



# Open Innovation, Co-creation and quadruple helix representatives: Cluster Techforlife

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CLUSTER LOMBARDO  
TECNOLOGIE PER GLI  
AMBIENTI DI VITA

## Lombardy's Cluster Techforlife

Fondazione Cluster  
Tecnologie per gli  
ambienti di vita

We are here



### Ambient Intelligence and Ambient Assisted Living

- Fostering Research and Innovation in the field of *Technologies for Life*
- Facilitating interactions between research organizations, SMEs and policy makers
- Promoting multi-thematic projects among partners
- Disseminating and facilitating technological transfer
- Working toward the economic development of the partnership
- Helping in the definition of the regional, national and interregional policies regarding health industry



## Creating Connections



### Outside the partnership

- ⦿ Meetings with Lombardy Region and the other Technological Clusters
- ⦿ Conferences and Dissemination events
- ⦿ Interregional Partnerships and thematic tables (Medtech, 4 Motors, EIP on AHA)



### Within the partnership

- ⦿ Thematic virtual meetings and workshops
- ⦿ News on the Website
- ⦿ Social Media posts
- ⦿ Weekly Infoletters

## An example of our activity

### Our Response to Covid-19 crisis during March 2020

- We created a dedicated page on our Website to publish and promote products, services and requests of collaboration with the aim of fighting the Virus.
- We were invited to use Lombardy's Open Innovation platform to reach a wider pool of stakeholders
- We created connection between our clinics and companies that would offer innovative, ready to use solutions to their needs

Activity	#
Infoletters sent	9
Calls and financing opportunities conveyed	15
Tweet on Twitter regarding our partners' activity	18
Posts on LinkedIn regarding our partnership activity	36
National and International activities disseminated	10
Collaboration requests published on our forum from within and outside of the partnership	11
Project Proposal in which Cluster Techforlife collaborated	4
Companies and Institutions we reached out for	14

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- ⦿ **Working Groups**

## Working Groups

### How we work



Based on the Quadruple Helix Model, the 4 major working groups bring together Researchers, SMEs, Policy Makers and Citizens.



## From Working Groups to Projects and back

- WG Nutrition and Personalized Medicine



- Lombardy Region's Call HUB



A strong, complex, project proposal in which all the stakeholders co-designed the different project phases and aims, with a strong contribution from clinicians.

- New partners for Cluster Techforlife
- New competences, stakeholders and insights for the Working Group that will remain relevant and efficient

## Limits and difficulties we encounter

### THE HARDEST PART: PARTNERS ENGAGEMENT

- ⦿ Time is the most valuable resource: we need to optimize how we spend our partners' time, especially for clinicians, whose time is expensive and extremely valuable to the society
- ⦿ Partners lack the personnel resources that can work as a constant contact point with the Cluster and with the other partners.
- ⦿ Multiple Working Groups on multiple topics require a great effort in order to be efficient and up to date with the ever-changing requests of the society and of the market.



## Replicating our approach

## Clinical Trials Competence Centre

### LISTENING TO THE NEEDS:

- ⊙ Research Organizations and SMEs' products and services hardly reach the market. Technological Transfer is even more complicated due to the changes in the Regulatory Requirements.
- ⊙ Scientifically sound Clinical trials must be designed: SMEs often don't have the competence and the resources to do so; they don't have the possibility to fail.
- ⊙ Clinicians need to speed up the TT process to bring improvements in the clinical practice.

### CO-DESIGN A SOLUTION:

- ⊙ Within an Interregional Project Action Plan design (*Medtech4Europe*)
- ⊙ Along with Lombardy's General Directorate Research and Innovation
- ⊙ Collecting ideas from our Partners

### PROJECT PROPOSAL:

- ⊙ Creation of a Clinical Trials Competence Centre with representatives from industry, clinics, society and policy makers.
- ⊙ The center will work as a lighthouse, giving directions and suggestions to design clinical trials.

## Cluster Techforlife

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