



Fostering entrepreneurship through coworking spaces

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Webinar by the Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform



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Why a webinar on the **coworking spaces**?



- We have previously looked at other types of physical spaces, e.g. incubators and Digital Innovation Hubs
- This topic has become increasingly relevant since the Covid-19 pandemic
- We have provided **expert services on the topic** – a peer review and a matchmaking...

...now it felt like the right time to take it also to a wider audience!

What are **coworking spaces**

- **Shared work environments** where individuals from different professions and companies work together.
- Spaces that are designed to provide a collaborative and flexible work environment.
- Offer networking, collaboration, and personal growth opportunities.
- Normally a state-of-the-art working environment, especially concerning connectivity.
- A cost-effective alternative to renting a seperate premise.
- Usually host young and small companies and creative workers.
- Multiple potential (policy) **goals:**
 - attracting digital nomads or remote workers
 - providing a space and services for the local community
 - fostering entrepreneurship

Today's Agenda

- Keynote by Stephen Carolan on Ireland's National Hub Network, Western Development Commission, Ireland
- Eeva Arpala, about the HUBI25 Communal Workspace (CODIL project), Finland
- Xabier Hualde Amunarriz on the <u>Local Network of specialised Business Centres</u> and positioning San Sebastian as a hub for innovative entrepreneurship (SKALE2CT project), Fomento San Sebastián, Spain



POLICY LEARNING PLATFORM

Interreg Europe

To improve regional development policies through the identification and transfer of good practices among EU regions

Helps policymakers to find new solutions to their challenges

36 Partner States



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Two actions



Projects

Limited number of regions exchanging and transferring experience on a shared regional development issue



Policy Learning Platform

Further exploiting projects' achievements and opening up the programme benefits to all

The platform **TEAM**





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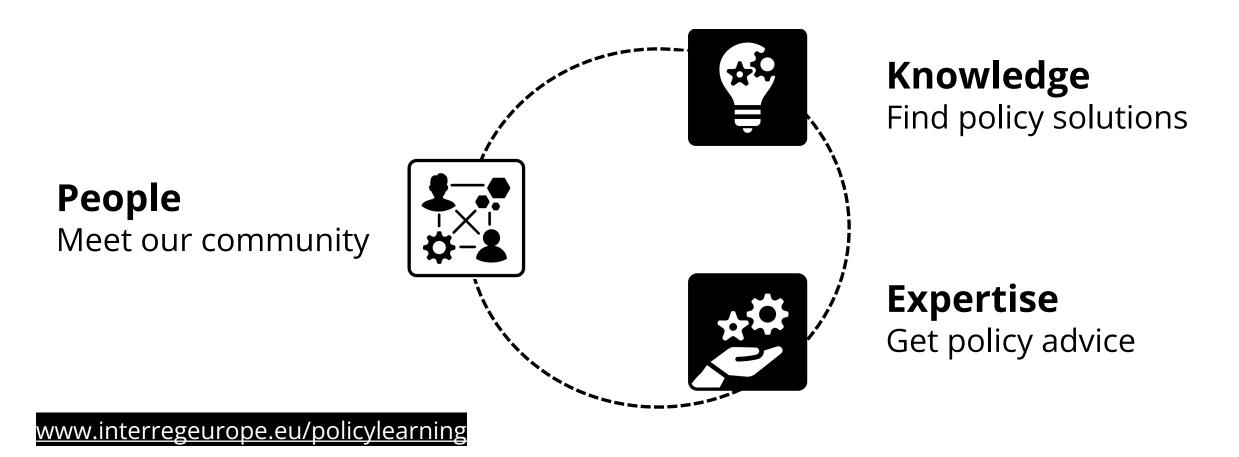
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The Platform in a nutshell

Policy-learning opportunities through **access** to:



Access to **EXPERTISE**

• Policy advice services from our thematic experts







Peer reviews

In-dept analysis and peer recommendations

Matchmakings

Solutions on how to resolve a policy challenge

Policy helpdesk

Ideas on how to resolve a policy challenge

https://www.interregeurope.eu/get-policy-advice

Peer learning IN PRACTICE

- 77 peer reviews implemented since 2019
 8 peer reviews in the pipeline
- **47 matchmaking** sessions

Apply to benefit from expert support any time

https://www.interregeurope.eu/get-policy-advice



Peer review: Regional branding for attracting tech-savvy visitors

Põlva County Development Centre, Estonia

Peers from: Ireland, Finland, the Netherlands

Recommendations:

- to map all coworking and remote working hubs and the governance structure in all of Estonia,
- to launch a dedicated campaign to invite the Southeast Estonia diaspora (national and international) to visit and work remotely
- to engage with employers and corporates directly
- to be inclusive in public communication

More information available here









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