

SUMMIT RESEARCH

CeNTER: Community-led Networks for Territorial Innovation

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“... territorial development does not only mean enabling the local and regional market economy, but also empowering the other parts of the economy (public sector, social economy, cultural sector, low-productivity artisan production) as well as community life (socio-cultural dynamics as a level of human existence by itself, political and social governance of non-economic sections of society, cultural and natural life)”.

Moulaert and Sekia (2003, pp. 299/300)

... identifying the unique characteristics and assets of each country and region, highlighting each region’s competitive advantages, and rallying regional stakeholders and resources around an excellence-driven vision of their future.

a precondition for using the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) in 2014-2020...

Recognizing the central role played by collective actors – engaged in multiple interactions with different entities – in the creation of public value resulting from territorial resources...

This Research Program aims at:

... better understanding the dynamics between the different regional actors (public institutions, business sector and communities) involved in regional development.

CeNTER's Goals:

- Identify best practices and case studies of territorial innovation in the Centro Region;
- Understand the impact of smart specialization strategies in regional innovation;
- Understand the role of communities and community networks in territorial innovation systems;
- Suggest tools and initiatives to leverage community-led innovation strategies and foster community's collaboration and engagement;
- Suggest measurement tools for territorial innovation.

Evidence from research:

- Rich and dynamic regional ecosystems tend to present the following characteristics:
 - a thriving industry, in specific sectors with a relevant degree of sustainability over time;
 - higher education and research institutions, as a source of qualified human resources, of knowledge and technology; and
 - a local or regional government, which acts as a facilitator of dynamic relationships amongst agents.

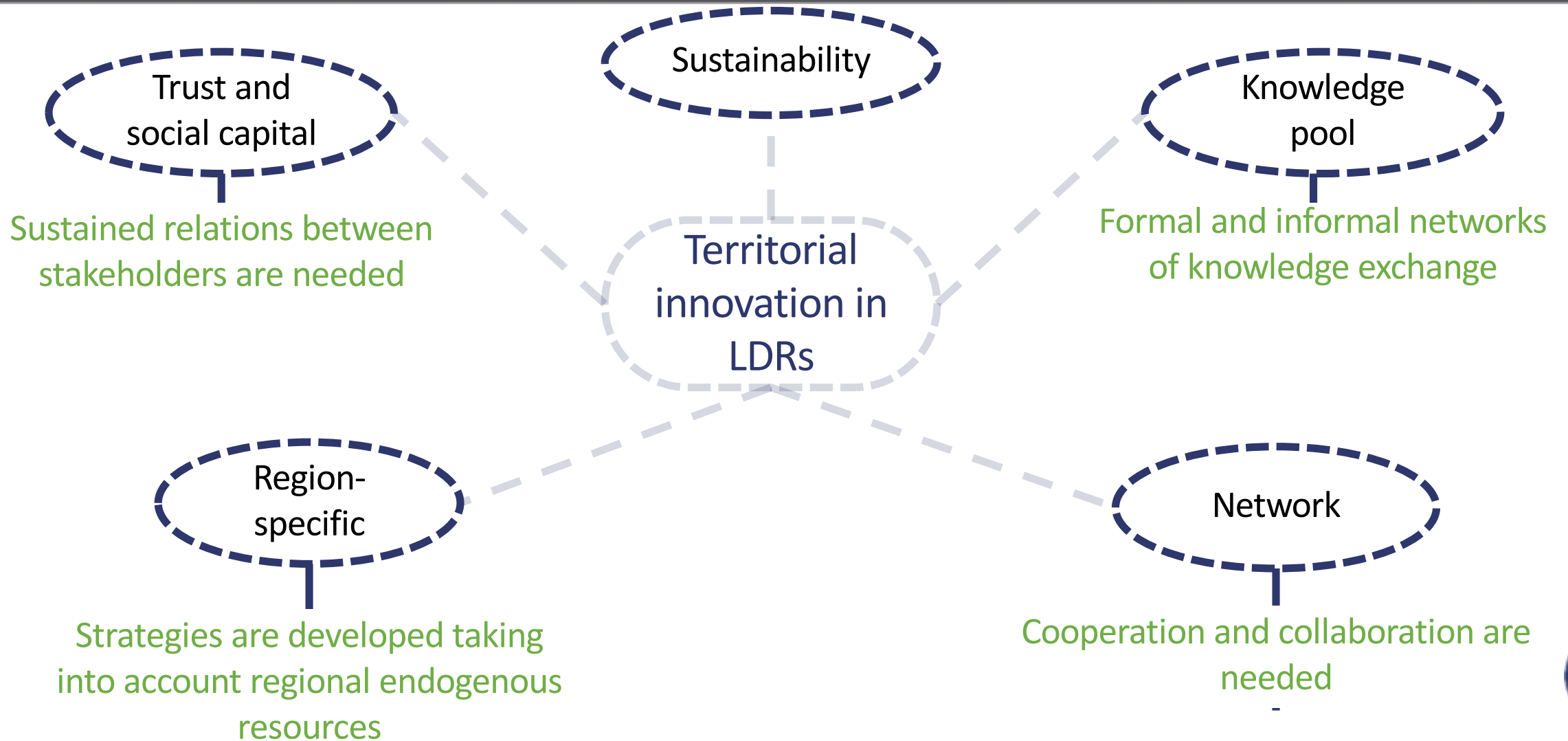
This model has been playing, also, an important role in the design of regional programs outlined for socio-economic development, thus explaining European policy and guidelines for regional development strategies.

Evidence from research:

- Although innovation is regarded as an essential tool in European policy, this cannot be considered with disregard to the specific territorial resources of each region
 - There is a need to better understand the different dimensions of an innovative territory
 - The relationship between stakeholders and their governance becomes essential when the correct implementation of a capable and effective development strategy is at stake

Evidence from research:

- Mimetic policy diffusion constitutes a real challenge for LDRs;
- Four main components to take into account:
 - the context of the region,
 - the strategy development process,
 - the type (or types) of strategy,
 - and the expected outcomes;



Mediation “Tools”

Policy

Community governance

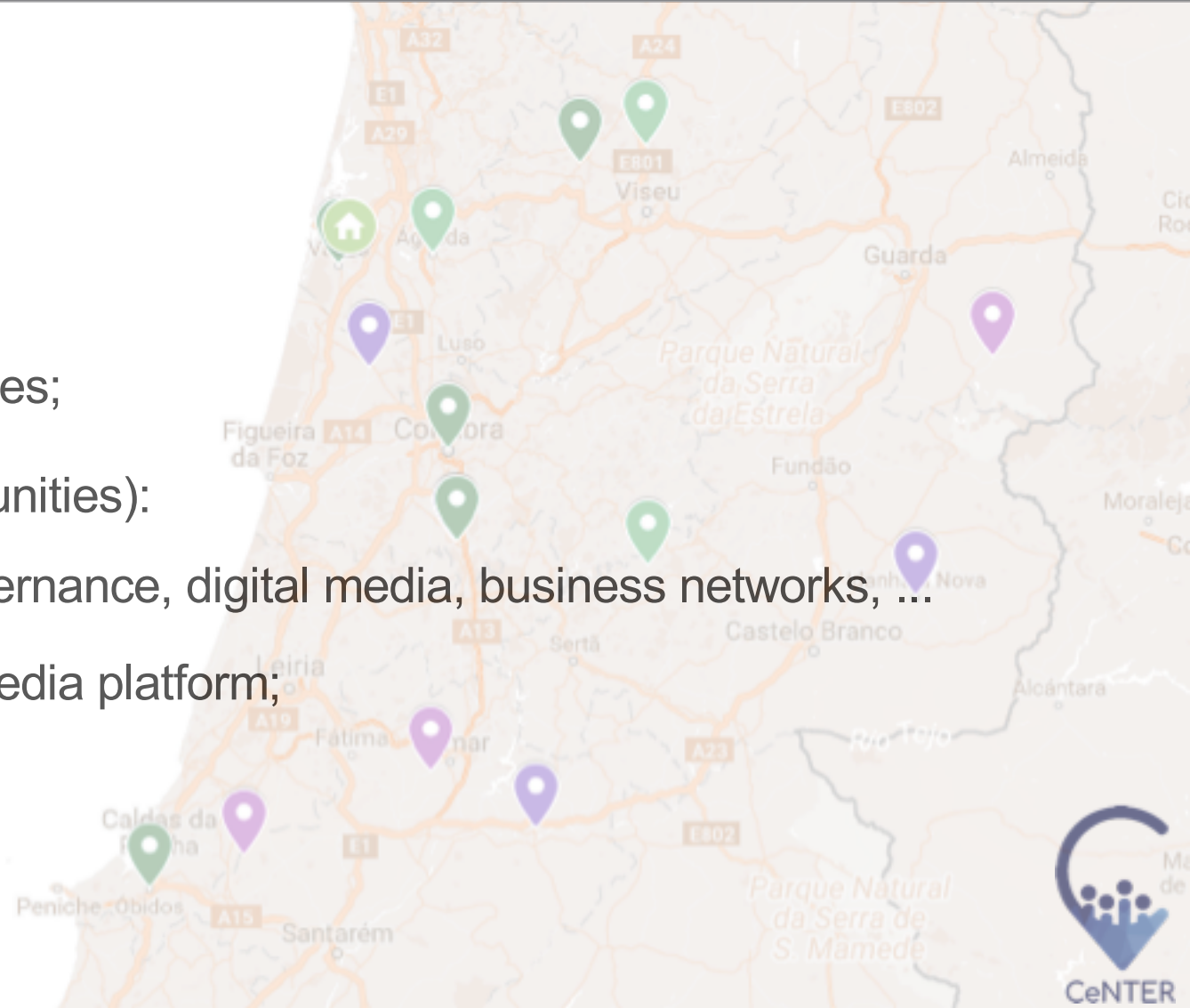
Digital media

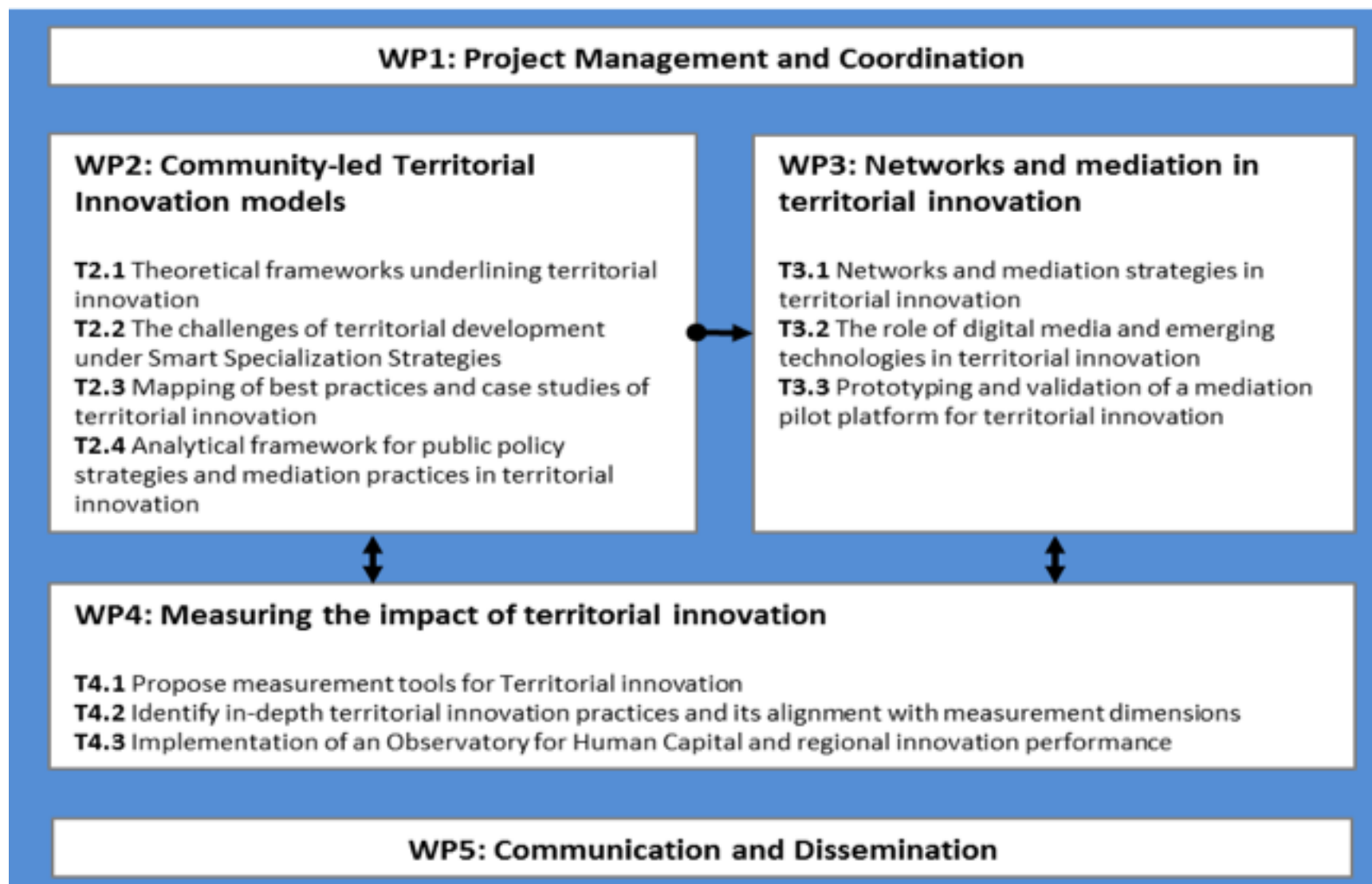
Post-program “tools”

Observatory for Territorial Cohesion

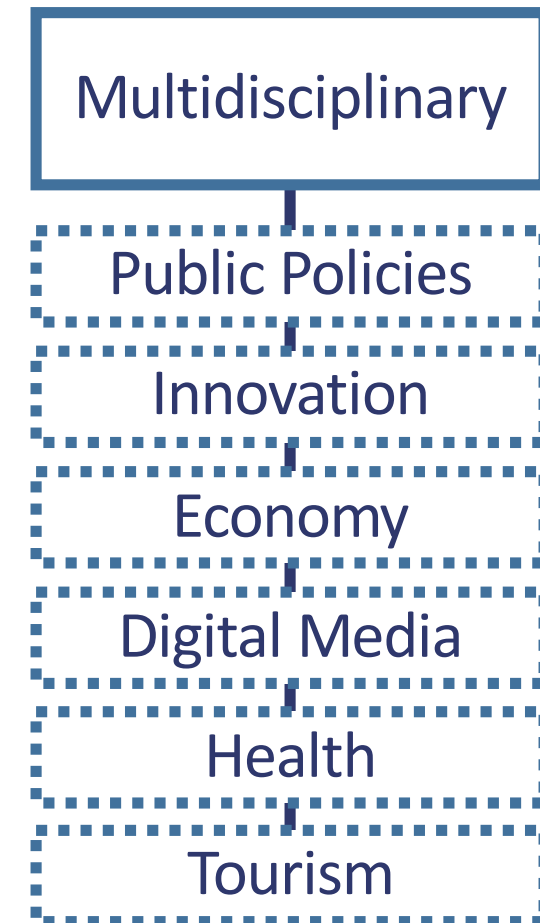
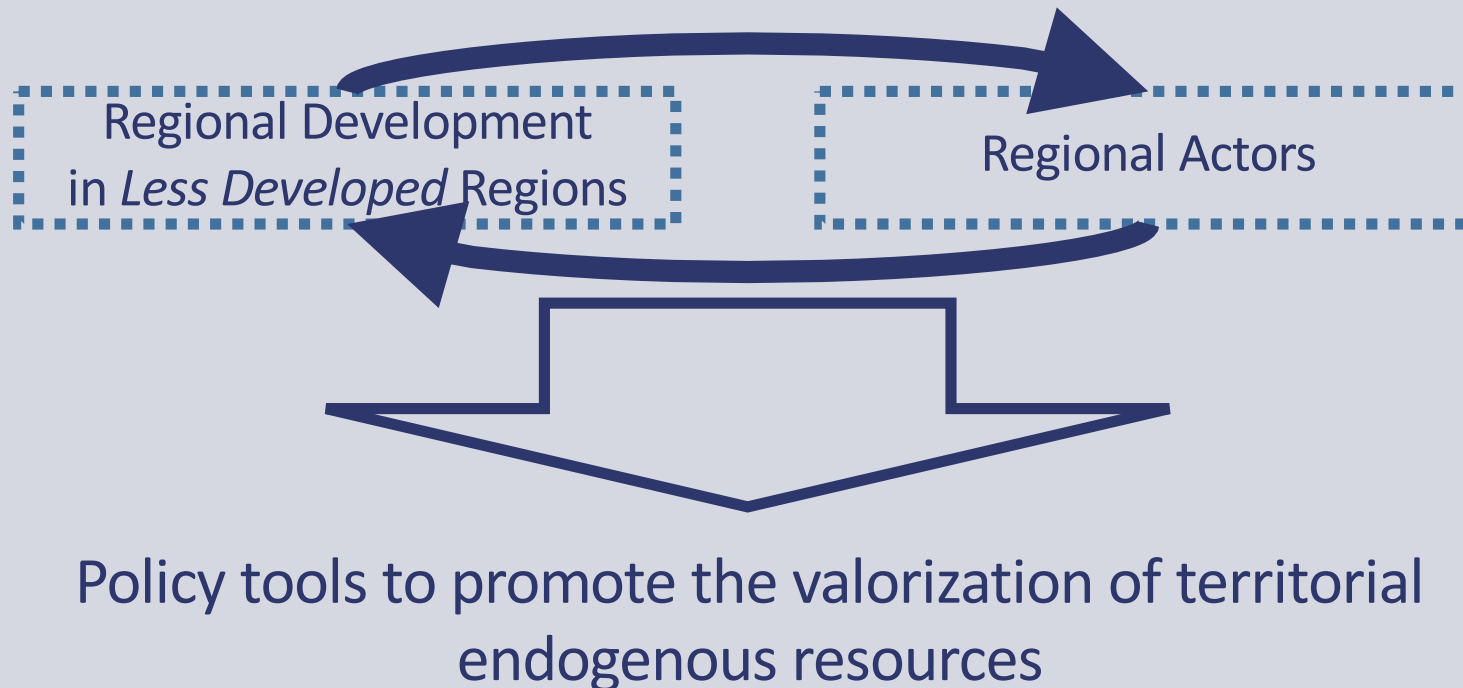
Work Plan:

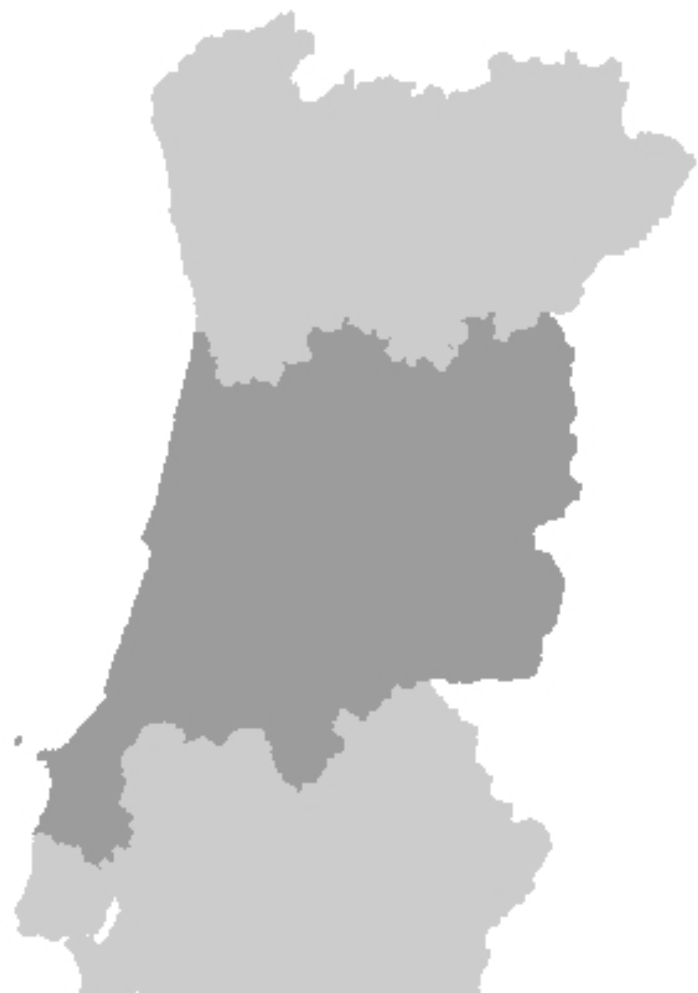
- (1) Knowledge systematization;
- (2) Mapping and analysis of innovative practices;
- (3) Case-study analysis (networks and communities):
 - social innovation, entrepreneurship, governance, digital media, business networks, ...
- (4) Development and prototyping of a digital media platform;
- (5) Assessment and monitoring tools;
- (6) Observatory for Territorial Cohesion.





Territorial Innovation Models





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DigiMedia
digital media and interaction
research centre

CINTESIS

Health. Research.

cidtff

centro de investigação

Didática e Tecnologia na Formação de Formadores



CeNTER

Research Team

3 doctoral researchers

7 postdoc researchers

1 C&TM

+ 12 members of 4 UA Research Units

Thank you!

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