Territorial Futures
Visions and scenarios for a resilient Europe

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Special Session Proposal

Localising Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) roadmaps for sustainable, just and resilient development

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Abstract

COVID-19 health emergency is having unprecedented impact on European economy and societies. Science, (digital) technologies and innovation were call upon to explore, test and deploy feasible solutions. Specifically, science for policy advise became more then even important for governments to understand the phenomena and justify policy actions needed to manage the health crisis. In the meantime, digital technologies became of uttermost importance to workers who saw themselves confined at their homes. And finally, technological and social innovation spurred across the sectors and communities to address emerging socio-economic crisis.

While reconstructing our economies, we have to make sure that the recovery and socio-economic development is sustainable, just and resilient. Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) together with capacity-building are among the key means to achieve these objectives. STI can contribute to a better understanding of complex and systemic challenges as well as support the development and deployment of knowledge, policies, tools and services. Developing the STI roadmaps top-down is a general rule, but bottom-up approach is equally important to ensure endorsement and ownership of actors, as well as to achieve required impact.

The aim of this special session is to discuss existing theories, methods, models and approaches for the localisation of STI roadmaps for a more sustainable, just and resilient development. At the same time, the session has a more practical objective – to reflect upon transformative, integrated, place-based STI strategies and policies for growth.

Proposals are welcome from scholars working on STI for sustainable development, place-based innovation, transitions, and other related themes from theoretical perspectives. Also, we would like to hear from scholars and practitioners who possess practical experience in STI roadmaps development and deployment.