

NEXT GENERATION EU AND THE ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION OF TERRES DE LLEIDA, PIRINEU AND ARAN

Stimulus projects to accelerate the transformation

Version 1. May 2021

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A HISTORIC OPPORTUNITY TO TRANSFORM OUR ECONOMY TOGETHER

Next Generation EU (NGEU) is an instrument designed to materialise investments and reforms that allow the European economic model to be transformed, thus ensuring the future of generations to come. This is also the aim of the Strategic **Project for the Economic Transformation of Terres de Lleida, Pirineu i Aran 2020-2027**, promoted by Lleida Provincial Council since 2019. The University of Lleida, the Chambers of Commerce of Lleida and Tàrrrega, Lleida City Council and the Government of Catalonia are also involved in and committed to the Project. Albeit prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Project was initiated within a context of necessary change of the economic model to retain and grow the population. A population that must indeed ensure the existence of future generations, which is the *raison d'être* of any territory.



COVID-19 has caused an unprecedented crisis worldwide, which has highlighted the weaknesses and contradictions of our economic and social systems. Before COVID-19, the world was already facing the challenge of developing an economic model capable of not only meeting a growing population's ever greater demand for food, water, materials and energy, but also of mitigating the climate crisis. The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted in 2015 are a global response to this need.

Now Europe has decided to take a stand on the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, not only by mitigating the social and economic impacts, but also by improving society's and the economy's capacity to respond to such global challenges. We urgently need to address **the green transition and the digital transition** to become a modern, resource-use efficient, competitive, fair and inclusive economy. In local terms, beyond the serious health crisis, the pandemic has also served to place value on the strengths of our territory, such as the strategic role of the agrifood sector and the quality of life that the rural world can offer.

The NGEU is therefore an opportunity to accelerate this necessary **economic transformation** of the Province of Lleida, which cannot become a reality without collective action by the main actors involved in this change of model, starting with the administration itself and then linking the productive fabric, academia and the citizenry to it. As a result of this joint work, which has already begun, the main priority areas and cross-cutting priorities have been outlined, and various stimulus or promotion projects have been established, which we shall go on to explain in this dossier.

Joan Talarn i Gilabert
President of Lleida Provincial Council

NEXT GENERATION EU: THE EUROPEAN ROADMAP FOR RECOVERY

European framework for long-term recovery: NGEU+MFF

Next Generation EU is a **temporary socioeconomic** recovery instrument of €750 billion that, together with the EU's long-term budget, is the largest mobilisation of resources in the history of the EU, with a total of **€1.8 trillion for the 2021-2027** period to rebuild a post-COVID-19 Europe.

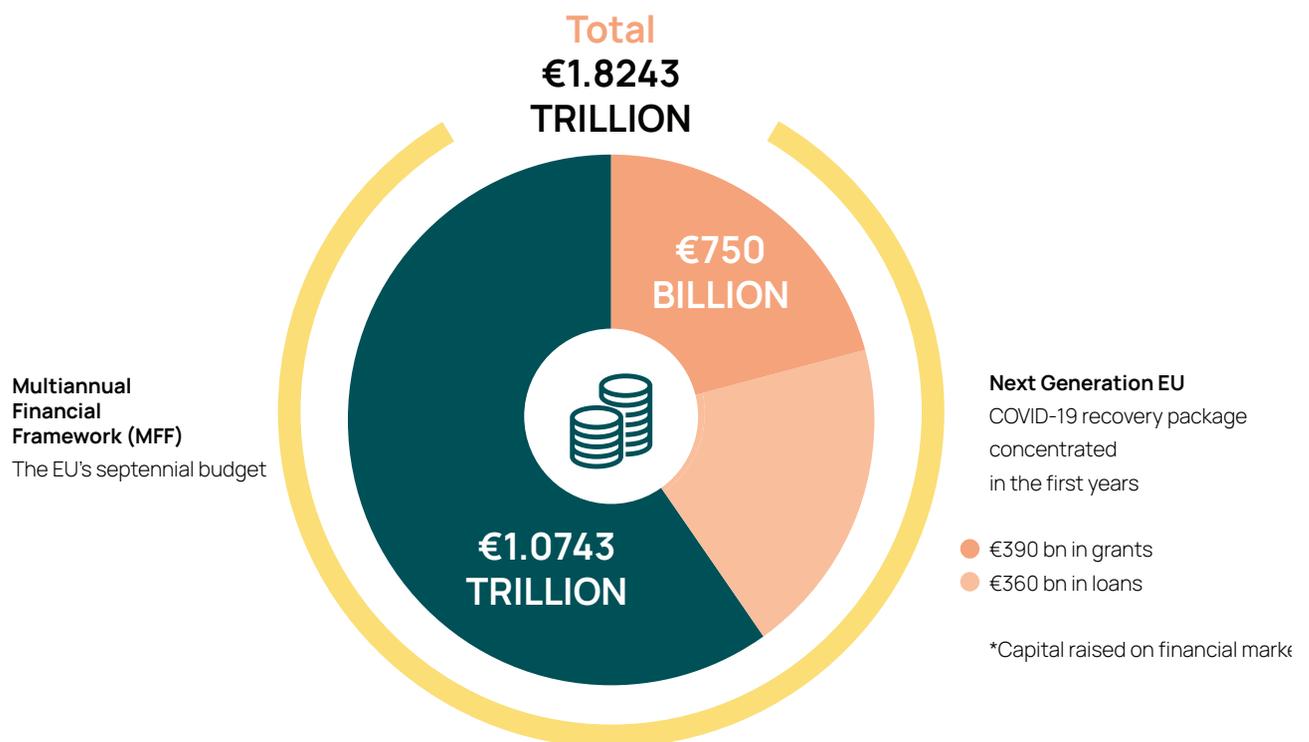


Figure 1. EU budget 2021-2027.
Source: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/es/infographics/recovery-plan-mff-2021-2027/>

The aim of this unprecedented stimulus package is to transform European economies by **ensuring the future of generations to come**.

The economic transformation process entails investments and reforms that, in the short term, should allow the social and **economic impacts of the COVID-19** pandemic to be mitigated and therefore drive the necessary socioeconomic recovery. However, in the medium and long terms, the impact of these investments and reforms must lead to improvements in Europe's **capacity to respond to new crises**, that is, better resilience of our economies and societies.

NGEU funding instruments

NGEU brings together a whole set of funding instruments that need to be mobilised faster than any others in order to accelerate reconstruction (Table 1). However, it is important not to lose sight of the fact that, behind this recovery package, there is an even bigger budget for consolidating this path of transforming European economies in the medium and long terms.

NGEU	(€ bn)
Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF)	672.5
REACT-EU	47.5
Rural Development	7.5
Just Transition Funds	10
InvestEU	5.6
rescEU	1.9
Horizon Europe	5
TOTAL	750

Table 1. NGEU breakdown

The Recovery and Resilience Facility is the core and most highly funded component of the NGEU, with €675 billion in available loans and grants to support EU Member States' reforms and investments. €360 billion is allocated to loans and €312.5 billion to grants. To receive allocated resources, each Member State must submit its own National Recovery and Resilience Plan, which will be assessed by the European Commission and approved by the Council. The investments and reforms within each plan must contribute to the seven flagship initiatives identified by the European Commission in its Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy 2021:

- *Power-up*: The frontloading of future-proof clean technologies and acceleration of the development and use of renewables.
- *Renovate*: The improvement of energy efficiency of public and private buildings.
- *Recharge and refuel*: The promotion of future-proof clean technologies to accelerate the use of sustainable, accessible and smart transport, charging and refuelling stations and extension of public transport.
- *Connect*: The fast rollout of rapid broadband services to all regions and households, including fibre and 5G networks.
- *Modernise*: The digitalisation of public administration and services, including judicial and healthcare systems.
- *Scale-up*: The increase in European industrial data cloud capacities and the development of the most powerful, cutting edge, and sustainable processors.
- *Reskill and upskill*: The adaptation of education systems to support digital skills and educational and vocational training for all ages.

As essential requirements for the plans to be approved, the following must be met:

- At least 37% of each plan's allocation must provide support for the green transition.
- At least 20% of each plan's allocation must provide support for the digital transition.

Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan, the Spanish plan to access Next Generation EU funds.

Spain has a **Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan**, which is the document required by the European Commission to release funds allocated to the **European Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF)**.

The plan envisages the mobilisation of €140 billion in public investment up to 2026. The published document actually provides more detail for the 2021-2023 period, in which the mobilisation of nearly **€70 billion** in transfers is concentrated.

The draft of this plan published in October 2020 had already set out the strategic lines of action and the main lever policies that needed to be promoted via these funds. The plan was submitted to the Congress of Deputies on 14 April 2021 and then to Brussels on 30 April 2021.

Strategic lines of action, lever policies and budget breakdown of the Spanish plan

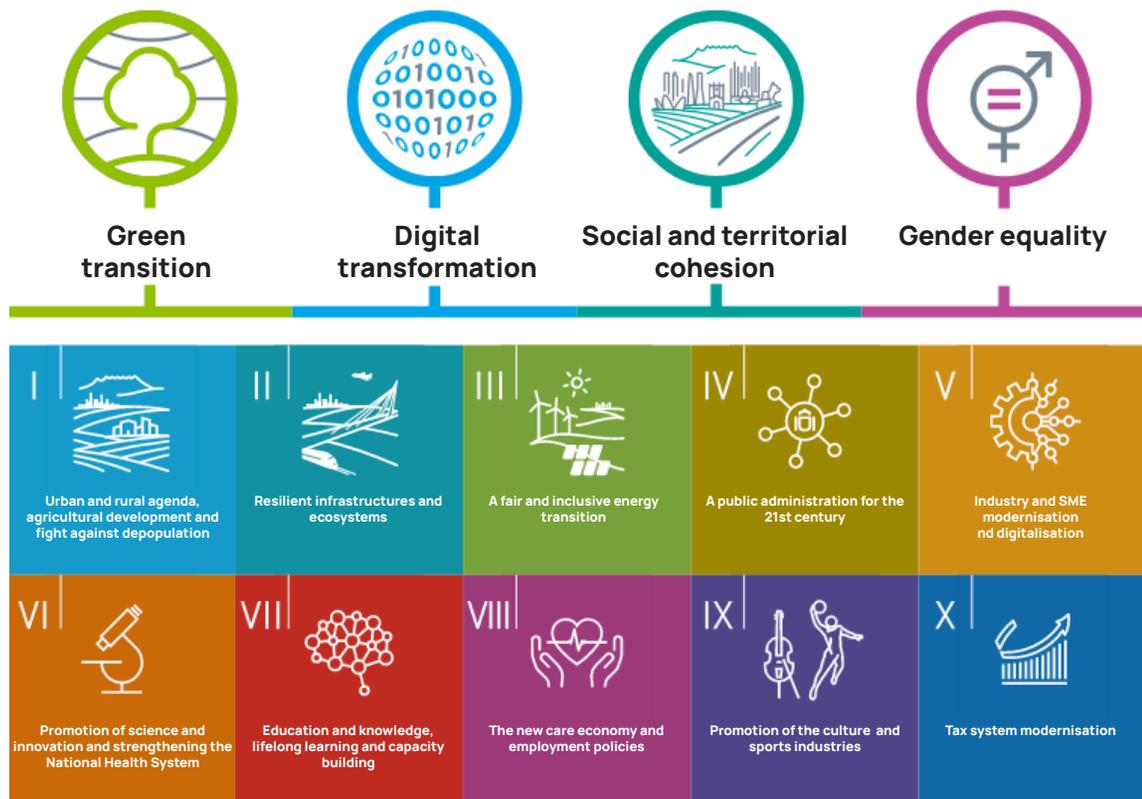


Figure 2. Four strategic lines of action and 10 lever policies.
Source: https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/temas/fondos-recuperacion/Documents/05052021-Executive_Summary_Recovery_Plan.pdf

Of the €70 billion figure to be spent in the 2021-2023 period, 70% is concentrated on the green transition (39.12%) and digital transition (29%) areas, thus complying with the EU's requirements.

Figure 3 shows, in graph form, the specific breakdown by the identified lever policies:

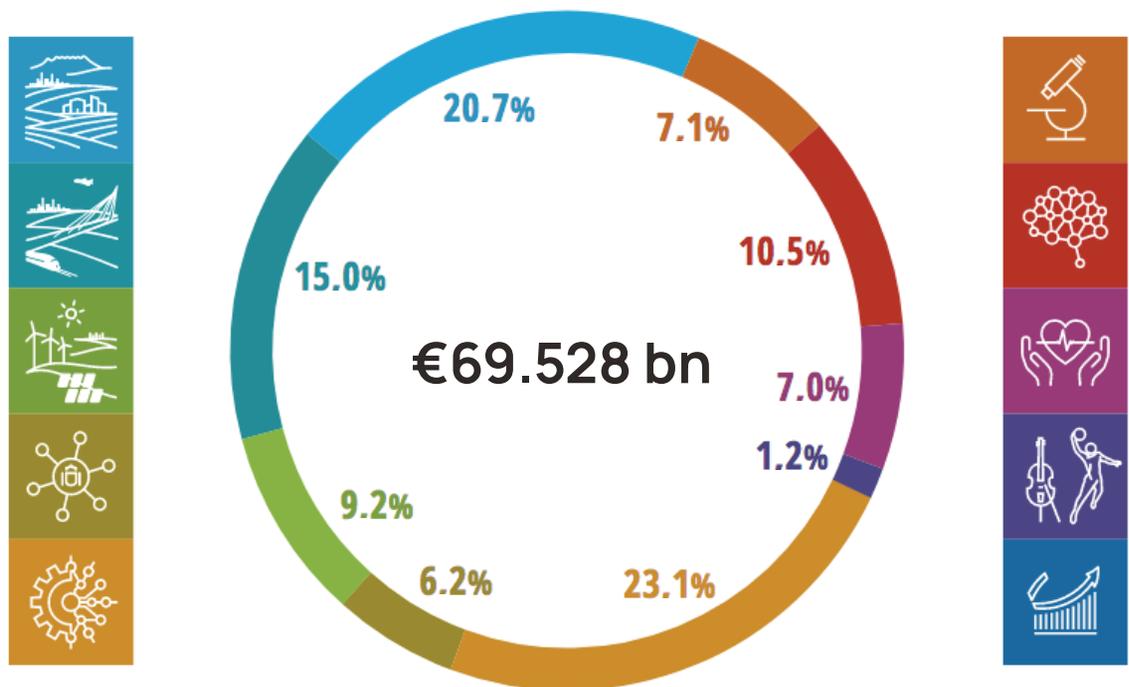


Figure 3. The plan's budget breakdown.
 Source: https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/temas/fondos-recuperacion/Documents/30042021-Presentation_Recovery_Transformation_Resilience_Plan.pdf

Once the plan is approved by the Council, the actions can begin to be taken through all the public administrations' legally established intervention measures (direct investments, agreements, public calls for grants, administrative contracting, etc.).

Definition of investments and reforms set out in the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan

To outline the types of investment and reforms associated with each policy, the plan envisages a subsequent level of detail, which is referred to as a 'Component'. In total, there are 30 components, which are schematically shown in the following figure

Lever policies and components



I. Urban and rural agenda, agricultural development and the fight against rural depopulation

1. Action Plan for sustainable, safe and connected mobility in urban and metropolitan areas
2. Housing rehabilitation and urban renewal plan
3. Green and digital transformation of agrifood and fisheries industries



II. Resilient infrastructures and ecosystems

4. Ecosystems and biodiversity conservation and restoration
5. Coastal area and water resources preservation
6. Sustainable, safe and connected mobility



III. A fair and inclusive energy transition

7. Renewable energies implementation and integration
8. Electrical infrastructures, promotion of smart networks and deployment of flexibility and storage
9. Renewable hydrogen roadmap and sectoral integration
10. Fair transition strategy



IV. A public administration for the 21st century

11. Modernisation of public administration



V. Modernisation and digitalisation of industry and SMEs, entrepreneurship and business environment, recovery and transformation of tourism and other strategic sectors

12. Industrial Policy Spain 2030
13. Fostering SME growth
14. Modernisation and competitiveness of the tourism sector
15. Digital connectivity, cybersecurity, 5G deployment



VI. Promotion of science and innovation and strengthening

16. National strategy for Artificial Intelligence
17. Institutional reform and capacity-building in the national science, technology and innovation system
18. Renewal and expansion of the capabilities of the National Health System



VII. Education and knowledge, lifelong learning and capacity building

19. National plan for digital skills
20. Strategic plan for vocational training
21. Modernisation and digitalisation of the education system, including early years education from age 0 to 3



VIII. The new care economy and employment policies

22. Emergency plan for the care economy and reinforcement of inclusion policies
23. New public policies for a dynamic, resilient and inclusive labour market



IX. Promotion of the culture and sports industries

24. Valorisation of the cultural industry
25. Spain audio-visual hub
26. Sports industry promotion plan



X. Modernisation of the tax system for inclusive and sustainable growth

27. Measures and actions to prevent and combat tax fraud
28. Tax reform for the 21st century
29. Improving the effectiveness of public spending
30. Long-term sustainability of the public pension system within the framework of the Toledo Pact

Figure 4. The plan's components

A total of 212 measures

Each component is broken down into different types of measure, in which a distinction is made between anticipated investments and reforms. In total, 212 measures are listed, of which 112 are reforms and 110 are investments that give rise to another budgetary group for programmes driving investment:

TABLE 2: The 20 programmes driving investment	€ bn 2021-23
1. Safe, sustainable and connected mobility strategy	13.203
2. Housing rehabilitation and urban renewal programme	6.820
3. Modernisation of public administration	4.315
4. SMEs digitalisation plan	4.066
5. 5G roadmap	3.999
6. New Spain 2030 industrial policy and circular economy strategy	3.782
7. National plan for digital skills	3.593
8. Modernisation and competitiveness of the tourism sector	3.400
9. Development of the national science and innovation system	3.380
10. Implementation and integration of renewable energies	3.165
11. New care economy	2.492
12. New public policies for a dynamic, resilient and inclusive labour market	2.363
13. Preservation of the coastal areas and water resources	2.091
14. Strategic plan for vocational training	2.076
15. Modernisation and digitalisation of the education system	1.648
16. Conservation and restoration of ecosystems and biodiversity	1.642
17. Renewable hydrogen roadmap	1.555
18. Electrical infrastructure, smart networks and storage	1.365
19. Renovation and modernisation of the Health System	1.069
20. National strategy for Artificial Intelligence	0.500

Figure 5. All the stimulus programmes grouped by investment.

Source: https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/temas/fondos-recuperacion/Documents/05052021-Executive_Summary_Recovery_Plan.pdf

Implementation of the plan

The availability of agile implementation and monitoring instruments, which have yet to be defined, will be crucial to the plan's full effectiveness given the deadlines that Spain has set for implementing the anticipated investment. The fact is that 70% of the anticipated sum of approximately €70 billion must be committed by 31 December 2022 and the remainder, up to 100%, by 31 December 2023. The deadline for implementing the selected investments will be 31 December 2026.

STRATEGIC PROJECT FOR THE ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION OF TERRES DE LLEIDA, PIRINEU I ARAN 2020-2027

The Strategic Project for the Economic Transformation of Terres de Lleida, Pirineu i Aran 2020-2027, which is already up and running, is a shared and transformative strategic planning instrument. It is based on new forms of public-private partnership and is designed to drive, accompany and facilitate the process of transition towards achieving a future vision built on robust institutional consensus.

Having already taken its first steps, the first and most important one being the institutional alliance, the project is based on a shared future vision and uses a pioneering methodology.

A pioneering methodology in Europe for the economic transformation of a territory

The methodology promoted by Lleida Provincial Council to materialise this paradigm change has the support of the Government of Catalonia and has become a pilot project for Catalonia's new Smart Specialisation Strategy 2021-2027.^{1,2} It also a point of reference at a European level.^{3,4}

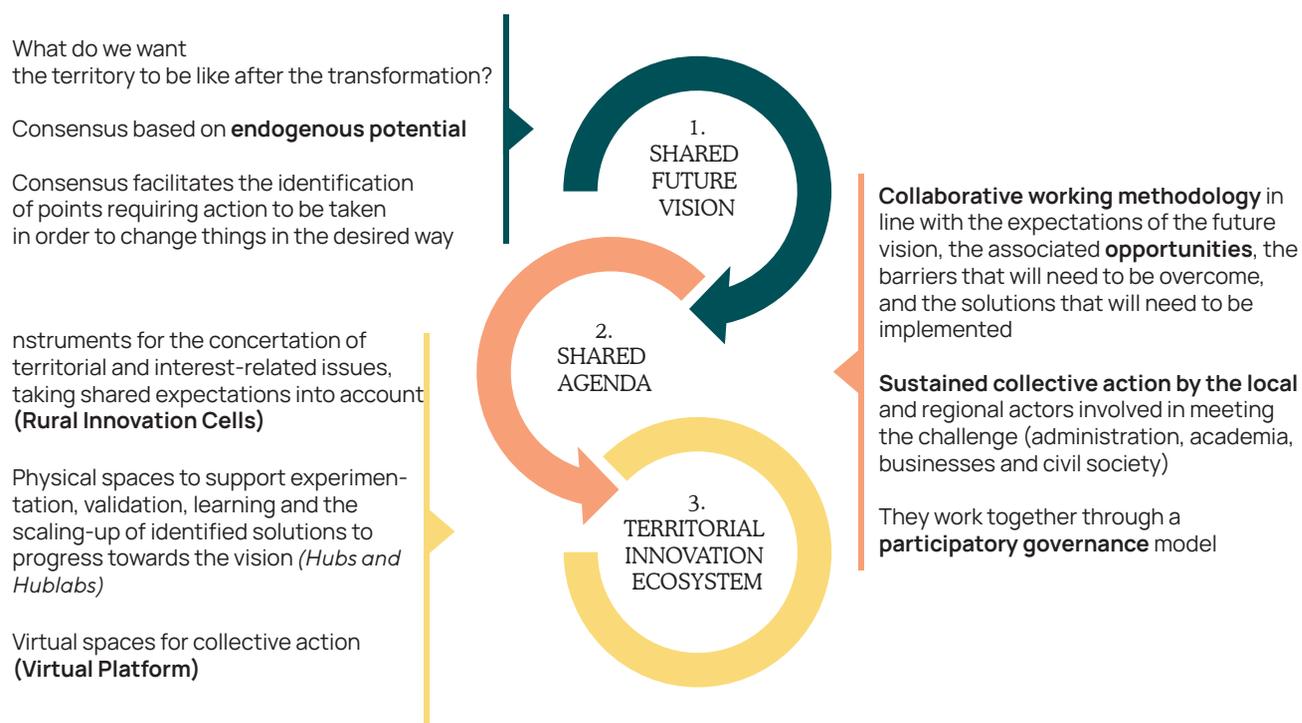


Figure 6. Methodology for promoting the transformation.
Source: Own compilation.

¹ http://catalunya2020.gencat.cat/web/.content/00_catalunya2020/Documents/angles/fitxers/shared-agendas.pdf

² https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/jrcseville/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?newsletter_service_id=453&lang=default

³ <http://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC121439>

⁴ https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/sites/enrd/files/bioeconomy_casestudy_es_biolabponent.pdf

Since January 2020, more than 40 working sessions, presentations and training events have been held with the various actors (municipal representatives, local technicians, business associations, local action groups, institutional representatives, representatives of academia, etc.) to seek their involvement and commitment.

In October 2020, Lleida Provincial Council signed a collaboration agreement with the Ministry of the Vice-Presidency and of the Economy and Finance, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock and Food to set up the **Technical Office for the Transformation** as an element of the participatory governance model that needs to be developed.

Strategic alliances have been woven with the territory's main institutions to build the **future vision** and to determine the **priority areas** that need to be developed. Last January, the consensus reached between Lleida Provincial Council, Lleida City Council, the Government of Catalonia, Lleida Chamber of Commerce, Tàrrrega Chamber of Commerce and the University of Lleida became apparent.



The collaboration agreement signing event at Lleida Provincial Council.

Shared future vision

“We want the Province of Lleida to become a territory that places value, in a shared way and on the basis of robust collaboration networks, on its strategic geolocation, endogenous potential, capacities and resources to develop, in just and smart terms, a competitive, sustainable model for a circular and highly digitalised green economy that strengthens strategic sectors and fosters the advent of emergent sectors and new business models, all within a conducive environment equipped with the appropriate infrastructures and services to generate the necessary levels of well-being and prosperity to retain and grow the population and talent whilst simultaneously and actively helping to achieve the SDGs and the green and digital transition promoted on a European scale.”

Strategic objectives

The shared vision has allowed five strategic objectives to be established, on which the path for achieving the vision is built:

- • SO1. To ensure the economic, social and environmental viability of agricultural, livestock and forestry production.
- • SO2. To strengthen the territory's competitiveness and job creation by promoting innovation and emergent activities linked to the opportunities identified in the shared future vision of the territory.
- • SO3. To capture the value of digitalisation for the economic fabric's competitiveness and efficiency, for improved public administration services and for social inclusion.
- • SO4. To promote a model for the valorisation and sustainable management of the territory's natural capital, which will ensure its preservation, resilience, productivity and contribution to climate neutrality.
- • SO5. To foster the development of a robust human capital* base rooted in the territory.

*According to the OECD, human capital is the knowledge, skills, competencies and other attributes embodied in individuals or groups during their life and used to produce goods, services or ideas in market circumstances.

Public funding secured

Nearly €8 million of public funding have managed to be secured to develop the necessary territorial innovation ecosystem (2019 PECT [Territorial Specialisation and Competitiveness Projects] call, resolution April 2021). The deployment in 2021 and 2022 of the various participation instruments envisaged in this territorial innovation ecosystem should enable the identification of projects, programmes and actions that, whether publicly or privately promoted, help to materialise the opportunities identified in each of the selected priority areas, since they would be likely to receive European funding for their implementation and the effective transformation, in just and smart terms, of the economic model of Terres de Lleida, Pirineu i Aran.

PRIORITY AREAS, CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITIES AND STIMULUS PROJECTS

As explained in the previous section, the work carried out from late 2019 to January 2021 allowed a future vision to be built and agreed upon by the territory's main actors. This consensus also entailed the collaborative identification of **priority areas (PAs)** that would need to be developed in order to progress in the desired direction, and of **cross-cutting priorities (CPs)** that should ensure that such transformation has an innovative basis and contributes to a social and territorial levelling-up.

Working groups

Since February 2021, the task of setting up the different working groups for each of the priority areas has been carried out, with the involvement of the various territorial institutions participating in the project. This initial work in relation to the consensus reached has allowed eight stimulus projects to be identified. These can only be carried out through institutional cooperation and are crucial for improving the territory's conditions in order to materialise the transformation in a way that is consistent with the shared future vision.

Priority areas



**AP1. PRIORITY AREAS:
Farming bioeconomy**

PA1. Farming bioeconomy

Integral valorisation of agricultural and livestock production through a new bioindustrial fabric linked to new and improved value chains in the circular bioeconomy area, which would become a driver of technological and product development, and attract innovation, investment and talent.



**AP2. PRIORITY AREAS:
PA2. Agrifood value chains**

PA2. Agrifood value chains

Modernisation, digitalisation and sustainability of agrifood value chains – from primary production and transformation to commercialisation – to make them more resilient, competitive, safe, resource-use efficient, attractive for new investments, catalysts of auxiliary services, and attractive for talent and the next generation.



**AP3. PRIORITY AREAS:
Forestry bioeconomy**

PA3. Forestry bioeconomy

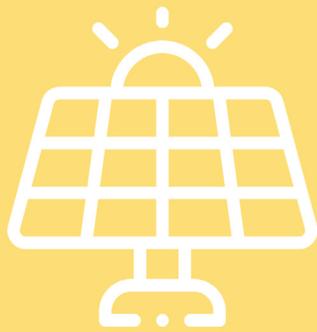
Valorisation of woods to generate value chains and new business models in the agroforestry area, which would promote bioindustry and, at the same time, help to improve forestry management and minimise fire risks.



**AP4. PRIORITY AREAS:
Digitalisation**

PA4. Digitalisation

Effective connectivity on a territorial scale, technology adoption by businesses, academia, the citizenry and the administration, promotion and consolidation of teleworking, and technological development to strengthen a high value-added sector in the territory.



**AP5. PRIORITY AREAS:
Sustainable energy**

PA5. Sustainable energy

Energy efficiency and renewable energy generation as a factor of territorial competitiveness, resource-use efficiency and contribution to climate neutrality, the driver of the development of a just, decentralised energy model that is compatible with the development of other strategic areas. For this reason, its implementation must be coordinated so as not to distort achievements in the other areas.



**AP6. PRIORITY AREAS:
Sustainable, smart tourism**

**PA6. Sustainable,
smart tourism**

Sustainable, smart tourism that places value on the territory's natural, heritage and cultural wealth in a sustainable way while incorporating technological and non-technological innovation as vectors of competitive specialisation.



**AP7. PRIORITY AREAS:
Climate resilience and
urban regeneration**

**PA7. Climate resilience and
urban regeneration**

Climate resilience in infrastructures and ecosystems, urban redevelopment and regeneration, conservation and restoration of ecosystems and their biodiversity, strengthening environmental services, green infrastructures, preservation and management of water and soil resources, management of risks stemming from climate change, and housing policies.

Cross-cutting priorities



PT1. CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITIES Smart transformation

CP1. Smart transformation

Territorial transformation model based on science, technology and innovation to generate and transfer knowledge capable of creating shared economic, social and environmental value.



PT2. CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITIES Just transformation

CP2. Just transformation

A transformation model that levels up infrastructural and service-related shortcomings, creates opportunities, improves living and working conditions, fosters talent, quality employment and entrepreneurship, and combats social exclusion.

P1

BioHub km0: An open innovation hub for the development of biotechnologies, bioproducts and business models

Budget: €50 m

P2

Digital Innovation Hub for Catalonia's agrifood and forestry sector

Budget: €10 m

P3

Integral valorisation of forestry resources in the Pirineu region

Budget: €65 m

P4

Lleida Smart Rural Environment: infrastructures for the territory's connectivity

Budget: €300 m

P5

Digital transformation of local public administration

Budget: €7 m

P6

Energy and local sphere

Budget: €64 m

P7

Innovation Ecosystem: Decentralised and interconnected territorial management of the territory's economic transformation process

Budget: €8 m

P8

Training and digital talent for the 21st century

Budget: €1 m

P1

BioHub km0: An open innovation hub for the development of biotechnologies, bioproducts and business models



Description

The aim of the project is to create a highly specialised innovation ecosystem, which is integrated into a rural environment where there is a high concentration of agricultural and livestock production (Baix Segrià), in order to facilitate the development of a circular bioeconomy model in just and smart terms. This model will allow value to be placed on livestock excrement and other agrifood by-products for the production of high value-added bioproducts and biomaterials that help to articulate new value chains.

Actions

- > The operationalisation of an open access public-private infrastructure to validate biotechnologies and bioproducts at a precommercial stage. It will be located in Alcarràs, in an industrial space to be developed, where a composting plant promoted by pig and cattle farmers is currently in the process of being built.
- > The creation of a space for the development of new business models and for the promotion and acceleration of entrepreneurship in relation to the circular bioeconomy.
- > The articulation of an advanced geographic information system that allows for the management, geolocation and analysis of data relating to biological resources available within the territory that could be valorised through new value chains.
- > Promotion of the public procurement of innovation to accelerate the development of the internal market for bioproducts.

Strategic fit with the Transformation Project

PA1 - Farming bioeconomy

Alignment with the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan

- > Component 3. Green and digital transformation of agrifood and fisheries industries.
- >> C3.I4: Plan to promote the sustainability and competitiveness of agricultural and livestock farming (III) aimed at livestock waste, improving energy efficiency through the circular economy and the integral modernisation of greenhouses.
- > Component 12: Industrial Policy Spain 2030.
- >> C12.I3: Plan to support the implementation of waste regulations and to foster the circular economy.

Alignment with Next Generation Catalonia flagship projects

P8. Circular bioeconomy focused on the valorisation of livestock manure and other agrifood by-products

Actors involved

- > Lleida Provincial Council
- > Lleida Provincial Council's Economic Development Board
- > Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock and Food
- > Town and City Councils linked to the Biolab Baix Segre initiative
- > Universities, research and technology centres
- > SAT Alcarràs Bioproductors
- > Livestock farmers associations
- > Agricultural farmers associations
- > Chambers of commerce
- > Agricultural cooperatives
- > Livestock farming integrator businesses
- > Agrifood industries

Beneficiaries

Primary sector, other industrial sectors, Catalan RD&I system, general public

Budget: €50 m



P2 Digital Innovation Hub for Catalonia's agrifood and forestry sector

Description

Design and operationalisation of the Digital Innovation Hub infrastructure, as a specialised node of DIH4CAT (Catalonia's Digital Innovation Hub) to promote the digital transformation of Catalonia's agrifood and forestry sectors and the development of precision agriculture. The project will generate synergies and complementarities with the Terres de Ponent 5G Area and with the INNO4AGRO project.

Actions

- > Structuring of the portfolio of services (technological, business ecosystem) to foster sectoral entrepreneurial discovery, facilitate accessibility, adaptability, co-development, adoption and scaling-up of specific technological solutions for the digital transformation of the agrifood and forestry sector.
- > Promotion of pilot projects for technology adoption to validate the economic, social and environmental impact of such adoption.
- > Management of specific calls to foster the end-users' adoption of digitalisation.
- > Development and validation of big data instruments and 5G for the digitalisation of the agrifood and forestry sector.

Strategic fit with the Transformation Project

PA2 - Agrifood value chains

Alignment with the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan

- > Component 3. Green and digital transformation of agrifood and fisheries industries.
 - >> C3.I5: Strategy for the digitalisation of the agrifood and forestry sector and of the rural environment: carrying out actions to digitalise and support the agrifood and forestry sector and the rural environment.
- > 13. Fostering SME growth.
 - >> C13.I3: Digitalisation and innovation.

Alignment with Next Generation Catalonia flagship projects

25. Digital and technological transformation of the Catalan industry

Actors involved

- > Lleida Provincial Council
- > Lleida City Council
- > Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock and Food
- > Action
- > Ministry of Digital Policies
- > Lleida Agrifood Science and Technology Park
- > University of Lleida
- > Eurecat
- > IRTA (Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology)
- > Forest Technology Centre of Catalonia
- > Lleida Chamber of Commerce
- > Primary sector associations and cooperatives
- > Technology developers
- > ICT sector businesses
- > Fira de Lleida

Beneficiaries

Agrifood and forestry sector, auxiliary industry sector, ICT sector, general public

Budget: € 10 M

P3

Integral valorisation of forestry resources in the Pirineu region



Description

Articulation and coordination of initiatives across the value chain to increase forestry mobilisation and use of woods in the Pirineu region through the promotion of uses for the construction sector (cross-laminated timber [CLT] manufacture), for local thermal applications (heat networks and industrial consumption) and for the valorisation of the resulting by-products in the forestry bioeconomy area (bioproducts).

Actions

- > Support for effective forestry planning and management of public woods.
- > Promotion of investments in improving infrastructures, human capital and fixed capital to increase the number of workers and the mechanisation and professionalisation linked to forestry works.
- > Investments to reduce costs and the carbon footprint of transporting wood to the points of valorisation.
- > Promotion of a CLT factory with an annual output of 40,000 m³.
- > Promotion of municipal heat networks for the valorisation of proximity and for fostering industrial uses.
- > Promotion of RD&I for the valorisation of by-products.

Strategic fit with the Transformation Project

PA3 - Forestry bioeconomy

Alignment with the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan

- > COMPONENT 4: ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION.
 - >> C4.I4: SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY MANAGEMENT.

Alignment with Next Generation Catalonia flagship projects

P9. Activation of bioeconomic production of Catalan forest and protection against wildfires

Actors involved

- > Lleida Provincial Council
- > Barcelona Provincial Council
- > Town, City and Regional Councils in the Pirineu, Aran and Solsonès area
- > Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock and Food
- > Forest Technology Centre of Catalonia
- > University of Lleida
- > Forestry sector businesses
- > Vocational training centres

Beneficiaries

Forest owners, production businesses and consumers, RD&I centres, general public

Budget: €65 M



P4

Lleida Smart Rural Environment: Infrastructures for the territory's connectivity

Description

Promoting and accelerating the development of the necessary investments for effective connectivity of the territory, so that 100% of the population has access to high-speed networks and 5G technology. The necessary environmental conditions need to be put in place for a just and equal digital transformation across the province that contributes to social and territorial cohesion.

Actions

- > Acceleration of broadband rollout to the 231 municipalities, 422 population centres and 160 industrial estates in the province through a passive, neutral, open and optimal infrastructure for access to high-speed networks.
- > Promoting public-private partnerships to correct market deficiencies that hinder the provision of technological services by retail providers on the infrastructures deployed in small municipalities.
- > Promoting the preparation of the territory's radioelectric spectrum to optimise the rollout of 5G technology.
- > Consolidating and expanding 5G areas as a mechanism to support innovation for the development of 5G products and services in the rural environment.

Strategic fit with the Transformation Project

PA4 - Digitalisation

Alignment with the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan

- > Component 15: Digital connectivity, cybersecurity, 5G deployment.
 - >> C15.I1: Fostering territorial structuring through the deployment of networks.
 - >> C15.I6: 5G deployment.

Alignment with Next Generation Catalonia flagship projects

P27. Digital infrastructures for a competitive and resilient economy and society

Actors involved

- > Lleida Provincial Council
- > Town, City and Regional Councils
- > Ministry of Public Administration and Digital Policies
- > Lleida Chamber of Commerce
- > Infrastructure construction businesses
- > Telecommunications operators

Beneficiaries

General public

Budget: € 00 M

P5

Digital transformation of local public administration



Description

Promotion of the digital transformation of local public administration. Incorporation and management of ICT capacities to promote a model that allows a response to be given to the demand associated with the digital transformation of public administration. Launch of a smart infrastructure ecosystem in which to orchestrate innovative services, collaborative architectures, integration, interoperability and data exploitation to ensure security and privacy.

Support for local administrations in the digital transformation process.

Actions

- >Development of specific software and technology for the public sector.
- >Promotion of technology adoption.
- >Development of digital skills in local administration.

Strategic fit with the Transformation Project

PA4 - Digitalisation

Alignment with the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan

- >Component 11: Modernisation of public administration.
 - >> C11.I3: Digital transformation and modernisation of territorial public administrations.

Alignment with Next Generation Catalonia flagship projects

P17. Smart cloud infrastructure

Actors involved

- >Government of Catalonia
- >AOC (Open Administration of Catalonia) Consortium
- >Localret Consortium
- >Barcelona, Girona, Tarragona and Lleida Provincial Councils
- >Town, City and Regional Councils
- >Universities, CERCA Institution research centres (including i2Cat) and other research centres
- >Eurecat and CSUC (University Services of Catalonia Consortium)
- >GAIA-X: A Federated Data Infrastructure for Europe

Beneficiaries

Public administrations, general public

Budget: € 7 M



P6 Energy and local spher

Description

Promotion of investments for improving the energy efficiency of public buildings, facilities and infrastructures, for generating and consuming renewable energies through self-consumption, shared consumption and local energy community formulas, and for the deployment of electric vehicle support and charging infrastructure.

Actions

- > Promotion of building energy certification and other necessary technical studies to identify the required investments to improve energy efficiency and incorporate renewables on a local scale.
- > Fostering additional actions that achieve the required level of energy demand reduction and renewable energy contribution to thermal and electrical uses.
- > Promotion of pilot projects for local energy communities that can develop and validate business models associated with the generation, distribution and commercialisation of renewable energy in just and decentralised terms.

Strategic fit with the Transformation Project

PA5 - Sustainable energy

Alignment with the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan

- > Component 2: Housing rehabilitation and urban renewal plan.
 - >> C2.I4: Demographic challenge and regeneration programme.
 - >> C2.I5: Programme for the promotion of public building rehabilitation (PIREP).
- > Component 7: Renewable energies implementation and integration.
 - >> C7.I1: Development of innovative renewable energies integrated into building and production processes.
- > Component 8: Electrical infrastructures, promotion of smart networks and deployment of flexibility and storage.
 - >> C8.I3: New business models in the energy transition.

Alignment with Next Generation Catalonia flagship projects

Actors involved

- > Lleida Provincial Council
- > Town, City and Regional Councils
- > Government of Catalonia
- > Local action groups
- > ICAEN (Catalan Energy Institute)
- > Building sector business associations
- > Professional colleges linked to the building sector

Beneficiaries

Public administrations, local communities, general public, energy and building sector business and professional groups

Budget: €64 M€

P7

Innovation Ecosystem: Decentralised and interconnected territorial management of the territory's economic transformation process



Description

Structuring of the territorial innovation ecosystem required to accompany the territory's transformation process. The project envisages the development of instruments, facilities and services to support processes of co-creation, experimentation, validation, learning, and the scaling-up of innovative solutions, as well as new business and entrepreneurship models in the priority development area to progress towards the shared future vision of the territory. The aim of this project is to expand and consolidate the ecosystem promoted through PECT Green&Circular, Agrobiofood, Biomarkets and INNO4AGRO.

Actions

- > Development of instruments for the concertation of territorial and interest-related issues that are conducive to the stabilisation and consolidation of a network of specialised transformation support technicians.
- > Promotion of a network of innovation hubs for territorial competitive specialisation, with a supra-regional scope, to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in the identified priority development areas.
- > Promotion of provision of business acceleration services that, in addition to the incubation services provided by the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Centres (CEIs), create ideal conditions for fostering talent and entrepreneurship across the entire province and ensure an adequate territorial coverage of services like these.
- > Launch of a virtual platform to support the process of participation in the territory's transformation process by the various public and private actors.

Strategic fit with the Transformation Project

- CP1 - Smart transformation
- CP2 - Just transformation

Alignment with the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan

- > Component 17: Institutional reform and capacity-building in the national science, technology and innovation system.
 - >> C17.11: Complementary plans with the Autonomous Communities
 - >> C17.13: New projects.
 - >> C17.15: Knowledge transfer.

Alignment with Next Generation Catalonia flagship projects

- P17. Smart cloud infrastructure

Actors involved

- > Lleida Provincial Council
- > Town, City and Regional Councils
- > Government of Catalonia
- > Universities and research centres

Beneficiaries

Businesses, agricultural and livestock farmers, entrepreneurs, RD&I organisations, public administrations, general public

Budget: €8 M

CP1. CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITY:
Smart transformation



CP2. CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITY:
Just transformation



P8 Training and digital talent for the 21st century

Description

A project to foster capacity building among citizens and vocational retraining in light of the digital transition, promoting the implementation and use of digital tools and principles, raising digital awareness and achieving digital skills and knowledge. The project aims to accelerate this capacity-building process, based on an inclusive society model, to ensure a just digital transition and to reduce and minimise the impact of the digital divide.

Actions

- > Collaboratory for universal digital capacity building.
- > ICT Woman Plan.
- > Programme for fostering digital literacy and skills.
- > Training to develop specialised hybrid professionals.
- > Infrastructures to reduce the digital divide.
- > UL3.CAT project for university level lifelong learning of a public nature, with short thematic programmes.

Strategic fit with the Transformation Project

CP1 - Smart transformation
CP2 - Just transformation

Alignment with the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan

- >> C19.I1: Cross-cutting digital skills.
- >> C19.I2: Digital transformation of education.
- >> C19.I3: Digital skills for employment.
- >> C19.I4: Digital professionals.

Alignment with Next Generation Catalonia flagship projects

P5. Training and digital talent for the 21st century

Actors involved

> Government of Catalonia
> Barcelona, Girona, Tarragona and Lleida Provincial Councils
> Town and City Councils, and associations of municipalities
> Catalan public universities
> AQU Catalunya (Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency)

URV, CRITC (Research, Innovation and Transfer of Knowledge) of Tarragona, UPC-BarcelonaTech and Barcelona Digital Talent, Public Administration School of Catalonia, TV3 i Fibracat TV, CreaTIC Awards, WomenLiderTIC, STEM Women Congress, mSchools (GSMA), ACTIC (Accreditation of Competence in Information and Communication Technologies), FCE (Catalan Recreation Foundation), Cibernarium, EducaRed, Barcelona AulaMèdia, Orange Foundation, Vodafone Foundation, Pantallas Amigas, Ara newspaper, Atresmedia Foundation and Maldita.es, among others.

Beneficiaries

Businesses, agricultural and livestock farmers, entrepreneurs, RD&I organisations, public administrations, general public

Budget: €1 M

Impact of stimulus projects

The impact in terms of direct investment for the stimulus project implementation period (2022-2026) has been calculated. The calculation was done on the basis of the Statistical Institute of Catalonia's Symmetric Table of the Catalan Economy, published in 2001 and updated in 2016.⁵ It is a complete input-output framework, a statistical and analytical tool to see the impact on production, employment and added value.

The results are shown in the following table:

DIRECT INVESTMENT: €505,000,000		
€804,132,235	€327,952,941	5,942 jobs
		
Impact on production	Impact on added value	Impact on employment

⁵ <https://www.idescat.cat/pub/?id=mioc2011&lang=en>

