



ACTION PLAN

FOR THE AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF TRENTO





PROVINCIA AUTONOMA DI TRENTO



PART I – GENERAL INFORMATION

PROJECT: DIALOG FOR LOCAL GROWTH

PARTNER ORGANISATION(S) CONCERNED: AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF TRENTO

COUNTRY: ITALY

NUTS2 REGION: TRENTINO

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Part II – Policy context

The Action Plan aims to impact:

Investment for Growth and Jobs programme European Territorial Cooperation (Interreg) programme

- ✓ Other regional development policy instrument

Name of the policy instrument(s) addressed:

TRENTINO INNER AREAS STRATEGY

Further details on the policy context and the way the action plan should contribute to improve the policy instrument:

We decide to change the original policy instrument with the National Strategy of Inner Areas.

The policy tool has been modified making sure that the timing of the definition of the new tool and the implementation of phase 2 of the project correspond. The ERDF programming has already been defined in terms of partnership and agreement with local actors while the proposed new political instrument will have planning and sharing with the territory exactly co-indicative with phase 2 of Dialog.

In any case, the ERDF is also foreseen to co-finance the internal areas strategy, but linked to the activation of territorial planning tools.

The National Strategy of Inner Areas aims at contrasting demographic decline and promoting the social and economic development of Italian territories, especially those which by location are "peripheral" or "ultra peripheral" with respect to services education / training, health / assistance and sustainable mobility and which therefore more than others suffer from a condition of productive and social marginality. Within this Strategy the Autonomous Province of Trento plans to support the territory of the inner area of the External and Central Giudicarie, developing a strategy that enhances the potential of these areas in terms of culture, education, training and cultural tourism.

Currently, the activation of a policy intervention in favour of the development of the inner area of the External and Central Giudicarie has only been shared between the Autonomous Province of Trento and the national Government - Agency for territorial development - with the involvement of the resources of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the National Development and Cohesion Fund. However, this instrument does not exist yet: it will be the result of the declination within the territorial context indicated by the pillars of the Strategy for inner areas moving from the needs and objectives that they will be defined locally. The process must be bottom-up, involving all stakeholders in the area for the definition of achievable objectives, methods of intervention, applicable methodologies, achievable targets, etc. Therefore the action plan does not aim to improve an existing tool but to define, structure and share it through strategies and tools for sharing, participation and participatory democracy, so that the purposes are also "made their own" by the territories because they "feel as their own". This means they correspond to shared needs. Previous experiences of defining similar tools in other territories have not been a particularly positive example of participation and democracy: the implementation of the proposed action plan would therefore also constitute a "model" that can also be transferred to other similar actions.

The inner area programming will have public resources up to € 8,000,000, of which € 4,000,000 from EU (ERDF) and € 4,000,000 from the national Fund (Development and Cohesion Fund) .



Therefore, the Action Plan intends to develop a process of activation and support of sustainable development dynamics through participation phases of the actors of the areas interested drafting effective and exemplary programming documents.

The strategy is currently being defined and will be finalized by 2022. It will then be implemented through suitable management tools to achieve precise, concrete and measurable results at the end of the 2021/2027 programming. Obviously, the tools deployed in the programming and programming agreement phase (Program Agreement Framework with the National Ministries under the program agreement) will also be valorized during the management and evaluation periods -both in itinere and ex- post of the strategy and of the relevant implementation actions.

Among the various possible interventions within the "Inner Areas", which can be effective "engines" for social and economic development, the current Action Plan aims to promote and support especially a human and social capital of quality carrying out actions designed to create effective conditions for the extension of formal, informal and informal education and training tools.

The transnationality principle will be a core element of the proposal and implementation of the action plan. This is not linked to the fact that it was verified that in other European territories instruments specifically dedicated to pursuing the specific operational objective of this instrument (planning tools for territorial development in marginal areas) have been applied. On the contrary, it is linked to the fact that, thanks to the contribution of various experiences, through their analysis, discussion among peers, etc., the guidelines could be highlighted and applied to different contexts in order to achieve shared results of "participation" and "action from the bottom" of the various tools that can be activated. Regardless of the peculiarities of the single policy instruments intended to be improved in the various contexts, the approved model and guidelines represent a "common denominator" to be considered in all circumstances. Obviously, only some technical aspects, methodologies and recommendations will be more relevant and applicable, but in an organic context of a plurality of exploitable approaches. In the specific context of the objectives pursued by the Autonomous Province of Trento, the models, tools and recommendations from Flanders and Spain (in primis) who have activated bottom-up programming of development methodologies for marginal or marginalized areas will be of particularly help.

To implement the action plan, the indications coming from the shared participatory model will be used in a participatory planning cycle logic that mainly enhances the three level: CONSULTATION, INVOLVEMENT and COLLABORATION (with the relative techniques identified) and a transversal process of PROGRESSIVE EMPOWERMENT of citizens, local administrators and stakeholders.

The model and its elements will be applied according to the guidelines -which are under discussion among the project partners.

In particular, the following techniques will be enhanced in the various phases since they WERE THE MOST EFFECTIVE ON THE BASIS OF THE INTERVIEWS WITH THE STAKEHOLDERS:

CONSULTATION

- Dedicated platform,
- Consultation events,
- face-to-face methods and web sites
- Brainstorming;



- Focus group

INVOLVEMENT

- Dedicated platform
- Development of a participatory scenario in presence;
- Action-research
- World Cafe '
- Design workshops;

COOPERATION

- Dedicated platform;
- Participatory decision making in presence;
- Action-research
- Negotiation techniques;
- Set up multistakeholders

EMPOWERMENT

- Institutional learning
- Steering Committee
- Quality committees,
- Permanent strategic committees
- Study visits.

Many have been the elements that contributed to the development of effective institutional learning addressed to the purpose (ie pertinent to the development of innovative and verified effective approaches for carrying out CONSULTATION, INVOLVEMENT, SHARING and EMPOWERMENT actions).

Part III – Details of the actions envisaged

ACTION 1: Name of the action:

Promote the development of the inner area of the External and Central Giudicarie (within the National Inner Areas Strategy) in terms of culture, education, training and cultural tourism - establishment of a CULTURAL DISTRICT.

1. Relevance to the project (please describe how this action derives from the project and in particular from the interregional exchange of experience. Where does the inspiration for this action come from?)

The Action Plan's aim is to support and enhance the social dialogue based on the active involvement of all stakeholders and citizens of the External and Central Giudicarie areas in order to design and implement a Plan for the creation of a cultural district able to promote the local cultural and



naturalistic heritage. The intervention will have a budget of 8,000,000 euros. Significant will be the actions co-financed by ERDF and ESF for the promotion of development of profiles in terms of training-education of the territories and of the heritage of the area. The Inner Area programme will be able, with appropriate finalization and concentration actions, to establish concrete opportunities for the development of the territory. The hypothesis of an intervention on ERDF as initially expected, would have caused an irremediable temporal shift between its uptake and activation of the action plan.

All the experiences and good practices that have been analysed contributed to the draft of the model of reference and will help laying down the guidelines which are instrumental in the implementation of the action plan. In particular, relevant are especially the experiences presented by Flanders both for the numerous approaches and tools used and for the success they provided with. Especially we considered the good practices SERV because this networking model, allows for frequent exchange of information, views and opinions on policy-relevant topics.

2. Nature of the action (please describe precisely the content of action 1. What are the specific activities to be implemented?)

The Autonomous Province of Trento intends to define the executive plan aimed at implementing this strategy through a bottom-up design approach capable of taking into due account the expectations, ideas, projects and initiatives of the local communities. With reference to the local context, this type of approach considers as key elements social cohesion, consultation, transparency in decision making, which are the basis of social dialogue and can be achieved using different "social animation" methods. The cultural district project must take into consideration the improvement of the quality of life of people and communities by raising their educational and training level. In this perspective, the involvement of local actors must necessarily be based on the enhancement of the multiplicity of their interests as a fundamental resource for an effective sharing of the aims of the project. Mutual trust constitutes the fundamental lever for a shared work focused on the realization of scenarios, objectives and strategies based on increasing the cultural level of the residents of the area. Hence, conditions for an active participation (and possibly empowerment) of the local actors of Fiaavè (little village in the Giudicarie) including the citizens, need to be established. They are the recipients of the educational and training measures that will be implemented to make of the territory a real cultural district. In this regard, the Province of Trento wants to create these conditions through an Action Plan which defines the implementation of a participatory process for all stakeholders potentially interested in the different fields. For this purpose, it has been decided to refer to the Model on participatory processes and methods (DIALOG project), as the most appropriate method to promote the participation of the local population.

The Action Plan, which is expected to be implemented, bases on an initial planning document of the cultural district drafted by the provincial administration and will be divided into the following phases:

Phase 1. Analysis. Research-action on the characteristics of the educational and training situation, on the services available and more generally on the current social capital or otherwise to be activated in the External and Central Giudicarie area. The action-research will not exclusively focus on the hypothesized goal but will consider all the strengths to be enhanced and the critical issues currently present, so that the development of a district constitutes an opportunity for growth not only for Fiaavè but for the entire area involved. From this point of view, the possible interactions between the development of the district and:

- 1) tourism growth opportunities for the entire community



- 2) the necessary actions to be allocated to the promotion of sustainable mobility;
- 3) the promotion of capacity building actions for local administrators and citizens' lifelong learning must be analysed.

All the phases of the action plan will be implemented during the phase 2 of the project and will have a well-defined schedule as mentioned below.

Phase 2. Selection and mapping of stakeholders. So that participation becomes a lever for the social dialogue process, it is necessary to be clear about the actors to be involved, their role in the process and the useful ways to facilitate the relationship between them and shared decisions. This phase will last about 2 months.

Phase 3. Design of the participatory process. It is a specific organizational and process setting aimed at developing a shared vision between public administration, stakeholders and citizens regarding the interventions to be co-designed and implemented so that the district plan can meet the needs of the territory promoting effective cultural growth of the entire population as a condition for triggering virtuous processes of local development. Related to this condition, the participation's tools that best face the specific featured of the identified stakeholders, their needs and involvement will be identified. This phase will last about 2 months and will have as a milestone the definition of participation timing, tools and methods.

Phase 4. Application of the tools for the implementation of the participatory process. The tools identified in the previous phase will be put in place to create a process of social animation that allows to define the fundamental elements of the Plan for the creation of the Cultural district both in the conceptual and design phase and in the implementation phase through a wide participation of stakeholders. This will allow the consolidation of social networks and the raise of the sense of belonging of the community to the cultural district project. This phase will last ca. 6 months and represents the core of the participation and therefore of the application of the model and guidelines of the DIALOG project.

Phase 5. Drafting of the shared operational plan for the creation of the District. Based on the results of the previous phases, the Province, together with local public actors, will proceed with the definition and drafting of the operational plan as well as its presentation and consultation with the competent national authorities for approval and funding. The project thus approved will finally be re-proposed for appropriate sharing with local stakeholders. This phase will last ca. 1 month.

Phase 6. Inclusion of shared cultural and educational promotion strategies related to the development of the district as part of the overall development strategy of the area. This strategy will also be composed of other measures and actions to be appropriately coordinated. These actions must concern in particular the interventions of social promotion and development of green mobility. This phase, having more coordination and summary purposes, will last a total of ca. 30 days.

3. Stakeholders involved (please indicate the organisations in the region who are involved in the implementation of the action 1 and explain their role)

Active involvement of all stakeholders and citizens of the External and Central Giudicarie area for the design and implementation of the Plan for the creation of a cultural district in order to enhance the



local cultural and naturalistic heritage. In this regard, the public actor is a facilitator of decision-making processes: all those involved must be able to express themselves, to participate, to provide their contribution for shared decisions. As anticipated, the Provincial Administration together with the local administrations intends to achieve this goal using the tools and techniques defined in the participatory model according to an approach that, despite recognizes tasks and responsibilities of every one, is based on an equal vision of the relationship between the public decision maker and the stakeholders, including citizens.

The deliverables of the actions carried out by the action plan will be made up of products of participation and discussion between stakeholders: reports, minutes, meetings' minutes, summaries of conclusions achieved, agreements signed between the parties, tools for association between actors, etc.

These products will be the result of the application of methodologies and techniques of the model and of the project guidelines to the inputs from the territorial realities as well as from qualitative and quantitative statistical surveys and from the view given to this reality by the stakeholders. The latter will be carefully identified and put in an interest-power matrix in order to maximize their contribution.

The action plan outputs will consist of an orderly and systemic collocation of the deliverables and their contents in a matrix that defines objectives and goals to be achieved. This matrix will be the basis for the definition of the area programme as a policy instrument of intervention investigated.

The action plan outcomes will have to be found in the medium term, where the objectives of the intervention policy tool will become benefits for the territory and its actors: social and economic development, democratic participation, reduction of marginal conditions.

4. Timeframe (please specify the timing envisaged for action 1)

This strategy will be defined in the course of 2022 and by July 2023 it will be shared with the national agency for territorial cohesion. After the deadline, it will then be developed through management tools to achieve precise, concrete and measurable results at the end of the 2021/2027 programming.

5. Indicative costs (please estimate the costs related to the implementation of action 1)

Ca. € 17.000

The costs will refer to:

- 1) to support actions for participation (development of a dialogue platform, realization of participation tools on site, set-up of synthesis, search for sharing) and therefore management costs;
- 2) the activation of tools for animation and involvement of the territory (through the action of several territorial "facilitators", local development experts, field experts, thematic experts);
- 3) the development of operational indications resulting from the discussion but consistent with the requests of the policy instrument in question (involvement of territorial development project designer).

6. Indicative funding sources (please describe how action 1 will be financed. Is it through the policy instrument(s) indicated in part II):

CULTURAL DISTRICT to be activated, promoted and developed with the resources of the National Fund for Development and Cohesion and the European Structural Funds.



PROVINCIA AUTONOMA DI TRENTO



Date _____

Signature _____

Stamp of the organization