The objective of this research project is to analyse the attractiveness of cities and regions in Europe. It focuses on the assets and potentials characterizing EU places and the modalities through which such assets can be mobilized in order to contribute to the creation of new development paths and visions for the EU territory. The concept of ‘attractiveness’ is a powerful one because it focuses on the quality of places and their capacity to attract a range of people. It explicitly draws attention to the spatial aspects of places and emphasises their complexity whilst simultaneously highlighting the differential capacity of places to provide and mobilise the qualitative aspects of place, both with regard to existing residents and potential future residents, and to various types of visitors. The project is rooted in the concept of place as a spatial complex characterised by its own territorial capital, being a combination of concrete and less tangible aspects, the sum of which, through a combination of local social, political and economic relations, produces the uniqueness of places. The richness of the EU territory resides in the diversity of its places and the variety of their characteristics; together these represent strong economic assets in terms of development potentialities and the main factors through which equity and cohesiveness can be pursued.