Eurostat Grant on "Standardization and geocoding of migration flows"

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The map representation allows us to obtain a clear vision regarding departure and arrival geographic poles of a specific migrant category as well as offers the opportunity to analyse the possible linkage between migrant place of birth and Italian arrival place; evaluate the presence and the relevance of any familial reunification movements; rapidly estimate trend, formulating forecast. The approach presented offers a useful methodology in order to rapidly overcome the inconvenience of raw data regarding the place names and to normalize them in order to decrease the margin of error. OpenRefine (ex GoogleRefine), is an open source software that, exploiting various logarithms in a semi-automatic way, it regroups, assembles and, thus, clean-up the raw data through a process called data wrangling. In addition give the opportunity to geocode the place names combining it with Geonames, a geographical database available and accessible through various web service. Combining OpenRefine platform with a Geographic Information System such as Qgis a map representation of migrant flows is feasible.