting the main landuse categories and offence rates, show relatively stable rates across the landuse categories, with some fluctuation in the new development zones, the commercial and recreation zones. The rest exhibit very low composition in crimes, and also offer very little fluctuation between the different categories.

Residential areas, having the highest percentage of reported offences also exhibit high rates in nearly all categories except 'burglary other' (that can only be found in the industrial and rural sectors) and relatively low for common assaults. 'Burglary dwelling' is high as is serious wounding and violence against the person. The latter would include domestic violence and other related incidences. A more detailed analysis of offences by zone and by category shows distinct offences that fall within particular areas, with cases easy to review such as a peak under 'burglary other'. Such a case is highly specific since very few 'burglaries other' can occur in residential areas where most of these have a specific burglary category. Though some do occur in residential areas, this is due to a number of industrial (small and medium sized) entities that are located within the residential zones; case in point being carpenters and panel beaters.

Interestingly, though residential areas hold a large volume of crimes, they also have within them a sizeable component of thefts from shops and leisure areas. This is true due to the particularity of Maltese land use, having a predominantly mixed-use composition, which

results in such cases as commercial and retail-related offences within the residential areas.

In addition, retail-related offences spill-off into the residential areas. A case in point refers to the San Giljan recreational zone which hosts the main night clubs, bars and restaurants grouping but since it does not host adequate parking facilities, vehicle-related offences overspill from Paceville into the adjacent San Giljan and Swieqi residential areas.

In summary, whilst the statistical analysis portrayed an image of dynamic societies that appear similar should the different pivots be studied in isolation? It is only when they are brought together that issues surface. In turn, the spatial analysis depicts a more intricate and complex series of relationships, whether tackled through overlay analysis or through spatial statistics.

The next section of the chapter elicits the main crucial points and sets out a series of recommendations for legislative, policy and operational change.

Recommendations from the JANUS Project

This final section reviews the main findings of the study and posits the areas that require mitigation, in each of the pivots as well as through the integrative aspects of the three CRISOLA pivots.

CRIME

Legislative aspect: enforcement

Maltese laws describe an ambitious nation that: is religiously fervent, believes in fate/destiny and cherishes every occasion to congregate and share joy. Naturally, this translates into activities and behaviours that need to be controlled/checked for the sake of order maintenance and rule of law. Legislation that integrates the three pivots has yet to be developed and the SPED provides an introductory exercise to such change. In addition, harsher laws and enforcement powers are called for especially in terms of spatial development and environmental protection, as well as welfare services fraud and abuse.

Respondents pointed to diversity and differentiation in types of enforcement, confirming the emergence of the so-called 'extended police family'. In context, capacity building may be more effective than legislative change.

Organised crime:

Due to continuing focussing on the phenomenon of organised crime, enhanced legislation is required to ensure social and legal protection from organised groups such as the Mafiosi and their operations, which could involve drug trafficking and fiscal abuse. Besides the adverse effects of the cultural inheritance of the Mediterranean mentality of honour and shame, which to a certain extent accepts, if not promotes, violence, when it is considered as being called for and justified (as in cases when the honour of the family is perceived to have been violated, putting the family to shame), Mediterranean culture is imbued with the positive values of family and solidarity – thus the emphasis on human rights, social care, substance-abuse prevention and the environment. This construct within which laws are enacted should be reassessed and legislation pushed towards more social rather than economic basis.

Criminal organisations, present on the territory under different forms (Cosa Nostra and Stidda in Sicily) tend to influence economic and productive sectors, thus affecting strongly the local political life, attracting the sympathy of a large part of the population (the link between civil society, Mafia, politics and economy has assumed preoccupying levels particularly in certain zones such as near Trapani). Fraud against the State and the European Economic Community is high, as regards mismanagement of public funds and the common good.

Recently, in zones where Mafia control has slowed down, a strong micro criminality: thefts, hold-ups, drug trafficking and prostitution (especially foreign oriented) is fast on the rise all over the territory, generating high levels of anxiety and fear among the population which, traditionally, finds it hard to see the institutions as a source of justice and protection.

Judicial System:

The perceived untrustworthiness of the judicial system particularly in Sicily (characterised by delays and inobservance of the case outcomes) increased, in the person at risk, the inclination for delinquency as there is no certainty regarding offender punishment and protection for honest persons, which is increasing the perception of insecurity and social injustice.

Physical Security:

The public is not aware of most CRISOLA pivots-related legislation. The Maltese culture looks at security as that of a watchman supervising a door or a gate. The fact that we never had any serious incidents does not help. So security personnel and top management look at the cost of security not at the additional value that is associated with security. An authority should be created to establish a baseline standard for security companies.

Police Visibility:

Although, on the whole, communication with the police is satisfactory, there seems to be a general lack of confidence in the police and omertà (the typical Mediterranean code of silence, whereby everyone is expected to mind his/her own business) is tangible. In fact, it seems that the Maltese find it easier and more natural to report crimes to the local council, rather than to the police. Evidently, it is felt that most zones require more police presence and improved police performance. This is especially felt in industrial, lower/working class areas where it is felt that, the authorities have given up and criminals have taken over, mainly to be found in Sicily.

Crime Management:

There are various things that have to be done concurrently, including both social and situational crime prevention strategies. These include: police officers on patrol; investigation; use of CCTV; use of security guards; provision of security doors, locks and keys; successful prosecution; and sensible sentencing judgements from the courts. The installation of CCTV cameras (for security, not traffic reasons) is minimal despite the fact that, there seems to be the perception that, the installation of some CCTV cameras might have helped reduce crime. There are no official neighbourhood watch schemes.

Social crime prevention includes keeping communities free from crime “hot spots” by making sure the physical environment is clean and presentable and not, therefore, subject to what is termed as “broken windows” degradation. Officials consider that the housing estates can be perceived as a potential crime hotspots since, in some cases, they seem to have become a breeding ground for delinquency (mainly, it is claimed, by deviant youths) and violence.

Young adults should have places where they can meet and entertain themselves, so social organizations, if properly run, are absolutely essential. These include music clubs and sports clubs. These need to be improved with investment. Additionally having good employment and being settled in a family atmosphere help to keep delinquency at bay. Where delinquency does occur offenders may benefit from short military training based on both education and discipline.

SOCIAL

Inadequacy of economic policies:

There is a certain inadequacy in economic policies and territorial exploitation, so much so that many respondents agree that there is the need to change direction in order to re-launch the economy and ensure better conditions of life. To the question if it were possible to point out activities or interventions regarding crime prevention or attenuation of social uneasiness, one is convinced that the state’s ability in succeeding in giving an adequate job can diminish criminality, mainly through the activation of new work policies such as the facilitation of the administrative item for the creation of hospitality enterprises.

Immigration:

In Sicily, the emphasis on immigration laws reflects Italy’s reactions that results from the need to protect its shores from recurrent waves of distraught and distressed boat people from Africa but also from the need to protect life, to safeguard and promote human rights – thus the social integration policy, promoting the full integration of immigrants. Further emphasis is required on this legislative process to ensure harmonisation across the three issues, pertaining to crime, social and landuse.

With regard to integration and, in particular, illegal immigration which often generates a ‘criminal’ workforce, cooperation between frontier and customs police, agreements in order to succeed in giving work, curtailing procedures in granting permissions of stay and adjournment of arrival quotas and an adequate regulation of immigrants’ arrivals represent a partial solution to the problem.

There is a lack of integration of detainees and immigrants. Irregular/illegal migrants are viewed with suspicion and resentment. They have been, in fact, associated with offences

such as: hate crime (inflicted by the locals upon them, and/or amongst themselves) loitering, heavy drinking and unacceptable behaviour in public gardens.

More research is required on the status of offences carried out by immigrants in comparison to the local population and in comparison to other states. Do island depict higher rates than continental landmasses?

Internal migration:

There is an increasing concentration of people with a range of social problems (single parents, unemployed and pensioners) who are moving from areas subject to “gentrification” – the three cities, for example – to areas like Qawra an area of low property prices. This internal migration creates a hot-spot of social problems, with associated crime problems and a generalised sense of lack of community feeling, also marked as social cohesion.

Social Security:

In terms of national enforcement in social security, every reported case is investigated and this includes surprise home visits (without the need of a warrant), overview/analysis of bank accounts, water and electricity consumption and any other means to verify whether there is abuse of social benefits. The Maltese social security department also cooperates with similar foreign authorities in cases related to benefit fraud committed by Maltese living abroad or foreigners living in Malta.

In addition, experts identified that socio-environmental problems are hindered by the fragmentation of regional laws in social matters, mainly in Sicily, where the huge lack of systematisation registered at regional level, in the sector of social legislation, affects greatly the performance of operators in the territory who find it impossible to utilise tools in an adequate and complete manner.

Social Welfare:

In Malta there is pending legislation (Regulation of Social Welfare Services Act, or similar title, pending as of 2012) which will act as an all-embracing “mother act” for all entities – child care facilities, addiction services, residential out-of-home provision, services for migrants and support services for all. This follows the model of the Social care Commission in Scotland.

One-Stop Shop:

Establishment of a conceptual “one-stop shop” welfare provision facilities, with social workers, counsellors and psychologists, in well-known blighted areas – such as the inner-harbour area – but more recently in St Paul’s Bay, Qawra and Bugibba, is required. Concern is highlighted about the internal migration of clients, especially young, single-

parent mothers, to these latter areas. There are also problems in “posh” areas, such as children being left for long periods with nannies.

Non-governmental organizations such as Caritas, Oasi, the national drug agency - Seqda, Appogg, and the Victims of Crime Support Unit are to team up and work closely together with Magistrates and law enforcement. It is useless to have all these organizations working separately and independently from each other.

Social and Community Issues:

Directive 2 of 2011 regulation Locations for Gaming Parlours stating Gaming Parlours shall have any and / or all access points to the proposed premises located at a radial distance of not less than seventy-five (75) metres from the respective entry points at the perimeter of social and community facilities. Legislation plays an important part in protecting communities. Current Maltese legislation defines that gambling parlours cannot be set-up within 75m of any social or community facility. Other legislation makes it an aggravation to sell drugs within 100m of such establishments. Considering developments in communication and transportation, the current safeguards appear to be irrelevant and need to be re-considered.

Crisis safety net:

One major recommendation resulted from the need to prepare for a safety net that protects society in terms of crises. The crisis induces national governments to take huge measures: cutting down costs in public expenditure have important repercussions on single families, increasing the quotas of individuals in difficulty, who sometimes find themselves forced to make certain choices (delinquency and illegal work), who feel always more abandoned by Institutions.

It is held that a sense of learned helplessness, resignation and apathy has taken over some districts and requires review and intervention in order to kick-start cohesion reigniting.

Education:

Education (such as social and communication skills to youths and adults) is the key and there is no distinction between north and south of the Island. Social problems are everywhere.

Education, legal instruments provided by the law, cross collaboration with other entities and authorities are key factors to mitigate crime and abuses. The need for education as a primary crime reduction mechanism was identified.

Educational reform – especially a move to more comprehensive education, fewer exams and continuous assessment – is seen as a way of more fully incorporating these “at

risk” youngsters in the community, and giving them an opportunity to acquire suitable and relevant work skills.

Education by schools and media is helping in educating our young generation about the consequences of crime. However more participation by professionals in various fields is required. There should be a partnership group on a locality basis and not just one national unit to prepare educational programmes for both children and adults.

Levels of education are mostly low and high levels of truancy are registered, particularly in superior schools. Many students do not end their scholastic programme because they prefer to start working in order to maintain themselves. The results brought about by social inclusion programmes introduced by the Region and Educational Institutions have left little impact (delayed projects, disorganisation, absence of a logical and a common aim).

Education: Wider aspects of Intervention

Wider role for the educational establishment through interactive education campaigns in which people like the elderly or single parents learn how to better understand and manage their physical security, their personal security and other assets.

There are generalised concerns about social fragmentation (as in internal migration) or social dislocation (as in restricted opportunities for youth). Prevention programmes should be targeted for minors who live in uneasy contexts, the opening of meeting centres, the presence of institutions on the territory with a promotional orientation seems to have a positive role in attenuating social uneasiness and crime prevention.

Publicity has an educational effect but also a dissuasive impact on would-be wrong doers. The term dissuasive impact is better than the word deterrence which possibly implies something too strong and too harsh. It's better to stop something before it happens than have to react afterwards.

The territory, due to motives linked to criminal activities and to the inadequacy of the Institutions, does not generate employment. In Sicily, there is little attention to social and juvenile policies. This can be tackled through the Amelioration and implementation of resources for social policies. Prevention of uneasiness by means of targeted and individualised interventions in schools of every type and level is sought.

Investments in the formation of specialised personnel and psychological support should provide to families who live in degraded contexts.

Adolescents, abandoned by the institutions, inspired by casuistic models, have developed antisocial and deviant behaviour. Even in this case the answer to uneasiness is of a cultural type, one needs to elevate literacy levels and diffuse the culture of legality in schools, but also invest in the creation of social centres and in the prevention and promotion of well-being.

SPATIAL - LANDUSE

Unique Spatial Baseline:

This has led to a situation where this project had to go through diverse spatial constructs just to be able to define the spatial levels which were required for the analysis and which require the high-level decision makers to ensure inter-agency compatibility. One can immediately face an issue where in order to take a decision on the implementation of a safety policy for schools, one needs to bring together the police, the spatial planning experts, the health authorities, welfare services, employment, the statistics office, the local councils, the civil protection and other entities. There is only one thing missing: a unique baseline at NUTS3 level or even at an agreed upon level. Each of the entities works on a separate structure and on their own terms. Bringing experts on board for a holistic policy exercise in a specific zone currently requires at least two or three representatives from the relative overlapping zones for each theme. This is highly unworkable and goes beyond what this project aimed but the urgency highlighted by this project is required in order to mitigate for future change. One has to imagine what would happen should CPD require information from any entity for immediate command and control when there is no coherent structure.

NUTS & Regions:

The legislation needs to morph into a holistic structure where any one entity could work in conjunction with the rest without redundancy in conjunction with capacity and resource wastage. Even when in 2009, new legislation (amending the Local Councils Act Chapter 363 (11th Schedule)) was drafted, it created yet another regional construct that had nothing in common with the other entities' spatial constructs, even if it was an attempt to create some form of functionality between the local councils operations.

In effect this new legislation created another problem, that related to international projects and initiatives which rely on the established designations spread across the entire EU, in this case NUTS3 as established by EUROSTAT. Projects such as ESPON, SENSOR and many other operate on this spatial level, which is why it is even more important that both Malta and Sicily have a structured approach to NUTS3 baseline functionality with further inroads into the NUTS4 designations. The problem with NUTS3 is that even Sicily has now abdicated this designation through the abolishment of the Provincie within the operational period of this project. Thus it is imperative that a NUTS4 structure is established for Malta whilst Sicily would retain its NUTS3 designation for research purposes.

Concept of CPTED:

There is an increasing problem of young people congregation in public spaces / gardens and creating a nuisance. The public like the gardens but would prefer them not to be adjacent to where they live because of the noise and nuisance created by young people. We are increasingly looking to design out crime at the planning stage. One example would be a planning requirement for the Hilton hotel in Malta to provide a public garden as part of approval, but where the garden is locked at 7.00 pm. This prevents the unwanted congregation of noisy young people later on in the evening, drugs, theft (muggings) and vandalism.

A call is made for a balanced approach to planning for crime mitigation. A balanced land-use mix is important for environmental, economic, and safety reasons. There is nothing wrong with having a locality which is considered as an area of entertainment, but when one approves the entertainment area in the middle of a residential area, this would create a social issue with arguments between bar owners, party goers, and residents. Planning for balancing land uses would help to eliminate such inconvenience to neighbours.

The sense of the land ownership, its maintenance and management is a vital factor. If residents feel that the areas outside their doors do not belong to them, they will feel less safe. We have to encourage residents that crime is not a matter for the police only to tackle but it is also their problem that would affect their livelihood. If residents feel part of the common residential area, restoring order and reducing crime in our communities would be much easier.

Vandalism:

If public property is vandalized by means of graffiti or damages that give an impression of lack of ownership, this adds a sense of fear to the general public. Heavy fines and community work against convicted persons on vandalism would be the first issue. Nevertheless preventive measures such as border fences around public parks and recreational areas including the hours of operation to limit when and where these parks are opened and closed to the general public will definitely decrease and mitigate this illegal activity.

There is a supposed coincidence between territories greatly involved in abusive constructions and those in which the presence of organised crime is more relevant. Practically one can confirm that where the actual power of criminal organisations is more acute, there is also an elevated incidence of abuse. In this sense, confiscation would represent for the authorities, the possibility of re-acquiring the territory and affect works of social recovery through urban requalification plans and urban works.

Territorial Abandonment:

Phenomena of territorial marginality (often linked also to inadequate urban strategies), in major centres, in times of crisis, have grown more acute; this provokes episodes of abandonment of the territory and the risk that these territories may end up in the hands of criminal organisations that become the only strong recognised power. This came about through environmental exploitation, uncontrolled, associated to forms of abandonment of the territory.

Uneasiness:

Synergy is required between the present territorial services which consents a mapping of local uneasiness and the possibility of activating coordinated interventions. The intervention works to recover derelict and abandoned areas, the creation of green spaces, socialisation areas, make the citizens feel part of a community to which they can refer and urge positive behaviour.

Employment and Health:

Another problem is put forward by accidents on worksites, continually on the rise, thus showing a spread-out disinterest in the workers' health and safety norms more often than not considered too superficial.

INTEGRATIVE ASPECTS***Integrative Policy Structure:***

One of the recommendations for change relates to the integration of the interactivities between the different pivots within a comprehensive policy structure. Each entity to date works on diverse methodologies which are not integrated.

Whilst the experts are highly adept in their fields, the tools they operate in may not be strategic or very-long term. There is one document that takes on such a strategic approach that related to development planning known as the Structure Plan. Whilst it covers landuse extensively, it does not cover criminality and does cover briefly social issues. Its current reincarnation, SPED (Strategic Document for the Environment and Planning, is attempting to widen the scope, however there are still too many unknowns on what it will look like to state that such a document will ensure integration of the CRISOLA pivots, as such is not its base remit.

Strategic Concepts:

One recommendation emanating from the project is that strategists should include such unpalatable constructs as is crime, inclusive of the fact that any strategy should look into

the fact that any decision they make in relation to space would impact displacement of offences and in turn population. This is highly vital since the past decades have shown massive displacement that effected social cohesion and social capital in terms of mass migration of people from the old cores to new zones without any consideration for the resultant interactionism decline. Offenders were unintentionally moved to new areas, whole societies were created without long-term cohesive issues being studied, also resulting in the depopulation of the old cores and loss of ownership.

Experts' awareness of legislation in cross-thematic issues:

This is a matter of the role and responsibility of the profession, organization, or institution. For instance a Medical Surgeon and a Lawyer are both professionals yet they have totally different responsibilities. Although medical practitioners are and should be aware of the medical practitioners legal regulations, their main role is that of providing medical care to patients; their knowledge of legislation is not that important for them. Lawyers on the other hand regard legislation as their principle guideline to their profession. Also, even law enforcement professionals are not always fully aware of certain legislations. For instance Customs officers or Malta Transport officers are very much proficient in customs law or traffic regulations yet they are not very aware of the criminal code.

Turf-Wars:

Co-operation between all the agencies involved is essential. There is absolutely no time or space for turf wars. Everyone has a specific role. Call for the acknowledgement that National Policy documents seek to improve coherence. Legislators are looking to maximise empowerment and accountability and the prevention of social problems.

Technology:

On the other hand, Modern technology such as the internet and other media has contributed to a large extent to public awareness in legislation matters. Through the media the public have acquired information and knowledge in certain legal aspects. Yet, the majority confuses and fails to distinguish between morality and legal issues. Therefore the knowledge that they have acquired through media often contradicts what the rule of law actually states.

Sustainability:

The eco-sustainable development, according to some persons, has to be taken into consideration, particularly if one keeps in mind that our territory is characterised by phenomena of environmental exploitation, by problems on which it is necessary to intervene in order to restore the territory to the civil community linked to abusive

constructions and to waste disposal. The environmental problem has a double value: on one hand the evident repercussions on clandestine trafficking of waste products and on the other hand problems linked to urban security.

These situations call for the prevention and repression of criminality, where it is deemed necessary that Police forces must intervene in a more incisive manner on the territory and a rationalisation of resources. One has to keep in mind, the cost cuts in public expenditure, rendered necessary by the serious crisis, have determined a drastic reduction in finances given to Police Forces. Public security needs to be given its due importance but also social wellbeing, to attain even by means of “recovery interventions of derelict and abandoned areas, the creation of green spaces, socialisation areas (which) make the citizens feel part of a community to which they can refer and boost positive behaviour”.

Databases:

Recommendations related to access to common datasets in order to reduce crime but still within the data protection legislative parameters. The Identity card section should verify that the place indicated by these individuals exists and is inhabitable, through checks with security, welfare or other authorities such as utilities or development.

Futurism:

In addition, predictive analysis shows that demographic change will morph the Maltese population structure into an aged one which call for enhanced laws that protect vulnerable groups and cater for special-status zones that host the aged and other vulnerable persons.

Insularity and Double-Insularity:

The Sicilian reality is, undoubtedly complex, undergoing a strong marginality, typical of southern peripheral areas, accentuated as well by the fact that Sicily is an island: a context in which, notwithstanding the numerous natural and human resources, the lack of certain infrastructures not permitting the full use of possibilities offered by the territory, one has to add also the management and preventive measures are often inefficient if not even inadequate.

Executive Actions:

Need to address the scarce executive actions in national legislation due to absence of integration, an excessive bureaucracy or inadequate allocation of resources.

Multi-Faceted Intervention:

The need is felt to work in partnership to solve multi-faceted social and crime-related problems. There was a compelling sense of shared social responsibility that cut across agency and functional boundaries, together with an understanding that specialist roles cannot be divorced from work with other agencies and that this inter-connectedness requires co-operation.

Policy-Makers and Decision-Takers:

Need to allow for proactivity in cross-thematic policy making. Policy-makers try to be proactive at the strategic level. “Obviously we have to defer to the Minister’s wishes, which might take the form of being reactive in relation to subsidiary legislation; but we have the licence to think strategically and this is welcomed by government”. This aspect is deeply embedded in the organisational culture due to the fact that the experts have moved away from the parochial-local level to the wider cross-cultural levels within an international context.

From Reactive to Proactive:

Enforcement should be pre-planned but obviously lots of other enforcement is driven by the complaints received. Other domains take on Monitoring and educating the public to create awareness which minimises ignorance and actual damage.

