





Una manera de Bacer Europa



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Programa Operativo de Cataluña

Año 2021

Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional

The project presented, as a good practice, is "PROMOTE DIGITAL AND MOBILE TRANSFORMATION" from the i2CAT Foundation.

The project "Promotion of the digital and mobile transformation" aims to help develop the digital technological provided by the Government of Catalonia. Extending the digital transformation throughout the territory, integrating both local organizations and citizens themselves in digital innovation activities and for the non-technological sectors, help open new markets or digitize those that already exist.

The project aims to position Catalonia as a focal point for advanced digital technologies, with special attention to mobile technologies. Being a large-scale operation, multiple measures have been designed to cover different areas, all with the aim of energizing, innovating and transforming the territory on a digital level.

Among the measures are 4 initiatives. The first establishes the deployment of infrastructures, laboratories and pilot tests dedicated to 5G technology. The second is designed to promote the ICT sector through the creation of meeting spaces, support for new technology companies to come to market and the development of technological platforms for the administration. The third is to create new business models and thus improve the productivity of the business sector. Lastly the fourth focuses on the creation of social innovation laboratories through the creation of collaborative environments between companies, organizations and citizens.

In this project, the promotion and digital and mobile transformation have been planned to integrate multidisciplinary and heterogeneous activities into a single operation, which has varied acts in which citizens and companies in the technology sector have participated, as well as the public administration itself. For this reason, among the measures we can find both the definition, development and execution of projects, as well as the organization of conferences and events to promote meeting spaces between the ICT offer of Catalonia and the demand of users such as research centers, SMEs and citizens. For example, as a result of this exchange it has been possible to rollout digital innovation initiatives all over the territory.

With their implementation and work, all measures seek to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of the productive sectors through their digital transformation, designed in parallel to improve the quality of life of citizens through the development of solutions and services aimed at to solve social needs and challenges.

The total cost of the project is €6,953,095, a subsidy of €6,615,002 and FEDER aid of €3,307,501. The results of this project have had an impact on approximately 1,200 companies (mostly SMEs) through participation in workshops, pilot tests, platform development, workshops, laboratories, etc.

This operation is presented as a good practice because it meets the following criteria:

1. The role of the FEDER in the project has been conveniently disseminated among the beneficiaries, the potential beneficiaries and the general public

The operation has been conveniently publicized among the beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries and the general public, through multiple channels.

Notice during the execution of the operation:

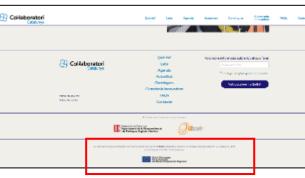


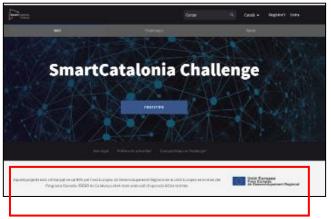
➤ Web Page Presence:

Description on the Web of technological revitalization communities, collaborators, etc. by i2CAT

https://i2cat.net/projects/boost-of-digital-and-mobile-transformation/









> Presentations and Seminars

Presentation of 5G Technology within the framework of the "Promotion of Digital and Mobile Transformation" project: 5G technology and its impact on the tourism sector, 5G technology and its impact on the chemical and petrochemical industrial sector and Presentation Event of the Smart Catalonia Challenge 2019 with the Port of Barcelona.



> Participation in conventions

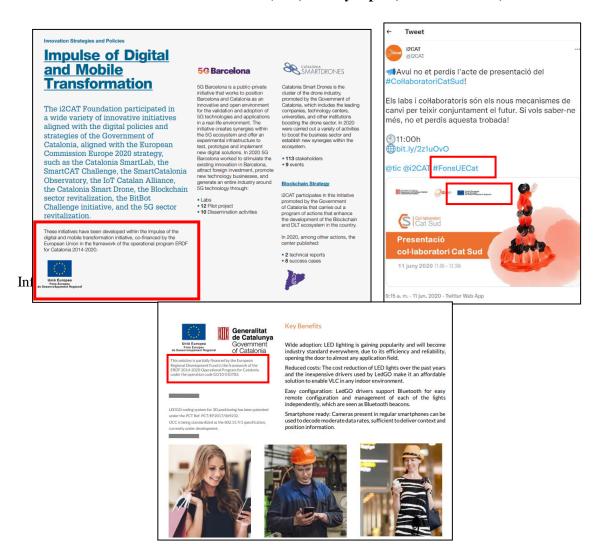
Stand "Blockchain Catalonia" of the project "Promotion of Digital and Mobile Transformation" within the framework of the Blockchain Solutions World 2019 fair.



"Catalonia Demo Zone Artificial Intelligence" stand of the "Promotion of Digital and Mobile Transformation" project within the framework of the IoT Solutions World Congress 2019 fair.



> i2CAT communication channels (web, activity report, social networks)



2. The project incorporates innovative elements

From a general point of view, all the activities of the operation are focused on aspects related to digital innovation and how, through this, the digital transformation of both companies in the digital sector (technological offer), as well as companies from other economic sectors (technological demand), as well as citizens.

From a technological point of view, the innovative nature of this operation stands out for the emerging digital fields that are promoted (5G, IoT-Internet of things, Drones, Cybersecurity, immersive technologies, Blockchain, Artificial Intelligence), which have great potential and where its adoption can generate innovations with impact and opportunities in many sectors.

From an executive point of view, this operation has also been innovative, because the activities have been carried out in an open, participatory and inclusive manner, to align them with digital strategies and policies of the Government of Catalonia, as well as to achieve synergies and collaborations with other entities/activities that could be added to have a greater impact.

3. Adequacy of the results obtained from the operation to the established objectives

With the aim of promoting and helping to develop the digital technology supply sector in Catalonia, the operation has achieved very relevant milestones within its 4 areas of action.

The activities focused on the technological field of 5G (5GBarcelona Initiative) have made it possible, among others, to set up a public-private alliance, create The Thinx 5GBarcelona experimental laboratory, generate 5G impact reports, organize technological workshops with companies and carry out experimental pilot tests.

As for the promotion of the ICT sector, the growth of the technology supply sectors in areas of emerging digital technologies has made it possible, among other things, to create sectoral revitalization communities, generate trend reports, deploy technological demonstrators, make companies in these sectors visible with participation in international fairs, organizing workshops and fostering spaces for collaboration.

This project has also contributed to the promotion of digital strategies within the Government of the Generalitat of Catalonia (5G strategy, Blockchain strategy, Artificial Intelligence strategy) and has led to the connection of the technological supply of emerging digital technologies with innovative demand.

Finally, highlight the role it has had in the deployment of innovative "pilots" in multiple municipalities of Catalonia (SmartCatalonia Laboratory) to demonstrate and validate the opportunities generated by these new emerging digital solutions.

4. Contribution to the resolution of a problem or weakness detected in the territorial scope of execution

Catalonia needs to advance in an economic and social model based on innovation, knowledge and digital transformation, promoting the digital economy as a motor to improve the competitiveness of companies, based on the search for and innovation in advanced digital technologies.

This operation contributes to the desire to turn Catalonia into a digital knowledge exchange center to build networks and communities around digital technologies with the aim of generating opportunities for innovation and thus accelerating the digital, economic and social transformation of the region.

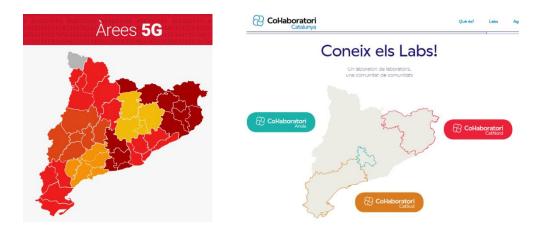
In this sense, the activities carried out within the project have made it possible to identify the value chain and the agents involved in the supply of emerging digital technologies in Catalonia and foster collaboration to speed up the development of solutions. Along the same lines, they have favored the connection between companies from traditional sectors and ICT companies from emerging sectors to create synergies and encourage collaboration, search and innovation between companies from emerging digital sectors. It also encourages sharing knowledge and offering technological guidance to digital companies that develop solutions with emerging technologies.

The use of these emerging technologies has also allowed the deployment of experimental infrastructures to develop, validate and receive advice for the implementation of solutions using advanced digital technologies while making it possible to generate trend reports and explore impacts and use cases that these sectors emerging technologies can generate.

Lastly, it has enabled the revitalization and visibility of these emerging technology sectors at international fairs (such as the Mobile World Congress, the IoT Solutions World Congress or the Smart City Expo World Congress, which are held in Catalonia) and the organization of technology conferences.

5. High degree of coverage of the population to which it is directed.

With the aim of promoting the digital transformation to spread throughout the region, and to allow the integration of both entities from the local world and the citizens themselves in digital innovation activities, the most relevant milestones have been the deployment in Catalonia of 8 5G Areas and 3 Territorial digital social innovation collaborations, which are support instruments to achieve an inclusive digital transition throughout the territory. A collaboration is a network made up of administrations, universities and search centers, companies and citizens of a territory that take advantage of their assets and knowledge to jointly innovate and solve the challenges that arise, through activities that promote digital training to reduce the digital divide and participatory and collaborative innovation and digital transformation initiatives.



Finally, through the SmartCatalonia Laboratory initiative, there are more than 50 municipalities in Catalonia that offer public spaces where innovative digital solutions can be deployed and validated, and in which more than 30 pilot projects have been carried out that have made it possible to demonstrate the application of digital solutions and technologies to solve the challenges and needs of local administrations.

6. Consideration of the horizontal criteria of equal opportunities and nondiscrimination, as well as social responsibility and environmental sustainability.

Since 2018, the i2CAT Foundation has held the European "Excellence in Research in HR" seal, which recognizes the institutional commitment to continuous improvement in the adoption of the principles of the "European Charter for Researchers" and the "Code of Conduct for the hiring of researchers", both known as "Charter and Code", which include measures to guarantee a suitable work environment for researchers with equal opportunities for all candidates.

The entity also has an Equality Plan since 2014 with a set of measures to achieve equal treatment and opportunities between men and women in the company, eliminating any discrimination based on sex.

Regarding environmental regulations, the requirements of the European Union and current environmental legislation have been followed. The project has been developed in compliance with the different community, state and regional regulations on environmental sustainability policies, taking into account compliance with and respect for the horizontal principles of sustainable development and promotion of the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment.

7. Synergies with other policies and instruments of public intervention.

The activities carried out by the i2CAT Foundation within the FEDER operation are carried out in direct collaboration with the Department of the Vice Presidency and of Digital Policies and Territory, through the Digital Policies Secretariat. These activities have a public and universal

function vocation to contribute to the acceleration of the digital transformation of the whole ecosystem (digital and non-digital) of Catalonia.

The activities carried out within the operation are aligned with the digital strategies that have been approved in recent years by the Government of Catalonia (5G strategy, Blockchain strategy, Artificial Intelligence strategy).

The execution of the project has contributed to generating other complementary actions at European level, such as, firstly, the execution of the European project 5GMED, financed by the Horizon 2020 program of the European Commission, which will allow the deployment of an experimental infrastructure of advanced services Cooperative Connected and Automated Mobility (CCAM) and Future Railway Mobile Communications System (FRMCS) services along the cross-border corridor between Figueres and Perpignan, using 5G technology and the application of artificial intelligence.

Secondly, the execution of the Aerial Uptake project, financed by INTERREG, in which the Generalitat and i2CAT participate together with 5 other European regions, has the aim of eliminating the barriers that hinder the application of drone technologies in the Union European.







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