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# Fitt·Ness

## ***Fostering Innovation & the Twin Transition for iNclusive EnvironmentS and Smart homes***

*FITT-NESS aims to provide a comprehensive approach to increase the capacity of 2 less developed and 1 outermost regional innovation ecosystems – Portugal (North), Spain (Murcia) and Italy (Sicily) – to deliver concrete interregional innovation investments within the smart homes and inclusive environments value chain related to the furniture sector, benefitting from the learning of a more developed ecosystem, in Italy (Lombardy).*

*The project lasts 24 months, from 01/11/2024 to 31/10/2026*

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## OBJECTIVES

- Conduct comprehensive mapping and analysis of the capabilities, market trends, challenges, opportunities and barriers of the furniture sector in the 4 regional innovation ecosystems.
- Develop a more skilled workforce, building concrete capacities on business and investment planning, by delivering tailored training, skill development, and knowledge transfer activities with a special focus on the digital and green transition.
- Deliver comprehensive advisory and business support services to innovation intermediaries, tailored to the living environment sector.
- Support the 3 less developed/outermost S3 regions in building and enhancing their innovation ecosystems.
- Establish a robust transnational community, enabling feedback loops for networking, experience sharing and good practices elicitation, with a long-term partnership strategy, ensuring the sustainability and effective policy impact.



## ACTIVITIES

### Ecosystem Building, Mapping, and Needs Assessment

- Identify and map the primary challenges and opportunities within the Smart Specialization Strategy (S3) roadmap for each region.
- Establish FITT-NESS Communities in each of the four target regions
- Formally organize FITT-NESS Communities, with a coordination group that represents the quadruple-helix of actors

### Capacity Building, Training, and Networking

- Directly support SMEs and their innovation intermediaries
- Provide training, advisory, and business services aimed at enhancing skills, knowledge, and strategic capabilities within SMEs.
- Conduct pilot initiatives to test approaches, while fostering dialogue among stakeholders to promote collaboration and strengthen ecosystem partnerships.

### New Governance and Sustainability

- Develop new governance models and activate synergies to improve stakeholder participation and project sustainability.
- Create a catalogue of governance models and benchmarks to support sustainable practices, including policy recommendations aimed at long-term impact and scalability.



## RESULTS

- FITT-NESS Matching Tool: designed to connect supply-side competencies with demand-driven business opportunities
- S3 Roadmap and Market Analysis: A tailored S3 strategy roadmap for Murcia, North of Portugal and Sicily
- FITT-NESS Capacity-building training program: To empower key intermediaries within the furniture sector
- FITT-NESS Portfolio of Advisory Services: specifying the different advisory available services to SMEs and enabling organizations
- FITT-NESS Community: ensuring a participatory approach involving all the parties committed to the process, sharing their needs and aspirations.
- Policy Recommendations: will unite key stakeholders and experts in the sector to offer policy feedback and share recommendations