

OECD Trento Centre for Local Development

# Enhancing International Partnership and Co-operation in Friuli-Venezia Giulia

## Peer-learning Workshop

18 May 2023 | Online

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## AGENDA



# ■ About the project

## ■ The project in a nutshell

The project aims to support the Friuli-Venezia Giulia (FVG) Autonomous Region, Italy, in enhancing its strategy on international partnership and co-operation, in response to new global trends. The goal is to maximise the impact on all local communities involved by moving from a one-way to a mutual approach.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides useful guidance for setting new priorities in international partnership and co-operation. However, outdated policy frameworks and skills shortages may hinder such efforts. Thus, the project will offer a comprehensive assessment of the regional strategy, as well as a capacity-building plan for local practitioners.

*Implementation period: 2022-2023*

## ■ What's the issue?

FVG entered the arena of international partnership and co-operation at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, during a time of unprecedented economic growth and great enthusiasm for globalisation. Since then, it has experienced several crises. Competition from emerging economies has dealt a severe blow to local businesses and put a strain on the regional budget. New social, economic and environmental challenges have added pressure. Nevertheless, there is a growing awareness of the potential returns of engaging in international co-operation, in a world where problems and potential solutions are global by default.

FVG will not need to start from scratch in finding innovative solutions. In recent years, multiple regions and cities have engaged in local-to-local co-operation, often with mixed results. The OECD has a sound record in supporting policy enhancement in this field, providing evidence-based advice and a peer-learning forum for practitioners. Well-designed policies can help regions and cities to leverage complementarities with partners and maximise returns to communities, including in areas such as local employment and economic development.

## What can the OECD offer?

Since 2016, the OECD has made significant contributions to the field of Decentralised Development Co-operation (DDC) as part of a joint programme between the OECD Regional Development Policy Committee (RDPC) and the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC). The Trento Centre for Local Development will leverage such knowledge to lead this project.

Throughout the project, FVG will benefit from:

- A thorough assessment of the regional strategy on international partnership and co-operation, including governance and financial issues, based on multiple sources, including administrative data, a web-based survey, interviews and focus group discussions with local practitioners.
- Actionable recommendations on how to enhance the regional strategy on international partnership and co-operation.
- Capacity-building seminars to strengthen the skills of local practitioners, based on an assessment of local training needs.
- Strategic advice on how to improve communication and raise public and political awareness of the results of the regional strategy.

## ■ Who we are

The OECD Trento Centre for Local Development is an integral part of the Local Employment and Economic Development (LEED) Programme and the Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE). The Trento Centre uses a holistic “from data to practice” approach to policies for sustainable development to offer local policy analysis, advice and capacity building activities for improved policy implementation for people, firms and places. [www.trento.oecd.org](http://www.trento.oecd.org)

## ■ Contact

For more information on this project, please contact: [Mattia.Corbetta@oecd.org](mailto:Mattia.Corbetta@oecd.org).

# ■ A fact-finding mission

## ■ Purpose

This webinar is part of a project aimed at supporting the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region, Italy, in enhancing its strategy on international partnership and co-operation. The region has demonstrated a steady commitment to supporting initiatives in this field since the enactment of a dedicated law in 2000. However, it is presently grappling with the challenge of adapting to a swiftly evolving global agenda in which novel actors, modes of intervention, and priorities are gaining momentum. Local policymakers are eager to exchange knowledge and know-how with other OECD regions with a deep-rooted engagement in this field. Therefore, representatives from the Basque Country and Catalonia, Spain, will share their expertise in addressing critical issues in international development co-operation policies, such as governance, financing, private sector participation, impact assessment, public communication, and more. The discussion will also benefit from a presentation of best practices from the new OECD Global Policy Toolkit on Decentralised Development Co-operation, drawing on novel OECD work, and involve policymakers from different Italian regions.

The webinar will be held in English & Italian with simultaneous interpretation.

To participate, please [register here](#) (the Zoom link to connect will be sent automatically after the registration)

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## ■ Agenda

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### 14.30-14.40 ○ Opening remarks

**Sandra Sodini**, Head of International Relations and EU Planning, Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region, Italy

### 14.40-14.50 Setting the scene: Main policy issues from the FVG case study

**Mattia Corbetta**, Policy Analyst, OECD Trento Centre for Local Development

### 14.50-15.20 ○ Best practices from the OECD Global Policy Toolkit on Decentralised Development Co-operation

Presentation of the main findings of the OECD project “*Decentralised development co-operation: A global policy toolkit and guidance for practitioners*” – by **Stefano Marta**, Co-ordinator, Territorial Approach to SDGs, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

### 15.20-16.40 ○ Two case studies: Basque Country and Catalunya, Spain, and panel discussion

**Noemí de la Fuente Pereda**, Head of Strategic Planning, Knowledge and Partnerships, Agency for Development Co-operation, Basque Country, Spain

**Javier Sánchez Cano**, Strategic International Projects Advisor, DG Development Co-operation, Catalunya, Spain

*Discussion with regional directors of international co-operation offices of Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region, Emilia Romagna (Mirella Orlandi), Autonomous Province of Trento (Lorenza Bassetto) and Veneto (Antonio Iovieno)*

Q&A

Moderated by **Agustí Fernández de Losada**, Director of the Global Cities Programme, CIDOB – Barcelona Centre for International Affairs, Spain

### 16.40-17.00 ○ Closing remarks

**Mario Pezzini**, Former Director of the OECD Development Centre

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## INFORMATION

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## OECD Trento Centre for Local Development

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This event is part of the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities activities and supports the OECD Local Employment and Economic Development (LEED) Programme of Work.

The OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities provides comparative statistics, analysis and capacity building for local and national actors to work together to unleash the potential of entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises, promote inclusive and sustainable regions and cities, boost local job creation, and support sound tourism policies. [www.oecd.org/cfe](http://www.oecd.org/cfe).

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