

## ECORIS3 Project: Policies and Measures to Support Local and Regional Innovation Ecosystems.

The Atlantic Cities network is a partner of the European project ECORIS3, whose objective is to connect the different actors of research and innovation sector with small and medium-sized companies in order to promote innovation and growth.

This project, started in 2017, it is financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) via the INTERREG Europe cross-border cooperation program for a period of 5 years. The project is made up of 8 partners and the Atlantic Cities is in charge of its capitalization and of its diffusion at the European level. The partners of the project are:

- Fomento de San Sebastián (Spain),
- Cork Institute of Technology (Ireland),
- Comunidade Intermunicipal do Ave (Portugal),
- Sunrise Valley Science and Technology Park (Lithuania),
- Kainuun Etu Ltd (Finland),
- Città Metropolitana di Torino (Italy),
- Vidzeme Planning Region (Latvia)

The objective of the project is to improve and connect territorial challenges and opportunities to regional innovation strategies for smart specialization (RIS3) by involving all the stakeholders present in the territory. The role of the "territory" is fundamental to create interconnections between the key actors and thus allow a better circulation of knowledge.

To do this, regional and local authorities must play an intermediary role and, in line with the objectives of the ECORIS3 project, promote and share measures that allow effective interactions between the different actors, to orchestrate sustainable innovation ecosystems and to contribute to regional economic growth and job creation.

As part of the first phase of the project, a series of exchange of experiences and learning are organized through interregional events (4 thematic workshops, 3 seminars and 9 study visits).

In addition to these activities, 7 SWOT analyses and 7 action plans are carried out, as well as 64 Good Practices were identified and shared with the key players of the Quadruple Helix (public sector, civil society, higher education and SMEs). In addition, an evaluation paper on "the role that private and public actors play in the local ecosystem to assimilate innovation" is expected to be produced.

In short, the ECORIS3 project aims to develop innovative ecosystems in the business fabric of the territories in order to promote employment and sustainable urban development.