

Special Session Proposal

Territorial Intelligence and Ecosystem Innovation. New archetypes for Ecological Transition.

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Abstract

The Ecological Transition presupposes a new social and economic model rethinking how we live together in a territory to reduce environmental impact, a unique opportunity for sustainable progress. The territory concept, like a convergence between physical space and the actors' network that live on, allows having a systemic vision that considers the complexity of the social and economic construct engaged by its actors. Territorial Intelligence recognizes local actors' participation as fundamental in the territorial development project. The proximity effect (cognitive, institutional, organizational, physical) that characterizes the territory helps to create trust, knowledge, and relationships, and Territorial Intelligence implies sharing information, respecting rules, and multiplying social interactions and connections to develop collaboration, cooperation, and partnerships for responsible and sustainable territorial development. Ecosystem innovation includes all the critical elements for sustainable development and embraces technological, economic, social, and cultural innovation. The key factors become the resources, the activities, the capacities, and the relations, indissociable elements of the territorial context. Comprehending the territory, on the broader exception, implies knowing where and what institutions, collective action, governance, social capital, and creativity converge as fundamental mechanisms for territorial development. This Special Session aims to contribute to investigating the territory in a systemic vision of innovation and democratization of knowledge. Reading the territory using technological tools becomes essential precisely in support of exploratory investigations, organization, management, evaluation, and forecasting, for sustainable strategic planning. The Special Session refers to the topics addressed in the Horizon 2020 "Transition with Resilience for Evolutionary Development" project.