

TECHNICAL VISIT

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“The strength of the networks”

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An overview of:



An international community of smart & specialised organisations, that connect & coach innovators, entrepreneurs & SMEs, to start, grow & transform our economies



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EBN is a network of **160+ quality-certified EU|BICs** (business and innovation centres, incubators, accelerators and other support organisations) and **100 Associate Members** that support the development and growth of **innovative entrepreneurs**, start-ups and SMEs.

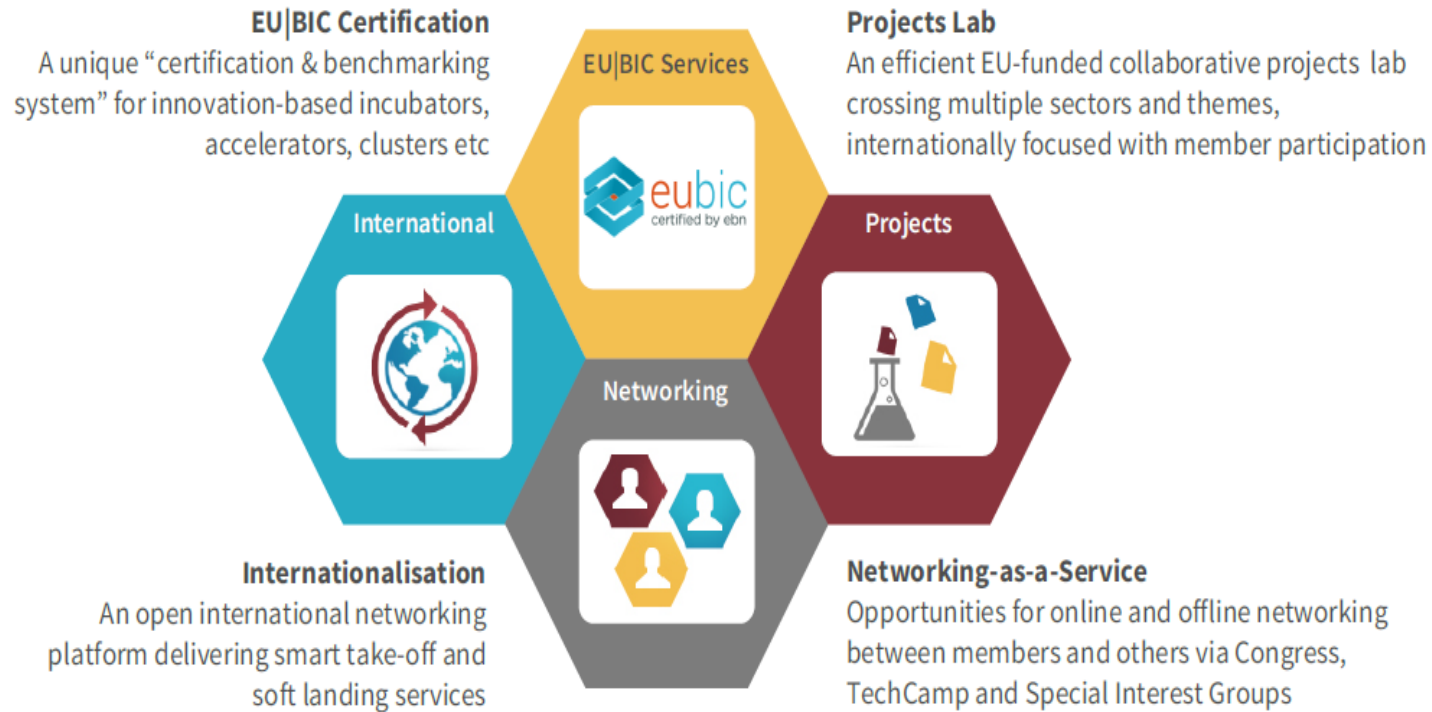
EBN is a **community of professionals** whose day-to-day work guides these businesses to grow in the most effective, and efficient way, delivering sustainable **impact**.

EBN Ecosystem



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EBN Core Services



Benefits of EBN Membership

EU|BIC CERTIFICATION

- Benchmark your organisation against an international network of peers
- Continuously improve the quality of your services through knowledge sharing
- Increase credibility with your local innovation ecosystem and stakeholders
- Become part of a community of trusted partners who share the same values
- Join over 160 other certified organisations across Europe and the world

INTERNATIONALISATION

- Support the smart take-off of clients before they internationalise
- Identify tools and channels to help clients 'start running'
- Profile your services on the EBN platform for easy access by other members
- Enable clients to soft land into new territories with trusted partners
- Provide fast-track networking services to incoming startups and SMEs

PROJECTS LAB

- Participate in EU and other donor funded projects
- Join the consortia and deliver key aspects of a project
- Enable your clients to access funding and other benefits
- Meet with new international partners for business development
- Become recognised as a successful project delivery partner

NETWORKING

- Join other EBN members and international experts at EBN Congress
- Share knowledge, tools and experience with peers at EBN TechCamp
- Contribute to policy direction and deliverables via Special Interest Groups
- Use the online web platform to offer and request opportunities
- Be part of an international community of expertise





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**European
Network of
Living Labs**

The **European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL)** is the international federation of benchmarked Living Labs in Europe and worldwide. Founded in November 2006 under the auspices of the Finnish European Presidency, the network has grown in 'waves' up to this day.

ENoLL counts today over **170** active Living Labs members worldwide (395 historically recognised over 9 years), in 20 of the 28 EU Member States and 2 of the candidates and it is present in 5 continents in addition to Europe.

ENoLL provides co-creation, user engagement, test and experimentation facilities targeting innovation in many different domains such as energy, media, mobility, healthcare, agrifood, etc.

ENoLL is well placed to act as a **platform for best practice exchange, learning and support**, and Living Lab international project development.

The ENoLL international non-profit association, the legal representative entity of the network, is headquartered in Brussels.

What is a **Living Lab**?

Living Labs are defined as **user-centered, open innovation ecosystems** based on a systematic user **co-creation approach** integrating research and innovation processes in real life communities and settings.

In practice, Living Labs place the **citizen at the centre of innovation**, and have thus shown the ability to better mould the opportunities offered by new ICT concepts and solutions to the specific needs and aspirations of local contexts, cultures, and creativity potentials.



European Network of Living Labs

Applications can be submitted by any legal entity from any country in the world that is or hosts (on a behalf of a partnership) a Living Lab.

This organization will have to prove its capacity to operate as a Living Lab and/or act as an innovation service provider through the Living Lab methodology and/or develop its operations towards Living Labs.

The compulsory administrative fee for all adherent members is 500 euros/year.

AREAS OF WORK

ENoLL Members are active in the following thematic areas:*

health & wellbeing 52%

smart cities 33%

culture & creativity 17%

energy 20%

mobility 14%

social inclusion 39%

social innovation 41%

education 15%

eGov/eParticipation 18%



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Eligible proposals are assessed by a panel of experts selected from within the ENoLL community in a peer-led review process.

All reviewers have experience in running Living Labs (LL) in different cultural, sectorial and geographical contexts.

Criteria:

- Strength and maturity of multi-stakeholder partnership (quadruple helix)
- Robust organization, management and governance
- Reality usage contexts
- Interest in participation in EU and international innovation systems
- Commitment to open innovation practices
- Coverage of value chain (different roles of the ecosystem)
- Availability of appropriate equipment and infrastructure
- Appropriate and qualified staff
- Appropriate methods for user engagement



**European
Network of
Living Labs**

The ENoLL organization has three kinds of memberships: Effective Members, Innovation Partners and Adherent Members.

Effective Members hold voting rights and help form the strategic directions of the ENoLL association.

Innovation Partners are not Living Labs themselves, but are dedicated to support and development of the Living Lab community. They are companies, universities, cities & departments engaged and supportive of user-driven open innovation.

Adherent members are organizations that represent a Living Lab, which were duly selected according to the ENoLL recognition process and meet their obligations as Adherent members.

Solar Living Lab



SOLL LIVING LAB, in front of the premises of Consorzio ARCA, in Palermo, within the University campus, with its 3000 smq of extension, is the first pilot plant in Europe developed in urban settings, based on the concentrating mirrors technology, which is able to provide electricity, heat and cooling for multiple uses. The field is mainly devoted to the demonstration and testing of new solar components and technologies; it is open to all the citizens for visits, in order to let them access the site, receive explanations about the technologies applied and raise social challenges for which they would need solutions.

SOLL LIVING LAB has been realized with a mix of regional, national and European financial resources. Installed within a larger area under renovation as a city park, it has required the adoption of specific solutions to minimize the impact on the urban environment and in an area of archeological and natural interest. Some components derive from RTD activities involving regional SMEs participating into the supply chain. It has been meant to move research results and innovation out of university labs and make them visible and easily accessible to people, thanks to the demonstrative plant.



SOLL LIVING LAB practitioners can make available their expertise gained over the past five years to **stimulate knowledge transfer in small scale solutions** and multi generative solar systems suitable for the urban environment which integrate and optimize advanced technologies.

The Lab provides also a unique **testbed for testing and tuning systems** through the team work of professionals from the research, professional and industrial world.



Achieving near Zero and Positive Energy Settlements in Europe
using Advanced Energy Technology



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SOLL LIVING LAB benefits from a **network of competence** developed in Sicily around R&D projects, including research centres, mechatronic and optical industries, software and automation developers, engineering and construction companies, spin-off companies in the fields of PV, geothermal energy, wind power, sustainable solar desalination, innovative CHP.

All the facilities in the lab can be used with the **technical assistance of specialized staff** in mechanics, electronics, materials, process management, industrial design, FEM Simulation, electronic design, firmware development, assembly and testing of prototypes, supporting the process starting from the definition of component physical behavior, until the choice of materials, the configuration study and the parties interaction, the optimization and testing



SOLL LIVING LAB management takes advantage from a consolidated **public/private approach**, based on a **new vision of energy transition**, making the theme of the solar energy more attractive and accessible to a wide audience, increasing communities engagement and stakeholders commitment on clean cost-effective energy technologies.

The site works as an **'educational lab'**, serving both the academic community and the productive system for the co-design and testing of innovative small scale energy solutions for the urban environment, collaborating with other Euro-Mediterranean twinned infrastructures, experimenting the same integration of technologies with different level of optimization and customized technical choices.

Attention is paid to the educational and training component and to an **energy awareness raising campaign**, with its highlight in the SunMed Festival in 2016.





TECLA

Textile&Clothing Living Lab

TECLA LIVING LAB will give impulse to co-design, awareness-raising, testing and experimentation of **innovative products and business models with regards of the Textile & Clothing sector**.

TECLA LIVING LAB aims to **reduce the gap between SMEs and R&D** issues. It will address the issues of Fashion Technology with a more inclusive and co-design approach, offering a space where exploring the emerging opportunities of the new “Making Economy” (e.g. personal robotics, home production), redirecting the capacities of “old artisans” and family workers (or “fasonists”) and re-connecting their knowledge with new entrepreneurs, young and creative people. The Living Lab contains 3d printers, sewing and cutting machines, laser cutting machine, pattern maker software.



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TECLA LIVING LAB takes full advantage of the benefits of Future **Internet technologies for the T&C global supply chain** (diffused e-commerce networks, IoT tracking systems, virtual warehouses, customer engagement, etc.).

TECLA LIVING LAB will be a **physical space** where to encourage and make it possible to discuss ideas and projects, meet people and collaborators, with formal and informal cooperation methodologies, contribute to ideas and rediscover hand sewing and embroidery traditions. This Lab will also contribute to enlarge the community of artisans and DIY makers.

Our Lab is an experiment to **reactivate knowledge and tradition of the territory** gathering a network of people and artisans able to ignite the process identification in a common culture, first step to ignite a process of transformation.



Horizon 2020
European Union funding
for Research & Innovation



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INVENT

MADONIE LIVING LAB has specialized and expanded the process of implementing the **National Strategy for Internal Areas (SNAI)**. The SNAI has been promoted by the Italian Government and it is the national framework for the inner areas of the EU cohesion policies, driving the ERDF actions in these territories. Madonie area has been selected as one of the priority targets after an assessment of the maturity level and the regeneration potential. The local community chose to address in a systemic way the issues relating to **mobility services, school and health**, with the view of a sustainable and inclusive growth, and to optimize the integration of the ordinary development policies for citizens services, supported by national funds, with extraordinary actions, supported by EU structural funds.



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MADONIE LIVING LAB is meant as a general methodological framework to facilitate the process of **participatory planning** and to consolidate the involvement of citizens, administrators, local companies in co-design of services connected to territorial challenges.

The host organization is **Easy Integrazione di Sistemi**, co-founder of ARCA in a public-private partnership with the University. It collaborates with **SO.SVI.MA.**, the local development agency. They share competences and interests on the technological and business side with commitment on social innovation and local development issues.

The Living Lab is hosted at **EXMA**, a refurbished building made available by the municipal authorities, and is connected with the **FabLab@schools** local network. It offers to the resident young people the chance of entrepreneurial discovery and attracts experienced professionals and researchers from urban areas, that would invest their time and competence in a “slow life” context.



MADONIE LIVING LAB acts as a **territorial innovation hub**, interconnecting the pillars of the local sustainable development strategy in the rural area of Madonie (renewable energy, overall landscape protection, eco-agriculture and sustainable tourism promotion), through four steps:

1. **vision** at the political and administrative level **and participation**, maximizing local value creation and community empowerment;
2. **knowledge and design thinking** through the analysis of data in different sectors, promotion of idea-generation initiatives;
3. **implementation of pilots** and demos involving users and citizens;
4. **business and management models**



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FoTRRIS

Fostering a Transition towards Responsible Research and Innovation Systems



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Responsible Research and Innovation and Sustainable Development Goals



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The UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) has been operating since 2012 under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General. SDSN **mobilizes global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical solutions for sustainable development**, including the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement.

In September 2015, world leaders attended a special summit at the United Nations in New York to adopt Agenda 2030, including the 17 **Sustainable Development Goals** (or SDGs).

They provide a holistic framework, applicable to all countries, aiming to eradicate poverty and deprivation, but also to grow our economies, to protect our environment, and to promote peace and good governance.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



GETTING STARTED WITH THE SDGS IN UNIVERSITIES

A GUIDE FOR UNIVERSITIES, HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, AND THE ACADEMIC SECTOR



<http://ap-unsdsn.org/a-new-guide-for-universities-on-the-sdgs/>

“Universities have a critical role to play in achieving the SDGs through their research, innovation, education and leadership”

CO-RRI as mainstream practice in research and innovation: a lesson from FoTRRIS project

Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) addresses global challenges and creates sustainable alternatives.

Sustainable Development Goals offer a common framework and organizing structure for RRI. Given the critical role of R&I in ensuring the success of the SDGs, all R&I institutions recognize the moral imperative to support the global agenda as their social mission and core function.

SDGs provide a frame to demonstrate to all stakeholders – government, funders and the community – how RRI contributes to global and local wellbeing.

They are the reference for the R&I community to evaluate the impact and relevance of its work .



The vision of FoTRRIS is for **all people to thrive in a sustainable, equitable and peaceful world**, by strengthening RRI systems. In this vision all research and innovation – in traditional as well as novel settings – responds to societal needs and takes responsibility by intervening so as to build a better future, stressing the interconnections between the social, environmental and economic aspects of sustainable development through systemic analyses.

RRI is engaged in deep transformations of embedded societal patterns, while supporting resilient ways of organizing cities and communities. Global goals manifest themselves differently according to local contexts.

RRI implies **co-creation and transdisciplinarity**, integrating the insights and perspectives of citizens, decision-makers and generative economic actors. Citizen engagement protects researchers from adopting a one-dimensional (technical) perspective on social problems.

RRI is a common endeavour (**CO-RRI**) for the common good.



FoTRRIS has introduced new governance practices to foster RRI policies and methods.

FoTRRIS stresses that RRI is a collaborative activity from the very beginning. Therefore FoTRRIS adds the prefix 'co' to RRI.

FoTRRIS focuses on **glocal challenges**, i.e. local or regional manifestations of global challenges and on local opportunities for solving them.

FoTRRIS performs **transition experiments**, to support the transformation of present-day research and innovation strategies into co-RRI- strategies.

It designs, tests and validates the organization, operation and funding of **co-RRI competence cells**. A competence cell is a small organizational unit, which functions as a local one-stop innovation platform that encourages various knowledge actors from science, policy, industry and civil society to co-design, perform, and monitor co-RRI projects that are attuned to local manifestations of global sustainability challenges.



FoTRRIS has introduced useful methodologies to move towards responsible research and innovation:

-the **back-casting exercise**

-the **strategic and operational canvas**

Back-casting means to create a vision by 2030 and move back to build up the iterative process.

The back-casting exercise explored solutions (leverages) to the most burning barriers keeping the current R&I systems from implementing CO-RRI and planned steps to arrive from 2030 to the present year.

While planning the steps from the desired vision backwards, participants concluded that the change must come from inside, bottom-up and will have to be trust-based because people have to understand, believe in the common, shared vision and in the added value of CO-RRI.

The vision was defined setting priorities (i.e research financing, production, evaluation) and the back casting exercise planned the transition backwards from the co-created vision to the present.

