

OUTPUT FACT SHEET

Strategies and action plans

Version 2

Project index number and acronym	CE1393 - ECOS4IN
Output number and title	O.T4.1 Action plan for Industry 4.0 implementation into regional innovation strategy in partner areas
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	PP6
Project website	https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/ECOS4IN.html
Delivery date	March 2022

Summary description of the strategy/action plan (developed and/or implemented), explaining its main objectives and transnational added value

The main challenge of the action plan is reflected in the priorities of the regional policies, which are, on the one hand, to support SMEs in their process of innovation and acquisition of 4.0 technologies, also through a redesign of the business organisation and, on the other hand, to equip the educational system in terms of training and skills related to advanced technologies, a point that is currently considered a limitation of the training system and a source of concern by the Lombardy industry.

Focusing on what has emerged from the analysis carried out, from comparison with the various stakeholders and from the state of the Lombardy entrepreneurial fabric, the focal points to be developed can be summarised in these two macro-areas:

1. increasing the reporting and implementation capacity of SMEs in the field of innovation;
2. developing and enhancing new 4.0 skills.

With regard to the first point, we consider repetition of what was implemented during the pilot project, which allowed companies not only to analyse themselves in a 4.0 perspective, but also to create relationships and processes capable of developing an implementation path of fundamental development for growth and change towards a 4.0 paradigm, to be very important. A second theme to be developed with a view to the future concerns the creation of an innovation platform (physical and virtual), within the logic of Open Innovation¹, where actors can meet and collaboratively develop new ideas and share knowledge.

Linked to the second point, the difficulty of finding and enhancing the skills needed for change and development in businesses must be addressed.

For this reason, our intention was to strengthen the relational network, between regional representatives, enterprises and stakeholders, formed and consolidated during all the meetings and discussions held during the project, capable of engaging in a concrete dialogue, with the support of FGB, for the definition of new development methods, both thematic and implementation, of ITS.

The methodology tested during the pilot has been adopted by Fondazione Brodolini itself, FGB srl SB and The FabLAB make it real

NUTS region(s) concerned by the strategy/action plan (relevant NUTS level)

NUTS 2 Lombardia ITC4

Expected impact and benefits of the strategy/action plan for the concerned territories and target groups

Please describe the expected impact of the strategy/action plan by addressing the following guiding questions:

- What is the expected change/effect of this strategy/action plan?
- Who benefits from it and how?
- Has it led to an uptake at policy or institutional level?

The action plan will be a methodology to be used to offer services to collect, share and comment on ideas, to identify companies and makerspaces with complementary competences to create targeted and innovative partnerships, to exchange information on ideas and/or production methods and to make assessments on the feasibility and sustainability of new ideas.

This could include a toolkit consisting of: collaborative processes, available assets that explain to producers how to change their internal organisation; innovation methodologies developed with the support of experts and guides for co-creation and co-design of ideas, new business models for innovative products.

Some ITS foundations have also underlined the fact that it is not always easy to find teachers able to train the skills covered by the most innovative courses. It is not enough for a worker to possess a certain body of knowledge, but he or she must also be able to communicate it to students, in a relationship that is still an educational and not solely a training relationship.

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Sustainability of the developed and/or implemented strategy/action plan and its transferability to other territories and stakeholders

Please describe the sustainability and transferability of the strategy/action plan by addressing the following guiding questions:

- How will this output be sustained and continued after the project end?
- How can this output be used in other territories?
- Which other stakeholders could benefit from this output and use it in the future?
- Which lessons learned from the development/implementation process should be considered?

In this direction the pilot project was launched in the Info Hub 4.0, at the [Milano Luiss Hub](#), a single access point for Industry 4.0 and digital manufacturing aimed at facilitating the creation of new synergies between SMEs, community and students through cross-discipline activities, events and webinars. The design of an InfoHub 4.0 responded to two key concepts, "sustainability", i.e. the project had to coherently incorporate the provisions of the regional strategies of intelligent specialisation (RIS3)², and "transferability", i.e. the Human Capital Hub ECOS4IN had to focus on the direct and practical needs of the economic and political enterprise of Lombardia Regio, seeking to create a sort of "instruction booklet" for the Region itself.

Max. 1000 characters

Please delete the above guiding questions after filling-in the textbox.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links

If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex

² For more information see: *National or regional innovation strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3)*. Available document: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/informat/2014/smart_specialisation_it.pdf

Please describe the relevant reference documents by addressing the following guiding questions:

- What are the main relevant related project deliverables (deliverable number and title)?
- Where can the relevant deliverables be found (web-link to related deliverables, e.g. on project website)?
- Please add, if applicable, relevant pictures or images illustrating the output.

<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/ECOS4IN.html>

<https://milanoluisshub.it/>

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