

## **RELOS3 Long Term Visit Sabadell 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

### **REPORT OF THE EVENT**

The city of Sabadell hosted, from 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 a Long Term Visit (LTV) of the RELOS3 Interreg project partners. Sabadell was chosen by all the rest of RELOS3 partners to learn more about the smart specialization development of this city and Catalonia. The event was organised by the Economic Development Agency of the Sabadell City Council, lead partner of the RELOS3 project.

This is the second Long Term Visit of the project, after the first one that took place in Emmen. This Long Term Visit allowed Sabadell to showcase two key aspects of their local eco-system: the robust number of institutions supporting the innovation process and the diversity of Quadruple Helix actors (i.e. business, academia, government and civil society) that interact in the framework of the RIS3. Moreover, the visit allowed partners to learn more about the contents and instruments developed by the Catalan RIS3, implemented by the Generalitat de Catalunya. Finally, participants discussed specific examples of Local Actions Plans (LAP) of other Interreg projects, a useful tool for the development of their own LAP in the near future.

The first day of the LTV included a visit to Leitat, a technological centre currently participating in several projects related to Smart Specialization in Catalunya, and a partner in the Sabadell Specialization and territorial Competitiveness Project (PECT).

During the morning of the 28<sup>th</sup> November partners were officially welcomed to the city by Mr. Eduard Navarro, Councillor for Employment, Enterprise and Human Resources at Sabadell City Council, after which they could learn more about the RIS3CAT strategy and the Specialization and Territorial Competitiveness Project of Sabadell (PECT). First, with the presentation of Mrs. Tatiana Fernández, Head of the Economic Promotion Area of the General Directorate of Economic Development, Competence and Regulation, Generalitat de Catalunya, which was followed by the presentation of the Sabadell PECT by Iolanda Repullo, Head of Business Development Department, Sabadell City Council. The afternoon of this same day was devoted to the in-depth presentation of four PECT partners: a School of Design (ESDI), a Hospital and Research Centre (Parc Taulí), Universitat Autònoma Barcelona (UAB) and the Barberà del Vallès City Council. RELOS3 partners had the opportunity to ask questions related to their role in the specialization project and the benefits it represents for their organizations.

The 29<sup>th</sup> started with a series of pre-scheduled bilateral meetings between RELOS3 partners and key Catalan actors in the different specialization domains of the RELOS3 project partners: industrial systems, tourism, maritime sector or agro-food. Each RELOS3 partner had the chance to meet companies, public bodies, research centres in these domains, widening the network of contacts from both sides and learning from their experience and insights. The afternoon was devoted to the presentations of specific

cases of two instruments of the Catalan Smart Specialization Strategie (RIS3CAT): the Specialization and Territorial Competitiveness Project (PECT) and the RIS3CAT Communities. Three examples of both instruments were presented by the person in charge of the project.

The last day of the LTV was devoted to visit the Centre d'Empreses Industrials Can Roqueta, a public start-up and companies' incubator owned by Sabadell City Council, and to the discussion of the Action Plans that RELOS3 partners should develop and deploy in the frame of the project.

The following sections describe the main ideas and findings presented and discussed in this three-day long term visit to Sabadell.

## **DAY 1 -27<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

### **Visit to Leitat Technological Centre & lam3DHUB**

#### **Introduction to Leitat projects related to Smart Specialization**

*Adrián CRESPO Project Manager, Leitat*

*Patricia GUERRERO, Communication specialist, lam3DHUB*

*Ismael MELERO Senior 3D printing specialist, lam3DHUB*

The LTV started with a visit to Leitat<sup>1</sup>, a research and technological centre located in Terrassa, a municipality near Sabadell. This research centre was founded more than 100 years ago and has been a key agent in the innovation system of the Vallès area (the county where Sabadell is located) and Catalunya. Leitat aims at Managing Technologies to create and transfer social, environmental, economic and industrial sustainable value for companies and entities through research and technology processes, and currently collaborates with more than 45 countries in more than 215 projects in the sectors of: Biotechnology, Health, Advanced Materials, Industrial Chemistry, Renewable Energies and New Production Processes. They are specialized in technology transfer, which allow generating collaborative and reliable business environments to achieve an economy based on knowledge and talent development. Mr. Adrian Crespo, project Manager of Leitat presented the different projects linked to the Smart Specialization Strategy of Catalunya in which they are currently participating. Specifically, Leitat is now involved in several RIS3CAT communities, an instrument created by the Catalan government to promote triple helix cooperation in the different specialization domains of the region, being the coordinator of two of them: one related to

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- <https://www.leitat.org/english/>

technologies Applied to Health, oriented to promote innovation in medical technologies within the ecosystem of innovation, and a second on 3D printing an advanced manufacturing.

The presentation raised several questions among the partners, related mostly to the impacts and benefits of participating in the RIS3CAT process and to the specific ways of building cooperation with other agents of the innovation system. In this sense, Mr. Crespo stated that for them the most important impact is the opportunity they have to develop and design new products and services, which would be costlier without the RIS3CAT Communities framework. About the cooperation, Mr. Crespo explained that the “Communities” instrument covers all the value chain of innovation, where each participating company and entity give their knowledge to solve a shared challenge related to the needs of the specialization domain. Leitat speaker highlights that creating such a “RIS3CAT Community” is not easy as one of the conditions of the instrument to receive funding is that all partners are in Catalunya. This makes it difficult finding the right partner, resulting in these Communities being created among partners that have previous history of cooperation.

After the presentation of Leitat, partners could learn about a very recent project in which this centre is involved, the IAM3D HUB<sup>2</sup>. This is the first hub of digital innovation in Europe specialized in 3D manufacturing, designed for the integration and coordination of economic activity in the advanced manufacturing and 3D printing innovation ecosystem of Catalunya and for developing strong ties with AM / 3DP European and worldwide ecosystem. The Hub will provide SMEs a “One-Stop Shop” to assess, guide and address all their needs in advanced manufacturing. Right now the Hub counts with 7 stakeholders from the private sector and research and technological centres. The hub is

Self-financed and receives also EU funding.



Figure 1. Partners of the IAM3D HUB<sup>3</sup>.

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- <http://iam3dhub.org/>

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Once full operative, it will offer services to SME and other agents of the AM/3DP ecosystem. In this hub, Leitat puts the expertise and laboratories in 3D printing, and will advise the three 3D factory incubators that the hub will offer to companies to scale-up their projects.

The visit to Leitat ended with a guided tour to the premises of the 3D printing laboratories and spaces, which gave RELOS3 partners the opportunity to know more about the specific way of operating of this manufacturing system.

### **DAY 2 -28<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

The second day was devoted to gain knowledge about the Catalan RIS3 and the Sabadell's PECT. As it has been seen during the previous meetings and exchanges of the RELOS3 project, this is a good example of the involvement of sub-regional governments in the Deployment of RIS3 strategies, and it has raised the interest of partners in a continued way.

The session started with the official welcome to the city and the LTV by Mr. Eduard Navarro, Councillor for Employment, Enterprise and Human Resources at Sabadell City Council, who highlighted the long commitment of Sabadell with innovation and its early involvement in the Smart Specialization Strategy process, as they are aware of its relevance for the city's economy.

### **Focus on the Catalan RIS3 and the Sabadell PECT**

#### **RIS3CAT strategy: Main features and challenges**

*Tatiana FERNÁNDEZ*

*Head of the Economic Development Area*

*General Directorate of Economic Development, Competence and Regulation,  
Generalitat de Catalunya*

Mrs. Fernández presented the process of design and creation of the RIS3CAT, the Catalan strategy for Smart Specialization. This strategy was designed and is currently being managed, monitored and coordinated by the General Directorate of Economic Development of the Catalan government, responsible also for the execution of the ERDF.

The speaker presents the background of the RIS3 in Catalunya, highlighting that this region is one of the most innovative of Spain, and leads many indicators as R&D investment or scientific publications. However, the Catalan R&D system presents also some challenges as the lack of cooperation between private companies and the research and technological centers. In this sense, a key goal of the Catalan RIS3 has

been to promote collaboration to transform knowledge into economic activity. It's about becoming more competitive maintaining sustainability. The RIS3CAT has, according to the speaker, a relevant difference respect other RIS3 in Europe: it was designed from a "bottom-up" perspective, with little involvement of actors of the innovation ecosystem, but during the implementation phase the Catalan government has given a huge role to these actors, from companies, R&D sector and also local governments. This participation has been channelled through competitive calls and innovative public procurement.

Different type of instruments were designed to achieve the involvement of actors, as this was considered the best way to provide answers to the challenges of the economic and the innovation system. The design and implementation of these instruments have not been easy, as according to Mrs. Fernández, ERDF were not prepared to manage innovation projects, as in the past ERDF were mostly focused in infrastructure development. For instance, the translation of the bureaucracy of ERDF to innovation projects might hamper the process somehow. Another specific difficulty faced by the RIS3CAT was the involvement of the local governments, which was a key issue since the first steps of this strategy. The Catalan government knew that territories had to be the ones to find specific solutions to the global challenges of the Catalan innovation system.

The presentation/session continued with a discussion about the specific instruments of the RIS3CAT strategy. The figure below shows them:

RIS3CAT also identifies tools and public policies. It combines consolidated and new R+D+I instruments.

- RIS3CAT communities
- Support for emerging activities
- Support for the development of key technological capacities
- Research and technology transfer infrastructures
- Support for collaborative R+D projects
- Support tools for technology evaluation and transfer
- International agreements and collaboration in R+D and technology transfer
- Innovative public procurement
- Projects of territorial specialisation and competitiveness (PECT).

Figure 2. RIS3CAT instruments<sup>4</sup>

Some of the instruments were somehow a continuation of previous ones implemented by the Catalan government, but others were designed completely anew, as RIS3CAT Communities and PECT. The first one offers up to 50% funding to the creation of networks (Communities) formed by companies, research centers, technological centers and universities to develop innovative products and services in one of the specialization

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- [http://catalonia.com/newsletter\\_news/newsletter/issue6/ris3cat.jsp](http://catalonia.com/newsletter_news/newsletter/issue6/ris3cat.jsp)

domains of the RIS3CAT. PECT offered funding for the development of projects to promote specialization in local areas (subregional entities), led by a local administration with the collaboration of research and technology sector and civil society. Until now, **there have been ..calls** of the Community Instrument and one call of the PECT one, with a new call foreseen for 2019. The projects have to be innovative and contribute to the goals and objectives of the EU and Catalan RIS3, and in this sense, the issue of the monitoring system has been very critical.

In order to monitor the projects developed until now in the framework of the different RIS3CAT instruments, the Catalan government has recently created a monitoring platform: <http://unics.cloud/ris3/mcat/>. This Big Data platform allows people responsible for the RIS3CAT to have insights on smart specialization, to know how the RIS3CAT is working, helping them to make decisions on future instruments or improving existing ones. The data used comes from the CORDIS database plus the ERDF data added by the Catalan government.

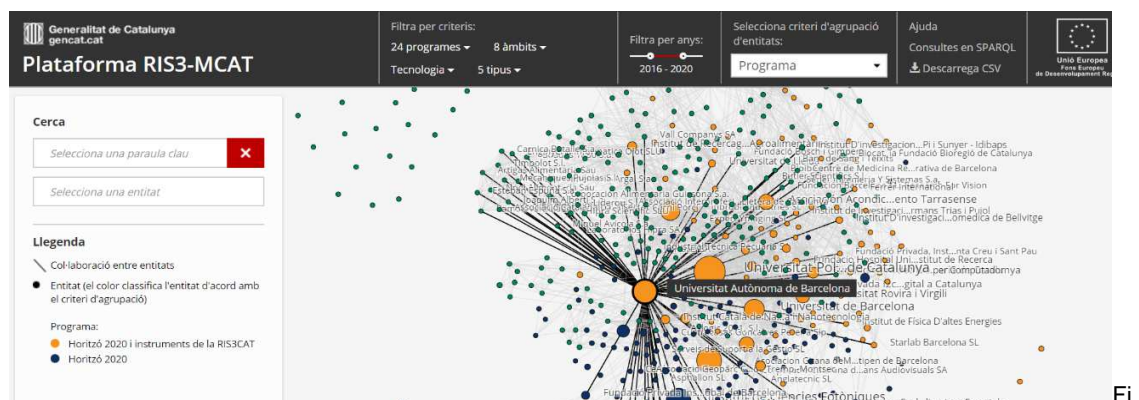


Figure 3. Image of the network analysis of the Platform RIS3-MCAT

This platform allows to analyse the participation of different actors of the Catalan innovation system in the RIS3CAT projects, giving relevant information about the type and intensity of participation of the different stakeholders. A first analysis shows that not all relevant stakeholders are participating in the ERDF funded projects (as Comunitats or PECT), but instead are very active in the Horizon 2020 funds. Another interesting analysis shows that there are “usual suspects” very central in the ERDF but less in other type of projects.

The presentation of Mrs Fernández raised several questions in the audience. Some of them focused on the PECT instrument and the involvement of the local governments in the implementation of innovation and smart specialization projects. In this sense, the speaker explained that in the first call they saw that not all local governments had “understood” the instrument in the same way: some have gone further than others, that presented more “classical” economic promotion projects. Another issue has been that in some of the projects presented, universities capture local administration, as they are the ones with more expertise in R&D projects, so they become leaders in the shadow of the PECT. This is not the goal of this instrument, which intends to promote collaboration, and not only that the local government provides the space for the innovation projects of

the universities. The concept is shared value, applied to relations between local government, companies and research institutions.

A second group of questions were related to the methodology of Entrepreneurial Discovery Process which Catalan government followed to define “Smart Specialization areas”. Participants were interested in knowing why there was little involvement of innovation actors. According to Mrs. Fernandez, they wanted to avoid EDP becoming a discussion about how to “give the money”, so they preferred to focus on the EDP in practice, making actors think on specific challenges through the specific projects they designed with the RIS3CAT instruments.

The intervention of Mrs. Fernández ended with a discussion about the next RIS3 in Catalonia in the 2021-2027 financing period. She stated that focus should be about challenges and how to solve them with the assets we have, and not that much about specific sectors or domains. This is a better way to involve different actors and to avoid discussions about which sector is more important or relevant.

### **Sabadell RIS3 specialisation process**

***Iolanda Repullo***

***Head of the Business Development Department, Sabadell City Council***

The presentation offered a detailed description of the Project of Specialization and Territorial Competitiveness of Sabadell (PECT in its Catalan acronym), which was one of the winning proposals in the first call for projects of this RIS3CAT instrument.

This PECT, titled “Vallès Industrial: innovació i disseny de la indústria europea” is led by the Business Development Department of the Sabadell City Council, and focuses its specialisation on the topic of design applied to industrial systems. The project, with a total budget of 5M€ and 50% funding, in the framework of the RIS3CAT, and the OP Catalunya ERDF 2014-2020, priority axis 1: to promote research, technological development and innovation.

The project counts with the involvement of different actors of the innovation ecosystem in Vallès county territory, both as direct beneficiaries or as collaborating partners: three other local administrations (Barberà del Vallès, Sant Quirze del Vallès and Castellar del Vallès); one foundation related with design and research (Fundació de Disseny Tèxtil FUNDIT-ESDI); a hospital foundation for research (Fundació Parc Taulí) and a public university (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona). The project will implement five operations through seventeen different actions oriented to promote innovation in the industrial ecosystem of the city, to facilitate the transition to the smart specialisation in design.



Mrs. Repullo explained that the project is mainly the result of previous innovation policies of Sabadell City Council, which led the Vallès County Innovation Plan back in 2008. From then, several initiatives led to the decision of following S3 european strategy by working towards the smart specialization of the city under a project within 1<sup>st</sup> PECT call: the promotion of two clusters of specialization: the packaging cluster and the medical technologies cluster, which allowed the identification of companies that could be part of the value chain of these two clusters. These initiatives were the basis of the transformation that started with the conscious specialization process. In fact, Sabadell City Council was an early follower of the RIS, and they started to read and inform themselves about Smart Specialization very soon (2013) even before the Catalan strategy was designed and approved. When the PECT call was opened by the Catalan government for them it was a natural development from the previous collaboration they had with different stakeholders, so Sabadell started soon to develop a project for this call. As said before, the Sabadell PECT was one of the 25 approved projects, out of 36 presented. However, some of the foreseen operations of the project were not approved, resulting in some partners becoming direct beneficiaries while others (Barberà del Vallès City Council, for instance) remained as collaborators.

The speaker highlighted that the PECT is being useful to boost a change in the innovation capacity of the local industrial ecosystem towards the industrial design specialization. In particular, there were several relevant factors that facilitated the specialization process: a fitting business context; fitting strategic axes of the region on S3; fitting other projects of «communities» (instrument addressed to companies and research institutions to foster specialization) and the alignment with the innovation strategy developed until then. However, she also mentioned some problems, as the fact that the call took almost two years to have a definitive resolution, which created certain mistrust within the partnership. Moreover, the fact that some of the activities were not eligible, meant some changes in the project, that partners had to assume.

In any case, the PECT has created new opportunities not directly involved in the official approved activities. Six operations were approved, each one leaded by one of the beneficiary partners: project coordination (Sabadell City Council); Observatory of smart competitiveness (UAB); Promotion of advanced manufacturing (Eurecat); Tecnodesign (FUNDIT); Design and innovation in active aging (Fundació Parc Taulí); Promotion of circular economy (Sant Quirze del Vallès City Council).

After the presentation, a discussion started with several questions from the audience. Specifically, there was interest in knowing more about the specific coordination between the Sabadell PECT and the Catalan government to foster the innovation process, an issue that was answered by the previous speaker, representative of the Catalan government. For them the local initiatives are very relevant, but the key issue is how to link them to the regional level, something that was not done before. In the RIS3 framework the multiscale cooperation should be focussed on innovation and common challenges. So, the path is not defined yet on how to keep collaboration, which implies the need to explore different tools and see how to collaborate among administrations. In this sense, not all local governments have the same “readiness” to innovation, therefore



it is critical to work with those that are more interested, as the case of Sabadell. Other issues discussed were related to the mechanisms of cooperation among the PECT partners and the problems which might appear of the project being captured by research centres or universities.

About the first one, Mrs. Repullo stated that in fact they are all connected, in one hand because the call asked for this connection to be showed. Through the challenges and the specific specialization choice this was achieved. On second hand, the project has developed governance mechanisms that ensure coordination and collaboration, avoiding this issue, also because all partners were clear about the cooperation goals and had time to develop trust.

### **Sabadell's PECT partners**

The afternoon of the 28<sup>th</sup> November was devoted to meeting several partners of the Sabadell PECT. During this session, PECT partners presented their institutions and discussed their role in the PECT and benefits of being part of it, after which a roundtable of questions was opened with the interventions of the audience. The goal was to allow RELOS3 partners to know more about Sabadell's PECT partners and their specific role in the PECT as well as to foster the transferability of learnings to RELOS3 partners' action plans. For this reason, RELOS3 partners were asked to answer a brief questionnaire to help them take the most profit of the interventions.

The participant PECT partners were:

- A foundation based on design and research : FUNDIT Speaker: Eva GARRELL, Director of International Relations**
- **A university (research área): Parc de Recerca de la Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Speaker: Konstantinos Kourkoutas, Coordinator Living Lab-UAB**
- **1 health research centre: Institut d'Investigació i Innovació Parc Taulí. Speaker: Lluís Blanch**
- **1 city council: Ajuntament de Barberà del Vallès. Speaker: Isabel BAÑOS NODUS (economic promotion office) Technical Director**

After a brief presentation of their activities, each partner explained the **advantages of being involved in the PECT**:

FUNDIT, Fundació per la Indústria, pioneer in smart design education and research highlighted the positive effect on the visibility they obtain at European level (it is a door to other EU projects) and the possibility to reach relevant actors in their field, as the advanced manufacturing or the virtual reality or the 4.0 industry. Regarding this last topic, the PECT gives them the possibility to reach traditional companies and accompany them in their transformation towards the 4.0 manufacturing, making real the concepts related to these technologies and their applicability.

In the case of the **Parc de Recerca Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona**, UAB, participating in this project aligns with the social responsibility they have in the territory where they are located, the Vallès Occidental county, and contributes to co-create the territorial strategy. Moreover, it gives them the chance to work with actors that otherwise would remain unknown for them. Last, the PECT allows them to finance ideas and tools they are already working on.

The **Institut d'Investigació i Innovació Parc Taulí**, a research and innovation center linked to Parc Taulí Hospital, one of the most important in Vallès area, highlighted similar benefits as the ones described by the two previous partners: the chance to work with actors you do not usually work with and the contribution to the territorial strategy, but also mentioned the opportunity to engage with citizens and to be able to incorporate their ideas to solutions linked with design of health related innovative products and services. The PECT will allow them to work with patients, so it is a change from previous innovation activities.

The last intervention, by **Barberà City Council**' representative showed how the PECT has engaged actors even if they are not receiving the ERDF funds. For Barberà del Vallès the advantages of being in this project are multidimensional: impact in jobs, improvement of contact with the productive sector, engaging with key actors of the innovation ecosystem...Moreover, the work developed in the PECT will serve for other future actions of this municipality. For Barberà, more than financing, the PECT means the chance to promote networking with usual and new partners and align with the territorial strategy.

In general, all PECT partners mentioned that the PECT gives them the chance to connect with the territorial dimension of innovation (local administration and citizens), as this is mostly an unknown world for the innovation actors. The role of the public administration as promoter of the network is key, giving them a new vision of challenges and how to solve them, giving a context to the innovations they produce.

As mentioned, after these presentations the RELOS3 partners could reflect in a short questionnaire the learnings that PECT could give to their own situation, and to help them identify good practices to incorporate to their action plan. The questionnaire had four items: in the first, RELOS3 partners were asked to signal the relevance of the Sabadell's PECT operations for the RIS3 in your territory. In the second, they had to mention one or

two specific examples of interaction among Sabadell's PECT partners that could be translated to their Action Plan, to promote interaction among agents involved in the RIS3 in their territory. Thirdly, they were asked to mention how they could use the example of Sabadell's PECT partners to engage new stakeholders into their RIS3 and Action Plan. Last, they were asked to select one practice of their RIS3 strategy that could be useful to Sabadell's PECT partners. **The questionnaires are annexed to this document.**

We offer the results of the partners that answered:

### 1. Relevance of PECT

In general, all RELOS3 partners found the PECT operations relevant for them, being Tartu the one that gave a higher relevance to all operations. Both Tartu and Wielkopolska found very relevant the involvement of Barberà City Council, while Bologna ranked higher the ESDI case.

### 2. Examples of cooperation in the PECT relevant for RELOS3 partners:

Tartu:

*All local government operations are interesting for us because although the context might be different in different countries, it always gives inspiration to change something in our city and start something new. For instance, it was great to hear the examples from Catalonia about creating a good environment for companies (e.g. via technology centres).*

*Example of Parc Taulí is relevant because there is a similar context in Tartu - we have several universities (the largest and oldest is the University of Tartu) and Tartu University Hospital (the only teaching hospital and the largest provider of medical care in Estonia) which gives the city several advantages that we should use as much as possible.*

Bologna:

*The Open UAB Labs Co-creation Process, we could take the form used for a first phase of meetings and a second phase of working groups with interdisciplinary subjects coming from various realities of the territory and above all from different university faculties.*

*The Innovation Model at Parc Taulí from the idea to transfer technology to contribute to the promotion of research, technological development and the innovation of the industrial systems and the advanced manufacture.*

Wielkopolska:

*The process of working in a systematic way on the local level - so the idea of PECT as a whole engaging various partners/stakeholders. Not everyone gets funds and still sees value to participate in PECT.*

### 3. **Application of PECT examples to their territories**

Tartu:

*It was good to see strong emphasis on involving companies and business development organisations and it gave us some ideas regarding the potential activities of the action plan and especially concerning the process of implementing these activities.*

Wielkopolska:

*Sabadell's PECT is a complex instrument, focused on social challenges and on Economy 4.0 and this approach could be quite encouraging to engage new stakeholders into our Action Plan*

Bologna:

*The same Open UAB Labs Co-creation Process could be a good way to engage new stakeholders into RIS3 and Action Plan*

### 4. **Selection of one practice of their RIS3 strategy that could be useful to Sabadell's PECT partners**

Tartu:

*SPARK Demo might be a good example to use to showcase great companies from the region where PECT is implemented.*

Wielkopolska:

*For them it was hard to say whether Sabadell's PECT could benefit from any good practice in Wielkopolska. Perhaps one of the good practices identified for the RELOS3 project could come useful, namely "Territorial targeting of Regional Operational Programme of Wielkopolska Region 2014-2020 (WRPO 2014+)"*

Bologna

*Creation of metropolitan hub for information and support on crowdfunding and, in general, for alternative financial tools. This could be a way to get more budget to finance new projects.*

### DAY 3 - 29<sup>th</sup> November

The third full day of the LTV agenda focussed on the networking among RELOS3 partners and key actors of the innovation ecosystem of Sabadell, Catalunya and Spain. In the afternoon, RELOS3 partners could know more about specific on-going examples of the two most relevant instruments of the Catalan RIS3CAT, regarding the RELOS3 topic: the RIS3CAT Communities and the PECT.

#### Bilateral exchanges with key stakeholders of the territory

This session was intended to give RELOS3 partners the opportunity to get in touch with relevant stakeholders of the territory involved in different aspects of the RIS3CAT development, which are linked to RELOS3 partners' topic(s) of specialisation. The session was organised using the 'speed dating' methodology, so that in a relatively short time each partner could reach a relevant number of stakeholders. The list of participating stakeholders had been distributed beforehand to RELOS3 partners, who selected to whom they wanted to speak with.

	i2CAT	ENISA	Tourism policy - Diputació de Barcelona	Tarragona Smart Mediterranean Region	UPC	Tourism strategy- Barcelona City Council
Wielkopolska						
Emmen						
Bologna						
Tartu						
Malta						

Figure 4. Meetings between RELOS3 partners and Catalan stakeholders

After each 'speed date' the RELOS3 partner had to fill out a questionnaire to propitiate the reflection on what the partner brings to its action plan of the discussion with the stakeholder.

#### RIS3CAT Instruments experiences: RIS3CAT COMMUNITIES and PECT

##### 1. PECT

Each PECT case first explained their case, focussing on the goals of the PECT, which partners are part of the project and how they were found and selected, a general overview of the activities and the current state of development. Secondly, they explained the positive and less positive issues that have arisen during the deployment of the project.

Case 1 - INNO4AGRO Turisme Agroatel·ligent (led by Lleida City Council).

Case 2 - PECT TurisTIC en familia (led by the provincial government (Diputació) of Tarragona).

Case 3 - PECT Energia i Forest (led by the Berguedà City Council).

## 2. RIS3CAT COMMUNITIES

First, the audience had the chance to listen to Mr. Albert BALLBÉ Head of evaluation and follow-up of R&D and Innovation projects, ACCIÓ Agència per la Competitivitat de l'Empresa. He presented the RIS3CAT Communities instrument and the work ACCIÓ carries out.

Secondly, three approved COMMUNITIES explained their case, focussing on the goals of the Community, which partners are part of the project and how they were found and selected, a general overview of the activities and the current state of development. There was also a focus on the positive and less positive issues that have arisen during the deployment of the project.

Case 1 - Agrifood Production Technologies (COTPA)

Case 2 - Utilities 4.0

Case 3 - Industries of the Future

### Day 4 – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018

The last day of this LTV was devoted to provide feedback to the project's lead partner, Sabadell, on their specialisation strategy, as well as to foster the transferability of learnings to the development of RELOS3 partners' action plans. Last, it was useful to gain knowledge and tips on the development of RELOS3 action plans.

The session was divided in three parts, which main learnings are summarized below:

#### Feedback to Sabadell

During the first activity RELOS3 partners gave the Sabadell team feedback on its specialisation project. Specifically, partners were asked to highlight one strength and one weakness they have observed about the PECT and its implementation.

**Bologna:**

Strength: a different way to use ERDF than Bologna. Entitles local authorities to have a role.

Weakness: requires different local authorities' mindset. Co-producing in designing the strategy and the instrument. Governance issue, more than economic development.

**Wielkopolska:**

Strength: different way of thinking and taking innovation and RIS3 in the local level. Whole discussion of how to manage / understand an innovation ecosystem.

Weakness: need to change the language and convince local authorities to start this process. Need to train and make the people in charge aware of their role.

**Malta:**

Strength: good way to develop public-private collaboration.

Weakness: potential cultural fear from private companies to join public projects.

**Tartu:**

Strength: flexible formula where different scales of local administration can lead the PECT.

Weakness: there are not yet results or impact evaluation. Let's see the success. Can happen to have a good result in scientific area but not so much in business. Need to invest on people in local authorities.

**Learnings from other Interreg Europe action plans**

In this activity each partner presented one issue learnt during the Long-Term Visit that they want to incorporate to their Action Plan.

**Tartu:**

Action Plan based on a supporting scheme to digitalize production of innovative manufacturing companies.

Learning: discussion with UPC and their 4.0 strategy. Bringing companies and entrepreneurs in their scientific and advisory committees.



**Malta:**

Action plan based on biotech sector.

Learning: broad vision of new policies and actions.

**Wielkopolska:**

Action plan based on strengthen the network and collaboration between the agents. Need to add value with this network.

Learning: include as much ecosystem institutions as it is possible. Invest on selection of the best stakeholders, the ones aligned with the strategy.

**Bologna:**

They were inspired for their Action plan based on boosting one of the RIS3 Bologna sectors, manufacturing - new industry, and understanding education as a development instrument.

Learnings:

- Through the discussion with Tourism department of Provincial Government of Barcelona: inclusion of entrepreneurship focus in the tourism metropolitan area and to invest in branding linked to industry.
- Through (Tarragona Smart City Foundation): method for connecting in the practice university with the city matching circular with collaborative economy. Last year's students trying to solve city challenges.
- Through "Smart lab" project (i2CAT): testing new technologies in the city level. Municipalities detecting challenges and SME / clusters being organized to work on the solving.
- Through Centre d'Empreses Can Roqueta (Sabadell): big and flexible and public initiatives. There is a huge discussion about coworking spaces in Bologna. Sabadell business centre can help in that.
- Big data discussion.

**Sabadell:**

A big result of this LTV has been the first meeting in Catalunya where PECT and RIS3CAT Communities instruments shared their approaches and look for future synergies between sectoral and territorial innovation and specialization projects.

## How to make and Action Plan

Last, there was a presentation of an Action Plans developed by Tartu in another Interreg Europe project, presented by Mr. Siim Espenberg, and of an Action Plan of the Interreg Europe project TRINNO , presented by Mr. Jordi Garcia Brustenga. The goal was to show RELOS3 partners how to include critical issues that are mandatory in Interreg Europe action plans.

Mr. Espenberg explained the “Development Strategy Tartu 2030” Action Plan, in the framework of INNO INFRA SHARE Interreg Europe Project.

Mr. Garcia explained the North-West Ireland Action Plan in the framework of TRINNO Interreg Europe Project.

Partners made questions around the content and methodological aspects of these 2 best practices of Action Plans. They were thankful to both cases for the practical information about this important keystone for RELOS3 in the next year.