



Project co-financed by the European
Regional Development Fund

+ RESILIENT

Mediterranean Open RESouRcEs for Social Innovation of SocialLy Responslve ENTERprises

MED SVRC STATE OF PLAY

**Analysis of information on Social Vocation and
Responsiveness Clusters (SVRC)**

An abstract graphic at the bottom of the page consists of several overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes in shades of blue and grey, creating a layered, 3D effect.

2019

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Author(s):	Paula Pena, Teresa Gaspar, Laura García (ITAINNOVA)
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Short description	<p>This document provides the analysis of synergies and collection of programs, policy framework and initiatives, projects, practice that help identify and define the dynamics of SVRC.</p> <p>The main information collected by all the partners of the + RESILIENT project has been analyzed with the goal to identify SVRC at different stages of development in each region.</p> <p>A common template was provided to collect the information regarding the identified clusters. Among this information was the way the cluster policy is structured, implemented and monitored.</p>



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1. Introduction

1.1. Project Description

The project +RESILIENT puts together a 4-helix partnership of eight MED countries to tackle the need for innovation conducive to increased socially responsive competitiveness of SMEs and stimulate new jobs, especially for companies operating in the social economy. It aims to kick-start a process of policy change at regional level in the involved areas resulting in the integration of successful elements into the new Cohesion policy (EU2020+). The overall objective is to positively influence, adapt/change the different structural elements of policy governing "clusters with high social vocation and responsiveness" (SVRC) by leveraging on innovation dynamics led by technology, open data & successful models with social relevance & impact, creating socially-responsive value chains at a transnational level.

SVRC are usually codified only at local level, so the project addresses the transnational dimension as networking and capacity building approach to achieve a critical mass, increase horizontal opportunities for SMEs, mobility, employability and for scaling up into Cohesion Policy and Funds.

+RESILIENT is an integrated project that establishes a structural approach to policy & practice improvement of emerging dynamics in social innovation through an overarching process based on the intertwined use of open data & the creation of a transnational socially responsive value chain. This includes studying existing initiatives, adapting and testing, with the final objective of capitalizing them in the MED area.

To achieve the planned objectives, the partnership will produce the following results:

-  SVR Clusters implement sets of innovative transnational /common policies/operations,
-  SVRCs become integrated elements and measures of mainstream policy and funding,
-  SVRC generate jobs, skills and social cohesion,
-  SVRCs respond better to socially driven market requirements in different sub-sectors and in other MED areas.

1.2. Purpose of the document

During the previous months, different activities have been carried out in order to make a foresee analysis and assessment of social economy and social innovation trends and models to pinpoint strengths and weaknesses in the project's regions. The information gathered in these activities



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has been documented in a report for each one of the project's regions named *Collection of Information on Social Vocation and Responsiveness Clusters*.

The objective of this document is to carry out a synthesis of all reports, and from that information, to perform an analysis of it and extract the main conclusions obtained.

1.3. Document structure

This deliverable is structured as follows:

- Section 1 and Section 2 introduce the background and the main concepts that make it possible to understand the rest of the document.
- Section 3 exposes the methodology followed to perform the collection of information.
- Section 4 describes the sources of the data on which the analysis is based.
- Section 5 presents the obtained results.
- Section 6 provides the detailed analysis of the identified results of Section 5.
- Finally, Section 7 presents the main conclusions.

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2. Background

The MED area is dealing with disruptive and ever-changing dynamics in the market brought about by demographic change, technology and globalization. The persistent difficulties of the economy and high unemployment rates in the MED area call for innovative and socially-responsive approaches.

In this context, social innovation is a vibrant component of cohesion and growth, but it is often focused on single aspects, restricted to a specific area. The aim of the project is to create a set of structured and convergent actions to systematize the emerging dynamics in social innovation and reinforce the capability of loosely connected companies, private and public, profit and non-profit, working for a positive social impact.

The project is an integrated project that established an approach to positively influence, adapt/change the different structural elements of the policy that governs the "clusters with high social vocation and responsiveness" (SVRC) by leveraging on innovation dynamics led by technology, open data and successful models with social relevance and impact, creating socially-responsive value chains at the transnational level.



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This approach includes the study of existing initiatives and open data platforms, and the adaptation and testing of new co-created tools, with the ultimate goal of capitalizing them in the MED area.

In this context, one of the most common tasks in the research community is to analyze the state-of-the-art of a research topic. Therefore, the starting point to carry out the objectives of the project is the collection of information on the current status of the SVRC in different regions.

Figure 1 shows in blue the project's regions where we have collected information about SVRC.

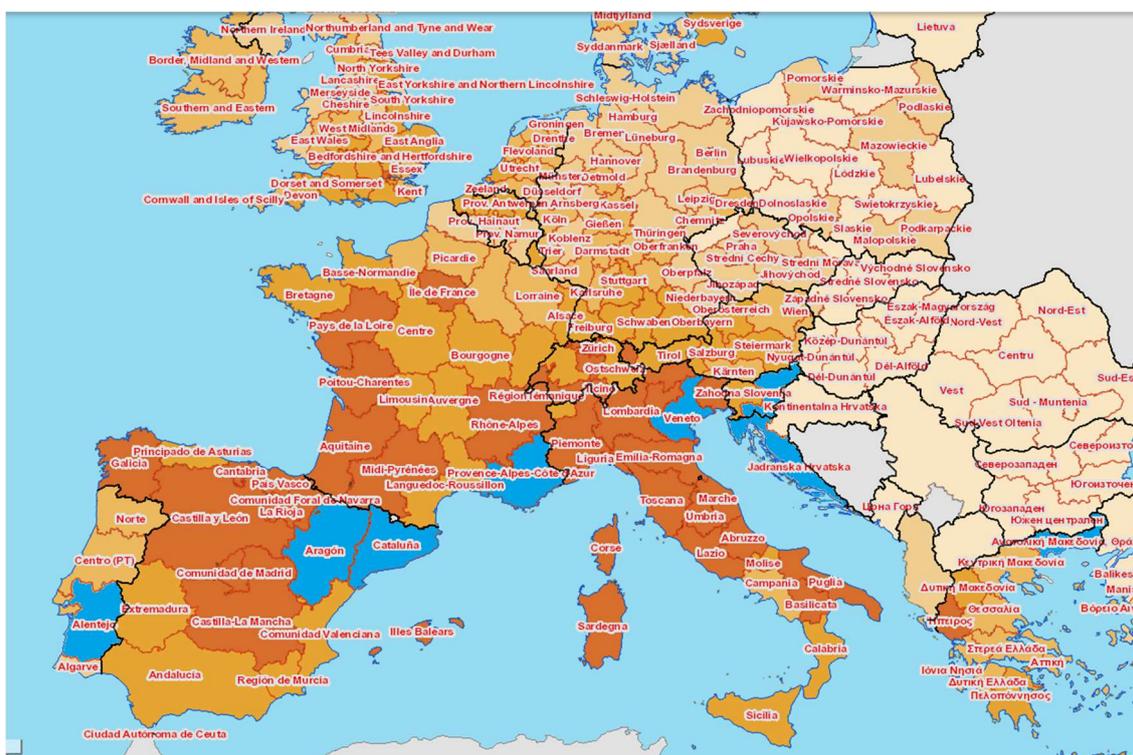
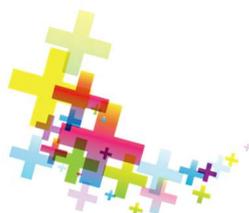


Figure 1. Project's regions where information has been collected

Since information from Albania was not available until beginning of April, when this document was already ongoing, this information has not been used in the analysis. The received information has been included in the attachment though.

Each one of the participating regions of the project has its own characteristics and singularities regarding the field of social economy. The differences between them were expected due mainly to the fact that they are different countries, but at the same time, we are also dealing with regions whose characteristics do not have to be considered common to the rest of the country.



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REGIONE DEL VENETO

ISTATSKA AGENCIJA REPUBLIKE HRVATSKE

Aix-Marseille UNIVERSITE

Region of East Neuchâtel & Thoiry

FCDDI

CAMERA DI COMMERCIO TREVISO - BELLUNO / DOLOMITI bellezza e impresa

ITA INNOVA

GFOSS

Ajuntament de Barcelona

GenTIC

UoR&D

PRIZMA

ati

U.C.C.I.A.L.

Even in the same country, the economic situation of each region is completely independent, with notable differences being found even in bordering regions.

However, although regions of the MED are at different stages of infrastructural social and economic development, these dynamics are visibly and quickly affecting the whole MED ecosystem.

Therefore, the fact that we can have such diverse information will allow us to gather first-hand knowledge of the main successes in the social economy, and we will be able to infer a set of good practices that could be considered the basis of the proposals to MED level area.

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3. Methodology

This section exposes the methodology followed for conducting the assessment of social economy situation currently.

In order to know the context of the each region, the information to be collected was separated into two parts: an introductory part, with the objective of extracting statistical data from official sources; and a compilation part with all the information about the SRVCs

The Systematic Literature Review method defined by (Kitchenham2009) has been our inspiration in order to define the process to follow. This process is composed by three stages: planning, conducting and reporting.

- **Planning:** in this stage, the data collection strategy is defined to include aspects such as: a) the data to collect; b) the techniques used to collect the information (Focus Groups and Questionnaires); and finally, c) the dynamics used to collect the information in the Focus Groups sessions.
- **Conducting:** each project partner was responsible for carrying out the collection of information in its region and writing the associated report. Some partners established different Focus Groups sessions. In other cases, considering the lack of availability in some people's agenda, questionnaires were sent via email, and even some face-to-face semi-structured interviews in the headquarters of the organizations.
- **Reporting:** finally, with all primary studies included, a synthesis is obtained, and an analysis and conclusions is carried out. The result of this phase is this document.



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4. Sources

The information contained in the document comes from the following sources:

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Most of the information analyzed and exposed in this document comes from the information collected by the project partners. Trying to gather a homogeneous and coherent set of data, a template was defined and later used by every partner to collect the required information.

-  In most cases, when there are two or more partners in one region, only one of those partners has collected the information. The only case where this rule is not followed is Spain, where both partners have fulfilled the data.
-  Athens region is not included since they were not intended to collect this information
-  The information from Albania has not been used in the analysis due to the delay of its contribution –the document was already quite advanced-. The received information has been included in the attachment though.

Eurostat (<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>)

-  Due to the differences in collected data (level of depth and scope), quite some data has been collected from public sources, such as **Eurostat**

It's important to highlight the fact that not all identified clusters have been included in the analysis. In a region (Catalonia –Spain-) the number of identified clusters outnumbered highly the rest of regions' data, so it was decided that only the most relevant and characteristic ones in this region were going to be taken into account. In another case (PACA –France-) only information concerning the most characteristic cluster was sent for analysis, even though the involved partner declared to have made a selection before collecting the information.

5. Results

5.1. Part One: Context

To establish the situation and context in each region regarding social situation, some parameters were collected:



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- Size of the country
- Number of regions
- Growth rate in the last ten years
- Main economic sectors
- Level of unemployment
- Social situation (marginalisation, migration, etc.)
- Data on social economy: numbers of organizations, numbers of workers and of volunteers, etc.
- Enterprise with social responsiveness (ESR)
- Public policies

5.1.1. Size of the country

In order to understand the situation in each region, the project partners have collected information about some parameters. In the Figure 2, a comparison table within the EU-28 countries is established.



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Spain and the EU-28			
	Area 2015 (km ²)	Population* 1.1.2016 (thousands)	Density 2014 (inhabitants per km ²)
EU 28		510,284.4	116.7 (e)
Austria	83,879	8,690.1	103.6
Belgium	30,528	11,311.1	370.3
Bulgaria	110,370	7,153.8	66.3
Croatia		4,190.7	74.9
Cyprus	9,251	848.3	92.5
Czech Republic	78,868	10,553.8	136.3
Denmark	42,924	5,707.3	131.5
Estonia	45,227	1,315.9	30.3
Finland	338,440	5,487.3	18.0
France	633,187	66,760.0	104.5
Germany	357,376	82,175.7	226.6
Greece	132,049	10,783.7	82.5
Hungary	93,011	9,830.5	106.1
Ireland	69,797	4,724.7	67.5
Italy	302,073	60,665.6	201.2
Latvia	64,573	1,969.0	32.0
Lithuania	65,286	2,888.6	46.8
Luxembourg	2,586	576.2	215.1
Malta	315	434.4	1,352.4
Netherlands	41,542	16,979.1	500.7
Poland	312,679	37,967.2	124.1
Portugal	92,226	10,341.3	112.8
Romania	238,391	19,760.3	86.5
Slovakia	49,035	5,426.3	110.5
Slovenia	20,273	2,064.2	102.4
Spain	505,944	46,445.8	92.5
Sweden	438,574	9,851.0	23.8
United Kingdom	248,536	65,382.6	266.4

* Data not available
(e) Estimation

Source: Eurostat

Figure 2. EU-28 countries comparison table

Note that the table does not include Croatia data. These data in 2016 were:

Country	Area	Population	Density
Croatia	56594 km ²	4.2 million inhabitants	73.8 inhabitants per km ²



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As it may be seen, the study is being carried out on countries that have very different values both in terms of size, population and density. Eurostat¹ offers us all the updated information on the situation of the EU-28 countries.

The following figures (Figure 3, Figure 4) show us the relative population level of all EU-28 countries

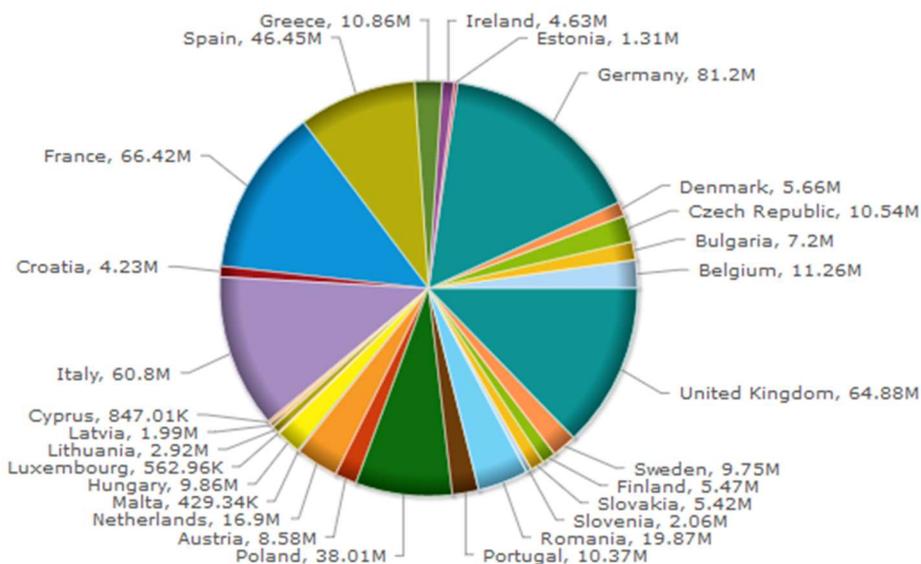


Figure 3. EU-28 population by country

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>



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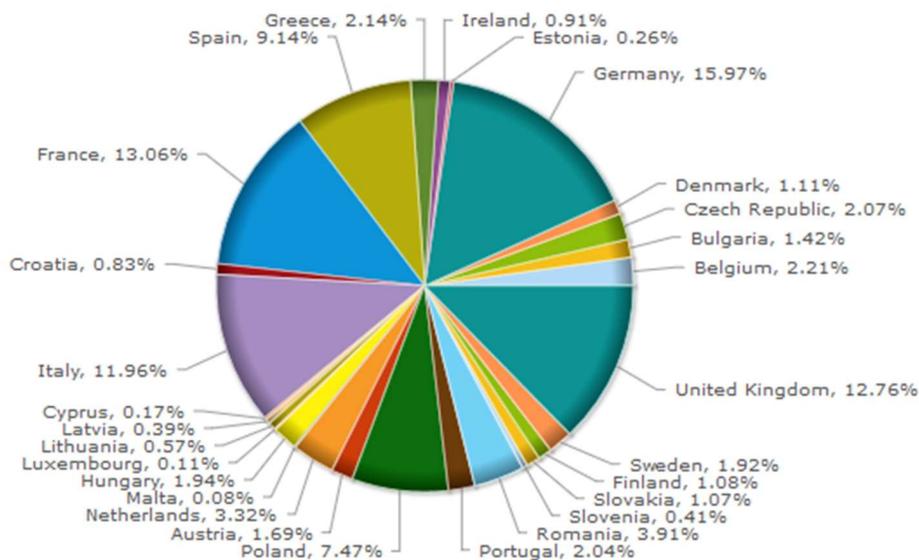


Figure 4. EU-28 Population by country (percentage)

It should be noted that the values of the regions on which we are focusing attention are very different.

Country	Population (percentage)
Portugal	2,04%
France	13,06%
Spain	9,14%
Italy	11,96%
Slovenia	0,41%
Croatia	0,83%
Greece	2,14%

5.1.2. Number of regions

Each country is composed in regions, with different denomination depending on the country. In the following table, we can see their denomination and characteristics according to the countries.



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Country	NUTS 2	Number
Spain	Autonomous communities and 2 autonomous cities	19
Portugal	Coordination and development regions + autonomous regions	7
Italy	Regions	21
France	Regions + DOM	27
Greece	Regions	13
Croatia	Regions	2
Slovenia	Macroregions	2

From now on, the information presented in this document will work at NUTS 2 level. The *Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics* (NUTS; French: Nomenclature des Unités Territoriales Statistiques) is a geocode standard for referencing the subdivisions of countries for statistical purposes. The standard is developed and regulated by the European Union, and thus only covers the EU member states in detail.

In the Figure 5 it may be seen the map of regions at level NUTS 2.



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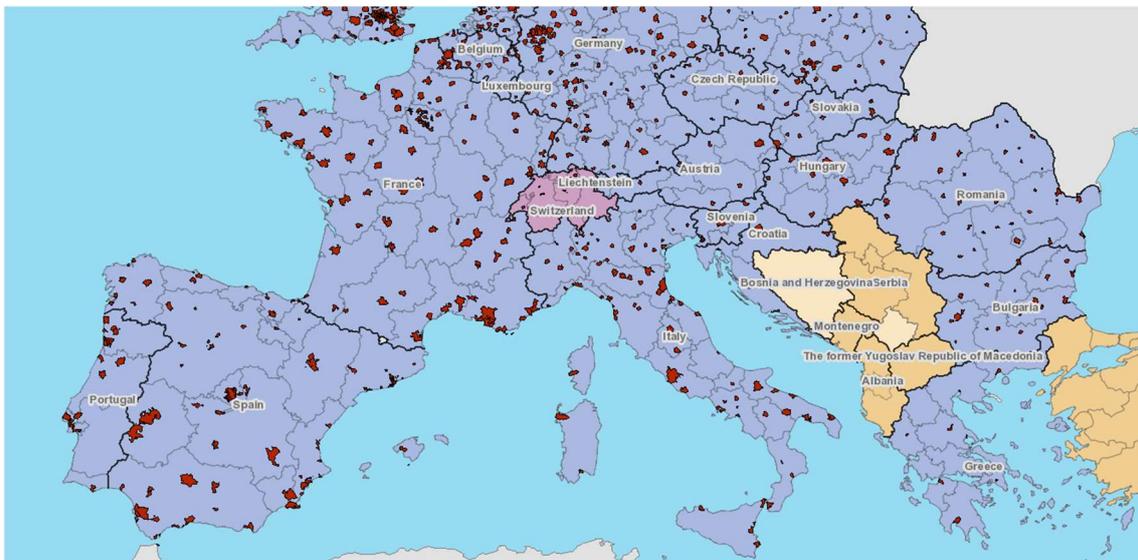


Figure 5. NUTS 2 regions in the European Union (EU-28)

In the following table, it may be observed the relationship between the project's regions and its identifier at NUTS2 level.

Country	NUTS1	NUTS2
Spain	ES2 - NORESTE	ES24 - Aragon
Spain	ES5 - ESTE	ES51 - Catalunya
Portugal	PT1 - CONTINENTE	PT18 - Alentejo
Italy	ITH - NORD-EST	ITH3 - Veneto
France	FRL - PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR	FRL0 - Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur
Greece	EL5 - VOREIA ELLADA	EL51 - Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki
Croatia	HR0 - HRVATSKA	HR04 - Jadranska Hrvatska



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Country	NUTS1	NUTS2
Slovenia	SI0 - SLOVENIJA	SI03 - Vzhodna Slovenija

5.1.3. GDP (*Gross Domestic Product*)

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is a measure for the economic activity. It is defined as the value of all goods and services produced less the value of any goods or services used in their creation. The volume index of GDP per capita in Purchasing Power Standards (PPS) is expressed in relation to the European Union (EU28) average set to equal 100. If the index of a country is higher than 100, this country's level of GDP per head is higher than the EU average and vice versa. Basic figures are expressed in PPS, i.e. a common currency that eliminates the differences in price levels between countries allowing meaningful volume comparisons of GDP between countries. Please note that the index, calculated from PPS figures and expressed with respect to EU28 = 100, is intended for cross-country comparisons rather than for temporal comparisons.

Below, in the Figure 6, it may be seen the GDP per country within the EU-28 and, later, a graph has been included for each country in the project, so that the project's regions' GDP may be also extracted.



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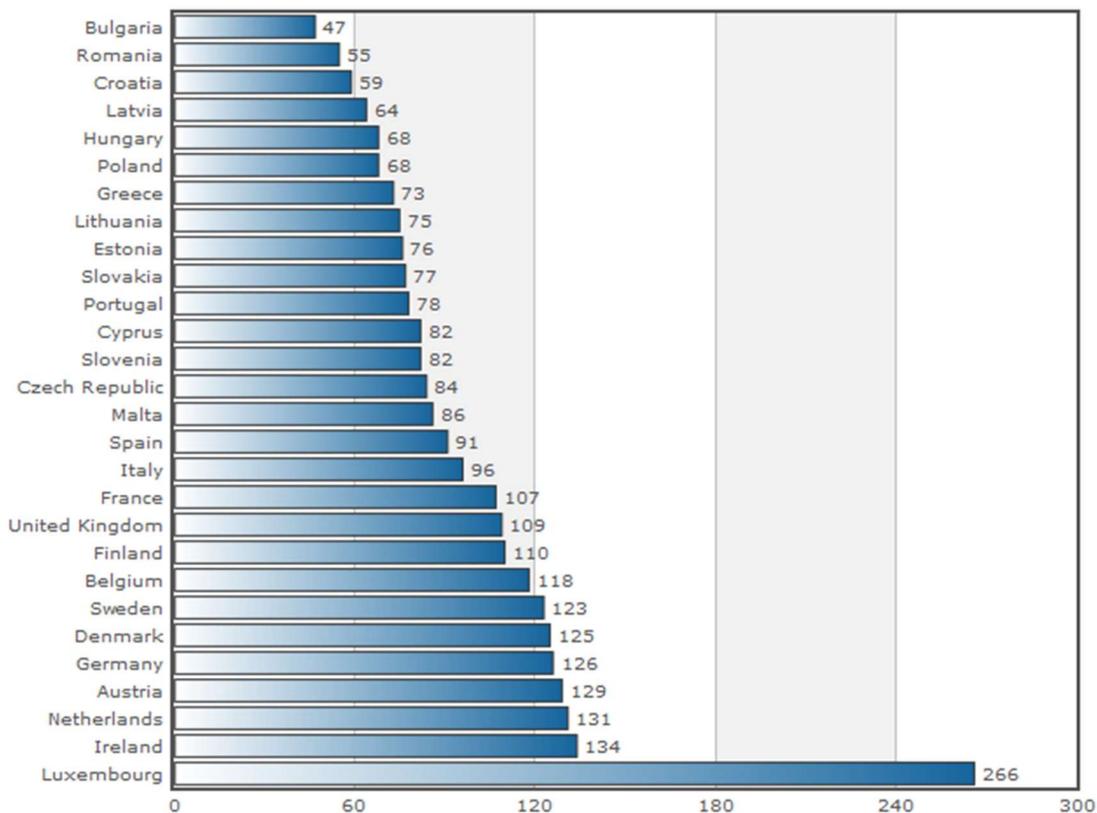


Figure 6. GDP per capita in PPS (2017)

In the image above, we can see how countries like France with a GDP per capita above the EU-28 average. Italy and Spain have a level of GDP per capita of less than 10% below the EU-28 average. Slovenia has a GDP per capita between 10% and 20 % below the EU-28 average. The GDP per capita of Portugal is less than 30% below that average. Greece and Croatia have a GDP per capita of less than 40% below the average.

In the next figures, the GDP of every region for the project’s participating countries may be seen, allowing to check the GDP in the project’s regions.



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Portugal

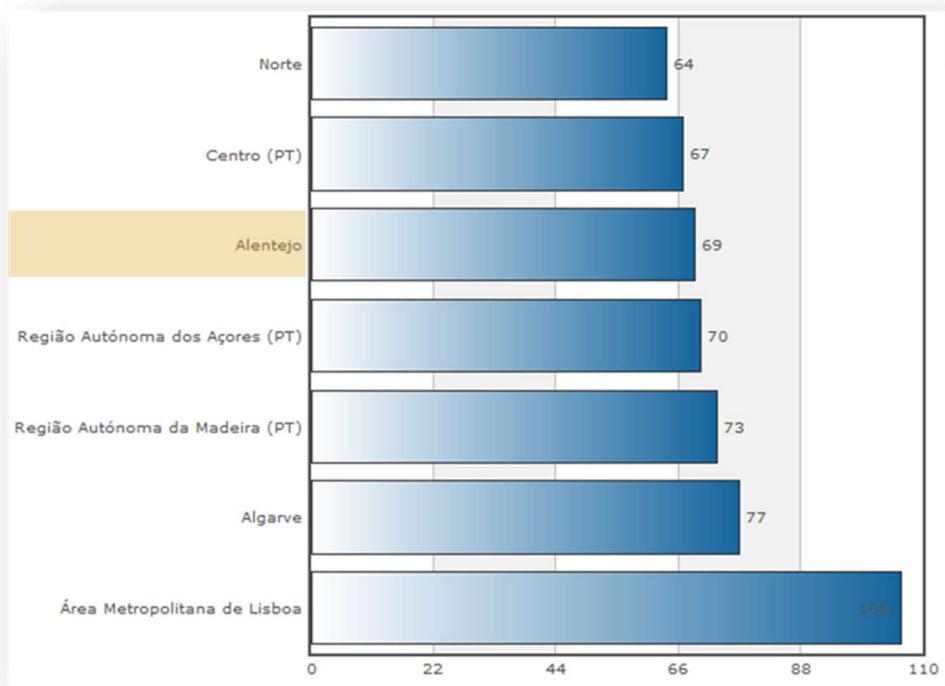


Figure 7. Portugal Regional Gross Domestic (2017)

The GDP per capita (at PPP) of the Alentejo region, which has been increasing in the past few years, corresponded to a 69% average of the EU28. In terms of NUTS 2, only Lisbon (106%) exceeded the European average, while the Algarve remained equal (77%). In the North and Centre Regions the GDP per capita (at PPP) was of 64% and 67%, respectively.



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Spain

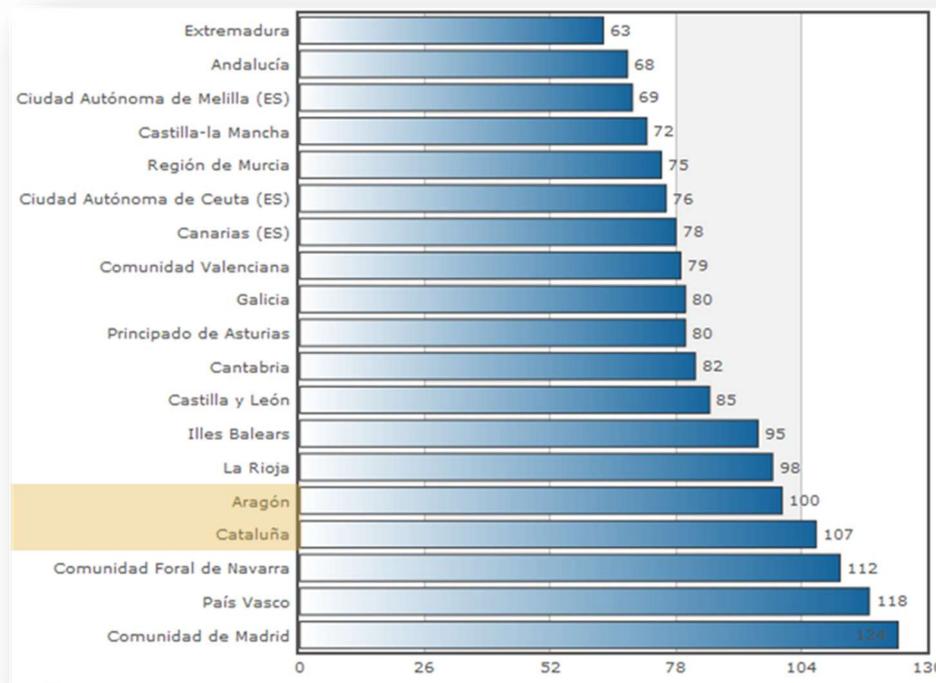


Figure 8. Spain Regional Gross Domestic (2017)

The Spanish regions recovered or, at least, did not lose convergence with respect to the European Union. Only La Rioja showed a decline of two points. Like in past years, four autonomies remained above the community average: Madrid (124 percent); País Vasco (118 percent); Navarra (112 percent); and Catalonia (107 percent). Aragon (100 percent), La Rioja (98 percent) and Balears (95 percent) were positioned below the community average but above the national level (92 percent). The rest not only had a lower per capita income than the European but also at a lower level than the national average. This group was composed of Castilla y León (85 percent), Galicia (80 percent), Cantabria (82 percent), Comunidad Valenciana (79 percent), Asturias (80 percent), Murcia (75 percent), Canarias (78 percent), Castilla-La Mancha (72 percent), Andalucía (68 percent) and Extremadura (63 percent).

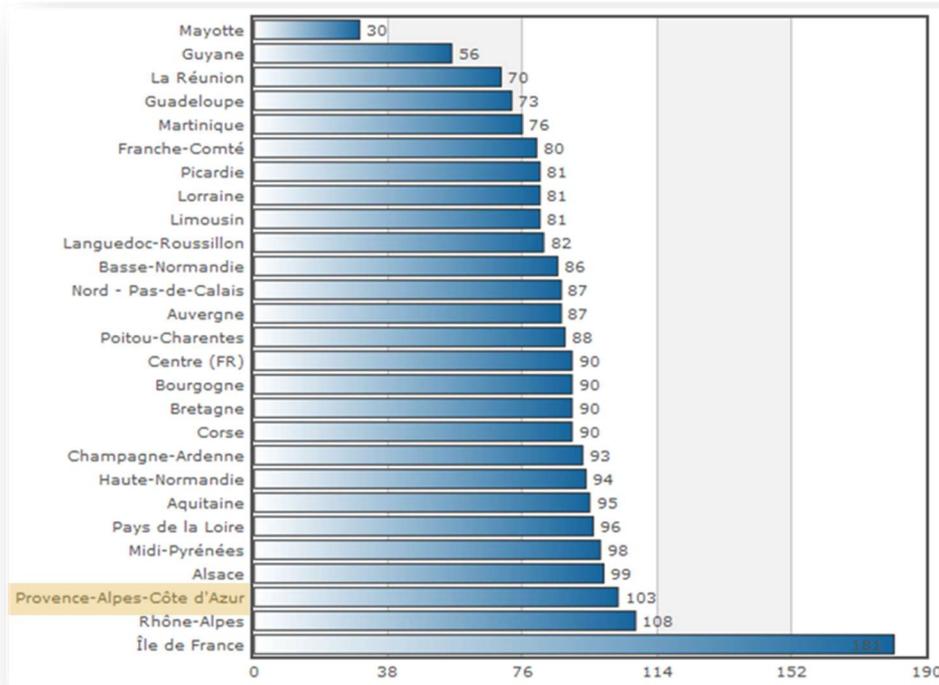


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France



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Figure 9. France Regional Gross Domestic (2017)

This graphic shows the gross domestic product (GDP) per capita in France, by region. The GDP per capita in France is the highest in the Ile-de-France region with 181%. In addition, Rhône-Alpes (108%) and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (103%) exceeded the European average. The Mayotte region had the lowest GDP per capita with slightly 30%.

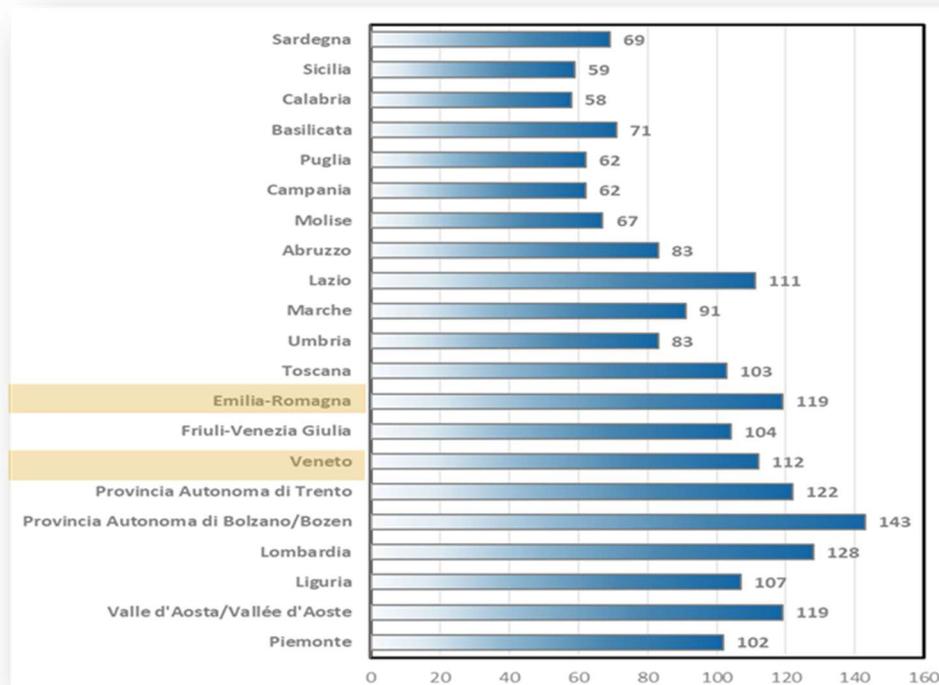


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Italy



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Figure 10. Italy Regional Gross Domestic (2017)

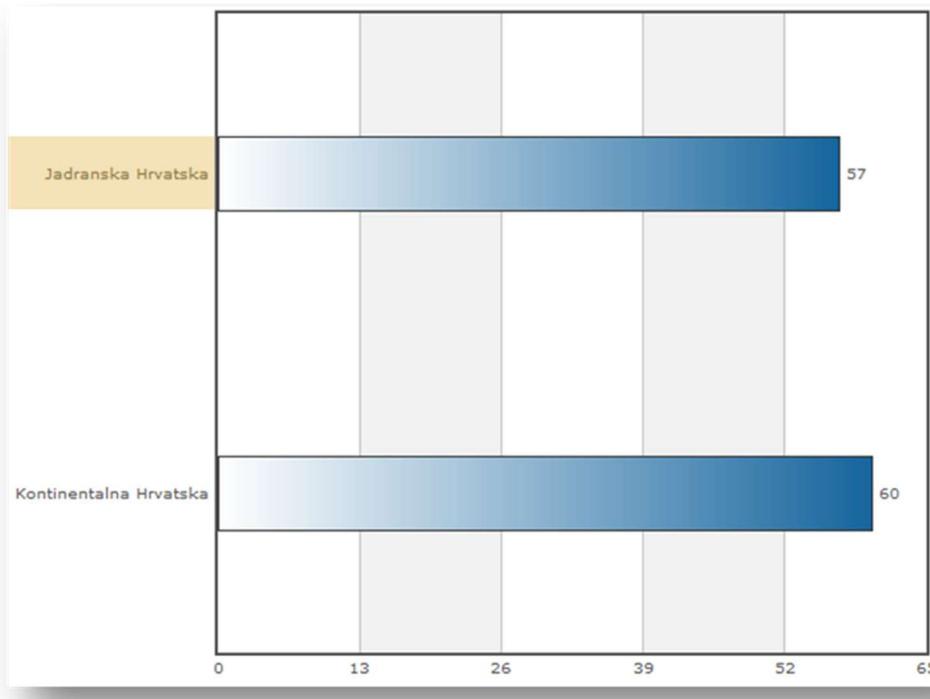
An analysis for Italy depicts the considerable differences in gross domestic product (GDP) per capita levels between northern and southern regions, with the highest GDP per capita in Provincia Autonoma di Bolzano/Bozen (143%) more than twice as high as that recorded in Calabria (58%). In addition, Emilia-Romagna (119%) and Veneto (112%) exceeded the European average.



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Croatia



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Figure 11. Croatia Regional Gross Domestic (2017)

Croatia's GDP per capita data is updated yearly. Among the regions of Croatia, GDP per capita ranged from less than 57% in Jadranska Hrvatska to 60% in Kontinentalna Hrvatska.



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Greece

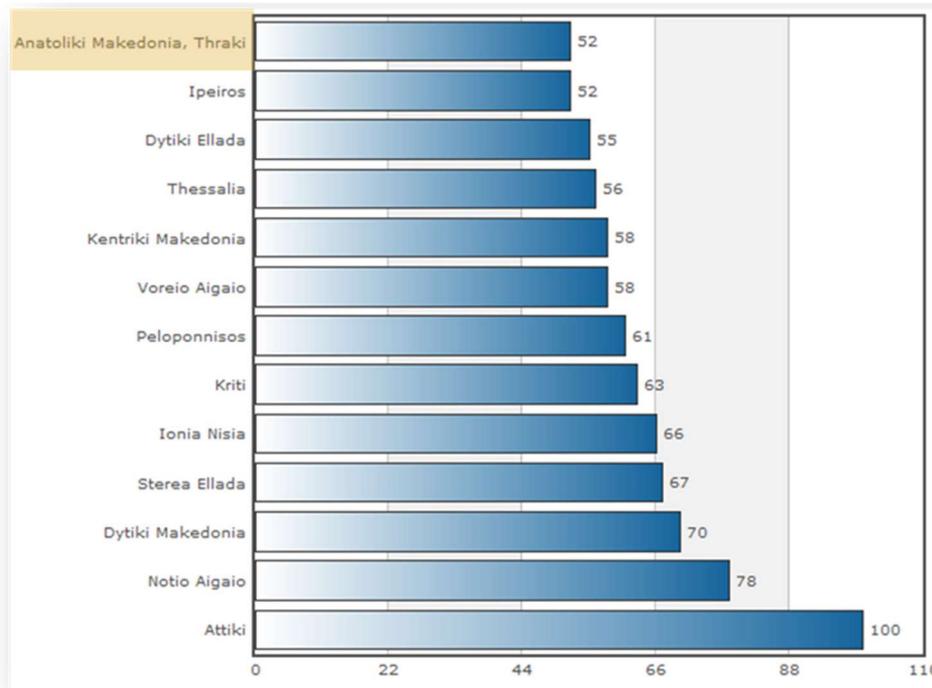


Figure 12. Greece Regional Gross Domestic (2017)

The gap in GDP per capita between the richest and poorest Greek regions has increased over the last sixteen years. In 2016, the level of GDP per capita in the capital region (Attica) was twice as high as in East Macedonia, the region with the lowest GDP per capita in the country (52%).



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Slovenia

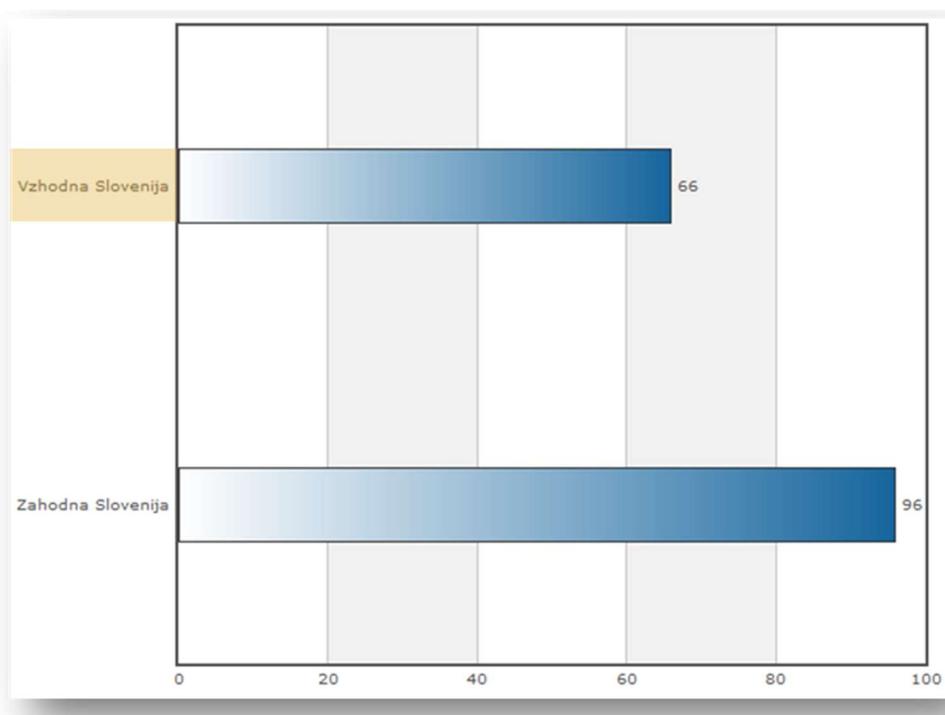


Figure 13. Slovenia Regional Gross Domestic (2017)

As data of interest, in 2016 the nominal economic growth in Slovenia was 4.1% higher than in 2015. The GDP per capita in Vzhodna Slovenija region corresponds to 66%. Among the remaining regions that score 96% of the Slovenian average is the Zahodna Slovenija region.

5.1.4. Growth rate in the last ten years

The calculation of the annual growth rate of GDP volume is intended to allow comparisons of the dynamics of economic development both over time and between economies of different sizes. To measure the growth rate of GDP in terms of volumes, the GDP at current prices are valued in the prices of the previous year and the thus computed volume changes are imposed on the level of a reference year; this is called a chain-linked series. Accordingly, price movements will not inflate the growth rate.



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In the next figure, the growth rate of GDP is shown for all EU-28 countries.

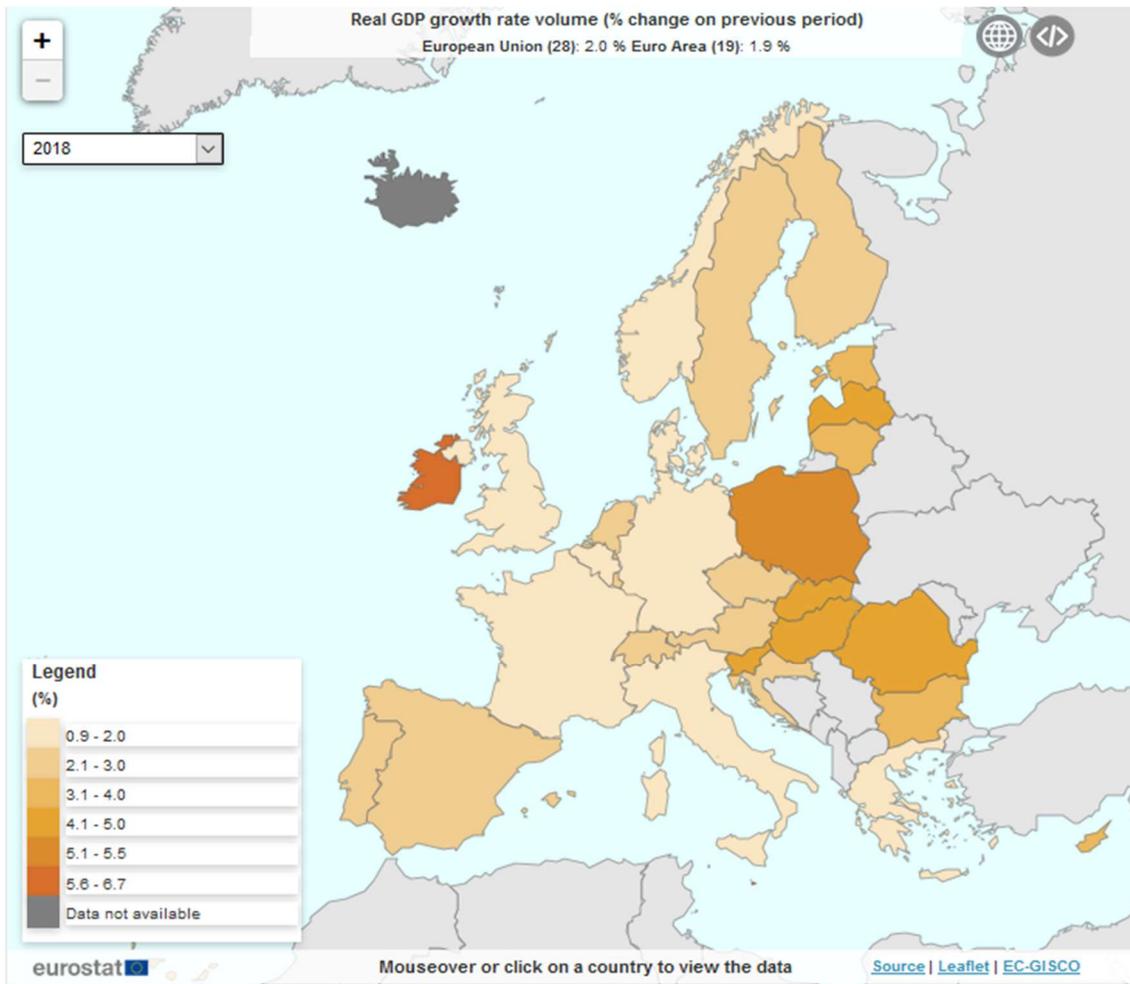


Figure 14 . Real GDP growth rate volume in EU 28 in 2018

Below, in the following figures, we present the information about the growth rate of GDP, first in global and then by country, in the last ten years.



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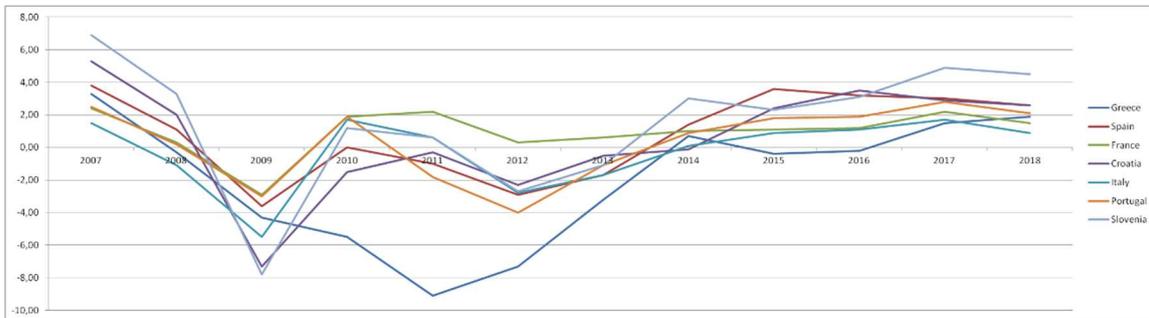


Figure 15 . Growth rate of GDP in the project's countries (2007-2018)

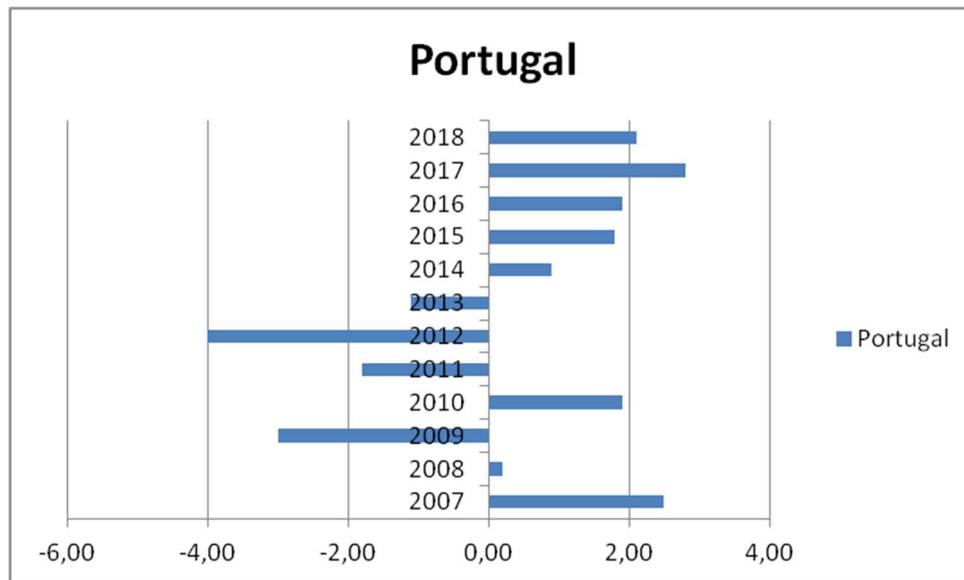


Figure 16. Growth rate of GDP in Portugal (2007-2018)



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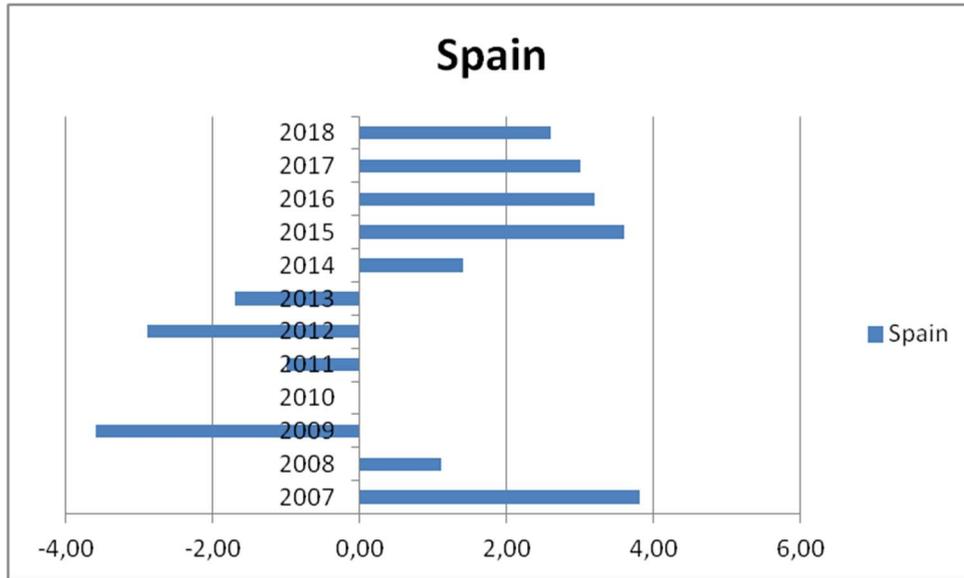
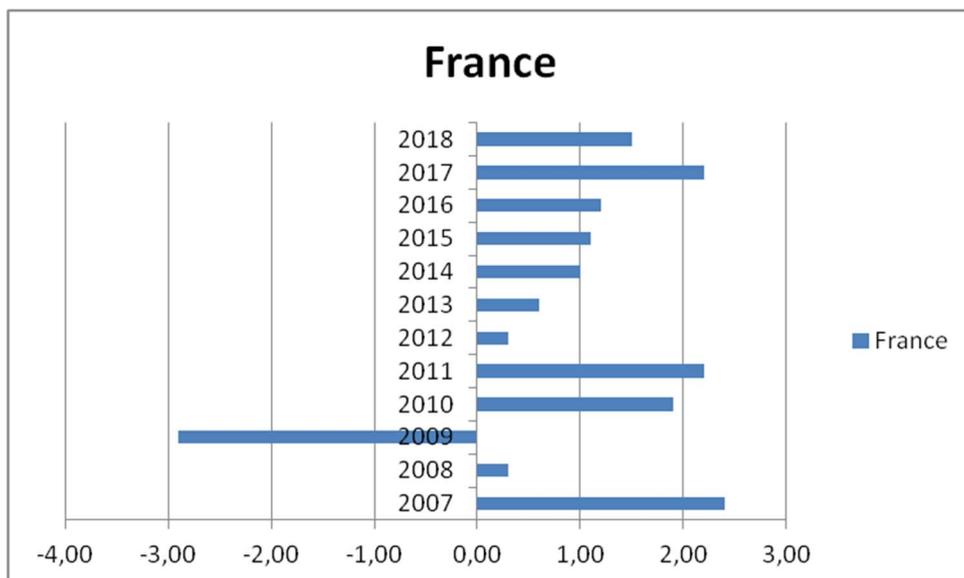


Figure 17. Growth rate of GDP in Spain (2007-2018)



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Figure 18 . Growth rate of GDP in France (2007-2018)

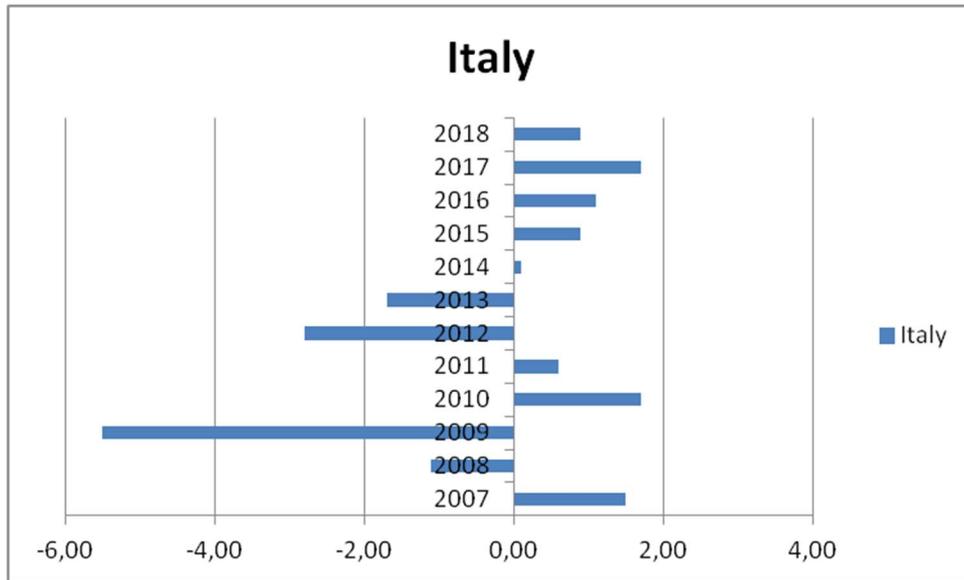
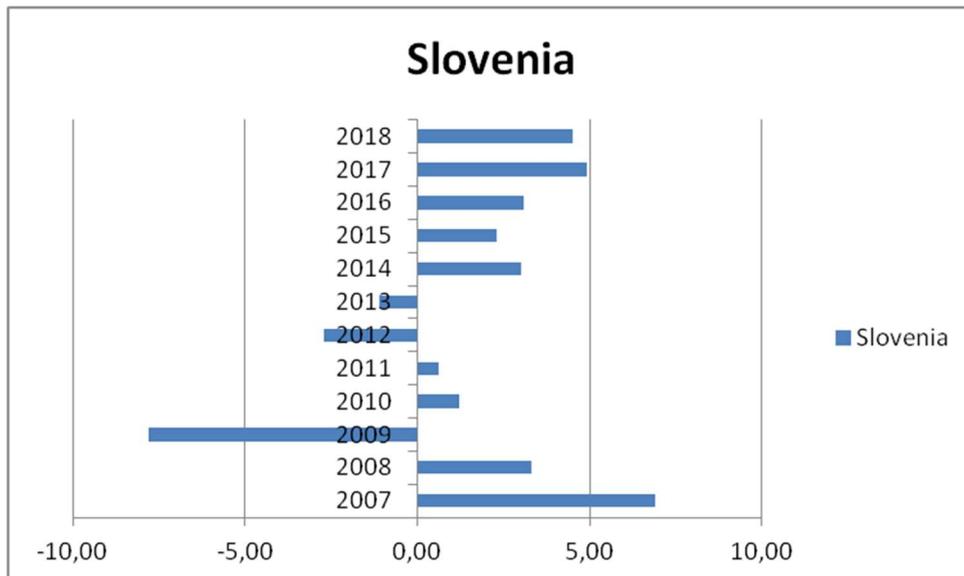


Figure 19. Growth rate of GDP in Italy (2007-2018)



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Figure 20. Growth rate of GDP in Slovenia (2007-2018)

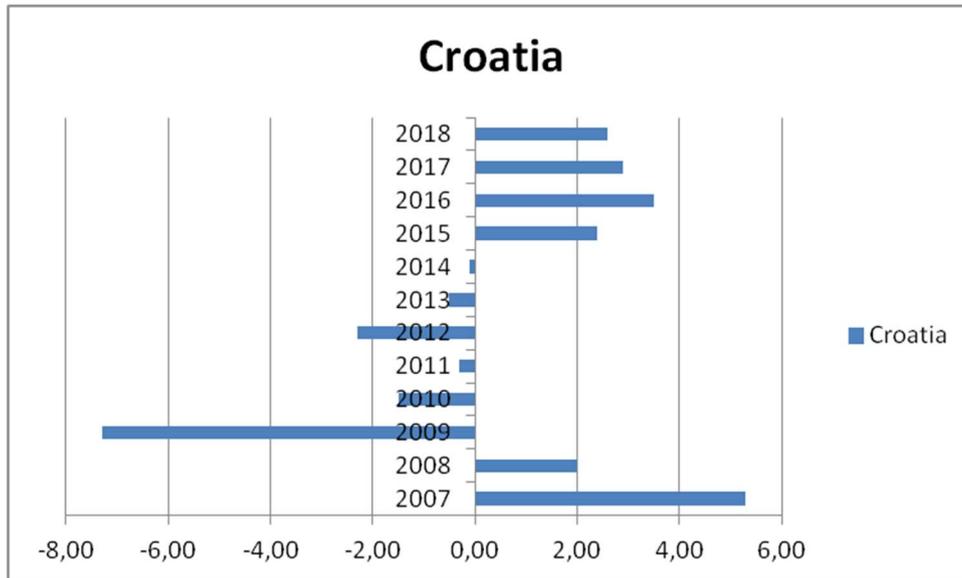


Figure 21. Growth rate of GDP in Croatia (2007-2018)

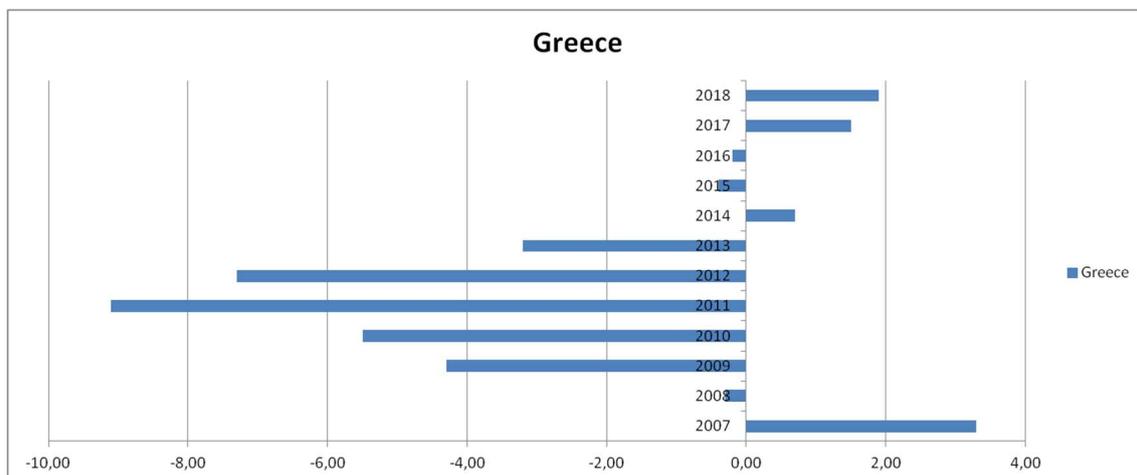


Figure 22. Growth rate of GDP in Greece (2007-2018)



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In these figures it can be seen that the growth rate of GDP was clearly influenced by the great economic crisis that began in 2008, and that the recovery in some of the countries has not occurred until the end of 2015 and the beginning of 2016.

The following figure shows the growth rate of GDP in the last two years (2017-2018) in all the countries of the project, and it shows that the crisis has been overcome in all countries, although the rate of growth in almost all they were greater in 2017 than in 2018.

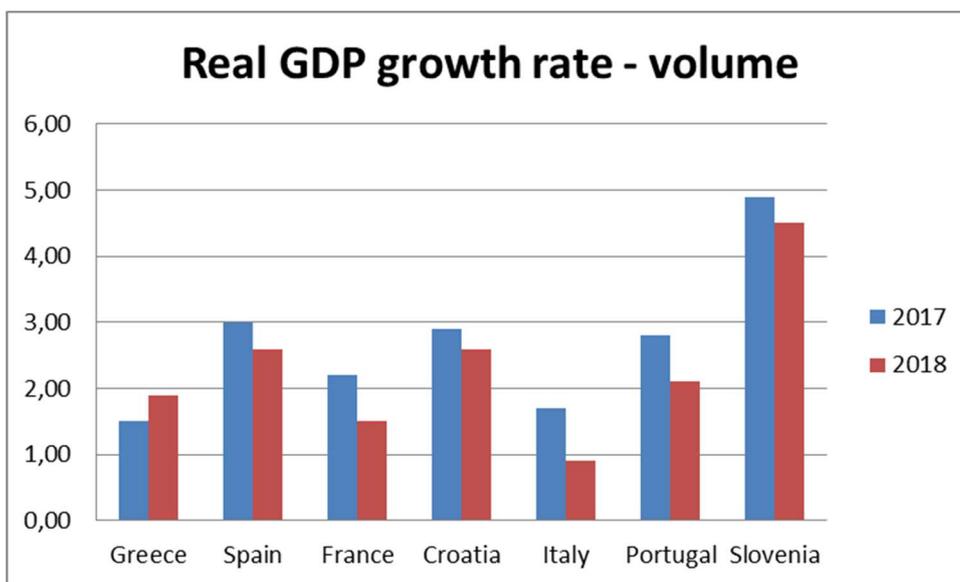


Figure 23 . Real GDP growth rate in 2017-2018

5.1.5. Main economic sectors

In 2016, almost half of employment in the European Union (EU) was concentrated in two economic activities: "Wholesale and retail trade, transport, accommodation and food services" (24.7%) and "Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities" (23.7%). Both activities have seen their respective share in total employment increase slightly over the last 20 years. In contrast, the share of industry in EU employment fell from 20.7% in 1996 to 15.3% in 2016, while the share of "Professional, scientific and technical activities" in employment rose from 7.6% to 12.7%.



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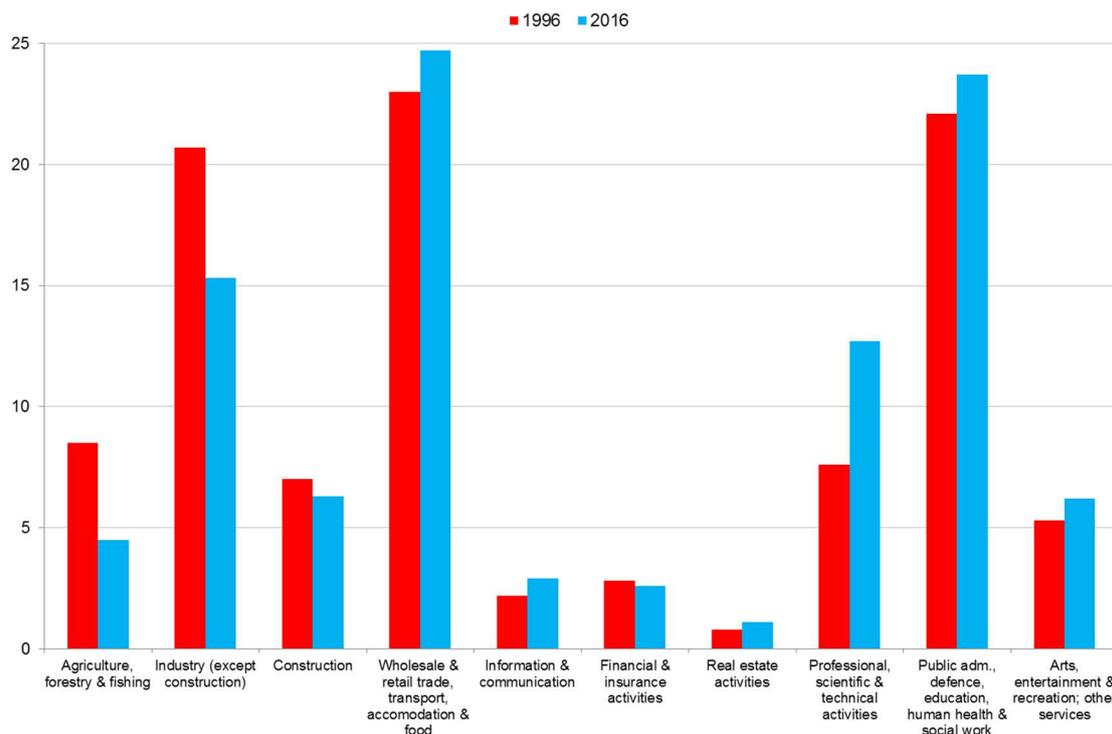


Figure 24. Main economic activities in EU total employment

In most Member States, "Wholesale and retail trade, transport, accommodation and food services" was the economic activity providing the most employment in 2016. The highest percentages were observed in Greece (33.3% of total employment), Cyprus (31.9%), Spain (30.3%) and Ireland (28.5%). In seven Member States, "Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities" came top, notably in Sweden (34.1%), Denmark (30.8%), Belgium (30.6%) and France (30.1%). Industry was the main employer in the Czech Republic (29.0%), Poland (23.7%) and Slovenia (22.7%), while agricultural activity was still the largest employer in Romania (24.0%).

Significant changes in employment over the last 20 years took place mainly in industry, public administration and agriculture. Compared with 1996, the share of industry in total employment had decreased in all EU Member States by 2016. A similar trend can be observed for "Agriculture, forestry and fishing". In contrast, the share of "Public administration, defence, education, and human health and social work activities" has increased in most Member States over the last 20 years.

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At the regional level, regarding the project's regions, the following table shows a summary of the received information about the sectors of the economy:

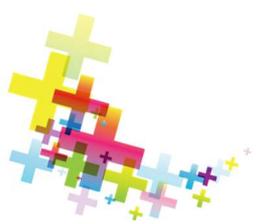
Región	Sectors	More Information
Alentejo (PT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service sector: 62.6% active population Agriculture, forestry and fishing: 9.9% active population Industry, construction, energy and water 27.5% active population 	6.6% to the country GVA (6.2% total employment)
Aragon (SP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture: 2.59% Industry 21.61% Services: 66.44% 	Industry : Manufacture of food products; electrical power generation, chemical products, motor vehicles
Catalonia (SP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industrial activity: 18.8% of the employment: Food, chemicals, motor vehicles, energy and pharma; ICT sector Service sector: 73.1% of the population. 	Relevant for female employment: 85,7% of employed women are working in the service sector
PACA (FR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telecommunications, microelectronics, digital technology, digital sciences, living, energy, aeronautics and space, sea technologies, multimedia Agribusiness, perfumery, chemistry and logistics 	
Veneto (IT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contraction of the four large traditional sectors (agriculture, industry, construction and trade) and growing opportunities from services 	



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Region	Sectors	More Information
Eastern Macedonia (GR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Sector: street vendors, hotel and lodging industry, public admin and telecommunications Industry Sector: mining, petroleum, food and tobacco processing, metal products, textiles and chemicals Agriculture sector: wheat, barley, sugar beets, corn, wine, tobacco, olives, tomatoes, potatoes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Sector: 75.8% GDP - workforce 65,1% Industry Sector: 20.8% GDP - workforce 22.4% Agriculture sector: 3.4% GDP - workforce 12.4%
Croatia – Istria (HR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural resources: oil and gas; and primarily renewable sources of wind, hydropower and solar energy; Salt from the sea Technology and industry (shipbuilding, construction, petrochemical, food industry) Energy hub: to open a floating liquefied natural gas Agriculture: vineyards, fruits and vegetables; cereal and sugar Industry: production of food, beverages and tobacco, chemical and petroleum industry, shipbuilding and electrical equipment, paper, wood products, construction materials 	Tourism 19.6% of Croatia's GDP
Slovenia (SL)	No information received	



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5.1.6. Level of unemployment

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates in February 2019 were recorded in Czechia (1.9 %), Germany (3.1 %) and the Netherlands (3.4 %). The highest unemployment rates were observed in Greece (18.0 % in December 2018), Spain (13.9 %) and Italy (10.7 %), all of them project members.

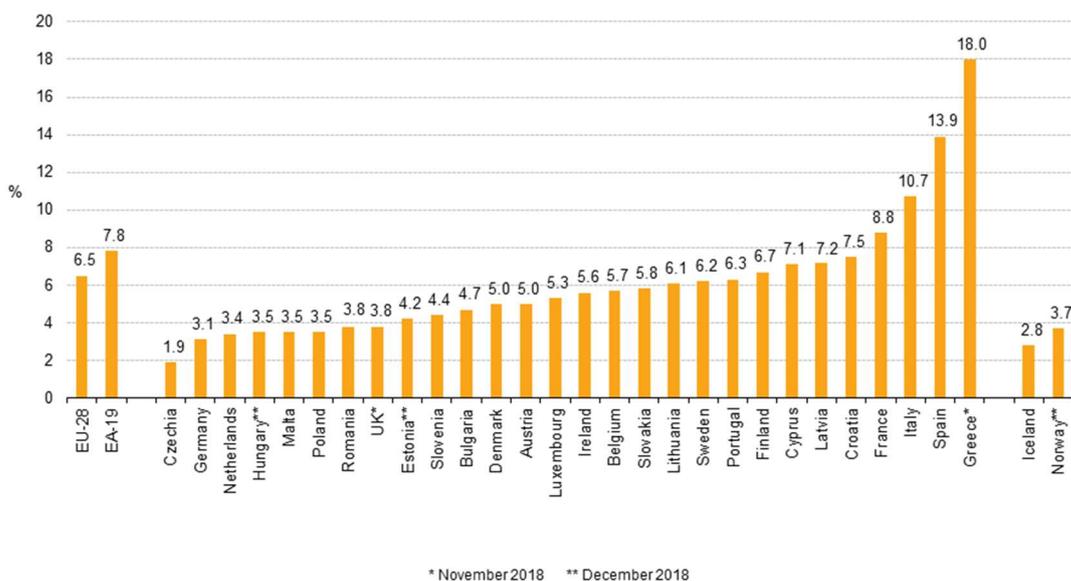


Figure 25. Unemployment rates

Compared to a year ago, the unemployment rate fell in all Member States except Denmark and Austria where it remained stable. The largest decreases were registered in Greece (from 20.8 % to 18.0 % between December 2017 and December 2018), Cyprus (from 9.4 % to 7.1 %), Spain (from 16.2 % to 13.9 %) and Estonia (from 6.4 % to 4.2 % between January 2018 and January 2019).

At the regional level, regarding the project’s regions, the following table shows a summary of the received information about unemployment:



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Region	Unemployment data	More Information
Alentejo (PT)	<p>Unemployment rate was 6,7% in June 2018 Female 7,1% Male 6.4%</p> <p>Unemployment population 351.8 thousand people 169.6 thousand males 182.2 thousand females</p> <p>Activity rate (15 years and over): 59% 64.3% Men and 54.5% Women</p> <p>Activity rate in Alentejo 55.6% 61.7% Men; 50.1% Women</p>	In 2013 unemployment rate was 17,5%
Aragon (SP)	<p>Unemployment rate was 11,1% in December 2018 Female 12,5% Male 9,9%</p> <p>Unemployment population 61.044 23.598 males 37.446 females</p>	
Catalonia (SP)	<p>Unemployment rate of:</p> <p>Barcelona City is 10.5% Catalonia is 10.6% Women 10.8%; Men 10.5% Spain is 14.1% Women 16.2%; Men 13.1%</p>	
PACA (FR)	Unemployment rate 8,9% in 2018	
Veneto (IT)	<p>Unemployment rate of</p> <p>Italy fell to 11.2% (has decreased by 105 thousand units) Veneto is 6.3%</p>	



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Region	Unemployment data	More Information
Eastern Macedonia (GR)	No data received	
Croatia - Istria (HR)	Annual average of active population in 2016 - 1632279 total persons; in employment = 1390419 unemployed persons = 241860	Structure of unemployed: 55000 (15-24 years old); 138000 (25-49 years old) 47000 (50-64 years old); 55,4% women and 44,6% men
Slovenia (SL)	Employment rate: one of the lowest in the EU	

5.1.7. Social situation

Risk of poverty or social exclusion

One of the five headline targets of the Europe 2020 headline indicators is to reduce poverty by lifting at least 20 million people out of the risk of poverty or social exclusion by 2020. There are geographical and temporal comparisons of the monetary and non-monetary elements of the indicator that describes poverty and social exclusion in the European Union (EU) using recent data from EU statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC). Comparisons over the most recent years enable, among other things, an analysis of the evolution of the social situation and its impact. Though the level of disposable income of households increased in nearly all Member States, recovery to pre-crisis levels is still incomplete in some.

The information about population at risk of poverty or social exclusion of the project's regions (at the country level) can be seen in the following Figure.



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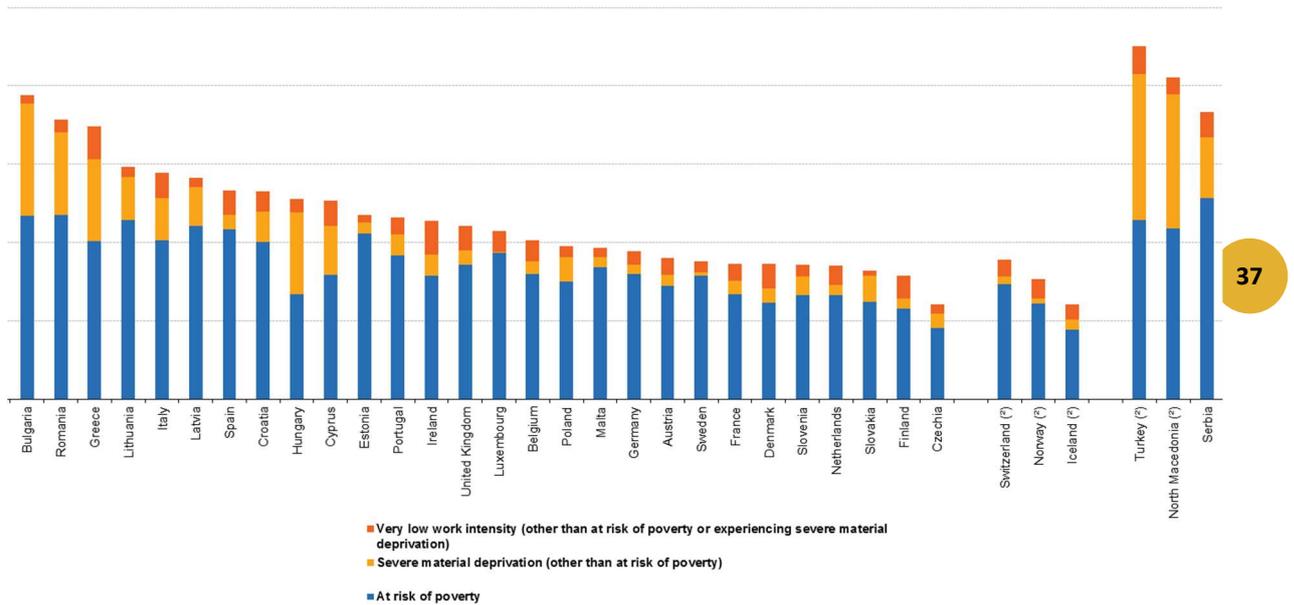


Figure 26. Population at risk of poverty or social exclusion, 2017

This figure provides a simplified analysis regarding the proportion of the population facing the three poverty or social exclusion risks identified above, showing:

- The proportion of people at risk of poverty (in blue colour), including those living in households that were exclusively at risk of poverty as well as those at risk of poverty combined with either or both of the other two risks. In the EU-28 this group amounted to 85.2 million people in 2017
- The analysis then (in yellow colour) shows the additional proportion of the population experiencing severe material deprivation (either as a single risk or combined with living in a household with very low work intensity). In the EU-28, this group amounted to 15.7 million people in 2017
- The final category (in orange colour) shows the proportion of the population living in households that were exclusively characterised as having a very low work intensity (those that were not at risk of poverty, nor experiencing severe material deprivation). In the EU-28, this group amounted to 11.9 million people in 2017

The sum of the three categories shown in Figure 11 corresponds to the overall proportion of the population at risk of poverty or social exclusion. Among the population at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2017 –taking into account only the project’s regions-, those at risk of poverty (whether combined with either or both or the other risks or not) accounted for four fifths or



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more of the overall population at risk of poverty or social exclusion in Spain, whereas they made up three fifths or less of the total in Greece.

Migration

Migration has become one of the key components of population change in Europe. Migration flows over past decades among EU Member States as well as in- and outside of the EU have had a significant impact on the current population size in most Member States. Data is available on the number of foreign population residing in the countries and the number of people arriving to and leaving each EU Member State every year.

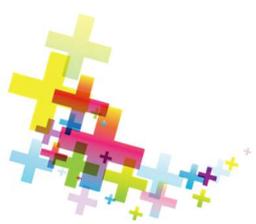
Only three project's regions have collected some information about the importance of Migration in their territories. Alentejo (Portugal) said there is a decreasing tendency in population as a consequence of negative values for natural growth rate and net migration growth rate. In Italy, foreign population has been fundamental for the demographic rebalancing of the last years, but it seems to have failed in more recent times. Nowadays 5 million foreign individuals reside in Italy, that is, an 8.5% of the total population. In Veneto, foreign residents amounted to 487.893. Slovenia region talked about the significant departure of residents to other parts of the country or even abroad has produced a population decline in recent years (Negative net migration).

Marginalization

No information has been collected on this concept.

5.1.8. Sectors of smart specialization in the project's regions

Each project's region has defined its sectors of smart specialization. The following table shows these sectors broken down by region.



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Region	Definition
Alentejo (PT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage, Cultural and Creative Industry and Services for Tourism • Mineral, Natural and Environmental Resources • Critical technologies, Energy and Smart Mobility • Social Economy - technologies and services , where Alentejo is a living lab • Food and forestry
Aragon (SP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talent and training • Entrepreneurship • Support to SMEs • Support to I+i and transfer of knowledge and technology • Cooperation • Internationalization
Catalonia (SP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Energy and resources: natural resources • Industrial Systems • Design-based industries • Industries based on sustainable mobility • Health industries • Cultural and experienced-based industries



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Region	Definition
PACA (FR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy transition • Smart and sustainable mobility • Risks, security and safety • health and food • Tourism cultural industries and digital content
Veneto (IT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New technologies for sustainable living • New technologies for creative industries • Advanced technologies for manufacturing • Providing healthy and safe food
Eastern Macedonia (GR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agri food • Culture - Tourism • Processing • Environment • Knowledge
Croatia - Istria (HR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health an quality life • Energy and sustainable environment • Transport and mobility • Security • Food and bio-economy



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Region	Definition
Slovenia (SL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Smart cities and communities  Smart buildings and homes  Industry 4.0 - Smart Factories  Health/Medicine  Networks for the Transition to Circular Economy  Sustainable Food Production  Sustainable Tourism and Creative Cultural and Heritage based Services  Development of Materials as Products  Smart Mobility

5.1.9. Data on social economy

Social economy definition

Each project’s region has tried to define what Social economy in its context is. In the table below we show all definitions by region, because there are some little differences.



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Region	Definition
Alentejo	<p>Social Economy is the set of economic and social activities freely carried out by SE organizations. These activities have the aim of pursuing the general interest of society, whether directly or by pursuing the general interest of society.</p> <p>Principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Primacy of people and of social objectives 2) free and voluntary membership and participation 3) democratic control of governing bodies 4) reconciliation between the interests of the members, users or beneficiaries and the public interest 5) respect for the values of solidarity, equality and non-discrimination, social cohesion, justice and fairness, openness and shared individual and social responsibility and subsidiarity 6) autonomous management 7) surpluses allocated to pursuing the aims of the SE entities
Aragon	<p>Social economy is a proportion of the economy that is intended to make profits for people other than investors or owners; refers to a different way of undertaking that combines at all times the general interest, economic activity and democratic functioning.</p>
Catalonia	<p>Charte de l'economie (1989). Social economy is the set of organizations that do not belong to the public sector, operate democratically with the members having equal rights and duties, and practice a particular regime of ownership and distribution of profits, using the surpluses to expand the organization and improve its services to its members and to society.</p>



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Region	Definition
PACA	<p>A mode of entrepreneurship and economic development adapted to all areas of human activity to which private legal entities that meet the following cumulative conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A goal pursued other than the sole sharing of profits; 2) A democratic governance, defined and organized by the statutes, providing for the information and participation of the partners, employees and stakeholders in the achievements of the company; 3) Managing in accordance with the following principles <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The profits are mainly devoted to the objective of maintaining or developing the activity of the company b) Mandatory reserve requirements, which cannot be shared, cannot be distributed
Veneto	<p>Social economy is characterized by the non-profit and social utility activities carried out by third sector organizations which are driven by principles such as reciprocity and democracy in their actions.</p>
Eastern Macedonia	<p>It is general accepted that in this sector are included organization that achieved the following principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) take part in economic and/or entrepreneurial activity 2) have clear social purpose 3) independent and democratic in their governance 4) reinvest profits, distribute part of them to employees and channel them to social goals 5) based on collective action
Croatia - Istria	<p>No information has been received</p>
Slovenia	<p>No information has been received</p>

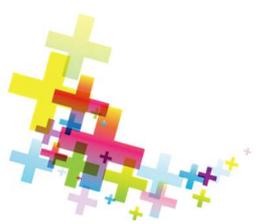


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Type and numbers of organizations

Region	Type of entities	Number of organizations
Alentejo (PT)	8 types of entities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperatives • Mutualist Associations • Misericordias (charitable associations) • Foundations • Private Social Solidarity Institutions • Associations with Altruistic Aims • Self-management subsector • Other legal persons that respect the principles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 61 thousand organizations • Alentejo 6451 entities (representing 10.5% of the country total)



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Region	Type of entities	Number of organizations
Aragon (SP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Insertion Companies ➤ Social economy companies with other legal forms ➤ Foundations of social economy ➤ Fishing guilds ➤ Mutualists ➤ Cooperatives ➤ Labour societies ➤ Disability sector associations ➤ Special employment centers ➤ Associations ➤ Foundations ➤ Agrarian transformation societies 	<p>In Spain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Insertion Companies 201 ➤ Social economy companies with other legal forms 3784 ➤ Foundations of social economy 92 ➤ Fishing guilds 139 ➤ Mutualists 287 ➤ Cooperatives 20958 ➤ Labour societies: 9234 ➤ Disability sector associations 8164 ➤ Special employment centers 576 <p>In Aragon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Insertion Companies 9 ➤ Cooperatives 2168 ➤ Labour societies 1451 ➤ Special employment centers 42 ➤ Associations 5635 ➤ Foundations 521 ➤ Agrarian transformation societies 707

45



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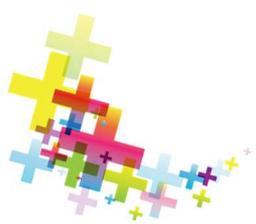
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Region	Type of entities	Number of organizations
Catalonia (SP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third Social Sector: non-profit organizations working for social inclusion and social cohesion with specially attention to the more disadvantaged groups Labour societies: enterprises in which more than 50% of its social capital have to be owned by the workers who have a permanent labour contract Cooperatives: are composed by a minimum of two person and have the goal to produce goods or services for third persons Communitarian Communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third Social Sector: 2400 organizations- 50.9%) Labour societies:1197 enterprises -> 25.4% Cooperatives: 861 enterprises 18.2%) Communitarian Communities 260 initiatives -> 5.5%
PACA (FR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations Cooperatives Mutuals Foundations Commercial companies seeking social utility and respecting certain management rules 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associations: 134214 -> 82.3% Cooperatives: 17592 -> 10.8% Mutuals: 7623 -> 4.7% Foundations 3729 -> 2.3% Commercial companies seeking social utility and respecting certain management rules TOTAL SSE 163158

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Region	Type of entities	Number of organizations
Veneto (IT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiplicity of organizations • Social cooperatives • mutual societies • voluntary organizations • social promotion associations • social and community enterprises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Italy: 343,000 companies • In Veneto 30,000 companies
Eastern Macedonia (GR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Enterprise development support: incubators, accelerators and workspaces • Financial, funding and impact investment services organizations • Educational and research institutions • Forum and networks • Advisory and policy organizations • Chambers of commerce, industry associations and business advisory bodies • Government and local authority support structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 907 SSEs entities, but only 283 submitted an annual report in 2016. The number of active organizations is important lower that the number of the registered entities. • 45% active entities are located in Attica
Croatia - Istria (HR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1) cooperatives • 2) associations and foundations • 3) social enterprises registered as companies • 4) private social welfare institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information available



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Region	Type of entities	Number of organizations
Slovenia (SL)	1) institutes 2) cooperatives 3) organizations with limited liability	252 social enterprises In Podravje region 90 cooperatives

Numbers of workers and of volunteers

Region	Number of workers and of volunteers
Alentejo (PT)	Around 216 thousand workers
Aragon (SP)	No information available
Catalonia (SP)	In Barcelona 53,000 persons working on social economy (8% employed population)
PACA (FR)	10,6% employ one or more employees The most of the associations rely on volunteers Volunteering is estimated at 1,320,000 and 146,000 FTE jobs
Veneto (IT)	In Italy: 813,000 employees In Veneto: 75,000 employees
Eastern Macedonia (GR)	Active SSE organizations employee 813 people in 2016 (224 people were coming from the most vulnerable social groups)
Croatia - Istria (HR)	No information received



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Region	Number of workers and of volunteers
Slovenia (SL)	353 employees in cooperatives (0,6% of employees in companies)

5.1.10. Specific Programmes for Enterprises with social responsiveness (ESR) and public policies

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In this section, it may be seen a small sample of the public policies concerning social entrepreneurship, clusters and so forth.

Region	Definition
Alentejo (PT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POISE - Operational Programme for Social Inclusion and Employment: nationwide programme <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Enhancing access to and promotion of the use and quality of ICT 2) Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs 3) Promoting sustainable and quality employment 4) Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders to promote an efficient public administration • Regional level: The Operational Programme Alentejo 2010 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To support competitiveness and innovation in SMEs 2) To increase research, technological development and innovation • Portugal Social Innovation a nationwide programme <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Capacity Building for Social Investment 2) Impact Partnerships 3) Social Impact Bonds 4) Social Innovation Fund
Aragon (SP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program of Promotion of the Social Economy and Social Responsibility (of Government of Aragon) • Social and Solidarity Economy Strategy of the city of Zaragoza



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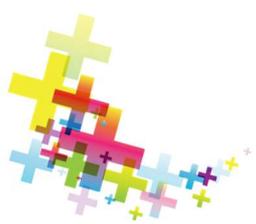
Region	Definition
Catalonia (SP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  General Directorate of Social Economy, Third Sector, Cooperatives and creation of new businesses of Generalitat de Catalunya  Cooperative Ateneus network; With the programme Aracoop  Singular projects: Annual grants are launched in parallel with cooperative Ateneus network  Sustainable public procurement Guide: an Environmental Public Procurement Guide; Public Procurement Guide  2016. Plan to promote Social and Solidarity Economy
PACA (FR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  National Level: <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Label LUCIE (2008): CSR reference label in France for SMEs modeled on the ISO 26000 standard  Regional Scale: <ul style="list-style-type: none">  EMPL'ITUDE label (2007): first reference territorial label in terms of employment created by the association Emergence (S), animation association of the Local Plan for insertion and employment (PLIE) of Marseille Center  CEDRE (Contract for Employment and Responsible Development of Companies in PACA) (2015-2018) support for job creation by regional companies with an economic development project creating jobs in permanent contracts over 3 years and engaging in a CSR approach.  Performance & Responsible Career (PPR): Regional mechanism set up by the PACA Region, the State, the ADEME, the CCIR (Chambre de commerce et d'industrie régionale) offering VSEs/SMEs a range of tools accompanying, evolving and receiving the financial support of the public actors of economic development.



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Region	Definition
Veneto (IT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural funds, including private, regional and national funds. • Two regional strategies <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) ESF approach to social innovation, mostly referring to the reinforcement of social economy networks or clusters 2) ERDF approach to smart specialization, referring to the creation of innovative clusters in the four RIS 3 sectors. Also includes the priority of sustainable urban development: digital agenda and innovation • Funding of the Regional Innovative Networks (RIR): foresees to spread the culture and the use of Open Data of public bodies between citizens and businesses in order to encourage citizen participation in the life of local public administrations • EAFRD contributes to social innovation linked to Regional Law on Social Farms • Regional Law 14/2014 before National Law on the topic (141/2015)
Eastern Macedonia (GR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister of Labour, Social Security and Social Solidarity is going to publish a specific program dedicated in SSE in collaboration with the Region
Croatia - Istria (HR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Strategy for Creating and Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development 2012-2016: CSOs for socio-economic development • Strategy for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion in Croatia • Operational Program Efficient Human Resources



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Region	Definition
Slovenia (SL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Entrepreneurship Act: provided a definition of social entrepreneurship and social enterprise • Role for Ses • Ministry of Public Administration: priority tasks in the area of cooperation with non-governmental organisations • Employment Service of Slovenia: carries out all the Active employment policy measures • SPIRIT Slovenia • Chambers of commerce and crafts • Ministry of Finance. BAMC • Local self-government • Start-up support: Initiative Start-up Slovenia. Young/women entrepreneurship support services

5.2. Part Two: Identifying emerging clusters with social vocation and responsiveness

In this part of the study, the partners have identified the most outstanding SVRCs in every project’s region, obtaining information from each one of them in order to carry out an analysis later.

It’s important to remember that, in order to identify these clusters, the project follows the cluster definition given by the Interreg Mediterranean programme:

“Groupings of independent undertakings —innovative start-ups, small, medium and large undertakings as well as research organizations, public administration or social and solidarity economy organizations— operating in a particular sector and region and designed to stimulate innovative activity by promoting intensive interactions, sharing of facilities and exchange of knowledge and expertise and by contributing effectively to a large type of innovations, technology, organizational or social transfer, networking and information dissemination among



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the undertakings in the cluster. These groups may be recognized in a formal way or operate as informal networks as long as they constitute a stable ecosystem.”

5.2.1. Identified SVRCs established per region

All project regions have identified at least one cluster according to the MED programme’s definition, and in many cases more than one cluster was identified in a region.

It’s important to highlight the fact that not all identified clusters have been included in the analysis. For instance, in Catalonia (Spain) the number of identified clusters outnumbered highly the rest of regions’ data, so it was decided that only the most relevant and characteristic ones in this region were going to be taken into account. In another case (PACA – France-) only information concerning the most characteristic cluster was sent for analysis.

Limiting the number of analyzed clusters –up to 3 per country- allowed making the study more homogeneous.

The following table shows the clusters taken into account for this analysis:

Country	Region	Number	Name
Portugal	Alentejo	1	Alentejo Central PTS
Spain	Catalonia	2	Xarxa de Economia Solidaria Federación de Cooperativas de Trabajo de Cataluña
Spain	Aragon	1	Unnamed - informal
France	Provence-Alps-Côte d'Azur	3	La Friche Belle Mai Pole Services a la Personne Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (PSP PACA) Urban prod
Italy	Veneto	2	INN VENETO NETWORKS



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Country	Region	Number	Name
Italy	Reggio Emilia	1	QUA, Quartiere Bene Comune
Greece	Eastern Macedonia and Thrace	1	Social Cooperative Network
Croatia	Region of Llistria-LMC	1	Labour Market Committee -LMC
Slovenia	Podravje	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperative Dobrina Cooperative of wine producers Haloze Sociolab

As it may be seen, 15 clusters have been considered for this analysis, which are following this distribution per country:



Figure 27. Identified clusters per country



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Not all of these clusters are formal. In the following graph, it's shown the relationship between formal and informal clusters for each participant country. There is a third possibility, the projects, since, as it is observed in the study, it offers us a very interesting cooperation between partners.

Projects have been also considered as a cluster in this analysis, since they are the seed for the clusters-to-be in the future.



Figure 28. Type of the identified clusters per country

The following graph shows this same information in a global way:

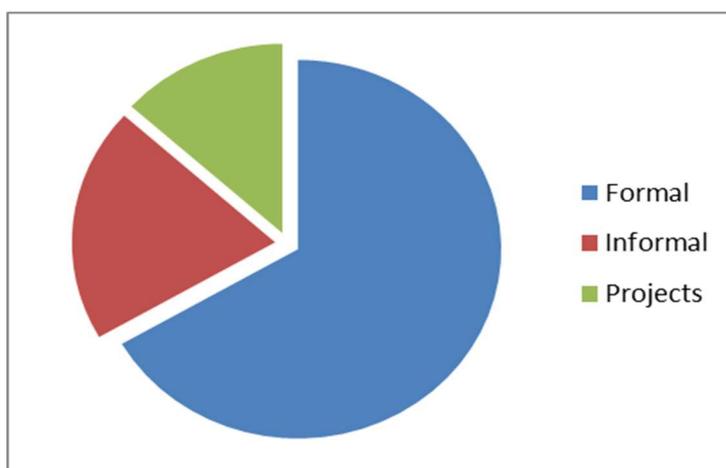


Figure 29. Type of the identified clusters - %



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5.2.2. SVRC's Leading Organizations

Hereby we may find the results regarding the Leading organizations. Keep in mind that those that are defined informally do not have this type of profile, so they are excluded from the graph.

Name	Country	Region	Leading Organization
Alentejo Central PTS	Portugal	Alentejo	Public Agency
Xarxa de Economia Solidaria	Spain	Cataluña	Committee
Federación de Cooperativas de Trabajo de Cataluña	Spain	Cataluña	Committee
La Friche Belle Mai	France	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Other
Pole Services a la Personne Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (PSP PACA)	France	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Association
Urban Prod	France	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Association
QUA, Quartiere Bene Comune	Italy	Reggio Emilia	Public Administration
Social Cooperative Network	Greece	Eastern Macedonia and Thrace	Cooperative
Labour Market Committee -LMC	Croatia	Region of Llistria-LMC	Public Agency
Cooperative Dobrina	Slovenia	Podravje	Cooperative



Project partners

Lead Partner



Name	Country	Region	Leading Organization
Cooperative of wine producers Haloze	Slovenia	Podravje	Cooperative
SocioLab	Slovenia	Podravje	Association

The following graphic shows this information at a global level.

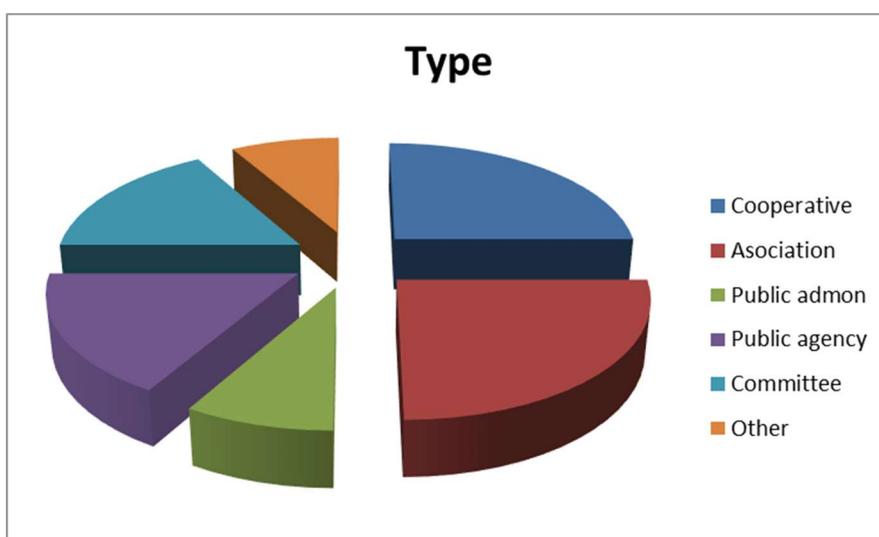


Figure 30. Leading organization's role

It's easy to see how most clusters are led by cooperatives and associations, even though there is a high diversity. It's also important to highlight that in 75% cases the leading organization is a collective entity (cooperatives, associations, committees...).

Regarding the leading organization's role, it's not possible to analyze it due to the lack of information (most partners collected information about the cluster's role and mission, instead).

5.2.3. SVRC's role and mission

The role and mission of each identified cluster are listed in the following table.



Project partners



Name	Role
Alentejo Central PTS	Responsible for the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the RS.
Xarxa de Economia Solidaria	XES is an organisation with the goal of defending an economic system respectful with people, environment and territories based on democratic, horizontal, transparent and participatory criteria.
Federación de Cooperativas de Trabajo de Cataluña	It represents cooperative work in Catalonia, provide advice and networking opportunities. They are entirely dedicated to the creation, growth and promotion of worker cooperatives
La Friche Belle Mai	To develop a cultural and artistic project for an urban development project
Pole Services a la Personne Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (PSP PACA)	It gathers different organizations and services providers within the social and health sector in order to work on a coordinated health and care circuit for people living at home
Urban Prod	Promotes digital practices as tools for mediation, expression and access to culture in the context of the digital humanities
QUA, Quartiere Bene Comune	A project to allow citizens to present their own project to improve the city both in terms of services and spaces
Social Cooperative Network	Networking and cooperation between the SSE organizations within the Region of EASTERN Macedonia and Thrace Information and awareness of the citizens for the sector of SSE
Labour Market Committee - LMC	To strengthen capacities of Labour Market Committee stakeholders in the Region of Istria to create an influential advisory body in employment policy and labour market

Project partners

Lead Partner



Name	Role
Cooperative Dobrina	<p>To develop and support small family farms</p> <p>To promote organic farming and principles of sustainable local supply and fair trade</p> <p>To connect rural areas to urban centres</p>
Cooperative of wine producers Haloze	<p>To join regional wine producers</p> <p>To enable them to enter the market under one organization: reduce costs</p>
SocioLab	<p>The project SocioLab is intended to establish a comprehensive ecosystem with the aim of expanding the social economy</p>

The type of users and beneficiaries of these clusters' activities are as assorted as the clusters' roles themselves and, as expected, is related to these roles. The wide range of users/beneficiaries includes citizens, associations, companies (in some cases a specific type of companies, such as cooperatives or start-ups), farmers, unemployed workers...

5.2.4. SVRC's information

In the following table we can find information related to each of the clusters (only formal clusters and projects are taken into account):



Project partners



Name	Date of creation	# Members	Type of Members
Alentejo Central PTS	2008	33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 Local Councils for Social Action in the region • Regional delegations of the most relevant ministries • Regional federations of social solidarity private institutions, the regional association of enterprises and the regional development associations • Representative of the social research unit of the University of Evora
<p>The Social Network (RS) aims at strategic planning of local social intervention, articulating different public and private local actors for social development. Among the main objectives throughout the network are combating poverty and social exclusion, to promote social inclusion and cohesion, and integrated social development and creating regular channels of communication and information between partners and the citizens.</p>			
Xarxa de Economia Solidaria (XES)	2003	183	• Cooperatives in Catalonia
<p>XES is an organisation with the goal of defending an economic system respectful with people, environment and territories based on democratic, horizontal, transparent and participatory criteria.</p>			
Federación de Cooperativas de Trabajo de Cataluña	Not specified	20	• Cooperatives of workers in Catalonia
<p>It represents cooperative work in Catalonia, providing advice and networking opportunities. It is a business organization which brings together, represents and leads about 3.000 worker cooperatives in Catalonia. They are entirely dedicated to the creation, growth and promotion of worker cooperatives</p>			

Project partners



Name	Date of creation	# Members	Type of Members
La Friche Belle Mai	1992	36	<p>36 member, divided as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21: Management and development (i.e. site users, mostly associations or cooperatives, but also a restaurant, a café and a library, a crèche...) 13: Employees and members of the local area, such as cultural or artistic organizations located in the neighborhood but also individuals who are inhabitants and who want to take part in the project 1: Contributors (mainly public institutions)
<p>Users and beneficiaries: Public institutions, social economy actors, neighbourhood inhabitants, organizations located there and other users of facilities...</p> <p>Its mission is to develop a cultural and artistic project for an urban development project. The members are convinced that an artistic permanency is fundamental condition for urban development. This cooperative (legal form of the cluster) therefore develops a large diversity of artistic and cultural events in this deprived urban area with the aim to contribute to the revitalization of this area.</p>			
Pole Services a la Personne Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (PSP PACA)	2007	84	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13 services providers 4 partners organizations
<p>PSP PACA is the first professional cluster of home care services in the South Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur Region. It gathers different organizations and services providers within the social and health sector from the South Region in order to work on a coordinated health and care circuit for people living at home.</p> <p>Its ambition is to help its member organizations to grow and be innovative and to professionalize, consolidate employment and create new jobs in this field of activity.</p>			



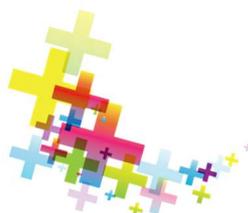
Project partners

Lead Partner



Name	Date of creation	# Members	Type of Members
Urban Prod	1998	70	 The information names 70 partners, but not the type of member
<p>This association promotes digital practices as tools for mediation, expression and access to culture in the context of the digital humanities. Urban Prod can be considered as a cluster of social innovation since it develops a large variety of activities, promotes many projects with different stakeholders in the field of digital humanities and mediation and works in close relationship with public authorities. Urban Prod relies on the skillfulness, innovation capacity and complementarity of its employees to implement its projects.</p> <p>Its major (and historical) beneficiaries are young people in difficulties, living in deprived neighborhoods, under judicial control, or disabled.</p>			
QUA, Quartiere Bene Comune	2015	Not specified	 It is hard to define a precise number of individuals and organizations taking part to the process
<p>The project "QUA - The neighborhood as common good" enhances the protagonism of citizenship, both as associations and as individuals.</p> <p>The transition from participation - in the traditional sense - to responsible protagonism, takes shape in the "Citizenship laboratories", processes in which citizens are called to concretize projects that are formalized in a "Citizenship Agreement" for the improvement of life in the neighborhoods in the fields of city care and community care.</p> <p>The project also includes the activation of "Urban Laboratories" dedicated to places and areas of urban interest.</p>			
Social Cooperative Network	2015	Not specified	 Not specified
<p>The networking and cooperation between the SSE organizations within the Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace (REMTH), the information and awareness of the citizens for the sector of SSE. Member can be any SSE organization located in the REMTH.</p>			

Project partners



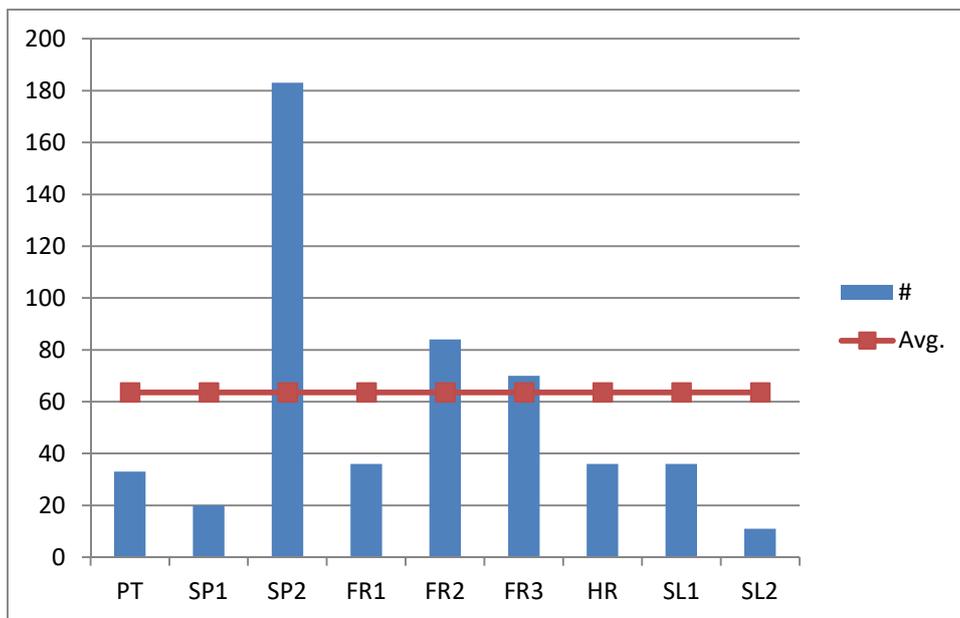
Name	Date of creation	# Members	Type of Members
"Vijeće tržišta rada Istarske županije" - Labour Market Committee -LMC	2011	36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📍 public bodies 📍 civil society 📍 private enterprises 📍 education institutions 📍 trade unions 📍 NGOs 📍 Non-profit organizations
<p>The specific objective of the LMC is to strengthen capacities of Labour Market Committee stakeholders in the Region of Istria (LMC) through the capacity building of operational team of LMC to create an influential advisory body in employment policy and labour market. Actions of LMC are mostly project financed and result with concrete tools/actions/measures to resolve problems relating to employment policy and labour market in the Region of Istria.</p>			
Cooperative Dobrina	2011	Not specified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📍 Different organisations in municipalities Maribor and Lenart
<p>Its main goals are to develop and support small family farms, to promote organic farming and principles of sustainable local supply and fair trade and to connect rural areas to urban centres.</p>			
Cooperative of wine producers Haloze	2016	36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📍 34 wine producers and two municipalities
<p>The main purpose of the cooperative was to join regional wine producers and enable them to enter the market under one organization which can lead to reduced costs when manufacturing grapes and producing it into wine as well as achieved higher selling price for their wine.</p>			
SocioLab	2018	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📍 Institutions 📍 Social Enterprise 📍 Research Centers 📍 (PRIZMA Foundation as its lead partner)
<p>The project "SocioLab" is intended to establish a comprehensive ecosystem for strengthening the potentials of individuals, initiatives and communities with the aim of expanding the social economy (social enterprises and cooperatives), and thus creating and maintaining high-quality and sustainable jobs in the social economy sector and expanding the availability of (socially) innovative products (services and products) that will ensure greater social inclusion of vulnerable groups, contribute to reducing poverty and improving the quality of life and economic and social development in the Podravje region.</p>			

Project partners

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Despite the great diversity of cases, we may see that most identified clusters have less than 40 members. There are some cases where these values are quite high, increasing the average value, but in general the number of members is quite controlled.

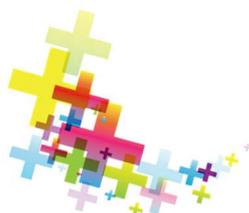


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Figure 31. Number of members by cluster

This graph is only taking into account the clusters where a number of members has been provided. It's also important to highlight that in some cases the provided figure is not clearly the number of members and that there might be a misunderstanding between 'partners', 'members' and 'beneficiaries'.

Regarding the date of creation, it's important to stand out the fact that not all clusters are very 'young', as it might be seen in this figure.



Project partners

Lead Partner

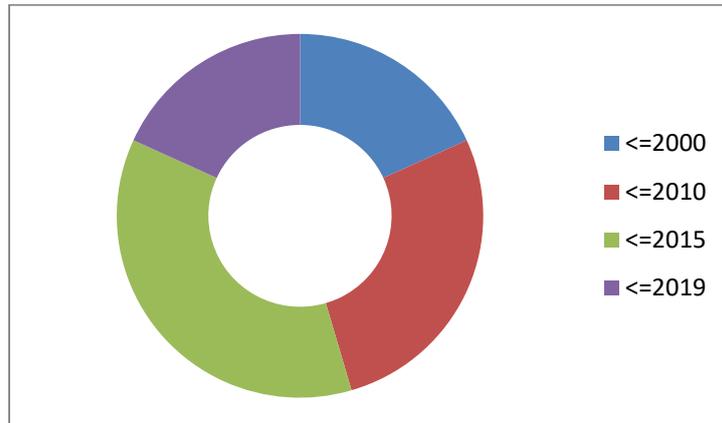


Figure 32. Clusters per date of creation

Finally, it's important to emphasise most identified clusters (always talking about formal ones and projects) have a very well defined and established governance. It may go from having a leading committee to an elected chairman, including some hierarchical structures and so forth, but the fact is that there is a fixed regulation followed to manage and lead the cluster. In the following graph, 'NE' stands for 'Not specified' (i.e. No information on this matter was collected).

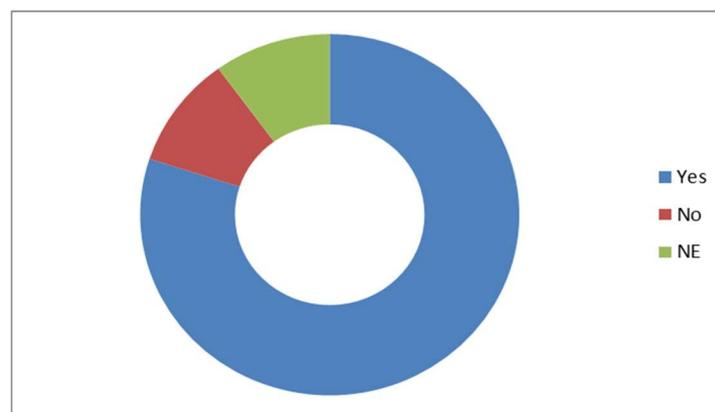


Figure 33. Is there a well-established governance?



Project partners



5.2.5. Relationship with social innovation

Social Innovation

Social innovation is defined and developed from different approaches, one of the most detailed being that offered by the OCDE (*Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development*) in its text *SMEs, Entrepreneurship and Innovation in 2010*: "Social innovation seeks new answers to social problems by: the identification and provision of new services that improve the quality of life of people and communities; the identification and implementation of new integration processes in the labour market, new skills, new jobs and new forms of participation, as diverse elements that contribute to improve the position of people in the labour market. Therefore, social innovations can be considered as having to do with the welfare of individuals and communities, both as consumers and producers. The elements of this well-being are linked to their quality of life and activity. Wherever social innovations appear, they always bring new references or processes with them. Social innovation is distinguished from economic innovation because it is not about introducing new types of production or exploiting new markets in themselves, but about meeting new needs not covered by the market (even if markets intervene later) or creating new ones and more satisfying forms of insertion in terms of giving people a place and a role in production".

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From another approach the European Commission in 2019 indicates that "social innovations are new ideas that meet social needs, create social relationships and form new collaborations. These innovations can be products, services or models that address unmet needs more effectively. The objective of the European Commission is to encourage the adoption by the market of innovative solutions and stimulate employment ".

However, in both cases a more global approach is missed from the point of the development of society, given that social innovations are aimed at people and society in general as individual citizens and citizens and not only as employees, consumers or producers.

Why promote social innovation?

Social innovation is what has allowed over time the possibility that people can improve our quality of life both individually and collectively. Innovation based only on technological attributes, processes or novelty without understanding that these must solve problems and the complex social challenges to which society has to respond can cause even more inequalities and negative externalities.



Project partners



From the social economy it is understood that the economy must be at the service of the people, that is to say that the needs of the people are the center of the economic decisions of both the present and future generations. Thus, social innovation is another tool that must be aimed at, not the development in itself of innovation, but rather as a means to promote welfare and social, economic, environmental and cultural development from an approach of solidarity, social cohesion and social justice.

Social innovation dimension of clusters analysed

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It has been detected that all the clusters (both formal and informal) have some type of relationship with Social Innovation, but focused on different areas. It should be noted:

- Use of digital technologies
- Relationships between public administration and citizens
- Social entrepreneurs
- Stable and quality employment
- Agriculture and rural areas
- Demography
- Information exchange and networking
- SME support

Social objectives, social impact and common social challenges

Most identified clusters equal their social objectives to their mission and role, strengthening their identification as cluster with social responsibility. On the other hand, few of them name a common social challenge, referring to the cluster mission in some cases. There are also some cases where the social challenges are addressed throughout public-funded projects, with a very well-defined goal and planning.

In this kind of projects, measuring the impact is easier than in other cases. In fact most identified clusters declare not to make any measurement, mainly due to the difficulty to do so. Sometimes they confess the need to make good measurements but it's still an open field to most of them. In this point a social ROI (return on investment) has been named but it's not implemented and for the time being it's only a possibility.

In the few cases the social impact is measured, it's done through indicators related to jobs and employment, especially when these are related to the cluster mission. Finally, it's important to



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stand out the Alentejo’s case, where the indicators are defined and assessed (both local and national wide) in a periodic level with the goal to improve the related policies.

5.2.6. Main economical / technological / social issues

The collected information in this section is moreover focused on dissemination activities and exchange of information, since it was one of the proposed examples when the questionnaire was prepared.

Most clusters state that they exchange information within the cluster members, in some cases using digital tools, which they also use for the dissemination (both internal and external) of their activities.

Even though the promotion of digital technologies is only commented in one case, some more promote networking activities and organize joint events. In addition, they organize get-togethers such as seminars, capacity building events and other events regarding the cluster’s mission and goals.

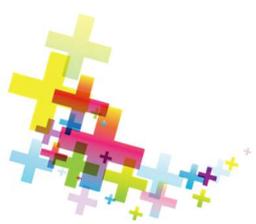
Finally, it’s important to stand out the fact that only the clusters in one region declare to have economic issues.

5.2.7. SVRC’s sectors of operation

As expected, there is a high diversity of sectors on which the identified clusters are focused. Some of them are listed here:

-  Urban development
-  Entrepreneurship
-  Human Resources
-  Culture
-  Health
-  Agriculture
-  Urban Art

Maybe it’s more important to highlight the connection between the sectors in where the identified clusters are working and the sectors included in the Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3) in their regions. Taking into account only formal

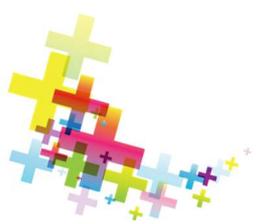


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clusters, most of them are focused on a sector included in such RIS3, which may be clearly seen in the following table:

Name	RIS 3
Alentejo Central PTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Economy
Xarxa de Economia Solidaria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural and experience-based industries Social Economy
Federación de Cooperativas de Trabajo de Cataluña	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food, Energy and Resources Industrial Systems Design-based industries Sustainable mobility Health Cultural and experience-based industries
La Friche Belle Mai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural industry, tourism and digital content
Pole Services a la Personne Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (PSP PACA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health and food priority
Urban Prod	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural industry, tourism and digital content
QUA, Quartiere Bene Comune	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several sectors. Special emphasis on digital agenda.
Social Cooperative Network enterprises of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not specified



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Name	RIS 3
Labour Market Committee -LMC	Health and quality of life
Cooperative Dobrina	Sustainable food production
Cooperative of wine producers Haloze	Sustainable food production
SocioLab	No relationship with any sector in RIS3

83% of identified clusters operate in a sector or sectors included in their region’s RIS3. In the following graph it may be seen the division per sector, taking apart the clusters that are working in more than one and the clusters that haven’t specified the sector or have declared not having any relationship with the sectors in the RIS3.

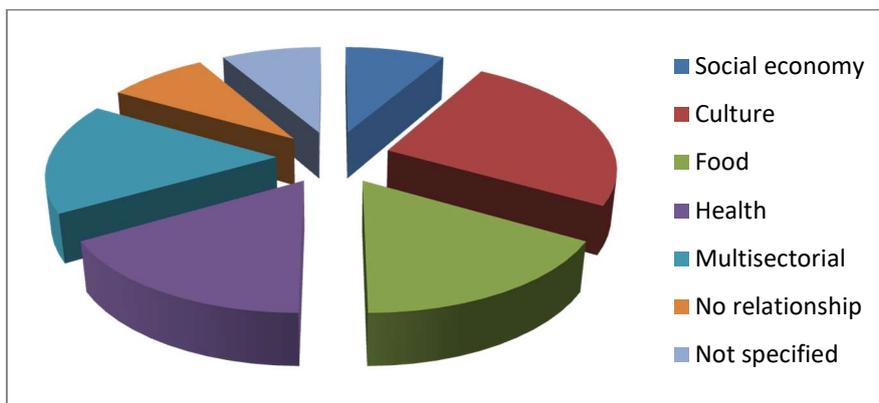


Figure 34. Relationship with RIS3

If we discard the latter, the graph shows that most identified clusters work in culture-related sectors but there is not a great difference among them.



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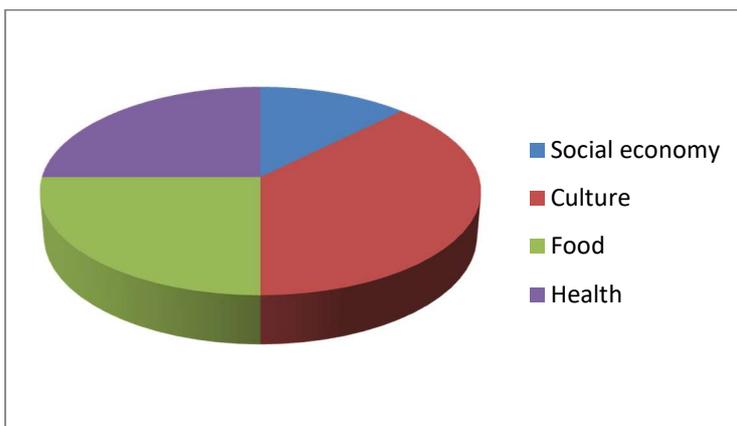


Figure 35. Relationship with RIS3 (2)

5.2.8. Relationship with digital innovation and Open Data

Most identified clusters are not technologically-led, even though some of them have highlighted some relationship with technological innovation. It's also clear that the perception of technological innovation and what implies to be technologically-led is not the same in all cases.

Anyway, considering as technologically-led the clusters which declare to have a strong use of technology, a third of the identified clusters may be seen as such:

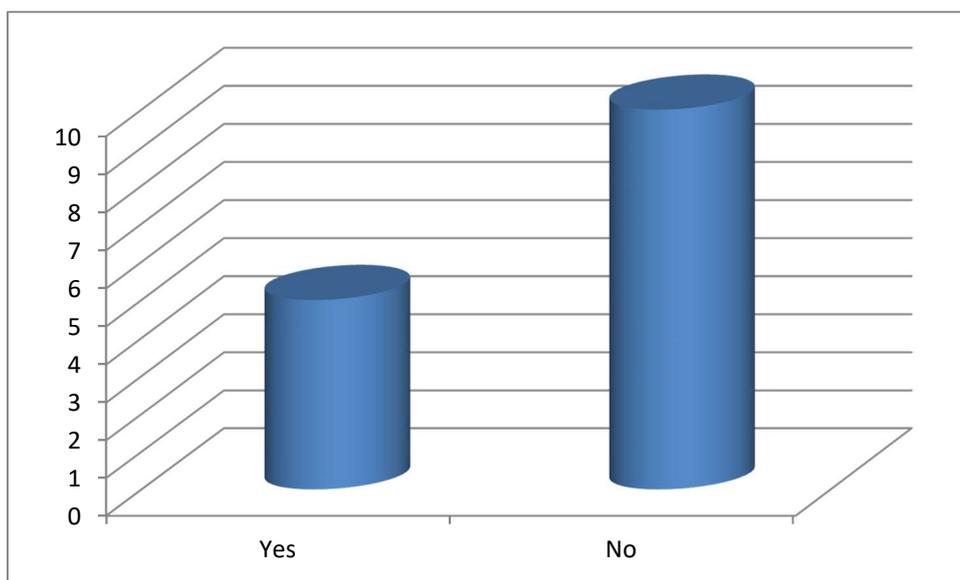


Figure 36. Relationship with Technological Innovation



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However, when talking about the clusters' relationship with Open Data initiatives, the picture is clearly unbalanced. Few regions use this technology since its potential use and its benefits or return on investment and unknown.

The following graph shows this unbalance. It should also be stated that when open data is said to be used, it's usually for a very specific goal.

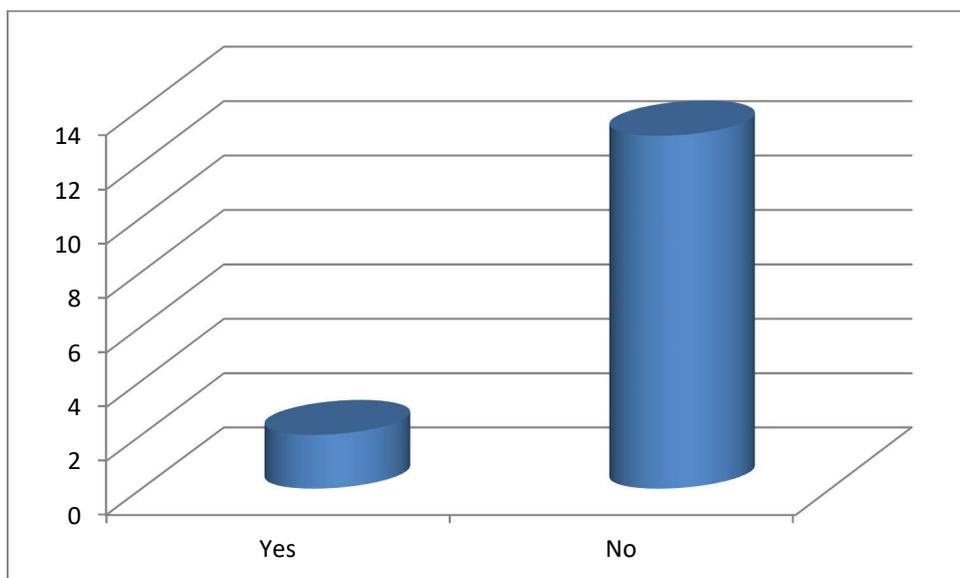


Figure 37. Relationship with Open Data

5.2.9. Informal SRVCs: How do they operate?

Only three out of fifteen clusters were considered as informal, and not so much information has been collected about their way of operating. Anyway it's clear that the members of these clusters know each other and have frequent contacts within them. In some cases they work together under a fixed frame (such as projects or public programmes), and sometimes there are only informal contacts. Public agencies and administration play an important role in these type of clusters.

As a summary, it could be stated that these informal clusters interact and work together as a network based on trust and contacts.



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5.2.10. EU Transversal principles

Principles regarding environment, gender equality and sustainability

Most of the clusters analysed in the regions involved in the project are aware of the main EU transversal principles (environment, gender equality and sustainability). Nearly two thirds declare to follow these principles.

The following graph shows how many of the analysed clusters follow these principles.

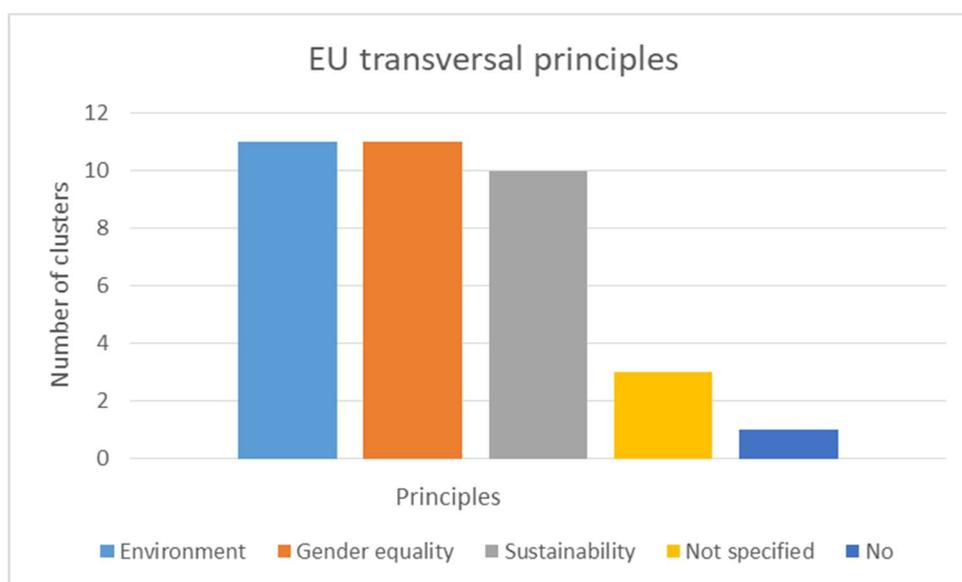


Figure 38. Number of cluster that follow EU transversal principles

Considering all the clusters identified, eleven out of the fifteen clusters declare to follow the principles regarding to the environment and gender equality, ten clusters follow the principle related to sustainability, three clusters have not specified anything on this topic and one cluster has declared no considerations in this regard.

The next figure shows what types of EU transversal principles are followed by the clusters analysed in each of the countries involved.



Project partners



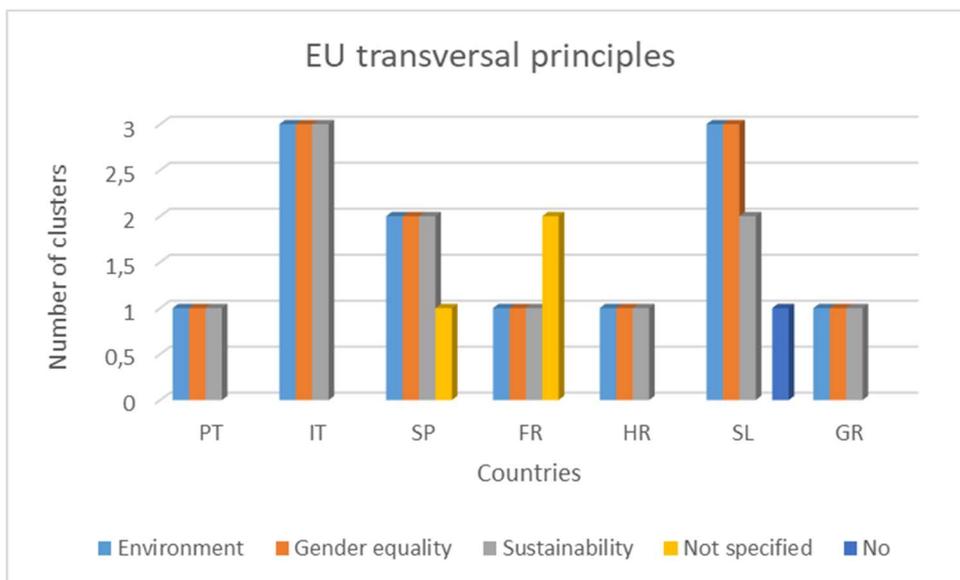


Figure 39. EU transversal principles by country

According to this chart, in Portugal, the only cluster identified is guided by the principles of subsidiarity, integration, articulation, participation, innovation and gender equality. However, it is not specified how they are followed.

In Italy, the initiatives of three clusters identified are consistent with the main EU principles. In one of them, in terms of citizen participation, social inclusion, urban development and digital transition. In the other, with a clear policy on environment and sustainability. The gender equality in both is assumed.

Of the three clusters identified for the analysis in Spain (two in Barcelona region and one in Aragon region), do not make explicit emphasis in the principles. However, the rest follow all principles and they develop specific commissions to work transversally this issue or reflect it on the website of the entities.

In France, while two of the identified clusters have not specified anything on the subject, there is one that follows the principles as a cluster involved in CSR (*Corporate Social Responsibility*) and sustainable development, CO2 production measurement tool, Green household awareness,



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digitalization of structures, towards a less use of papers. In addition, regarding to the gender equality, this cluster promote access to men in business promotion campaigns in a field of activities dominated by women.

In Croatia, the identified cluster is aware of threatening social exclusion for the most vulnerable groups of unemployed persons. Furthermore, respect gender equality at the policy and operational level and sustainability. However, it is not specified how they are followed. However, neither is it specified how they are followed.

In Slovenia, two of the three identified clusters follow environment and gender equality principles, and one of this two clusters also the sustainability principle. This clusters encourage its members to promote eco-innovations and sustainable use of natural resources. Also integrates equality and promotes the participation of women in management positions of the cooperative, non-discrimination objectives (regular practices and decisions in areas such as recruitment and selection or equal salaries). In some cases, these considerations are in the domain of local producers. On the other hand, one of the identified clusters has specified not to follow these principles.

Finally, the cluster identified in Greece, as SSE (*Social and Solidarity Economy*) organization declare to respect EU Transversal principles, but how is not specified.

5.2.11. Four-helix model followed

What is the quadruple helix model?

The quadruple helix model provides a new approach for tackling the complex challenges we face in our societies. It breaks down the traditional silos between government, industry, academia, and civil participants, bringing these multidisciplinary viewpoints together in an environment that promotes team working, collaboration and the sharing of ideas. By working together, this quadruple helix approach can create new shared value that benefits all participants in what becomes an innovation ecosystem. Technology plays a key role in creating networks and connectivity. Value is characterised by a long-term view, focusing on improved social conditions as well as company performance. And success is measured for the ecosystem as a whole, rather than individual units.

Clusters that follow the four helix model

A cluster is considered to follow the 4-helix model if they have members that belong to the following types of groups:



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- R & D / Academic centres
- NGOs /Social economy organizations / Civil society
- Companies
- Public Administration

In the project regions analysed, the model of the four propellers is not followed in all the clusters. Half of them (taking into account both formal and informal ones), follow it, and according to the information provided, in the cases where it's not followed, there is already some contact with the missing component.

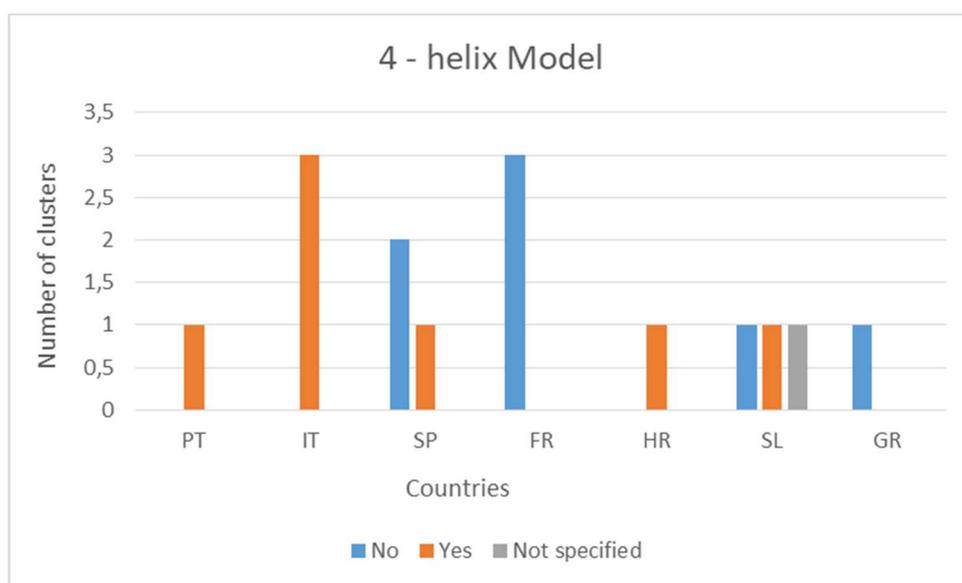


Figure 40. Four- Helix model followed

It's important to highlight the fact that in all cases, the missing part is not the NGO one but the academia, which may surprise if we take the Porter's cluster definition (3-helix) as the antecedent for the 4-helix model.

According to the graph above, in the case of France, no formal participation of academics research centers is involved as members of the governance structure, but there are clear



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connections with researchers in most projects developed by clusters. Nowadays, they are working to clarify the formal integrations of these stakeholders.

In Catalonia region, ten clusters have been identified, of which nine are formal. Only two clusters basically follow it and two have not specified it. However, most are close to following the model of four-helix model, however, they do not succeed because they do not include all types of members, because they are specific networks of social economic organizations, because the academic part is missing... The same situations happens with some clusters of Aragon, Slovenia and Greece.

Despite this information, to make the analysis at transnational level and have a similar and homogeneous representation of all partners, the two most representative clusters identified in Catalonia has been selected for analysis, and their information is reflected in the previous image.

5.2.12. External relationship in a cooperative and organized way

Concerned by the involvement of a diversity of stakeholders, in general, all the clusters analyzed keep external relationships, although not in all regions and even in the different clusters of a region, this relationship is kept in a cooperative and organized way.

Keeping close and regular contacts is recognised as an important point as well as operate in a transparent and participatory manner.

The need to coordinate strategic orientations and programmes and the need to improve social responsiveness sharing resources and enhancing complementarities are important reasons that encourage the creation of clusters.

Although in some regions formally established clusters have not been identified, many of them are emerging as part of ongoing initiatives of future clusters.

In many cases, with the aim of formalizing and better organizing these external relationships has motivated the creation of cooperatives, although it does not ensure an effective cooperation among members.



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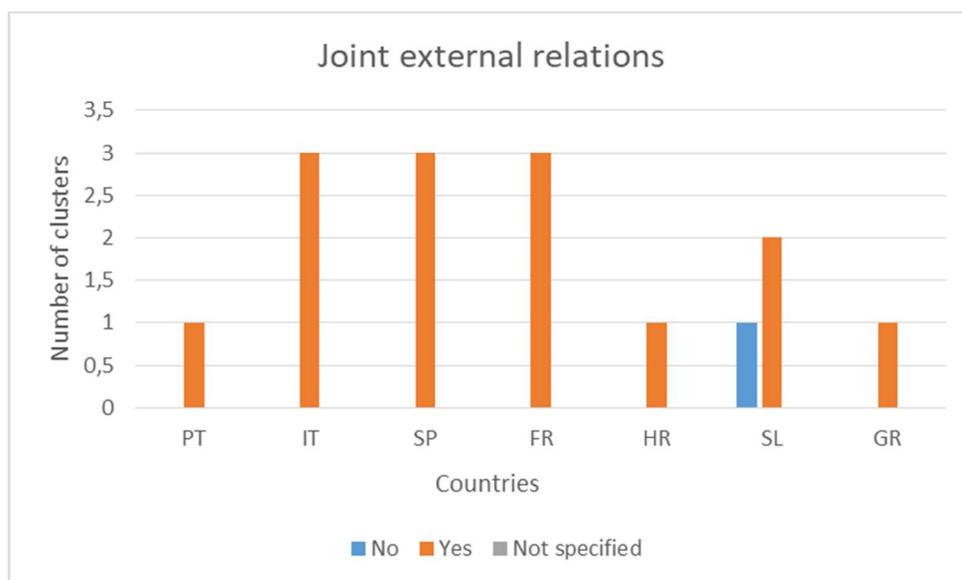


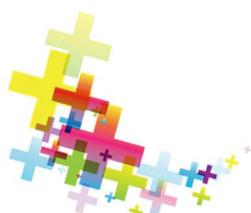
Figure 41. Joint external relationships

Although there are regions like Slovenia, that has specified not to have formal external relationships in any of their clusters identified, in all regions, the development of certain projects in different areas (cultural, urban development...) or as a main body (in charge of labour market, education and human sources) allows establishing close relationships with policy makers, Public Administration (in charge of social inclusion, justice, youth, social security, health, education,...), other entities that are part of the ecosystem in the Third Sector (home care and health care services,...) and in some cases with other networks or organizations of social and solidarity economy or organizations to strengthening the rural population and maintenance the agricultural and cultural activities in rural areas (Slovenia). In Italy, to facilitate connections between cluster and external stakeholders, a platform has been promoted in order to make the relations not only between the policy makers but also among the different networks or stakeholders.

In addition, in regions where many clusters have been identified, it is possible that members of a cluster belong to other clusters.

Due to one of the Slovenia clusters is still in the project start phase and it is still early to act as a unified cluster, external relations are not kept in a cooperative and organized way.

The nature of the members of the clusters determines the degree of external relationships. While small organizations tend to operate in a more closed environment with few external



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interactions, it is easier for larger organizations to keep more relationships with other stakeholders, institutions, networks, clusters, etc.

5.2.13. Public Policies or instruments to support the development of clusters

In some way, public policies have provided an incentive for the creation of clusters. The next figure shows how many of the clusters identified have laws, policies or instruments to support the development of clusters at national, regional and European level.

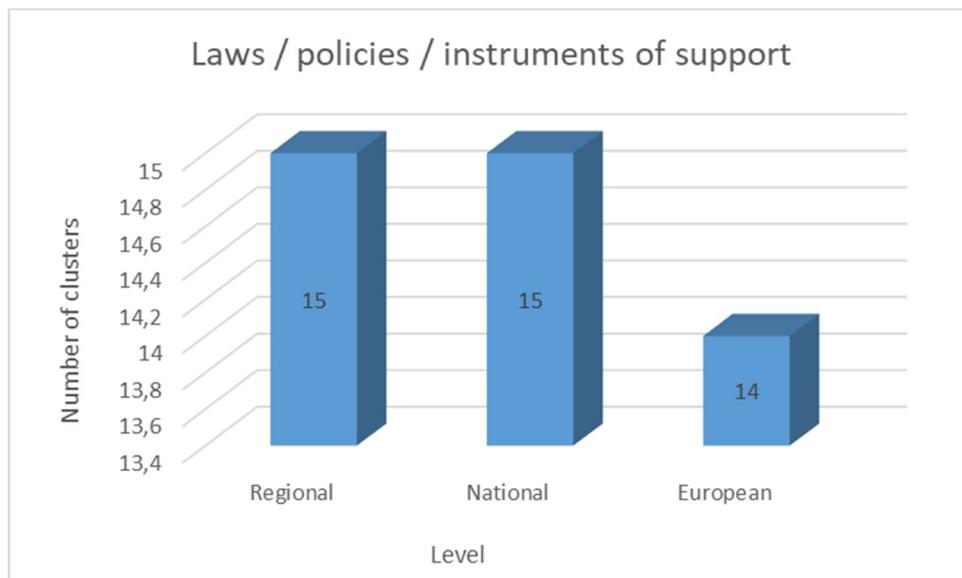


Figure 42. Number of cluster with laws, policies or instruments at different levels

Considering all the clusters identified, only one region has no declare specifically to have European laws, policies or instruments.

The following graph shows what types of policies have benefited the clusters analysed in each of the countries and at different levels (Regional, National and European).



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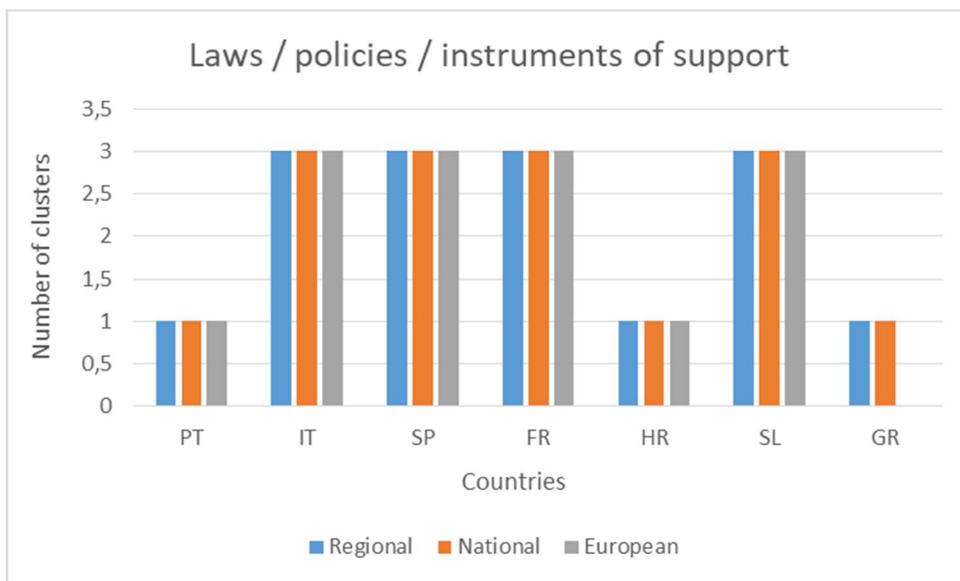


Figure 43. Policies or instruments of support by country

In general, there are public policies and instruments to support the development of clusters in all the regions involved in the project. The structure of the regional policies is connected with national and EU policies.

In the image above, we can see how in most countries there are a variety of policies and funding programs at the regional, national and EU level. The clusters in these countries benefit from public grants and contracts, in some cases related to the urban regeneration (France) and in others cases related to support human resources development, strategies and cooperation initiatives (Croatia), related to the development of rural areas and employment (Slovenia) and related to research and innovation for economic growth and the sustainable development of the socio-economic model (Italy).

In addition, countries like Portugal, Greece and Spain have different regional and national public policies, instruments and tools oriented to social development (territorial cohesion and valorisation, integration of minorities, employment and entrepreneurship promotion, solidarity, etc.). It's important to highlight the fact that Portugal recently has a public initiative in the European context to promote innovation and social entrepreneurship. This is the unique initiative at this level.



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5.2.14. Other topics considered as interesting or that should be highlighted

Based on the information received on “clusters with social vacations and responsiveness” of each of the regions involved in the project, comment that other topics that are considered interesting or that should be highlighted for the present analysis have not been specified. In some case (for example, France), at this point, the web pages of the identified clusters have been indicated.

6. Analysis

6.1. Limitations

In order to carry out this study we have found a series of limitations that could suppose that the conclusions obtained cannot be completely inferred as a set of good practices, something that in its beginnings was the objective of this document.

Among these limitations it is worth noting:

- Information is incomplete in many of the answers, and in other occasions, when dealing with questions with explanations, several questions are answered in one and the following ones are left blank. As an opportunity for improvement for future studies, the information collection schema should be defined in a clearer way, so that the systematic analysis is possible.
- In the same way, the information obtained is not homogeneous either. We have met with: different level of depth, some information is missing, data coming from different years, some partners have not followed the questionnaire, and the number of documented clusters is different in each region.

6.2. Analysis of results

Even though data is not very homogeneous and the differences between regions and countries is clearly visible, it’s still possible to make an accurate analysis of the information and extract some relevant conclusions.

Most of the clusters that are mentioned are cooperatives or associations, with which at a legal level they have to be constituted in some way. Therefore, this is the reason why they are considered to be formally defined. As such, they must establish what type of governance they have and how their members can participate.



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We also wanted to highlight as SVRC those projects that, without being constituted as any of the typical entities, if we consider that they have a special force that can catalyze the creation of new clusters. In addition, those that have not yet been established could take advantage of the project's dynamics to incorporate the 4-helix model, which is not 100% extended as shown in the results.

The year of creation is very different and we have not considered it to be especially transcendent. We can observe a great movement in recent years in countries like Croatia or Slovenia, where aid policies at the European level are being more visible. Countries such as France and Spain, with the case of Catalonia, have SRVCs of great tradition, which come from the 90's.

On the other hand it is noted that the fact of having aid and policies at different levels has been a catalyst for the creation of clusters, because they all name some kind of help. However, in some cases this aid has ceased to exist (for example, in some of the clusters in France), so the solution adopted is the creation of payments by members.

It should also be noted that, as far as external relations are concerned, although they all claim that they do, we are not very clear that they are aware of the meaning of this issue beyond a purely commercial issue.

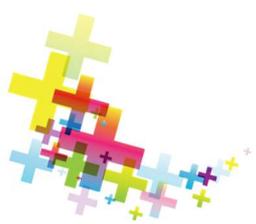
The sectors to which they are directed are also very varied. There is no predominant sector and it depends a lot on the region in which the cluster is established. On the other hand, most regions work in a sector included in its regional strategy RIS3.

All the clusters emphasize the follow-up of the EU principles, although it is true that they do not put too much emphasis on the way in which it is carried out.

7. Conclusions

Finally, once the analysis is finished, we want to highlight the following points as common ground for every identified cluster:

- Most identified clusters are formal (Different levels of “formality”). In some cases it’s not clear whether a cluster is a cluster or only a cooperative
- A large percentage of the formal clusters is due to the fact that it is led by a national cooperative that requires a formal structure



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-  Even though not all clusters follow the 4-helix model, in many cases and in most projects developed by clusters, there are clear connections with the type of members that are missing in their governance structure (for instance, researchers or academia)
 -  It would be recommendable to make an effort to follow the 4-helix model in all projects
-  In general, technological innovation is very low and open data is an open field for every identified cluster, both formal and informal. In general, Open Data technology is completely unknown, what includes its potential benefits or return on investment
-  The policies or laws of support are considered really important for the creation of these SVRCs.

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8. References

-  (Kitchenham2009) Kitchenham, B., Brereton, O. P., Budgen, D., Turner, M., Bailey, J., & Linkman, S. (2009). Systematic literature reviews in software engineering—a systematic literature review. *Information and software technology*, 51(1), 7-15.
-  (Project Documentation) Collection of Information on Social Vocation and Responsiveness Clusters – Alentejo, Aragon, Catalonia, ANCI, Veneto, Aix-Marseille, Prizma, Macedonia.
-  Eurostat – Statistics from Europe

9. Annexes

-  “Collection of Information on Social Vocation and Responsiveness Clusters” documents from every partner (received contributions to this document).



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