

TRANSPORT EXPENDITURE AT REGIONAL LEVEL

CLIENT: *Ministry of Economy and Finance – Technical Commission for Public Expenditure*

YEARS: 2002-2003

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES:

TRT Trasporti e Territorio was charged by the Technical Commission for Public Expenditure (Ministry of Economy and Finance) to produce a research report on the impacts of the new law regulating local public transport services. (d.lgs 422/97 e d.lgs 400/99).

Changes in local road and rail services have been analysed considering:

1. Trends of financial resources employed for local public transport's services (current expenditure) and for investment expenditure between 1996 and 2001;
2. Impacts of rail services' regionalisation process, paying attention to changes introduced by the Service's Contracts between regional authorities and railway management (Trenitalia);
3. Effects of introduction of competitive tools for the management of public road transport's services;
4. Problems connected to the reform of the Constitution and the relevant legislation.

The research has shown:

- a decrease in current expenditure to fund road services between 1996 and 2001 and railway services between 1999 and 2001 and evidence that regional investments strongly depend on state transfers;

- a significant variability in expenditure pro-capita for road services: resources are much higher in northern and central regions than in southern regions;
- critical points while implementing tools for market competition (poor tenders' economic results and sector's contendibility);
- levels of coherence between sector's legislation and the institutional reform.

Moreover, the research has highlighted the need of changes in the system for collecting information (National Statistic Service) in order to adapt to the new regional context.

