

TRANSFORMATION

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T4 ESPON – Technological Transformation & Transitioning of Regional Economies

T4 ESPON

Why this project?

- It is projected that up to **30% of EU jobs could be affected by technologically-driven structural transformations**, which would mean 30 to 90 million people and, by 2025, almost half of total jobs in Europe will require highly skilled workers.
- Regions and cities throughout the EU currently demonstrate **differing** capacities, socioeconomic profiles, levels of knowledge, attitudes and **readiness to cope with transformative technological change**, placing major importance on **regional policies** in the coming years.
- **Key policy questions:**
 - What **preconditions** are necessary for the emergence of the new technological ecosystems?
 - How can **regional economies** integrate these new paradigms?
 - How are **government and business leaders tackling the industrial transformation?**
 - How should future **Cohesion Policy post-2020** be tailored to respond to the territorial challenges of emerging technological transformations?

T4 ESPON

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Time table:

- Inception delivery, 11 March 2019
- Interim delivery, 11 October 2019
- Draft final delivery, 11 March 2020
- Final delivery, 13 July 2020

Lead service provider:

- Polytechnic University of Milan, IT



T4 ESPON – the big picture

T4 technologies are a reality, imposing a transformation to local economies and societies, and leading them towards the 4th technological revolution.

The technological transformation brings with it some still **unexplored challenges, addressed for the first time in this study**

- How does the European territory transform itself thanks to the advent of 4.0 technologies?
- Which are the risks associated to the 4.0 transformation for the local economies and societies?
- Which are the regions gaining more from the 4.0 technological transformation and why?
- Which are the most promising potential adopting regions? Which are the conditions to adopt?
- Which are the right policies to grasp the advantages of the 4.0 technological transformation?

T4 ESPON – innovative outcome

- **An interpretation of the spatial patterns on 4.0 technology creation in EU**
 - New islands of innovation
 - Leapfrogging opportunities to regional economies
- **An interpretation of the spatial adoption trends of 4.0 technologies**
 - Penetration of Industry 4.0
 - Penetration of new services
- **An interpretation of the spatial impacts of 4.0 technologies**
 - on regional economies: jobs at risk of automation, 4.0 technology-led GDP growth
 - on regional societies: e.g. wider access to traditional services in remote areas, increase in the quality of the service in densely populated regions, traditional sectors challenged by newcomers, job losses
- **Policies to support technological transformation and its advantages**