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Regional Development Composite Indicator

2006

ISDR results for 2006 show that as regards the *overall indicator of regional development*, only five NUTS 3 level regions out of 30 – in hierarchical order, Grande Lisboa, Pinhal Litoral, Baixo Vouga and marginally, Beira Interior Sul and Baixo Mondego - stood above the national average.

The results illustrate an asymmetric view of the country in terms of *overall development* and *competitiveness*, albeit more balanced regarding *cohesion* and, to a lesser extent, also more balanced regarding the level of *environmental quality*. Despite the more intense regional asymmetries found in *competitiveness*, these are the result of 17 regional converging behaviours to the national average in the 2004-2006 period.

Regarding *competitiveness*, the well-known contrast between Coastal and Inland regions, with the Coastal area showing higher performance, stands out. This pattern also applies to the *environmental quality*, although reversed in relation to *competitiveness*, with the interior showing better performances. As for *cohesion*, the indicator displays a more balanced country with some supremacy of Southern and Centre/Southern sub-regions in opposition to Northern sub-regions.