40Ready
Interreg Europe

40Ready aims to guide SMEs through the I4.0 digital revolution by understanding their skills and digital technology needs, and identifying what policymakers can do to address them.

www.interregeurope.eu/40ready

An interregional cooperation project for improving SMEs competitiveness policies.
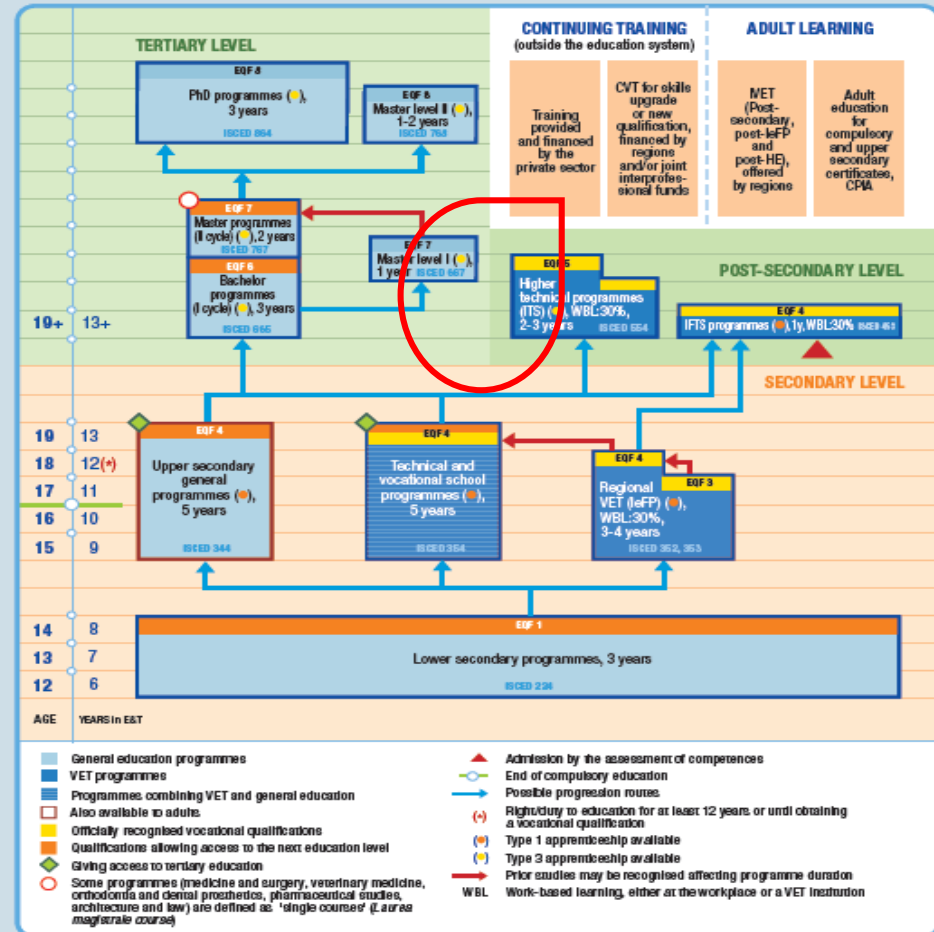
Project Partners

Agency for the development of the Empolese Valdelsa (IT)
Public Service of Wallonia (BE)
Government of Navarra (ES)
Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council (FI)
Regional Government of Tuscany (IT)
Foundation European Social Fund Agency (LT)
Marshal's Office of Silesia Region, Silesian Government (PL)
Regional Intermediate Body for Sectoral Operational Programme Human Resources Development - Bucharest - Ilfov Region (RO)

SME competitiveness

€ 1,16 M ERDF

Aug 2019 Jan 2023

European Union
European Regional Development Fund

Open territorial laboratories 4.0

Strengthening the regional 4.0 VET laboratories and supporting training activities on digital solutions in strategic regional production chains

Spotlight on VET Italy and ITS

VET in Italy's education and training system

- Vocational education and training (VET) in Italy is characterized by multilevel governance with broad involvement of national, regional and local stakeholders.

- Ministries of Education and Labour lay down general rules and common principles for the education and training system. Regions and autonomous provinces are in charge of VET programs and most apprenticeship-type schemes.

- Nb. More info on https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/vet-in-europe/systems/italy-2019

First: talking about ITS Foundations

Higher technical institute programs (ITS)

two- to three-year postsecondary non-academic programs which lead to a high-level technical diploma (EQF level 5).
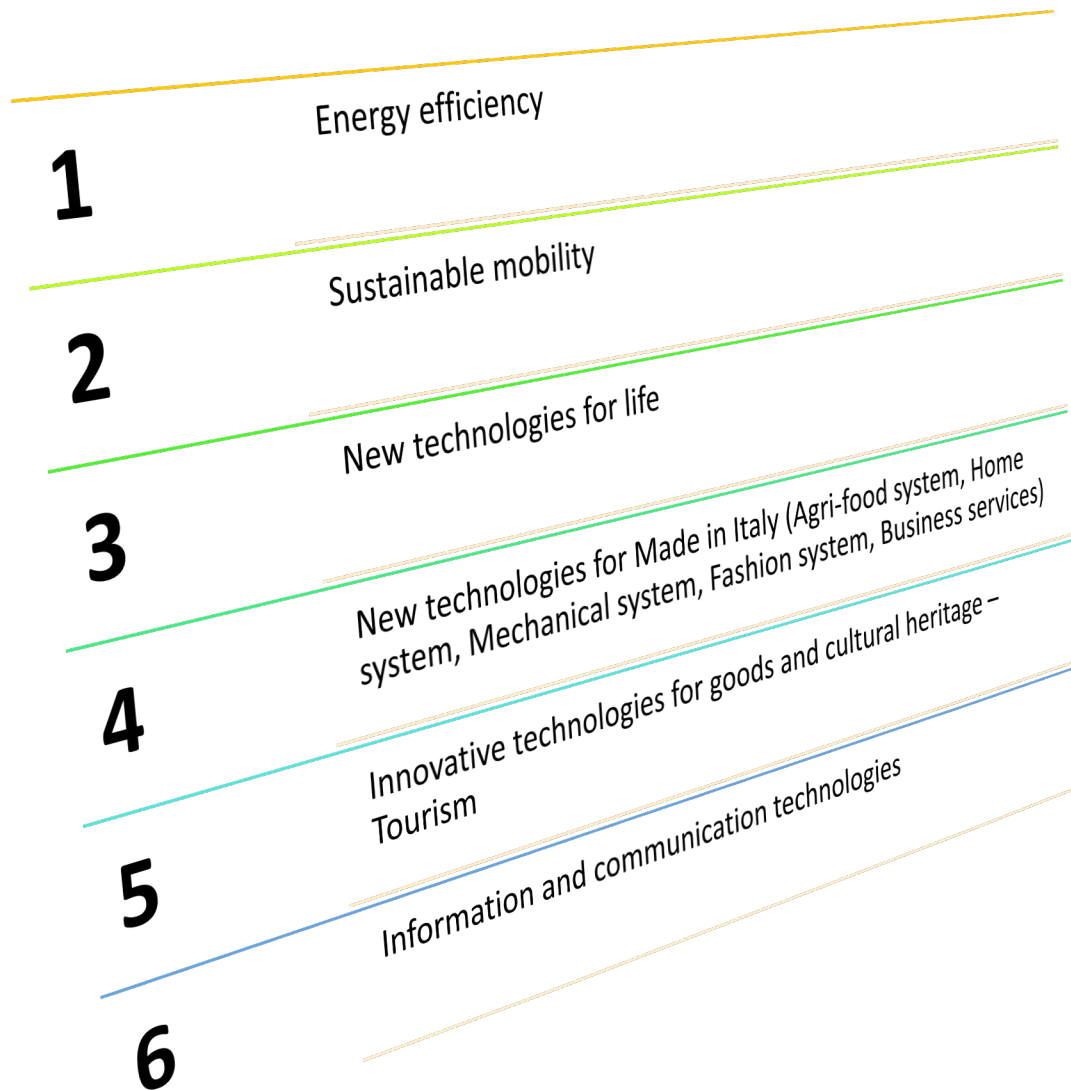
schools of excellence with a high post-diploma technological specialization. They are the expression of a strategy based on the link between education, training and employment policies with industrial policies.

These courses are organized by foundations that represent schools, universities, VET providers, enterprises and local bodies.

They are permanent partnerships playing a bridging role between the education, VET and enterprises

First: talking about ITS Foundations

1 Energy efficiency

2 Sustainable mobility

3 New technologies for life

4 New technologies for Made in Italy (Agri-food system, Home system, Mechanical system, Fashion system, Business services)

5 Innovative technologies for goods and cultural heritage – Tourism

6 Information and communication technologies

- **Reference:** technological areas considered priorities for the economic development and competitiveness of the country

- training designed to offer **technical competencies and skills directly linked to the labour market needs.** In coherence with this approach, **ITS planning is defined by the Regions based on their economic characteristics**

- They focus also on **innovating VET methodologies and supporting transitions** from school and tertiary education to the labour market.

Strengthening of VET 4.0 regional strategy:
Setting up of open territorial laboratories

designed and created by the ITS, they are innovative VET spaces: they can be use by other VET providers, companies and stakeholders.

- *Objectives*
  - strengthen ITS VET programs through training alliances between ITS, vet providers, universities and companies,
  - identifying and anticipating training needs through innovative VET/CVET programs co-designed with companies and universities
  - creating highly innovative spaces and make them available to ITS, schools, VET providers and universities, to develop advanced teaching practices within the local skills ecosystem

- *Targets*
  - High school students
  - University students
  - Member companies of the Foundation (or from its PTP - professional technical pole network)
  - Non-member companies and freelancers (particularly members of professional orders)
  - Employment services, VET providers
  - Citizenship in general.

Strengthening of VET 4.0 regional strategy:
Regional support to open territorial laboratories (I)

In 2018 the renewed regional Training 4.0 strategy has identified one of the regional priorities in the opening of existing ITS laboratories to schools, promoting their use for innovative teaching.

Steps

4 Call for proposals

Regional, ERDF, ESF contribution

6.800.000 euro

The calls are mutually functional and complementary.

For the first time in Tuscany, ROP ESF and ERDF were integrated to fully achieve a common objective. This was one of the main needs identified for Tuscany with the 40Ready project and addressed with these calls, reaching the synergy objectives between the two main regional framework programs for supporting enterprises: the ESF and ERDF operative programs
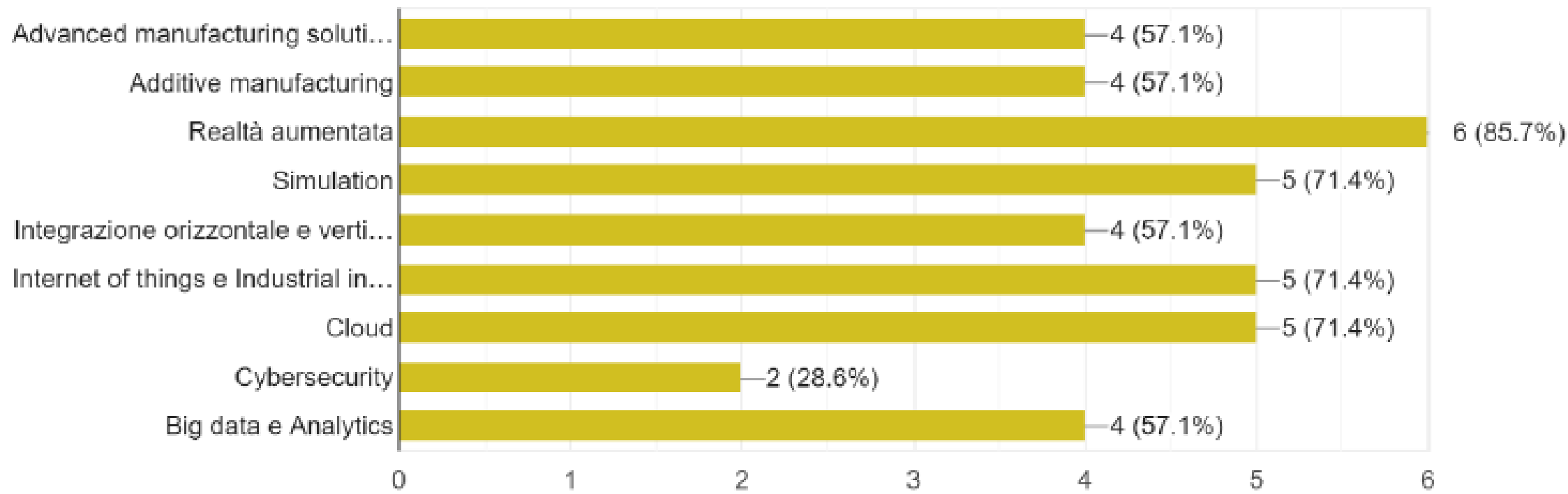
Strengthening of VET 4.0 regional strategy:
Regional support to open territorial laboratories (II)

Call	Year	Objectives	Resources
1st. Call (Regional Funds)	**2019**	Supporting the digital qualification of the ITS Foundations existing laboratories	**1.000.000,00 euro** 7 laboratories supported DD n. 6442 18/04/2019
2nd Call (ERDF)	**2020**	Technological solutions for digital literacy and inclusion, to acquire skills (e-skills), supporting online dialogue, collaboration and civic participation tools (open government) - digital qualification of open territorial laboratories",.	**3.600.000,00 euro** DD n. 17856 29/10/2020 funding referred to action 2.3.1 ROP ERDF 2014-2020 (40READY Project)
3rd Call (ESF)	**2020**	COVID - 19. Development of digital skills in Professional Technical Poles: funding of training courses to trainers and teachers for the acquisition of knowledge and skills to allow an effective use of the open territorial laboratories of the ITS.	**1.285.947,82 euro** DD n. 15815 01/10/2020 (40READY Project)
4th Call (ESF)	**2021**	"Covid-19, development of digital skills in the Professional Technical Poles for integrated digital teaching and open territorial training laboratories": facing the effects of the Covid- 19 to address the increased demand for new digital skills and competences necessary for employment, personal growth and social inclusion	**896.684,92 euro** DD n. 4706 19/3/2021 (40READY Project)

Strengthening of VET 4.0 regional strategy:
technologies adopted by open territorial laboratories

Tecnologie effettivamente adottate nel/i laboratorio/i territoriale/i dell'ITS

7 responses

Strengthening of VET 4.0 regional strategy:
Results from the OTL Calls

A. **ITS FOUNDATION TABTourism, Art and Cultural Heritage Laboratory - LAB-TAB**

   I. The open territorial laboratory of the LAB-TAB project provides for IT solutions to train technicians specialized in the fields ICC, CH and Tourism.

B. **ITS MITA Advanced Laboratory for Fashion Accessories - MITA ALFA**

   I. a strategic space for the FASHION supply chain with advanced machinery with a strong digital impact.

C. **ITS VITA – LIFE Virtual Interaction for Training and Analysis Lab - VITA Lab**

   I. The open territorial laboratory is dedicated to Virtual and Augmented Reality for immersive training, i.e. virtual simulations and advanced 3D designs.

D. **ITS PRIME - Cyber Physical Lab – CPLAB**

   I. The OT Lab allows to understand, configure and individually optimize the most widespread technologies in the processes of the intelligent factory

E. **ITS ISYL - Advanced simulation laboratories for the mobility of people and things - ASL ISYL**

   I. Divided into two sites for different specializations, one on construction (Viareggio) and one on logistics (Livorno), it usese IT solutions integrating the RESINA territorial laboratory ones (REte SIstema Nautico) through two Advanced Simulation environments

F. **ITS EAT - Open territorial laboratory for digital agriculture – LEOPARDT**

   I. A greenhouse for soilless cultivation and a dedicated space for precision agriculture learning.

G. **ITS ENERGY and ENVIRONMENT Laboratory of digital technologies 4.0 for educational experiences in the energy and environmental fields - INNOVATION LAB 4 ENERGY**

   I. Tools for Renewable energies Plant engineering and maintenance, Measurement and environmental impact systems, Electric mobility, Building automation and home automation systems and Maintenance systems for energy distribution systems and networks.

The 40READY Pilot Action

Tuscan partners of 40Ready applied for and were awarded a Pilot
Action related to Open Territorial Labs

The pilot action was designed **to test and model procedures for engagement,
access and use required to open up territorial training laboratory to access from a
wide range of territorial users**.

GOVERNANCE PERSPECTIVE

THANK YOU!

Regione Toscana

Settore Apprendistato e Tirocini

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