



RELOS3
Interreg Europe



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Difficulties and success in putting the local level in the RIS3 map

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May 12, 2021 | Online meeting

The context: a fragmented polity system

- The meso-levels of regional (NUTS2) government had an overwhelming weight in designing and implementing 2014-2020 Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) in Italy
- No clear and compulsory indications from the European Commission regarding the role of the local (sub-regional) levels, including provincial or municipal governments
- A good government for S3 should be experimentalist, embedded and characterised by a dynamic and long-term vision: **S3 is a multi-scalar challenge**, in which there is a **strong role to be played by the local level**, essential to capture evolving needs in their own place specific dimension

The RELOS3 project

Relos3 as an opportunity for the Metropolitan City of Bologna to **contribute to the fine-tuning of the Emilia Romagna regional S3** by developing **locally-embedded projects** in specific areas of intervention, that are:

- located inside the Metropolitan City area of influence and competences
- relevant in the framework of the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan (PSM) 2.0 priorities
- aligned with the regional S3 areas of specialisation
- inspired by the interregional learning of RELOS3

The process

- a) Analysis of the regulatory framework and competences in terms of S3 implementation
- b) Identification of areas of intervention, which both pertained to the Regional S3 and Metropolitan City's priorities
- c) Identification of needs of improvement within the selected areas
- d) Development of locally-specified projects inspired by interregional learning and coherent with the PSM and the regional S3 priorities

The RELOS3 influence

Direct impact on the policy instrument design: the knowledge and the competences acquired during Phase 1 were directly used to influence the PSM 2.0 drafting (March 2017), its consulting phase (Nov. - Dec. 2017) and its approval (July 2018)

Indirect impacts:

- Strengthening of competences and capacities within the institution
- Governance improvements: exploitation of intersectoral logic and 4 Helix
- Inspiring GPs, which have led to the development of a new project aimed at strengthening the link between creative and cultural industries and social entrepreneurship

Result and achievements

The Bologna LAP: Boosting innovation process in Cultural and Creative Industries and Social Enterprises

Focus on 2 target sectors:

- Social Enterprises
- CCI Cultural Creative Industries

Sector to innovate	Outputs	Targets
A. Social enterprises B. Cultural and Creative Industries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaching and acceleration tools • Workshops / events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social entrepreneurs ; • cultural and creative industries; • aspiring new entrepreneurs; • artists and students; • interest groups including NGOs.

Entrepreneurial Discovery Process EDP: a pilot in 2 emerging RIS3 of ER

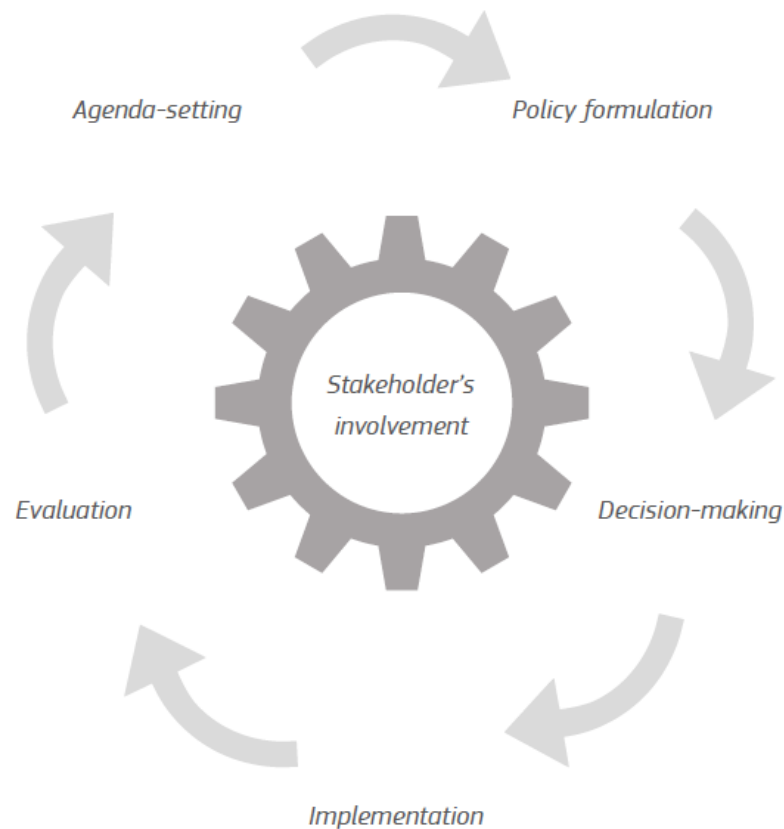


Figure I.1 The Cycle of EDP

Source: Kyriakou and Periañez-Forte (2016), based on Lasswell (1956).

Key steps for developing policy in a Relos perspective

Coaching to set up social policies

- Capacity building
- PEST Analysis with stakeholders
- Relationship between entrepreneurs and “altrupreneurs”
- Policies and tools for the mentoring of Social start up and social innovation initiative
- Communication and digital platform to exchange experiences



**DAMS Lab inside
"MANIFATTURA DELLE
ARTI" area**

**A project in EDP perspective:
Co-design with the
stakeholders. The role of
young generations and
students**

In the nineteenth century (until the end of the 1800s) the area was the entrance to the city, the mercantile and manufacturing heart of the Bolognese economy:

- Area of 100,000 square meters
- Spaces within the "Manifattura delle Arti" area
- Cineteca di Bologna (formerly Manifattura Tabacchi)
- Residential space (Castellaccio)
- Unibo Department of Philosophy and Communication (former Mulino paper mill)
- Museum of Modern Art (formerly Forno del Pane)
- Arts Laboratories (DAMS Lab)
- Circolo Il Cassero
- And also a park, a school and a kindergarten



The challenges

- To make the area more attractive for new inhabitants, increasing cultural and creative opportunities, working on spaces and potential capital.
- To stimulate greater collaboration between cultural institutions, the public-private sectors, young people, students, the inhabitants of the city center. To promote entrepreneurship and creative work.
- To develop greater opportunities in terms of social inclusion and innovation, to reduce the distances between citizens, city users, inhabitants, students, associations and neighborhood associations.



Community engagement

- **Who:** public bodies, universities, agencies, trade associations, SMEs, entrepreneurs
- **How:** regular online meetings and learning webinar
- **What to expect:** skills improvement; communication of their point of views on the adoption of the good practices shared at international level; contribution in the local action plan; spread of the activities contents

From projects to new policies:

Culture as a perspective of regeneration

Culture can contribute to a better liveable environment

Culture can tackle inequality and gentrification

Culture for urban regeneration: R&D and Governance

- *Research and Innovation was focused on governance and urban regeneration through culture*
- *The overcoming of the apparent dichotomy between culture and economy*
- *Culture-driven urban regeneration + inclusive measures aimed at safeguarding the socio-economic diversity of the renovated neighbourhoods*
- *Intrinsic value (culture) and instrumental values (economy) are not separated*

Successes

- RELOS3 policy learning has been used to stimulate the transfer of visions, ideas, strategies as source of inspiration, and helped to consider and/or re-consider the policy objectives of the addressed policy instrument (PSM 2.0)
- RELOS3 contributed to spreading throughout the society the sensitivity towards the challenges of innovation
- RELOS3 enhanced awareness about the concrete opportunities related to the deployment of S3 through the inclusion of local innovation actors (public and private)
- The role of the local dimension was included as a key topic within the on-going consultations as part of the 2021-2027 regional S3 design process

Critical issues

- Multi-level coordination mechanisms: difficulties in dealing with different regulations pertaining to different levels of government
- Horizontal coordination with different typologies of local stakeholder (SMEs, academia, civil society)
- The effects of Covid-19 on targeted sectors (especially CCI and tourism)

Challenges ahead

- Enhance multi-level learning flows among national, regional and local level during the S3 design phase
- Stimulate the local experimentation of regionally-designed strategies during the implementation phase
- Foster synergies with other S3 external networks (such as Interreg projects)



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Thank you



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