

**Interreg
Europe**



European Union | European Regional Development Fund

Technology Foresight

***RIS3 of Tuscany Region: strategic planning
through stakeholders involvement***

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1. Project STEPHANIE

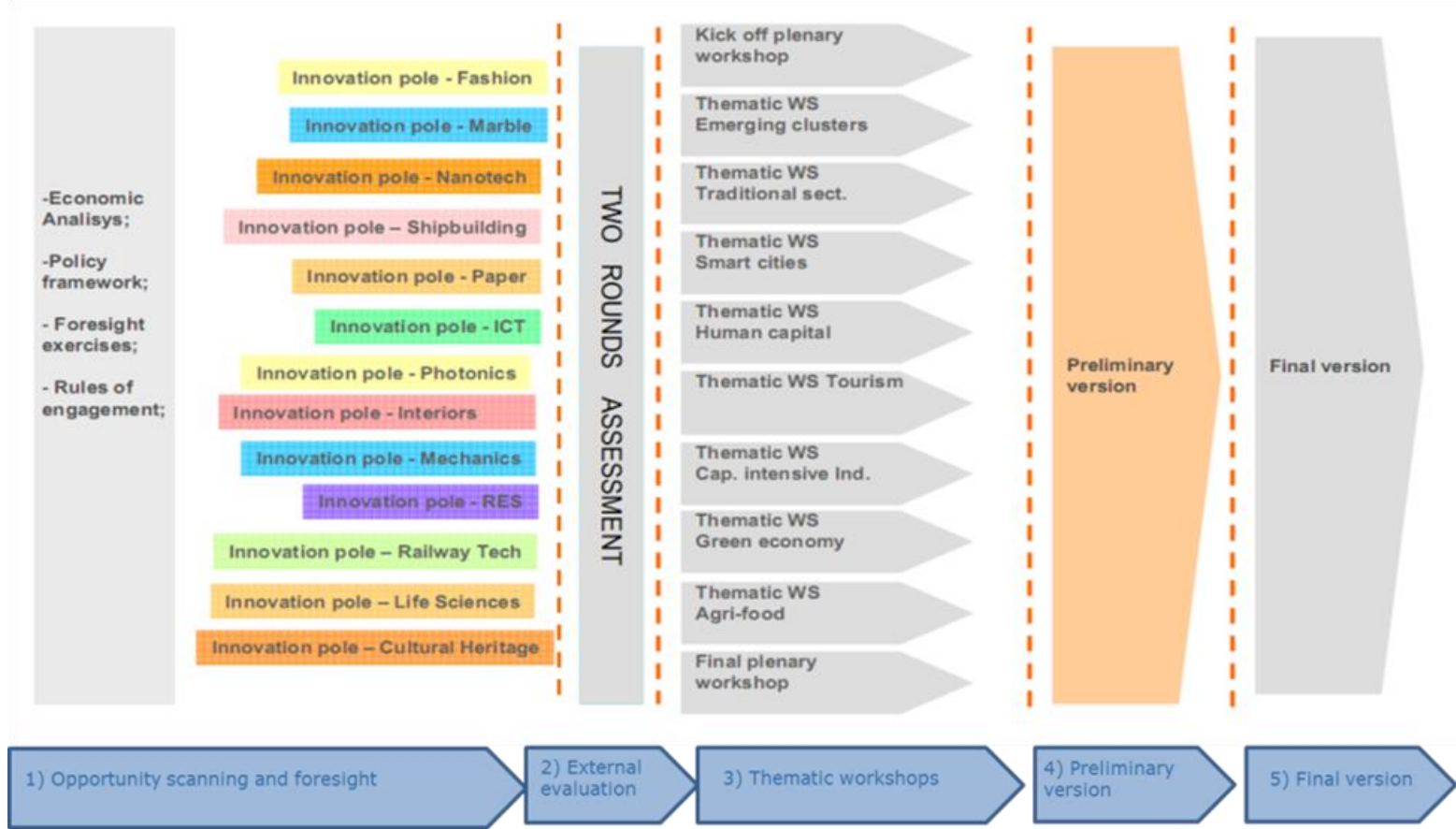
STEPHANIE (Space TEchnology with Photonics for market and societal challenges) groups together 8 partners from 7 European regions to improve regional innovation policies towards a more effective use of R&I in space technology based on photonics to develop products with strong market potential and capacity to address socio-environmental challenges

One of the lessons learnt based on our experience in the project, is that the direct involvement of the stakeholders in the process of Technology Foresight (TF) design is essential to build a common vision about the future needed to properly guide the regional technology development process





2. S3 design methodology in Tuscany



Engagement for innovation intermediaries

Foresight exercises based on **focus group** approach and **workshops focused** on:

- technological improvements;
- technological discontinuities;
- technological enablers;
- and technological levers.

Topics addressed by Foresight exercise :

- industrial clustering dynamics;
- human capital needs;
- technical/industrial problems;
- and innovation/industrial networks.

Specific **template** indicating:

- roadmap description;
- targets;
- possible policy initiatives enabling strategic investments; and
- expected outcomes.

119 roadmaps have been presented by the innovation intermediaries



External expert evaluation

12 external experts have been engaged for a double round of roadmap evaluation and assessment:

Quality of innovation roadmaps in terms of:

- technical scientific soundness;
- coherence of logic framework;
- international positioning for each roadmap; and
- actual feasibility of the roadmap implementation.

Assessment based on:

- technical and technological consistency of roadmaps;
- the relevance of targets;
- the accessibility of objectives;
- the adequacy of indicators; and
- the adequacy of the policy initiatives suggested.

Experts provided feedbacks on the **positioning of roadmaps** in relation to the frontier of innovation and on **possible overlaps** among them.





3. Recommendations

Foresight methods are able to:

- Strengthen regional innovation networks;
- Facilitate the discussion on shared strategic investments;
- Unlock territorial potential.

Foresight contributes to **accelerate the process of enforcement of the regional innovation governance** through the involvement of stakeholders within regional strategic planning process.

To this extent it is important:

- to design accurately the whole process since the very beginning and share it;
- to provide stakeholders with simple (but clear) rules of engagement;
- and to foresee several chances and tools of discussion.