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Les défis de développement pour les villes et les régions dans une Europe en mutation

## The geography of income inequality in Greece

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### Référence à la session / reference to the session

T2, S3

### Résumé / Summary

This paper aims to provide the geography of income inequality in Greece during the period 2000-2013. Analysis is based on a sample of declarations and it is conducted at the Municipal level. The time period is divided in two sub periods before and after 2008 in order to estimate changes in income inequality before and after the economic crisis. In addition, this research by applying econometric analysis will provide evidence about the determinants of income inequality across Municipalities in the country.

Declared income is a key variable in economic and social analysis. However, while aggregate declared income and inequality reflects the prosperity and welfare conditions that prevail in a certain economy over a certain period of time, the geography of inequality provides additional evidence on the variations in wealth and wellbeing of people across space within a country. The geography of income inequality becomes a further intriguing subject of study in times of economic crisis with soaring unemployment rates and severe cuts in wages and pensions. Nowhere are these conditions more evident than in Greece during the period of the Great Recession that began in 2008. This paper aims at portraying the geographical aspects of inequalities in declared income in Greece before and during the economic crisis. The analysis is based on

inflation-adjusted estimations of declared household income in Greece for the economic years 2000 until 2013.

Results indicate that income inequality has a distinct geographical patterns. In addition, regional income inequality is explained by population size, wealth and employment/ occupation in the labor market.

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