



PASSAGE
Interreg Europe



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Platform on Circular Economy in Tuscany



Ecsit p-p

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Specific objective

Closing the loop of product lifecycles through a Center of Competence to support SMEs of Tuscany in the production of new recycling and re-use solutions contributing Circular Economy

Main institution involved

Municipality of Rosignano Marittimo (lead partner)

REA Impianti Srl

Chamber of Commerce of Maremma and Tirreno

ANCI Toscana

CISPEL Toscana

Institute of Management Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies of Pisa

Institute of Biorobotics Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies of Pisa

CNR – Campus of Pisa

Location of the practice

- NUTS 3 – Province of Livorno

Timescale

07 October 2016 - ongoing

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Area of intervention

Rosignano Marittimo is a municipality in the Province of Livorno, located about 20 km southeast of Livorno.

31.562 inhabitants
(ISTAT, 2015) and
120,82 km².



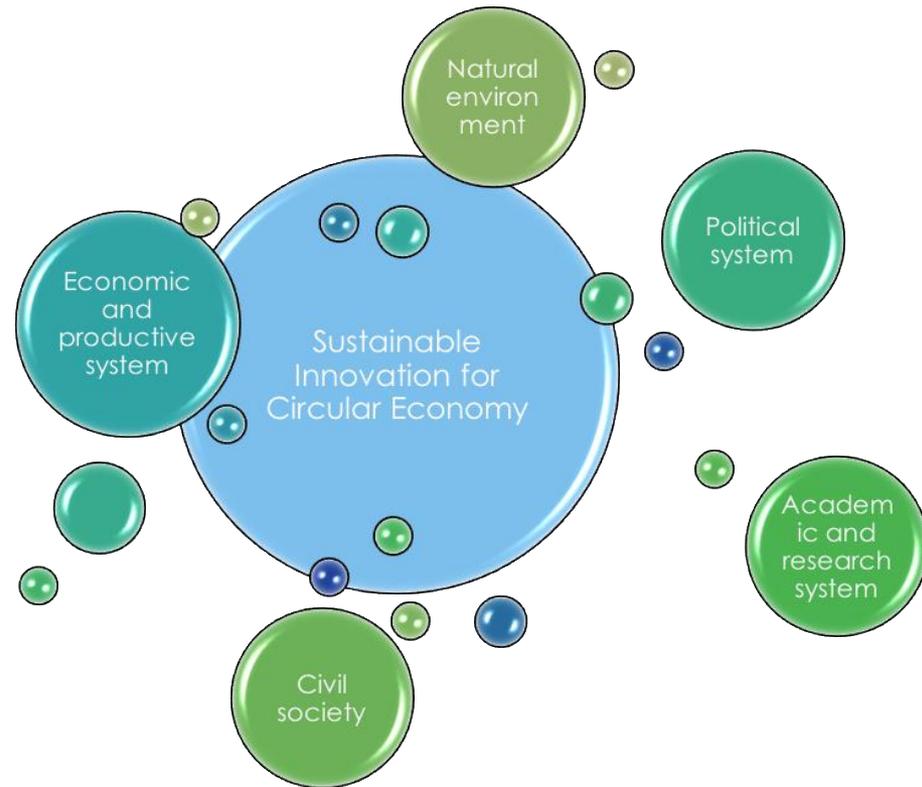
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Target audience

Public and private actors (local authorities, chamber of commerce, universities, companies, etc.) have reinforced their cooperation establishing a platform - ***Tuscany Cooperation Centre on Circular Economy*** - to create mechanisms supporting enterprises, public administrations and citizens to build a circular economy.

The idea to implement and test this centre in Rosignano Marittimo originates from the will to **change the perception of this coastal area as polluting one** (due to the presence of polluting activities, such as the pole for waste treating and recycling).

This platform represents an opportunity to encourage a **coastal sustainable development attracting new businesses and empowering citizens** in the local governance.



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Detailed information on the practice

The coastal area of south Tuscany is a very **critical area for economic stagnation and pollution**. Indeed, it is the strategical target of several national and regional measures for industrial reconversion and requalification

ECSIT aims to support **reconversion and requalification** of the local economy through an **innovative model of cooperation** between SMEs, researchers and innovators, public administrators and civil society at large, and based on new solutions of Circular Economy.

ECSIT is a Centre of Competence fully dedicated to develop advanced **products and services made of secondary raw materials** in order to:

- Close the loops of material and immaterial resources;
- Optimize local resources.

Thanks to ECSIT:

- Civil society will be advanced in Circular communities;
- Industrial system will be sustainably turned in Industrial symbiosis;
- Local governance will become smart governance for local resilience.

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Resources needed

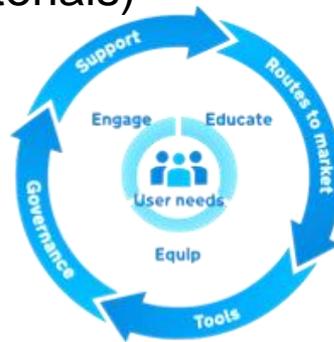
Human resources

- Senior researchers, experts and consultants
- Post-docs and PhD students involved in daily activities

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marketplace+Database

To be used to "close" the loops (e.g. options on secondary raw materials)



Interior design



**Strategic
plan of
development**

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Evidence of success (results achieved)

ECSIT is actually in the starting and **setting up phase**, given that the Partnership Agreement was recently signed.

Currently, partners are defining and designing **operating committees and units** at best in order to successfully implement the following activities:

- Coaching and assisting SMEs in managing recycling and re-use issues, in networking, in fundraising to support circular economy solutions;
- Annual reports to local and regional policy maker on the level of achievement of circular economy goals and of sustainable management of resources;
- Informing SMEs, Institutions, and civil society on circular economy issues, opportunities, etc, and on sustainable management of natural resources.

Strategical geo-position – ECSIT is close to ports, airports, highways & railways, near to important research centres and academies, and located in one of the most important industrial sites in Italy – is an additional distinctive key for success

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Difficulties encountered/ lessons learned

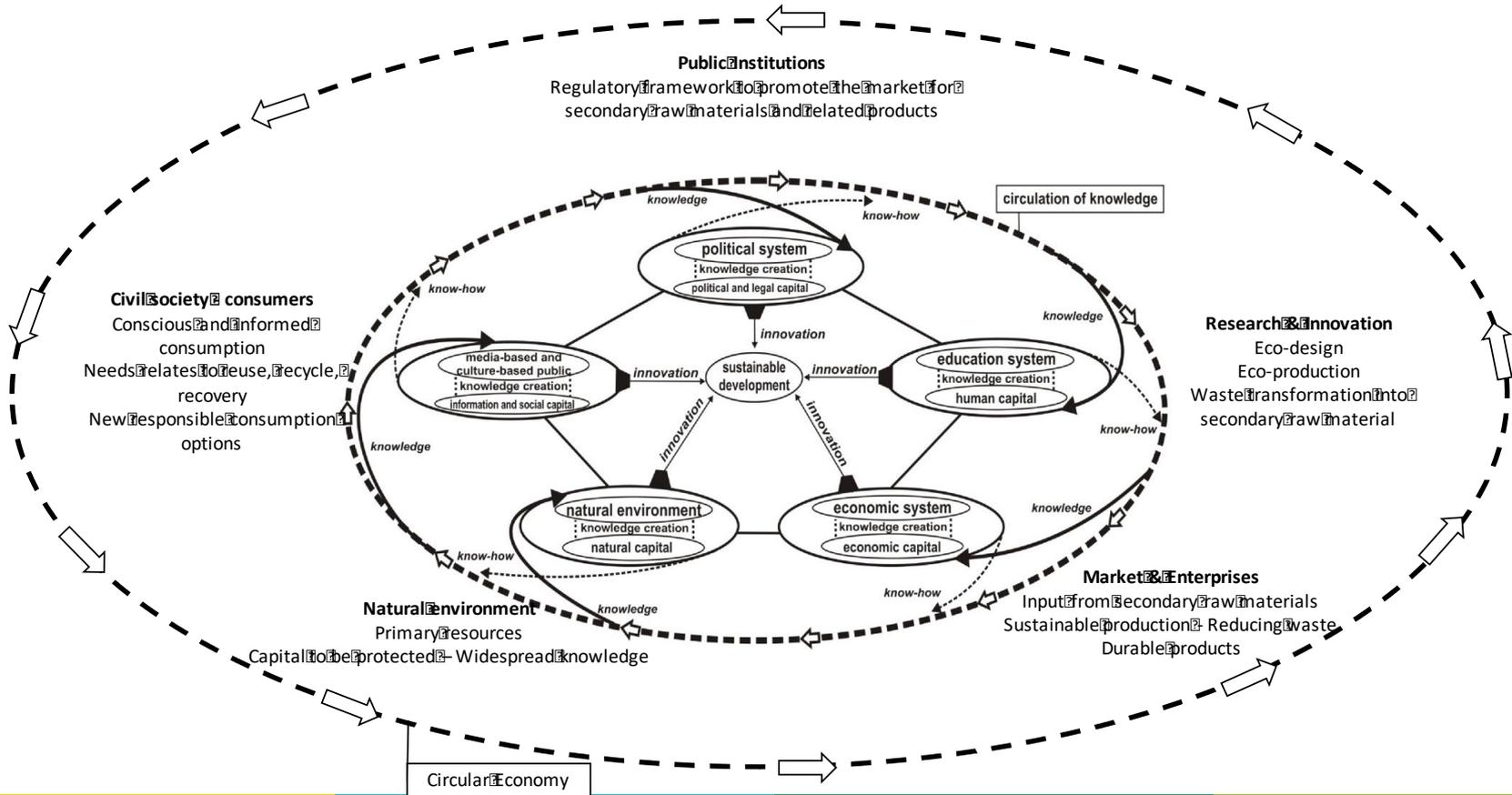
To date, the most important difficulty was the proper consortium definition and signing of the partnership agreement (7th October 2016).



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Cross-cutting dimension

The backbone of ECSIT is the **open innovation model** merged with the **quintuple helix** dimensions. Therefore, it is designed to operate according the following scheme:



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Potential for learning or transfer

Learning and transferring activities about principles of circularity are fundamental to realize transition to a non-linear economy given it requires a **strong initial thrust and a constant awareness of all levels of civil society**. Each person involved in the implementation of the quintuple helix model will have:

- to learn how to support the transition in relation to its area of responsibility within the economic and social system;
- to transfer the acquired knowledge on circularity to favour the change of the other key players.

The **Learning and Transferring Unit** will have the specific task of supporting the dissemination of the principles of circular economy to all the categories of local stakeholders, also supporting the creation of skills and expertise at every stage of circularity.

In addition, given that ECSIT aims at starting a changing process that can affect other municipalities of the Tuscany, but also other Italian regions, the Unit will also develop **capitalization processes to export the ECSIT approach** to other interested territories. To this purpose, ECSIT is already participating in international and cross-border networks on sustainable waste management systems and circularity.

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Dissemination of ECSIT approach

Recently ECSIT has submitted a project on **Horizon 2020** call for proposal on raw materials network, with an international consortium made of important research centre, public entities and private companies. The **project ICARO** will contribute to building of more effective system of mineral resource production and market supply by establishing an initial structured unit of practical- and theoretical- based self-sustainable long-term lasting international network of training centers for professionals.

Moreover, the Chamber of Commerce represents ECSIT members in a project submitted on **Interreg VA Italy-France Maritime 2014-2020** call for proposal. The **project IMPATTI-NO** aims at improving the cross-border ports' facilities of waste management through the development and the implementation of the circular economy approach. The ports and ships-generated wastes have to be treated and enhanced from an economic point of view to be reintroduced on the market as goods producing business.

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Conclusion

At our knowledge, **the Centre of Competence on Circular Economy is among the first experiences devoted to close the loop** between waste management and the launch on the market of products/services resulting from secondary raw materials.

Thanks to its operating units and the Scientific Committee, ECSIT will be able to define new business models, eco-design processes and production systems really able:

- To recovery secondary materials from waste;
- To transform these new resources into attractive products or services;
- To enter them on the market successfully through local start ups or existing companies, contributing to their long-lasting sustainability and the resilience of the territory.

Cross-cutting dimension is assured by the presence into the consortium of different expertise coming from the advanced hardware and software research, management and the enterprises world, public sector and local governance

One of the four operating units of the Centre is fully dedicated to **capacity building** between the same category of stakeholder and towards civil society (Unit led by the Chamber of Commerce of Maremma and Tirreno). **Capitalization and transferability** are the specific objectives of a “staff” function, directly supervised by the Operating Committee (led by REA Impianti Srl)

The Way Forward..... INTERREG EUROPE?

“Circular Straits”

Circular Economy to speed up the growth of border regions

**Priority:
WATER**

“as a resource, as a productive input and as a waste stream”

Circular economy approach to inspire technological, organisational and social innovation through the whole value chain of water

Blue Economy

Sectors	Methods	
Ports	Technological Innovation	Social Innovation
Marinas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> eco-design for re-use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> participatory processes
Seaside tourism		
Fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> disassembling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> responsible consumption
....		

Sectors	Methods	
Agriculture	Technological Innovation	Social Innovation
Sustainable tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> eco-design for re-use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> participatory processes
Food & Wine		
Arts & Crafts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> disassembling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> responsible consumption
....		

Green Economy

The Way Forward..... INTERREG EUROPE?

“Circular Straits”

Circular Economy to speed up the growth of border regions

Priority:
WATER

“as a resource, as a
productive input and
as a waste stream”

Circular economy
approach to inspire
technological,
organisational and social
innovation through the
whole value chain of
water

Smart growth

*Technological innovation
for SMEs*

Green growth

*Raw materials efficiency
Low-carbon economy*

Inclusive growth

Social innovation

The Way Forward..... INTERREG EUROPE?

“Circular Straits” ... in synergies with local best practices, such as:

Priority: WATER

“as a resource, as a productive input and as a waste stream”

Circular economy approach to inspire technological, organisational and social innovation through the whole value chain of water

Rev3 – Third Industrial Revolution in Hauts-de-France

Pas de Calais County Council

Climate-Kic Nordic

Helsinki Uusimaa Region

M.ITTICO

Province of Lecce

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Further information

At this time the information about ECSIT is promoted by the platform's members on their websites and social networks. Soon will be online a website dedicated to ECSIT.

Contact details

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Thank you!

