

How Managing Authorities can support citizen engagement in 2021-2027

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The regional framework

The training has been organised by EIPA and CPVA
under the Framework Contract Nr 2023CE160AT004.

The regional context

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participation and
related processes**

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platform for
citizen
participation
in Emilia-Romagna**

**Participation
observatory**

**Employment and
climate pact**

**Youz
Participatory
forum for young
people in Emilia-
Romagna**

**EROI Emilia-
Romagna Open
Innovation**

Regional Law on participation in public policy making

The regional law on participation aims to encourage citizen participation in public policy making and to strengthen the sense of active citizenship, particularly when making important and strategic choices for an area.



Yearly calls for regional grants to support participatory processes provided by regional law

PartecipAzioni

SCOPRI IL PROGETTO



La piattaforma della Regione Emilia-Romagna

Regional Participation platform based on Decidim, created in collaboration with the Department of the Public Service (Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministers).

Promoting open government and facilitating participation of citizens for participatory processes promoted by local administrations and civil society organisations, for EU consultations and to support of the regional community of participatory practices.

- A tool promoted by Emilia-Romagna Region in collaboration with ARTER to allow citizens and local authorities, to get information on participatory processes, making available a wide portfolio of experiences of citizen involvement in public decisions
- A common space of interaction and interchange among the different actors involved in participatory processes that can enhance the knowledge and commitment of groups, organizations, and representations spread throughout society
- A systematization of information about the development of different participatory experiences.
- Enhancing experiences that enable a development of participatory democracy
- Suggest ideas and examples to stimulate and accompany the design of new participatory processes



- YOUZ is the youth forum of the Emilia-Romagna Region, a tool for relationships, dialogue and discussion, dedicated to generations Y and Z with the aim of gathering their proposals for the participatory definition of future regional policies.
- The discussion resulted in a decalogue of ideas inherent in the themes of environmental sustainability, support for the psychological sphere of young people, strengthening of skills including in the creative sphere, and the promotion of protagonism, autonomy and participation of young people in the life of the regional community.





4 Strategic Objectives

A region of
knowledge and
know-how


A region of
environmental
transition

A region of
rights and
duties

A region of
work,
enterprises and
opportunities

IN EMILIA-ROMAGNA IL FUTURO LO COSTRUIAMO INSIEME

La Regione Emilia-Romagna sottoscrive il **Patto per il Lavoro e per il Clima** insieme a 55 firmatari: enti locali, sindacati, imprese (industria, artigianato, commercio, cooperazione), i quattro atenei regionali (Bologna, Modena e Reggio Emilia, Ferrara, Parma), l'Ufficio scolastico regionale, associazioni ambientaliste (Legambiente, Rete Comuni Rifiuti Zero), Terzo settore e volontariato, professioni, Camere di commercio e banche (Abi).

 Regione Emilia-Romagna

4 horizontal processes

Digitalisation

Simplification

Legality

Participation



A digital community open to all people who want to innovate by collaborating, finding solutions and exchanging expertise in line with the principles of open innovation

- hosts a network of more than 4,500 interested users /stakeholders of innovation already active in the area and helps attract and activate new and potential ones
- fosters connection with the regional Innovation Ecosystem
- is a strategic asset for the development of new synergies and projects by fostering open innovation challenges through a matching mechanism between proposing companies and innovating agents and research centers
- fuels debate and exchange of expertise and opinions on innovation, new technologies and business development also through territorial animation activities, networking events, training opportunities

The goal

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Three pillars of stakeholder participation

As defined in the OECD Recommendation of the Council on Open Government(2017)

1.

INFORMATION

- Initial level of participation
- One-way relationship
- On-demand provision of information
- Proactive measures to disseminate information

2.

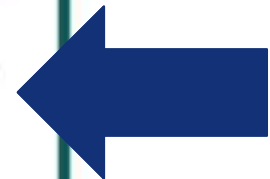
CONSULTATION

- More advanced
- Two-way relationship
- Requires provision of information plus feedback on outcomes of process

3.

ENGAGEMENT

- When stakeholders (including citizens + civil society) are given opportunity and necessary resources to collaborate during all phases of the policy-cycle and in service design + delivery



The new scene needs new tools

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Emilia-Romagna ERDF Regional Programme 2021-2027

Priority 1 Research, Innovation and competitiveness

530.000.000 euro (53,5%)

Priority 2 Sustainability, decarbonization biodiversity and resilience

**343.000.000 euro
(34,5%)**

**Contribution of the
Programme to
climate change
30,9%**

Priority 3 Sustainable mobility and improvement of air quality

Priority 4 Attractiveness, cohesion and territorial development

120.000.000 euro (12%)

Priority 5 Technical Assistance

31.200.000 euro (3,0%)

TOTAL RESOURCES

1.024.200.000 euro



Horizontal priorities

- **Green transition**

supporting investments able to generate a greater energy efficiency/production of renewable energies, adoption of processes and products with a limited environmental impact

- **Digital transformation**

supporting investments able to generate digital innovation in processes and products

- **Territorial cohesion**

supporting investments for competitiveness and attractiveness of more fragile areas

- **Equal opportunities**

supporting investments for women entrepreneurship

- **New generations**

supporting young entrepreneurship and increasing employment opportunities for young people

New fields

- **Hydrogeological disruption**
- **Green and blue infrastructures**
- **Circular economy**

New Commitments

- **Climate Proofing**
- **DNSH**
- **Use of indicators**

Increased resources

From 480 Meuro to 1 billion euro

Gaps and Challenges

**Managing
administrative
procedures**



Support and Engagement

**Webinars organized to
support potential
beneficiaries in presenting
proposals and beneficiaries
in implementing projects**

**Communicating
projects**



**Engaging beneficiaries in
communication activities**

Changing perspective in communication

Communicate the opportunities available to people, businesses, communities and territories through the direct testimony of those who have accessed European funding

Communication is not self-referential and allows people to identify with the beneficiaries-testimonials

Making the beneficiaries protagonists





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2018

The first edition of the competition, aimed at beneficiaries of the 2014-2020 ERDF Regional Operational Programme. More than 100 spot video received. 11 winners awarded at Research to Business Show.



2019

In the second edition of the contest, participation was extended to beneficiaries of the 2014-2020 ESF Operational Program, expanding the voices of the protagonists in the story of the results achieved in Emilia-Romagna thanks to European Funds. More than 70 video spots were submitted, of which 19 were awarded at Research to Business



2020

Involving beneficiaries of Interreg European Territorial Cooperation programs, the contest takes a quantum leap and increases the voices bearing witness to Europe in Emilia-Romagna. Not only that, more expressive freedom to the beneficiaries: videos, but also infographics, cartoons, posters, comics. 114 proposals submitted



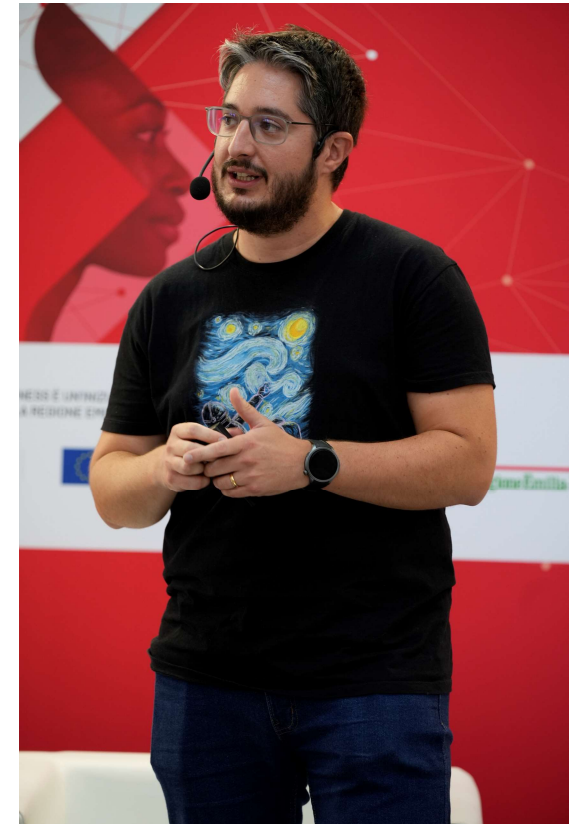
2021

In addition to the introduction of the public vote (24 thousand votes!), the fourth edition of the competition is characterized by the opening of applications to the beneficiaries of all the Regional Operational Programs of the European Funds of the Emilia-Romagna Region, broken down as follows: 32 projects European Social Fund, 43 European Regional Development Fund, 19 Interreg and 15 Rural Development Program.



CLIC – Cattura l'immagine, individua il cambiamento

The visual contest launched by the Emilia-Romagna Region to mark the European Year of Skills with the aim of making people the protagonists in witnessing the value and importance of skills for change



Using and managing data for increasing knowledge and commitment of beneficiaries

DATA

Understanding

Insight and policy
recommendations
Information design and visualisation

User engagement
Data analysis and
interpretation

Managing

Data testing and checking

Data processing and
integration

Getting

Data retrieval

Data management
solution



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PANORAMICA

SAFE-ER

Regione amministrativa Fondi Europei Emilia-Romagna

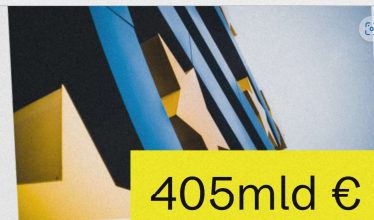


Nel periodo tra il 2014 e il 2020 l'Unione Europea ha investito più di 400 miliardi di euro nella la Politica di Coesione.

Questa somma equivale a un investimento di oltre 113 euro all'anno per ogni persona.

405mld €

533 miliardi di euro
(considerando co-finanziamenti nazionali e regionali)

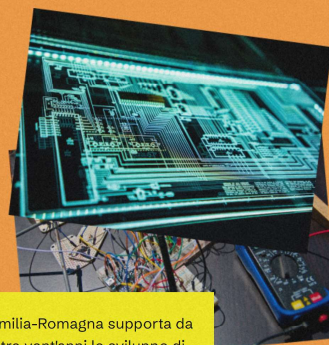


RICERCA ED INNOVAZIONE

Da oltre vent'anni, la regione pone grande enfasi sulla Ricerca e Innovazione (R&I). Attraverso un rafforzamento dell'ecosistema regionale e un approccio di governance inclusiva, si sono instaurate connessioni significative tra il settore della ricerca, l'istruzione e le imprese. Il sostegno alla formazione di professionisti specializzati riveste un ruolo cruciale per garantire la sostenibilità di un sistema competitivo e promuovere un'occupazione di qualità. Vuoi saperne di più? Clicca su questo link per vedere la data story.

Data story

L'Emilia-Romagna supporta da oltre vent'anni lo sviluppo di connessioni significative tra il settore della ricerca, l'istruzione e le imprese



Scrollytelling Guided storytelling through data

PANORAMICA

SAFE-ER



TRANSIZIONE ENERGETICA

L'Emilia-Romagna sta affrontando l'obiettivo di una transizione verso un'economia sostenibile, in linea con l'European Green Deal a livello europeo. Nel 2020, la regione ha lanciato il Patto per il Lavoro e per il Clima, un'iniziativa che promuove l'occupazione sostenibile e favorisce una transizione verso un'economia ambientalmente responsabile. Per ulteriori dettagli sui progetti sostenuti dai fondi FESR e FSE e sull'espansione della strategia regionale dalla programmazione 2014-2020 a quella attuale (2021-2027), puoi visitare la data story disponibile al seguente link.

Data story

L'Emilia-Romagna è impegnata nella transizione verso un'economia più ecologicamente responsabile



DIGITALIZZAZIONE

La digitalizzazione rappresenta un filo conduttore fondamentale all'interno della strategia regionale. Questo approccio incide trasversalmente su tutti gli obiettivi: l'aumento della competitività delle imprese, la promozione di un'occupazione sostenibile e di alta qualità per i cittadini, nonché il miglioramento della sostenibilità ambientale. Se sei interessato a conoscere il contributo dei fondi FESR ed FSE nel periodo di programmazione 2014-2020 e le modifiche apportate dalla regione nella nuova programmazione, clicca sul link per vedere la data story.

Data story

La digitalizzazione incide trasversalmente su tutti gli obiettivi



The projects

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Developping and testing innovative practices for citizens participation

2020-2022



**Definition of
guidelines for
participation**

2023-2024



**Implementation of
territorial
development
strategies involving
young people**

2024-2025



**Increasing and
strengthening
capacity of
beneficiaries**



Citizen Participation Playbook for Emilia-Romagna Region

with the support of

BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES



Regione Emilia-Romagna

At the end of the co-designing process under the guide of OECD experts, a **Citizen Participation Playbook for Emilia-Romagna** was developed to help identify opportunities and plan for citizen participation in designing, implementing, and evaluating the Territorial Development Strategies (part of the Regional Programme 2021-2027) under Cohesion Policy.

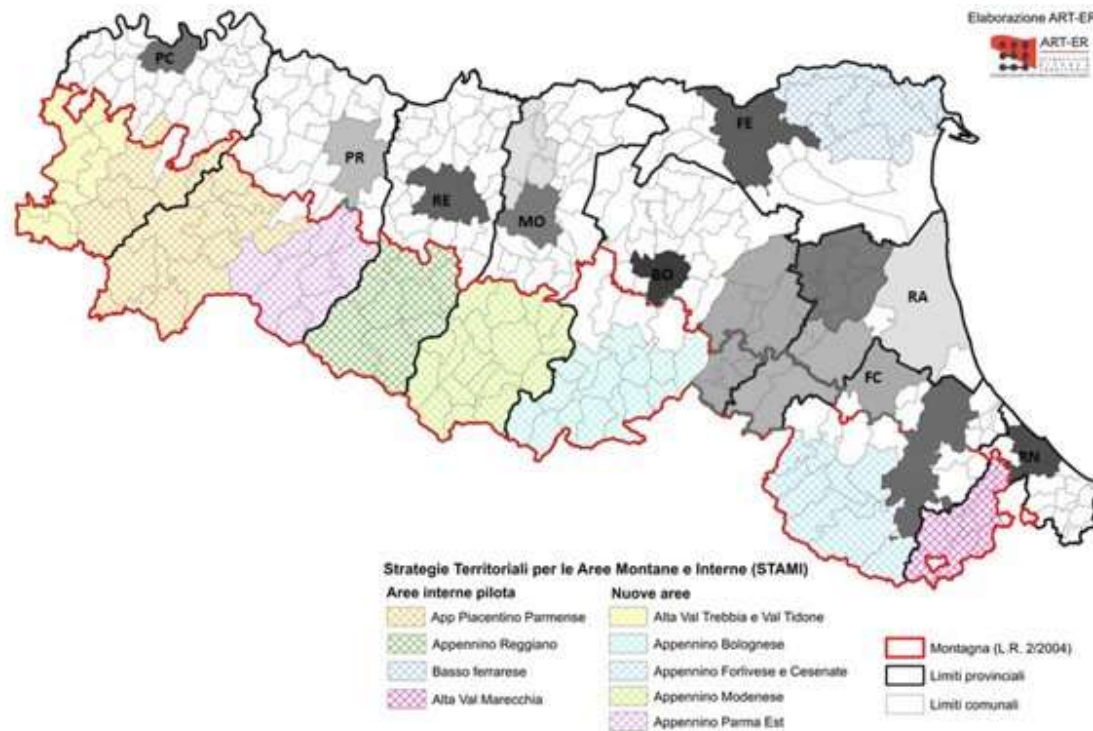
The Playbook helps the public administration to identify conditions when citizen participation is useful, the different steps that should be taken in order to implement a citizen participation process, the preconditions for engagement of quality and the follow-up as well as different methods and instruments to be used according to the objective and the current environment.



- Promote cooperation between PAs and civil society organizations
- Test innovative practices of citizen participation in cohesion policy programs
- Identify an area of cooperation and conditions for the creation of strong and lasting partnerships
- Gather good participatory practices to be shared at the territorial and EU level (replicability)



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SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 5.2

Promoting integrated and inclusive social, economic and environmental development at local level, culture, natural heritage, sustainable tourism and security in areas other than urban (Disadvantaged Areas)

Implementation of **Territorial Strategies for Internal/Mountain areas (STAMI)**

Priority 4 Attractiveness,
cohesion and spatial development
(spatial strategies)

FOCUS on Mountain and internal
areas & Young people



**From consultation to
engagement**

Testing a simplified deliberative
process (Students Assembly)
with a direct involvement of
youth in a decision making
process

Appennino Reggiano



Partners and stakeholders

9 municipalities
politicians, educational
services, youth
associations



**2 High
schools**



MAIN STEPS



Meeting with politicians



Schools/students selection



Kick off in a plenary event



Labs with students: draft recommendations



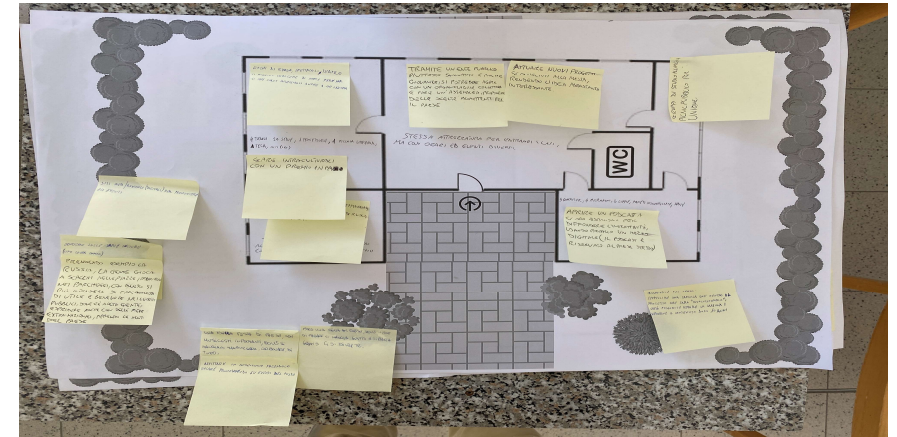
Presentation to policy makers



Feedbacks to students

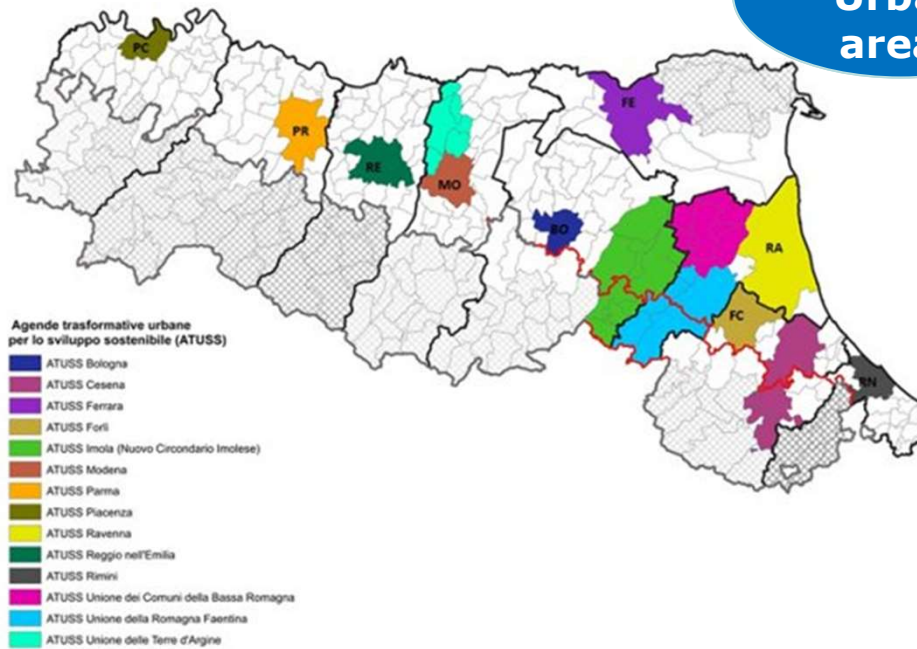


Final event / scaling up

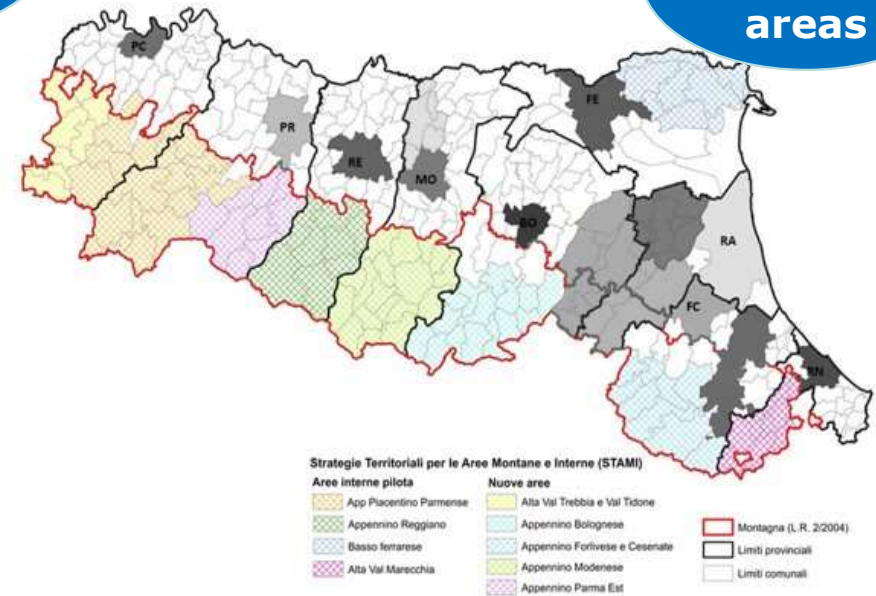


Scaling up the model to other urban and non-urban areas

14
Urban
areas



9
Internal
areas



EC-OECD pilot project

**SUPPORTING
MANAGING
AUTHORITIES
TO BUILD THE
CAPACITY OF
COHESION
POLICY FUNDS
BENEFICIARIES**



- Promoting good governance of cohesion policy
- Proposing customized measures, tools, and best management practices to support the MA
- Identifying the characteristics of a long-term MA-beneficiary partnership based on trust

GOALS

- Advance the agenda of good governance for Cohesion Policy.
- Suggest tailored measures to support the pilot MAs.
- Support MA across the EU with practical tools and good practices.
- Identify what a long-term, trust-based MA-beneficiary partnership can look like.

KEY QUESTIONS

How can MAs...

- understand the diverse and evolving capacity needs of their beneficiaries?
- optimise resources and innovate in how beneficiary capacity building support is offered?
- measure the effectiveness of beneficiary capacity building?
- better engage with beneficiaries across the programme cycle?
- strengthen a beneficiary-oriented way of working?

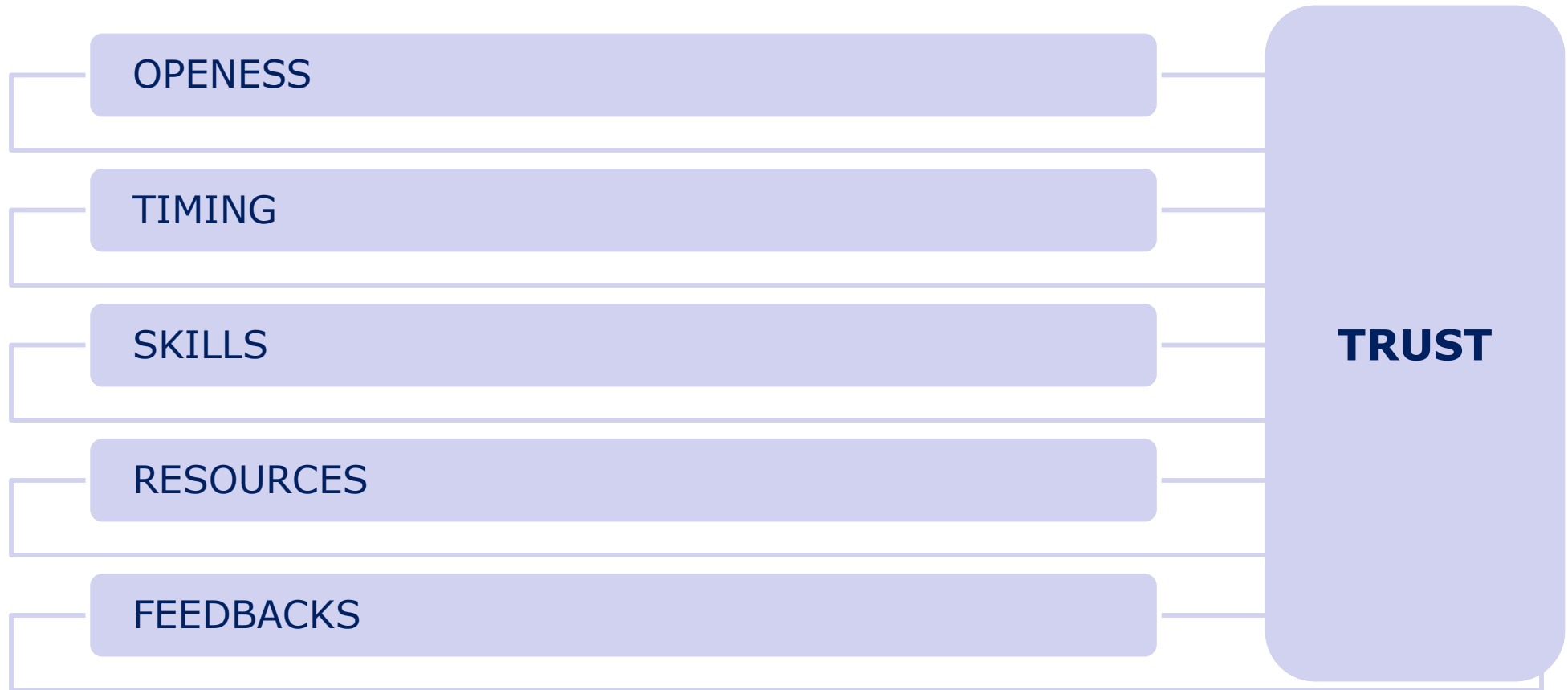
ACTIVITIES

- **Online beneficiary survey** to understand the capacity needs of different groups of beneficiaries.
- **Focus group meetings** with MA staff, beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries, and other stakeholders in the beneficiary capacity building support ecosystem.
- **Multi-stakeholder workshop** to gather all relevant stakeholders to generate concrete ideas for beneficiary capacity building.
- **Peer-to-peer workshops** for the pilot MAs and experts.

OUTPUTS

- **An analytical framework** to support MAs as they advance in building beneficiary capacity.
- **Tailored action plans** for pilot MAs.
- **A synthesis report** summarising pilot project lessons-learned.
- **A toolkit** to support MAs across the EU in building beneficiary capacity.

Key words for participatory process: main lessons learnt



THANK YOU!

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