PLACE-BASED INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS: WHY CONTEXT MATTERS

ENoLL workshop
Post Covid – Open Access to Social Innovation Ecosystems to address Global Challenges – Collective Ways Forward
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PIEs Typology

- **Case 1** Entrepreneurial University Innovation Ecosystem
- **Case 2** Digital Social Innovation Ecosystem
- **Case 3** Industrial Innovation Ecosystem
- **Case 4** Start-up Innovation Ecosystem
- **Case 5** Innovation District Ecosystem

Source: Author’s compilation based on software of Google My Maps
Typology of Place-Based Innovation Ecosystems

Case 1

Entrepreneurial University Innovation Ecosystem

Espoo

Source: Author’s compilation based on data from Rissola et al, 2017
Digital Social Innovation Centres
Barcelona’s metropolitan area

- Citizen Labs
- StartUps
- FabLabs
- University labs
- Labour Labs
- Networks
- Living Labs
- Coworking Spaces
- Ateneus Digitals
- Programmes
- Makers
- Telecentres
- Innovation hubs
- Library Living Lab
Typology of Place-Based Innovation Ecosystems

Case 2

Barcelona

Digital Social Innovation Ecosystem

programmes and funds at three political levels: European, regional and local

research centres, universities and networks involved

large companies, wide network of small companies, start-ups and makers

participatory culture of citizens and innovation and entrepreneurial culture

is supported by

integrate

foreign actors, expanding the ecosystem with ideas, knowledge and networks

Digital social innovation ecosystem

is based on

Digital regional and local agendas

improves economic and development policies

through local development agencies

is characterised by

Source: Author’s compilation based on data from Rissola and Fàbregas, 2019

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Typology of Place-Based Innovation Ecosystems

Case 3

Industrial Innovation Ecosystem

The science parks, regional and local authorities to develop the ecosystem and to attract talent

Collaborations at EU and global level, adapting to globalisation needs and raising competitiveness

Societal challenges and trends drive political interests, focused on environmental issues and climate change

- Performs
  - Lobbying efforts to influence industry regulations and systems-oriented standards at a global scale

- Attracts
  - Benefits from regional, national, EU and global R&I funds and programmes for the local industry and the innovation ecosystem

- Nourishes
  - The regional innovation ecosystem, by attracting other companies and creating new technological solutions

Source: Author’s compilation based on data from Rissola (ed.), Sörvik, Zingmark and Ardenfors, 2019
Typology of Place-Based Innovation Ecosystems

Case 4

Ljubljana

Start-up Innovation Ecosystem

Source: Author’s compilation based on data from Bučar and Rissola, 2018
Typology of Place-Based Innovation Ecosystems
Case 5

Innovation District Ecosystem

Main actors

- Universities
  - Harvard University
  - Massachusetts Institute of Technology
  - Northeastern University
  - Boston University

- Non-profit organization, public office and co-working spaces
  - Non-profit Accelerator Masschallenge
  - Mayor’s Office of New Urban Mechanics (MONUM)
  - Cambridge Innovation Centre (CIC) and Venture Café

- Municipalities
  - Boston
  - Cambridge

Source: Author’s compilation based on data from Rissola (ed.), Bevilacqua, Monardo and Trillo, 2019
SUCCESS FACTORS

- the quadruple helix model works effectively;
- an entrepreneurial approach emerging from the local governments, eliciting risk taking and bottom up civic participation;
- a fully operational networking structure of some intermediary actors collaborating at multiple-scales;
- local authorities supporting urban regeneration initiatives complementing economic development initiatives.
Critical System Elements combined with common dimensions of analysis
Main findings

• PIEs are of **high complexity** with **strong individual system properties**, but replicable conditions are relevant for other cases.

• There are **different levels of implementation** of the Quadruple Helix Model (4H): *From a traditional Triple Helix (3H) Model, to a transforming or transformed 4H model.*

• There are **different levels of interrelation** between the questioned PIEs and **Smart Specialisation** and the inherent **Entrepreneurial Discovery Process (EDP)**: *From a very low influence on the ecosystem up to fully related to the relevant processes and dynamics.*
Main findings

• The **orchestrators** or main **key-players** play an essential role in the PIEs: From a clear orchestrator, to multiple leading actors and up to PIEs with no identified orchestrator or clear leading actor.

• Local, regional, national and international innovation-related **policy agendas** have a relevant impact on the strategic development of PIEs: for example the **UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.

• **PIEs** are **significantly dependent** on talent attraction and retaining, on an entrepreneurial and risk-taking culture, as well as on the presence of R&I infrastructure, and on compatible and complementary system stakeholders.