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Accordo Quadro di collaborazione

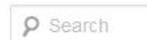


Beyond the dissemination of projects' results: stakeholders and users involvement and project co-design

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Science in Public Research Network



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Science Communication and Education a research area at CNR

- Plan, study and test communication and public engagement initiatives involving different actors: students, policy makers, researchers, citizens, enterprises, using participative methodologies
- Use social sciences approach for understanding the relationship between science and society, considering the different actors (interviews, inquiries, focus group, etc.)
- The results of this investigative activity are then used to rethink and use new ways and methodologies to communicate and to interact between science and society within the research workflow (Dissemination of projects, WP, Capacity building and Public engagement initiatives, etc.)

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A more responsible research and innovation: a challenge for the scientific community

- In last years there has been a request towards a more **responsible research** within the various funding programs. In particular scientists are asked to make a shift from a self-referential and not aware to a more responsible research where scientific knowledge is only one of the drivers of innovation together with others coming from other actors.
- This orientation is part of the approach of **Horizon 2020**, that defines the problems in accordance with the **Europe 2020** strategy
- This orientation is also considered part of the **RRI** approach, aiming at doing **science with and for society**, including the involvement of society very upstream in the processes of research and innovation to align their outcomes with the values of society.



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A more responsible research and innovation: a challenge for the scientific community

Considering the Space research, also Copernicus initiative (ex GMES) aiming at promoting downstream services based on Earth Observation (EO) technologies and research recommends researchers to:

- supply/technology push vs user pull (Eurisy, Position Paper, 2010)
- go beyond over selling of EO products and proposing (real) services for real users
- shift from demonstration research to operation ones (Meteo, GPS)

The screenshot shows the Copernicus website interface. On the left is a navigation menu with items: Overview, Application Domains, Products and Services, Support Activities, Tenders and Grants, Document Repository, and Project Database. The main content area features a satellite image of a forest. A news banner at the bottom of the image reads: "29/06/2015 Sentinel-2A delivers first images © Copernicus data (2015)/ESA".

5. From a Technology-push to a Demand-driven Paradigm

The previous sections investigated the two main challenges to the development of specific services. In addition to these issues there is a more general challenge to the long-term development of space-based services in Europe. The transition from a technology-push to a demand-driven paradigm that is necessary for the successful development of space-based services in Europe requires adaptation of the current organisations of the space sector and of their programmes.

5.1. Challenges for existing organisations

The space sector is currently efficiently structured to develop and manufacture space systems in a technology-push approach, as long as the current sources of funding are maintained. However, for the successful development of services, a transition from technology-push to a demand-driven approach is necessary. The structure of the space sector is adapted to the characteristics of its main product. Satellites are usually unique and customised systems and their development is associated with long cycles, high costs and high levels of financial and technical risk. These characteristics have resulted in a few large space agencies in Europe and a concentrated and stable industrial structure.

Up to now, the space industry has mainly focused on infrastructure and has developed satellites, used mainly by scientific communities, with the major exception of the telecommunications sector. As a result, both development agencies and industry are today efficiently structured to develop satellites for

implementation cycles are the costs and level of risk. Moreover, the field of service is broader and has a wide customer base which are differently than the core addressed by the space as such. Services require the interaction with other sectors that has not much done. The reflected in the development programme, which goes beyond traditional space program both vertical and horizontal the activities. Services require the combination of a variety of ground-based tools. All these elements adaptation of the space "service paradigm" on a than today. Addressing it efficient way requires the multidisciplinary teams. I community of users require composition on a case-by case space agencies; adaptation to create multidisciplinary by specialised teams, will programme. These multi should include experts services that are aware solutions based on terrain well as experts able to as sustainability of new expertise should be acquired by space agencies/offices. The differences between a "paradigm", and the "spiral paradigm" are summarised.



Guidance document for proposers of Horizon 2020 projects in support of EO service activities (downstream or Copernicus service evolution)

The Horizon 2020 Work Programme calls for a number of topics which are in support of the Europe's capacities to provide services in the context of Earth Observation and the Copernicus Programme (previously called GMES – Global Monitoring for Environment and Security). Such activities may address downstream service opportunities (addressing national/regional/specific market niche) or may aim at evolution of EO products for future Copernicus service evolution.

In order to provide support to proposers, this guidance document has been prepared to communicate lessons learnt from Framework Programme 7, and best practices recognised to be valuable.

It has repeatedly been recognised that research and development activities striving to build up pre-operational delivery capabilities for Copernicus or downstream services or innovative exploitation of European space data need to take into account the user community they intend to serve, and the exploitation environment they will have to operate in after completion of their activities. Hence proposals must demonstrate:

- A structural capacity for providing a sustainable service on an operational basis (preferably supported through a proven record).
- A clear focus on the operationalisation of services, and thus sustainability of the service during subsequent operations, by defining and further consolidating the economic model for service provision (e.g. through a business plan).

A more responsible research and innovation: a challenge for the scientific community

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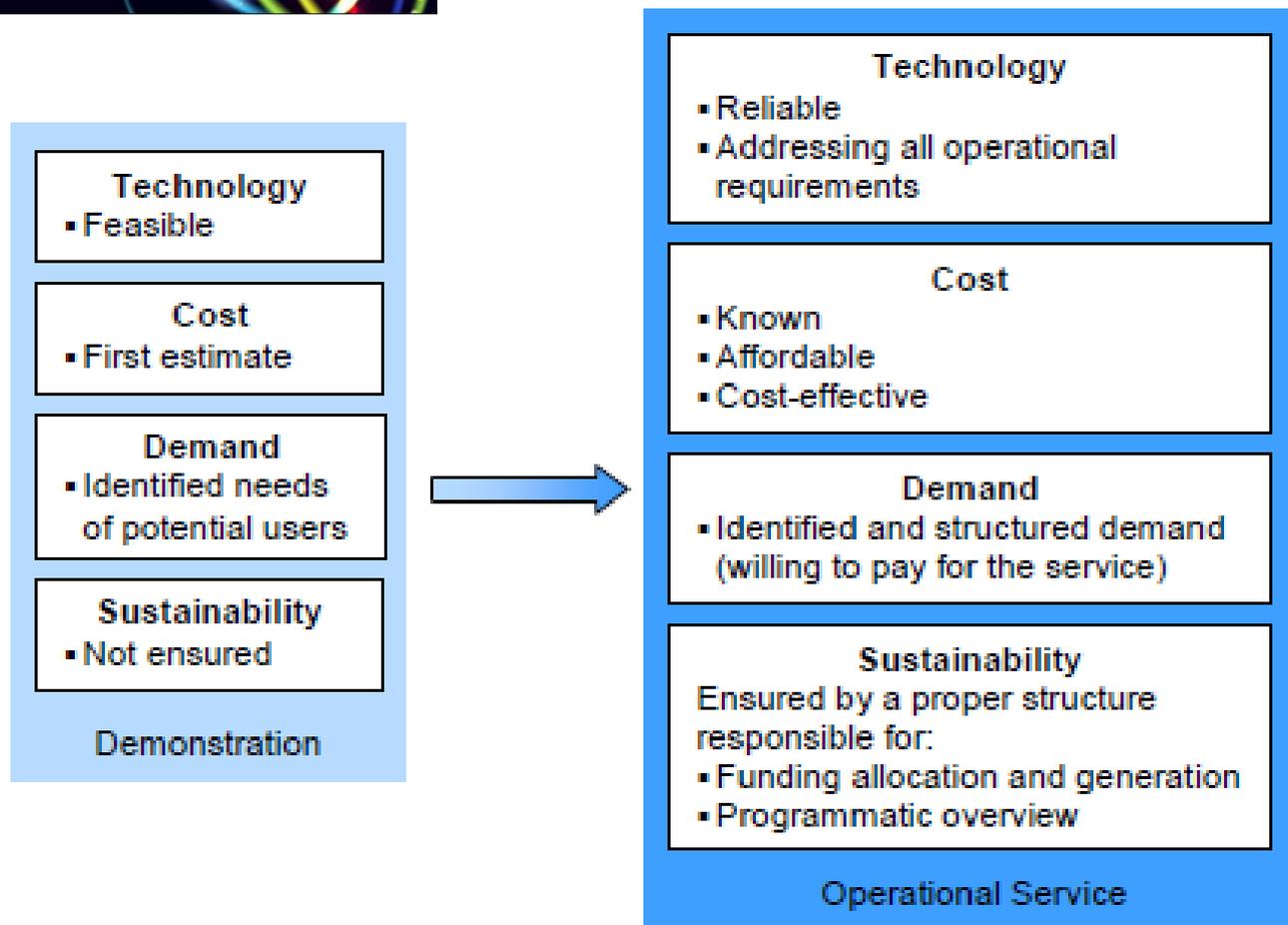


Figure 8: The different requirements for demonstration and operation

A more responsible research and innovation: a challenge for the scientific community

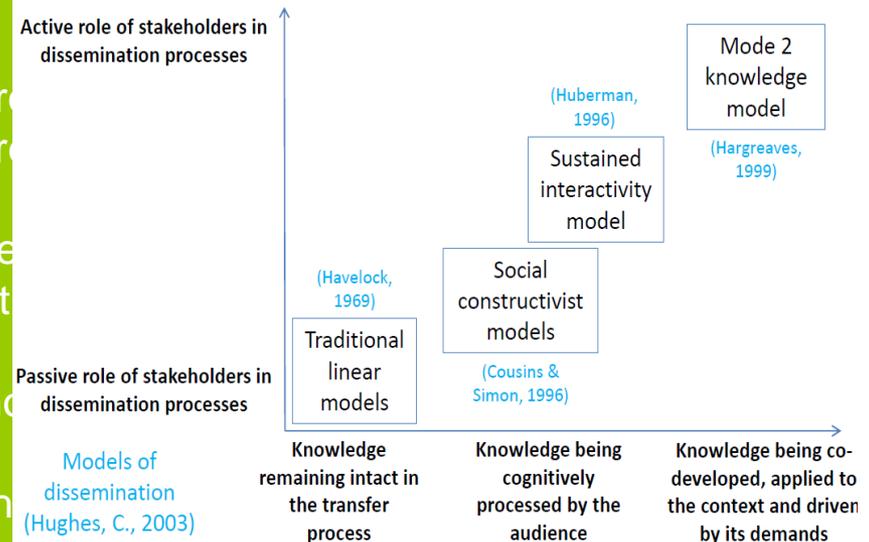
What does all this mean in the practice of a research project???

Workpackages of Dissemination and Exploitation of results are since long time considered as mandatory at the European level helping the Project Management find innovative knowledge transfer strategies and enhance the project outcomes and impact. However, Dissemination are considered:

- activity to be carried out at the end of the process
- activity with a passive role of stakeholders, with little impact on the research cycle
- activity where no indicators or evaluation methods are considered (like in research activities)
- activity carried out by the Project Manager with specific skills

RESULTS: many projects do not have impact on policy-making and society (not so responsible!!)

What models of dissemination have been described to bridge the academic-practitioner gap?





A more responsible research and innovation: a challenge for the scientific community

What does all this mean in the practice of a research project????

- ❑ A more innovative declination of Dissemination activities is necessary
- ❑ Besides such activities actions of public engagement are necessary since the first steps of project proposal.
- ❑ In this context ***stakeholders engagement and users requirements analysis*** have gained more attention in the project design. Such activities introduced as WP are able to consider needs and expectations of stakeholders and potential users and to involve them as research co-actors and co-designers.

The project Space4Agri

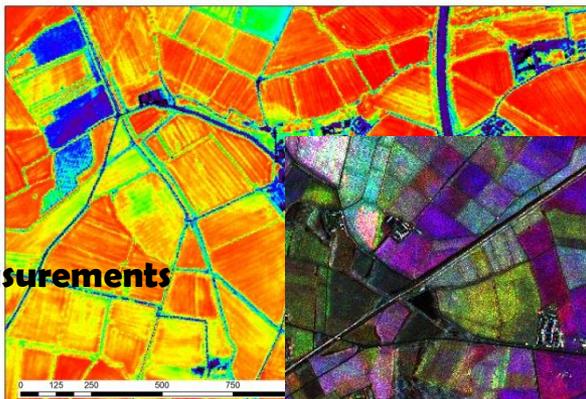


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Innovative Methodologies of Earth Observation supporting the Agricultural sector in Lombardy



On field measurements



Regione Lombardia



Web 2.0/Smart App support for data
collection /VGI for Earth Observation



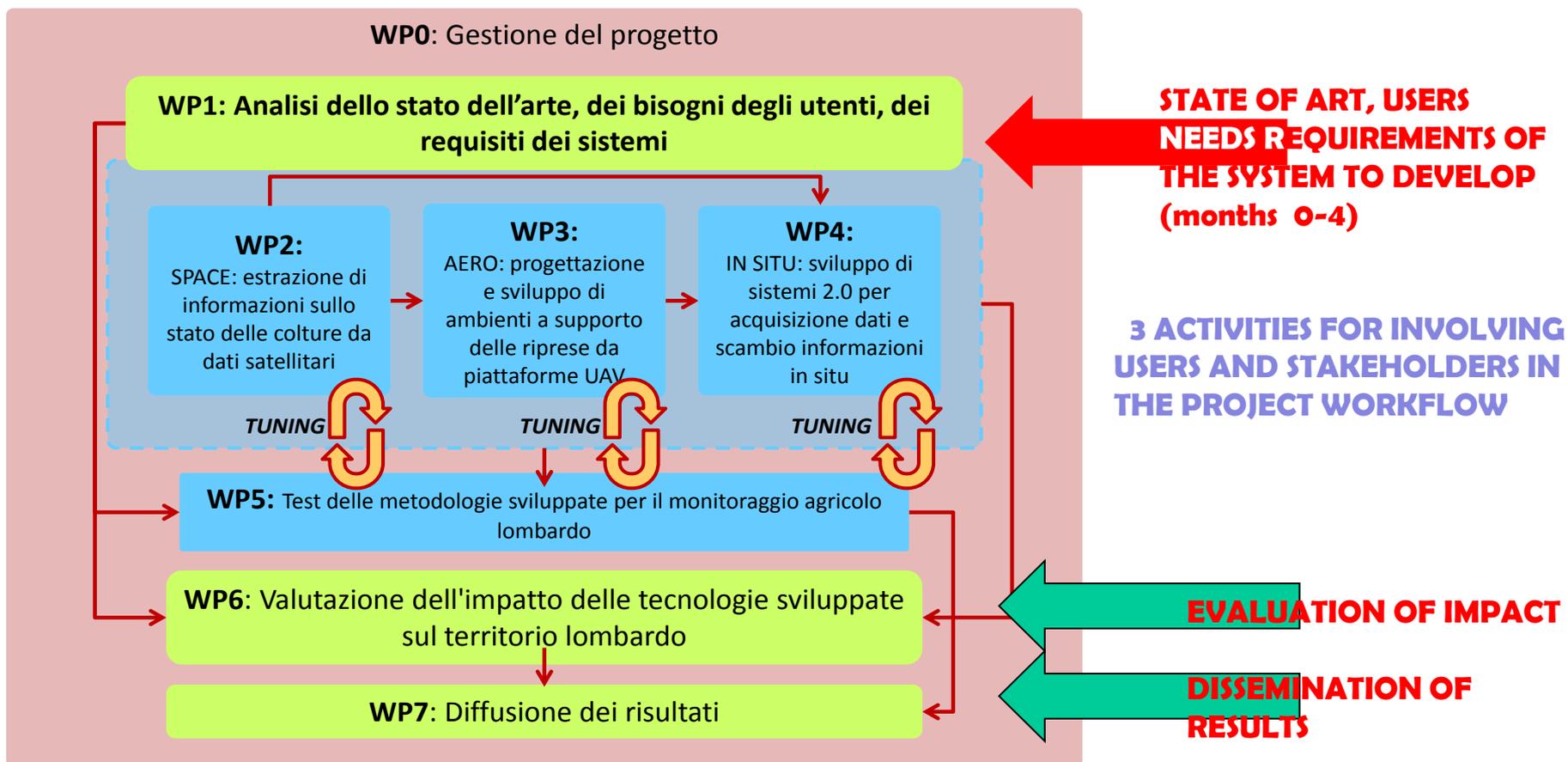
Remote sensing
observations

UAV support for
precision data collection

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Involving users and stakeholders in a research project during workflow: how?



Involving users and stakeholders in a research project during workflow: how?

WP0: Gestione del progetto

WP1: Analisi dello stato dell'arte, dei bisogni degli utenti, dei requisiti dei sistemi

WP2:
SPACE: estrazione di informazioni sullo stato delle colture da dati satellitari

TUNING

WP3:
AERO: progettazione e sviluppo di ambienti a supporto delle riprese da piattaforme UAV

TUNING

WP4:
IN SITU: sviluppo di sistemi 2.0 per acquisizione dati e scambio informazioni in situ

TUNING

WP5: Test delle metodologie sviluppate per il monitoraggio agricolo lombardo

WP6: Valutazione dell'impatto delle tecnologie sviluppate sul territorio lombardo

WP7: Diffusione dei risultati

STATE OF ART, USERS NEEDS REQUIREMENTS OF THE SYSTEM TO DEVELOP (months 0-4)

- **Identify target users and map stakeholders (PA)**
- **Set a methodology for defining users needs and requirements of the project products**
- **State of art on the basis of emerged needs**



Involving users and stakeholders from the first steps of S4A: who, how and why?



Regione Lombardia

Need for information and decision support tools in particular climatic conditions and unexpected critical (eg . The 2012 season with an unexpected drop in maize production -20 % compared with 2011 and sensitive impacts on the entire agro - livestock of the Po Valley)



«**Aflatoxins** are known to be genotoxic and carcinogenic. They may be present in food products such as peanuts, nuts, maize, rice, a result of fungal contamination occurred before and after collection.» (EFSA- European Food Security Authority)

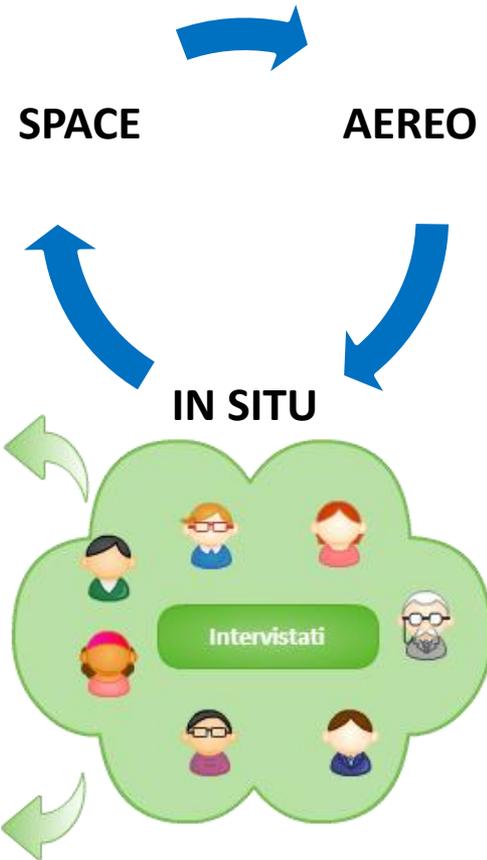
EOI - Expression of Interest



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Analyzing stakeholders needs: an iterative and recursive process

The methodology for collecting requirements of stakeholders was iterative and implied many interactions among partners and external beneficiaries
Feedback on the products make sure that the project's objectives and expected results are always more responsive to their needs (not the static compliance to the Technical Project)



Requirements

Products/
methods

Feedback

users

ARPA L



?



?



?

DG
AGRI

We used tools of qualitative analysis of social research: in-depth interviews, supported by semi-structured questions with open answers.
Answers were then processed in interpretative grids

Qualitative semi- structured interviews Interpretative grids

Analyzing stakeholders needs: an iterative and recursive process



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A. Interview to a first pool of users (authorities and stakeholders)

Fase A to obtain:

- external needs/ requirements (1.0)
- practices/ experiences
- new contacts

Fase B to obtain:

- external needs/ requirements (2.0)
- practices/ experiences
- new contacts

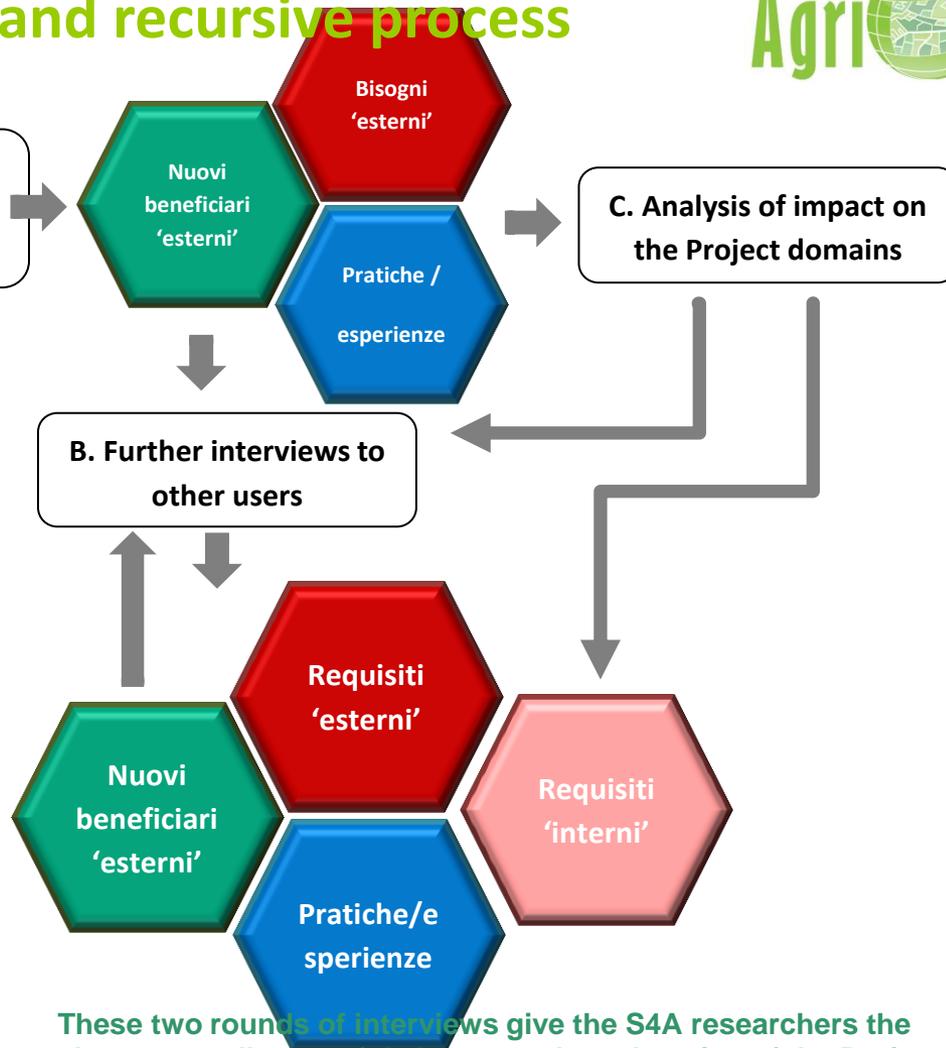
Fase C to obtain:

- internal needs
- practices/ experiences
- new users

The methodology implemented was recursive.

At first, the researchers identified the main target users and explored their "external needs".

Thanks to the information provided by the respondents, a second round of deeper interviews were conducted and further (new) beneficiaries were derived.



These two rounds of interviews give the S4A researchers the chance to collect useful elements: the 3 domains of the Project reconstructed their own state of the art, researchers collected users' requirements and planned a co-designed workflow encountering as more as possible the needs of the different stakeholders



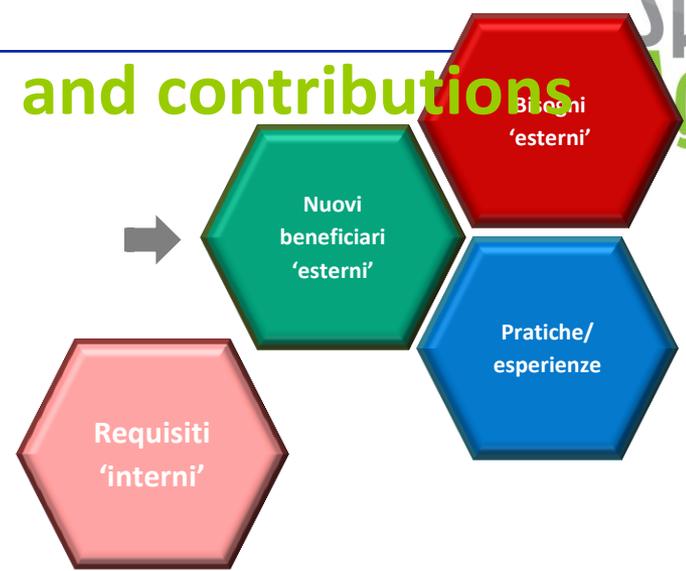
Results:

state of art and contributions



Contributo di S4A al sistema di monitoraggio delle colture lombardo	C1.	<p>DG Agri si aspetta i seguenti contributi dal progetto S4A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. supporto alla conoscenza dello stato delle colture nel tempo attraverso alcuni parametri di interesse; miglioramento della frequenza di rilevamento del dato nel tempo e nello spazio; b. sviluppo e integrazione dei parametri da raccogliere, cioè un aumento delle informazioni sulla coltura; c. progresso nella raccolta e nell'uso dei dati che attualmente sono sotto utilizzati e sotto diffusi <p>Utente: DG Agricoltura Regione Lombardia</p>
	C2.	<p>ARPA si attende: contributo alla base conoscitiva per la gestione della risorsa idrica; in particolare fabbisogni e consumi reali idrici facendo delle previsioni e degli scenari di stima dell'evapotraspirazione (ET) potenziale per le colture in atto con frequenza mensile per il mese successivo (adesso solo per il mese in corso)</p> <p>Utente: ARPA Lombardia</p>

Stato dell'arte	SPACE	<p>Mappatura delle colture in atto (SIARL, ICOLT, Programma Statistico AGRIT, CROPLAND Data Layer, Crop Progress and Condition Maps (CPCS),</p> <p>Stima evapotraspirazione (Bollettino idrologico mensile - ARPA Lombardia, Bollettino AgroMeteo settimanale e mensile - ARPA Emilia-Romagna)</p>
	AERO	Interfacce uomo computer, APR e applicazioni in agricoltura
	IN SITU	<p>Strumenti APP disponibili per acquisizione di informazione di interesse agronomico: APP per il supporto fitosanitario, APP per il supporto alle attività in campo, APP agro news, APP Agrometeo</p> <p>Informazione già disponibile "in situ": Mappatura delle colture in atto (tipologia, fenologia), Informazioni meteo di ARPA Lombardia e modalità di accesso ai dati meteo</p> <p>Infrastrutture di dati esistenti in Italia per la pubblicazione di informazioni di interesse agronomico: regioni</p> <p>Bollettini agronomici o agrometeorologici pubblicati da Siti italiani o stranieri</p>



During the research cycle, a second category of needs, called "internal", emerged and was collected. These requirements derived from the mutual interactions between the 3 scientific domains revealed interesting issues concerning the communication within and outside the scientific community and the perception of project co-design by all partners. The overall approach finally combined external and internal needs highlighting critical issues and operational difficulties but also providing interesting ideas for possible applications and future developments in the Science and Technology Studies



further beneficiaries involved

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List of further users as a result of the interviews to the first pool of stakeholders

1. Farmers (users of information and maps on crops and any stress)
2. Technical staff of Regione Lombardia (users of information produced by Regione Lombardia)
3. Enterprises that utilize products from agriculture
4. Agronomists, business consultants or technicians of private companies as potential developers of services based on EO technologies



The work with the users made the researchers better understand the state of art of their topic

Conclusions:

positive and critical aspects of involving users (and researchers)

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EXTERNAL-INTERNAL / methodological

- stakeholders involved from the beginning felt part of the research process ; they collaborated a lot and the interviews were also perceived as a way to reflect on own internal communication flow (from both stakeholders, users and researchers).
- **Methods** are based on tools of social sciences methodologies, not always present in a research team; Interviews and interactions are time consuming, energy consuming and not always clear for researchers ; sometimes researcher perceived it as «**too restrictive for the autonomy of researcher**», and this opened a discussion on to what extent a researcher has to meet the external needs.
- Researchers tend to interact among them de visu, via **informal ways**, such interactions are not easy to follow and this can have an impact on the reconstruction of the process



Conclusions:

positive and critical aspects of involving users (and researchers)



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Vuoi ricevere aggiornamenti su S4A? [scrivici!](#)

Read here a brief description of S4A project in English

Ultime notizie

S4A a WaveMilano 2015, esempio di collaborazione tra ricerca e società
09/06/2015

L'Agri-blitz di Space4Agri visto dagli studenti
08/06/2015

Anche i temi di S4A ad Expo 2015, nel ciclo Lombardy Dialogues
24/04/2015

AGRI-BLITZ - ricercatori CNR e studenti in campo a supporto del sistema agricolo in Lombardia
22/04/2015

Space4Agri a EuroVR Conference 2015
16/04/2015

Altre notizie

Lessons learnt from the practice

- Services and products, tailored according to needs of external users; always need to be validated during the workflow or the project (continuous evaluation process, recursive and iterative process) not only for benefit of stakeholders but also researchers
- It is necessary to plan **more time** in the WP (as for Dissemination from the starting to the conclusion of the project)
- It is necessary to make the different WP interact each other more (we did it with Dissemination of results, involving students, making them part active of the connection between the researchers and the stakeholder)
- Coproduction, that is «knowledge being co-developed considering the needs of all actors is also a cultural shift, and as such it implies a long process of reciprocal understanding.



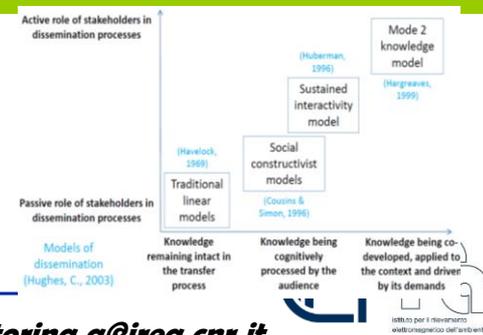
studenti e ricercatori CNR in campo



area agricola di Noverasco



insegnanti e ricercatori in classe studiano il percorso dell'Agri-blitz



Beyond the dissemination of projects' results: stakeholders and users involvement

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Conclusions:



Science in Public: research – practice - impact

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Open Innovation Platform of Regione Lombardia: a way to bring together all actors of innovation in an effective dialogue with other actors (farmers, technicians, citizens etc.)

**VGI4EO
VOLOUNTEER GEOGRAPHIC
INFORMATION FOR EARTH OBSERVATION**
Aimed at discussing and sharing critical aspects and to co-produce knowledge and innovation

<http://space4agri.irea.cnr.it/>

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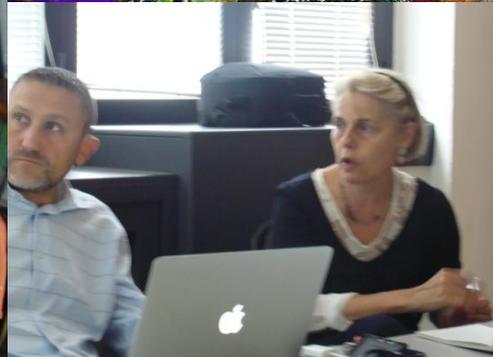
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Thank you to all my colleagues: A. Basoni, P. Carrara, I. Tomasoni

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Thanks for attention