

PROJECT OUTLINE

DA CANDIDARE AL BANDO URBAN INNOVATIVE ACTIONS 2018

TOPIC: JOBS AND SKILLS IN THE LOCAL ECONOMY

SUMMARY

The project aims at designing and building the future metropolitan landscape of jobs, to allow a **smart and inclusive** transition to the more environmentally friendly economy, in other words a sustainable metropolitan city.

Milano is recognized as one of the EU's leading business ecosystems, and a benchmark in Italy concerning innovation and entrepreneurship. For this reason, radical technological transformations such as the 5G communication technology and other enabling technologies will be implemented and experimented here. For the first time in Europe, it will be possible to observe their impact on several fields like health, urban mobility, safety, entertainment, manufacturing, as well as on education and training.

However, if we are talking about the impact on people (citizens, students, workers, entrepreneurs, actors of innovation), we can't focus solely on municipality of Milan, but **we should rather include the whole metropolitan area which is made of** 134 cities where 3.3 million people live and more than 300 thousand companies operate. Moreover, this area contains smart economic districts, silent actor of innovations that live in the shadow of Milano, contributing at reinforcing its image in the world.

Milan is a rich place, but not everyone is equally rich in Milan, especially those that live in the peripheries have a significantly lesser income than the happy few living in the city centre. According to the EU-financed project Divercities (www.urbandivercities.eu/milan) the province of Milan has consistently been the wealthiest of the country: its per capita GDP is among the highest in Italy. However, that wealth is not equally distributed: the richest 10% owns 40% of the income; their income is 22 times larger than that of the poorest 10% (a Gini index of 0.51, by far the highest among the largest Italian metropolitan areas).

When it comes to the metropolitan area, inequality is still a big factor, indeed Twig shows that in the same territory there is the richest municipality in Italy (Basiglio with more than 43 thousand € of GDP per capita), and municipalities like Bollate that have a GDP per capita below the national average.

These disparities will likely be exacerbated in the next years by the immigration, that will create neighbourhoods of poverty and social exclusion unless action is taken.

However, a deep and radical process of innovation has to be inclusive, otherwise the risk is to create another window-dressing operation that excludes the main actors and lots of potential beneficiaries that in the long run can make the difference, also in term of scale of the challenge.

Without solid bases, cosmetic projects are not sustainable, for this reason smart governance is the key to develop and harmonize the other elements of the sustainable metropolitan area.

Since 2015, a new public body has been established to govern this territory: the Milan Metropolitan City.

The true challenge for this institution is to enlarge the perspective, including the complexity of the stakeholders, to allow the metropolitan area to work for three years as a multidisciplinary experimental lab that will address the change and transformation of the workforce towards the future, and so become a benchmark for the other metropolitan areas of Europe.

There are **seven homogeneous** areas in the metropolitan territory. Each of them will become **innovation cluster** that will lead, test and transfer – as next practices - the innovative trends of citizenship and jobs, from a specific point of view:

1. Robotics and Artificial Intelligence (future jobs and skills needed)
2. Smart-working and welfare;
3. Smart business incubation, pre-incubation and entrepreneurial mind-set (youth);
4. Social and economic inclusion of immigrants;
5. New skills and capabilities for sustainable and green business and models;
6. Fab Labs, open innovation and collaborative innovation;
7. Digital innovation and active/participative citizenship (e.g. aged people)

In this way, we can **give back to Milano** its most congenial and historical role as inspirational and inclusive city.

The Metropolitan City of Milano will ensure the governance of the whole process and will also work at:

- creating transversal networks of actors, to push innovation running along the whole metropolitan territory and reaching the education hubs;
- making the Metropolitan City as a whole attractive for innovators and thinkers from all over the world.

The Metropolitan City of Milan is preparing to become the first **multi-urban-job-lab** in Europe.

Milano, 9 febbraio 2018