

*In this newsletter the work and questions in relations to work package 6 is discussed. The WP runs from December 2019 until the end of November 2020.*



## WP6's deliverables

Right now, the COHSMO-team is working on work package 6, that runs from December 2019 until the end of November 2020. This WP will carry out a cross-evaluation of existing spatial development policies at regional, national and supra-national levels to provide guidance for future recommendations and provide examples of good practices that can support and complement existing EU-cohesion policies and instru-

ments. Therefore, WP6 is associated with two deliverables: D6.1- a working paper from each national partner on dimensions relevant for a systematic matrix of policies and national best practices and D6.2 - A cross-national report of 40 pages on policy recommendations and best practices.

In more details deliverable D6.1, which is in progress right now, will develop a systematic matrix that will provide the

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 727058.



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basis for cross-national evaluation and identification of 'good practices' that can provide the basis for policy learning between regions and countries experiencing similar problems of spatial inequality and lacking territorial cohesion. This matrix will identify examples from the case studies of highly innovative and effective examples of; New initiatives and forms of service delivery developed at national and sub-national levels; How new instruments associated with the current phase of cohesion policy (e.g. integrated sustainable urban development; integrated territorial investments; Community-led local development) have been used innovatively, either individually or in combination; Relevant citizen-led initiatives and relevant private-led initiatives.

One of the questions that we need to answer is what counts as innovation in a way that fits with the COHSMO conceptual framework developed in the previous work packages, and which includes aspects of the social investment perspective. We will work from a combination of existing conceptualizations within the EU commission that emphasize that innovation is tied to new solutions that lead to improved resources and capacity to act, and which includes initiatives taken from civil society in relation to local problems. (EU Commission 2013)

As COHSMO focuses on inequality and developing democratic capacity the above is combined with a focus on innovations that emphasise more cohesive and which empower local communities. (Moulaert et al 2017)

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This is a very interesting question and we look forward to giving the European Union our completed deliverables at the end of November 2020. Now, it is time for the summer and the holiday, which for many is going to be a bit different than we are used to due to the Covid-19 situation. We hope that everybody stays well and take care!

### Further updates

If you want to know more about COHSMO, you can always visit the website [cohsmo.aau.dk](http://cohsmo.aau.dk). Here it is possible to read more about the seven countries and their rural, suburban and urban cases. It is also possible to sign up for the newsletter and afterwards the newsletter will come directly to your email. Otherwise follow COHSMO at the Social media to get the latest news. You will find us if you search on Cohsmo – Inequality, Urbanizations and Territorial Cohesion.

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# PARTNER FEATURE

## ITALY

The Italian COHSMO partner is the Social Policies Lab, a research unit of the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DAStU) of the Polytechnic University of Milan (POLIMI).

POLIMI is a scientific-technological university founded in 1863. It currently counts about 46.000 students, of which almost 7.000 come from abroad. According to the QS Rankings 2019-20, POLIMI is the 1<sup>st</sup> university in Italy in ten research areas and in the top 10 European universities in seven research areas.

Established in 2001, the Social Policies Lab originally focused on the analysis and evaluation of social policies and programmes. Over time it has opened up to addressing broader themes related to the transformations underway in Italy and other European societies and in particular in cities. Through a variety of research, training and consulting activities, the Lab provides occasions to reflect, exchange and produce knowledge, both theoretical and applied, on themes like social inequalities, social and territorial cohesion, school segregation, urban policy, local welfare, and multi-level governance.

Building on an interdisciplinary approach, the Italian team includes both sociologists and urban planners: Costanzo Ranci – team leader, Carolina Pacchi, Stefania Sabatinelli, Andrea Parma, Marta Cordini, and Luca Lazzarini.

The Italian Team will be the lead partner of Work Package 7: "Propose solutions for a more cohesive European territory" in the COHSMO project.

## THE ITALIAN TEAM



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