

INNOGROW project
RUMORE Partner Meeting
Milan, Lombardy Region, 15 May 2018



INNOGROW PROJECT

“REGIONAL POLICIES FOR INNOVATION, DRIVEN COMPETITIVENESS AND GROWTH OF RURAL SMES”

Mita Lapi

Lombardy Foundation for the Environment

mita.lapi@flanet.org



and Antonio Ballarin Denti, Angela Colucci, Lorenzo Cozzi



INNOGROW MAIN PURPOSE

**Innovation is vital to competitiveness
and environmental sustainability!**

European Regions need to support the adoption and diffusion of innovative solutions and new business models, by rural economy SMEs, to boost their competitiveness.

Key Figures:

9 Partners from 8 EU countries

TOT Budget: 1.574.322 € (ERDF + cofin.)

Duration: from April 2016 to March 2021

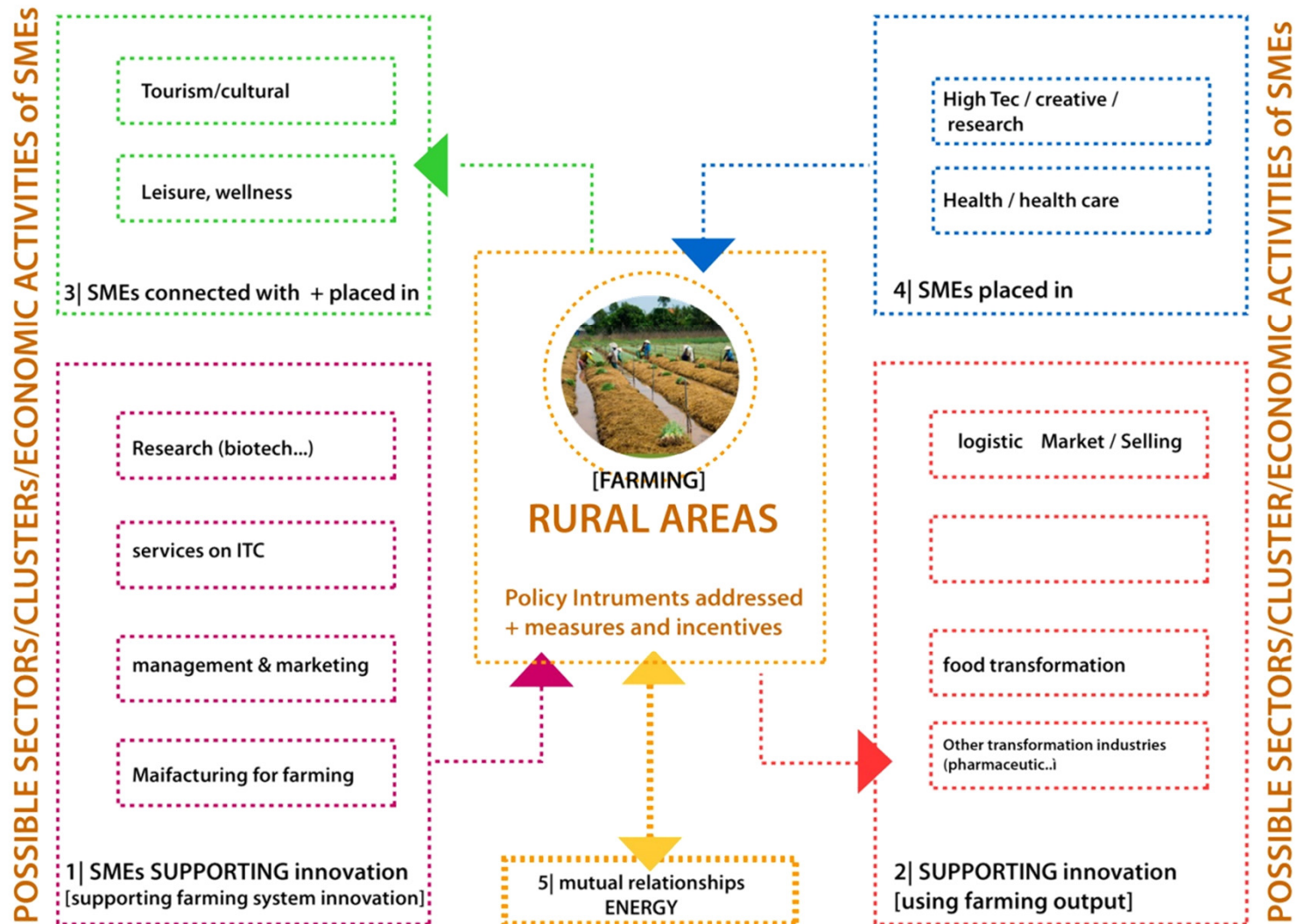
3 years implementation + 2 years monitoring



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LOMBARDY REGION RURAL SMES



STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVEMENT

LOMBARDY POLICY INSTRUMENT - The project addresses the Lombardy Region ROP ERDF to support SMEs' growth at the whole regional level (**Priority Axis III**).

LOMBARDY ACTION PLAN – It will detail 1) specific actions to be implemented within the existing regional policy context, 2) actors and players to be involved in each actions, 3) timeframe, 4) costs and associated funding mechanism.

LOMBARDY STAKEHOLDERS - This level includes regional stakeholders influencing/relevant to the policy instrument, who are expected to provide inputs for action plan.

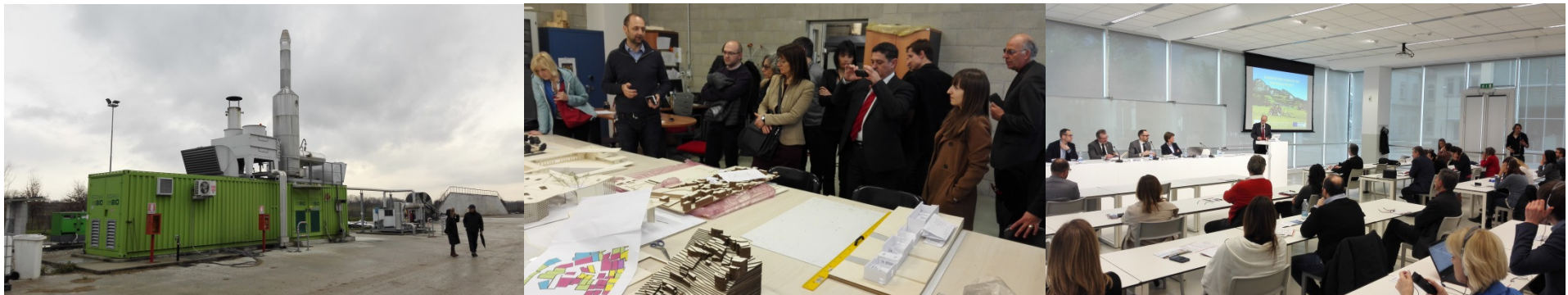
INTERREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN LOMBARDY

Lecco, 2-3 March 2017, Interregional Workshop

Two days event on how to develop and run support centres for rural SMEs

Mantova, 22-23 February 2018, Study Visit

Field Visit in rural SMEs to transfer specific knowledge about production process innovations



**POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863**

POLO TERRITORIALE DI
MANTOVA



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European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



**Overview and Vision
of the INNOGROW project**
Thank you very much!



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European Union
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Development Fund

Contacts

Mita Lapi, *FLA Project Manager*

Mita.lapi@flanet.org

Lorenzo Cozzi, *FLA Project Manager Assistant*

Lorenzo.cozzi@flanet.org

Antonio Ballarin Denti, *FLA scientific supervisors*

antonio.ballarin@unicatt.it

Angela Colucci, *R&D consultant*

angela.colucci@polimi.it



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European Union
European Regional
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“Rural economy SMEs”

Broader definition of rural SMEs:
more chances to discover and exchange best practices

SMEs that:

- *operate in rural areas*
- *contribute to the GDP of rural area*
- *are connected with rural-specific activities.*

Competitiveness and innovation

- Competitiveness: Ability to compete in markets / relates to the capacity of regions to support the development of businesses
 - key determinant for growth and jobs
 - very important for SMEs
- Innovation: Vital to competitiveness / convert novelties into improved goods, services,
 - companies who prioritise innovation experience the highest increase in turnover
 - the smaller the company, the more constraints to innovation adoption

Need for a project like INNOGROW

Challenges for INNOGROW regions:

- Increase R&D results integration in SMEs
- Improve funding schemes for SMEs / start-ups
- Formation of clusters / new business models
- Internationalisation / foreign markets access.

Need for a project like INNOGROW

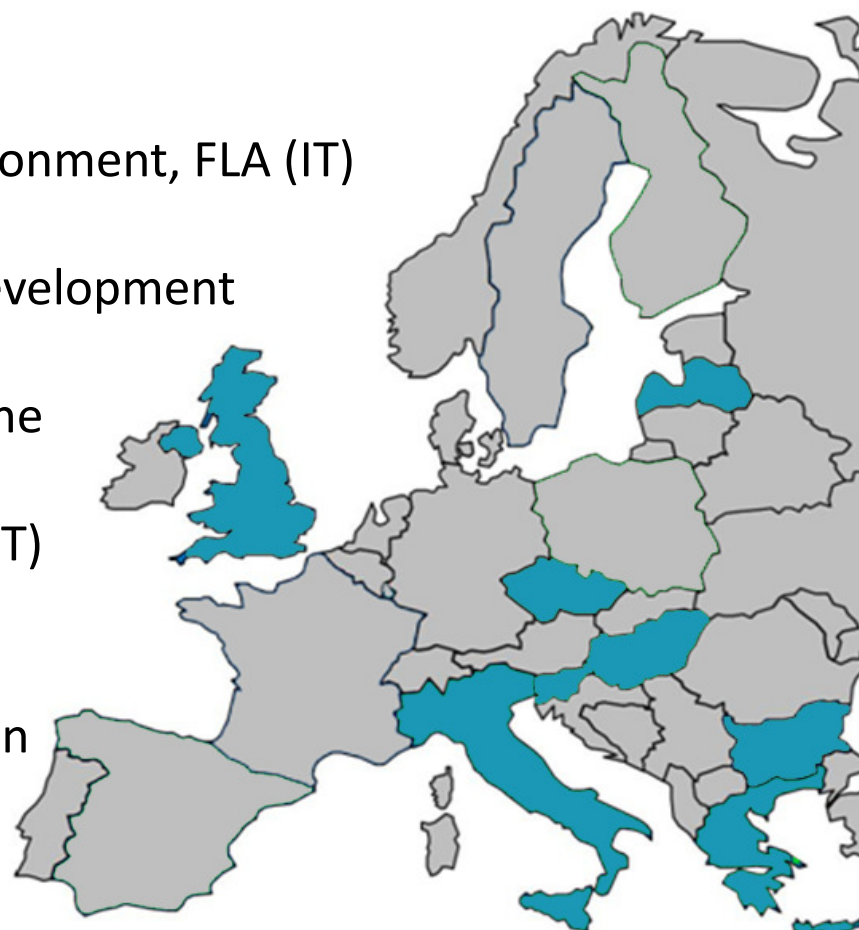
Why INNOGROW was funded:

- Corresponds to a real and important need
- Has been well written to reflect that need
- Wide and representative consortium
- Has a strategic potential

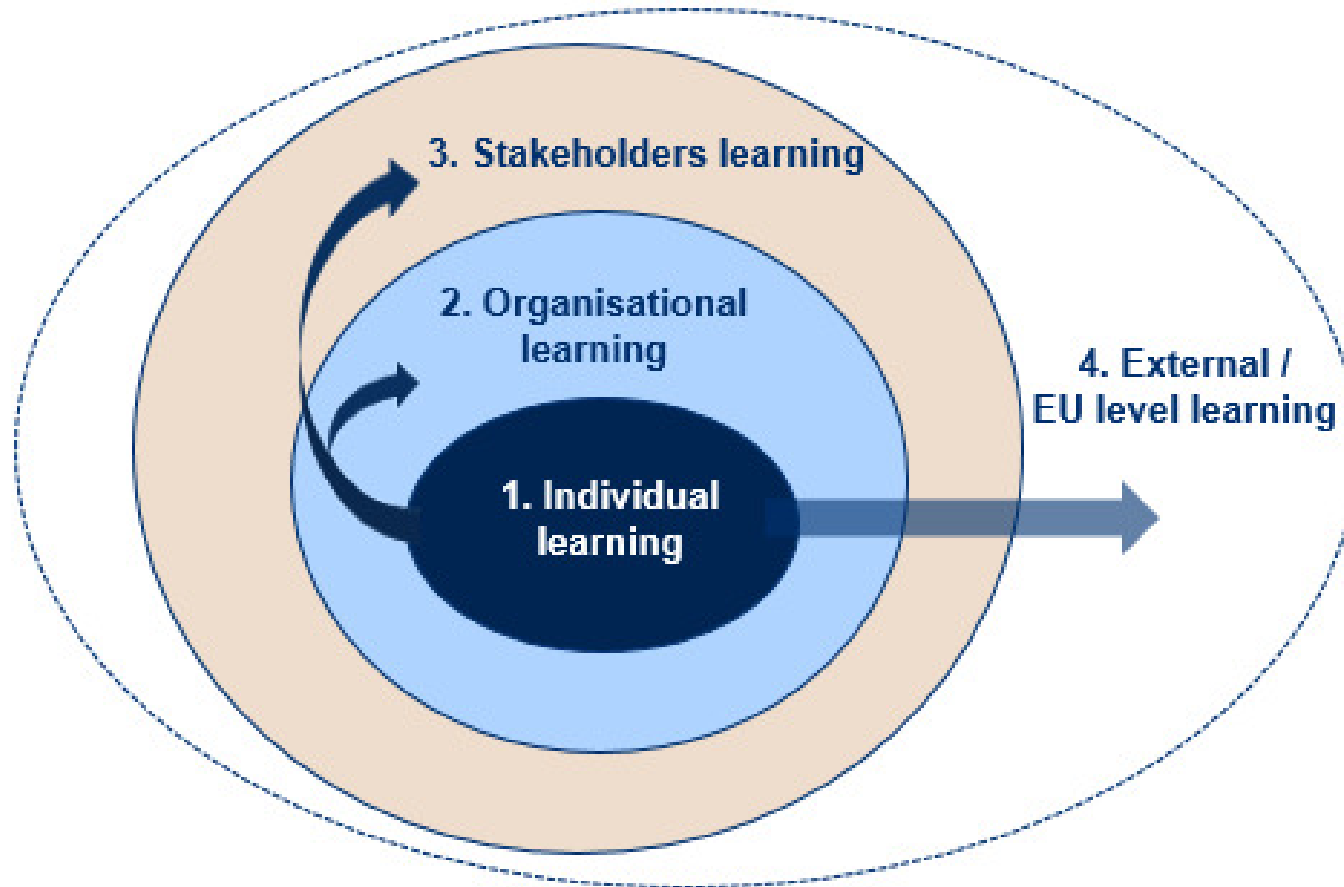
The partnership

9 partners from 8 countries:

- **Region of Thessaly (GR)**
- Lombardy Foundation for the Environment, FLA (IT)
- Zemgale planning region (LV)
- Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency (BG)
- Regional Development Agency of the Pardubice Region (CZ)
- Chamber of Commerce of Isernia (IT)
- Regional Development Agency of Gorenjska, BSC L.t.d., Kranj (SI)
- Pannon Novum West Transdanubian Regional Innovation (HU)
- The University of Newcastle (UK)



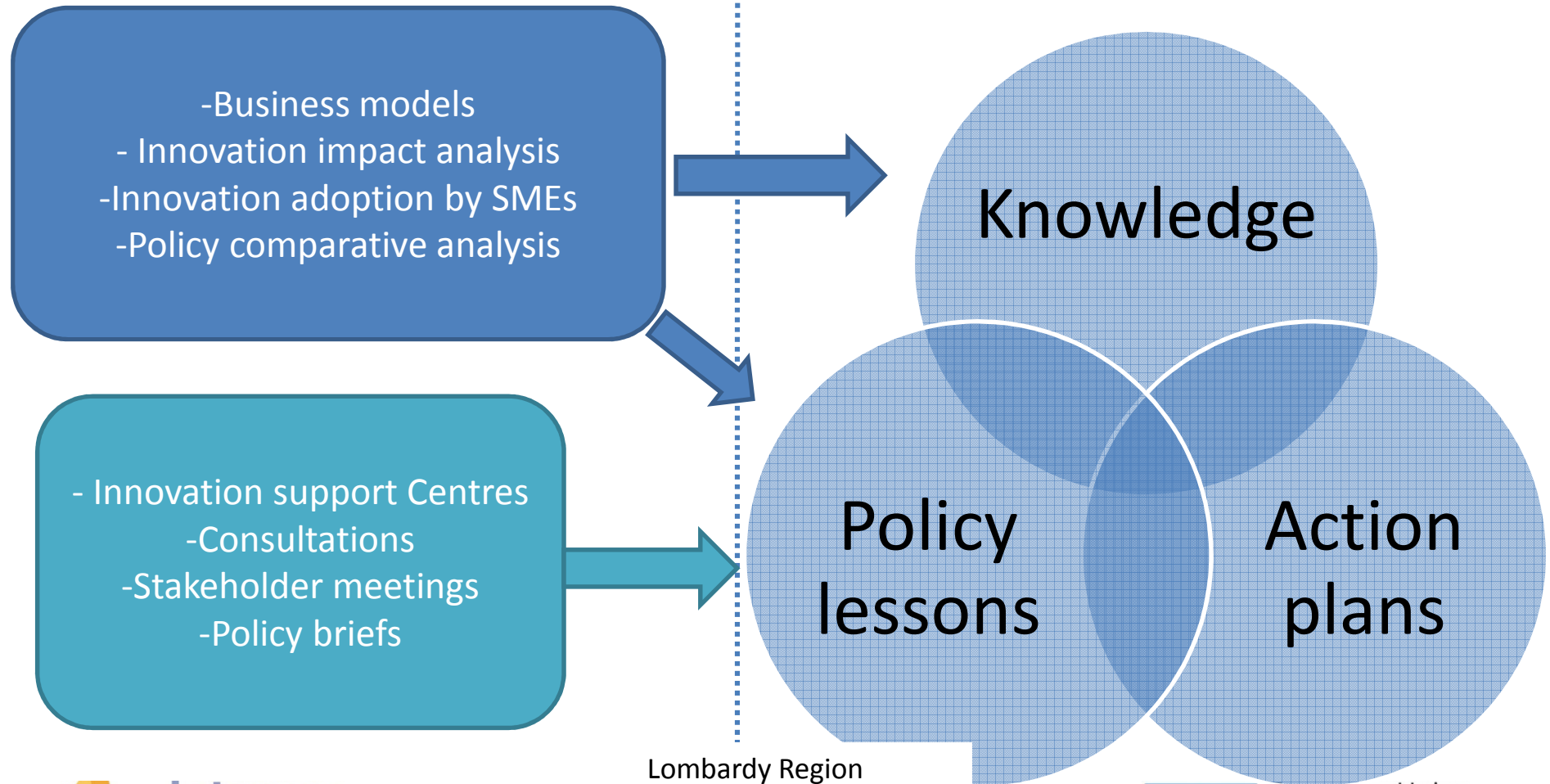
Multilevel interregional policy learning approach



Expected outcomes

Thematic areas

Project outcomes



Stakeholders role

Stakeholders role

The stakeholder group meeting will enable participants to exchange views, identify needs and build a sustainable collaboration for both project phases. They will provide input depending on their expertise, area of activities, interests and participation in different policy learning activities.

The role of Stakeholders is to participate in the meeting and express ideas and participate in the discussion on following topics:

- innovative technologies and their impact on rural smes;
- successful new business models for rural smes;
- factors that induce/hinder rural smes to adopt innovations.