

# REGIONAL STRATEGY “2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”



Emilia-Romagna. We build the future together



*"The future of humanity and of our Planet lies in our hands. It lies also in the hands of today's younger generations, who will pass the torch to future generations. We have mapped out the road to sustainable development; it will be for all of us to ensure that the journey is successful and its gains irreversible."*

A/RES/70/1 Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

**REGIONAL STRATEGY  
"2030 AGENDA  
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT"**

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## **We build the future together**

**Stefano Bonaccini**

**President of the Emilia-Romagna Region**

In the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", **we have adopted all 17 Goals of the UN Agenda**, since we are convinced that the new development paradigm must rely on sustainability and its inherent components - environmental, social, economic and institutional - as well as on the principles of universality, integration, participation and social inclusion. We are fully aware that we need to do our part together with the local communities to implement the UN Global Action Plan on a regional scale.

As already stated in the **Pact for Work and Climate**, in Emilia-Romagna the objective is to generate new quality jobs, accompanying Emilia-Romagna in the ecological and digital transition to reduce the economic, social, environmental and territorial disparities and achieve full gender equality.

We set this priority in the 2020-2025 Regional Government Programme approved during the Covid-19 emergency. The pandemic inevitably highlighted critical points on all fronts of sustainability, indicating once again the weaknesses at the basis of our ability to create wealth, to distribute it rationally and equitably, to preserve and renew the resources we draw on to live. The pandemic has emphasized the need to redefine our development model and social contract. By signing the **Pact** with all its signatories we have defined the problems and possible solutions, the commitments and shared responsibilities so that "coming out of the crisis better" does not remain a slogan, but the possible and necessary reaction of the whole system in Emilia-Romagna, which is a **region of knowledge and know-how, of ecological transition, of rights and duties, of work, of businesses and opportunities**.

The Pact for Work and Climate and the 2020- 2025 Regional Government Programme are the basis of the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". We are in a historical phase of profound changes, of extraordinary decisions, taken at European and national level and delayed for too many years. Today they give us new opportunities to embark on the path of transformative resilience, to progress and not leave anyone behind, as is common practice in this area.

The European Union has reacted with exceptional measures, unprecedented in nature and scope - as has our country - launching the Green Deal flagship initiative and the Next Generation EU programme, allocating more than 200 billion funds to our country, which will be used primarily for the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP). These financial resources, which the entire regional system is ready to use, will be accompanied by the European funds made available within the seven-year EU budget (MMF), for which we have defined the priorities for intervention in the Regional Strategic Document for the 2021-2027 joint programming of the European development policies and in the new 2021-2027 Regional Strategy for smart specialization in research and innovation.

We have created the conditions to face the future with joint and integrated planning, in line with the objectives agreed with the regional society and using extraordinary resources. These are unique opportunities to make a powerful new start, centered on **quality work, sustainable growth, schools and health, with special focus on community-based medicine and community welfare, following the two fundamental axes of ecological and digital transition**.

The current climate crisis requires stronger climate diplomacy actions, as we have indicated in Goal 17, with a view to strengthen territorial partnerships and the central role of the Region in establishing relations and implementing policies of international cooperation for sustainable development.



With the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", we are proud to play our part in contributing to the UN Global Action Plan to achieve the 169 targets by 2030, measuring the outcomes of our choices, monitoring and reporting the results to the regional community in a fully transparent way. The concept of measuring policies with comparable indicators on a global and local scale has always been part of our policies, a practice already introduced in the Regional Economic and Financial Document (DEFER), which we are now completing with national benchmark indicators for the 2030 Agenda and with regional targets, in some cases even more challenging than those set by Europe. Being aware that the national methodological and statistical framework does not always succeed in capturing the specificities of our region, our ambition is that our approach will help to define an even more precise statistical framework, with a set of additional, homogeneous, extended surveys, which are applicable throughout the country. Sharing the results and being able to compare them makes it possible to evaluate common progress and give a soul to the numbers, to improve policies by giving everyone the opportunity to participate and co-design how to live in a better world.

The Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" confirms – with regard to the positioning of the Emilia-Romagna Region – the great history of our region, undoubtedly among the most advanced in Europe in terms of healthcare, education, employment, innovation and social inclusion, growth and exports. Compared to the rest of Italy, in 2019 Emilia-Romagna was above the national average for the majority of the Goals but at the same time it has a need to speed up environmental sustainability, by pursuing coordinated joint action with the Regions of the Po Valley Basin.

It is precisely our history, together with the viability of our communities and the entire entrepreneurial fabric, that will enable us to reach new goals and lay the foundations for an eco-sustainable future. The commitments made in the Pact for Work and Climate for the ecological transition are challenging ones, but they go in the right direction: **the climate emergency is like a test bench for the current generation and the challenge of our time.**

In its first edition, the Emilia-Romagna Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" was set up with the precious collaboration of ASviS, the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development, of all the regional universities that signed the Pact with us in a process of sharing and implementing the strategy, of Emilia-Lab, Art-Er and Arpae. All the Regional Departments and the Regional Statistics Service worked in close cooperation with the Cabinet structure, which acted as an efficient fully-integrated technical "controlling body", and the whole Council, coordinated by its Vice-President, also contributed to define contents and targets. I would like to express my appreciation and sincere thanks to all of them for their joint work and for becoming aware that the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" is the beginning of a collective narrative, a dynamic tool for measuring and monitoring policies, which will further evolve over time.

With the approval of the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" our journey will continue: we intend to share it with the citizenship through participation in the Regional Forum and by strengthening the information and training channels, we want to monitor and improve it on a regular basis, do timely reporting and build the tools to keep it lively and deep-rooted in every municipality in the region, be it small or large, since we are convinced that **we must build the future together**, from a local to a global scale.

## **Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" and the Pact for Work and Climate**

**Elly Schlein**

**Vice-President of the Emilia-Romagna Region**

Today we live in a very special moment in history.

The pandemic has triggered the most serious economic and social crisis since the post-war period and, like in those times, we have the great responsibility to rethink and restart our society driven by innovative and ambitious goals. At the same time, the governments from all over the world meeting at the Conference of the Parties in Glasgow (COP26) agreed that this is a decisive decade for the fight against climate change but are struggling to find a broad, fair and comprehensive agreement that can truly be a global breakthrough in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

In this regard, the UN 2030 Agenda is a great opportunity for change, but also a right of all to demand concrete actions for social and environmental justice from every level of government.

In fact, implementing the guidelines of the 2030 Agenda is even more topical and urgent today than it was in 2015 when the 193 member countries of the United Nations Organization approved the 17 interconnected Sustainable Development Goals, further substantiated by 169 Targets, representing the compass that national, regional and local governments must follow until 2030. If in those days the international community had become aware that time had expired and that it was necessary to accelerate the process towards an ecological transition and to combat all forms of inequality, with the purpose of achieving intergenerational justice, all this seems even more true and urgent now. For Emilia-Romagna, too, the time has come – with no possibility to postpone it to a further date - to face these huge intertwined challenges: the **demographic crisis**, the **digital transition**, the **fight against inequalities** and the **climate change emergency**.

The Emilia-Romagna Regional Council has based its entire Regional Government Programme on the 2030 Agenda Goals, with a commitment to completely align the regional policies to the above goals. However, we have taken two additional steps: on the one hand by signing the **Pact for Work and Climate** with the entire regional system, and, on the other, by preparing the **Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"**, containing a precise description of how the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are implemented in our territory, reflecting the current positioning of the Region, and measuring the progress we will make through specific national and regional indicators. The role of regional and local institutions is crucial and instrumental to achieving many of the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, which require coordinated efforts at every government level.

The complexity of the current situation can only be tackled in one way: with the involvement and the collective reaction of all parts of the society. In fact, it is no coincidence that one of the founding principles on which the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations Organization is based is full collaboration, with a Goal specially focusing on global partnership. This is indeed a prerequisite that governments, institutions and the society as a whole must contribute to by each doing their part.

Having said this, the **Pact for Work and Climate** is first and foremost a democratic participation tool signed by all the social partners, employers' organizations, the agricultural sector, trade unions, the third sector, the municipalities, the universities and - for the first time - some environmental associations such as Legambiente on December 14, 2020. The Pact contains the shared strategic objectives for inclusive recovery, counteracting social disparities as well as territorial, gender and generational gaps, with a major investment in skills and research, aiming at the creation of new quality jobs and businesses, also through ecological transition and digital transformation, which can no longer be postponed to the future.

The **Pact for Work and Climate** sets the strategic framework and the guidelines for a strategic positioning project, which has 2030 as its deadline. It outlines the medium- and long-term vision, which is indispensable for defining a new basis for the development of the territory and for aligning the Emilia-Romagna journey not only with the goals foreseen by the UN 2030 Agenda, but also with the objectives defined by the Paris Agreement and by the European Union for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030, with the 2021-2027 European MFF and with the National Recovery and Resilience Plan. In outlining the new project for the relaunch and sustainable development of Emilia-Romagna, the signatories to the Pact have committed themselves to some basic choices. First of all, to accelerate the **ecological transition**, setting the goal of achieving **carbon neutrality before 2050** and moving to **100% renewable energy by 2035**, focusing on the protection and enhancement of natural resources, emission reduction and energy efficiency, prevention of hydrogeological instability, urban regeneration, sustainable mobility, circular economy and waste reduction. An ecological transition that is also a **fair transition**, insofar as it is accompanied by effective planning of actions aimed at generating new businesses, new jobs and new skills and upgrading the professional qualifications of workers in order to protect and safeguard their jobs. The Pact also highlights the need to make an **unprecedented investment in people**, in particular **young people and women**, first and foremost in their health, but also in their skills and abilities; to put **work** and the **value of enterprises**, both **small** and large, back at the centre and, along with it, widespread business pluralism, which in Emilia-Romagna finds in **cooperation** and **social work** not only an identifying factor but also a promoter of development, efficiency and quality. The parties also committed to assigning a new central role to universal community and proximity **welfare**, combating inequalities and new fragilities exacerbated by the pandemic: an **integrated** public governance system in which a strong role is played by increasingly **inclusive and participatory** service planning, capable of bringing all human, professional and economic resources of the various districts and of the third sector together in a networking logic as well as channeling **digital revolution** towards an inclusive process, an asset which serves people's needs as well as the purpose of cohesion and innovation in all our territory.

Even if the UN 2030 Agenda Goals have a global value, in order to be measurable, the Targets and indicators require adaptations to the different geographical scales and different development settings. This is why it is essential that each Country and local government develop their own Strategy to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With this document, the Emilia-Romagna Region outlines its own **Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"**, which aims at linking each action and commitment envisaged in the 2020-2025 Regional Government Programme and in the Pact for Work and Climate with the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, first of all indicating the current positioning of the Region in the achievement of each Goal, but also identifying national and regional indicators capable of measuring the actual progress and contribution of the regional policies in achieving the SDGs. In the course of time, these indicators will measure the effectiveness of the regional strategies and our ability to obtain outcomes in the identified strategic areas and to assess the economic, social, environmental and gender impacts of the resulting choices. We have created the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda" as a dynamic tool which, on the one hand, will be monitored consistently from multiple sides, with the involvement of the Legislative Assembly and the participation of the Sustainable Development Forum; on the other hand, it will align with the National Strategy for Sustainable Development and will, at the same time, act as a framework and driving force for the sustainable development strategies developed by local governments. It is a key tool not only to verify the choices and the investments that will be made, but also to show to the public - in a transparent and measurable way - the commitment of the Emilia-Romagna Region in implementing the 2030 Agenda which, at the end of the day, has a very simple aim, i.e. give the new generations a better future, both for people and for the Planet.

## **A new cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary approach**

**Andrea Orlando**

**Head of Cabinet of the Presidency of the Regional Council**

In developing the Emilia-Romagna Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", the Regional Council has identified the need for a **cross-sectoral approach** to implementing the SDGs at the regional level, in line with the multidimensional integrated approach envisaged by the United Nations, with the aim of promoting the achievement and full dissemination of the 2030 Goals through regional policies and the territorial governance system, as well as building an innovative and transparent system to monitor progress for each Goal.

To this end, in 2018 an **Inter-Directorate Technical Working Group** was set up as an internal governance tool to integrate the concept of Sustainable Development Strategy in the various regional policies. The Group was coordinated by the Cabinet of the President of the Regional Council, because of its cross-sectional task of coordinating, monitoring and designing regional governance, international and strategic control policies. The group includes more than 40 representatives from all the General Directorates (Resources, European Affairs, Institutions and Innovation; Agriculture, Hunting and Fishing; Economy of Knowledge, Labour and Enterprises; Protection of the Territory and the Environment; Personal Care, Health and Welfare; Financial Policies), each with their own specific competencies and the role of sectoral oversight on issues related to the 2030 Agenda, to ensure cross-sectoral implementation of the actions falling within their respective scope. The group also includes representatives from Arpae and the in-house company Art-Er. A significant role is played by the Regional Statistics Service with regard to the selection of the indicators. The working group operates with the support of an **Operational Coordination Task Force** composed of executives and officials from the President's Office and the Directorate General for Resources, European Affairs, Institutions and Innovation for the necessary alignment with the Regional Economic and Financial Document (DEFER) and the Regional Statistics Service.

The group's activities were integrated with those foreseen in the collaboration agreements promoted by the Ministry for the Environment and the Protection of Land and Sea (now the Ministry for Ecological Transition, MiTE) for the support of regional sustainable development strategies: a first agreement was signed in December 2018 and a second one in March 2020, dedicated in particular to the integration of policies, the construction of positioning and monitoring indicators, training and education for sustainability and the development of synergies in the territory.

Together with **Arpae**, the methodologies for building integrated indices and decoupling the environmental pressures from economic growth have been set up; training and education on sustainability have been planned and implemented in the whole region through synergies with local authorities, **Ceas**, educational institutions and associations; with the support of **Art-Er**, the initiatives for stakeholder involvement and communication of sustainable development goals have been managed and all the contributions arising from various participatory forums or sectoral experiences have been systematically collected. It was a cross-sectoral type of activity, aimed at integrating the key dimensions of sustainability in all regional policies as required to achieve the goals. Equally important was also the support of the **Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development** (ASviS), which helped us analyze the Region's positioning with respect to the 2030 Agenda Goals and the pre-requisites for setting the quantitative targets for 2025 and 2030. Another important collaboration was the one with **Emilia-Lab**, the network of regional universities for scientific, educational and training collaboration in the field of economic studies, with which we studied in depth special aspects such as the impact of policies and the local implementation of the sustainable development goals.

**A number of activities were progressively implemented**, more specifically:

- an overview of current regional policies and instruments in view of the 2030 goals
- an analysis of the Region's positioning on the basis of a system of indicators;
- the development of a Regional Sustainable Development Forum based on a "network" system including the main regional participatory processes on significant theme areas for sustainable development and the relevant communication and information initiatives;
- the identification of strategic objectives for sustainable development, linked to the objectives included in the Pact for Work and Climate;
- the identification of a system for measuring the impact of policies and monitoring their results.

The process was directed by the awareness of certain **guiding criteria**, in particular:

- the need to avoid the proliferation of facilities or instruments, focusing instead on the promotion and integration of the existing ones in view of the 2030 goals;
- the need to view the overall sustainable development strategy not as additional documents, but above all as a model to connect policies and develop indicators to measure them.

An in-depth analysis of the Istat-Sistan SDG indicators for the purpose of selecting those relevant to the regional dimension, made in collaboration with ASviS and with the support of Art-Er, has come up with **a set of regional indicators that can be summarized in the following two types:**

- core indicators, which allow comparisons with all Italian regions;
- indicators describing regional policies, which are not fully comparable with other regions or with the Italian situation, and which make it possible to assess the impact of specific regional policies.

These are mainly indicators produced by Eurostat and ISTAT, or by other bodies of the national statistical system for which statistical quality and comparability at the national and international levels are certified, including those so far officially recognized by the National Working Party responsible for Monitoring the National Strategy. The issue of indicators has so far been the most critical one, due to various factors, in particular the progressive updating of official ISTAT data which had become obsolete and the unsuitability of some official indicators to effectively measure the level of regional action. A process of revision of the National Strategy is currently underway, with a view to updating the document approved in 2017, defining target values, defining and integrating the national indicators, which will constitute the basic system for monitoring. At the end of this process, it is therefore expected to have a complete picture of the national objectives, based on the international and European ones, for the purposes required by the aforementioned Article 34.

In conclusion, internal and external governance and policy measurement tools represent two distinctive aspects of this important work:

- **an innovative multidisciplinary working formula to relaunch public work, with an approach aimed at increasing the level of internal trust and the efficacy of the actions targeted towards citizens and businesses:** together with the integration of policies, this will make it possible to respond to the current global challenges and to favour a systemic approach leading to a more comprehensive vision of sustainable development;
- **the measurement of the impact of the different policies linked to the 17 SDGs** with indicators that are comparable at the regional and national level, but also with quantitative targets that will be an important reference for policy monitoring and strategic control.

## **The added value of the collaboration between ASviS and the Emilia-Romagna Region**

**Pierluigi Stefanini**

**President of the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS)**

In 2021, the UN launched the "decade of action" to achieve the 2030 Agenda and accomplish a historic process for the individual countries and the Planet. In the same year, ASviS celebrated its fifth anniversary. Though keeping a low profile, we are firmly convinced that from February 2016 until today we have contributed to guiding Italy on a path of sustainable development by calling the Italian society to a commitment to sustainability.

The Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development has more than 300 members belonging to the most important institutions and civil society networks, to which more than 240 affiliates have been added, i.e. smaller entities that share the objectives of the Agenda. Thanks to the willingness, exchange of views and cross-contamination of different sectors, ASviS has gained a high level of expertise, which is available to the whole country to make Italy and the rest of the world more sustainable in economic, social, environmental and institutional terms.

In 2018, the Conference of the Regions, headed by President Stefano Bonaccini, laid the foundations for a broader collaboration between ASviS and the Regions and for operational support to the development of the regional strategies that the Ministry of Ecological Transition has adequately promoted, also financially, together with those of the Metropolitan Cities, following the approval of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development (SNSvS) in 2017.

The Emilia-Romagna Region has involved ASviS in the process of building its Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" and I must say that it was an exciting and fruitful collaboration. Indeed, this Region has a tradition of inclusive governance, capable of involving the regional community - with its institutional, economic, social and environmental representatives - to share commitments and responsibilities. It is ready to seize the opportunities offered by the extensive European investment plan that is about to be launched with The National Recovery and Resilience Plan Next Generation Italy and Sustainable Development (May 2021).

We firmly believe that the launch of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), the submission of the Regional Strategies and Metropolitan Agendas as well as the update of the National Strategy by December 2021 represent a unique opportunity to strongly anchor sustainability policies to the local areas. ASviS is strongly committed to ensuring that the National Strategy for Sustainable Development (SNSvS) reflects the Italian reference framework, in a multi-level system of Sustainable Development Agendas and Strategies embedded in the planning framework of the authorities (DEF, DEFR, DUP), from the national government to the smallest and most peripheral municipality in Italy.

The support given by ASviS to the Emilia-Romagna Region aimed at defining the positioning of the Region and supporting the construction of a system of indicators and targets that are consistent with the priorities of the 2020-2025 Regional Government Programme and the Pact for Work and Climate, already including the elements of sustainability.

Positioning is a key tool to understand and assess the "starting point" while the targets represent the first "point of arrival". The measurement and periodic monitoring of the quantitative objectives make it possible to assess the outcomes and, if necessary, adjust the policies and/or enrich them with new actions and projects.

ASviS has made available its knowledge - built up over the past five years - and a methodology that is being continuously improved.

For the SDGs for which we have regional data available, a composite indicator has been developed in the Regional Strategy that ASviS uses to monitor the progress made by Europe, Italy and all its regions over time. These calculations make it possible to represent a set of indicators concerning the same domain and the same territory through a single easy-to-read indicator.

The quantitative objectives of the indicators that are comparable among the various geographical areas are defined on the basis of a precise hierarchy that basically refers to the values defined at institutional level (UN, WHO, European Union, Italian Government, Emilia-Romagna Region).

We are pleased to note that the Emilia-Romagna Region has decided to introduce quantitative objectives in all 17 SDGs, taking as a benchmark the most challenging supranational objectives, sometimes making them even more challenging and developing new regional indicators and targets.

The Emilia-Romagna Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" is therefore a cooperation infrastructure, which favours joint decision-making processes, systematizes economic resources and competences, encourages forms of collaboration and participation of citizens, fully grasping the value of the alliance between institutions and the civil society.

The strategy is embedded in the main economic programming, planning and control instruments put in place by the Regional Government to implement the Regional Strategy objectives, above all the DEFR.

It is important to underline that the Emilia-Romagna Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" fully encompasses the principles of participation and collaboration, which the United Nations Organization considers indispensable so that the whole society becomes an active protagonist. In this direction, the Region identifies further innovative actions to implement its strategy in the community: from the Regional Forum, to education for sustainable development, to the so-called "territorialization" of the SDGs, proposing the establishment of a multilevel controlling body with the local authorities to define a shared set of measurable objectives, exploiting the synergies achieved with the Metropolitan City of Bologna in the drafting of the Metropolitan Agenda 2.0 and the many existing experiences throughout the region.

The Emilia-Romagna Region has chosen to follow the path of sustainability with quick and resolute steps. The crisis caused by pandemic has had major consequences in our society and the challenges ahead of us – for example the fight against climate change - require a rapid and systemic transformation involving every aspect of the current development model, to build a more fair, equitable and resilient country.

## **The commitment of the Emilia-Romagna Universities towards sustainable development**

**Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna**  
**Politecnico di Milano**  
**Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore**  
**University of Ferrara**  
**University of Modena and Reggio Emilia**  
**University of Parma**

The awareness of the need to live -to the largest possible extent- in harmony with our planet increased considerably in 2015, following the approval of the UN 2030 Agenda. By signing that document, countries committed themselves to embarking on a path of profound changes in their development strategies, placing the virtuous combination of social, economic and environmental values at the centre. An irreversible path of conscious attention to the sustainability of society and its impact on our planet thus began, as witnessed by the adoption of the Agenda by the individual countries. In our country, this took place in 2017 with the publication of the "National Strategy for Sustainable Development" and the definition of objectives around the 5Ps of People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership, i.e. all the dimensions of sustainable development. A key role in this was played by the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS), founded in 2016 with the aim of "raising awareness in the Italian society and among the economic actors and institutions of the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and mobilizing them to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)". Universities have also immediately welcomed the strong urges posed by the UN 2030 Agenda and through CRUI -the Conference of the Rectors of the Italian Universities-, have since 2015 promoted the establishment of the Network of Universities for Sustainable Development (RUS), to facilitate "coordination and sharing among all Italian Universities committed to the issues of environmental sustainability and social responsibility".

Slightly more than a year ago, the osmotic process of progressive transferring the UN 2030 Agenda goals into the national policies suffered, like all human activities, the sudden trauma produced by COVID-19. The pandemic has had a dramatic effect on people's daily lives, both in terms of social relations, imposing forced distancing, and in terms of its serious economic implications. All this has led to a sudden redefinition of the priorities of governments, called upon to cope with a situation of social, health and economic crisis that was completely unexpected. However, the pandemic tragedy, which we are still facing, has not seriously undermined the willingness to pursue sustainable development models. On the contrary, it has strengthened the perception of the value of the UN 2030 Agenda, especially of the goals relating to health and well-being (3), poverty and hunger (1 and 2), education (4), work and economic growth (8) and reduction of inequalities (10). There is increased awareness that the extraordinary efforts planned to preserve our economic and social assets represent a unique opportunity to start reconstructing our society, according to new models and with a new hierarchy of priorities. This epoch-making challenge has been taken up by the European Union and transferred to the individual Member States and their regions.

In Emilia-Romagna there has always been strong awareness that the main common goods, such as research and innovation, solidarity and the right to work, environmental, economic and social sustainability, hospitality, protection and promotion of the attractiveness of the area, must be defended and supported through the concept of a network that, with its nodes and redundancies, is the best representation of resilience, as well as the classic metaphor of prevention and security. This **cultural fabric**, put to the test by the pandemic, has reacted positively to the difficulties thanks to the joint efforts of institutions, companies, the third sector and individual citizens. Sound relationships of trust were



strengthened through the signing of the new Pact for Work and Climate, a founding document that outlines the common path towards a new model of sustainable society.

The region's universities form integral part of the process of progressive innovation and breakthroughs that draws vital strength from the establishment and evolution of collaborative virtuous models among all the components of the social fabric. Each university has already begun to implement the provisions of the UN 2030 Agenda with major outcomes in many areas, including energy and renewable resources, mobility, attention to public green spaces, corporate welfare and student policies. These outcomes are contained in the sustainability reports and additional high-impact innovations are envisaged in the new strategic plans, which include the revision of the educational provision, promoting cross-discipline university programmes to foster the culture of sustainable development, and the consolidation of themes and lines of research targeted towards the achievement of the SDGs. Support is also given to actions undertaken by local governments to mitigate the effects of global warming and beyond, such as the Carbon Neutrality Alliance: Parma, the sustainable strategy of the Metropolitan City of Bologna, the Agency for Energy and Sustainable Development of Modena. What has been implemented so far is undoubtedly positive and must pave the way to the quality leap that will be made following the sharing of intentions, the coordination of actions and the implementation of standard monitoring practices, which are made possible by the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

The special moment we live in is a great opportunity to increase and strengthen cohesion among universities, aiming at the creation of a real academic network, which takes advantage of having historical universities of great national and international relevance at such short distances. In this way, we will be able to create a community capable of developing and disseminating new projects and collaborations in the fields of knowledge and skills transfer, teaching and third mission activities with special focus on the sustainability dimensions. Only in this way will our universities be able to best fulfil the role they are called upon to play in the context of the new regional strategy, having to propose solutions to the many challenges of this particular moment, with the responsibility and pride given by the awareness that what will be experimented in Emilia-Romagna in the next few years can become an international reference point for many sectors.

In this respect, among the issues of urgent topical interest, economic stability is an element that requires new skills for productive and logistic innovation, capable of combining competitiveness and sustainability, which have never been so close and required to go hand in hand. The recent creation of the Foundation for Labour Market-Oriented University Training (FUP) as a public-private partnership that connects the university world and industrial networks in the Emilia-Romagna region, is a first concrete step in this direction, enabling the design, promotion and management of new labour market-oriented degree courses. Pursuing technological innovation requires the specific focus of many research activities and the involvement of the best-performing young people in order to give new life to project ideas, also benefiting from the unique opportunity represented by the very high computing potential available in the region, now also called "*Data Valley*", and enhancing its various applications not only in the sphere of manufacturing, but also in the healthcare system, the digital humanities, just to name a few, and more generally in the society as a whole, with the aim of working together on an innovative model of informed and transparent democracy as well as smart management of public affairs.

Another challenge ahead of us, alongside all the other strategic actions of resilience and innovation, is to combine these actions with the need to minimize their impact on the environment, which is indeed a distinguishing feature compared to the previous industrial revolutions. The ongoing climate change increases the difficulties but also offers an opportunity for new infrastructure planning, for optimal land management and increased resilience.

Concerning these and many other critical issues that the post-pandemic era poses to us, our universities ensure their full contribution to restarting the Emilia-Romagna engine, thanks to the many ambitious actions provided in this document on the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". We are indeed willing to and proud of releasing all the potential of our millennial institutions for the benefit of our territory and our country.

## 1. THE UN 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, endorsed on 25 September 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly, is a programme of action for people, planet and prosperity. It commits the governments of the 193 UN member countries to work together to transform our world by eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, fully realizing the human rights of all, and achieving gender equality and empowerment for all women and girls. A global challenge, set forth in 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and in 169 targets, interconnected and indivisible, that encompass the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental.

In embarking on this collective journey, as the Preamble to the document states, no one should be left behind.

The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** is the culmination of the United Nations' negotiation process on sustainable development, which began in 1987 with the publication of the **World Commission on Environment and Development's** (known as the Brundtland Commission) **Report** titled *Our Common Future* "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Milestones in this process are the **2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development**, which, with the document "The Future We Want" and an extraordinary participation of **governments, organizations, businesses** and **civil society**, effectively launched the definition of the Agenda; the **Addis Ababa Conference** on Financing for Development (July 2015); the extraordinary summit of 25-27 September 2015 and the approval of **Resolution A/RES/70/1 "Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"**<sup>1</sup> by the UN General Assembly and, also in 2015, the **COP21 Paris Climate Change Conference**.

The approval of the 2030 Agenda was anticipated and supported by the Pope's Social Encyclical "Laudato Si" (May 2015) for a new "integral ecology" in response to the Earth's environmental crisis and humanity's social crisis.

With the adoption of the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, the member countries of the United Nations have finally established the need for an integrated vision of sustainability aimed at overcoming the fragility factors underlying our ability to create wealth, redistribute it, preserve and renew our natural resources.

Today, the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda are an essential reference framework for national, regional and local governments.

The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** is being **monitored** by the United Nations High-Level Political Forum and is based on four principles: **Integration, Universality, Participation, Social Inclusion**:

- **Integration**: each goal refers to a dimension of human life and of the planet and all together the goals aim at achieving global balance, which is inherent in the sustainability of the whole system.
- **Universality**: the goals identify problems common to all countries and highlight their interdependence since, in a globalized world, the actions of one country have repercussions on others.

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<sup>1</sup> Text of Resolution A/RES/70/1 adopted by the UN General Assembly on 25 September 2015  
<https://unric.org/it/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2019/11/Agenda-2030-Onu-italia.pdf>

- **Participation:** The 2030 Agenda explicitly calls out the responsibilities of all sectors of society, from governments to businesses, from civil society to individuals. Everyone can contribute to achieving the goals.
- **Social inclusion:** all people must be guaranteed the same rights and no one must be left alone.

**Each country, be it developed, emerging or developing, must adopt its own national strategy.**

## 2. THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS AND THE 2030 AGENDA

The **European Union has been one of the driving forces behind the United Nations 2030 Agenda**. Sustainable development - i.e. development that does not hamper the needs of the present generation but fully meets the expectations of future generations - is deeply rooted in the European project (already foreseen in the Treaty of Amsterdam in 1997).

European integration and EU policies have helped to overcome post-war poverty and hunger and have created an area of freedom and democracy in which Europeans have been able to achieve unprecedented levels of prosperity and well-being.

The EU has a long-standing commitment to more inclusive societies based on democracy and the rule of law, as reflected in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union. The EU's social and health standards are among the highest in the world and Europe has the highest life expectancy. The social market economy has generated prosperity and provided security through strong social protection systems. Substantial investment in research and innovation has fostered the development of new technologies and production models that make more sustainable use of resources and digital solutions. Furthermore, the EU has set some of the highest environmental and social standards, put in place some of the most ambitious policies to protect human health and become a global champion in the fight against climate change.

The European Commission (EC) led by President Ursula von der Leyen took office in December 2019, presenting 6 objectives on which to focus its action:

- Making Europe the first climate neutral continent
- An economy that works for people
- A Europe ready for the digital age
- Promoting a European way of life
- A stronger Europe in the world
- A boost to European democracy

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) inform the European Commission's policy agenda and are at the heart of policy-making and decision-making in all areas of EU competence, both internally and externally.

The Commission Staff Working Document "**Achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: A Global Approach**"<sup>2</sup>, presented in November 2020, summarizes the Commission's commitment to mainstream the 2030 Agenda in its different areas of competence into internal and external action policies, while monitoring progress at Member State and EU level.

More specifically, the 2030 Agenda is also at the heart of the flagship initiative "**Green Deal**", i.e. the European strategy that aims to transform the EU into a fair and prosperous society with a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy that generates no net greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 and where economic growth is decoupled from resource use.

To help repair the economic and social damage caused by the COVID pandemic, protect jobs, accelerate the green and digital transition and strengthen social cohesion, the Commission has made an unprecedented effort and has launched **Next Generation EU**, a comprehensive plan that reinforces the Multiannual Financial Framework (**MFF**) for the period 2021-2027 through a specific commitment to recovery. By implementing the main strategies referred to above, both instruments can contribute to transforming the European Union, hopefully laying more solid foundations for **a modern and inclusive, resilient and sustainable Europe**.

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<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/delivering\\_on\\_uns\\_sustainable\\_development\\_goals\\_staff\\_working\\_document\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/delivering_on_uns_sustainable_development_goals_staff_working_document_en.pdf)

The EU also aims to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 through the **European Climate Act (Regulation (EU) 2021/1119)**, which turned this political commitment into a legally binding obligation for all Member States.

Key to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals is also the **European Pillar of Social Rights**, which represents the EU's social strategy to ensure that the transition to climate neutrality, digitalization and demographic change is socially just and equitable. Proclaimed by all EU institutions in 2017, the pillar's 20 principles aim to improve equal opportunities, access to quality services, fair working conditions and social inclusion. In March 2021, the European Commission presented the **European Pillar of Social Rights<sup>3</sup> Action Plan**, which proposes a set of targets that the EU is called to achieve by 2030.

The EU also continues to take the lead in promoting international partnerships to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the global level in the post-COVID scenario.

Eurostat publishes an annual report monitoring progress towards the SDGs in an EU context. The analysis is based on the EU's SDGs indicator set, includes 102 indicators and was developed in collaboration with a large number of stakeholders. The monitoring report provides a statistical presentation of trends related to the SDGs in the EU over the last five years ("short-term") and, when data is available, over the last 15 years ("long-term"). The 2021 edition<sup>4</sup> also shows some of the early impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic that are visible in the official Eurostat statistics.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/italy/resource/static/files/programma-24-giugno-2021.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-statistical-books/-/KS-03-21-096>

### 3. THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The National Strategy for Sustainable Development (SNSvS)<sup>5</sup>, presented to the Council of Ministers on 2 October 2017 and approved by CIPE (Inter-ministerial Committee for Economic Planning) on 22 December 2017, was developed following a complex path of multilevel consultations during which central and regional institutions, the research community and the civil society provided their input.

The National Strategy is the coordination tool for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Italy and the national reference framework for the processes of planning, programming and environmental and territorial assessment, in compliance with the provisions of art. 34 of Legislative Decree 152/2006 ("Environmental Regulations"). The same regulations define the relationship between the National Strategy and the Regional Strategies, providing that *the Regions adopt an overall sustainable development strategy* that is consistent with and contributes to the achievement of the objectives of the National Strategy.

The SNSvS is structured in five areas, corresponding to the so-called "5Ps" of sustainable development proposed by the 2030 Agenda: **People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership**.

The "**People**" area concerns the promotion of a social dimension that guarantees a decent life to the whole population, so that everyone can realize their potential, in a healthy environment. This objective can be pursued through a coherent and effective policy that goes beyond income and extends to other key dimensions of well-being, addressing targeted socio-economic groups such as low-income households, young people and women.

The challenges to be faced in relation to the "**Planet**" area are many. First of all, the management of the country's natural resources, land, sea and eco-system services to ensure adequate provision of environmental services for the current and future generations. All this with a view to attaching adequate value to natural capital within the economic processes, promoting the development of sustainable cities and reversing the depopulation trend in marginal areas, strengthening the resilience and sustainability of communities and territories and preserving landscapes.

The "**Prosperity**" area lays the foundations for the creation of a new, circular economic model that guarantees the full development of human potential and a more efficient and responsible use of resources. To this end, a development path is identified that minimizes negative impacts on the environment, closes the loop of material production and consumption and, more generally, promotes rationalization in the use of resources and the enhancement of human capital.

The "**Peace**" area, closely related to the implementation of social protection and anti-poverty policies outlined in the "People" area, refers to the need to promote peaceful, just and inclusive societies. The main challenges to be faced in this regard reflect global changes and issues, with special regard to the implementation of policies aimed at the inclusion of migrants and asylum seekers, promoting respect for diversity and combating discrimination.

The "**Partnership**" area refers to the actions and objectives of development cooperation as a priority sector for the implementation of the "external dimension" of the 2030 Agenda, as defined by Law 125/2014.

A sixth area is dedicated to the so-called **Sustainability Vectors**, to be considered as enabling factors for the achievement of national strategic objectives.

Each strategic area is linked to Strategic Choices and Strategic Objectives, specific to the Italian situation and complementary to the 169 targets of the 2030 Agenda.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.minambiente.it/pagina/la-strategia-nazionale-lo-sviluppo-sostenibile>.

The **Strategic Choices** contained in the National Strategy identify the priorities where Italy is called to take action and reflect the very nature of the 2030 Agenda, integrating the three dimensions of sustainability across the board: environmental, economic and social.

The National Strategy for Sustainable Development is the cornerstone for relaunching sustainable development also at the national level, within the framework of four guiding principles - **integration, universality, inclusion and transformation** - which reiterate the importance of joint action to implement the 2030 Agenda within the framework of the Green Deal policies.

At **governance** level, the implementation of the National Strategy takes place under the general coordination of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with the operational support of the Ministry for the Environment and the Protection of Land and Sea (MATTM), now the Ministry for Ecological Transition (MiTE) -as regards the "internal" dimension and the relationship with local authorities and civil society (in a cross-cutting perspective that includes all the dimensions of sustainability)-, and with the operational support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as regards the supranational "external" dimension.

In order to implement this approach, as of 2018 a **Working Party of the Regions and Autonomous Provinces** for the implementation of the National Strategy is operational at MiTE, in which the Conference of the Regions also participates. In 2020, a Working Party of the Metropolitan Cities was also set up in line with the one of the Regions and Autonomous Provinces with a view to facilitating the definition of the Metropolitan Agendas for sustainable development.

In addition to these inter-institutional forms of collaboration between the State and the Regions and also among the Regions, **collaboration agreements** have been signed between MiTE and the individual regional governments with the aim of providing financial and technical support to the implementation of the National Strategy at a local level. In this context, the Emilia-Romagna Region has signed two collaboration agreements with MiTE, in 2018 and 2020 respectively, for the implementation of a project called "The Sustainable Development Strategy of the Emilia-Romagna Region: from coordination to policy integration" and another one called "Sustainability as a learning process and implementation of synergies".

The external governance system of the National Strategy also includes a National Forum for the involvement of the civil society managed by MiTE. **The National Forum for Sustainable Development** became operational in March 2019 with the participation of all stakeholders who requested to be part of it.

The National Strategy approved in 2017 contains reference to the approval of a further **implementation document** with the indication of quantitative targets for 2030, and the definition of a **system to monitor** the actions undertaken and the results obtained through a set of indicators. To this end, a Working Party on Indicators for the implementation of the National Strategy was set up in 2018, with the participation of representatives from MATTM, MAECI, MEF, ISTAT and ISPRA. This Working Table selected 43 indicators through the methodology of the so-called BES Commission, in order to optimize the potential interaction with the core indicators of BES (Equitable and Sustainable Wellbeing). Each indicator is related to the SDGs and to the relevant national strategic choices.

A **process of revision of the National Strategy** is currently underway, aimed at updating the document approved in 2017, defining target values, analysing and integrating the national indicators: this will represent the basic system for monitoring. At the end of this process, it is therefore expected to have a complete picture of the national targets, inspired by the international and European ones, for the purposes of the correlations required by the above-mentioned Article 34.

The National Strategy framework is therefore still work in progress, in terms of both content and tools for measuring the achievement of the relevant 2030 goals.



The National Strategy indicators developed to date are part of the annual monitoring framework defined by the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS), which also collaborated with the Emilia-Romagna Region for the definition of its own Regional Sustainable Development Strategy.

## 4. TERRITORIAL STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE GLOBAL GOALS

by EmiliaLab <sup>6</sup>

### 4.1 Transitions for sustainability and human development: territorial dimensions and policies

The urgency to identify sustainability paths for a human and sustainable development (Sen, 2006; UNDP, 2020) through local actions geared towards innovation -understood as integration of knowledge production, human, social, technological and organizational capital- was already clear before the pandemic. In the face of global environmental and social challenges, the risk that lay ahead was that of growing territorial divergences, even within advanced countries: intermittent growth, uneven development, high unemployment in specific areas and for parts of the workforce. In recent decades, the world witnessed a rapid increase in the possible sources of risk arising from a variety of factors. Not just the risks arising from external agents (such as the earthquake that hit Emilia Romagna in 2012) or from international imbalances (the phenomenon of migration or the impact of trade wars) but also the risks related to climate change (including the potential for hydrogeological instability caused by human behavior that does not respect the delicate environmental balance), of which there has only recently been increased awareness and, more recently, those arising from health emergencies as a result of a pandemic, as has been the case with COVID-19 that has turned the world upside down.

The need for a solid model of investment in strategic areas of human development emerged in a disruptive way starting from the first half of 2020, when the crisis caused by the pandemic highlighted pre-existing critical issues and lack of investment in public goods. On the other hand, the health dimension of the crisis made it possible to consider how to integrate policies on the environment, schooling, training and health. Attention to sustainable growth, therefore, has become even more important today, stressing the role that the 2030 Agenda plays in this process. The 2020-2030 period is crucial for European regions and countries to lay the foundations for progress towards long-term sustainability goals. For full achievement of the goals, the path to full sustainability must integrate several ongoing transitions, first and foremost the technological - robotization, digitization - and demographic transitions. Interactions and integrations of the various dimensions of the transition are of great importance (EEA, 2019), in order not to generate critical issues such as the 'exclusion' of parts of the population and the 'forgotten' territories. The *Green Deal* and *Just transition*, the Italian NRRP *Next Generation* plan with its integrated missions (digitalization, innovation; green revolution and ecological transition <sup>7</sup>; infrastructure for sustainable mobility; education and research; inclusion and cohesion) are important pillars and trajectories of change

<sup>6</sup> EmiliaLab is the network of the Universities of Emilia-Romagna for scientific, educational and training collaboration in the field of economic studies. This section has been jointly produced by a commission of experts appointed by the Emilia-Romagna Region: Prof. Fabrizio Storti (Uniparma), Prof. Marco Rodolfo Di Tommaso (Unibo and Emilalab), Prof. Grazia Ghermandi (Unimore), Prof. Fabio Fava (Unibo), Prof. Massimiliano Mazzanti (Unife), Prof. Francesco Timpano (Unipc and Emilialab), Prof. Stefano Consonni (Polimi).

<sup>7</sup> Policies that support innovation and internationalization are one of the factors to link circular economy and bioeconomy to decarbonization in a NEXUS perspective (FEEM, 2020; Zoboli et al. 2019).

and development, capable of addressing this challenge. Regional and local policies are even more important in that they provide for local investments in areas that often fall within their direct responsibility, where they are aware of elements of competitiveness and fragility.

#### 4.2 A socially desirable ecological transition

Despite significant investment efforts in recent decades, which have so far been heterogeneous and non-linear, the achievement of the 169 targets set by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development seems far away for many countries and regions. To date, many dimensions that negatively affect global sustainability, such as anthropogenic impacts on natural resources, biodiversity loss and socio-economic inequalities, have maintained worryingly increasing trends (UN, 2019). The significant efforts required to achieve the targets have shifted the focus to the implementation of actions at sub-national level, placing regional governments and local authorities in a key position to implement concrete actions and policies (UN, 2020). In order to reduce inequalities, investments in training become crucial to continuously adapt the skills to the goals of the 2030 Agenda. **Regions and districts are therefore the most suitable actors to make the ecological transition socially acceptable 'from below', with an idea of development based on environmental, economic and social sustainability (Pact for Work and Climate of the Emilia-Romagna Region)**<sup>8</sup>.

Integrating the ecological and technological transition contributes to making the goals of the 2030 Agenda socially desirable, insisting on the creation of quality employment and skills. The potential for improving people's lives that can emerge from digitalization processes is offset by concerns about the effects of technological unemployment and the imbalances brought about by the processes of globalization that have had an impact on the well-being of individuals, particularly in more advanced economies. In this framework, there is a need to design a model of welfare and provision of public goods and services (including local ones) and a system of infrastructures that, consistently with the approach of the Sustainable Development Goals (in particular Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the Agenda), are capable of adequately reducing these levels of uncertainty.

On the topic of digitalization, Bianchi et al. (2019) emphasize the role of industrial policies to address the challenges of digital globalization, which is inducing profound transformations, making industrial policy necessary to direct development towards inclusive and more sustainable growth.

The direct contribution of local governments and regional institutions to the processes of transition to a sustainable future is fundamental for achieving the development goals of the 2030 Agenda in an effective and inclusive way. According to the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments<sup>9</sup>, the decentralization of transition activities through the involvement of regional institutions and levels of governance can considerably increase the effectiveness of the actions that the international community intends to pursue in terms of environmental improvement, preservation of the resources and social inclusion with a view to equitable and sustainable development (GTFLRG, 2017). Many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are closely related to local action: it has been estimated that 65% of all the goals would not be fully attainable without the concrete intervention of local and regional institutions as key actors in the whole global process of transition towards sustainability (Siragusa et al., 2020).

#### 4.3 The environmental dimension: decoupling growth and environmental impacts through innovation and policies

<sup>8</sup> The Pact for Work and Climate of the Emilia-Romagna Region is a tool that combines economic development and sustainability primarily through investments in education, innovation and training. Knowledge and skills built by schools, universities and professional training.

<sup>9</sup> The *Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments* (2017) is the largest consultation platform of local government networks with the task of carrying out advocacy and joint work on global development policies and processes (<https://www.global-taskforce.org/>)

In the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, the concept of 'decoupling' plays a crucial role with respect to the environmental dimension of sustainability. This concept should be understood both as an overall reduction in the use of resources in production processes per unit of economic output and as the decline over time of environmental impacts due to economic activities per unit of economic output (UNEP, 2011). The decoupling process, which can be associated with resource use and emissions, is one of the factors describing increases in social welfare, capturing the lower overall impact on the environment and allowing continuity of economic activities and development processes through efficiency gains related to the introduction of innovations and technological improvements<sup>10</sup>. In such a scenario, research, adoption and dissemination of innovations -favoured by technological progress and increased access to global markets- represent necessary tools for this purpose, constituting the main drivers of growth and prosperity (Lodi et al. 2020). However, effective decoupling of the economic and environmental dimensions requires significant efforts and changes by all actors in the regional socio-economic system (businesses, consumers and institutions) with the key role of public policies as drivers for change and incentives for stakeholders (UNEP, 2011). The concept of decoupling has taken up a fundamental role in the regional 2030 development agenda and will represent the basis of environmental monitoring and accounting activities with respect to the achievement of the sustainable development goals at local level (Bonazzi and Budini, 2020) in a context of voluntary review of actions<sup>11</sup>(EUROCITIES, 2020).

#### 4.4 'Localizing' sustainable development objectives

Many SDG indicators are linked to the institutional activities of local and regional authorities, institutions and governments and only at this level can policies and interventions be monitored, in order to generate information and statistical systems useful to measure any gaps and improve actions at the territorial level for the concrete achievement of the goals by local and regional governments (UN, 2020; Siragusa et al., 2020). For example, the institutional activities of local authorities and governments include actions which have a direct impact on the SDGs such as providing assistance and basic services to the most fragile social classes and those at risk of poverty (SDG 1); supporting fair and sustainable local agri-food supply chains to reduce the impact on natural resources through the use of sustainable production methods and to increase levels of local food security and sovereignty (SDG2); increasing access to and the quality of local healthcare services to improve the health of citizens (SDG3); increasing the quality of basic education services and accessibility to tertiary education (SDG4); making more efficient and sustainable use of local water resources in local industrial and agricultural production systems both in quantitative and qualitative terms (SDG6); ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy systems for all (SDG7); promoting local development through employment, training and education policies that increase overall employment and reduce social disparities (SDG8 and SDG10); promoting innovation and technological development of local small and medium-sized enterprises by fostering partnerships and innovative industrial clusters (SDG9); promoting conscious and sustainable consumption patterns to reduce anthropogenic impacts and effects on climate and the environment (SDG12 and SDG13); fostering the development of protected areas to safeguard biodiversity and ensure the provision of local ecosystem services, enable the restoration of degraded areas and reduce the anthropogenic impact of all economic sectors (SDG15).

<sup>10</sup> A classic example is the Environmental Kuznets Curve (named after Nobel laureate Simon Kuznets who studied the relationship between economic development and inequality): the relationship between economic development and environmental impacts has an inverted U shape. Supported by environmental and innovation policies, overall environmental impacts decrease to near zero (UNEP, 2011).

<sup>11</sup> The reference framework is that of Voluntary Local Review (VLR): it is a process through which local governments can achieve greater transparency of sustainability policies towards citizens. VLRs are proposed as a framework for evaluating and measuring sustainable development interventions at the local level by the United Nations and the European Commission (UN, 2020; Siragusa et al., 2020). VLRs have been not only a review process, but also a tool to identify critical gaps and areas for improvement.

"Localizing" the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through bottom-up approaches puts local governance and citizens at the centre of the change processes themselves. This is fundamental with respect to the active role of citizenship and all possible stakeholders that can be involved in local ecological transition processes with effects on a larger scale -regional, national and international-, making the local contribution to change processes really key.

The Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" fits precisely in this context. Developed with a view to determining **Emilia-Romagna's contribution to the action programme for people, prosperity, peace, partnership and the planet**, it defines and "localizes the 17 Goals of the Agenda 2030 at a territorial level", starting from the specificities of the regional context, and relates them with the strategic objectives and cross-cutting processes defined by the Regional Government Programme and the Pact for Work and Climate. The Strategy also establishes the targets to be reached by 2025 and 2030 respectively, introducing a **measurement** system to monitor Emilia-Romagna's **positioning** with respect to global challenges, assessing the **impact** of regional policies and, if necessary, directing them towards the achievement of the defined qualitative and quantitative targets.

## 5. FROM THE 2025 REGIONAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME TO THE REGIONAL STRATEGY "2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT"

### 5.1 The Pact for Work and Climate

The Emilia-Romagna Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" has its roots in the **2020-2025 Regional Government Programme** and in the **Pact for Work and Climate**<sup>12</sup> signed on 14 December 2020 with the institutional, economic and social partners.<sup>13</sup>

In line with the Government Programme, in which the Council had already highlighted the relationship between its own goals and those of the UN 2030 Agenda, the Pact for Work and Climate outlines a **shared project for the relaunch and development** of Emilia-Romagna aimed at generating new quality jobs, accompanying Emilia-Romagna in the ecological and digital transition. This project, which takes the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a clear reference point, is based on **sustainability** and its three inseparable components, i.e. the **environmental, social** and **economic** dimensions, with the aim of reducing **economic, social, environmental and territorial divisions** and achieving full **gender equality**.

The Pact was drawn up also on the basis of what the local districts and their institutions have learnt from a health emergency that has overturned all forecasts - bringing the protection of health, the safeguard of employment and the fight against inequalities back to the top of the priorities - and in full awareness that also for Emilia-Romagna the moment has come, which can no longer be postponed, to face enormous challenges: the **demographic crisis**, the **digital transition** and the **fight against inequalities** and **climate change**, which has become like a test bench for this generation and the challenge of our time. These four challenges are not limited to the regional dimension and have been made even more complex by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The complexity that characterizes this situation can only be tackled with the involvement and collective reaction of the society as a whole. For this reason, the **Pact for Work and Climate** defines shared commitments and responsibilities with respect to a common path that improves the quality of life of people and the planet and overcomes the conflict between **development and the environment**, enhancing all the potential and opportunities that this change offers to the local areas and to the new generations.

For these reasons, the Pact has **2030** as its horizon, which is indispensable to lay new foundations for the regional development and to align the path of Emilia-Romagna with the provisions of the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, the European Union for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030, the 2021-2027 MMF and the National Recovery and Resilience Plan.

The Pact is based on the quality of relations between institutions, economic and social representatives, on the mutual recognition of the role that each of the signatories plays in society, on the sharing of strategic objectives and the resulting accountability.

<sup>12</sup> The Pact for Work and Climate was approved by the Council with Resolution no. 1899 of 14/12/2020.

<sup>13</sup> Emilia-Romagna Region, General Association of Italian Cooperatives (AGCI), National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI), National Association of Builders (ANCE), Metropolitan City of Bologna, Coldiretti, Unitary Committee of Intellectual Professions of Professional Orders and Boards (CUPEP), Regional Commission ABI, Municipality of Bologna, Municipality of Cesena, Municipality of Ferrara, Municipality of Forlì, Municipality of Modena, Municipality of Parma, Municipality of Piacenza, Municipality of Ravenna, Municipality of Reggio Emilia, Municipality of Rimini, Confagricoltura, Confapi Emilia, Confapindustria, Confartigianato, Confcommercio, Confcooperative, Italian General Confederation of Labour (CGIL), Italian Confederation of Farmers (CIA), Italian Workers' Union Confederation (CISL), National Confederation of Artisans and Small and Medium Enterprises (CNA), Confederation of Agricultural Producers (COPAGRI), Confesercenti, Confimi Romagna, Confindustria, Confprofessioni, Confservizi, National Research Council (CNR), Third Sector Forum, Legacoop, Legambiente, Province of Ferrara, Province of Forlì-Cesena, Province of Modena, Province of Parma, Province of Piacenza, Province of Ravenna, Province of Reggio Emilia, Province of Rimini, Politecnico di Milano, Zero Waste Municipalities Network, Regional School Office, Unioncamere, Union of the Provinces of Italy (UPI), General Union of Labour (UGL), Italian Union of Labour (UIL), National Union of Mountain Municipalities and Communities (UNCCEM), Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, University of Bologna, University of Ferrara, University of Modena and Reggio, University of Parma.

The Pact and the process of **democratic participation** and **shared planning** that accompanied its development are a confirmation and a "relaunch" of the method started in 2015 with the signing of the Pact for Work, which in 5 years has allowed Emilia-Romagna to recover ground from the long crisis that had begun in 2008, positioning it among the best performing Italian and European regions in terms of GDP per capita, added value, unemployment rate and exports.

Discussion and sharing, which have been a precious asset of this region even in the most critical moments, strengthen democracy and generate cohesion. The Region has chosen to further promote them in order to face the complexity of the new scenarios and undertake the changes necessary to guarantee a future of well-being to the regional society, in particular to the **new generations**.

In outlining the new project for the restart and sustainable development of Emilia-Romagna, the signatories to the Pact have made some basic choices.

The first choice is to make an **unprecedented investment in people**, first and foremost in their health, as well as in their skills and abilities. Starting from the rights and duties of individuals, especially **young people and women**, and valuing their differences also means sharing the need to experiment with new forms of **democratic participation** at every level.

The second choice is that of accelerating the **ecological transition**, with the goal of achieving **decarbonization before 2050** and switching to **100% renewable energy by 2035**, aiming at the protection and enhancement of natural resources, the reduction of emissions, energy efficiency, the prevention of hydrogeological instability, urban regeneration, sustainable mobility, the circular economy and waste reduction. In Emilia-Romagna, therefore, ecological transition cuts across all the regional sectoral policies, setting itself the objective of being a **just transition**, in that it is accompanied by effective action plans to generate new businesses, new work and new skills and upgrade the workers' professional qualifications in order to protect and safeguard employment.

The third choice is that of putting **work** and the **value of enterprises**, both **small** and large, back at the centre and, along with it, widespread business pluralism, which in Emilia-Romagna finds in **cooperation** and **social work** not only an identifying factor but also a promoter of development, efficiency and quality.

The fourth choice is to guide the digital revolution towards a new **humanism**, so that the future and the evolution of technology are not determined but determinable and therefore a right of all, an asset at the service of people's needs, cohesion and competitiveness of the area, a driver for sustainable development, for a digital and green requalification of employment. Without forgetting that, in addition to technological innovation, we need **social innovation** as an essential tool for development and democracy.

The fifth choice is to stress the key importance of **welfare** as an instrument of social equity to combat inequalities, new vulnerabilities and fragilities, putting people and communities back at the centre: an **integrated** system of public governance -where planning, regulation and management of services have a strong role to play- which is increasingly **inclusive and participated** so that all human, professional and economic resources of the area interact in a logic of networking, subsidiarity, proximity and home care.

The sixth choice is to recognize the inclination of **cities** and **universities** towards experimenting and innovating, thus playing a key role in opening up new paths. The broad-spectrum challenges ahead of us and the achievement of the outlined objectives require strong support and involvement at territorial level. This also means enhancing diversity and investing in the characteristics which are typical of the various areas of Emilia-Romagna, starting from adequate recognition of the Metropolitan City of Bologna and of the other excellent towns and cities of our region -which in many respects form a single entity at a national level-, but at the same time paying special attention to the needs and potentials of **inland** and **mountain areas**.

The overarching element of the project outlined in the Pact is the shared commitment to relaunch **public and private investment**, taking advantage of all the opportunities offered by European Union policies and programmes and favouring interventions that guarantee a higher multiplier in terms of direct and indirect employment. This commitment will be supported by a **simplification** process to reduce red tape and innovate the Public Administration. This does not mean deregulation, but rather raising the level of legality, rights and social justice, also in the face of the growing risks of criminal and mafia infiltration.

Starting from these shared choices, which are also priorities in the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", the Pact has four strategic objectives and four cross-sectoral processes that are based on crucial dynamics for the regional society as a whole.

The objectives are:

1. **Emilia-Romagna, a region of knowledge and know-how** - Investing in education, training, research and culture in order to foster rather than acquiesce in change, generate quality jobs and combat job insecurity and inequality, innovate in manufacturing and services and speed up environmental and digital transition
2. **Emilia-Romagna, a region of ecological transition** - Speeding up the ecological transition, starting the regional pathway to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and switching to 100% clean and renewable energy by 2035; combining productivity, equity and sustainability, generating new quality jobs
3. **Emilia-Romagna, a region of rights and duties** - Tackling territorial, economic, social, gender and generational inequalities that weaken cohesion and prevent equitable and sustainable development
4. **Emilia-Romagna, a region of work, businesses and opportunities** - Designing a young and open European region which invests in quality and innovation, beauty and sustainability to attract businesses and talent, support local vocations and add new value to manufacturing and services.

The 4 cross-sectoral processes are:

- **Digital transformation** - Making a major investments in the digital transformation of the economy and society, starting with its three essential components: infrastructure, right of access and people's skills
- **A simplification Pact** - Strengthening and upgrading local government, reducing red tape to increase competitiveness and protect the environment and jobs within a legal framework
- **Legality** - Promoting legality, one of our society's identity values and a guarantee of social and environmental quality
- **Participation** - A more central role for communities and towns, drivers of innovation and development, in the concrete management of the Pact strategies.

The Pact's shared objectives will be the basis of the **Regional pathway to carbon neutrality by 2050**, which the signatories themselves will contribute to outlining, and will include integrated action strategies in the various sectors aimed at the absorbing, mitigating and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, defining medium-term targets and tools to collect uniform data and monitor the achievement of objectives. This work will form the basis of the **Climate Law** which the Region intends to adopt.

The Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" fits precisely in this context. Developed with the aim of defining **Emilia-Romagna's contribution to the action programme for people, prosperity, peace, partnership and the planet**, it "localizes" and sets the 17 Goals of the 2030 Agenda in the regional context on account of the local specificities, relating them with the strategic objectives and cross-sectoral processes set forth in the Regional Government Programme and in the Pact for Work and Climate. The Strategy also establishes targets to be reached by 2025 and 2030 respectively, introducing

a **measurement** system which allows the monitoring of Emilia-Romagna's **positioning** with respect to global challenges, assessing the **impact** of the regional policies and, if necessary, directing them towards the achievement of the specified qualitative and quantitative objectives.

As for the **positioning** of Emilia-Romagna with respect to the 17 Goals, for the purpose of comparing the regional path with that of the other Italian regions, it was decided to adopt the methodology developed by ASviS, with which the Region has started a collaboration for the development of its Strategy. This methodology assesses the performance of the Emilia-Romagna region using the composite indicators developed by ASviS to measure the trends of Italy and the Italian regions with respect to the SDGs. It is an analytical approach, which relies on the data published by the national statistical system regarding 105 elementary indicators (Table 1) and which also makes it possible to evaluate the progress and critical issues of Emilia-Romagna with respect to the national average.

## 5.2 Monitoring and evaluation

While the Pact for Work and Climate outlines the strategic framework and guidelines of a positioning project whose horizon is 2030, the Sustainable Development Strategy represents, together with the **Regional pathway to carbon neutrality by 2050**, one of the main implementation strategies necessary to achieve the shared objectives.

The monitoring of the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" will be the subject of discussion and sharing with the **regional Legislative Assembly**.

Furthermore, the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" will be monitored in conjunction with the Pact and the monitoring results will be submitted to the signatories themselves. In fact, it will also be instrumental to measuring the capacity of the Pact to generate results in the identified strategic areas and to evaluate - before, during and after its implementation - the economic, social and environmental impacts of the choices made.

This monitoring activity, which will **take place annually**, will not only lead to an update of the positioning of Emilia-Romagna, but will also assess the need to upgrade, integrate or modify the Strategy as a function of new emerging scenarios, critical issues and opportunities or as a result of any updates in the national system of indicators.

## 5.3 Working method

At Regional Government level, the strategy was developed with the help of an **Inter-Directorate Technical Working Group** composed of more than 40 representatives from the General Directorates, called upon to contribute to the drafting of the document, an **Operational Coordination Task Force**, including experts from the organizations in charge of methodological support for the necessary alignment with the Regional Economic and Financial Document (DEFER), as well as the **Committee for the governance and strategic control of regional planning** established by Regional Decree DGR 602/2021.

The Vice-President of the Region is in charge of the 2030 Agenda and coordinates all this work together with the Head of the Cabinet of the President of the Council.

It is therefore a cross-cutting approach aiming at integrating the key dimensions of sustainability in all policies as required to achieve the objectives. It is implemented with the support of ASviS, the involvement of the in-house company Art-ER, the Regional Agency for Prevention, Environment and Energy (ARPAE), as well as the network of regional universities gathered under Emilia-Lab. More specifically:

- Together with ASviS, the analyses of the Region's positioning with respect to the 2030 Agenda Goals and the identification of quantitative targets for 2025 and 2030 were carried out;



- Together with ARPAE, the methodologies<sup>14</sup> for drawing up integrated reports and indices for decoupling environmental pressures from economic growth were studied and set up, and training and education actions for sustainability were planned and implemented;
- With the support of Art-ER, the initiatives for the involvement of stakeholders and the communication of the sustainable development goals were planned and managed, and the contributions emerging from the various participatory forums or sectoral experiences were systematically collected;
- With the support of Emilia-LaB, the network of universities in Emilia-Romagna for scientific, educational and informative collaboration in the field of economic studies, aspects such as the impact of policies and the "territorialization" of sustainable development goals were thoroughly investigated.

#### 5.4 Participation networks

In order to guarantee the highest level of participation throughout the region both in the development phase of the strategy and in its implementation, the "**Forum for the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"**" was established. It represents the evolution and integration of already established or ongoing regional participatory experiences.

The Forum will also establish synergies with **Cers (Coordination Committee for Sustainable Emilia-Romagna)** and with **Agenda 2.0 for Sustainable Development of the Metropolitan City of Bologna**. The aim is to optimize paths, resources and tools in relation to the 2030 sustainable goals, as required also by the national framework that supports the construction of Metropolitan Agendas.

This network involves administrations, economic and social partners, businesses and the civil society and will be extended over time. Its scope of action is complex but flexible and integrated by stocktaking tools and steps, with a view to ensuring the continuous improvement of cooperation for sustainable development.

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<sup>14</sup> <https://www.arpae.it/it/temi-ambientali/sostenibilita/economia-ambientale/un-modello-di-sostenibilita-integrata> [Bonazzi and Budini, 2020].

**TABLE 1 - List of elementary statistical indicators included in the composite indicator**

The elementary statistical indicators represented in the table contribute to forming the composite indicator of Emilia-Romagna's positioning which ASviS has developed and uses to monitor over time the path made by Europe, Italy and its geographical areas in the sphere of the 17 Goals. For 14 of the Goals, the indicator has been developed on a territorial basis. This makes it possible to represent a set of indicators, relative to the same area of investigation and geographical area, through a single easy-to-read index. **The elementary indicators and the positioning of the Emilia-Romagna Region will be monitored and updated annually with the collaboration of ASviS.**

Moreover, some elementary statistical indicators have been associated with quantitative objectives (regional, European or supranational targets) as they are particularly relevant for the sustainable development of the regional area.

**GOAL 1**

- 
- Extreme poverty rate
- 
- Relative family poverty rate
- 
- Low work intensity
- 
- Severe material deprivation
- 
- People living in dwellings with structural or damp problems
- 

**GOAL 2**

- 
- Excess weight or obesity among adults (18 years and older)
- 
- Adequate nutrition
- 
- Production per labour unit in agricultural holdings
- 
- Gross operating margin on labour units in small holdings
- 
- Gross saleable production on the utilized agricultural area of holdings
- 
- Fertilizers used in farming
- 
- Plant protection products used in farming
- 
- Share of utilized agricultural area under organic production
- 
- No. of adult cattle in relation to the utilized agricultural area of the holdings
- 

**GOAL 3**

- 
- Infant mortality rate
- 
- Standardized mortality rate for the main causes of death between 30 and 69 years of age
- 
- Injury rate for road accidents
- 
- Healthy life expectancy at birth
- 
- People aged 14 years and over who exhibit at least one risky drinking behaviour
- 
- Persons 14 years of age or older who currently report smoking
- 
- People aged 14 and over who do not engage in any physical activity
- 
- Influenza vaccination coverage in the 65+ age group
- 
- Number of doctors, nurses and midwives per 10,000 inhabitants
- 
- Hospital beds for acutely-ill patients per 1,000 inhabitants
- 
- Beds in nursing homes and residential care facilities per 10,000 inhabitants
-

#### GOAL 4

- Persons aged 25-64 who participated in education and training activities in the previous 4 weeks
- Early drop-out from education and training
- Participation rate in educational activities among 5-year-olds (pre-school and first year of primary school)
- Pupils with disabilities in lower secondary school
- Cultural participation
- Persons aged 25-64 who have completed at least upper secondary school (high school)
- People aged 30-34 with a university degree
- Students aged 15 who do not attain basic skills for functional competence in reading
- Students aged 15 who do not achieve basic skills for functional competence in mathematics

#### GOAL 5

- Women in decision-making bodies
- Women and political representation at local level
- Percentage of women with healthy life expectancy at birth
- Percentage of women enrolled in STEM university courses
- Employment ratio (25-49 years) between women with pre-school children and women without children
- Percentage of employed women receiving annual income within the average
- Female employment rate (20-64)
- Percentage of women in involuntary part-time work

#### GOAL 6

- Families who don't trust drinking tap water
- Families complaining of irregular water supply
- Wastewater treatment
- Efficiency of drinking water distribution networks
- Water exploitation index

#### GOAL 7

- Share of energy from renewable sources in gross final energy consumption
- Gross final energy consumption as a percentage of value added

#### GOAL 8

- Per capita GDP
- GDP per labour unit
- Disposable income per capita
- Gross fixed capital formation over GDP
- Employment rate (20-64)
- NEETs (15-29)
- Workforce non-participation
- Rate of fatal accidents and permanent disabilities
- Share of involuntary part-time workers in total employment
- Incidence of non-regular employment

#### GOAL 9

- Households with fixed and/or mobile broadband connection

- Use of public transport by employed persons and students
- Share of railways in total freight transport
- Loans to non-financial corporations and producer households as a percentage of GDP
- Intensity of CO2 emissions over value added
- Companies with innovative products and/or process activities
- Research intensity
- Researchers (in full-time equivalent)
- Production specialization in high-tech sectors

### GOAL 10

- Share of income received by the poorest 40% of the population
- Disposable income inequality index
- Risk of poverty
- Ratio of youth (15-29) employment rate to (15-64) employment rate
- Patient migration for hospital care
- Mobility of Italian graduates
- Residence permits issued out of total number of non-EU foreigners

### GOAL 11

- Illegal building index
- Incidence of green areas over the urban area of cities
- No. of times that the daily PM10 limit value is exceeded in provincial capitals
- Seats/km offered by local public transportation
- People who normally travel to work only by private transport
- People living in overcrowded housing
- Children who have used municipal childcare services
- Difficulty in accessing certain services

### GOAL 12

- Internal material consumption per unit of GDP
- Material circularity
- Recycling rate
- Municipal waste sent to landfills out of total municipal waste collected
- Separate municipal waste collection
- Municipal waste production per capita

### GOAL 15

- Land cover index
- Fragmentation index

### GOAL 16

- Victims of intentional homicide
- Predatory crime rate
- Computer scams and fraud
- Prisoners awaiting trial as a proportion of all prisoners
- Duration of civil proceedings

- 
- Prison overcrowding
- 
- Social participation
- 
- Index of trust in institutions
-

**Graph 1 - Emilia-Romagna in comparison with Italy. Composite indicator by Goal (year 2019)**



Source: ASviS 2019 data processed by the Emilia-Romagna Region Statistics Office

The radar graph, better known as spider's web graph, shows at first glance the comparison between Emilia-Romagna and Italy in 14 of the 17 goals of the UN 2030 Agenda, measured by the composite indicators developed by ASviS. Instead, for goals 13, 14 and 17 ASviS does not have significant comparable and updated data on a territorial scale.

The diagram shows that Emilia-Romagna is above the national average in 9 of the 14 goals:



The Emilia-Romagna region is at levels similar to those of Italy in



Goals 2, 16, while it is below the national average in Goals



7, 12, 15. The positioning in relation to

each individual Goal, as outlined in the following pages, describes the progress and critical issues of the Emilia-Romagna region with respect to the national average.

## 6. THE 17 GOALS IN EMILIA-ROMAGNA

The following 17 fact sheets form the core of the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". They represent the local implementation of the Goals of the UN 2030 Agenda, taking into account the specific features of our area, its strengths and weaknesses.

### Each Goal is broken down as follows:

- **Introduction:** a short text framing Emilia-Romagna's goal with the underlying values and principles .
- **Positioning:** a graph and a text describing Emilia-Romagna with respect to a composite indicator that ASviS has developed and uses to monitor over time the path made by Europe, Italy and its regions within each of the 17 Goals. These calculations make it possible to represent a set of indicators concerning the same domain and the same area through a single easy-to-read indicator.
- **Regional Strategy:** the lines of intervention of the Regional Government Programme and of the Pact for Work and Climate are linked to each Goal as they are instrumental to reaching the targets by 2025-2030. The type of intervention can be identified by the following symbols:

### Regional Government Programme 2020- 2025



**Specific objectives of the 2020/2025 Regional Government Programme**

### Pact for Work and Climate



**Emilia-Romagna, a region of knowledge and know-how**



**Emilia-Romagna, a region of ecological transition**



**Emilia-Romagna, a region of rights and duties**



**Emilia-Romagna, a region of work, enterprises and opportunities**

**TD**  
Digital  
Transformation

**Digital Transformation**

**S**  
Simplification

**Simplification pact**

**L**  
Legality

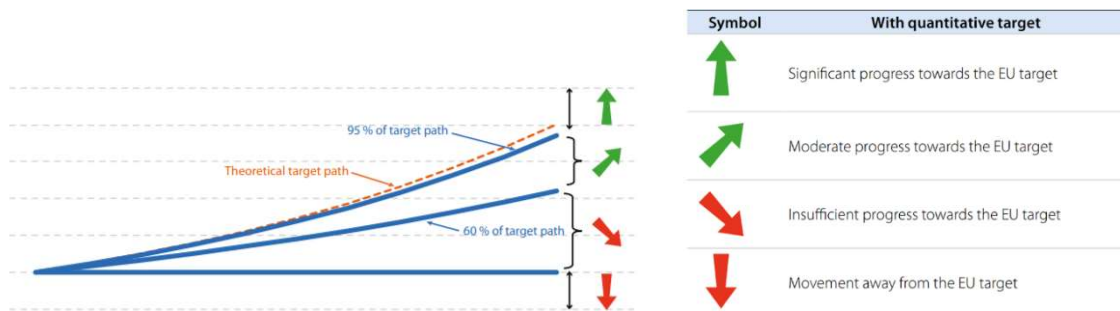
**Legality**

**P**  
Participation

**Participation**

- **Main implementation tools:** main instruments that allow the regional administration to proceed with implementation: regional laws, programming and planning documents, sectoral funds.
- **Regional targets:** regional targets to be achieved by 2025 and/or 2030. In some cases they coincide with those set at national and European level, in others they are specific regional indicators. In both cases they are **quantitative targets using outcome indicators** (impact and/or output indicators).

A graph and text provide a short-term analysis, taking into account trends over the last five years, on the basis of which any progress or deviation from the target is identified. Where an appropriate historical time series is available, the long-term trend is also reported. In addition, the methodology proposed by Eurostat is used to analyze how the situation evolves in relation to the targets. In the presence of quantitative targets, Eurostat provides for the assessment of the intensity and the direction in which an indicator moves with respect to the set goal. This evaluation depends on the *Ratio of actual and required growth rate* and foresees 4 classifications: significant progress (the target will be reached); moderate progress (the target will not be reached, but the direction is the right one); insufficient progress (the target will not be reached because the trend is only minimally positive); moving away from the target (the target will not be reached, or rather it moves further away from the set goal level).



Quantitative targets are defined according to the following hierarchy (source ASviS):

- values defined at institutional level (UN, WHO, European Union, Italian Government, Emilia-Romagna Region);
  - in the absence of a value defined at institutional level, the target is identified by means of a comparison with the four European countries most similar to Italy (France, Germany, Spain and the United Kingdom) by taking the best performer among these countries in the most recent available year;
  - wherever the indicator used does not allow for comparison with other European countries, the definition of the target is based on the judgment of the experts of the ASviS working groups;
  - if the indicator does not allow for comparison with other European countries and an expert assessment is not available, the target is identified in the best performing non-autonomous Italian region;
  - if none of the above criteria allows the quantitative target to be defined, the Eurostat methodology is used, providing for a 1% increase per year over the base year.
- **Summary table:** it contains the following information for each so far identified target:
    - **Indicator:** specifies if the indicator is part of the composite indicator processed by ASviS or if it is an indicator chosen by the Emilia-Romagna Region
    - **Indicator description:** defines the indicator



- **Positioning:** proposes a comparison with the national level and the European average and a gender analysis where possible, normally updated to 2019.
  - **Target:** indicates the quantitative target and the Institution/Body that has defined it. If the Emilia-Romagna Region has chosen a more challenging target, both targets are highlighted.
- **Related Goals:** indicates the main other goals that contribute to achieving the targets.



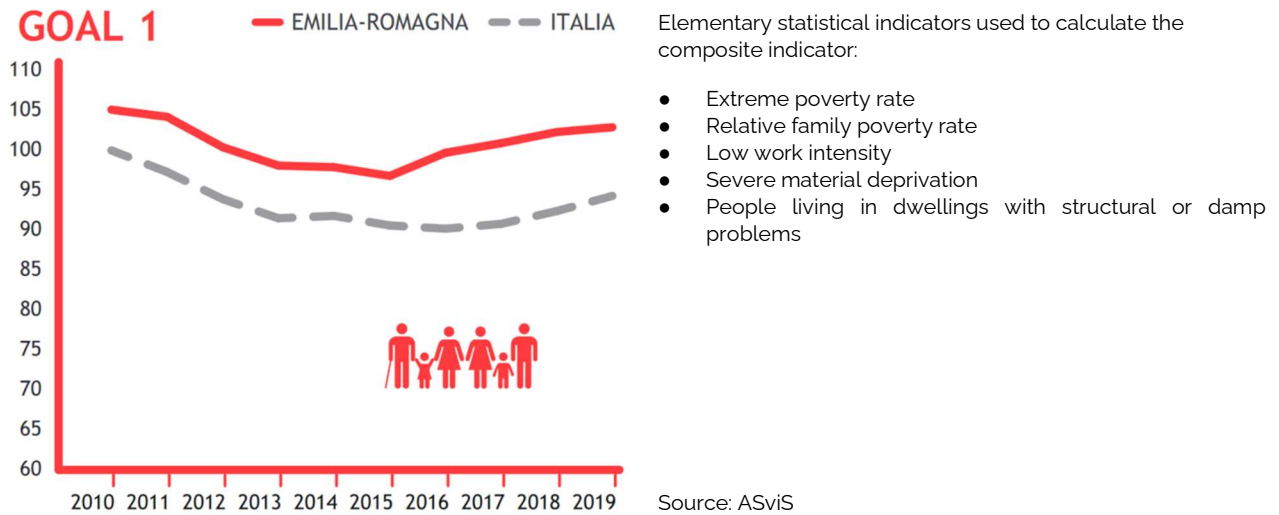
## NO POVERTY

**In Emilia-Romagna, we support those living in poverty and promote the social inclusion of fragile and vulnerable people**

### INTRODUCTION

Reducing the number of **poor people** and/or those **at risk of poverty and social exclusion** is a priority goal for the Emilia-Romagna Region and it is regarded as fundamental. The level of wellbeing of its citizens places Emilia-Romagna at the top of the national rankings and among the most developed European regions. However, a decade of recession followed by slow recovery and, more recently, the pandemic have produced fractures in the social fabric, starting from the labour market. As in the rest of the world, in Emilia-Romagna, too, we are witnessing an increase in **inequalities** and a **polarization** between highly specialized well-paid jobs and low-skilled, poorly protected and poorly paid jobs. These latter conditions increasingly lead to poor work, not enough for people to cross the poverty line. In Emilia-Romagna we want to counter this trend. We want to focus on quality work and policies capable, on the one hand, of generating value and, on the other, of redistributing it fairly. We want to build a **project of sustainable and inclusive development** that aims to combat all **forms of fragility**.

### POSITIONING



Emilia-Romagna<sup>45</sup> is at a **better level than the Italian average throughout the time span and for all the indicators taken into consideration**. The composite indicator, after a worsening of most of the elementary indicators analyzed, especially the one related to **extreme poverty** (which in the North increased by 3.2 percentage points, from 3.5% to 6.7%, in the period from 2010 to 2015), **started showing a positive trend from 2015 onwards**: both people living in conditions of severe material deprivation and those living in dwellings with structural problems decrease. Particularly clear, in the comparison with the rest of Italy, is the **low work intensity** figure, which in Emilia-Romagna stood at 4.9% in 2019 compared to a national average of 10.

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention

**PM**  
2020-25

**Prevention and reduction of new forms of poverty** also resulting from the economic impact of the pandemic, with the approval of a new three-year plan on poverty.

**PM**  
2020-25

**Improvement and innovation of the social and health care system** in favour of the most vulnerable and marginalized people, with special focus on the homeless, the Roma and Sinti communities, victims of trafficking, and individuals in jail.



**Development of a new Housing Plan** to make the Regional Fund for Rent structural, to strengthen Social and Public Residential Housing (ERS and ERP), to activate regulatory and financial levers with a view to putting a significant part of the currently unused housing stock back on the subsidized rental market.



**Strengthening services and active employment policy measures**, aimed at fragile and vulnerable persons, by qualifying procedures, tools and management of interventions, favouring the integration of the network of public, private and third sector entities.

### Main implementation instruments

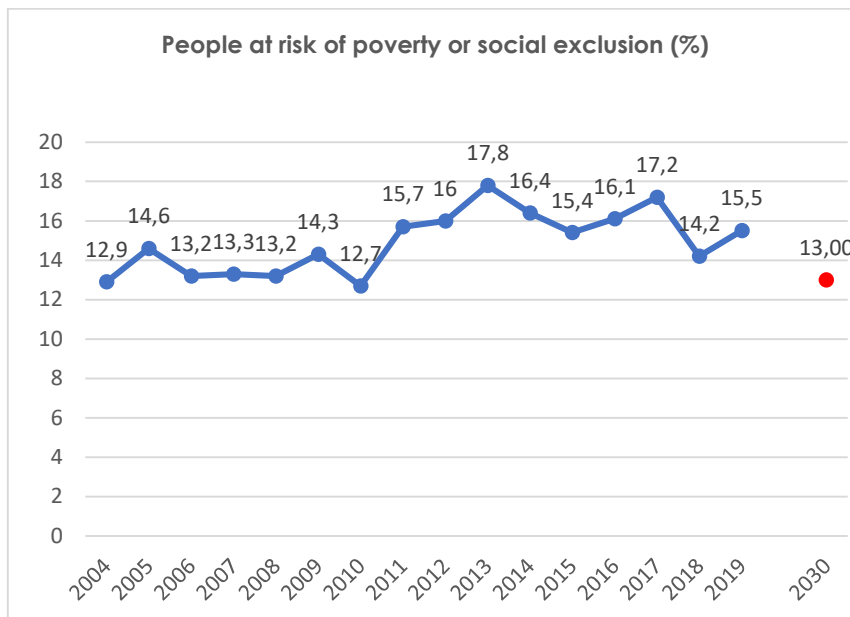
LR 24/2001 "General rules on public intervention in the housing sector", LR 24/2017 "Regional rules on the protection and use of the territory", Fund for rent and supervening impossibility to pay rent, LR 14/2015 "Guidelines to support the employment and social inclusion of people in fragile and vulnerable conditions, through the integration between public labour, social and health services", LR 6/2006 Norms for the promotion and development of mutual cooperation in Emilia-

<sup>45</sup> In the context of the Europe 2020 Strategy, the goal was to reduce the number of persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion, in the EU 28 aggregate, by 20 million units in 2020 with respect to 2008. Italy's contribution to this goal was a reduction of 2,200,000 in the number of poor people with respect to 2008, which is equivalent to reaching 21.8% of persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2020 (the Italian figure was 25.5% in 2008 and 25.6% in 2019).

Romagna, Three-year programme for production activities (PTAP) (DAL 83/2012), LR 16/2019 "Support for emergency microcredit", LR 11/2015 "Norms for the social inclusion of Roma and Sinti", LR 12/2007 "Promotion of the activity of recovery and redistribution of food products for the purpose of social solidarity", LR 14/2008 "Standards on policies for the younger generations", LR 29/2004 "General norms on the organization and functioning of the regional health service", LR 12/2013 "Ordinances and reorganization of public forms of management in the system of social and healthcare services. Development measures and norms of authentic interpretation on the subject of public companies providing personal care services", LR 2/2003 "Norms for the promotion of social citizenship and for the implementation of an integrated system of interventions and social services", Regional Strategic Document for the joint programming of European development policies -DSR 2021-2027 (DAL 44/2021), PO FSE 2001-2020, PO FSE + 2021-2027, POR FESR 2014-2020, POR FESR 2021-2027.

## REGIONAL TARGETS

- **BRINGING BACK THE SHARE OF PEOPLE AT RISK OF POVERTY OR SOCIAL EXCLUSION TO PRE-CRISIS LEVELS.**



In the context of the Europe 2020 Strategy, the goal was to reduce the number of persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion by 20 million units in 2020 compared to 2008 in the EU 28 aggregate. **In Emilia-Romagna this equals 13% of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion, a percentage already reached in the years before the 2008 crisis.** Because of the impact of the Covid-2019 pandemic, the goal is therefore to bring the share of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion back to the levels observed before the economic crisis (13%) by 2030. For Emilia-Romagna, the indicator shows a negative trend throughout the analyzed historical data. It rose from 12.9% in 2004 to 15.5% in 2019 with peaks of 17.8% and 17.2% in 2013 and 2017 respectively. For the most recent 5 years available (2014-2019), we have observed a reversal of the trend with a decrease in the proportion of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion (from 16.4% in 2014 to 15.5% in 2019).

## Targets at a glance - GOAL 1

indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
Elementary, included in the composite	People at risk of poverty and social exclusion	15.5%	25.6% U. 24.5% - D. 26.6%	20.9% U. 20.0% - D. 21.8%	13% EU 2030
ER	Reducing unallocated public residential housing (ERP)	5,500			3,800 ER 2025

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

## MAIN RELATED GOALS



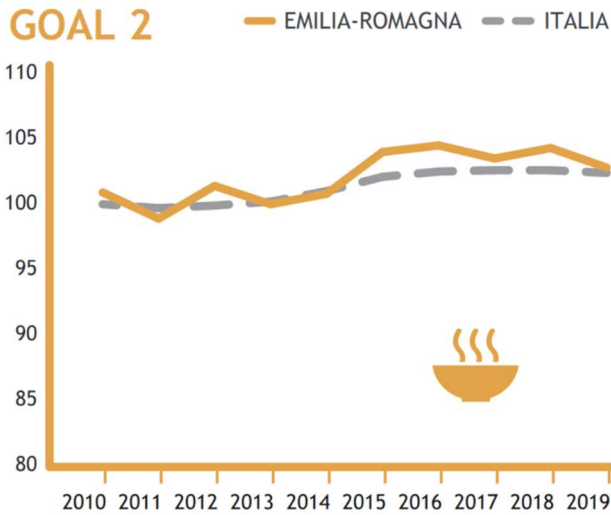
## ZERO HUNGER

In Emilia-Romagna, we work for a competitive, quality and resilient agriculture, we promote generational change, food education and we fight waste.

## INTRODUCTION

The pandemic has highlighted the importance of relying on a structured and competitive agricultural, agro-industrial and distribution chain, capable of guaranteeing security of supply, process sustainability and food quality. The agri-food sector plays a crucial role in our region, not only in terms of GDP and regional exports, but as a distinctive factor of our territory, of its quality and top-notch products, for which we are world-famous. For this reason, we intend to continue promoting the strategy for growth and continuous technological and managerial adaptation with adequate incentives to further strengthen **the quality and sustainability** of our production, reducing **its impact on the environment** and **increasing its resilience to climate change** in the face of natural disasters that have the greatest impact on farming. We support companies in the investments required to continue improving **animal welfare and biosecurity in livestock farming**, to optimize the use of nutrients and water consumption, to minimize dispersion and emissions, encouraging research into varieties and increasing biodiversity, in line with the European strategy "From Farm to Fork". Every day, we encourage **young farmers and generational change**, short supply chains, organic farming and integrated production, with the **aim of covering over 45% of the Utilized Agricultural Area (UAA) with low-input practices by 2030, of which over 25% will be organic.**

## POSITIONING



Elementary statistical indicators used to calculate the composite indicator:

- Excess weight or obesity among adults (18 years and older)
- Adequate nutrition
- Production per labour unit in agricultural holdings
- Gross operating margin on labour units in small holdings
- Gross saleable production on the utilized agricultural area of holdings
- Fertilizers used in farming
- Plant protection products used in farming
- Share of utilized agricultural area under organic production
- No. of adult cattle in relation to the utilized agricultural area of the holdings

Source: ASviS

**The Emilia-Romagna region shows a trend in line with that observed at a national level and is at levels similar to those of Italy throughout the analyzed historical time series.** Comparing the level of the regional elementary indicators with the national average, one observes that Emilia-Romagna in a better position regarding economic indicators such as production per labour unit and gross saleable production. On the contrary, if one considers the indicators related to the environmental dimension, the region shows a lagging situation compared to the rest of Italy, in particular with respect to the use of fertilizers <sup>16</sup>(+41.6% in the region compared to the Italian average in 2018) and the use of plant protection products <sup>17</sup>(+28.1% in the region compared to the Italian average in 2018). After the improvement recorded until 2015 - mainly due to the increase in production per labour unit in agricultural holdings and in the share of utilized agricultural area (UAA) for organic crops - in the following four years the composite indicator shows a stable trend as a result of the increase in **organic crops** (from **7.1%** in 2010 to **14.4%** in 2018) and labour productivity, of the decrease in the gross operating margin of small farms and of good nutrition. This indicator, which measures the share of the population that consumes at least four portions of fruit and/or vegetables on a daily basis, reached its lowest value in the entire historical time series in 2019 (19.6%, compared to 25.6% in 2010).

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention



Increasing start-up aid and investment support to young farmers under 40 ("**young people's package**").

<sup>16</sup> The proxy indicator proposed by Istat measures the fertilizers sold in the region and not the ones actually used. Moreover, the data cannot be broken down by type of fertilizer.

<sup>17</sup> The proxy indicator proposed by ISTAT measures the plant protection products sold in the region and not those actually used. Moreover, the data cannot be broken down by type of product.



**Nutritional education and fight against waste:** promote food literacy prioritizing a healthy and diversified diet, with an eye on health and the environment, also avoiding food waste.



**Plan for consumer orientation and nutritional education.**



**Fight against food waste through** the "Stop wasting" educational project and the promotion of the regional platform for the management of fruit and vegetable surpluses through the H2o LOWINFOOD project.



**Promotion of the inclusion of organic products in food service.**

**Promotion of the environmental sustainability of food systems,** starting with agricultural and livestock production, recognizing the role they play in protecting the territory and creating jobs. Support for companies in the investments needed to continue to improve animal welfare and biosecurity in livestock farming, to optimize the use of nutrients and water consumption, to reduce chemical inputs, minimize dispersion and emissions, encouraging research into new varieties and increasing biodiversity on agricultural land, in line with the European "From Farm to Fork" strategy.



Support for **short supply chains, organic farming and integrated production** with the aim of covering more than 45% of the UAA with low-input practices by 2030, of which more than 25% will be organic.



**Framework Agreement for air quality in the Po Valley Basin** capable of generating extraordinary investments to improve air quality, dramatically reducing emissions of particulate matter, nitrogen oxides and **ammonia** and, consequently, contributing to improving the conditions of underground and surface waters, with a fully integrated action, based on reliable and comparable data on all sources of pollution, through projects financed with national and European Union funds and shared with the other three Regions of the Basin. Given its national importance and the EU infringement procedures, the air quality of the Po Valley Basin should be the target of specific national Government projects within the NRRP.



**Protection and better use of water resources,** improving the state of the ecosystems, encouraging their sustainable use also through the reduction in consumption and waste both in the residential sector and in the industrial and agricultural sectors (Water Footprint), improving their quality and availability, with a view of decreasing network losses by half, increasing, innovating and improving storage capacity, reusing waste water and rainwater, exploiting the opportunity to submit projects for funding within the NRRP.



**Supporting the income, competitiveness and productive efficiency of agricultural, agri-food, fisheries and aquaculture enterprises,** improving their market position through investment in research, innovation and digitalization; encouraging greater aggregation of supply and vertical and horizontal supply chain integration to ensure a more equitable distribution of value and fairer prices; supporting product uptake on foreign markets; favouring the development of organic and precision agriculture, as well as the re-use of waste in a circular system; facilitating access to credit and risk management tools; supporting multifunctionality; protecting regional production and products with denomination of origin through promotional measures, in close collaboration with the Protection Consortia and producer representatives.

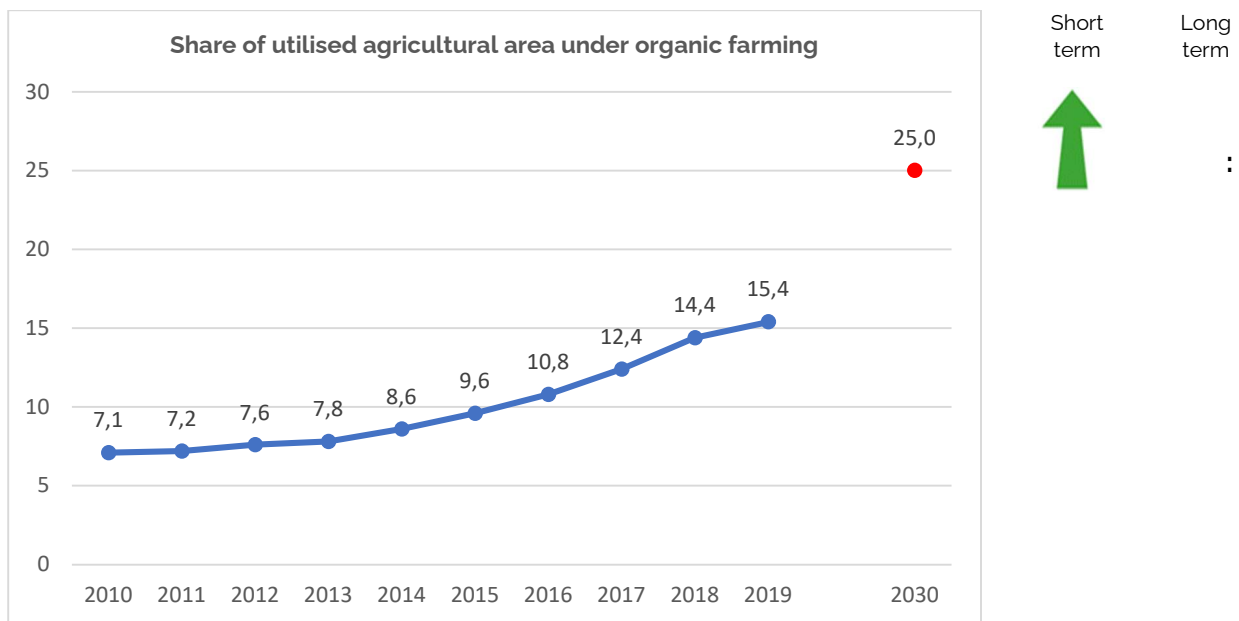


**Main implementation instruments**

LR 29/2002 Norms for consumer orientation and nutritional education and for the qualification of food services, LR 12/2007 Promotion of the recovery and distribution of food products for social solidarity purposes, LR 4/2009 Rules governing agricultural tourism and multifunctionality in farms, PSR 2014-2020 extended to 2022, PSN (National Strategic Plan of the CAP) 2023-2027, CMO Operating Programs for Fruit and Vegetables, Wine, Oil and Bees (Reg. EU 1308/2013), Integrated Regional Air Plan PAIR2020 (DAL 115/2020), Regulation on the creation of organic districts, Protection and promotion of PDO, PGI and Mountain products (Reg. EU 1151/2012 and Reg. EU 1144/2014), Regional Programme for consumer and nutritional education 2020-2022 (DAL 18/2020), Regional Prevention Plan, DGR 1855/2020 for the implementation of the State-Regions agreement on the "National Prevention Plan (PNP) 2020-2025, DGR 367/2014 Approval of the "Guidelines for the recovery, distribution and use of food products for social solidarity purposes".

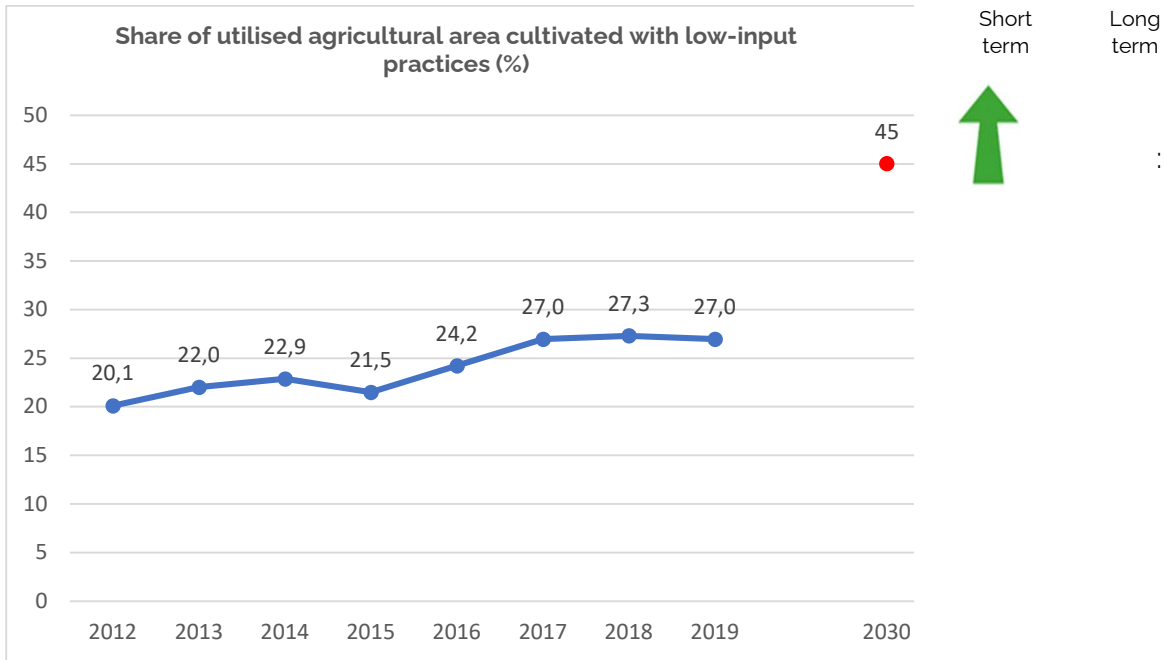
## REGIONAL TARGETS

- **REACHING 25% OF THE UTILISED AGRICULTURAL AREA (UAA) UNDER ORGANIC FARMING**



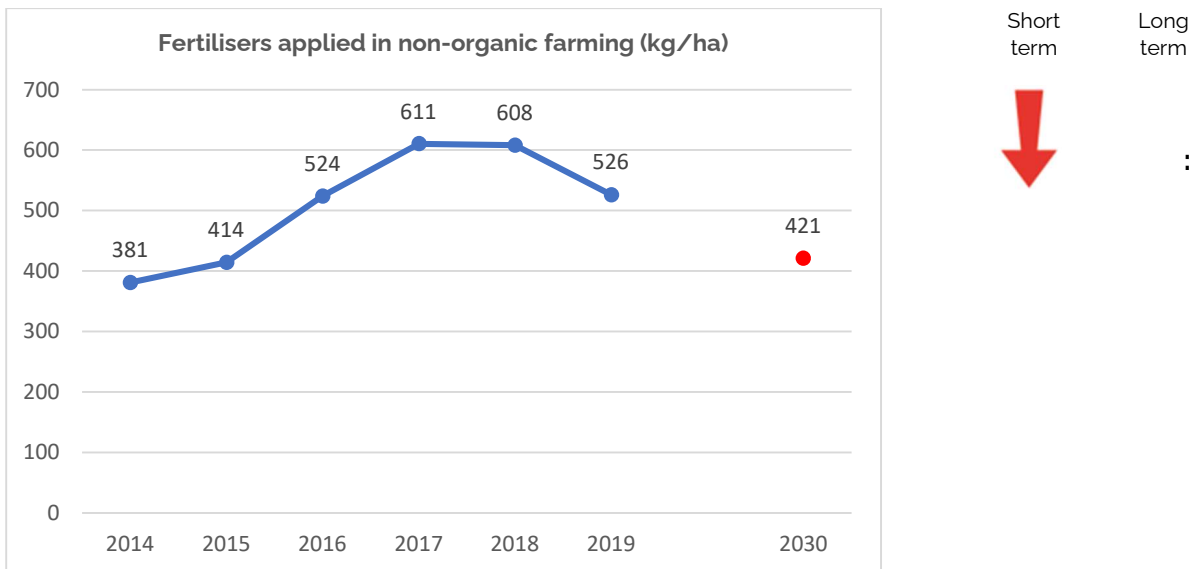
The analyzed historical time series shows a steady **increase in the UAA** planted with organic crops between 2010 and 2019. In the most recent available year, an increase in **8.3** percentage points was observed over 2010 and **6.8** over 2014. The short-term trend observed in the latest five years available is adequate to achieve the 25% target by 2030.

- **REACHING 45% OF THE UTILISED AGRICULTURAL AREA CULTIVATED WITH LOW-INPUT PRACTICES**



The share of utilized agricultural area (UAA) cultivated with low-input practices, which also includes the organic crops analyzed in the previous paragraph, **increased by 6.8 percentage points** from 2012 to 2019. If this trend were to be confirmed in the next decade, the region would be in a position to reach the quantitative target set for 2030, i.e. 45% of the UAA cultivated with low-input practices.

- **REDUCING FERTILIZERS USED IN NON-ORGANIC FARMING BY 20% COMPARED TO LEVELS OBSERVED IN 2019**

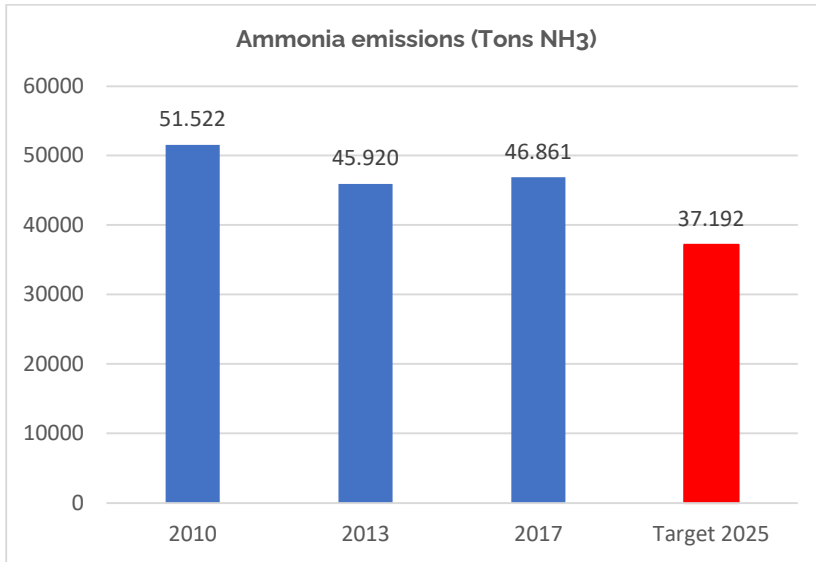


Thanks to the new analyses made available by Istat, it is possible to monitor the trend of **fertilizers used in agriculture**, excluding products used for organic farming. The short-term analysis shows a negative trend for the region in the period 2014-2017, due to an increase in the use of fertilizers, followed by a



decrease in the period 2017-2019. In order to reach the European target by 2030, **it is necessary to continue the downward trend of the two most recent years.**

- **REDUCING AMMONIA EMISSIONS BY 19% COMPARED TO LEVELS OBSERVED IN 2013**



Short term    Long term



:

**Ammonia emissions** measure the negative impact of farming on air quality. From 2010 to 2017, ammonia emissions in Emilia-Romagna **decreased** by **9.0%**. Nevertheless, in the latest four available years (2013-2017) ammonia emissions increased by 2% moving the region away from reaching the target. In order to reverse this trend and **resume a downward trend** so as to reach the 2025 target of 19% reduction compared to the levels observed in 2013, the Region has funded specific actions through the 2014-2022 Regional Development Plan whose effects can already be detected starting from 2020.

**Targets at a glance - GOAL 2**

indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
Elementary, included in the composite	Share of utilized agricultural area under organic farming	15.4%	15.8%	8.5	25% - EU 2030
ER	Share of utilized agricultural area cultivated with low-input practices	27%	nd	nd	45% - ER 2030
Elementary, included in the composite	Fertilizers used in non-organic farming compared to 2019 levels	526 kg/ha	299kg/ha	nd	421 kg/ha - EU 2030
ER	Ammonia emissions (Tons NH <sub>3</sub> )	46,861 Tons	nd	nd	37,192 tons -2025 (Po Valley Basin Air Quality Agreement)

ER	Increase in the 35-44 age group of farmers	9% (2016)	nd	nd	11% - ER 2025
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(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

**MAIN RELATED GOALS**





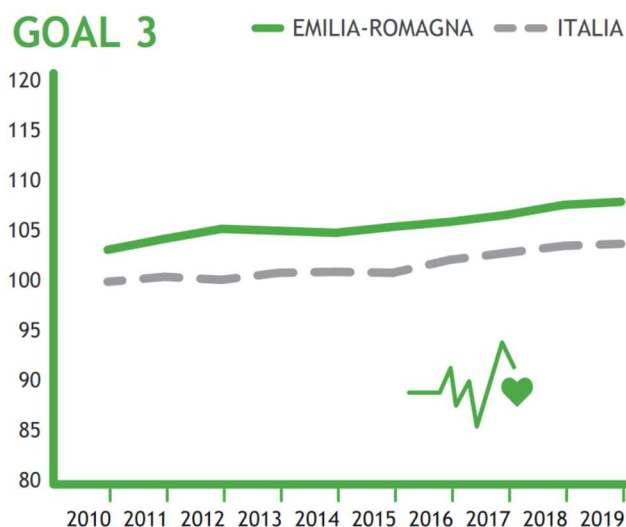
## GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

**In Emilia-Romagna, we have a priority: to guarantee everyone good-quality, public, universal healthcare system rooted in the territory and to build an increasingly inclusive and participatory community welfare system.**

### INTRODUCTION

The pandemic that hit the whole of mankind has made contradictions and social fragility more evident, but it has also highlighted elements of strength and resilience in the regional system as well as the huge value of **good healthcare, public and for all, deep-rooted in our territory**. Physicians, health care professionals, social and health care personnel, social workers, technical and administrative staff, as well as volunteers and the third sector, proved to be a fundamental element of territorial proximity that needs to be recognized, trained and valued. At the same time, we have become more aware of the need to adopt lifestyles that protect health. **Our top priority** is to strengthen our healthcare system, retaining the **overarching role** of governance and **public management**, in order to guarantee all people the **right to health** regardless of their economic and social conditions, but also to provide a service to the community as a whole for the protection of public health. We intend to implement and further qualify our network of hospitals, strengthen the community-based health facilities, starting with *Case della Salute* (one-stop home for healthcare), invest in telemedicine and home care, i.e. key elements of the system on which to build the chain of social innovation, especially in inland and mountain areas of the region, pursuing the integration of health and social policies, with an extraordinary investment plan that, in addition to facilities and technologies, aims to train and recruit all the necessary health staff and social workers. Likewise, we intend to invest in social and welfare services that adequately respond to social and demographic changes, addressing in particular the elderly and people with **disabilities**, as well as their caregivers, and to interpret their needs at an early stage. We intend to face the new challenges with innovative tools to **prevent** and fight loneliness with the precious contribution of the social cooperation, of the Third sector, qualifying the **social work** and enhancing its planning function and initiatives.

### POSITIONING



Elementary statistical indicators used to calculate the composite indicator:

- Infant mortality rate
- Standardized mortality rate for the main causes of death between 30 and 69 years of age
- Injury rate for road accidents
- Healthy life expectancy at birth
- People aged 14 years and over who exhibit at least one risky drinking behaviour
- Persons 14 years of age or older who report currently smoking
- People aged 14 and over who do not engage in any physical activity
- Influenza vaccination coverage age 65+ age group
- Number of doctors, nurses and midwives per 10,000 inhabitants
- Hospital beds for acutely-ill patients per 1,000 inhabitants
- Beds in nursing homes and residential care facilities per 10,000 inhabitants

Source: ASviS

The composite indicator shows a positive trend from 2010 to 2019 thanks to the **improvement in most of the elementary indicators analyzed**. **Injuries due to road accidents** decreased from 65.0 per 10 thousand inhabitants in 2010 to 50.2 in 2019, while **mortality** due to the leading causes of death and **risk behaviours such as alcohol consumption and smoking decreased**, respectively by 3.5 and 4.6 percentage points from 2010 to 2019. **Vaccination coverage** for people aged 65 and over (which declined by 8.7 percentage points from 2010, reaching 54.7% in 2019) and **beds in nursing homes** per 10 thousand inhabitants, which declined by more than 7.9% over the time period considered, seem to follow an opposite trend. Moreover, it is important to underline that the healthy life expectancy at birth in Emilia-Romagna shows a trend similar to the national average and is at a better level throughout the analyzed historical time series (+1 year in 2019). In particular, **the region showed better values than the national average for mortality rates and healthy life expectancy at birth** in 2019, i.e. **59.6** in the region compared to the Italian average of 58.6. If we analyze the indicators related to health risks, the comparison appears more heterogeneous, the region has a **level of road accidents definitely more critical than the national one** (50.2 per 10,000 inhabitants in 2019 compared to 39.9 in the rest of Italy) and a higher consumption of alcohol than the national average (18.8% in 2019 in the region against 15.8% of the national average). On the contrary, the **sedentary behaviour** rate in the region is lower than in Italy (27.8% compared to 35.5% in the rest of Italy) and the set of indicators related to the provision of health services show a better situation for the region - 2.94 hospital beds per 1,000 people in 2018 compared to 2.60 in the rest of Italy. **This positioning does not take into account the effects of the pandemic** that will have an impact on the main demographic components starting from 2020.

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention



Development of a **territorial organizational model targeted towards strengthening** proximity and proactivity of the community-based health services, and strengthening the intermediate care network according to an integrated and multidisciplinary approach, favouring, in particular, the most fragile layers of population.



**Comprehensive promotion of vaccination policies**



**Support to the creation and promotion of a network of projects for the education towards healthy lifestyles** for the improvement of individual physical, psychological and social well-being through physical exercise and sports.



**Development of a multi-year experimental project** to combat sedentary behaviours, social unease and gender discrimination.



A new phase of investments, preceded by an accurate qualitative and quantitative analysis of the regional **sports facilities** as a basis for defining the strategic guidelines for further actions to support the development and innovation of the regional sports system.



**Strengthening the regional healthcare and social infrastructure**, on the one hand adapting and modernizing the hospital network and, on the other hand, strengthening the network of community-based services, starting with *Case della Salute* (one-stop home for healthcare); investing in the most modern technologies and digital solutions for a telemedicine and remote medical care network, focusing on greater accessibility that increases proximity, the availability of services throughout the territory and home care; strengthening the integration between social and health care services with reference to the most advanced European experiences.



**Recruitment and further qualification of health care professionals and social workers** at all levels, in collaboration with the Schools of Medicine with a view to planning needs, bridging the gap of the last decade and introducing a new generation of physicians, nurses, assistants and technicians into the Regional Health Service, facilitating their recruitment in the inland and mountain areas.



**Safety and quality of social and health services**, reviewing accreditation criteria and ensuring the sustainability of public management and an overall balance in the integrated system.



Increase of the current allocation of resources to FRNA (regional fund for dependent individuals) in order to **plan new services for the most fragile people**, namely residential, home care and proximity services, encouraging innovative solutions also thanks to co-planning activities with the Third Sector, starting from the experiences of co-housing, social housing and senior housing, also investing NRRP resources. Interventions to support caregivers, independent living projects and the "Dopo di Noi" project should also be intensified, making the most of the valuable collaboration with associations.



**A widespread system of community and proximity welfare** favouring the interaction of all human, professional and economic resources of the area. While respecting the role and autonomy of the negotiating parties, experiment new forms of supplementary corporate and territorial welfare bargaining, with a view to strengthening universal welfare.



**Development of the growing profile of Emilia-Romagna as a "Sport Valley"**, capable of attracting and organizing events and competitions of national and international importance, also for the promotion of our local system.

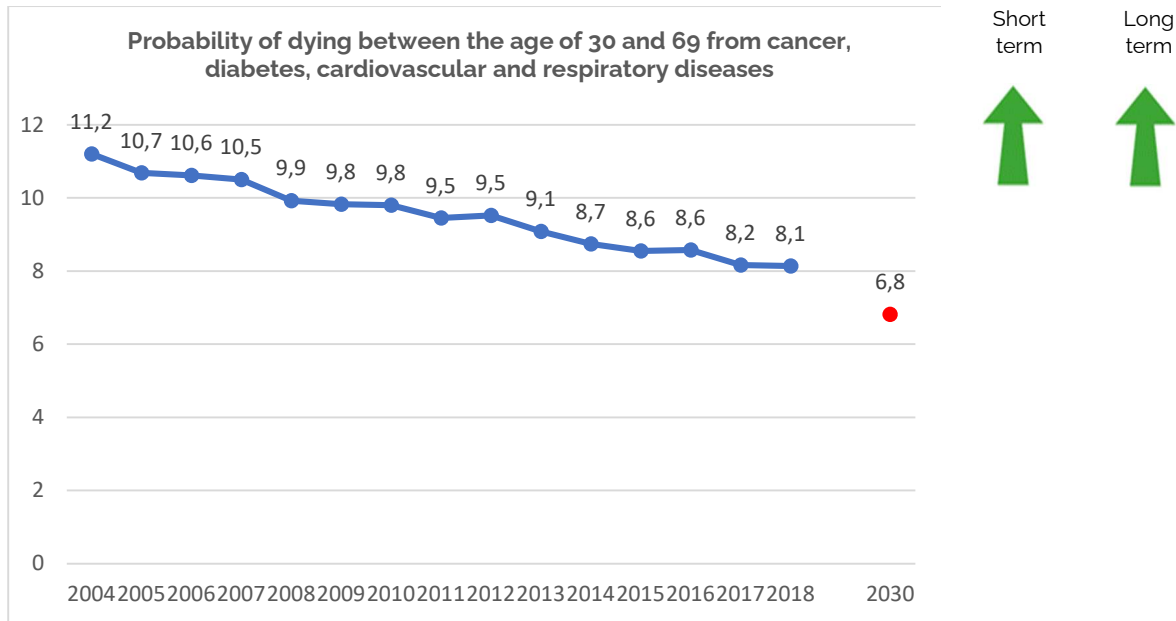
### Main implementation instruments

LR 13/2019, art.6 ter, Promotion of the proactive chronic care model, LR 22/2019 Authorization and Accreditation, LR 2/2014 Norms for the recognition and support of family caregivers (persons who voluntarily provide care and assistance), LR 34/2002 Norms for social promotion associations, LR 20/2003 New rules for the promotion of civil service. Establishment of the regional civil service, LR 12/2005 Norms for the promotion of voluntary organizations, LR 8/2014 Law on the simplification of the regional regulations on volunteering, social promotion associations, civil service. Establishment of the citizens' solidarity day LR 12/2014 Rules for the promotion and development of social cooperation, LR 13/2015 Reform of the system of regional and local government and provisions concerning the metropolitan city of Bologna, provinces, municipalities and their unions, LR 11/2016 Legislative changes in the field of social policies and housing, policies for the younger generation and early childhood education services, resulting from the reform of the system of regional and local government, LR 8/2017 Rules for the promotion and development of physical activity and sports, LR 6/2004 Reform of the regional and local administrative system, European Union and international relations. Innovation and simplification. Relations with the University, LR 6/2006 Norms for the promotion and development of mutual cooperation in Emilia-Romagna. Art. 51 of LR 27/04 instituting the FRNA, Law 112/2016 on "Dopo di Noi", Management of the Single National Register of the Third Sector and of dedicated funds, regional implementation directives and guidelines, Leg. Decree 112/2017, Leg. Decree 117/2017, Programming three-year staff requirements for the Conference of Regions and Autonomous Provinces - Family/community nurse guidelines, ex L. 17 July 2020 n. 77 prot 20/164/CR06b/C7, Relaunch Decree converted into Law 77/20 Promotion, Social and Health Plan, Regional Health Fund Programming, Regional Prevention Plan, DGR 1855/2020 implementing the State-Regions agreement on the "National Prevention Plan (PNP) 2020-2025", LR 8/2017 "Norms for the promotion and development of physical activities and sports", Memorandum of Understanding between the Emilia-Romagna region, Wellness Foundation and Alma Mater Studiorum to promote health-friendly lifestyles and physical activity in the local community (DGR 713/2018), Planning and funding lines for Health Authorities, Regional indications on *Case della Salute* (DGR 2128/2016), COVID Intensive Care (DGR 368/2020), Network Coordination (DGR 972/2018), Plan for the reorganization of hospital care (DGR 677/2020) - ex DL 34/2020, Three-year ICT Plan of the Emilia-Romagna Health Service (DGR 2139/2018), 2021 Performance Plan (DGR 146/2021), Setting up of the Regional Controlling Body (DGR 2129/2016) as per art. 4 of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Emilia-Romagna Region and the Universities of Bologna, Ferrara, Modena-Reggio Emilia and Parma, the outline of which was approved by DGR. 1207/2016 implementing art. 9 of LR 29/2004, amendment to DGR 564/2000 and subsequent amendments and integrations, amendment to DGR 514/2009 and subsequent amendments and integrations, amendment to DGR 273/2016 and subsequent amendments and integrations, transposition of the new

requirements. Accreditation (DGR 1943/2017), Three-year Sports Plan 2018-2020, Three-year Plan for production activities (PTAP) (DAL 83/2012), FONCOOPER - Revolving Fund, law 49/85 productive activities programme, measure 2.2, action c - Fund for companies Guidance document for activities of international importance 2021-2025 (DGR n. 245/2021 - DAL n. 40/2021), Regional Strategic Document for Joint Programming of European Development Policies -DSR 2021-2027 (DAL 44/2021), POR FSE+ 2021-2027, POR FESR 2014-2020.

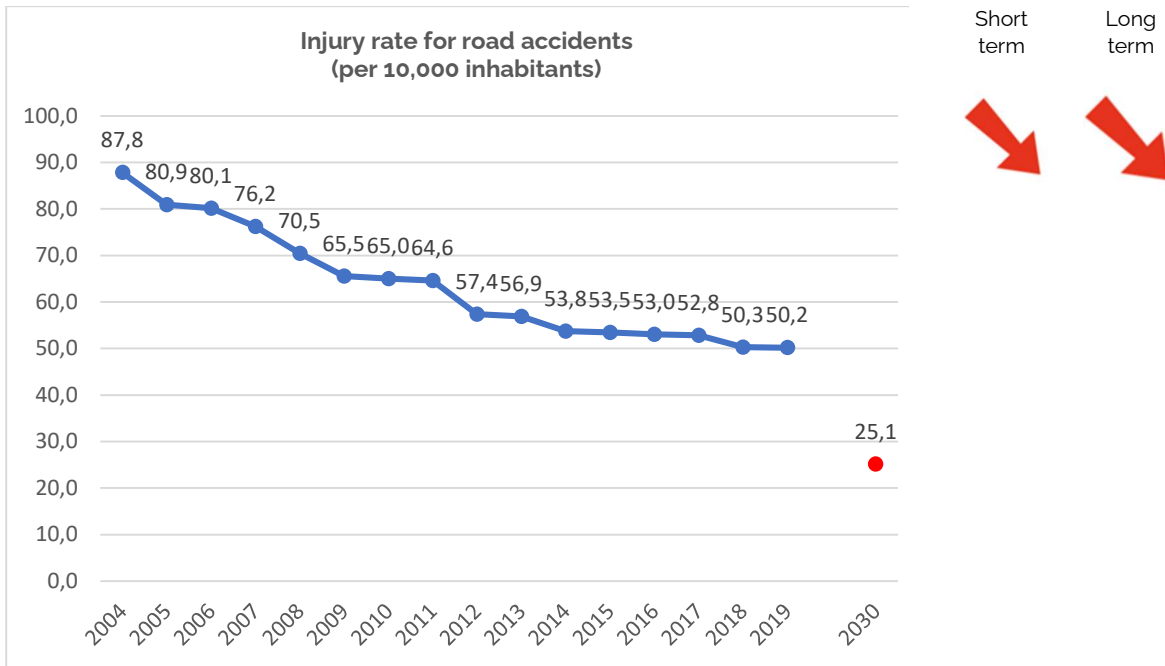
## REGIONAL TARGETS

- **REDUCING MORTALITY FROM CHRONIC NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES BY 25% COMPARED TO 2013**



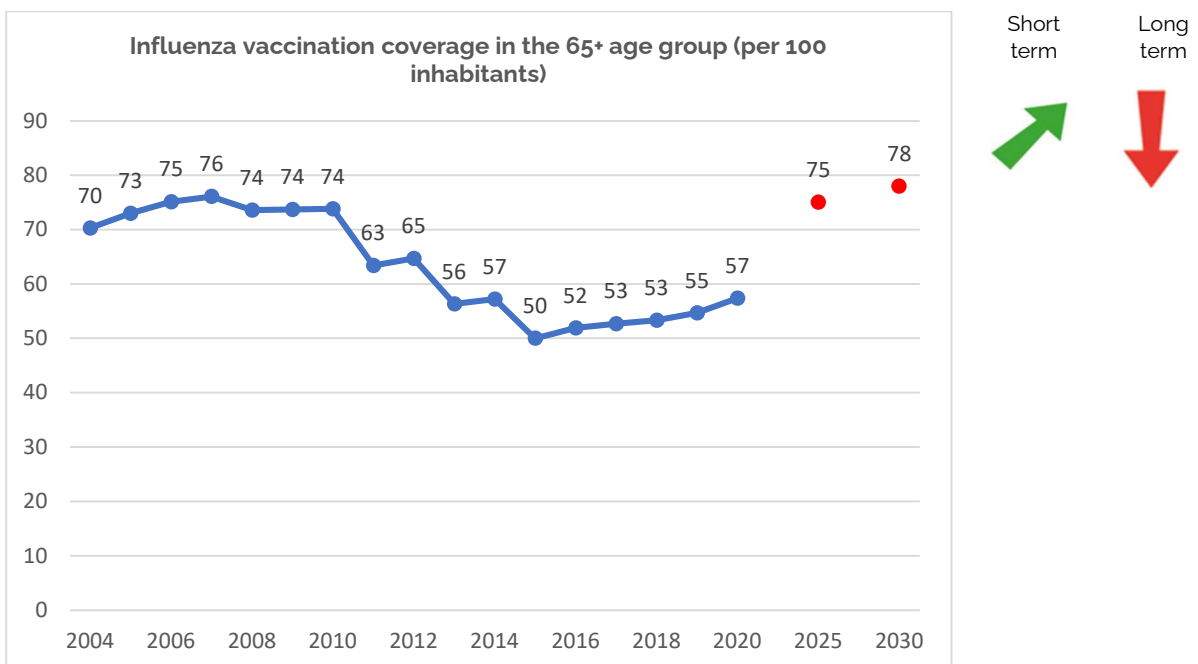
Both short- and long-term analyses show a **decreasing trend** in the probability of dying from the leading causes in the population aged 30-69. In 2018, the latest available year, the reduction was **10.4%** compared to 2013 and **33.7%** compared to 2004. If maintained for the coming years, these rates are enough to ensure that the goal set by the World Health Organization, i.e. 25% reduction by 2030 compared to 2013, is achieved.

- **REDUCING THE NUMBER OF INJURIES DUE TO ROAD ACCIDENT BY HALF BY 2020**



In 2019, Emilia-Romagna ranked third for the number of **road accidents**, with only Liguria and Tuscany higher in the ranking. The trend analysis shows a reduction in the rate of injuries due to road accidents in Emilia-Romagna. The long term trend shows a **43% reduction** between 2004 and 2019, while in the short term this positive trend tends to decrease (-7% from 2014 to 2019). Neither rate seems to be adequate to reach the European goal, pointing to the need for further actions to encourage the reduction of road accidents. The **Regional Observatory for Road Safety Education**, the only institutional observatory in Italy, shows that the main or concurrent cause of accidents is distraction when driving (83%).

- **ACHIEVING 78% INFLUENZA VACCINATION COVERAGE FOR PEOPLE OVER 65.**



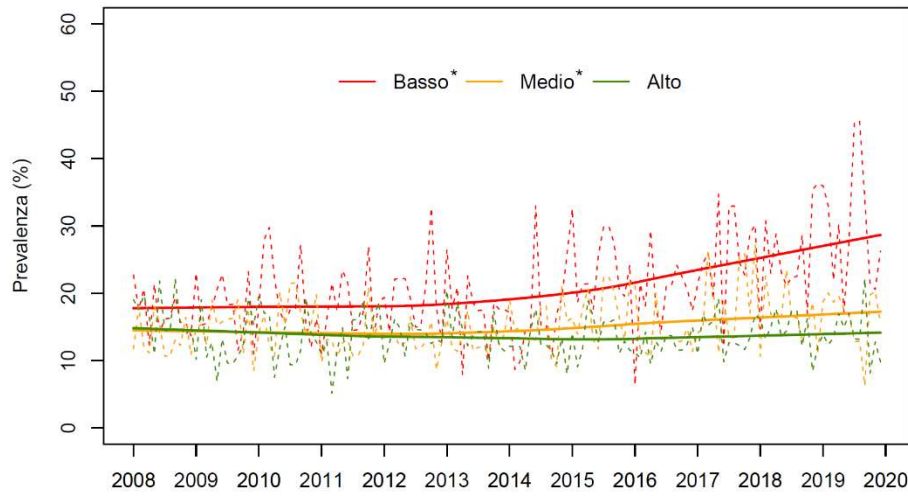
In Emilia-Romagna, the share of elderly people with influenza vaccination coverage has decreased by 15,6 percentage points in the last 15 years, leading to a negative evaluation of the long-term trend.

**In the most recent 5 years, there was a reversal of the trend, with the index increasing by 7.4 percentage points.** If this trend were to be confirmed in the coming years, the region would be in a position to approach the regional target by 2030.



- **REDUCING THE PERCENTAGE OF SEDENTARY PEOPLE WITH LOW SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATUS TO 21.5%.**

Sedentary lifestyle by socioeconomic level (%) <sup>18</sup>Emilia-Romagna, PASSI surveillance 2008-2019



\*p-value<0.05

The prevalence of **sedentary lifestyles** in the population is linked to the **social and economic** indicators that reflect an active lifestyle from the physical point of view. In the middle-high income class, people carry out sports and/or basic physical activity more frequently. On the contrary, a challenging socioeconomic status generally translates into a disadvantage because of a number of aspects such as fewer resources available to access dedicated facilities and less leisure time, less opportunities for physical activity, the perception of sport as a luxury and not as a necessity. In Emilia-Romagna **in the period 2008-2019** the percentage of sedentary people with **medium-high** socioeconomic status **followed an almost consistent trend**, while the percentage of sedentary people with **low** socioeconomic status **increased**: it rose from 19% in the period 2008-2012 to **27%** in 2019. Emilia-Romagna has set itself the target of bringing the percentage of sedentary people with low socioeconomic status down to **21.5%** by 2025.

### Targets at a glance - GOAL 3

Indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			TARGET
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
Elementary, included in the composite	Probability of dying between the age of 30 and 69 from cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases	8.14% (2018) U. 11.2% -D. 6.8%	8.96% (2018)	nd	6.8% WHO 2030
Elementary, included in the composite	Share of people injured in road accidents (per 10,000 inhabitants)	50.2 per 10,000 inhabitants U. 13,508 -D. 8.884	40 per 10,000 inhabitants	nd	25.1 per 10,000 inhabitants EU 2030

<sup>18</sup> Low status: people with low education facing economic difficulties; middle status: people with low education and no economic difficulties or people with high education facing economic difficulties; high status: people with high education and no economic difficulties.

Elementary, included in the composite	Influenza vaccination coverage in the 65+ age group (per 100 inhabitants)	70.1% (2020-2021 Campaign) U. 71.3% - D. 67.9% of the 65+ population	65.3% (2020-2021 campaign)	nd	<b>78% ER 2030</b> <b>75% ER 2025</b>
ER	Reducing the proportion of sedentary people with low socioeconomic status	27%	nd	nd	<b>21,5 % ER 2025</b>
ER	Number of <i>Case della Salute</i> (one-stop healthcare homes)	127	492 (Total ITALY, source Agenas)	nd	<b>170 ER 2030</b>
ER	Number of <i>Case della Salute</i> equipped with telemedicine and remote health care to take care and manage the population suffering from chronic diseases	16% (2021)	nd	nd	<b>100% ER by 2030</b>
ER	Ensuring coverage of residential and semi-residential services within the social and health network for the population aged ≥ 65 years	1.5% population aged ≥ 65 years (2.8% population aged ≥ 75 years)	nd	nd	<b>3% population aged ≥ 65 years ER 2030</b>
ER	Achieving and maintaining the vaccination coverage required by L. 119/2017 at 24 months of age (mandatory pediatric vaccinations)	Poliomyelitis 95.52% Diphtheria 95.52% Tetanus 95.52% Pertussis 95.51% Hepatitis B 95.45% H1b 95.23% Measles 94.27% Parotitis 94.17% Rubella 94.25% Varicella 91.37%	Poliomyelitis 94.02% Diphtheria 93.92% Tetanus 94.04% Pertussis 94.03% Hepatitis B 94.01% H1b 94.00% Measles 91.79% Parotitis 91.55% Rubella 91.29% Varicella 89.36%		<b>≥ 95% ER 2030</b> <b>For all vaccinations</b>
ER	Percentage of elderly people treated in integrated home care over the total elderly population (65 years and over)	9.2%	4.9%	nd	<b>10% EN PNRR 2026</b> <b>10% ER for each AUSL (Local Health Authority)</b>

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

**MAIN RELATED GOALS**





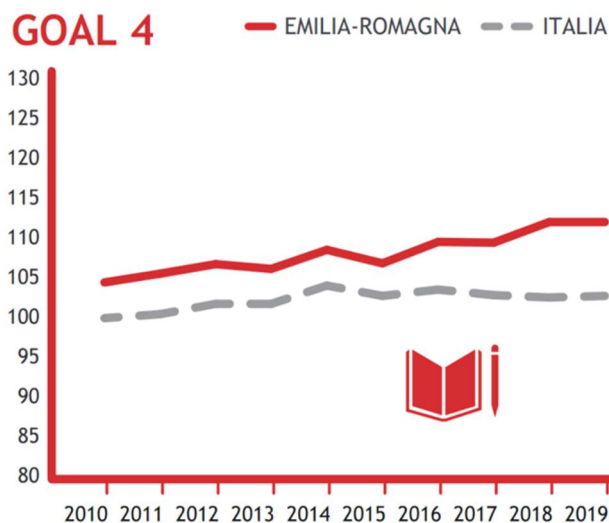
## QUALITY EDUCATION

In Emilia-Romagna, we guarantee equitable and inclusive quality education and learning opportunities for all

### INTRODUCTION

In Emilia-Romagna, we have always believed that **education** and **training** have the task of improving society. At times when a community must face new challenges and undertake processes of change, enhancing this investment becomes essential, starting with the youngest: the right *to education, universal and inclusive, represents the basis of our development model*. We want to make sure that **educational services and pre-school** are accessible to all and spread throughout the region, so as to remove the obstacles entailed in the different background social conditions. We intend to invest in **guidance** services to give young people and their families the tools to make informed choices. We consider it a priority to reduce the number of early **school leavers** and to ensure that all people, **without exception**, have the opportunity to improve their knowledge and skills both in the phase preceding entry into the labour market and throughout their working life, in order to favour professional growth paths, support the quality of employment in terms of job security and intensity, innovate manufacturing and services and accelerate the ecological and digital transition.

### POSITIONING



Elementary statistical indicators used to calculate the composite indicator:

- Persons aged 25-64 who participated in education and training activities in the previous 4 weeks
- Early drop-out from education and training
- Participation rate in educational activities among 5-year-olds (pre-school and first year of primary school)
- Pupils with disabilities in secondary school
- Students aged 15 who do not attain basic skills for functional competence in reading
- Students aged 15 who do not achieve the basic skills for functional competence in mathematics
- Persons aged 25-64 who have completed at least upper secondary school (high school)
- People aged 30-34 with a university degree
- Persons aged 25-64 who participated in education and training activities in the previous 4 weeks
- Cultural participation

Source: ASviS

With a trend similar to the national one from 2010 to 2015 and a **positive trend in the following years until 2019**, Emilia-Romagna shows **better values than the national average** for the entire period considered. In particular, among the indicators analyzed from 2010 to 2019, an improvement is observed in the share of **young people leaving the education system early** (- 3.5 percentage points), in the share of the **population aged 25-64 with a diploma** (+8.9 percentage points), in the share of the **population aged 30-34 with tertiary education** (+13.2 percentage points) and in the **participation of adults in lifelong training** (+3.5 percentage points). The difference with the national figures is particularly clear when comparing the **share of students with inadequate skills in literature and mathematics**, respectively 15% and 13.4% in 2018 compared to a national average of 23.3% and 23.8%. The only indicators where the region lags behind

are preschool attendance (93.9% in 2019 compared to 95.4% in Italy) and school attendance among students with disabilities (3.6% in 2016 compared to a 3.9% national average).

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention



**An inclusive school of rights, duties and equal opportunities:** support to full participation of students with disabilities in the education process and support to municipalities to ensure transport, services and assistance to students with disabilities.



**Strengthening the network of educational services and pre-schools (0-6),** ensuring that they are accessible to all children, spread throughout the region, progressively reducing waiting lists and the cost borne by the families, raising the quality of the provision within the whole integrated system.



**Raising the language skills in the whole community,** starting with the youngest children, by extending English-language literacy experiences to infant-toddler centres and pre-schools and expanding the teaching of English in **vocational** and **lifelong learning**.



**Strengthening the network of guidance services and combating gender stereotypes in training and professional choices,** promoting all **professional** and **technical** training paths, also through the implementation of structural and permanent actions in schools to bring girls and boys closer to technical-scientific subjects.



**Promotion of new synergies between the territory and the schooling system** that has to be increasingly open, inclusive and innovative.



**Combating educational poverty and early school leaving,** promoting educational success.



**Economic support to families to ensure that everyone has the right to attend school** and improving services, with special attention to students with disabilities.



**Promotion of Pathways for Soft Skills and Guidance** (PTCO, formerly school/work alternation programs), which provide real added value to educational pathways.



**Safeguarding educational institutions in peripheral and mountain areas.**



**Commitment to ensure safer, sustainable and modern school buildings** through a ten-year regional plan that will prioritize new European resources -linked to the Renovation Wave initiative- towards energy-efficient interventions for new zero emission buildings.



**Strengthening the collaboration between vocational high-schools, vocational training bodies and the productive infrastructure** of our area so that the integrated **Education and Vocational Training** system ensures paths for the achievement of qualifications targeted towards easy entry in the labour market, so as to promote and build networks of excellence and to contrast school drop-out.



**Strengthening and qualifying the training system** also through a joint revision of the **accreditation** process and simplification of the management rules.



**Creation of an integrated vocational and technical training system** - favouring the transition from the so-called IeFP to IFTS and ITS and from these to university - which allows young people to continue their education and provides the territory with those technical, scientific and humanistic professional skills which are essential for local recovery and innovation, thus increasing the number of young people holding a vocational qualification or diploma, a tertiary education qualification and a university degree.



**Support to the internationalization processes of the educational pathways** for students who, despite their merits, do not have the necessary financial means.



**Commitment to guarantee university scholarships and adequate services to 100% of those who are entitled to receive them due to their merit and social status** in close collaboration between institutions, universities and institutes of higher education in Arts, Music and Dance.



**Promoting the use of various types of apprenticeship contracts**, as a privileged channel to access the labour market, with special attention to those that allow young people to obtain a qualification, thus qualifying the training component of occupation-oriented apprenticeship.



**Establishment of new synergies between regional programming and interprofessional funds** to strengthen and promote the **training of entrepreneurs, managers, employees and professionals**, supporting at all levels the deployment of processes of innovation, digital transformation, internationalization and sustainable development.



**Strengthening and increasing lifelong learning opportunities** to enable all people to undertake individual pathways to increase their education and skills and enhance their employability throughout their lives.



**Identification of synergies to promote the New Skills Fund** and allow companies to implement specific agreements to adapt their working hours as a function of changes in the organizational and production needs of the companies, based on which part of the working time is used for training courses.

**TD**  
Digital  
Transformation

**Culture, awareness and digital skills:** development of an extraordinary plan aimed at people of all ages to foster full 'digital citizenship', with specific actions to direct the youngest, in particular girls, towards high-quality technical and scientific training, to facilitate their entry into the labour market, improve the skills of those who already have a job and encourage re-employment.

**P**  
Participation

Promote **information and communication** actions to empower the entire regional society with respect to the sustainable goals embedded in the regional planning, directing individual and collective behaviours in a consistent way, raising awareness and shared responsibility among citizens.

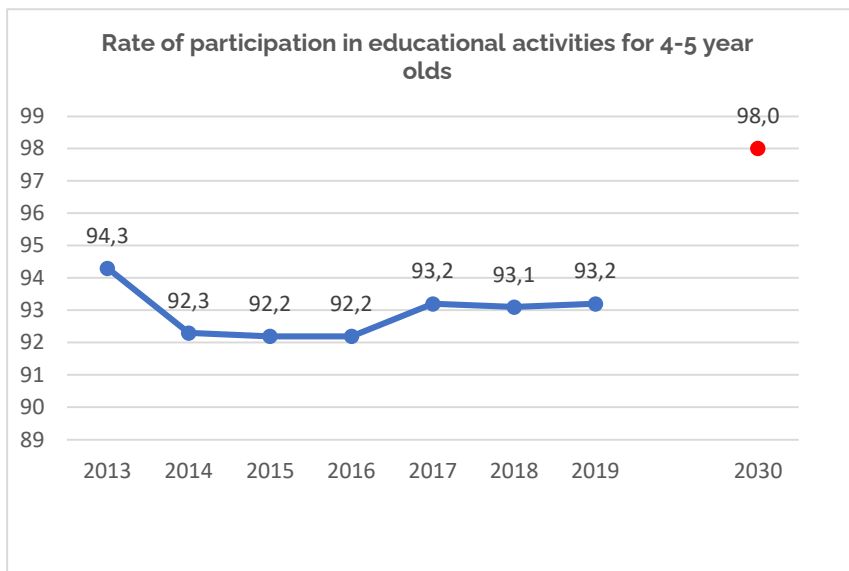
**Main implementation instruments**

LR 26/2001 "Right to study and lifelong learning", LR 12/2003 "Norms for equal opportunities of access to knowledge, for everyone and throughout life, through the strengthening of education and vocational training, also in integration with each other", LR 6/2004 "Reform of the regional and local administrative system. European Union and international relations. Innovation and

simplification. Relations with the university", LR 11/2004 "Regional development of the information society", LR 2/2004 " Law for the Mountains", LR 17/2005 "Rules for the promotion of employment, quality, security and regularity of work", LR 15/2007 "Integrated regional system of interventions and services for the right to university study and higher education", LR 27/2009 "Promotion, organization and development of information and education activities for sustainability", LR 5/2011 "Regional guidelines for education and vocational training", LR 6/2014 "Framework law for equality against gender discrimination", LR 14/2014 "Promotion of investments in Emilia-Romagna", LR 19/2016 "Early childhood education services", POR FSE 2014-2020, Regional Strategic Document for the Joint Programming of European Development Policies -DSR 2021-2027 (DAL 44/2021), Smart Specialization Strategy 2021-2027 of the Emilia-Romagna Region (DAL 45/2021), POR FSE + 2021-2027, PSR 2021-2022, PSN (National Strategic Plan of the CAP) 2023-2027, "Guidelines for planning interventions for the consolidation and qualification of the integrated system of educational services for children aged 0-3 years with progressive orientation towards the creation of an integrated educational system from birth to 6 years. Years 2018-2019-2020" (DGR n. 614/2018 - DAL n. 156/2018), "Three-year programme of training and employment policies". (DGR n. 646/2016 - DAL n.75/2016), "Three-year regional guidelines for the right to study for the academic years 2019/2020, 2020/2021, 2021/2022 pursuant to LR n. 26 of 2001" (DGR n. 752/2019 - DAL 190/2018), " Three-year programming regarding the provision of vocational education and training pathways for the academic years 2019/20 2020/21 e 2021/22" (DGR 2016/2018 - DAL 190/2018), " Three-year regional plan of interventions and services for the right to university study and higher education for the academic years 2019/2020, 2020/2021, 2021/2022 pursuant to LR n. 15 of 2007" (DAL n. 211/2019), "Regional polytechnic network: approval of the general and specific objectives for the three-year period 2019/2021 and of the public evidence procedures for the selection of the training provision for the training year 2019/2020" (DGR n. 911/2019), Three-year plan 2018/2020 for school buildings of the Emilia-Romagna Region as per Regional Council resolution n. 1184/2018 and subsequent amendments and integrations. - Update for the year 2020 (DGR n. 1833/2020) and DGR 348/2021 (including the list of activities that can be funded for the year 2020), Plan for the structural and anti-seismic adaptation of school buildings, pursuant to art.1, paragraph 4 of the Ordinance of the Prime Minister n. 3728/2008 (DGR n.716/2010), "Guiding document for activities of international importance 2021-2025" (DAL n. 40/2021), "ADER - Digital Agenda of Emilia-Romagna 2020-2025: Data Valley as a Common Good" pursuant to art. 6 of Regional Law n. 11 of 2004. (DAL n.38/2021), Regional Plan for Digital Skills "DIGITAL PROFESSIONS" Guidelines 2021-2023 for the digital transformation of the Public Administration (DGR 1965/2020), "Regional Programme of Information and Education for Sustainability - INFEAS 2020/2022 (LR 27/2009)" (DAL n.225/2019), LR 19/2018 "Promotion of health, personal and community wellbeing and primary prevention", "Regional standing working group for health education and prevention in the educational and training system" as per Regional Law 5 December 2018, n. 19 (DGR n.1099/2021), Programme 1 "Schools that promote health" as part of the National Prevention Plan (PNP) 2020-2025.

## REGIONAL TARGETS

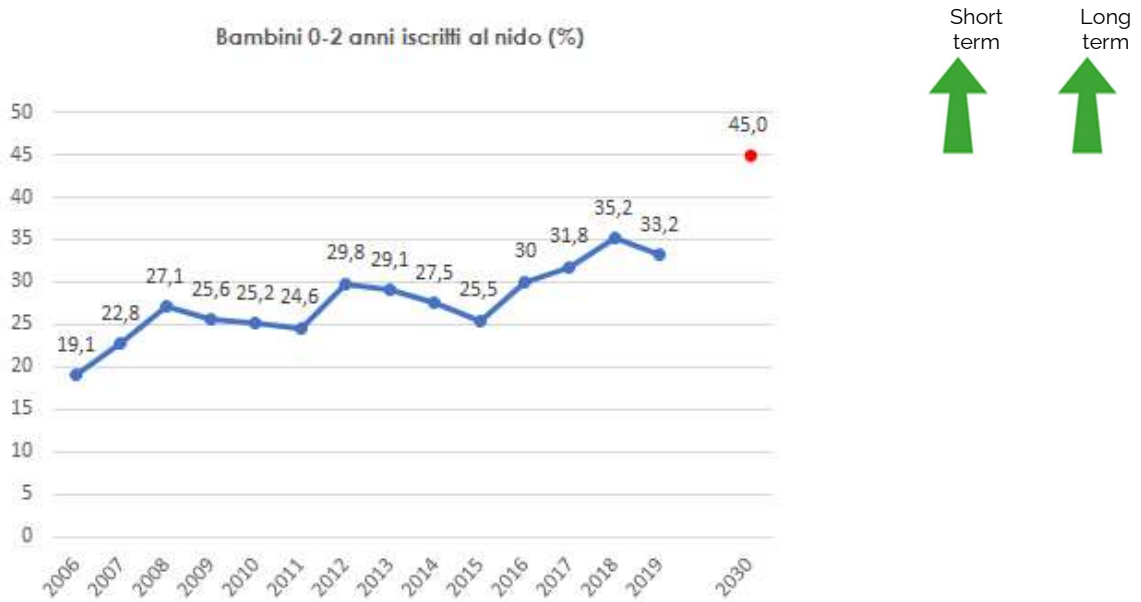
- **ACHIEVING 98% PARTICIPATION RATE IN THE EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF GIRLS AND BOYS FROM THE AGE OF 4 UP TO COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE**



Short term      Long term

The quantitative target (equal to **98%** of children aged 4 years and up to the age of entry into compulsory education enrolled in pre-school or in the first year of primary school) has been identified by the **European Education Area**. The indicator shows a deterioration from 2013 to 2019 with a reduction in 1.1 percentage points in 2019 compared to 2013.

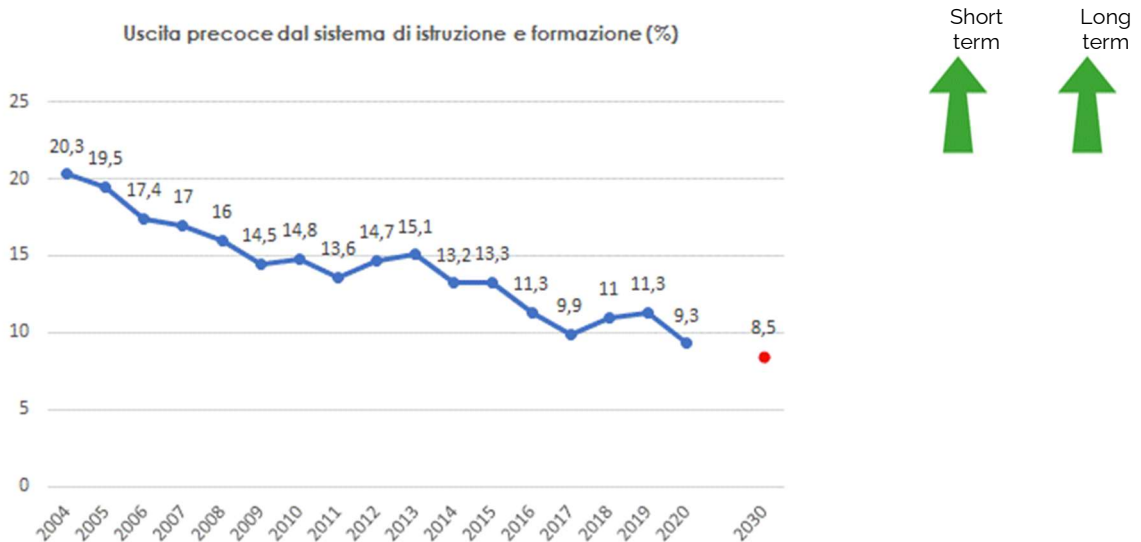
- **REACHING 45% OF GIRLS AND BOYS (0-2 YEARS) ATTENDING INFANT-TODDLER CENTRES**



Source: data processed on the basis of ISTAT-BES data

At regional level, the indicator shows an improving trend in the medium-long term. A peak was detected in the region in **2018**, when the share of **0-2 year old children enrolled in infant-toddler centres** reached **35.2%**. In the most recent available year (2019), this percentage was slightly reduced (**33.2%**). In order to reach the 2030 target of 45.0% of 0-2 year olds enrolled in infant-toddler centres, the indicator will have to show a steady positive increase over the next decade. Taking into consideration the trend observed in the region both in the short term (most recent five years) and in the long term (most recent decade) the region should be in a position to reach the **45%** target.

- **BRINGING THE SHARE OF EARLY SCHOOL LEAVERS BELOW 8,5**

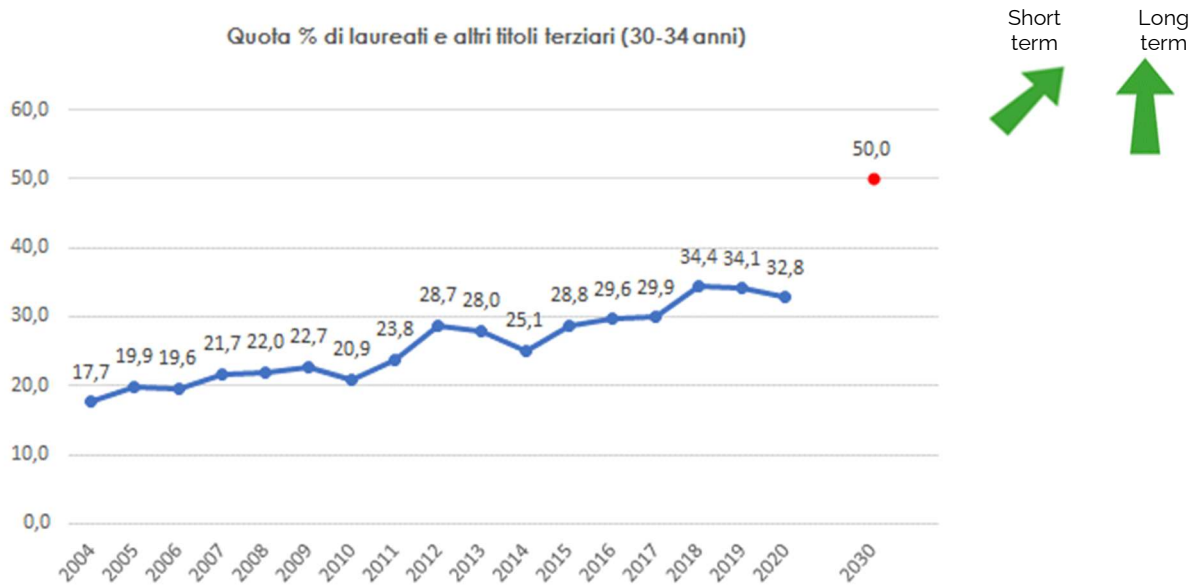


Source: data processed on the basis of ISTAT-BES data

The **Europe 2020 Strategy** set the target of reducing to **10%** -out of the total of 18-24 year olds- the share of people with at most a lower secondary school diploma (*licenza media*), who do not hold regional vocational qualifications obtained in courses lasting at least 2 years and who are not in education or training. **Emilia-Romagna has set the objective of increasing this figure to 8.5% by 2030**. The long-term

analysis shows a reduction in drop-out rates by 11 percentage points from 2004 to 2020. In the most recent available five years, between 2015 and 2020, the indicator decreased by 4 percentage points, so that both short and long term trends, if confirmed in the coming years, would guarantee the achievement of the quantitative target. In 2020, despite the pandemic, the figure on early school leaving at the regional level further decreased (from 11.3% in 2019 to **9.3% in 2020**), particularly among boys. This trend has led to a significant reduction in gender gaps. Dropouts are in fact structurally higher among boys than among girls: in 2020, the dropout rate was 10.1% among boys (it was 13.9% in 2019) and 8.4% among girls (it was 8.5% in 2019).

- **REACHING 50% OF GRADUATES**



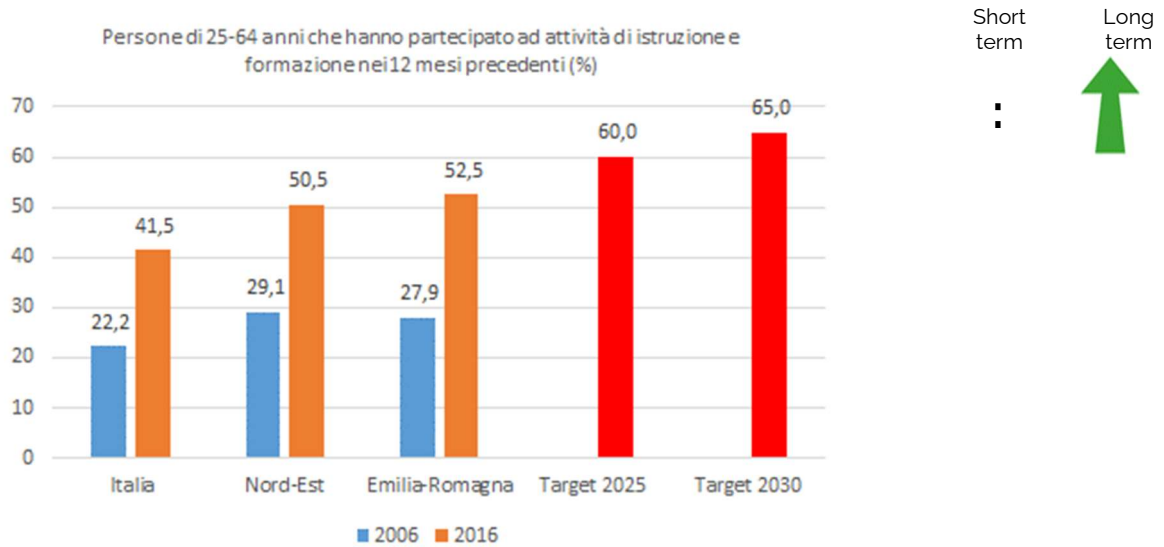
Source: data processed on the basis of ISTAT-BES data

The **European Education Area** has among its targets that of increasing to **50%** the proportion of people aged 30-34 with a university degree or other tertiary qualification by 2030. This indicator shows a 15.1 percentage point improvement in the long term (2004-2020), and an average annual variation rate that, despite slight deterioration in 2020 (from 34.1% in 2019 to 32.8% in 2020), should allow the 2030 target to be reached.

A positive trend can also be observed in the short term (**+4.0 percentage points compared to 2015**). In spite of the drop in the indicator observed in 2020, Emilia-Romagna retains its position among the Italian regions at the top of the rank for their rate of young graduates. The reduction observed during the latest available year is almost entirely determined by the male component, whose proportion fell from 28.0% in 2019 to 25.5% in 2020, while it remained substantially stable among women (40.0%)

- **REACHING 60% OF 25-64 YEAR OLDS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS**





Source: data processed on the basis of ISTAT data

The target, defined by the Action Plan of the **European Pillar of Social Rights** envisages reaching -by 2030- a **60%** proportion of people aged 25-64 who have participated in training and education activities in the previous year. The indicator showed a positive trend from 2006 to 2016, with a gain of about 24.6 percentage points. Emilia-Romagna - which in 2016 had already reached the 50% target set by the European Education Area by 2025 - **aims to reach the European target of 60% by 2025 and 65% by 2030**. The analysis shows that if the region maintains the increase observed from 2006 to 2016 it will be able to reach the target.

### Targets at a glance - GOAL 4

indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019		Emilia-Romagna	
		Emilia-Romagna	indicator		Description of the indicator
Elementary, included in the composite	Participation rate in the educational activities of girls and boys from the age of 4 up to compulsory school age	93.2%	94.8%	95.1%	<b>98% EU 2030</b>
ER	Children (0-2 years) who used infant-toddler centres	33.2%	28.0%		<b>45% ER 2030</b>
Elementary, included in the composite	Early drop-out from education and training (18-24 years)	9.3% (2020) U. 10.1% - D. 8.4%	13.1% (2020) U. 15.6% - D. 11.4%	9.9% (2020) U. 11.8% - D. 8.0%	<b>8.5% ER 2030</b>
Elementary, included in the composite	Population aged 30-34 with tertiary education	32.8% (2020) U. 25.5% - D. 40.0%	27.8% (2020) U. 21.4% - D. 34.3%	41.0% (2020) U. 36.0% - D. 46.1%	<b>50% EU 2030</b>
Elementary, included in the composite	25-64 year olds who participated in training and education activities in the previous 12 months	52.5 (2016) U. 44.0% - D. 39.1%	41.5 (2016) U. 43.6% - D. 43.8%	43.7% (2016) U. 44.0% - D. 39.1%	<b>&gt;65% ER 2030 = 60% ER 2025</b>

ER	Availability of university scholarships and adequate services to those who are entitled to receive them	100%			maintain 100% ER- 2030
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(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

**MAIN RELATED GOALS**





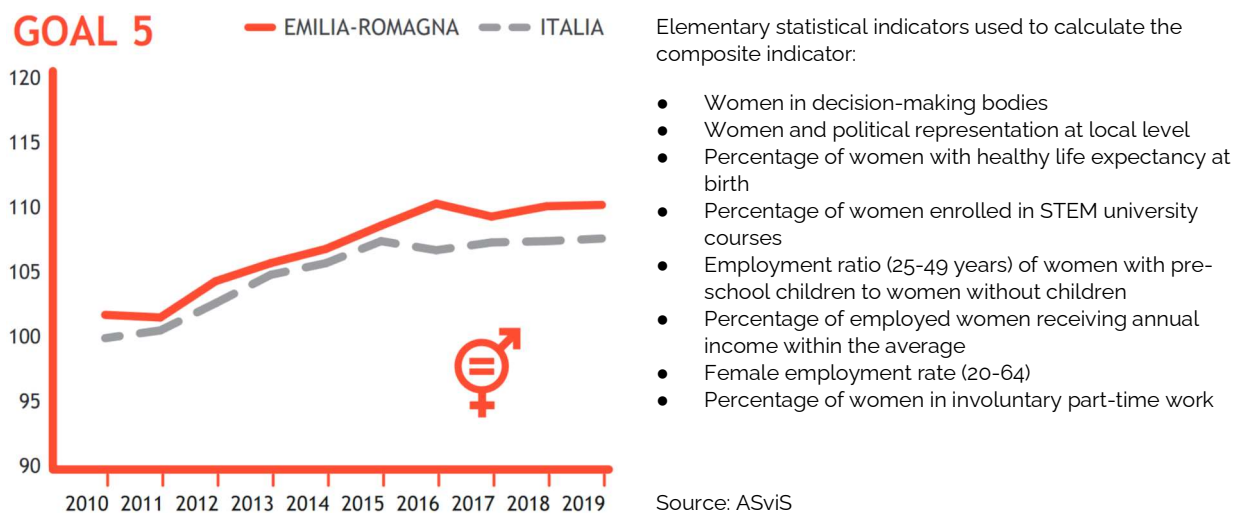
## GENDER EQUALITY

In Emilia-Romagna, we want to achieve gender equality for all women and girls

### INTRODUCTION

First of all, we have decided to interpret all the goals of the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" from a **gender** perspective. In cooperation with the **Regional Standing Working Party for Gender Policies** and the many territorial associations supporting civil, social and gender rights, we are planning innovative policies, which promote the **quality and security of women's employment**, the **elimination of gender pay gaps**, the **overcoming of stereotypes, which influence training and professional choices, career paths and female entrepreneurship**. We are working on **work-life balance**: by strengthening the **network of services**, we would like to improve the distribution of the burden of care and act on the schedules and times that are typical of life in the cities. We are working to overcome the **greater fragility of women's employment conditions**, which the Covid-19 emergency has highlighted as a very serious element, by investing in the growth and qualification of women's work in order to see more women in decision-making positions, to have more and larger women-owned businesses in sectors still dominated by men. We have intensified the **fight against gender-based violence**, ensuring adequate paths for the **social and work reintegration** and **autonomy** of women who are victims of it and supporting and promoting prevention activities, actions and projects throughout the region.

### POSITIONING



In the period from 2010 to 2019, **female employment rate** in Emilia-Romagna grew by 4.1%, **the percentage of women in involuntary part-time work** improved by 38%, and the percentage of **women in the regional council** increased (36% in 2019). The composite indicator that measures gender equality in a certain area on account of a number of factors has shown a marked upward trend in our region, with the exception of a slight decline in 2017. In comparison with the rest of the country, if in the first five-year period the trend appears to be almost similar to the national one, from **2015** onwards the region stood at

a **better level**, mainly thanks to the percentage of women in the regional council (36% in 2019 compared to 21.1% in Italy) -where Emilia-Romagna has the second largest number of all Italian regions (surpassed only by Umbria)-, and to the female employment rate which was 0.83 in Emilia-Romagna against a national average of 0.73 in 2019. The only indicator that is worse in Emilia-Romagna than in the rest of Italy is the gender gap in involuntary part-time work, which turns out to be 9.7% wider in Emilia-Romagna than the Italian average. Against the common trend are the percentage of women enrolled in scientific and technical university courses (-5.8% from 2010 to 2017) and the employment ratio (25-49 years) of women with pre-school children and women without children, which worsened by 1.5% between 2010 and 2019.

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention



New resources and new strategies for women's participation; promoting a real **women's new deal**, i.e. a plan of cultural, economic and social actions for the promotion of women's leadership in all sectors as a factor for the modernization of society.



Closer monitoring of the ways out of violence in the post-COVID era and adoption of the new **Regional Plan against gender-based violence**: the Plan is the instrument that defines the primary, secondary and tertiary prevention actions to combat gender-based violence, identifying the targets, the actions, the stakeholders' network and the instruments.



Updating operational tools to make the regional action on equal opportunities and the fight against gender-based violence synergistic, shared and coordinated, through the tools provided by the regional framework law (Observatory on gender-based violence, gender budgeting, standing regional working party for gender policies, Integration Area).



**Strengthening the network of guidance services and combating gender stereotypes in training and professional choices**, promoting all **professional** and **technical** training paths, also through the implementation of structural and permanent actions in schools to bring girls and boys closer to technical-scientific subjects.



**Strengthening the Regional Employment Agency and the integrated public-private system** to qualify the services and active policies for young people, women, and those who have lost or are at risk of losing their jobs.



**Promotion of flexibility and reconciliation tools** - such as parental leave - **in the context of collective bargaining** so as to meet the needs of both companies and workers.



In cooperation with the **Regional Standing Working Party for Gender Policies** and the many territorial associations supporting civil, social and gender rights, **planning innovative policies** which promote the quality and security of women's employment, the elimination of gender pay gaps; career paths; training in all disciplines; women's entrepreneurship; work life balance also by strengthening the network of services; better distribution of the burden of care; actions on the schedules and times that are typical of life in the cities; the fight against all discrimination, gender-based and homo/bi/transphobic violence.



**Setting up and further strengthening new businesses and new professional activities**, in particular among young people and women, with special focus on innovative start-ups, defining a regional hub with the role of research, support and implementation of innovative entrepreneurship projects, also making use of the regional observatory.

**TD Digital Transformation** **Culture, awareness and digital skills:** development of an extraordinary plan aimed at people of all ages to foster full 'digital citizenship', with specific actions to direct the youngest, in particular girls, towards quality technical and scientific training, to facilitate their entry into the labour market, improve the skills of those who already have a job and encourage re-employment.

**Main implementation instruments**

LR 7/2002 "Promotion of the regional system of industrial research, innovation and technology transfer activities", LR 12/2003 "Norms for equal opportunities of access to knowledge, for everyone and throughout life, through the strengthening of education and vocational training, also in integration with each other", LR 11/2004 "Regional development of the information society", LR 17/2005 "Norms for the promotion of employment, quality, safety and regularity of work", LR 14/2008 "Standards on policies for the younger generations ", LR 6/2014 "Framework law for equality and combating gender discrimination", LR 14/2014 "Promotion of investments in Emilia-Romagna", LR 15/2019 "Regional law against discrimination and violence determined by sexual orientation or gender identity", POR FSE 2014-2020, "Regional Strategic Document for the Joint Programming of European Development Policies -DSR 2021-2027" (DAL 44/2021), "Smart Specialization Strategy 2021-2027 of the Emilia-Romagna Region" (DAL 45/2021), POR FESR 2021-2027, POR FSE + 2021-2027, "Regional Plan against gender-based violence" (DAL no. 54/2021), Regional Fund for Women Entrepreneurship and Women's New Deal (art. 31 LR 6/2014, as amended by LR 11/2020), Integrated Regional Transport Plan (PRIT) in force and about to be adopted (2025) (provides for actions against gender violence and for equal opportunities), "ADER - Digital Agenda of Emilia-Romagna 2020-2025: Data Valley as a Common Good" pursuant to art. 6 of Regional Law no. 11 of 2004. (DGR n. 1963/2020 - DAL n. 38/2021), Approval of the Regional Plan of Digital Competencies "DIGITAL PROFESSIONS" Guidelines 2021-2023 for the digital transformation of the Public Administration (DGR 1965/2020).

**REGIONAL TARGETS**

- **REDUCING GENDER GAP IN EMPLOYMENT RATE (20-64 AGE GROUP) BY INCREASING WOMEN'S SHARE OF THE EMPLOYMENT RATE TO 0.91**

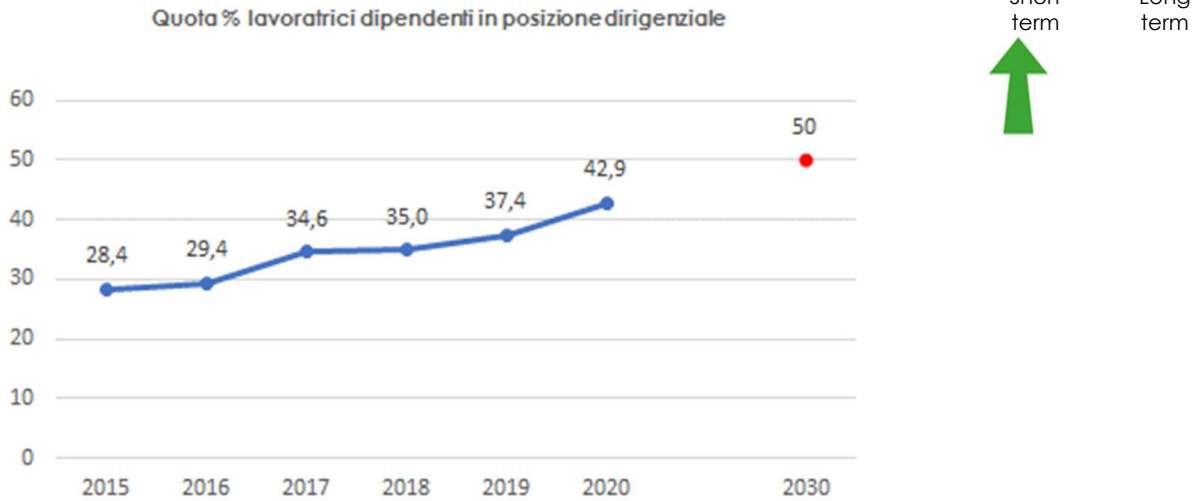


Source: data processed on the basis of ISTAT-BES data

Among the 2030 targets contained in the Action Plan of the **European Pillar of Social Rights** is a reduction in the gender gap in employment levels. In Emilia-Romagna, the trend of the **employment rate in the 20-64 age group is positive both in the long and in the short term, for both genders**. For both parameters, **2020** showed a decrease in the average rate and caused a halt in the approximation of the two rates, which is still wide (14.8 percentage points). Women's share of the employment rate (20-64 age group), calculated as the **ratio of female to male rates**, is currently **0.82**. If, **in 2019, the trend pointed to good possibilities of approaching the target** (corresponding to a women's share of **0.91**), the effects of the pandemic on the labour market, which particularly affected female workers, moved the region away from

the target, for which a strong commitment on the part of the entire regional system has now become essential.

• **ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY IN MANAGEMENT POSITIONS**

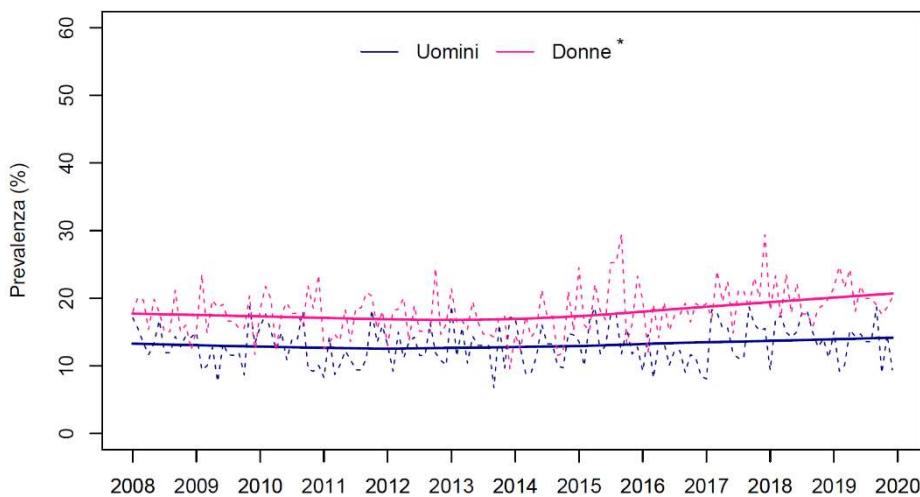


Source: data processed on the basis of ISTAT data, microdata from the labour force survey

In the most recent five years, the share of female employees in managerial positions in Emilia-Romagna has grown by more than 14 percentage points, increasing from 28.4% in 2015 to 42.9% in 2020, outperforming the national figures in all the years considered. Taking into account the average annual rate observed in the region in the short term, the 2030 target of achieving gender parity should be reached.

• **REDUCING THE PERCENTAGE OF SEDENTARY WOMEN TO 17.5%.**

Sedentary lifestyle by gender (%). Emilia-Romagna, PASSI surveillance 2008-2019



\*p-value<0.05

In Emilia-Romagna there was an increasing trend in the number of sedentary women in the period 2008-2019. The prevalence of sedentary women in the five-year period 2008-2012 was about 18%, which

increased progressively to **20%** in **2019**, as against 13% in men. Emilia-Romagna **intends** to bring the percentage of sedentary women back to **18%** by **2025**, a value comparable to pre-2013 levels.

**Targets at a glance - GOAL 5**

indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
Elementary, included in the composite	Ratio of female/male employment rates	0.82% (2020)	0.73% (2020)	0.86% (2020)	<b>0.91% EU 2030</b>
ER	Female employees in a managerial position (15 years and over)*.	42.9% (2020)	32.9% (2020)		<b>50% ER 2030</b>
ER	Reducing the percentage of sedentary women	20%	nd	nd	<b>17.5% ER 2025</b>
ER	Number of women-owned enterprises	84.287 (2020)			<b>+10% ER 2030 + 5% ER 2025</b>

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

**MAIN RELATED GOALS**





## CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

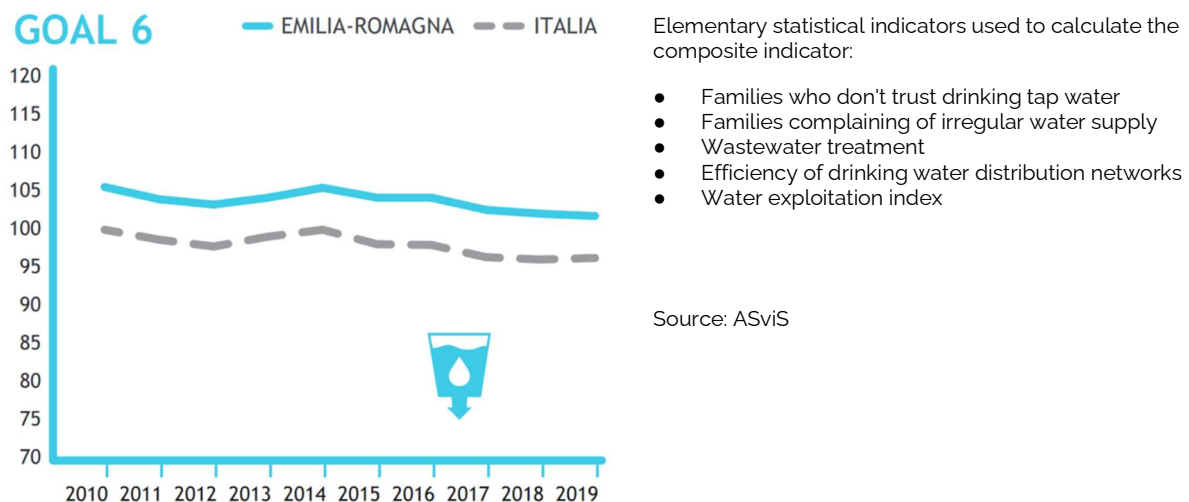
In Emilia-Romagna, we improve the quality and availability of water so that it is safe, affordable to all and not wasted.

### INTRODUCTION

In order to protect and make the best use of the water resources, we are improving the state of ecosystems, also by **reducing consumption and waste** in the residential, industrial and agricultural sectors (Water Footprint).

We are increasing the quality and availability of the water system, with a view to decreasing **network losses** by half, innovating and improving **storage capacity**, reusing wastewater and rainwater, through an **integrated win-win approach**, capable of ensuring water quality and water system safety. The involvement of publicly owned and controlled companies, starting with the multi-utilities of local authorities, is fundamental for the achievement of the objectives, in order to manage the water resources in such a way as to **ensure services of universal value**, through consistent **investments in networks and plants**.

### POSITIONING



The region's composite indicator is in line with the national one. Its positioning is **better throughout the analyzed historical time series**. The regional advantage compared to the rest of Italy is due to the better level of all indicators considered, including the **efficiency of the water system**, equalling 68.8% in Emilia-Romagna in 2018 compared to 58% in Italy, and the proportion of households complaining of irregular water supply (3.3% in 2019 against a national average of 8.6%). Between 2010 and 2014 the composite indicator showed a swinging trend, followed by a worsening between 2014 and 2019 mainly due to the decrease in the efficiency of the water system that from 2012 to 2018 decreased by 5.6 percentage points from 74.4% in 2012 to 68.8% in 2018. On the contrary, both indicators related to the **use of drinking water for civil purposes** improved, with a decrease in both the percentage of people who do not trust drinking tap water (-4.5% from 2010 to 2019) and the percentage of households complaining of irregular water



supply (-2.2% from 2010 to 2019). One should keep in mind that -due to lack of comparable data- it was not possible to include the environmental dimension of Goal 6 (quality of the ecological status of regional water bodies) in the analysis of the composite indicator. The **Emilia-Romagna Region is one of the few Regions that are not subject to EU infringement** as per Directive 91/271/EEC on urban wastewater: in fact, the sewerage and water treatment plants serving agglomerations with more than 2,000 population equivalents have long been in compliance with the provisions of the Directive.

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention



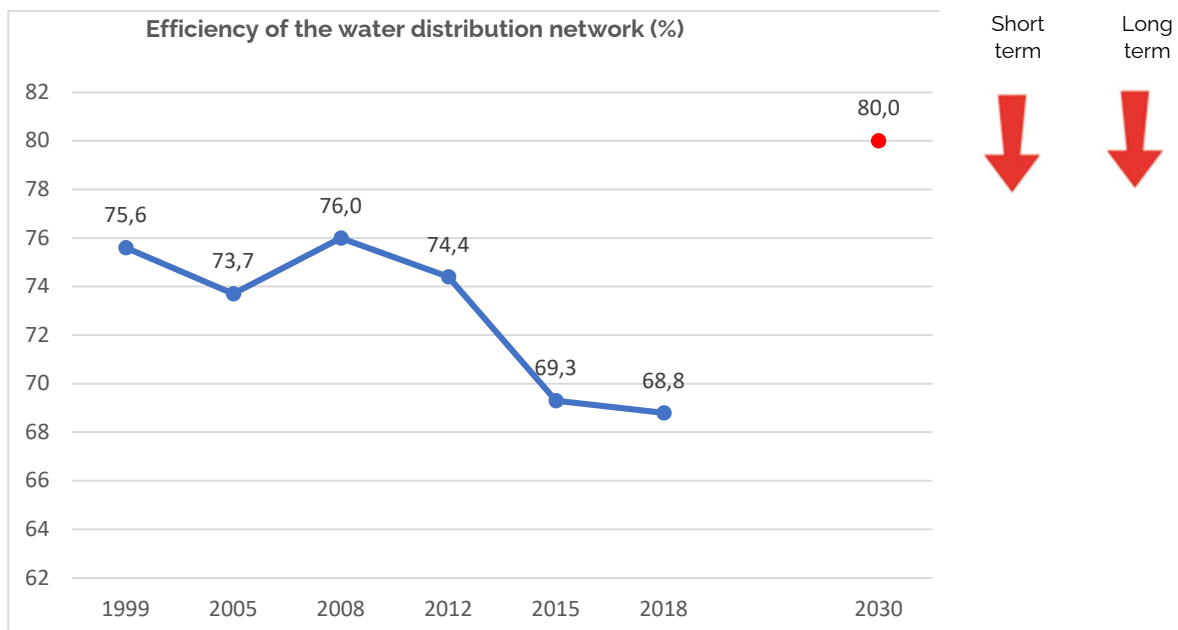
**Protection and enhancement of water resources and ecosystems**, encouraging sustainable use by reducing consumption and waste both in the residential sector and in the industrial and agricultural sectors (Water Footprint), improving quality and availability, with a view of decreasing network losses by half, increasing, innovating and improving storage capacity, reusing waste water and rainwater, exploiting the opportunity to submit projects for funding within the NRRP.

### Main implementation instruments

Water Protection Plan (PTA) in force and about to be adopted (PTA 2022-2027), Management system of the publicly owned water resources and relevant register DGR n. 1540/2017 "Guidelines for activities related to the management publicly-owned water resources pursuant to art. 16 of LR n. 13/2015, LR 9/2020 "Rules for the assignment of concessions to divert water for hydroelectric plants with nominal power above 3000 kw and determination of fees ", Management Plan the River Basin District 2015-2021 and third cycle 2021-2027, approved by the Basin District Authority with the collaboration of the Region, Extraordinary Plan Multi-purpose reservoirs and water saving in agricultural and civil applications (art. 1 c. 523 LS 2018), National Plan of interventions in the water sector (reservoirs and aqueducts) (art. 1 c 516 - 525 LS 2018), PSR 2021-2022, PSN (National Strategic Plan of the CAP) 2023-2027, Regional Prevention Plan, DGR 1855/2020 implementing the State-Regions agreement concerning the "National Prevention Plan (PNP) 2020-2025.

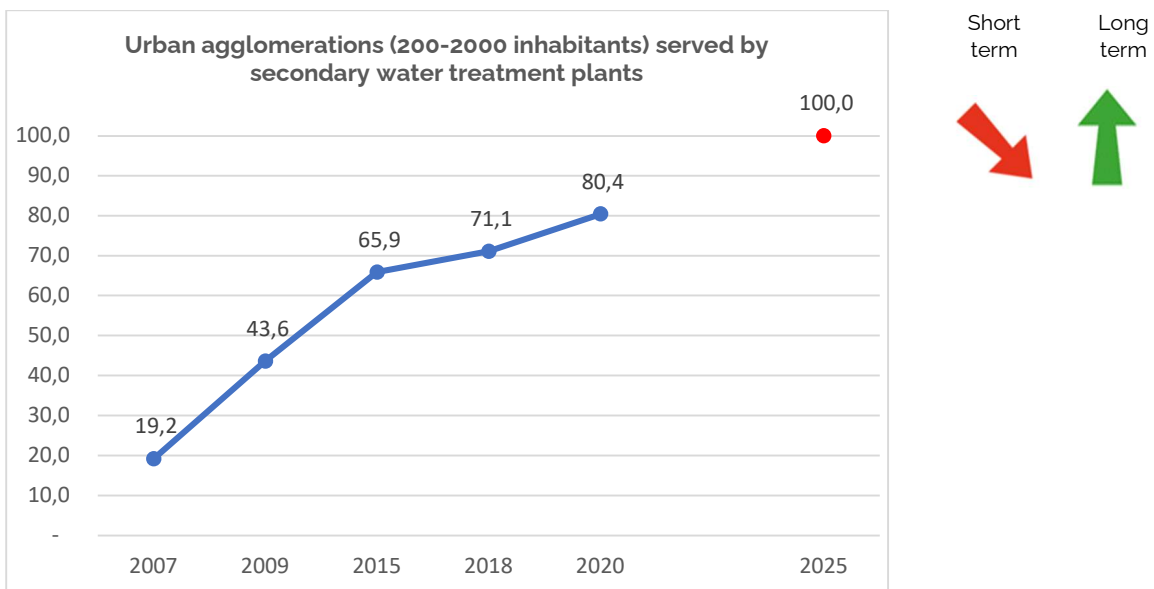
## REGIONAL TARGETS

### • ACHIEVING 80% EFFICIENCY OF WATER SUPPLY NETWORKS



The indicator used here is the difference between water input and water output on the total water supplied to the municipal distribution network. As shown in the graph, the water dispersion in the Emilia-Romagna distribution network has steadily increased, causing a reduction in water efficiency: in the most recent available year (2018), there was a 4.9 percentage point increase in water dispersion compared to 2005. This trend, also confirmed in the short term, runs counter to the target of achieving 80% efficiency of water supply networks by 2030. **The data is affected by two factors that interfere with the representation of the information: the improvement in the billing system to the users and the interventions to extend the distribution network.** The first factor strongly affects the representativeness of the overall data on losses because it detects only the difference between the volume of water fed into the network and the invoiced water; it follows that the improved measurement at the users' premises implies, for the same volume of water introduced in the network, a worsening of the data. The second factor, on the other hand, affects the data on losses since it relates to the actual network losses. The need to implement extended regional systems of water distribution, in order to reach even the most peripheral users, implies a considerable increase in the number of connections. This is the most frequent cause of network losses, above all in some provinces of the region. It is for this reason that, in addition to the efficiency of the drinking water distribution networks, **the Region also analyses the data on linear losses and actual physical losses**, which are two useful indicators to evaluate where to intervene to reverse the trend. On the basis of these two indicators, the Emilia-Romagna Region has set itself the following objectives for 2030, as far as the drinking water distribution system is concerned: 20% reduction of actual losses at regional level and reduction of linear losses in the distribution system (critical value 3.5 <sup>3</sup>m /m/year; reference value 2.0 <sup>3</sup>m /m/year).

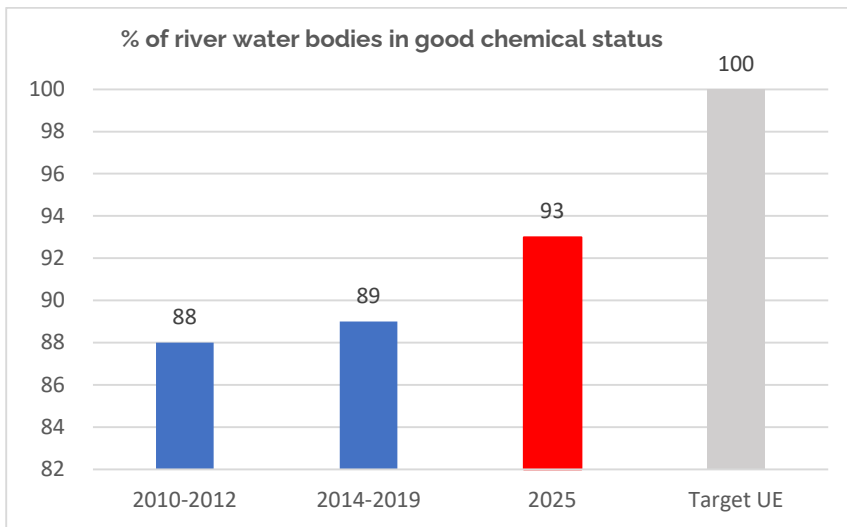
- **REACHING 100% OF THE AGGLOMERATIONS (200-2000 INHABITANTS) SERVED BY SECONDARY WATER TREATMENT PLANTS.**



The target was defined by the European directive (Directive 91/271/EEC) and provides that by 2020 the connection to secondary treatment plants must be guaranteed for all urban agglomerations with a population of 200-2000. The analysis shows that the share of served agglomerations increased by 61.2 percentage points from 2007 to 2020 and by 9.4 percentage points in the most recent 5 years. If this trend continues, it will be sufficient to achieve the European target by 2025.

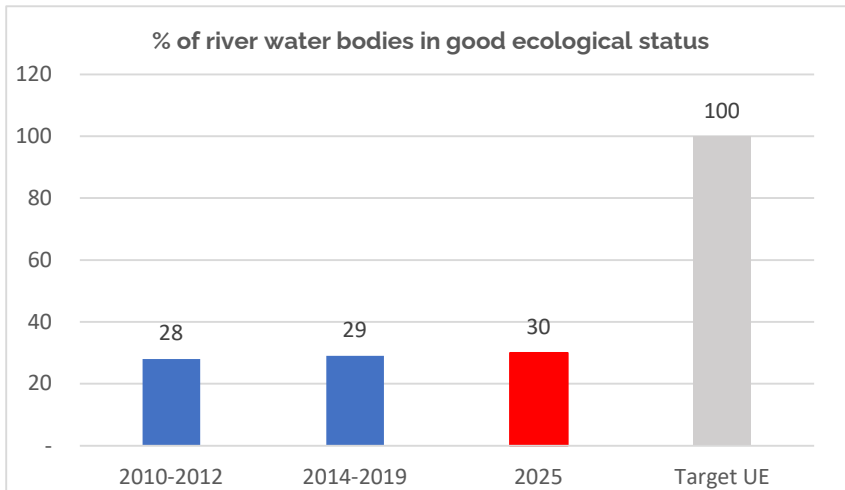
The **Emilia-Romagna Region is one of the few Regions not subject to EU infringement for compliance with Directive 91/271/EEC on urban waste water**: in fact, the sewerage and water treatment plants serving agglomerations with more than 2,000 p.e. have long (since 2012) achieved compliance with the provisions of the Directive, which stipulated that by 2005 all discharges of urban waste water from agglomerations with more than or equal to 2,000 p.e. must be equipped with treatment systems of at least level 2. In view of the objective achieved, the Emilia-Romagna Region, in order to continue the reclamation of the inland freshwaters and marine-coastal waters of its territory, is now pursuing **the objective of bringing all discharges from agglomerations with between 200 and 2,000 p.e. up to at least 2nd level treatment**.

- **MAINTAINING THE PERCENTAGE OF RIVER WATER BODIES IN GOOD CHEMICAL STATUS AT 93%.**



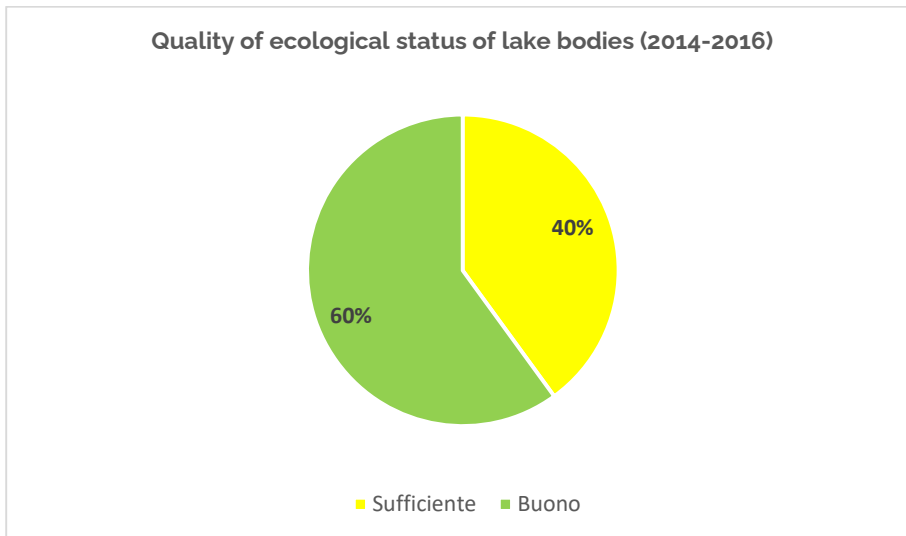
According to ARPAE analyses, river water bodies in good chemical status increased by 1 percentage point from 2010-2012 to 2014-2019. The 2025 target aims to maintain the 93% share. **The actual achievement of the target will be assessed through ARPAE 2023-2025 monitoring data.** The European Biodiversity Strategy target of good chemical status for all water bodies by 2027 was also introduced in the analysis.

- **REACHING 30% OF RIVER BODIES IN GOOD OR HIGH ECOLOGICAL STATUS**



The region shows an **improvement in the quality of the ecological status of the rivers** with a quality increase by 1 percentage point compared to the first three years (2010-2012). If the observed trend were to be confirmed, the region would be in a position to meet the 2025 target. However, it is important to remember that **only 1% of the region's rivers had a high ecological status in the latest available six years**. The European target to achieve good ecological status for all water bodies by 2027, set forth in the European Biodiversity Strategy, was also introduced in the analysis.

- **MAINTAINING THE PERCENTAGE OF LAKE WATER BODIES IN GOOD ECOLOGICAL STATUS AT 60%.**



In the 6 years between 2014 and 2019, the region had quite a large proportion of its lakes in good ecological status. In those 6 years, none of the lakes in the region had a high ecological status. The target is **maintaining 60% of lake water bodies in good chemical status by 2025**. The **actual achievement of the target will be assessed through ARPAE 2023-2025 monitoring data**. In addition, it is important to remember that the European Biodiversity Strategy sets the target of achieving good ecological status for all water bodies by 2027.

**Targets at a glance - GOAL 6**

indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
Elementary, included in the composite	Efficiency of drinking water distribution networks	68.8% (2018)	58.0% (2018)	nd	80% - ER 2030
Elementary, included in the composite	Waste water treatment	67.7% (2015)	59.6% (2015)	nd	100% - EU 2030
Elementary, included in the composite	% of river water bodies in good chemical status	89% (2014-2019)	nd	nd	100% - EU 2027** 93% ER 2025
Elementary, included in the composite	% of river water bodies in good ecological status	29% (2014-2019)	nd	nd	100% - EU 2027** 30% ER 2025
Elementary, included in the composite	Quality of ecological status of lake bodies	60% (2014-2019)	nd	nd	100% - EU 2027** Maintenance 60% ER 2025
ER	Implementation of urban wastewater treatment systems in order to reuse at least 100 million m <sup>3</sup> water/year	15 million m <sup>3</sup> /year (2020)	nd	nd	100 million m <sup>3</sup> /year ER 2030 50 million m <sup>3</sup> /year ER 2025
ER	Reduction of actual losses at regional level to 20%;	26.4% (2019)	nd	nd	20% ER 2030
ER	Increase in water available for irrigation also through the optimization of transport and distribution systems (m <sup>3</sup> /year)	5 million m <sup>3</sup> /year	nd	nd	46 million ER 2030 20 million m <sup>3</sup> /year ER 2025
ER	Average per capita net water supply for drinking water use (excluding losses)	197 l/day	nd	nd	150 l/day ER 2030
ER	Availability of water for irrigation purposes, regional area average	4000 m <sup>3</sup> /ha/year	nd	nd	3000 m <sup>3</sup> /ha/year ER 2030

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

(\*\*) the quantitative objectives are being redefined through the 2022-2027 Water Protection Plan, which will be drawn up in accordance with the guidelines of the Po River Basin Management Plan (to be approved in December 2021). The qualitative status of part of the river and lake water bodies is affected by pressures from outside the regional territory, with problems common to the entire catchment area of the Po Valley. The possibility of designating some of the water bodies as "heavily

modified" (EU Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC) is being assessed at the Po Valley basin level in order to identify the most suitable status definition methods and environmental objectives for these bodies.

## MAIN RELATED GOALS



## AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

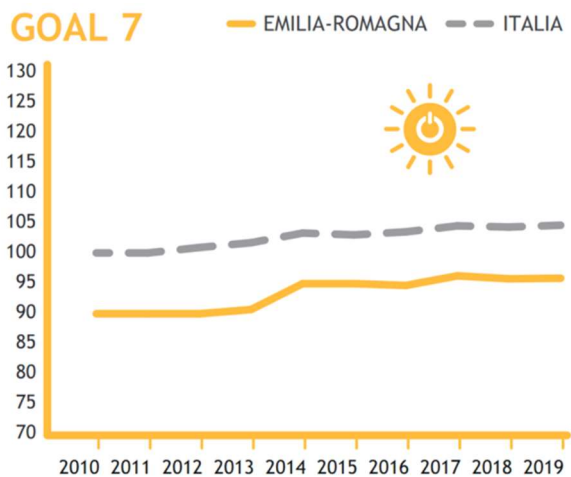
**In Emilia-Romagna, we encourage choices and behaviours aimed at energy saving towards the goal of 100% renewable energy by 2035.**

## INTRODUCTION

We are convinced that Emilia-Romagna must emerge from the crisis due to the pandemic with a new development project, based on respect for the planet and the preservation of natural resources. This requires that our region takes the lead in the transition, adopting an approach that does not jeopardize the productive and natural capital, the employment of people and the welfare of society, but is instead an **engine of new and different eco-sustainable development**.

In the Pact for Work and Climate, we shared a challenging goal: the transition to **100% renewable energy** by **2035**. To achieve this goal, we will invest in the **skills of** people, young people and workers; we will encourage **businesses**, including **agricultural holdings**, to invest in renewable energies, to develop new **green supply chains** and to strengthen **research and innovation** in sectors with high strategic potential such as hydrogen, electricity and green chemistry. To increase the production, use and widespread accumulation of renewable energies, we will pass a **Regional Law on Energy Communities**. In order to accelerate the energy transition in the public sector, we intend to support the development of Municipal Energy-Climate Plans and the development of carbon-neutral paths at the territorial level, giving new impetus to the adaptation and energy efficiency of the entire public sector, starting with schools in order to create new zero-emission buildings. We intend to exploit the potential of the **110% Ecobonus** (renovation bonus) for energy efficiency, supporting **sustainable building** solutions to accompany on-going processes and investments in urban regeneration and redevelopment of existing buildings, as well as innovative investments in new-generation construction. To accelerate the energy transition we will develop **sustainable finance** and social impact projects.

## POSITIONING



Elementary statistical indicators used to calculate the composite indicator:

- Share of energy from renewable sources in gross final energy consumption
- Gross final energy consumption as a percentage of value added

Source: ASviS

The Emilia-Romagna trend is in line with what has been observed at national level, but at lower levels throughout the analyzed historical time series. This difference is due to the lower proportion of renewable energy produced in the region, i.e. 6 percentage points less in Emilia-Romagna than the 2018 national average (11.8% in the region against 17.8% in Italy). Moreover, also the energy intensity<sup>19</sup> in our region is also not at the same level observed for the national average (101.8 TOE per million Euro in 2018 vs. 94.4 in Italy). One should keep in mind that Goal 7 includes 3 main dimensions. The first one is **universal access to energy services**, a target that is declared as already reached at the national level. The second dimension is the **increase in renewable energies** in line with the EU objectives. The third dimension is a **two-fold increase in the overall rate of energy efficiency improvement** in line with the European objectives.

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention



**Guaranteeing safer, more sustainable and modern school buildings** through a ten-year regional plan relying mainly on the new European resources related to the Renovation Wave initiative in order to give priority to energy-efficient solutions for new zero emission buildings.



Launching of the **regional pathway to carbon neutrality before 2050**, which will include integrated action strategies in different areas aimed at absorbing and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the definition of intermediate targets and tools to collect standardized data and monitor the achievement of objectives<sup>20</sup>.

Definition and approval of the new **regional law to combating, containing and managing climate change**.



**Accompanying the ecological transition of companies** of all sizes by guiding and encouraging their investments towards renewable energy and towards processes and products with a lower environmental impact, putting them in a position to seize the opportunities of the green transition through targeted aid, regulatory simplifications and measures that support the change towards sustainable production and consumption models.

<sup>19</sup> The energy consumption of a country or geographical area is closely linked to its level of economic activity. The ratio between the two parameters - Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross Inland Energy Consumption (GIEC) - is defined as **energy intensity** and is an indicator, albeit crude and aggregate, of the **energy efficiency** of an economy. Since it is a ratio, the lower the value of energy intensity, the greater the energy efficiency of the relevant economy. Read more: <https://www.enea.it/it/sequici/le-parole-dellenergia/fonti-rinnovabili-scenari-e-politiche/intensita-energetica>

<sup>20</sup> This activity is not included in the Pact as a Line of Intervention but as a cross-sectoral functional activity to attain the carbon neutrality objective.



**Increasing the production, use and storage of renewable energy**, also in a diffuse form, through a regional Law on energy communities.



**Acceleration of the energy transition in the public sector**, supporting the development of Municipal Energy-Climate Plans and carbon neutrality paths at the territorial level, giving new impetus to the upgrading and energy efficiency of the entire public sector.



**Facilitation of synergies and coordination** of the regional system to better exploit the potential of the 110% Ecobonus (renovation bonus) for energy efficiency, also through the promotion and implementation of the Regional Register of Thermal Installations.



**Leveraging on the contribution** that agricultural holdings and processing companies can make to the objectives of renewable energy production, also with a view to achieving energy self-sufficiency, and to the replacement of petroleum chemical products with biodegradable materials in the context of the bio-economy and circular economy.



**Establishment of a joint system** including the Region and its Municipalities for evaluating the effectiveness of climate change mitigation and adaptation actions.



**Support for a sustainable building and construction sector** and structural strengthening of its enterprises - of their design skills, techniques and technologies - and of research (starting with materials). Through regional synergies and coordination to promote the renovation bonus for energy-efficient retrofitting and seismic upgrading, the sector will accompany the processes and investments in infrastructures, urban regeneration and redevelopment of existing real estate, as well as the investments in new generation construction work.

### Main implementation instruments

LR 12/2003 "Norms for equal opportunities of access to knowledge, for everyone and throughout life, by strengthening education and vocational training, also in integration with each other", LR 01/2010 "Norms for the protection, promotion, development and enhancement of crafts", LR 06/2006 "Norms for the promotion and development of mutual cooperation in Emilia-Romagna", LR 09/2020 "Rules of the assignment of concessions of concessions to divert water for hydroelectric plants with nominal power above 3000 Kw and determination of fees", LR 14/2014 "Promotion of investments in Emilia-Romagna", LR 19/2008 "Rules for the reduction of seismic risk", LR 24/2017 "Regional regulations on the protection and use of the territory", LR 16/2015 "Provisions in support of the circular economy, reduction of urban waste production, reuse of end-of-life goods, separate collection", LR 26/2004 "Rules on territorial energy planning and other provisions on energy", LR 28/2009 "Three-year plan for sustainable purchases", LR 15/2013 "Simplification of building regulations" updated by LR 14/2020 "Urgent measures to promote the urban regeneration of historic centres, encourage redevelopments that benefit from the tax breaks referred to in art. 119 of DL 34/2020", PSN (CAP National Strategic Plan) 2023-2027, "Emilia-Romagna Region Smart Specialization Strategy 2021-2027" (DAL 45/2021), POR FESR 2021-2027, PSR 2014-2020 extended to 2022, Regional Energy Plan (DAL 111/2017), New Three-Year Implementation Plan 2021 -2023 (currently in place), Energy Fund for Enterprises DGR 791/2016, DGR 1537/2016, DGR 1033/2018, Regional Programme for Industrial Research Innovation and Technology Transfer (PRRIITT) DAL 83/2012, Funding Programme 2018-2020 (art.3, paragraph 6, L.R 24/2017), Three-year Programme for production activities (PTAP) DAL 83/2012, PlasticFreeER Strategy (DGR n. 2000/2019), DGR 476/2021, DGR 2135/2019 (Directions for the definition of the new General Urban Plans and the related Strategy for urban and ecological-environmental quality).

### REGIONAL TARGETS

- **ACHIEVING A 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY SHARE OF TOTAL CONSUMPTION BY 2035**

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2035	Short term	Long term
10,2%	11,1%	11,6%	12,0%	11,9%	12,6%	12,5%	13,5%	100%		:

Source: ARPAE Emilia-Romagna and ART-ER



In the period 2012-2019, the historical time series for which data is available, there was a non-significant increase in the share of renewable energies over total consumption: the overall increase was 3.2



percentage points between 2012 and 2019. Emilia-Romagna is committed to pursuing the objective of **100% renewable energies by 2035**, a target that will have a significant impact on energy choices over the next 15 years. In the light of this strategic decision, made in 2020 and set forth in the Pact for Work and Climate, the implementation measures will therefore necessarily generate a decisive and particularly significant impact on the indicator. Research investments will also be promoted in the area of new forms of energy and for the development of an economic supply chain in the energy sector.

**Targets at a glance - GOAL 7**

Indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
Elementary, included in the composite	Regional share of renewable energy in total consumption	13.5	18.2%	19.7%	100% ER 2035
ER	Percentage of households in conditions of energy poverty (difficulty in purchasing a minimum basket of energy goods and services) out of total households	BEING MEASURED	8.5% (2017)	6.9% (2017)	7.4% IT 2030

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

**MAIN RELATED GOALS**





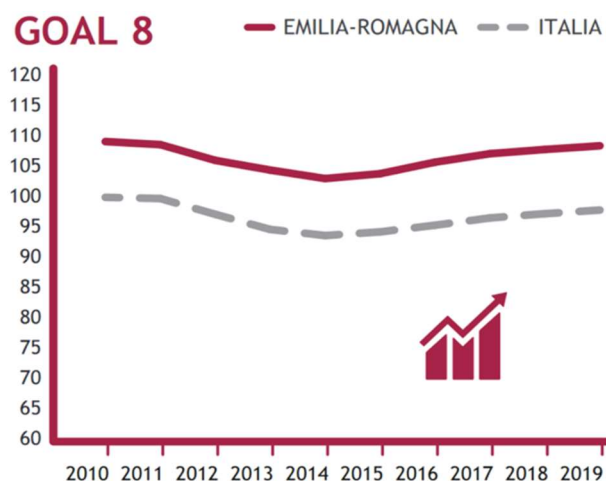
## DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

In Emilia-Romagna, we support long-lasting, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full employment and decent, quality and safe work for all.

### INTRODUCTION

We intend to implement a development project that aims to raise the overall level of the system, investing in **supply chains**, both **educational** and **productive**, combating **poor** and **precarious work** and fragility at every level. In order to do this, we must achieve a **fair ecological transition**, accompanied by actions aimed at generating new businesses, new work and new competences, updating the workers' professional skills in order to protect their jobs and overcome the clash between development and the environment. Creating new, safe and quality employment -which contributes to and flows from the ecological and digital transition- is not only possible, but also necessary. With this goal in mind, we are designing a **new economy for the restart**, investing in **entrepreneurial culture**, in the creation of **new businesses** and structured **professional activities**, especially for young people; strengthening our **manufacturing industry**, from the traditional one, which is already among the most advanced in the world, to the emerging one. We are also working to support the **cultural and creative industry**, the **tertiary sector**, **commerce**, **tourism** and the **agri-food business**, which are distinctive factors of our area, of its quality and excellence. Finally, we continue to plan policies to strengthen the ability of Emilia-Romagna to **attract businesses, projects and human capital**. Promoting the attractiveness, the stay and return of young people trained in our area is among our priorities.

### POSITIONING



Elementary statistical indicators used to calculate the composite indicator:

- Per capita GDP
- GDP per labour unit
- Disposable income per capita
- Gross fixed capital formation over GDP
- Employment rate (20-64)
- NEETs (15-29)
- Workforce non-participation
- Rate of fatal accidents and permanent disabilities
- Share of involuntary part-time workers in total employment
- Incidence of non-regular employment

Source: ASviS

In Emilia-Romagna, after an unfavourable trend until 2014<sup>21</sup>, the composite indicator showed an **improvement in all the variables analyzed** in the following 5 years, including an increase in **employment** that in **2019** reached the **best ever value since 2010** (75.4% in 2019) and a **decrease in NEETs** by 6.3 percentage points from 2014 to 2019. With an indicator performing in line with the national one, Emilia-Romagna is positioned above the Italian average throughout the time period considered. In fact, the region

<sup>21</sup> Until 2014, there was, in particular, an unfavourable trend in gross fixed capital formation over the GDP (-19.8% from 2010 to 2014), an increase in the share of involuntary part-timers (+4.3 percentage points from 2010 to 2014) and young NEETs (+5.3 percentage points from 2010 to 2014).

presents a better situation than Italy for all the elementary indicators analyzed, including **workforce non-participation**, which in Emilia-Romagna was **about half of that observed at national level** in 2019 (9.7% compared to 18.9% in Italy). However, two indicators still show contrasting values: the share of involuntary part-time work in total employment (11% in 2019) and that of fatal accidents and permanent disabilities at work, which in the region accounted for 13.3 per 10,000 employees in 2018 against the national average of 11.3 and 10.0 in Northern Italy.

The Emilia-Romagna region also reports that its **unemployment rate**, although not considered in the composite indicator, decreased to 5.6% in 2019, a figure that outperforms only Trentino-Alto Adige, being **even lower than the EU27 average value** (6.7%), with 2.8 percentage point reduction compared to 2014.

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention



**Young people as protagonists of the future choices:** more innovative spaces available to young people. Regional Law L.R. n. 14/08 will make funds available for renovations, technological equipment and activities in spaces that host FabLabs, coworking areas, multimedia laboratories, Informagiovani, rehearsal rooms and audio/video recording studios, but also youth webradio sites.



**Emilia-Romagna, a great centre of creativity:** Emilia-Romagna is already at the top of cultural consumption by its inhabitants and can further grow as a polycentric metropolis of creativity and the arts, challenging more important European centres. Emilia-Romagna is a region of talents, trained in universities of excellence, and can become increasingly important in the audiovisual, entertainment, information and publishing sectors through: the verification of the outcomes of the second three-year period of the law on cinema and the participatory definition of the guidelines for the third and fourth three-year period, with special reference to the potential of digital technology; the verification of the outcomes of the first three-year period of the law for music and the participatory definition of the guidelines for the second three-year period, with special reference to the potential of digital technology; the approval of a law for the promotion of regional publishing; measures to support the international circulation of artistic productions of the region: contributions to the travel costs of international tours, commitment of ATER to promotional initiatives, fostering of institutional relations by the Region for cultural purposes.



**Let's tell the world about our land:** ours is a marvellous region, a triangle outlined by the largest Italian river, the Adriatic Sea and the ridge of the Apennines; from the Etruscans to the Republic, 2500 years of history have left an unparalleled cultural heritage; a hard-working region but at the same time capable of having a lot of fun; a land of books but also of excellent food. In Italy everyone knows it, in Europe many, in the world still few: in the next five years they will be much more, thanks to the promotion of Emilia-Romagna, a land of culture and, in particular, through: the celebration of anniversaries also from the point of view of promoting tourism in the area (Pellegrino Artusi's Centennial, Celebration of the 700 Years since the death of Dante in 2021, etc.); regional support for Parma Capital of Italian Culture 2020-21, which can also drive the recovery of the province of Piacenza; management of sites and itineraries (promotion of valleys, itineraries, ancient villages, wine and flavour trails).



**Strengthening the collaboration between vocational high-schools, vocational training bodies and the productive infrastructure** of our area so that the integrated **Education and Vocational Training** system ensures paths for the achievement of qualifications targeted towards easy entry in the labour market, so as to promote and build networks of excellence and to contrast school drop-out.



**Creation of an integrated vocational and technical training chain** - favouring the transition from the so-called IeFP to IFTS and ITS and from these to university - which allows young people to continue their education and provides the territory with those technical, scientific and humanistic professional skills which are essential for local recovery and innovation, thus increasing the number of young people holding a

vocational qualification or diploma, a tertiary education qualification and a university degree.



**Promoting the use of various types of apprenticeship contracts**, as a privileged channel to access the labour market, with special attention to those that allow young people to obtain a qualification, thus qualifying the training component of occupation-oriented apprenticeship.



**Relaunching policies to support young people** and the collaboration of the educational network, also through the instrument of co-designing, in a process, which identifies the signs of unease present in the schooling system and in the community, paying attention to new phenomena such as social withdrawal.



**Health and safety in the workplace** at the centre of institutional and social priorities, first of all by approving the new Regional Prevention Plan, strengthening the Public Health Departments and the SPALS (Workplace Safety & Prevention Services) in each Health Authority, confirming the joint work with the joint committees and enhancing good practices, starting with the "Unit in charge of the asbestos plan".



**Strengthening the Regional Employment Agency and the integrated public-private system** to qualify the services and active policies for **young people, women**, and those who have lost their jobs or are at risk of losing them.



**Strengthening the integration of the network of public, private and Third Sector actors, services and active labour policy measures** addressing **fragile** and **vulnerable individuals** by qualifying the procedures, the tools and the management of interventions.



**Development of the process of increasing the professional skills and improving the working conditions of the people employed in the social sector** and in the public services on a contract and accreditation basis, also with a view to qualifying the services, with specific attention to services for children and those aimed at frail and disabled individuals.



Encouraging **collective bargaining** initiatives to safeguard and relaunch employment also through the reduction of working hours.



In the context of collective bargaining, fostering **flexibility** and **reconciliation** tools - such as parental leave - that make it possible to meet the needs of both companies and workers.



**Strengthening the fight against illegal recruitment and labour exploitation.**



**Strengthening the levers for attracting new investments with a high content of innovation, environmental sustainability and good employment**, with policies dedicated to mountain, inland and peripheral areas, through industry pacts, agreements with the local areas, actions aimed at extending the value chain, strengthening private and public services and simplification of development processes.



**Strengthening**, through collaboration with Cassa Depositi e Prestiti and with the help of the regional Confidi (guarantee consortia), investment support instruments that provide for subsidized contributions and financing.



**Fostering supply chain integration processes, aggregation, mergers** to increase the size of our enterprises also in order to protect and promote the development of a legacy of skills.

**Safeguarding and strengthening the internationalization of companies and professionals** in close collaboration with the Italian Trade Agency (ICE), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Maeci) and the Ministry of Economic Development (Mise) to strengthen international networks and extend the presence of our companies, especially the smaller ones, on foreign markets through the promotion of Export Consortia; favouring the international orientation of the regional trade show system in which we will invest so as to make it more integrated and stronger; consolidating relations with the most innovative regions of the world; taking full advantage of the opportunities arising in connection with large-scale international events, in particular Expo Dubai.



**Design of new integrated policies that favour the attractiveness, the stay and return of young people trained in the region**, also by enhancing the value of business transfer, guaranteeing them services to facilitate their transfer and residence, excellent international tertiary education provision, adequate salaries and opportunities for work and social integration to match an increasingly international generation.



**Supporting the income, competitiveness and productive efficiency of agricultural, agri-food, fisheries and aquaculture enterprises**, improving their market position through investment in research, innovation and digitalization; encouraging greater aggregation of supply and vertical and horizontal supply chain integration to ensure a more equitable distribution of value and fairer prices; supporting product uptake on foreign markets; favouring the development of organic and precision agriculture, as well as the re-use of waste in a circular system; facilitating access to credit and risk management tools; supporting multifunctionality; protecting regional production and products with denomination of origin through promotional measures, in close collaboration with the Protection Consortia and producer representatives.



**Relaunching our tourism districts** with the aim of creating good businesses and jobs, recouping -including in conjunction with neighbouring regions- important international tourism, strengthening relations with international markets, investing in strategic assets and cross-sectoral theme products - the Riviera and the Apennines, the Cities of Art and the network of castles, the Po River and its Delta, nature and theme parks, spas and wellness, hiking and cycle paths, the Food Valley, the Motor Valley, the Wellness Valley - and in the area of meetings, conventions and events.



**Strengthening promotional and marketing actions** and supporting private investment in accommodation upgrading and innovation, while continuing to enhance the value of public assets and the urban and environmental regeneration of the region.



**Promotion of industrial relations that encourage, especially through the extension of second-level bargaining, those processes of cultural change capable of increasing the forms and tools of organizational participation and strategic development in companies**, enhancing, in full respect of the autonomy of the parties involved, also formal participation paths within companies and supply chains, in order to strengthen the competitiveness of companies and the value of work.

**P**

Participation

### Main implementation instruments

LR 37/1994 "Norms in the area of cultural promotion", LR 41/1997 "Trade actions to promote and qualify smaller companies in the product distribution network", LR 3/1999 "Reform of the regional and local system", LR 13/1999 "Norms in the area of shows and performances", LR 14/1999 "Rules governing brick&mortar retailers implementing Legislative Decree n. 114 of March 31 1998", LR 12/2000 "Regulation of the regional fair system", LR 9/2002 "Regulation of the administrative functions pertaining to the field of the publicly-owned coastal land and territorial sea", LR 17/2002 "Interventions for the upgrade of the ski resorts and the ski facilities of the Emilia-Romagna region", LR 40/2002 "Incentives for the development and upgrade of the regional tourist industry", LR 12/2003 "Regulations for equal access to knowledge, for everyone and throughout life, through the strengthening of education and vocational training, also in integration with each other", LR 2/2004 "Law for the mountains", LR 6/2004 "Reform of the regional and local administrative systems. European Union and international relations. Innovation and simplification. Relations with the university", LR 17/2005 "Standards for the promotion of employment, quality, safety and regularity of work", LR 15/2007 "Integrated regional system of interventions and services for the right to university study and higher education", LR 14/2008 "Standards on policies for the younger generations", LR 5/2011 "Regulation of the

regional education and vocational training system", LR 6/2014 "Framework law for equal opportunities and against gender discrimination", LR 14/2014 "Promotion of investments in Emilia-Romagna", LR 19/2014 "Regulations for promoting and supporting the solidarity economy", LR 20/2014 Norms on cinema and audiovisuals, LR. 14/2015 "Regulation in support of employment and social inclusion of people in fragile and vulnerable conditions, through the integration between public labour, social and health services", LR 4/2016 "Norms for the promotion and support of municipal tourist boards. repeal of regional law n. 27 of 2 September 1981 (establishment of the regional register of municipal tourist boards), LR 4/2017 "Norms for the protection of consumers and users. Repeal of regional law n. 45 of 7 December 1992, (norms for the protection of consumers and users)", LR 24/2017 "Regional regulations on the protection and use of the territory", LR 02/2018 "Norms on the development of the music sector", LR 20/2018 "Promotion of innovation in the tourist offer and urban redevelopment in the seaside resort areas of the Emilia-Romagna coastline", LR 23/2018 "Regulation of trade on public ground. amendments to regional law n. 12 of 25 June 1999 and to regional law n. 4 of 24 May 2013", LR 18/2019 "Support for enterprises located in mountain areas", LR 19/2019 "Extraordinary interventions in the sectors of high musical training, cultural goods and activities", "Regional Strategic Document for Joint Programming of European Development Policies -DSR 2021-2027" (DAL 44/2021), "Emilia-Romagna Region Smart Specialization Strategy 2021-2027" (DAL 45/2021), POR FESR 2014-2020, POR FESR 2021-2027, POR FSE 2014-2020, POR FSE+ 2021-2027, PSR 2014-2020, PSR 2021-2022, PSN (CAP National Strategic Plan) 2023-2027, "Three-year programme of training and employment policies" (DAL no.75/2016); " Three-year programming regarding the provision of vocational education and training pathways for the academic years 2019/20 2020/21 and 2021/22" (DAL no. 190/2018); "Regional polytechnic network: approval of the general and specific objectives for the three-year period 2019/2021 and of the public evidence procedures for the selection of the training provision for the training year" (DGR n. 911/2019); Youth Guarantee, "Regional Implementation Plan. National Operational Programme Youth Employment Initiative - phase II " (DAL n. 173/2018), National Youth Policy Fund and National Agreements (GECO); Multiannual Regional Plan for Adolescence 2018/2020 (DAL n. 180/ 2018), Regional Prevention Plan, DGR 1855/2020 acknowledging the state-regions agreement concerning the "National Prevention Plan (PNP) 2020-2025; Asbestos Plan of the Emilia-Romagna Region (DGR 1945/2017), "Integrated planning lines pursuant to art. 3 of LR 30 July 2015 n. 14 Norms supporting the employment and social inclusion of people in fragile and vulnerable conditions, through the integration between the public labour, social and health services" (DGR n. 73/2018), Regional Fund for the disabled, "2020 Programming for the resources of the Regional Fund for people with disabilities. Approval of the annual programme" (DGR n. 333/2020); Regional Mountain Fund 2021-2023; Supplementary National Fund; Three-year Investment Programmes of the Unions of Mountain Areas; Protection and promotion of PDO PGI and Mountain products (EU Reg. 1151/2012 and Reg. EU 1144/2014), Programme for the internationalization of the Emilia-Romagna production system "Go Global 2021-2025", Three-year Programme for production activities (PTA) (DAL n. 83/2012), "Guidelines for activities of international importance 2021-2025 (DAL n. 40/2021), Operational Programmes CMO Fruit and Vegetables, Wine, Oil and Bees. (EU Reg. 1308/2013), Emilia-Romagna Music Commission three-year programme 2021-2023 (DAL n.39/2021), Emilia-Romagna Film Commission three-year programme 2121/2023 (DAL 37/2021).

## REGIONAL TARGETS

- **REACHING 78% EMPLOYMENT RATE (20-64 age group)**

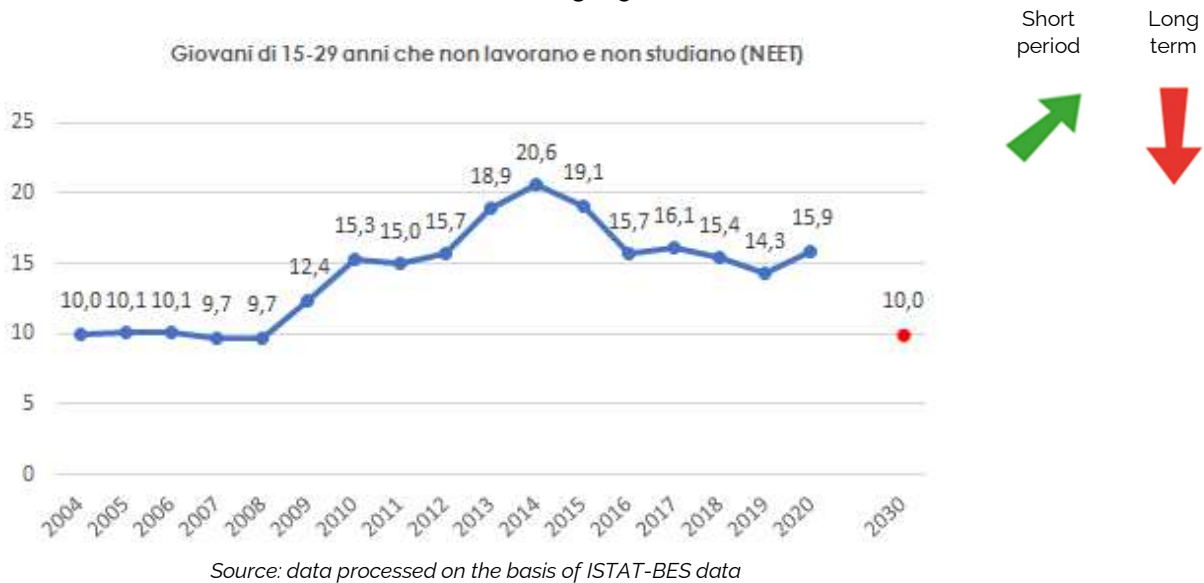


Source: data processed on the basis of ISTAT-BES data

Between 2008 and 2013, the graph shows a negative trend due to the economic crisis, followed by a **recovery phase between 2014 and 2019**. In 2020, due to the pandemic, the regional **employment rate** (20-64 age group) dropped slightly, from **75.4%** in 2019 to **73.8%** in **2020**, while still remaining above the target set by the NRP (i.e. 73.2%). The target, in line with the **European Pillar of Social Rights** Action Plan, is to reach **78%** employment rate. In the short term (last five years) the rate increased by 2.6 percentage

points. If this trend is sustained, despite the effects of the pandemic, the region will be able to achieve the challenging 2030 target.<sup>22</sup>

- **REDUCING THE SHARE OF NEETS (15-29 AGE GROUP) BELOW 10%.**



Due to the economic crisis, the share of **NEETs** in Emilia-Romagna showed a considerable increase from 2008 to 2014 (by 10.9 percentage points). Starting from 2015, however, the trend reversed and the share of young NEETs decreased until **2019 (14.3%)**. In **2020**, the pandemic caused the indicator to slightly rise again (**15.9%**), especially among women, thus confirming a higher proportion of NEETs (20.4% among girls and 11.8% among boys). The target, as indicated in the **Pact for Work and Climate**, is to reduce the share of NEETs to below **10%** by **2030**.

- **REDUCING THE REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (15-74 AGE GROUP) TO 4.5%.**

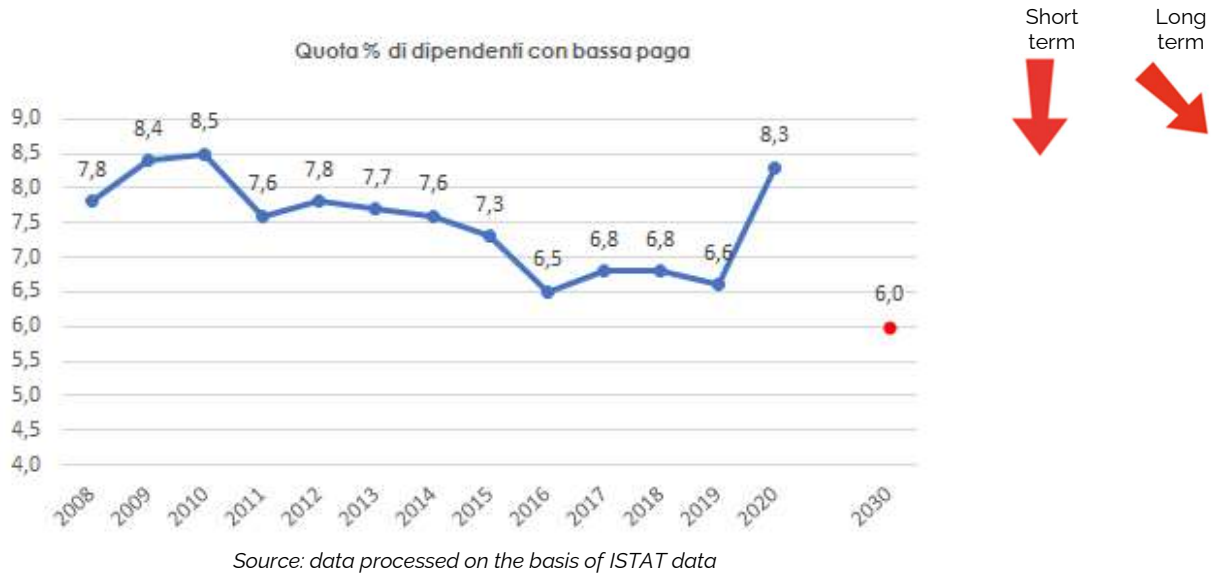


<sup>22</sup> In light of the change introduced by the Labour Force Survey, starting from 2021 (but with an impact also on the previous years), the employment rate will realistically be revised downwards. The impact of the pandemic could determine an important revision of the rate, since the new definition of the employed will exclude - for example - workers receiving redundancy payments from Cassa Integrazione Guadagni (Cig) who have not worked for more than 3 months, as well as self-employed workers who have not worked for more than 3 months, even if the activities are only temporarily suspended. The reconstruction of the historical time series according to the new definitions will not be available before the end of 2021. A new assessment will be needed in the light of the new adjusted data.



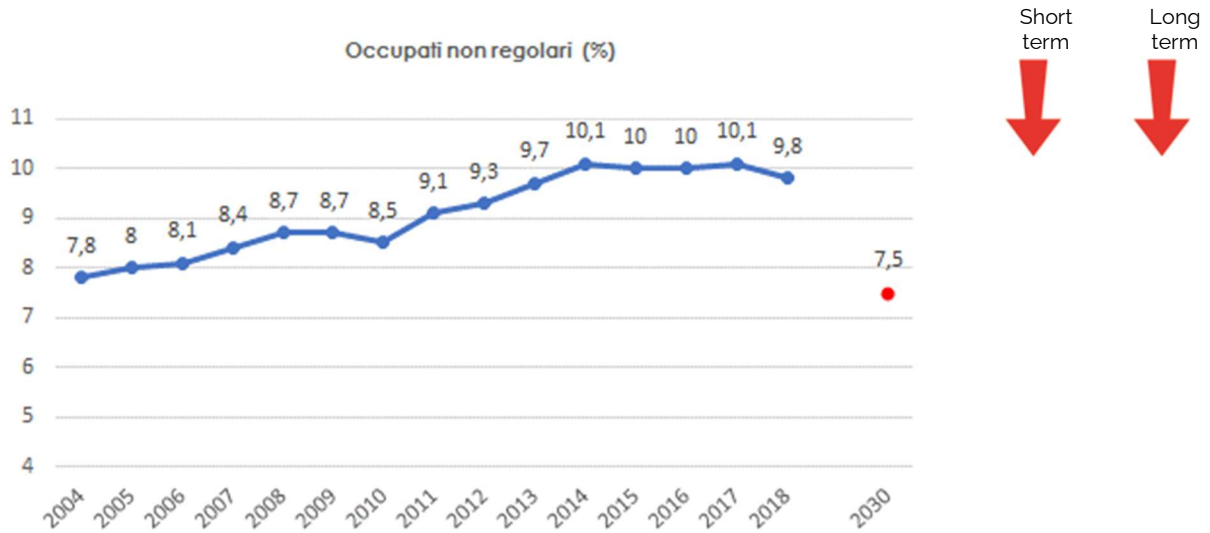
The first two crises (2008/2009 and 2012/2013) had led to a progressive increase in the **unemployment rate** (15-74 age group), reaching a peak of 8.4%. Starting in 2015, unemployment reversed the trend and began to decline, reaching **5.6% in 2019**. This improvement stopped in the most recent year of the time series, following the health emergency. If in the coming years Emilia-Romagna manages to maintain the average annual rate observed in the latest available five years, it will reach the target set at **4.5% by 2030**.

- **REDUCING THE PROPORTION OF LOW PAID EMPLOYEES TO AT LEAST 6%.**



In the long run, the **percentage share of employees with low pay**, calculated on the basis of an hourly wage of less than 2/3 of the median wage, decreased from 8.5% in 2010 to **6.6% in 2019**. In 2020, due to the **pandemic** and the deterioration of the overall economic scenario, the indicator increased (**8.3%**). The increase affected both genders and confirmed a higher incidence of low paid workers among women (10.2%) than men (6.5%). This trend has completely eroded the progress made in the last decade. Even taking into account the dynamics of the last five years, in order to reach the 6.0% target set by the Regional Strategy for 2030 a **strong commitment will be needed on the part of the whole regional system**.

- **REDUCING THE SHARE OF IRREGULAR EMPLOYMENT TO BELOW THE PRE-CRISIS THRESHOLD (2008)**



Source: data processed on the basis of ISTAT-BES data

In Emilia-Romagna the share of **irregular employment**, i.e. not complying with current labour, tax and social security regulations, is estimated to be around **9.8%**, a figure lower than both the average of the northern regions (10.0%) and the national average (12.9%). The indicator has grown over the years, exceeding the 10% threshold as of 2014. The Regional Strategy aims to reduce the share of irregular employment to **7.5%**, below the pre-crisis threshold.

**Targets at a glance - GOAL 8**

Indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
Elementary, included in the composite	Employment rate (20-64 age group)	73.8% (2020) U. 81.2% - D. 66.4%	62.6% (2020) U. 72.6% - D. 52.7%	72.4% (2020) U. 78.1% - D. 66.8%	>78% ER 2030 = 74.5% ER 2025
Elementary, included in the composite	NEETs (15-29 age group)	15.9% (2020) U.11.8% - D. 20.4%	23.3% (2020) U. 21.4% - D. 25.4%	13.7% (2020) U.12.1% - D. 15.3%	<10% ER 2030 < 13% ER 2025
ER	Unemployment (20-64 age group)	5.7% (2020) U- 4.8% - D. 6.9%	9.2% (2020) U. 8.4% - D. 10.2%	7.1 (2020) U. 6.8% - D. 7.4%	< 4.5% ER 2030
ER	Rate of low paid employees	8.3% (2020) U. 6.5%- D. 10.2%	U. 8.5%- D. 12.1%		< 6% ER 2030
ER	Share of irregular employment	9.8% (2018)	12.9% (2018)		7.5% ER 2030
ER	Job Security: coverage of analyzed companies with employees	7.5% (2020)	5%		10% ER 2030 9% ER 2025

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

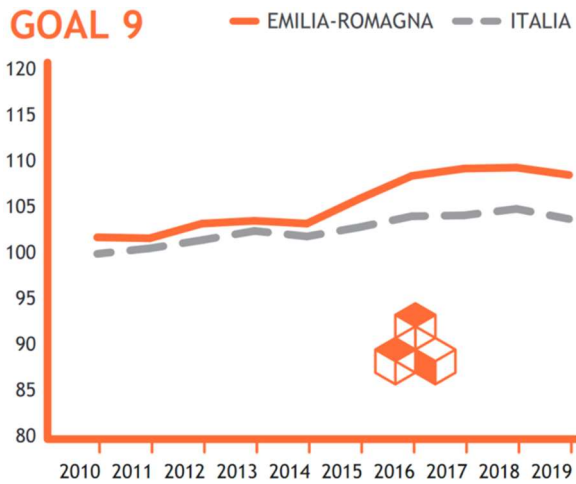
**MAIN RELATED GOALS****INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

**In Emilia-Romagna, we innovate infrastructure networks and support all companies in ecological transition and in technological and social innovation processes.**

**INTRODUCTION**

We are accelerating the **digital transformation of the entire regional society**, continuing to invest, on the one hand, in the so-called Data Valley -a global research and innovation hub- and, on the other, in the widespread dissemination of digital skills that guarantee equal opportunities to people and greater competitiveness to businesses throughout the region, preventing innovation from widening gaps and rather favouring its contribution towards reducing them. Emilia-Romagna is an area that has invested in innovation and digitalization for some time. This is witnessed by the choices made and results obtained by both the public administration (3rd place in the 2019 edition of the Digital Economy and Society Index - regional DESI- instituted by the Digital Agenda Observatory of the Politecnico di Milano) and the private sector (3rd place in the 2020 edition of the SME Digital Index 2020 compiled by GoDaddy) in recent years. The technological revolution has already profoundly changed production processes: our ambition is to **govern the transformation** so that it does not result in the replacement of labour, but rather leads to redesigning the **world of work in a way that it becomes "digitally augmented"**. This means guiding the digital revolution towards a **new humanism**, building a **Data Valley** that is **"Common Good"**, fostering participation and democracy, so that the future and the evolution of technology are a right for all, an asset at the service of people's needs, a driver for sustainable development. At the same time, we are working to **cut red tape and innovate civil service**. It is not about deregulating, but increasing the level of legality, rights and social justice. Finally, we will continue to strengthen the **regional ecosystem of research and innovation**, in particular through targeted investments in the areas of health, digital transition and ecology.

**POSITIONING**



Elementary statistical indicators used to calculate the composite indicator:

- Households with fixed and/or mobile broadband connection
- Use of public transport by employed persons and students
- Share of railways in total freight transport
- Loans to non-financial corporations and producer households as a percentage of GDP
- Intensity of CO2 emissions over value added
- Companies with innovative products and/or process activities
- Research intensity
- Researchers (in full-time equivalent)
- Production specialization in high-tech sectors

Source: ASviS

From 2010 to 2014, the general trend and the composite indicator in Emilia-Romagna were in line with those observed at the national level. From 2014 onwards, the regional composite indicator grew at a faster rate than the national one, moving away from the national average and positioning itself, in the last year available for the calculations, at a **level significantly higher than the Italian one**. This is particularly true for the indicators related to research and innovation: the research intensity in 2018 was 2.0% compared to a national average of 1.4% and the share of companies with innovative activities was 46.0% compared to a national average of 38.1%. The only indicator that reflects a worse situation in the region compared to the national average is the share of employed people and students who use public transport, which was 13.4% in 2018 compared to an Italian average of 18.1%.

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention



**Free public transport for young people up to the age of 19.** We want to promote the use of public transport among compulsory school children through a free season ticket for the urban service, where available, or a free season ticket for the home-school route, as well as providing a free season ticket, for the rail or road service, for the home-school route to high-school students. Subsequently, we will consider the opportunity of extending it to university students (25 years old).



**Strengthening integrated and synergistic participation** in national and international research funding opportunities to attract new projects, infrastructures, resources and talents.



Strengthening **the regional research and innovation ecosystem**, investing in particular in the areas of health, digital and ecological transition.



Promoting **Data Valley** investments so that companies and, more generally, the whole regional society can benefit from them.



Investing in **research and innovation** in areas of **high strategic potential** such as hydrogen, electricity and green chemistry.



Building up a research and study **team** aimed at supporting and defining **sustainable finance** and **social impact** projects in line with the objectives set forth in the Pact.

Investing in new sustainable mobility also through the integration of the current investment plans with a new package of green projects in the NRRP framework in order to: incentivize and strengthen public transport networks, with particular reference to mountain and inland areas; **enhance regional production capacity by replacing LPT (Local Public Transport) company vehicles with more environmentally friendly vehicles**; guarantee reduced fare schemes; promote the use of bicycles also through the creation of 1000 km of new cycle paths; favour investments in the area of electric mobility; accelerate integration between rail and road and with new modes of sustainable mobility; **promote Bike and Car sharing with the aim of reducing private car traffic by at least 20% by 2025**; support the expansion of private mobility towards "zero emissions" also through the installation of 2,500 power charging stations by 2025; support the renewal of the vehicle fleet by introducing electric vehicles; reduce the need for travel by strengthening digital technology (smart city); strengthen and upgrade rail transport, both for people and goods, by also completing the electrification of the regional network; focus on the development of intermodal transport, starting with investments in freight villages, intermodal and logistics centres to promote the transfer of goods transport from road to rail. Particularly important will be the promotion and further development of the Port of Ravenna and the implementation of the special logistics area connected to it.



Providing and strengthening investments in research and development through the network of universities and research centres, optimizing the potential of the Big Data infrastructures – already available and under construction- and building a more synergistic and cooperative relationship with local companies, starting with the biomedical district.



**Further development of the Inland Areas Strategy and approval of a new regional law for the mountains** as the most appropriate framework to acknowledge their specificity and put in place integrated support and promotion actions including, among other things: an adequate plan for the maintenance of the territory and the prevention of hydrogeological instability; the completion of communication infrastructures, incentives for connectivity and the purchase of information technology, particularly in the so-called "areas of market failure"; the expansion of the provision of essential services to the population and strengthening of LPT; measures to attract and support work and businesses and at the same time encourage young people to stay; the recovery and promotion of our cultural, real estate and environmental heritage.



**Supporting businesses in accessing credit** by strengthening the guarantee instruments and lowering interest rates in order to support the investments required to safely restart business activities.



**Supporting microcredit initiatives** for the development of self-employment, freelance and microenterprise activities.



Support and implementation of **financial instruments and services** to take more direct action in favour of the development plans of enterprises and institutions.



**Encouraging supply chain integration processes**, aggregations and mergers to increase the size of our businesses also with a view to safeguarding and promoting the development of skills.



**Support to both innovation and network projects**, with special reference to supply chains, professionals and small enterprises, also taking advantage of the opportunities offered by the Interregional Innovation Investments of the European Union.



**Redesigning, strengthening and internationalizing the regional ecosystem of research and innovation and the High Technology Network**, promoting Technopoles, the development of private and public laboratories, collaborative research, continuing the action undertaken to attract research infrastructures of national and European level to the regional area and exploiting the supercomputing infrastructures to develop new advanced areas of research and specialization.





Promotion of a **logistics system** that pursues efficiency and competitiveness in a context of sustainability, therefore seeking efficiency through technology and process innovation, as well as through professional development and continuous upgrading of the skills of those working in this industry.



Acceleration on the **next generation infrastructure** front, to implement the green transition and strengthen the sustainability and resilience of our cities and the whole regional territory.



**Investing in the professionals and the self-employed**, repositories of values and skills that are indispensable to society and the regional economy, guaranteeing them, as well as small businesses, access to credit and to calls for tenders in the areas of digitalization, innovation, network development and updating of skills.



**Creation and strengthening of new enterprises** and new professional activities, involving in particular young people and women, with special attention to innovative start-ups, defining a regional hub responsible for research into, support to and coding of innovative entrepreneurship projects, also in cooperation with the regional observatory.



Using tools such as **workers buyout** and cooperative entrepreneurship, especially in inland and mountain areas, promoting tools for access to credit, experimenting with new forms of support and advice, promoting connections with the research system, the national and international production context.

**TD**  
Digital Transformation

**Connectivity:** to make Emilia-Romagna a hyper-connected region that guarantees everyone, -be they individuals, organizations and businesses, including those who live or work in rural and "market failure" areas or in conditions of economic fragility - the right to access the broadband network.

**TD**  
Digital Transformation

**Productive fabric:** to promote a **digital transformation in production and processes**, of individual companies - especially micro and small - and of our production chains to support the development of **4.0 companies and supply chains**; grow a digital business that overcomes the current contradictions of the gig economy, so that innovation in services is associated with the quality of services and work.

**TD**  
Digital Transformation

**Arts and cultural production:** to support the widespread application of digital technologies in the **arts and cultural production**, in **performing arts venues, museums** and the network of **libraries** and historical **archives**, strengthening their educational and dissemination function.

**TD**  
Digital Transformation

**Health and social care:** with a view to strengthening community-based social and health centres and promoting proximity and home care services, investing in the digital transformation of **health and social care**, aimed, in particular, at increasing telemedicine activities and, more generally, at defining new organizational and technological models aimed at improving care processes.

**TD**  
Digital Transformation

Mountain areas: to implement the digitalization strategy starting from the most peripheral areas, in particular inland and mountainous areas, to truly achieve a 100% digital community.

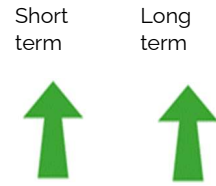
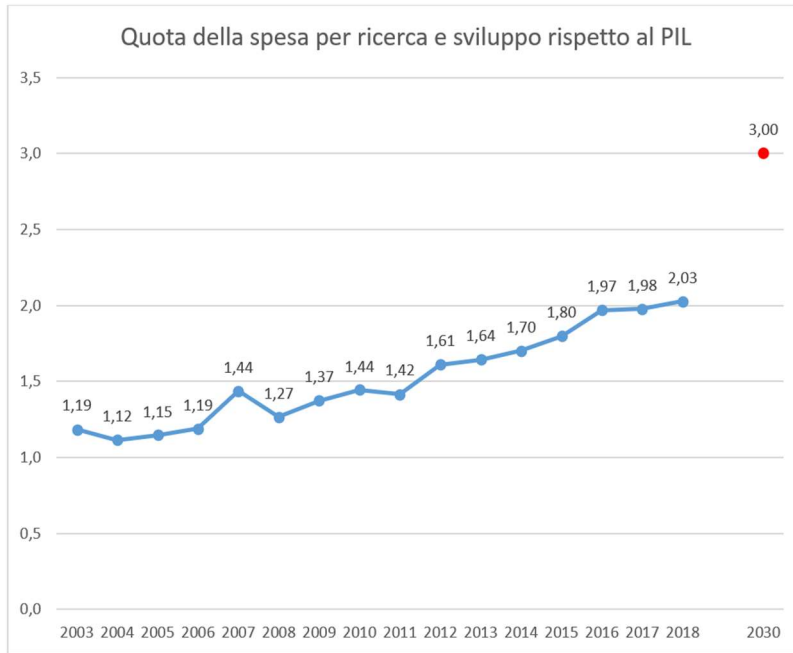
### Main implementation instruments

LR 37/1994 " Norms in the area of cultural promotion", LR 41/1997 "Trade actions to promote and qualify smaller companies in the product distribution network. Repeal of LR n. 49 of 7 December 1994", LR 03/1999 "Reform of the regional and local system", LR 14/1999 " Rules governing brick&mortar retailers implementing Legislative Decree n. 114 of March 31 1998", LR 13/1999 "Standards on the subject of entertainment", LR 18/2000 "Standards on the subject of libraries, historical archives, museums and cultural heritage", LR 07/2002 "Promotion of the regional system of industrial research, innovation and transfer activities", LR 40/2002 "Incentives for the development and upgrade of the regional tourist industry. Repeal of regional law no. 3 of 11 January 1993 (regulation of the tourist offer of the region of Emilia-Romagna. planning and funding of interventions. Repeal of regional law no. 38 of 6 July 1984)", LR 12/2003 Regulations for equal access to knowledge, for everyone and throughout life, through the strengthening of education and vocational training, also in integration with each other", LR 06/2004 Reform of the regional and local administrative systems. European Union and international relations. Innovation and simplification. Relations with the university ", LR 11/2004 "Development of the Information Society", LR 29/2004 " General norms on the organization and functioning of the Regional Health Service", LR 17/2005 "Rules for the promotion of employment, quality, safety and regularity of work", LR 06/2006 "Rules for the promotion and development of mutual cooperation in Emilia-Romagna", LR 12/2006 "Guidelines on the dissemination of cinemas", LR 06/2014 " Framework law for equal opportunities and against gender discrimination ", LR 14/2014 "Promotion of investments in Emilia-Romagna", LR 19/2014 "Regulations for promoting and supporting the solidarity economy", LR 20/2014 "Rules on cinema and audiovisuals",

LR 16/2015 " Provisions in support of the circular economy, reduction of urban waste production, reuse of end-of-life goods, separate collection", LR 23/2015 "Provisions for drawing up the 2016-2018 budget (regional stability law 2016)- art. 6 microcredit fund", LR 02/2018 " Norms on the development of the music sector", LR 07/2019 "Investments by the Emilia-Romagna region in big data and artificial intelligence, meteorology and climate change", LR 18/2019 "Support for businesses located in mountainous and inland areas of Emilia-Romagna", LR 19/2019 "Extraordinary interventions in the sectors of high musical training, cultural goods and activities", LR 30/2019 (Provisions for drawing up the 2020-2022 budget) art.10 "Interventions for Rail and River/Sea Freight Transport", LR 01/2020 "Urgent measures for the recovery of economic and social activities following the COVID-19 emergency. Amendments to Regional Laws n.3 of 1999, no. 40 of 2002, no. 11 of 2017 and no. 13 of 2019", "Regional Strategic Document for the Joint Programming of European Development Policies -DSR 2021-2027" (DAL 44/2021), "Smart Specialization Strategy 2021-2027 of the Emilia-Romagna Region" (DAL 45/2021), POR FESR 2014-2020, POR FESR 2021-2027, POR FSE 2014-2020, POR FSE+ 2021-2027, PSR 2014-2020, PSR 2021-2022, PSN (CAP National Strategic Plan) 2023-2027, "Regional Programme for Industrial Research, Innovation and Technology Transfer" (PRRIITT)(DAL n. 83/2012), "Three-year programme for productive activities" (DAL no. 83/2012); "Data Valley as a Common Good - Digital Agenda of Emilia-Romagna 2020-2025" (DAL 2313/2021), National Ultra Broadband Plan - Agreement MISE-Emilia-Romagna Region for the intervention in white areas of the region, Regional Plan for digital skills "DIGITAL PROFESSIONS" 2021-2023 Guidelines for the digital transformation of the civil service (DGR 1965/2020), Three-year Plan for ICT in Health, PlasticFreeER Strategy (DGR n. 2000/2019), Regional Energy Plan (DAL no. 111/2017), New Integrated Regional Transport Plan (PRIT2025) in the process of adoption, MIT-RER Implementing Agreement for FDC 2014-2020 funds, Agreement between RER and AIPO for the implementation of interventions for free-current regulation in the Po low-flow riverbed, Interregional Agreement between RER, Lombardy, Veneto and Piedmont for the regulation of regional administrative functions in the area of interregional inland navigation on the Po River and related waterways, Airport Development Plan for Rimini Airport, Airport Development Plan for Parma Airport, Airport Development Plan for Forli Airport, Territorial Agreement for the functional pole of Bologna Airport, Territorial Implementation Agreement for the decarbonization of Marconi Airport, National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Mobility, (resources ex art. 5 DPCM 17/04/2020); MATTM Fund for the Regions of the Padania basin DPCM 28 November 2018, MIT Resources, Investment Fund 2018 and 2019, art.1, paragraph 140, L.232/2016; Memorandum of Understanding between RER and RFI for intermodal developments in RFI railway stations (DGR 237/2021), Agreement for the implementation of interventions to improve the railway accessibility of Porto Core, Ravenna, between the Municipality of Ravenna, RER, the Port Authority and RFI; Memorandum of Understanding for the development of the Ravenna railway node and the optimization of freight traffic between RFI, the Municipality of Ravenna, RER, the Port Authority of the Central-Northern Adriatic Sea; Protocols with Mobility Agencies and LPT companies for contributions to reduced rate programs (DGR 1308/2020 and 782/2020, DGR 1473/2020 DGR 1403/2020, DGR 1364/2019, DGR 1920/2020); Integrated Regional Air Plan - PAIR2020 (DAL 115/2017); New Integrated Regional Plan - PAIR 2021-2030 (Strategic Document expected by 2021), Three-year Investment Programmes of the Unions of Mountain Areas (DGR 349/2021 and DD n.4990/2021), Mountain Fund, Flood Risk Management Plans (PGRA), Hydrogeological Structure Plans (PAI), Revolving Fund Law n.49/85 productive activities programme, measure 2.2, action c - fund for cooperative companies through subsidized loans from the Foncooper revolving fund (DGR 985/2020), Microcredit Fund Regional Law n. 23/2015 - Art. 6 - Revolving fund for professions and microcredit, Emilia-Romagna Music Commission three-year programme 2021-2023 (DAL n.39/2021), Emilia Romagna Film Commission three-year programme 2121/2023 (DAL no. 37/2021); "Guidelines for activities of international importance 2021-2025" (DGR no. 245/2021 - DAL no. 40/2021).

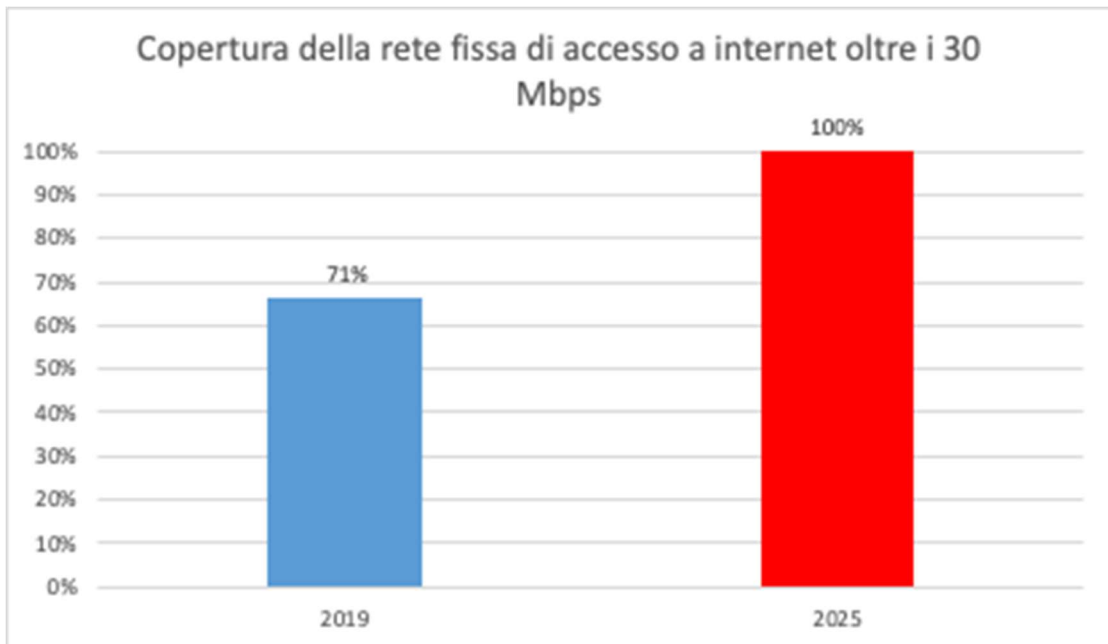
## **REGIONAL TARGETS**

- **REACHING A 3% GDP SHARE DEDICATED TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**



This objective, defined for the first time by the European Research Area, is also included in the Pact for Work and Climate, which foresees the achievement of a **3% share of GDP dedicated to research and development by 2030**. As can be seen from the graph, over the time period considered, the region has experienced considerable progress towards this goal. The growth trend of the most recent five years, as well as that of the last fifteen, suggests that this objective can be achieved by 2030. It is important to underline that the **Emilia-Romagna region is the only one in Italy that has a growth rate suitable for achieving the European target**.

- **REACHING 100% OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH AN INTERNET CONNECTION ABOVE 30 MBPS**



Source: AGCOM 2019

This objective, set forth by the "European Broadband Strategy", was adopted as a regional objective in the Pact for Work and Climate, providing that by **2025 the entire regional territory will be covered by ultra-**



**broadband connection** (i.e. above 30 Mbps). In light of the choices made by the Italian Government in defining the objectives and priorities of the **NRRP, the investments necessary to achieve this comprehensive coverage objective are managed at the national level** within the programme "**Italia a 1 Giga**". The Region works in cooperation with the Government to precisely identify the areas and portions of the territory that require intervention. It should be noted that Emilia-Romagna is one of the few Italian Regions that has an **in-house company** that builds, manages and maintains a high-capacity fibre optic network that connects the region's public bodies, offers free and fast **access to the Internet in 10,000 public Wi-Fi access** points and already connects over 1,200 **state schools** (over 3,000 by 2022). It is also important to underline that in the face of a National Ultra Broadband Plan which was launched in 2017 but is well behind schedule, the Emilia-Romagna Region has equipped 164 **productive areas** with the necessary infrastructure using ERDF and EAFRD funds and through Regional Law LR 14/2014 it has undertaken interventions that were supposed to be carried out by the State in 84 productive areas. Finally, it should be noted that -according to Istat data- 77.3% of the regional population had fixed or mobile Internet access in 2019.

### Targets at a glance - GOAL 9

indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
Elementary, included in the composite	R&D spending share of GDP	2.03% (2018)	1.42% (2018)	2.2% (2018)	3% EU 2030 2.5% ER 2025
Elementary, included in the composite	Share of households with ultra-broadband Internet service coverage > 30 mega (source: AGCOM)	71%	69%		100% ER 2025
Elementary, included in the composite	Researchers employed in companies as a percentage of total employees	0.85%	0.56%		>1% ER 2030 0.9% ER 2025
ER	Percentage of companies that have carried out R&D activities with public and private entities	26.98%	30.31%		33% ER-2030 30% ER 2025
ER	Birth rate of enterprises in knowledge-intensive sectors	7.96%	8.98%		10% ER-2030 9% ER 2025
ER	Number of new electrified lines in the regional railway network	4			+4 ER- 2025
ER	Number of new high capacity double deck trains	39			+4 ER- 2025
ER	Number of regional railway lines equipped with Train Control system;	35%			100% ER-2025
ER	Percentage of stations in the regional network adapted according to the plan	50%			100% ER-2030 90% ER 2025
ER	Number of rail service users benefiting annually from rail-road urban integration	30,000/year			60,000/year ER- 2025
ER	Rail freight traffic	18,500,000 tons/year			+10% ER 2025
ER	Number of 28 ton diesel heavy goods vehicles undergoing modal shift from road to rail transport;	0			+ 110.000 ER 2025
ER	Number of primary and lower secondary school students benefiting from reduced fare schemes over an estimated 300,000 users;	0 (measure launched in 2020)			145,000 ER 2025

ER	Number of secondary school students benefiting from reduced fare schemes over an estimated 230,000 users;	0 (measure started in 2021)			65,000 ER 2025
ER	Completing the connection of all primary and lower secondary schools, high-schools ITS and leFP hyperconnected to 1 Giga	50%			100% ER 2025
ER	Number of new transmission masts installed to increase cellular phone coverage in mountain or isolated areas where connection is poor	0			21 ER 2025

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

## MAIN RELATED GOALS



## REDUCE INEQUALITIES

In Emilia-Romagna, we combat social, economic, gender, generational and territorial inequalities.

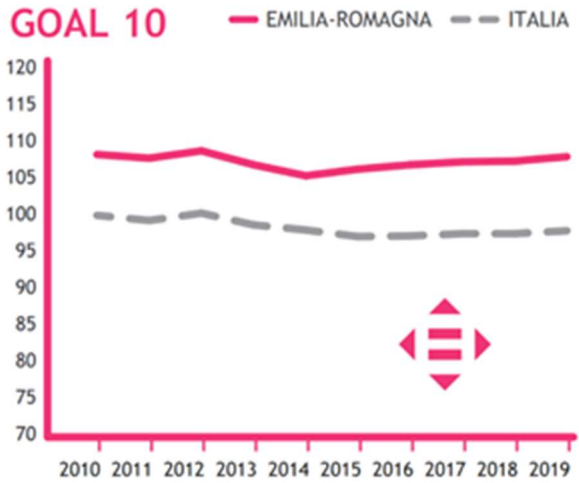
### INTRODUCTION

Our project has as its strategic objective the **fight against inequalities** as a key to ensuring **social justice** and **increasing growth**.

We focus on **quality work** and policies that strengthen the system's ability to **generate value**, on the one hand, and to **redistribute it in a fair and inclusive manner**, on the other. This is also accomplished through a new tax policy based on progressiveness, social justice, fight against tax avoidance and evasion. In addition to our determination to combat social and economic inequalities, we are committed to reducing **gender, generational and territorial disparities**. We are actively combating the increasingly marked gaps between urban and rural, inland and mountain areas, and between city centres and suburbs. We want to guarantee opportunities and proximity services everywhere, integrating the suburbs into more open and widespread cities, enhancing the identity and potential of individual territories to put in place new

development processes and strengthen, modernize and upgrade the territorial infrastructures of **multifunctional spaces and services aimed at the entire population, starting with young people.**

**POSITIONING**



Elementary statistical indicators used to calculate the composite indicator:

- Share of income received by the poorest 40% of the population
- Disposable income inequality index
- Risk of poverty
- Ratio of youth employment rate (15-29) to employment rate (15-64)
- Patient migration for hospital care
- Mobility of Italian graduates
- Residence permits issued out of total number of non-EU foreigners

Source: ASviS

Compared to the Italian average, the regional composite indicator is at a markedly better level throughout the course of the historical time series and shows a slightly positive trend in particular from 2014 onwards. The difference between Italy and the Region can be summarized by the gap in **disposable income inequality**, equaling **4.6** in 2018 in Emilia-Romagna against the Italian average of 6, and by the level of **poverty risk**, amounting to **10.1%** in the Region against 20.3% in Italy in the most recent available year. In the latest five years, after the negative trend from 2010 to 2014 (+1.9 percentage points in the risk of poverty and increased difference between the youth employment rate and the total employment rate, -18.6%), the index showed a slight rise, reaching the levels observed in 2010. This is mainly due to the decrease in disposable income inequality and the difference between the **youth employment rate** and the total employment rate.

**REGIONAL STRATEGY**

**Strategic lines of intervention**



**More innovative spaces available to young people:** Regional Law LR n. 14/2008 will make funds available for renovations, technological equipment and activities in spaces that host FabLabs, coworking areas, multimedia laboratories, Informagiovani, rehearsal rooms and audio/video recording studios, but also youth webradio sites.



**Improvement and innovation of the social and health care system** in favour of the most vulnerable and marginalized people, with special focus on the homeless, the Roma and Sinti communities, victims of trafficking, and individuals in jail.



**Support for first home purchase/renovation in order** to favour the repopulation of mountain villages, starting from the most fragile areas, through a periodical call for proposals addressing families living in the mountains or deciding to move there, providing for non-repayable grants for first home purchase or renovation.



**Recovery and promotion of the cultural, real estate and environmental heritage:** to renovate the urban fabric of historic centres, to promote the beauty of architectural buildings and environmental landscapes with a view to increasing tourism, to allow people to enjoy the beauty of parks and protected areas through nature, cultural and food and wine trails and itineraries. This process of recovery shall also consider the needs of new organizational models of work, designing common spaces for remote work that make life easier even far from the cities.



Integration of the resources necessary for the implementation of Regional Law **LR 15/2019**. The law deals with issues of discrimination against LGBT individuals in a cross-sectoral way requiring financial coordination with the regional sectoral laws.



**Implementing initiatives to attract students and encourage them to stay on** after they have completed their education; attracting new talents and favouring the return of talented individuals who have left, also by making it possible for prestigious international research and university institutions to open centres and campuses in the region and designing a new network of services, including international schools.



**Safeguarding educational institutions in peripheral and mountainous areas.**



**Promoting the use of the various types of apprenticeship contracts,** as a privileged channel of access to the world of work, with particular attention to those that allow young people to obtain a qualification, thus qualifying the training component of occupation-oriented apprenticeship.



Aiming at a **widespread system of community and proximity welfare** favouring the interaction of all human, professional and economic resources of the area. While respecting the role and autonomy of the negotiating parties, experiment new forms of supplementary corporate and territorial welfare bargaining, with a view to strengthening universal welfare.



**Relaunching youth support policies and the collaboration of the educational network** also through the instrument of co-designing, in a process, which identifies the signs of unease present in the schooling system and in the community, paying attention to new phenomena such as social withdrawal.



**Strengthening the Regional Employment Agency and the integrated public-private system** to qualify the services and active policies for young people, women, and those who have lost or are at risk of losing their jobs.



**Strengthening the inclusion paths of foreign citizens through** three axes: strengthening their skills, improving universal welfare services from an intercultural perspective and promoting community work and mutual knowledge and interaction.



**Further development of the Inland Areas Strategy and approval of a new regional law for the mountains** as the most appropriate framework to acknowledge their specificity and put in place integrated support and promotion actions including, among other things: an adequate plan for the maintenance of the territory and the prevention of hydrogeological instability; the completion of communication infrastructures, incentives for connectivity and the purchase of information technology, particularly in the so-called "areas of market failure"; the expansion of the provision of essential services to the population and strengthening of LPT; measures to attract and support work and businesses and at the same time encourage young people to stay on; the recovery and promotion of our cultural, real estate and environmental heritage.



**Design of new integrated policies that favour the attractiveness, the stay and return of young people trained in the region**, also by enhancing the value of business transfer, guaranteeing them services to facilitate their transfer and residence, excellent international tertiary education provision, adequate salaries and opportunities for work and social integration to match an increasingly international generation.



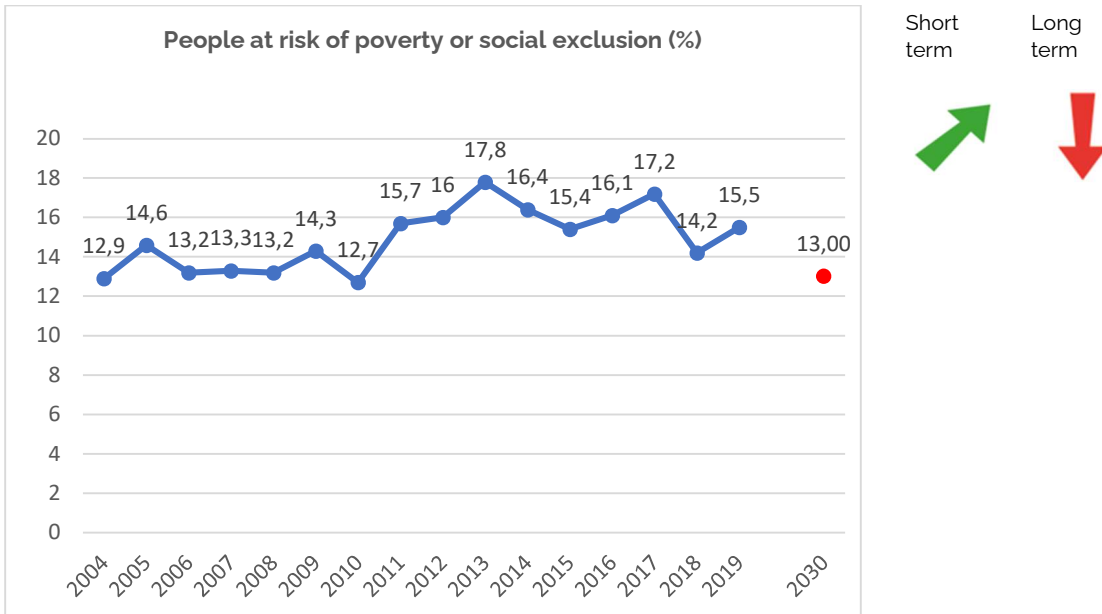
**Promotion and support of community cooperatives**, as a tool for local development, economic and social innovation, particularly in inland and mountain areas, to counter depopulation, impoverishment and social disintegration.

### Main implementation instruments

LR 12/2003 Norms for equal opportunities of access to knowledge, for everyone and throughout life, through the strengthening of education and vocational training, also in integration with each other, LR 6/2004 Reform of the regional and local administrative system. European Union and international relations. Innovation and simplification. Relations with the university, LR 17/2005 Norms for the promotion of employment, quality, safety and regularity of work, LR 14/2008 Standards on policies for the younger generations, LR 14/2015 "Regulations to support job integration and social inclusion of people in condition of fragility and vulnerability, through the integration between public services of employment, social and health", LR 11/2015 "Norms for the social inclusion of Roma and Sinti", LR 5/2004 "Norms for the social integration of foreign citizens immigrants.", LR 12/2007 "Promotion of the activity of recovery and redistribution of food products for social solidarity purposes", LR 2/2004 "Law for the Mountains" and subsequent amendments and revisions. LR 18/2019 Support for businesses located in mountain and inland areas of Emilia-Romagna, LR 14/1999 Rules governing brick&mortar retailers implementing Legislative Decree n. 114 of March 31 1998", LR 12/2000 "Regulation of the regional fair system in implementation of Legislative Decree 31 March 1998, n. 114, LR 1/2005 "Establishment of the regional civil protection agency", LR 15/2007 "Integrated regional system of interventions and services for the right to university study and higher education", LR 14/2014 "Promotion of investments in Emilia-Romagna", LR 6/2004 "Reform of the regional and local administrative system. European Union and international relations. Innovation and simplification. Relations with the university", LR 6/2006 Norms for the promotion and development of mutual cooperation in Emilia-Romagna. LR 16/2019 "Support for emergency microcredit", LR 12/2007 "Promotion of the activity of recovery and redistribution of food products for social solidarity purposes", LR 29/2004 "General norms on the organization and functioning of the regional health service", LR 12/2013 " Ordinances and reorganization of public forms of management in the system of social and healthcare services. Development measures and norms of authentic interpretation on the subject of public companies providing personal care services ", LR 2/2003" Norms for the promotion of social citizenship and for the implementation of an integrated system of interventions and social services", LR 13/2015 "Reform of the system of regional and local government and provisions concerning the Metropolitan City of Bologna, Provinces, Municipalities and their Unions", National Youth Policy Fund and National Agreements (GECO), Multiannual Regional Plan for Adolescence 2018/2020 (DAL n. 180/ 2018 Regional Council proposal no. 1627 dated 1 October 2018), Poverty Implementation Programme 2021 (DGR 473/2021), Youth Guarantee, Regional Implementation Plan. National Operational Programme Youth Employment Initiative - phase II \* (DAL n. 173/2018), FAMI funds programming, Triennial Investment Programmes of the Unions of Mountain Areas. (DGR 349/2021 and D.D. n.4990/2021), Mountain Fund (updated to extend its use to support the attractiveness of new businesses). (art. 8 LR 2/2004 "Law for mountains", Framework Programme Agreements for Inner Areas, PRRIITT (DAL 83/2012), Flood Risk Management Plans (PGRA) in force (first cycle)), Flood Risk Management Plans (PGRA) second generation, Hydrogeological Structure Plans (PAI): Updates and specific variants, Integrated Management Strategy for Coastal Defence and Adaptation to Climate Change (GIDAC), Hydrogeological instability prevention interventions within national investment plans, Alerting system for hydrogeological and hydraulic risks, Three-year programme for productive activities (PTAP) (DAL 83/2012), Guidelines document for activities of international importance 2021-2025 (Regional Council Resolution no. 245 of 22 February 2021 - DAL no. 40/2021), FONCOOPER Regional Prevention Plan, Revolving Fund Law n.49/85 productive activities programme, measure 2.2, action c - fund for cooperative companies, 2021 – 2022 Programming LR 14/2008 " Standards on policies for the younger generations", Establishment of the "inter-sectoral group for integrated youth-oriented actions" and "the youth section of the Observatory" in compliance with articles 6 and 7 of Regional Law no. 14/2008 (DGR 482/2021), Regional Social Fund 2021 "Annual Programme 2021: allocation of the resources of the Regional Social Fund pursuant to LR no. 2/2003 and subsequent amendments and integrations. Identification of actions for the pursuit of the objectives referred to in Legislative Assembly Resolution no. 120/2017 and in Interministerial Decree of 19 November 2020. Poverty Implementation Programme 2021" (DGR n. 473/2021), Projects for the social and occupational reintegration of persons in jail, using the funds of Cassa delle Ammende in implementation of the Agreement of 26/7/2018 between Conference of Regions and Autonomous Provinces and Cassa delle Ammende (Ministry of Justice), Social and Health Plan" (DAL 120/2017), Regional Social Fund 2021 "Annual Programme 2021: allocation of resources of the Regional Social Fund pursuant to LR 2/2003 and subsequent amendments and integrations. Identification of the actions for the pursuit of the objectives referred to in DAL 120/2017 and Interministerial Decree of 19 November 2020, POR FESR 2014-2020, POR FSE 2014-2020, "Regional Strategic Document for Joint Programming of European Development Policies -DSR 2021-2027" (DAL 44/2021), "Smart Specialization Strategy 2021-2027 of the Emilia-Romagna Region" (DAL 45/2021), POR FESR 2021-2027, POR FSE + 2021-2027, LR 6/2014 "Framework law for equality against gender discrimination", LR 15/2019 "Regional law against discrimination and violence determined by sexual orientation or gender identity".

**REGIONAL TARGETS**

- **BRINGING BACK THE SHARE OF PEOPLE AT RISK OF POVERTY OR SOCIAL EXCLUSION TO PRE-CRISIS LEVELS.**

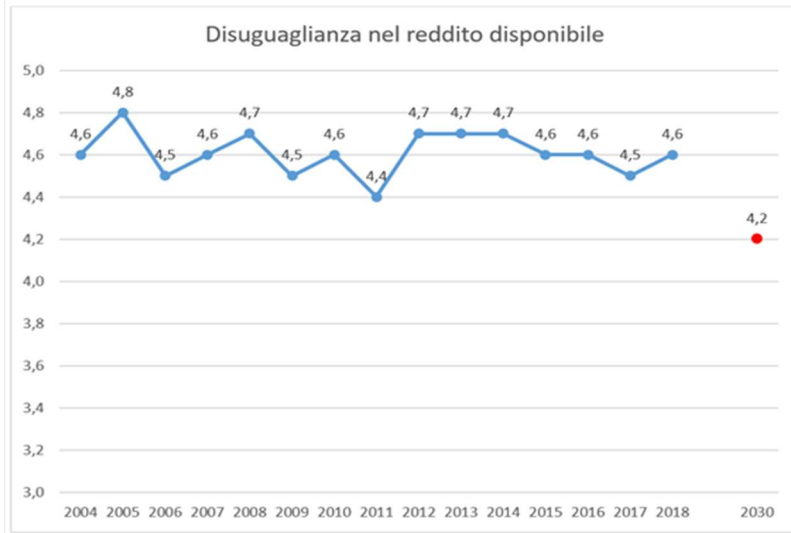


In the context of the Europe 2020 Strategy, the objective has been defined of reducing the number of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion, for the EU 28 aggregate, by 20 million units in 2020 compared to 2008. For **Emilia-Romagna, this corresponds to 13% of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion, a percentage already reached in the years preceding the 2008 crisis.** Also considering the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the goal is therefore to bring back the quota of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion to the levels observed before the economic crisis (13%) by 2030. The indicator shows, for Emilia-Romagna, a negative trend during the analyzed historical time series. It increased from 12.9% in 2004 to 15.5% in 2019 with peaks in 2013 and 2017 of 17.8% and 17.2% respectively. In the latest available 5 years (2014-2019) there was a trend reversal with a decrease in the percentage of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion (from 16.4% in 2014 to 15.5% in 2019).

- **REACHING A DISPOSABLE INCOME INEQUALITY INDEX OF 4.2**

The indicator used is the disposable income inequality index, given by the ratio between the total equivalent income received by the 20% of the population with the highest income and that received by the 20% of the population with the lowest income. Over the period of the analyzed historical time series, there **was a fluctuating trend in Emilia-Romagna that led the region to position itself in 2018 at the same level observed in 2010.** The target is to reach a value of 4.2, which is found among the best performing European countries whose characteristics are most similar to Italy (France). In the short term, one observes a slight **improvement** bringing the index down from 4.7 in 2013 to **4.6** in 2018. If this trend were to be confirmed in the future, the region would be in a position to approach the proposed target.

Short term      Long term



- **REDUCING THE GENDER GAP IN THE EMPLOYMENT RATE (20-64 AGE GROUP) BY INCREASING WOMEN'S SHARE OF THE EMPLOYMENT RATE TO 0.91**



Source: data processed on the basis of ISTAT-BES data

The Action Plan of the **European Pillar of Social Rights** has identified, among the targets for 2030, that of reducing the gender gap in employment levels by half. In Emilia-Romagna, the **employment rate in the 20-64 age group follows a positive trend both in the long and in the short term, for both genders**. For both parameters, **2020** showed a decrease in the average rate and caused a halt in the approximation of the two rates, which is still wide (14.8 percentage points). Women's share of the employment rate (20-64 age group), calculated as the **ratio of female to male rates**, is currently **0.82**. Even if, **in 2019, the trend pointed to good possibilities of approaching the target** (corresponding to a women's share of **0.91**), the effects of the pandemic on the labour market, which particularly affected female workers, moved the region away from the target, for which a strong commitment on the part of the entire regional system has now become essential.

**Targets at a glance - GOAL 10**

Positioning in 2019

Indicator	Description of the indicator	Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	Target
Elementary, included in the composite	People at risk of poverty and social exclusion	15.5%	25.6% U. 24.5% - D. 26.6%	20.9% U. 20.0% - D. 21.8%	13% EU 2030
Elementary, included in the composite	Reaching a 4.2 disposable income inequality index by 2030	4.6 (2018)	6.0 (2018) U. 6.1 - D. 5.9	5.0 (2018 estimated figure) U.5.0 - D.5.0	4.2 ER 2030
Elementary, included in the composite	Ratio of female to male employment rates	0.82% (2020)	0.73% (2020)	0.86% (2020)	0.91% EU 2030

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

## MAIN RELATED GOALS







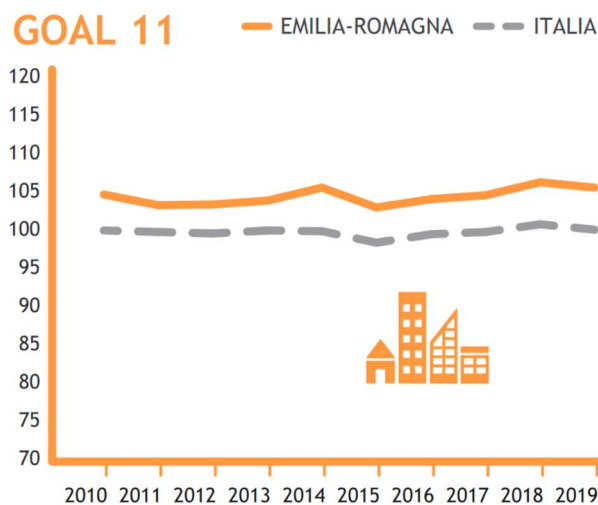
## SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

In Emilia-Romagna, we support cities, suburbs, small mountain and rural areas in their journey towards full sustainability.

### INTRODUCTION

No vision or strategic positioning project of Emilia-Romagna can be achieved without the **leading role of its cities and local areas**. The efforts to reach our sustainable development and ecological transition goals must be deep-rooted in the regional territory, where economic innovation originates and social cohesion is implemented, where the environment is a substantial concern and culture becomes daily practice. We are working to support the **Covenant of Mayors for Energy and Climate**, to promote the **Urban Transformation Agendas for sustainable development** and the Regional Strategies for inland and mountain areas to reduce the gap between cities and more peripheral locations at every level. Our attention is focused on **zero land consumption** strategies and on **urban regeneration**, through a plan for the redevelopment and resilience of cities, which not only benefits from the available European resources, but also optimizes the incentives introduced for the renovation, the energy-efficiency restoration and the safety upgrade of buildings on a large scale. We are strengthening **public transport networks**, with particular reference to mountainous and inland areas, encouraging the **replacement of Local Public Transport (LPT) company** vehicles with more environmentally friendly ones and supporting **reduced fare schemes**. We are promoting the use of bicycles, including through the **construction of new cycle paths** and encouraging investment in the development of **electric mobility**. We are accelerating **integration between rail and road**, with new modes of sustainable mobility and reducing the need for travel by strengthening digital technology (smart city). In compliance with the Framework Agreement for Air Quality in the Po Valley Basin, we are promoting the expansion of **green areas in cities** to dramatically reduce air pollution.

### POSITIONING



Elementary statistical indicators used to calculate the composite indicator:

- Illegal building index
- Incidence of green areas over the urban area of cities
- No. of times that the daily PM10 limit value is exceeded in provincial capitals
- Seats/km offered by local public transportation
- People who normally travel to work only by private transport
- People living in overcrowded housing
- Children who have used municipal childcare services
- Difficulty in accessing certain services

Source: ASviS

In Emilia-Romagna, the composite indicator showed an overall positive trend until 2018, due to the strong reduction in the number of days in which the PM10 limit was exceeded, falling from an average of 79 days

in 2012 to 36 days in 2018. Nevertheless, the number of days in which the PM 10 limit is exceeded is still higher in our region than the European limit (over 47 days in 2019 compared to a European limit of 35). The availability of green areas in cities also improved, increasing by 3.9% from 2014 to 2018. Public transport services decreased by 6.8% from 2010 to 2018 and the use of private transport increased (+3.8 percentage points from 2010 to 2019) similarly to the number of people living in overcrowded housing, increasing by 6.6 percentage points from 17.4% in 2010 to 24.0% in 2018. During the same period, the proportion of children who used childcare services decreased by 2.7 percentage points. Overall, the region shows a trend in line with that observed at the national level, positioning itself consistently better than the national average. In particular, Emilia-Romagna had an advantage over Italy in terms of the number of children who have used childcare services (26.7% in the region as against 13.5% in Italy in the last year for which data was available) and in terms of a low level of illegal building (6% in Emilia-Romagna as against 18.9% of the national average).

## **REGIONAL STRATEGY**

### **Strategic lines of intervention**



**Promotion of sustainability, innovation and attractiveness of historic centres** through the development of regeneration processes, which combine building and urban planning interventions, accessibility and mobility, the strengthening of services and infrastructure, actions to adapt to climate change and measures to revitalize the economic and social fabric.



**Further strengthening the strategy of zero land consumption and urban regeneration** through a plan for the redevelopment and resilience of cities, which not only benefits from the available European resources, but also optimizes the incentives introduced for the renovation, the energy-efficiency restoration and the safety upgrade of buildings on a large scale.



**Investing in new sustainable mobility** also through the integration of the current investment plans with a new package of green projects in the NRRP framework in order to: incentivize and strengthen public transport networks, with particular reference to mountain and inland areas; enhance regional production capacity by replacing LPT (Local Public Transport) company vehicles with more environmentally friendly ones; guarantee reduced fare schemes; promote the use of bicycles also through the creation of 1000 km of new cycle paths; favour investments in the area of electric mobility; accelerate integration between rail and road and with new modes of sustainable mobility; promote Bike and Car sharing with the aim of reducing private car traffic by at least 20% by 2025; support the expansion of private mobility towards "zero emissions" also through the installation of 2,500 power charging stations by 2025; support the renewal of the vehicle fleet by introducing electric vehicles; reduce the need for travel by strengthening digital technology (smart city); strengthen and upgrade rail transport, both for people and goods, by also completing the electrification of the regional network; focus on the development of intermodal transport, starting with investments in freight villages, intermodal and logistics centres to promote the transfer of goods transport from road to rail. Particularly important will be the promotion and further development of the Port of Ravenna and the implementation of the special logistics area connected to it.



**Planting 4.5 million trees in 5 years**, protecting, enhancing and safeguarding green areas and forests, upgrading and expanding the existing green areas of towns and cities; contributing to cleaner air and protecting biodiversity, with the creation of woods, including river woods, and forests plantations, identifying the most suitable areas with the involvement of local authorities, citizens and agricultural experts; protecting existing ecological corridors as strategically essential, improving their connections.



**Framework Agreement for air quality in the Po Valley Basin** capable of generating extraordinary investments to improve air quality, dramatically reducing emissions of particulate matter, nitrogen oxides and ammonia and, consequently, contributing to improving the conditions of underground and surface waters, with a fully integrated action, based on reliable and comparable data on all sources of pollution, through projects financed with national and European Union funds and shared with the other three Regions of the Basin. Given its national importance and the EU infringement procedures, the air quality of the Po Valley Basin should be the target of specific national Government projects within the NRRP.



**Creation of new services and integrated actions to support birth and parenthood**, also strengthening regional measures to facilitate access to services for large families.



**Development of a new Housing Plan to make the Regional Fund for Rent structural, to strengthen Social and Public Residential Housing (ERS and ERP)**, with a view to integrating housing policies and urban, environmental and social regeneration processes, activating regulatory and financial levers that favour the integration of Social and Public Residential Housing in the housing "supply chain", enhancing public-private partnerships, encouraging forms of aggregation of citizens and organized demand for housing and housing services and putting a significant part of the currently unused housing stock back on the subsidized rental market.



**Further development of the Inland Areas Strategy and approval of a new regional law for the mountains** as the most appropriate framework to acknowledge their specificity and put in place integrated support and promotion actions including, among other things: an adequate plan for the maintenance of the territory and the prevention of hydrogeological instability; the completion of communication infrastructures, incentives for connectivity and the purchase of information technology, particularly in the so-called "areas of market failure"; the expansion of the provision of essential services to the population and strengthening of LPT; measures to attract and support work and businesses and at the same time encourage young people to stay; the recovery and promotion of our cultural, real estate and environmental heritage.



**Support for a sustainable building and construction sector and structural strengthening of its enterprises** - of their design skills, techniques and technologies - and of research (starting with materials). Through regional synergies and coordination to promote the renovation bonus for energy-efficient retrofitting and seismic upgrading, the sector will accompany the processes and investments in infrastructures, urban regeneration and redevelopment of existing real estate, as well as the investments in new generation construction work.



**Encouraging redevelopment and innovation in retail stores and shopping malls**, including by systematically revising regional regulations and via specific policies and resources, with a view to make them a valid and even more competitive alternative to online commerce, by setting up Retail Districts, favouring the creation of business networks, supporting guarantee systems, redefining the role of Technical Assistance Centres, enhancing local commerce as a community asset, the specific features of neighbourhoods, historical town centres and Apennine areas, and designing new promotion and marketing policies and tools.



**Promotion and support of community cooperatives**, as a tool for local development, economic and social innovation, particularly in inland and mountain areas, to counter depopulation, impoverishment and social disintegration.

**TD**  
**Digital**  
**Transformation**

**Connectivity:** to make Emilia-Romagna a hyper-connected region that guarantees everyone, -be they individuals, organizations and businesses, including those who live or work in rural and "market failure" areas or in conditions of economic fragility - the right to access the broadband network.

### Main implementation instruments

LR 41/1997 "Trade actions to promote and qualify smaller companies in the product distribution network", Repeal of LR n. 49 of 7 December 1994, LR 12/1999 "Regulations governing trade on public ground, implementing Legislative Decree n. 114 of 31 March 1998", LR 14/1999 " Rules governing brick&mortar retailers implementing Legislative Decree n. 114 of March 31 1998", LR 30/1981 "Incentives for the development and enhancement of forest resources, with particular reference to the mountain areas", LR 24/2001 " General rules on public intervention in the housing sector", LR 02/2003 " Norms for the promotion of social citizenship and for the implementation of an integrated system of interventions and social services ", LR 2/2004 "Law for the Mountains" and subsequent amendments and integrations, LR 11/2004 "Development of the Information Society", LR 29/2004 " General norms on the organization and functioning of the regional health service ", LR 1/2005 "Establishment of the Regional Agency for Civil Protection", LR 6/2006 Rules for the promotion and development of mutual cooperation in Emilia-Romagna, LR 14/2008 "Standards on policies for the younger generations ", LR 19/2008 "Rules for the reduction of seismic risk", LR 12/2013 "Ordinances and reorganization of public forms of management in the system of social and healthcare services. Development measures and norms of authentic interpretation on the subject of public companies providing personal care services", LR 15/2013 " Simplification of building regulations" updated by LR 14/2020 "Urgent measures to promote the urban regeneration of historic centres, encourage redevelopments that benefit from the tax breaks referred to in art. 119 of DL 34/2020", LR 19/2014 "Regulations for promoting and supporting the solidarity economy", LR 13/2015 "Reform of the system of regional and local government and provisions concerning the Metropolitan City of Bologna, Provinces, Municipalities and their Unions", LR 14/2015 "Regulation in support of employment and social inclusion of people in fragile and vulnerable conditions, through the integration between public labour, social and health services", LR 04/2017 "Norms for the protection of consumers and users. Repeal of regional law n. 45 of 7 December 1992", LR 24/2017 "Regional regulations on the protection and use of the territory", LR 23/2018 " Regulation of trade on public ground. amendments to regional law n. 12 of 25 June 1999 and to regional law n. 4 of 24 May 2013", LR 18/2019 "Support for enterprises located in mountain and inland areas of Emilia-Romagna", LR 30/2019 "(Provisions for drawing up the 2020-2022 budget) art.10 "Interventions for Rail and River/Sea Freight Transport", POR FESR 2014-2020, POR FSE 2014-2020, "Regional Strategic Document for the Joint Programming of European Development Policies -DSR 2021-2027" (DAL 44/2021), "Emilia-Romagna Region Smart Specialization Strategy 2021-2027" (DAL 45/2021),POR FESR 2021-2027, POR FSE+ 2021-2027, PSR 2014-2020, PSR 2021-2022, PSN (CAP National Strategic Plan) 2023-2027, Regional Territorial Landscape Plan (PTPR) (DGR 1338/1993), Integrated Regional Transport Plan (PRIT), New Regional Plan for Waste Management and for the Remediation of Polluted Areas (PRRB) 2022-2027, Plans and programs for seismic risk reduction in strategic and relevant public buildings, Flood Risk Management Plans (PGRA), Integrated Regional Air Plan - PAIR2020 (DAL 115/2020); New Regional Integrated Plan (PAIR) 2021-2030 (Strategic Document expected by 2021), Regional Energy Plan (DAL no. 111/2017), Technical Coordination Document for rural areas, which, while waiting for the new PTPR, defines the guidelines regarding the protection and environmental landscape upgrade of the rural areas with the recovery and enhancement of buildings of historical, architectural, cultural and heritage value (art.36, LR 24/2017); Coordination Document for the Strategy for urban and ecological - environmental quality and Environmental and Territorial Sustainability Assessment of the General Urban Plan (DGR 2135/2019); Coordination Document for territorial standards (DGR110/2021), 2012 Commissioner's Ordinances for earthquake areas (Call for historic centre regeneration) Leg. Decree 74/2012 and Commissioner's Ordinance no. 23/2020 (Part IV), National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Mobility, (resources ex art. 5 DPCM 17/04/2020), MATTM Fund for the Regions of the Padania basin DPCM 28 November 2018, MIT Resources, Investment Fund 2018 and 2019, art.1, paragraph 140, L.232/2016; Memorandum of Understanding between RER and RFI for intermodal developments in RFI railway stations (DGR 237/2021), Agreement for the implementation of interventions to improve the railway accessibility of Porto Core, Ravenna, between the Municipality of Ravenna, RER, the Port System Authority of the Central-Northern Adriatic Sea and RFI (DGR n.304 of 20/03/2017), Preliminary Memorandum of Understanding between the Municipality of Ravenna, RER, Rete Ferroviaria Italiana, FS-Sistemi Urbani and Ravenna Port Authority (DGR 589/2009) and subsequent supplementary deed (DGR 1519/2012), Agreement for the implementation of interventions to improve the railway accessibility of Porto Core, Ravenna, between the Municipality of Ravenna, RER, the Port Authority and RFI (DGR 689/2015), Agreements with Mobility Agencies and LPT companies for contributions for reduced fare schemes (DGR 1308/2020 and 782/2020, DGR 1473/2020 DGR 1403/2020, DGR 1364/2019, DGR 1920/2020), Regional Forestry Regulation no. 3/2018, Regional Forest Plan 2014-2020 (DAL n. 80/2016), Plan for forecasting, preventing and fighting forest fires (DGR n. 1928/2020), Environmental Action Plan for sustainable development (DAL 46/2011 and subsequent additions) and calls for free distribution of plants (DGR n. 597/2020 and DGR n. 2030/2020), Coordination Document for territorial standards (DGR 110/2021) pursuant to LR 24/2017, Po Valley Basin Agreements (DGR 975/2017 and DGR 1412/2017), Sector Plans (PER, PRIT, PUG, PUMS, PUT, Green Plans); Social and Health Plan (DAL 120/2017) and approval of New Social and Health Plan 2022-2024, Programme aimed at supporting mobility among fragile subjects including large families with 4+ children within the Regional Social Fund 2021. 2021 Annual Programme (DGR n. 473/2021), "2021 protocol on adoptions signed by the Emilia-Romagna Region, the Emilia-Romagna Juvenile Court, Anci Emilia-Romagna, the Regional School Office for Emilia-Romagna, Bodies authorized to international adoption, Associations of adoptive families and their coordination bodies" (DGR 817/2016), "Regional guidelines for Family Centres" (DGR 391/2015), "Implementation of the 2017-2019 Social and Health Plan. Approval of the intervention fact sheets and guidelines for the implementation of the district area plans for health and social wellbeing" DGR 1423/2017, ERP and ERS Programs (L 80/2004, LR 24/2017), Rent Fund intended for rental support (L 431/1989), Fund for the recovery of the ERP heritage (L 80/2004, LR 24/2017), Fund for rent and supervening impossibility to pay rent, Three-year Investment Programs of the Unions of the Mountain Areas (DGR 349/2021 and D.D. n.4990/2021), Mountain Fund (updated to further

increase the attractiveness of new businesses), Regulations on the creation of biodistricts, 2021-2023 Policy Paper on the planning and administration of regional public transport (in the process of being approved), Flood Risk Management Plans (FMP) in force (first cycle), second-generation Flood Risk Management Plans (FMP), Hydrogeological Structure Plans (PAI): updates and specific variations, Integrated Management Strategy for Coastal Defence and Adaptation to Climate Change (GIDAC), Hydrogeological instability prevention interventions within national investment plans, Warning system for hydrogeological and hydraulic risks, Three-year programme for productive activities (PTAP) DAL no. 83/2012), FONCOOPER - Revolving Fund Law n.49/85 productive activities programme, measure 2.2, action c - fund for cooperative companies through subsidized loans from the Foncooper revolving fund - DGR 985/2020. Regional Prevention Plan, DGR 1855/2020 implementing the State-Regions agreement concerning the "National Prevention Plan (PNP) 2020-2025".

## REGIONAL TARGETS

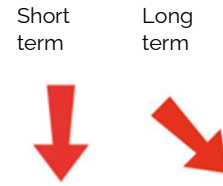
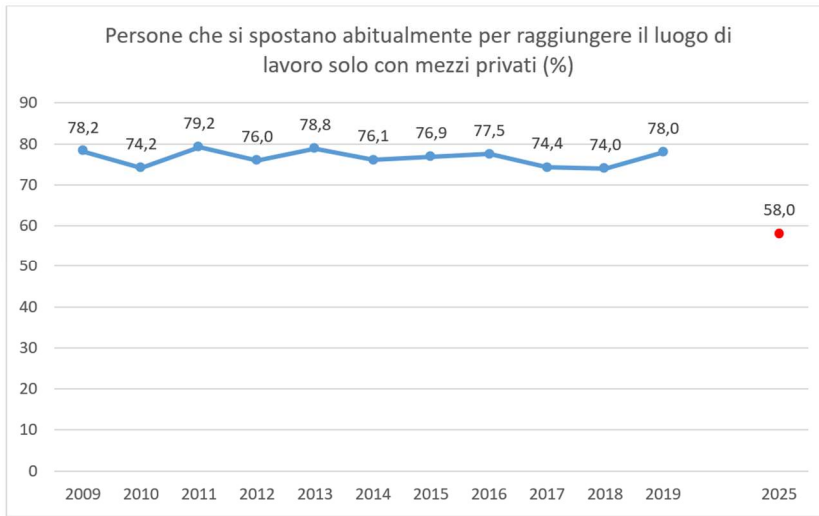
- **REDUCING THE NUMBER OF DAYS IN WHICH THE LIMIT VALUE FOR PM10 IS EXCEEDED TO AT LEAST 35.**



Emilia-Romagna, like the other regions of the **Po river basin**, **performs below the Italian average on indicators relating to exceeding the PM10 limit**. Concerning air quality, the quantitative **objectives are two-fold**: the first one is **respecting the daily limit value of PM10** in the entire region, the second one is linked to the Po Valley basin assessments conducted as part of the PREPAIR project<sup>23</sup>, which compared emission scenarios in 2013 and 2025 and highlighted the need for Emilia-Romagna **to reduce its PM 10 emissions by 51%**, in order to comply with the daily limit value. The 2025 objective is therefore to **keep** the number of days in which the daily PM10 limit value is exceeded **below 35** (maximum threshold set by European standards), being fully aware that the meteorological and orographic characteristics of the Po Valley determine concentrations that, given the same emissions, are not found elsewhere. We are aware that the 2030 target defined by the World Health Organization indicates 3 days as the maximum number of days that PM10 limits can be exceeded. The indicator used here shows the maximum number of times in which the daily limit was exceeded in all the fixed air quality-monitoring stations in the main cities of the Emilia-Romagna region. As shown in the short-term graph (2014-2019) there are fluctuations in the number of times that the limit value is exceeded. This trend, if confirmed in the future, would move the region away from achieving the 2025 target.

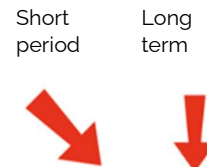
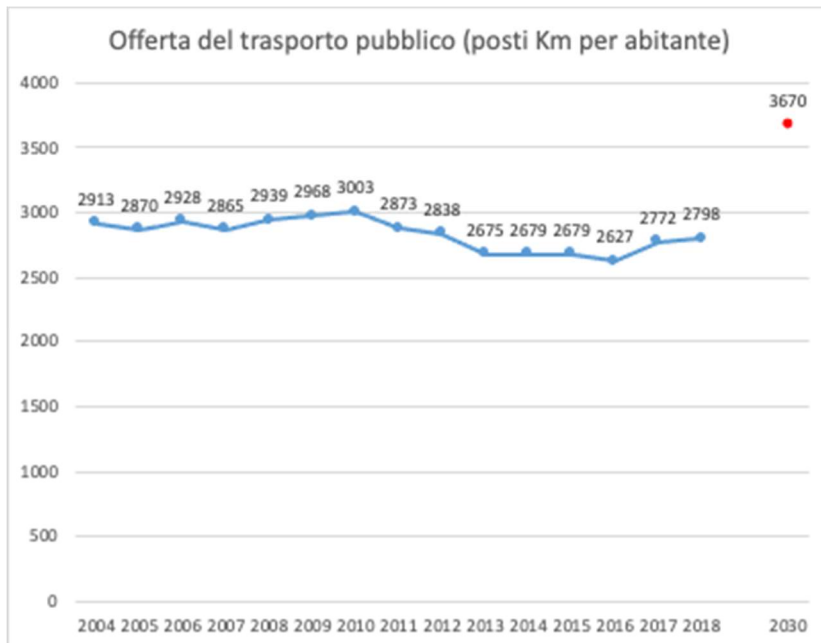
<sup>23</sup> <https://www.lifeprepare.eu/>

● **REDUCING PRIVATE CAR TRAFFIC BY AT LEAST 20%**



In order to monitor the specific regional objective defined in the Pact for Work and Climate related to the reduction of private car traffic by at least 20% by 2025, the proposed proxy indicator is the **percentage of people who normally travel to work only by private transport (%)**. The most recent available year (2019) is used as the reference year for the desired reduction. The short-term trend indicates that the indicator increased by 1.9 percentage points from 2014 to 2019. If this trend continues in the coming years, the target cannot be reached.

● **INCREASING THE SEATS-KM OFFERED BY LOCAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT BY 26% COMPARED TO 2004.**



The **public transport** services in the region show an increase in the first six years of the analysis, and then a decrease from 2010 to 2016 (6.8% decrease). The LPT interventions undertaken during the previous legislation term, with **renewal of the rail and road fleet, an integrated fare system and technologically advanced services**, have impacted on the values of the last years of the past decade. The long-term analysis (2014-2018) shows a worsening of the indicator, while in the short term one observes a slight 4.6%

improvement of the indicator from 2013 to 2018. This increase, however, is not enough to achieve the 2030 target and needs improvement.

### Targets at a glance - GOAL 11

Indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
Elementary, included in the composite	Air quality: Maximum number of times that the daily limit value for PM10 (50 micrograms/m3) is exceeded	47			< 35 days ER 2025
Elementary, included in the composite	People who normally travel to work only by private transport	78%	74.2%		58% ER 2025
Elementary, included in the composite	Seats/km offered by local public transport per inhabitant by 2030	2,798.4 (2018)	4,553.2 (2018)		3670 km ER 2030
ER	Km of cycle paths compared to 2020	1,120 (2020)			+1000 km ER 2025
ER	Number of new power charging stations in the region	708 (2020)			+ 2500 ER 2025
ER	Extension of the network of public Wi-Fi access points for free and fast access to the Internet (EmiliaRomagnaWiFi)	9,400			+ 2600 ER 2025
ER	Rate of participation in courses regarding good practices and integrated health and environmental performance targets for the construction/renovation of buildings (Predefined Programme 9 PNP 2020-2025), mainly targeted towards Public Health Departments and Municipalities, with priority given to the provincial capitals	0			100% ER 2025 (8/8 Public Health Departments involved)

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

### MAIN RELATED GOALS









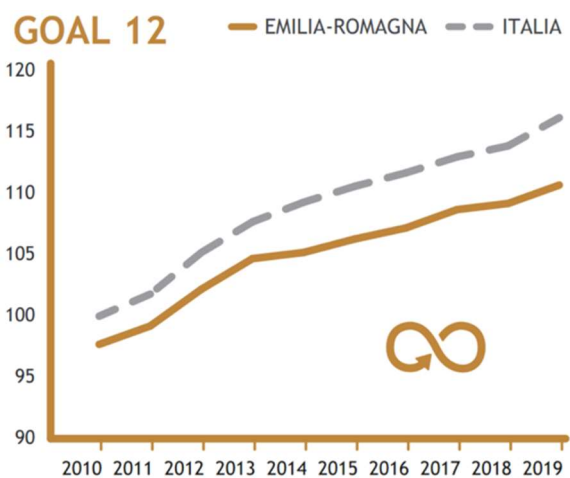
## RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

In Emilia-Romagna, we want to produce less waste, promote circular processes and sustainable purchasing, and promote sustainable and quality tourism.

### INTRODUCTION

In 2015, the Emilia-Romagna Region was the first in Italy to adopt a **regional law for the circular economy**, setting itself more ambitious objectives than those set by the European Union for a recovery economy that allows us to "do more with what is already available", reducing the consumption of resources and natural capital and helping to improve the carbon footprint of the planet. According to European estimates, this will have a positive impact on the disposable income of families and on the reduction in production costs of businesses. With the **Pact for Work and for the Climate**, we have set ourselves new shared **targets** to promote a **new culture of responsible consumption and production** within an equitable path of ecological transition, planning actions capable of generating new businesses, new work and new skills and of upgrading the professional skills of workers to protect and safeguard their employment. With this objective, in Emilia-Romagna we intend to **increase the quality and quantity of separate waste collection, consolidate punctual waste disposal pricing in all municipalities, ensuring regional self-sufficiency in the management of all waste**. We intend to support research and **innovation for new production chains for the recovery of materials**, the durability of products and the **use of low-emission materials** as well as adopting new strategies for a more sustainable use of plastic, **progressively abandoning single-use plastics**. We also want to develop **sustainable purchasing in particular in the public sector**, enhancing the excellent capabilities and investing in the regional vocations of Emilia-Romagna, **bringing tourism** in harmony with the environment, the local communities and cultures. Each of these challenges requires active citizenship participation. For this reason, we are committed to accompanying the process with information and communication actions aimed at increasing awareness in the regional society and guiding individual and collective behaviours accordingly.

### POSITIONING



Elementary statistical indicators used to calculate the composite indicator:

- Internal material consumption per unit of GDP
- Material circularity
- Recycling rate
- Municipal waste sent to landfills out of total municipal waste collected
- Separate municipal waste collection
- Municipal waste production per capita

Source: ASviS

For this goal, the composite indicator increased significantly between 2010 and 2019 thanks to the improvement of all elementary indicators. In particular, important progress is observed for the share of

waste sent to landfills<sup>24</sup>, which in the period 2010-2019 decreased by 18.3 percentage points and for separate municipal waste collection, which from 2010 to 2019 increased by 22.9 percentage points. Municipal waste production also decreased over the time period considered (-2.1% from 2010 to 2019). The regional composite indicator shows a similar trend to the national one albeit with lower values in the historical time series. This is mainly due to the production of urban waste in Emilia-Romagna, **equal to 33.7% more than the Italian average**, following the precise choice of ensuring traceability and safety through the mechanism of assimilation of special into urban waste. On the other hand, the region has a **significantly better separate collection rate compared to the Italian average** -71% in 2019 against 60.3% of the national average- and a share of urban waste sent to landfills equal to **1.66%**, as correctly calculated by ARPAE considering only the share of urban waste produced and disposed in landfills in the Emilia-Romagna region.

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention



**Implementation of measures** and interventions aimed at reducing the production of waste and its transfer to landfills or waste-to-energy plants.



**Increase in the number of supply chains approved in the regional by-product list.**



**Accompanying the ecological transition of companies** of all sizes by guiding and encouraging their investments towards renewable energy and towards processes and products with a lower environmental impact, putting them in a position to seize the opportunities of the green transition through targeted aid, regulatory simplifications and measures that support the change towards sustainable production and consumption models.



Development of **new green supply chains** with attention to both the climate/energy area and the industrial supply chains for material recovery.



**Support for the circular economy**, also by launching research laboratories involving the High Technology Network, ARPAE, the Environmental Energy Cluster-ER, the Municipalities, the managers of environmental services and the entire production system, investing in technologies capable of reducing waste and facilitating industrial symbiosis, increasing the durability of products and the use of low-emission materials, promoting the recycling, recovery and reuse of waste through the creation of new dedicated circuits and new plants, also with the aim of increasing regional self-sufficiency.



**Acceleration of the transition process towards the elimination of single-use plastics**, in line with the obligations set out in European legislation, and towards a more sustainable use of plastics, through the establishment of a regional Controlling Body that will evaluate the timing, impact and implementation methods of each individual action.



**Increase in the demand for increasingly innovative and sustainable products, services and public works** through Green Procurement and pre-commercial procurement (forms of partnership between industry and public administration).



**Reduction in the production of waste**, starting with household waste, and in the amount of waste sent to landfills or to waste-to-energy plants, with a view to decreasing non-recycled waste to 110 kg per capita or less by 2030, increasing the quantity and quality of pre-sorted waste collection (primarily through door-to-door

<sup>24</sup> This figure also takes into account municipal waste flows in and out of other regions, which can change the value of the numerator even to a significant extent. For this reason, we are considering the adoption of a more suitable indicator.

collection) with the goal of 80% by 2025, consolidating spot pricing in all municipalities, introducing new and different bonus mechanisms and ensuring regional self-sufficiency in the management of all waste.



**Promotion and support for a new sustainable, inclusive and slow tourism**, starting from cycle and hiking paths, building intermodal and integrated networks encompassing local cultural, archaeological and scenic excellence, promoting investment in renewable energy and electric mobility and encouraging zero impact eco-sustainable tourist facilities.



**Relaunching our tourism districts** with the aim of creating good businesses and jobs, recouping –including in conjunction with neighbouring regions- important international tourism, strengthening relations with international markets, investing in strategic assets and cross-sectoral theme products - the Riviera and the Apennines, the Cities of Art and the network of castles, the Po River and its Delta, nature and theme parks, spas and wellness, hiking and cycle paths, the Food Valley, the Motor Valley, the Wellness Valley - and in the area of meetings, conventions and events.



**Strengthening promotional and marketing actions** and supporting private investment in accommodation upgrading and innovation, while continuing to enhance the value of public assets and the urban and environmental regeneration of the region.

**P**

Participation

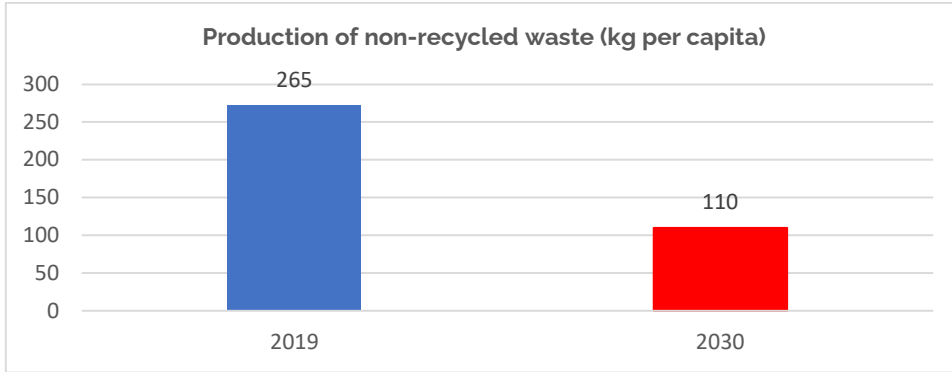
**Promotion of industrial relations that encourage**, especially through the extension of second-level bargaining, those processes of cultural change capable of increasing the forms and tools of organizational participation and strategic development in companies, enhancing, in full respect of the autonomy of the parties involved, also formal participation paths within companies and supply chains, in order to strengthen the competitiveness of companies and the value of work.

## Main implementation instruments

LR 16/2015 "Provisions in support of the circular economy, reduction of urban waste production, reuse of end-of-life goods, separate collection and amendments to Regional Law n. 31 of 19 August 1996". LR 28/2009 "Introduction of environmental sustainability criteria in public administration purchases", LR 14/2014 "Promotion of investments in Emilia-Romagna", LR 7/2002 "Promotion of the regional system of industrial research, innovation and technology transfer activities", LR 7/2019 "Investments by the Emilia-Romagna region in big data and artificial intelligence, meteorology and climate change", LR 20/2018 "Promotion of innovation in the tourist offer and urban redevelopment in the seaside resort areas of the Emilia-Romagna coastline", LR 4/2016 "Regional tourism regulations - organizational system and policies to support and promote tourism marketing", LR 40/2002 "Incentives for the development and upgrade of the regional tourist industry", LR 17/2002 "Interventions for the upgrade of the ski resorts and the ski facilities of the Emilia-Romagna region", LR 9/2002 "Regulation of the administrative functions pertaining to the field of the publicly-owned coastal land and territorial sea", LR 20/2018 "Promotion of innovation in the tourist offer and urban redevelopment in the seaside resort areas of the Emilia-Romagna coastline", LR 6/2004 "Reform of the regional and local administrative systems. European Union and international relations. Innovation and simplification. Relations with the university", LR 41/1997 "Trade actions to promote and qualify smaller companies in the product distribution network", LR 19/2014 "Regulations for promoting and supporting the solidarity economy", "Regional Strategic Document for the Joint Programming of European Development Policies -DSR 2021-2027" (DAL 44/2021), "Smart Specialization Strategy 2021-2027 of the Emilia-Romagna Region" (DAL 45/2021), POR FESR 2014-2020, POR FESR 2021-2027, PSR 2014-2020 extended to 2022, PSN (CAP National Strategic Plan) 2023-2027, Regional Waste Management Plan 2016-2021 (DAL 67/2016) and new Regional Waste Management Plan 2022-2027, Regional Strategy for Plastics Reduction - PlasticFreER, DGR no. 2000/2019, Regional Energy Plan 2030 (DAL 111/2017), Three-year Implementation Plan for the Regional Energy Plan 2017-2019 (DAL 111/2017), Regional Programme for Industrial Research Innovation and Technology Transfer - PRRIITT (DAL 83/2012), Three-year Programme for Productive Activities -PTAP (DAL 83/2012), Action Plan for Environmental Sustainability of Public Consumption in Emilia-Romagna 2019-2021 (DAL n.219/2019), Integrated Regional Air Plan PAIR2020 (DAL 115/2020), Action Plan for the environmental sustainability of public consumption in Emilia-Romagna 2019-2021, (DAL n.219/2019), Three-year regional programme of information and education for sustainability 2020-2022 (DAL 225/2019), "Environmental action plan for sustainable development" (DAL 46/2011 and subsequent integrations), Regional programme for industrial research, innovation and technology transfer - PRRIITT (DAL 83/2012), Three-year programme for productive activities - PTAP (DAL 83/2012), Extraordinary programme for mountains (DGR 349/2021), New Regional Territorial Landscape Plan (PTPR) adapted to the Code of cultural heritage and landscape (D. Lgs. 42/2004), National System for the protection of the environment (D. Lgs. 42/2004), National System of Tourist Cycle paths in the Region. Tourist trails "Alta Via dei Parchi" (DGR 2039/2009) and "Ciclovia dei Parchi" (288/2011), Guidelines for activities of international relevance 2021-2025 (DGR 1158/2016), Framework agreement between Regione Emilia-Romagna, ATERSIR and UISP Emilia-Romagna with the goal of developing proposals and project ideas aimed at the environmental sustainability of sports activities with particular reference to the themes of sustainability education, integrated policies in protected areas, green purchasing, waste prevention and recovery and resource saving in general, Guidelines for Sustainable Sports Events.

**REGIONAL TARGETS**

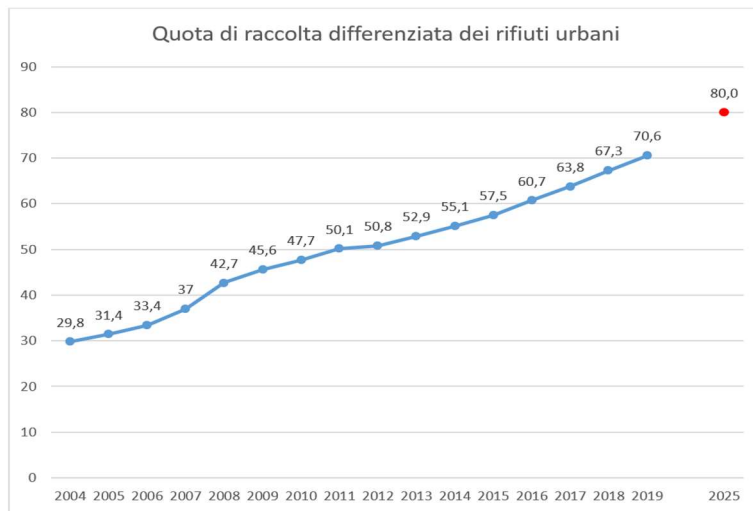
- **REDUCING NON-RECYCLED MUNICIPAL WASTE TO LESS THAN 110 KG PER CAPITA**



Source: ER Region - ISPRA

For this indicator, introduced to monitor the quantitative target included in the **Pact for Work and Climate**, the historical time series is not available. The data estimated by ARPAE in 2019 (base year) will be monitored in future years in addition to the more traditional undifferentiated waste indicator.

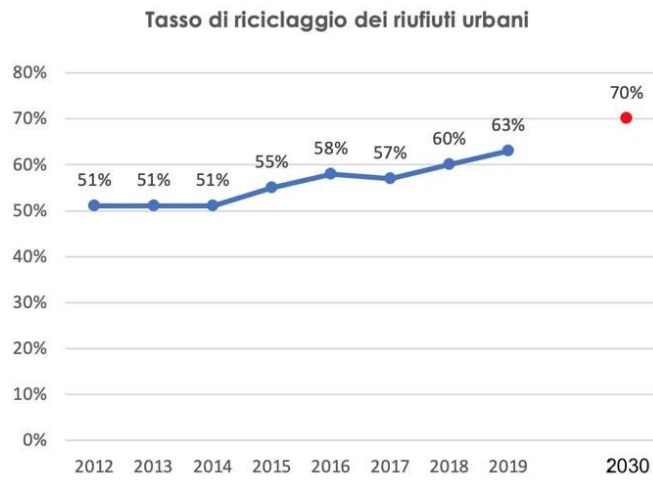
- **REACHING 80% SEPARATE WASTE COLLECTION**



Source: Istat SDGs

The analyzed historical time series (2004-2019), shows that Emilia-Romagna has made **significant progress** in terms of **increasing separate collection**. In 2019, the latest available year, the region reached 70.6%, with a 38.3 percentage point increase compared to 2004 and 12.8 points more than in 2014. The growth rate observed both in the short term (2014-2019) and in the long term (2004-2019) is in line with achieving the target set by the Pact for Work and Climate.

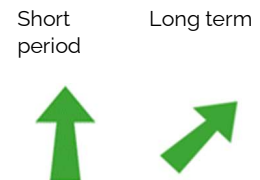
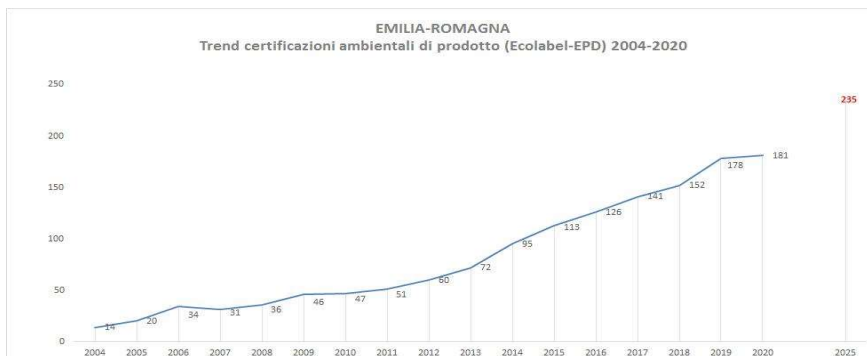
● **REACHING 70% RECYCLING RATE**



Source: ER Region

Recycling is the basic goal in waste management since recovering material from waste is the prerequisite for the circular economy. The graph shows **a consistently positive increase** (12 percentage points from 2014 to 2019), but we should strive to do more, with particular reference to the **recovery of plastics and the organic fraction of waste** (currently not included in the calculation), to achieve the 70% target.

● **INCREASING ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT CERTIFICATIONS IN REGIONAL COMPANIES BY 30% (COMPARED TO 2020)**



Source: data processed by ART-ER on the basis of ISPRA (Ecolabel) and Environdec (EPD) data, updated in July each year.

The analyzed historical time series (2004-2020), shows a **consistent and progressive increase in environmental product certifications among the Emilia-Romagna companies**. The average annual rate of increase in product certifications observed both in the short term (average annual variation equal to 9.9% in the period 2015-2020) and in the long term (average annual variation equal to 17.3% in the period 2004-2020) is in line with achieving the regional target.

## Targets at a glance - GOAL 12

Indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			TARGET
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
ER	Non-recycled municipal waste production (kg per capita)	265kg	nd	nd	110kg/inh ER 2030
Elementary, included in ASviS composite	Percentage of separate collection over municipal waste	71%	61.3%	nd	80% ER 2025
Elementary, included in ASviS composite	Recycling rate	63%	51.3%	47.7%	70% ER 2030
ER	Percentage increase in product certifications compared to 2020	181(2020)	636	nd	+ 30% ER 2025
ER	Contributing to food waste reduction	BEING MEASURED	Nd	nd	≥ 30% ER 2030
ER	No. of companies adopting processes and technologies with a lower environmental impact for sustainable production	178			235 ER 2025
ER	Percentage of municipalities that have applied punctual waste disposal pricing	25%	11%	nd	100% ER 2030 95% ER 2025
ER	Percentage of products withdrawn from the market and channeled to deprived persons over the total	73%	CURRENTLY UNDER EVALUATION	nd	100% ER 2030 95% ER 2025
ER	Percentage of transport reimbursement on the total (the % decreases when the products are redistributed near the place of production with obvious economic savings and reduced environmental impact resulting from transport)	11%	nd	nd	8% ER 2030 10% ER 2025

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

## MAIN RELATED GOALS





## CLIMATE ACTION

**In Emilia-Romagna, we intend to reduce emissions, combat climate change and its effects and impacts, and reach carbon neutrality before 2050.**

### INTRODUCTION

Within the framework of the Pact for Work and for the Climate and in line with the European policies for the fight against climate change, the Emilia-Romagna Region has set itself the goal of accelerating the ecological transition to **reach carbon neutrality before 2050**. The European Union has also undertaken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030 compared to the 1990 levels, and the Emilia-Romagna region has taken this as its medium-term target. This project is highly demanding but at the same time necessary for the Po Valley, which is not only the area with the highest concentration of production and manufacturing activities in Italy, but also the one facing the greatest environmental challenges, starting, of course, with air quality. We are working to **speed up the process of mitigation and adaptation to the impacts of climate change taking a systematic approach to all future standardization, planning and programming activities and cutting across all sectoral policies in a path that does not jeopardize productive and natural capital**, the employment of people and the well-being of society, but rather drives a new and different form of development. This challenge must go hand in hand with the one against inequalities. It is, in fact, the most fragile groups who pay the highest price for the effects of global warming. They are also those who risk suffering most from the effects of transition if they are not adequately supported. Starting from these assumptions, we will define **the Regional Pathway to Carbon Neutrality before 2050, which will include integrated action strategies in the various sectors aimed at absorbing** and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This work will form the basis of the **Climate Law, which** the Region intends to adopt.

Many of the lines of intervention listed under the other Goals of the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" will contribute to achieving this objective, in particular the **transition to 100% renewable energy by 2035** as reported in Goal 7 of this document. No composite indicator can be obtained due to the lack of data for all Italian regions in the historical time series. For this reason, ASviS does not monitor this Goal at the regional level.

### REGIONAL STRATEGY

#### Strategic lines of intervention



**Development of Urban Agendas for Sustainability.**



**Definition of the new Integrated Regional Plan (PAIR) 2021-2030** that will focus on health protection within the new framework of actions for air quality.



**Implementation of the priority measures contained in the Flood Risk Management Plans (PGRAs) and of the hydrogeological instability prevention interventions**, based on the critical issues outlined in the PAIs (Hydrogeological Structure Plans) and PGRAs (Flood Risk Management Plans).



**Sustainable management of forests** through the implementation of the Regional Forest Plan, aimed at introducing a new approach, which is more suitable for multi-

purpose policies, under the sign of sustainable management and for the conservation of biodiversity.



**Renewal of the Plan for forecasting, preventing and fighting forest fires**, in close collaboration with the various entities involved in the regional forest fire-fighting system, as well as in synergy with all stakeholders for the correct management and promotion of prevention measures.



**Definition and approval of the new Regional Law to combat, contain and manage climate change.**



**Increasing the production, use and storage of renewable energy**, also in a diffuse form, through a Regional Law on energy communities.



**Acceleration of the energy transition in the public sector**, supporting the development of Municipal Energy-Climate Plans and carbon neutrality paths at the territorial level, giving new impetus to the upgrading and energy efficiency of the entire public and private assets.



**Investing**, also thanks to the Next Generation EU resources, **in a strategic plan for the maintenance, protection and adaptation** of existing towns and infrastructures, the prevention of hydrogeological instability and coastal protection through a multi-year joint action plan with local authorities and all stakeholders; a strategy based on strengthening knowledge of risks and vulnerability, identifying priorities, planning prevention measures to be implemented in the short and medium to long term, ensuring reliable and continuous funding, simplifying procedures, setting up large construction sites for quick activation and getting a wide range of businesses of various sizes involved, to create good local jobs.



**Investing to increase the adoption, by companies, of processes and technologies** to encourage energy efficiency in production and the production and use of renewable energy.



**Investing in new sustainable mobility** also through the integration of the current investment plans with a new package of green projects in the NRRP framework in order to: incentivize and strengthen public transport networks, with particular reference to mountain and inland areas; **enhance regional production capacity by replacing LPT (Local Public Transport) company vehicles with more environmentally friendly vehicles**; guarantee reduced fare schemes; promote the use of bicycles also through the creation of 1000 km of new cycle paths; favour investments in the area of electric mobility; accelerate integration between rail and road and with new modes of sustainable mobility; **promote Bike and Car sharing with the aim of reducing private car traffic by at least 20% by 2025**; support the expansion of private mobility towards "zero emissions" also through the installation of 2,500 power charging stations by 2025; support the renewal of the vehicle fleet by introducing electric vehicles; reduce the need for travel by strengthening digital technology (smart city); strengthen and upgrade rail transport, both for people and goods, by also completing the electrification of the regional network; focus on the development of intermodal transport, starting with investments in freight villages, intermodal and logistics centres to promote the transfer of goods transport from road to rail. Particularly important will be the promotion and further development of the Port of Ravenna and the implementation of the special logistics area connected to it.



**Protecting, enhancing and safeguarding green areas**: planting **4.5 million trees in 5 years**, enhancing and protecting the forestry areas, upgrading and expanding the existing green areas of towns and cities; contributing to cleaner air and protecting biodiversity, with the creation of woods, including river woods, and forests plantations, identifying the most suitable areas with the involvement of local authorities, citizens and agricultural experts; protecting existing ecological corridors as strategically essential, improving their connections. Implement a geo-referenced system for monitoring planted species.





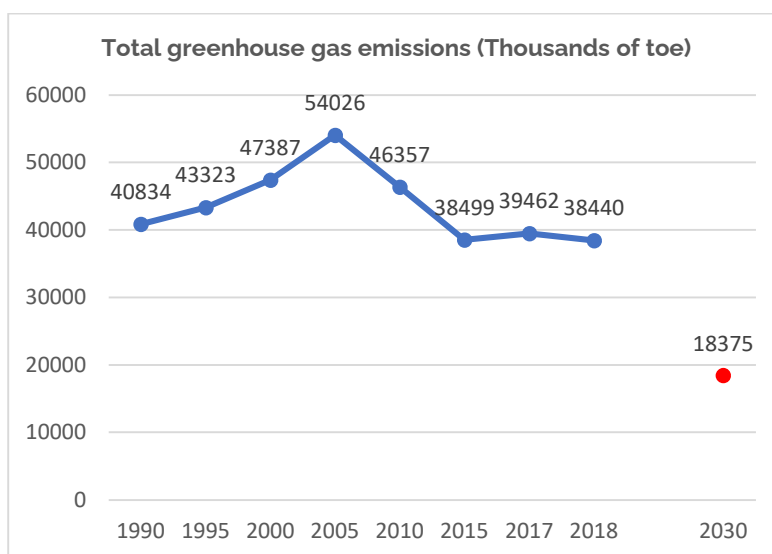
**Definition of a joint Region-Municipalities system to evaluate** the effectiveness of climate change mitigation and adaptation actions.

### Main implementation instruments

LR 30/1981 "Incentives for the development and enhancement of forest resources, with particular reference to the mountain areas". POR FESR 2021-2027, "Regional Strategic Document for the Joint Programming of European Development Policies -DSR 2021-2027" (DAL 44/2021), "Smart Specialization Strategy 2021-2027 of the Emilia-Romagna Region" (DAL 45/2021), Regional Energy Plan (DAL 111/2017), Three-year Implementation Plan for the Regional Energy Plan 2017-2019 (DAL 111/2017) New Three-year Implementation Plan for the Regional Energy Plan (2022-2024) and programming update to 2030. Interventions to support and disseminate the Municipalities' Energy-Climate Plans (DGR 1315/2019) LR 28/2009 "Introduction of environmental sustainability criteria in public administration purchases", Action Plan for the environmental sustainability of public consumption in Emilia-Romagna 2019-2021 (DAL 219/2019), Integrated Regional Air Plan PAIR2020 (DAL 115/2020), Flood Risk Management Plans (PGRA) in force (first cycle), second generation Flood Risk Management Plans (PGRA), Hydrogeological Structure Plans (PAI): updates and specific variations, Integrated Management Strategy for Coastal Defense and Adaptation to Climate Change (GIDAC), Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP). Resolution no. 12271/2020), Interventions for the prevention of hydrogeological instability within the framework of national investment plans, LR 1/2005 "Establishment of the regional civil protection agency", Alerting system for hydrogeological and hydraulic risks, Programme of public works for territorial security of the Region, PSR 2014-2020 extended to 2022, PSN (National Strategic Plan of the CAP) 2023-2027, LR 24/2017 "Regional regulation on the protection and use of the territory", Coordination Paper for the Strategy for Urban, Ecological and Environmental Quality, Environmental and Territorial Sustainability Assessment of the General Urban Plan (DGR 2135/2019), Integrated Regional Transport Plan - PRIT (DAL 1322/1998), New Integrated Regional Transport Plan -PRIT (DGR 1696/2019, proposal for Assembly), Plan of proposals for the revitalization of the regional railway network. Implementation agreement for the implementation of interventions to improve the railway accessibility of the Core Port of Ravenna, between the Municipality of Ravenna, RER, Port System Authority of the Central-Northern Adriatic Sea and RFI (DGR n.304 of 20/03/2017), Preliminary Memorandum of Understanding between the Municipality of Ravenna, RER, Rete Ferroviaria Italiana, FS-Sistemi Urbani and Ravenna Port Authority (DGR 589/2009) and subsequent supplementary deed (DGR 1519/2012), Agreement for the implementation of interventions to improve the railway accessibility of Porto Core, Ravenna, between the Municipality of Ravenna, RER, the Port Authority and RFI (DGR 689/2015), LR.30/2019 (Provisions for drawing up the 2020-2022 budget) art.10 "Interventions for Rail and River/Sea Freight Transport, Memorandum of Understanding between RER and RFI for intermodal developments in RFI railway stations (DGR 237/2021), National Strategy for Inland Areas (SNAI), Regional Forest Regulation, n. 3/2018, Regional Forest Plan 2014-2020, (DAL 80/2016). Plan for forecasting, preventing and fighting forest fires. (DGR n. 1928/2020). Environmental action plan for sustainable development (DAL 46/2011 and subsequent integrations) and calls for free distribution of plants (DGR No. 597/2020 and DGR No. 2030/2020).

### REGIONAL TARGETS

- **REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 55% COMPARED TO THE 1990 LEVELS WITH THE AIM OF ACHIEVING CARBON NEUTRALITY BY 2050.**



Short term

Long term



Source ISPRA and ER Region

The historical time series (1990-2018) of CO2 equivalent emissions in Emilia-Romagna shows a fluctuating trend, with a worsening from 1990 to 2005 and then a decrease in the following decade. From 2015 to 2018, there was a further reversal of the trend, leading regional emissions to increase by 3.7% in two years. **In 2018, the year for which the latest data is available, there was a 28.8% decrease over 2005 and a 5.9% decrease over 1990.** The rate of emission reduction observed over the long term indicates the need to **speed up decarbonization policies to achieve a 55% reduction by 2030.**

**Targets at a glance - GOAL 13**

Indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
ER	Percentage reduction of greenhouse-gas emissions (compared to the 1990 level)	-5.9% (2018)	- 23%	-25%	<b>-55% EU 2030</b>
ER	Development of a geo-referenced system for monitoring planted species	0			<b>100% ER2025</b>
ER	Increasing the resources for the maintenance of watercourses, slopes and coastlines by two-fold in order to guarantee strategic and priority interventions and ensure consistent care of the territory with the maintenance of watercourses, slopes and coastlines. The Region aims to increase the resources by two-fold, from 50 to 100 million euros in 5 years	50 Mil Euro			<b>100 million euros ER 2025</b>

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

**MAIN RELATED GOALS**





## LIFE BELOW WATER

**In Emilia-Romagna, we conserve and preserve the sea and the marine resources for sustainable development**

### INTRODUCTION

Marine resources and coastal environments represent precious assets and growth opportunities for the economy of Emilia-Romagna since they are linked to multiple strategic sectors: tourism, commercial ports and cruise ships, energy, fishing and aquaculture. They need further development and solutions to address the critical issues related to their coexistence, to the environmental aspects and climate change and to make harmonious and sustainable development of the whole system possible. With the recent setting up of the first marine Site of Community Importance, the Emilia-Romagna Region confirms its intention to favour the conservation and protection of coastal and marine ecosystems as tools for better promotion of and tourist attraction to areas of high nature value, in an effort to strike a balance between the maintenance and conservation of natural environments and the development of human activities, preventing and **significantly reducing the pollution of our sea, rivers and streams, keeping them free from plastics and waste from land and sea activities** At the same time, the action of the regional government aims at **improving the state of ecosystems and ensuring an exploitation of living aquatic resources that encourages sustainable economic, environmental and social conditions**. We will use all possible ways to promote sustainable use of the sea, so as to **minimize the impact of fisheries on the marine ecosystems**.

To date, ASviS cannot monitor Goal 14 at the regional level due to the lack of data for all Italian regions in this historical time series; therefore, it was not possible to develop a composite indicator.

### REGIONAL STRATEGY

#### Strategic lines of intervention



**Implementation of Maritime Spatial Planning.**

**Exploiting the living aquatic resources in a way that favours sustainable economic, environmental and social conditions** and minimizes the impact of fisheries on marine ecosystems through the support of green investments in the field of sea and inland water professions and the upgrading of vessels and places of landing, first processing and sale of the catch. Strengthening the interventions in the field of aquaculture and its organizational structure.



**'Clean Seas' Operation** improving water quality, cleaning up waste and helping to reduce microplastics in the Adriatic Sea  
Strengthening of interventions to encourage the recovery and disposal of plastics from the sea.



**Approval of a new Regional Law on wastewater discharge.**



**Implementation of the measures of the Po River Basin Management Plan** and preparation of the 2022-2027 water protection plan (mainly those measures that concern the construction or modernization of urban and industrial waste water treatment plants,

the reduction in nutrient pollution of agricultural origin, the control of negative impacts of fisheries and marine exploitation.



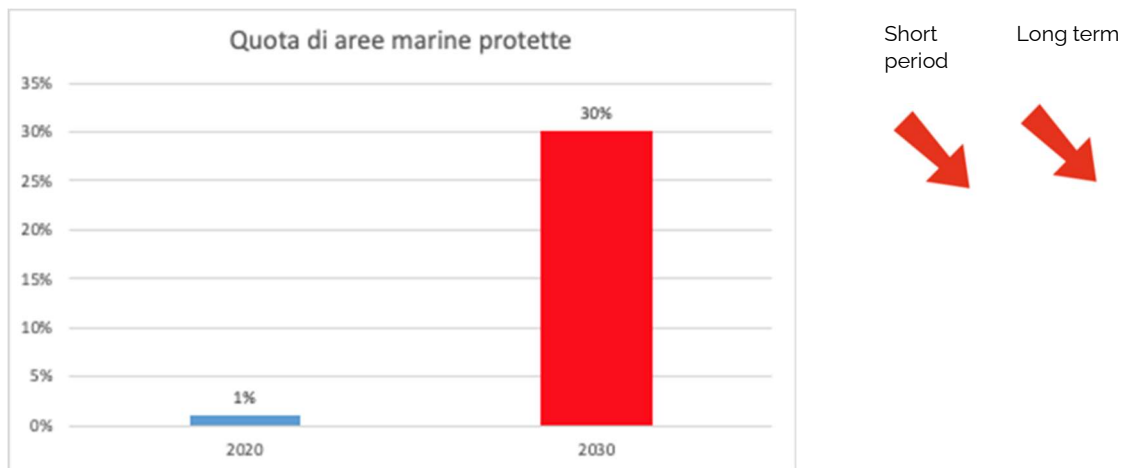
**Increasing the protection and enhancing the value of the water resources.** improving the state of the ecosystems and encouraging their sustainable use.

### Main implementation instruments

PO EMFF 2014-2020. Leg. Decree n. 201 of 17 October 2016 - Marine area management plan - Proposal of the Emilia-Romagna region for of Adriatic Sea maritime area planning, DGR n.274/2021. Establishment of the 'Northern Adriatic' Site of Community Importance within the Natura 2000 Network: - Emilia-Romagna, DGR n. 1572/2020. Revision of the regulations and drafting of the Multiannual Regional Fishing Plan for inland waters. Strategy for plastics reduction, PlasticFreER (DGR 2000/2019).

### REGIONAL TARGETS

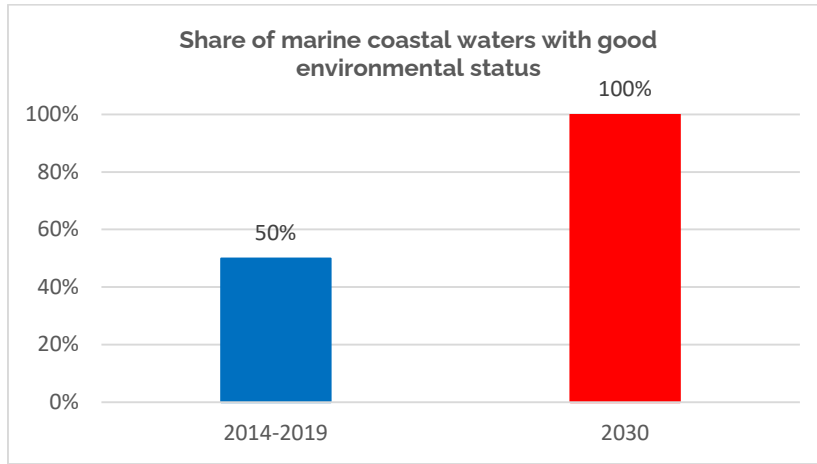
- **PROTECTING AT LEAST 30% OF THE MARINE AREAS IN OUR TERRITORIAL WATERS.**



Source: ER Region

Goal 14 is based **on the target** set forth in the *European Biodiversity Strategy*, i.e. **protecting at least 30% of Europe's marine waters. National governments and regions must contribute** to this European target, according to their specificities and potential. In 2020, the Emilia-Romagna region established a marine protected area of 311 km<sup>2</sup> (Site of Community Importance for the protection of species of high nature value - *Caretta caretta* and *Tursiops truncatus*) which amounts to 1% of the total estimated 3,867 km<sup>2</sup> of territorial waters.

- **ACHIEVING GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS IN ALL COASTAL MARINE WATERS**



Source ARPAE

The **ecological status of the water is an indicator that is strongly influenced by the quality and quantity of the water in the river basins that flow into it** (see Goal 6). According to the survey conducted by ARPAE in the six years 2014-2019, the region shows a different ecological status depending on the two water bodies<sup>25</sup> in which the regional coast has been divided. The status is moderately good for the marine waters of Water Body 1, which covers an area of about 96 km<sup>2</sup> from Goro (Po Delta) to Ravenna and receives water from the Po basin and the Reno river basin; the ecological status is good for the marine waters of Water Body 2, which covers an area of 202 km<sup>2</sup> from Ravenna to Cattolica and receives water from the river basins of Uniti, Savio, Conca and Marecchia. Due to the lack of data in this historical time series, it was not possible to evaluate how far the Region is from the proposed target. Nevertheless, it is clear that the Region has to **strengthen the actions to reach the proposed target**.

<sup>25</sup> The water bodies related to the coastal marine waters of the Emilia-Romagna region have been defined on the basis of the following criteria: a) existing pressures: with particular reference to the contribution and quantification of direct productivity factors such as nutrients; b) differences in quality status: evaluation of the trophic status of coastal waters and its time/space trends, frequency and extension of anoxic and hypoxic conditions of benthic waters; c) circulation of water masses and relevant discontinuities in the structure of the coastal strip; d) expert judgement: multi-year monitoring of the environmental status, climatology of the parameters, space/time distribution of the variables.

**Targets at a glance - GOAL 14**

Indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
ER	Percentage of marine protected areas	1%	4.5%		30% (**) EU 2030
ER	Good ecological status for all marine coastal waters	50% Moderately good / 50% Good	45.5% Other status / 54.5% Good		100% good EU 2030

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

(\*\*) the 2030 Target is for the European Union and does not refer to the Emilia-Romagna Region only.

**MAIN RELATED GOALS**





## LIFE ON LAND

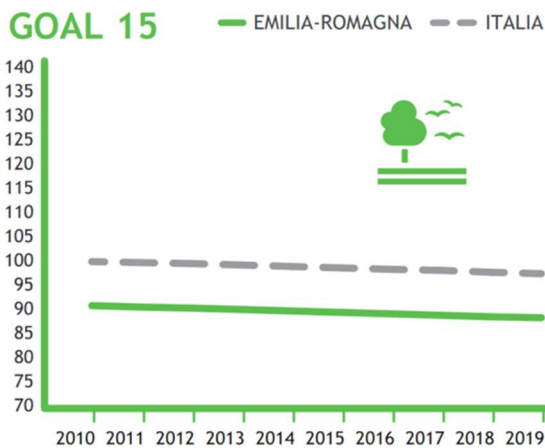
**In Emilia-Romagna, we fight against land consumption, we protect biodiversity and increase forests**

### INTRODUCTION

The Emilia-Romagna Region safeguards and protects natural ecosystems and their biodiversity through careful management of the Parks that can be found in its territory, of the Natura 2000 areas and of the hundreds of sites that, for various reasons, fall under community or universal protection systems (SCI, SPAs, MaB areas). Alongside this protection, we are also developing a process of forest development and sustainable management with the launch of the project **"Mettiamo Radici al Futuro - 4.5 million trees in 5 years" to upgrade and expand the existing green areas of towns and cities.** With these initiatives **we are fighting pollution and protecting biodiversity** through **protected areas** and forests, including fluvial ones; through the upgrade of existing forests and forest plantations to be laid in the most appropriate areas identified with the help of local authorities, citizens and agricultural experts.

We also intend to **strengthen the connections with and protection of existing ecological corridors.** Within the broader **strategy of zero land consumption, we are reclaiming polluting sites throughout the Region with the aim of returning them to their legitimate use.** We are **promoting and protecting mountain and inland areas** and **their natural assets**, since they are **unique reservoirs of biodiversity** and a great source of opportunities for the **sustainable development of local areas and populations.**

### POSITIONING



Elementary statistical indicators used to calculate the composite indicator:

- Land cover index
- Fragmentation index

Source: ASviS

The composite indicator<sup>26</sup> is characterized by a negative trend throughout the decade, caused by the sharp deterioration of the elementary indicators related to land fragmentation and land cover. Both reached the lowest values in 2019 (8.9% and 42.9% respectively), testifying to **the process of reduction in the continuity of ecosystems, habitats and regional landscape units**, as a result of phenomena such as urban expansion and the development of the infrastructure network. In particular, artificial land cover increased from 8.75% in 2012 to 8.90% in 2019, compared to a national average of 7.1%, while regional land fragmentation increased from 41.1% in 2012 to 42.9% in 2019, against an Italian average of 36.1%. The Region

<sup>26</sup> The composite indicator consists of the following elementary indicators: land consumption and fragmentation index.

shows a similar trend to that observed at the national level, ranking lower than the Italian average due to the level of regional elementary indicators.

In order to **guarantee zero land consumption by 2050** following the Roadmap towards a resource-efficient Europe, **Regional Law LR 24/17** establishes that **territorial and urban development planning tools** must include land consumption, **encourage the reuse and regeneration of urbanised areas** and **limit the consumption of additional land to a maximum of 3%** of the surface of the urbanized areas identified by the new Municipal General Urban Development Plans.

LR 24/2017 defines land consumption as the difference between the areas for which the town planning schemes provide for transformation outside the urbanized areas and those for which the same schemes provide de-sealing interventions with removal of soil sealing within the urbanized areas.

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention



**Strengthening coordination and support activities** so that local governments transition to the new system of urban and territorial planning tools as defined by Regional Law LR 24/2017 (20% by 2025, 50% by 2030).



Strengthening coordination and support activities in order to complete 50% of the construction sites opened following the Urban Regeneration Call for Proposals (by 2025).



**Implementation of regulatory simplification** in urban development/building processes and urban regeneration.



**Setting up monitoring systems** for the containment of land consumption **and making them operational by 2025** in order to comply with maximum 3% increase in land consumption by 2050.



**Reclaiming regional polluted sites** and returning them to their legitimate use, thus contributing to the containment of land consumption



**Renewal of the Plan for forecasting, preventing and fighting forest fires**, in close collaboration with the various entities involved in the regional forest fire-fighting system, as well as in synergy with all stakeholders for the correct management and promotion of prevention measures.



Promotion of the Natura 2000 Network and of the first regional marine SCI, investing in the environmental assets of Parks and MaB areas, supporting regional nominations for the UNESCO Biosphere Reserves Programme starting from the Emilia-Romagna gypsum karst phenomena.



**Strengthening the strategy of zero land consumption** and urban regeneration through a plan for the redevelopment and resilience of cities which not only benefits from the available European resources, but also optimizes the incentives introduced for the renovation, the energy-efficiency restoration and the safety upgrade of buildings on a large scale.



**Protecting, enhancing and safeguarding green areas:** planting **4.5 million trees in 5 years**, enhancing and protecting the forestry areas, upgrading and expanding the existing green areas of towns and cities; contributing to cleaner air and protecting biodiversity,



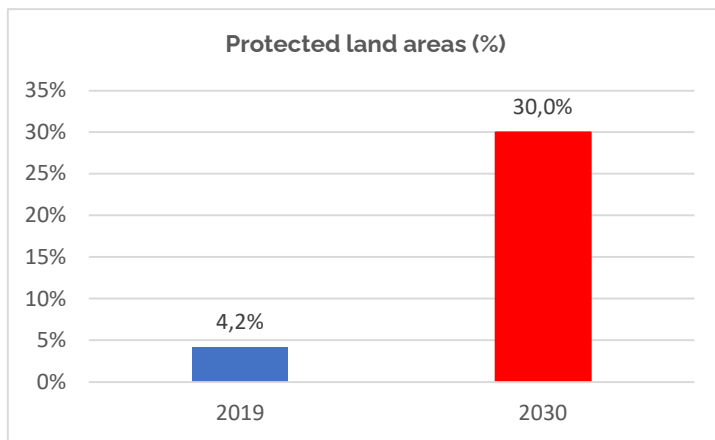
with the creation of woods, including river woods, and forests plantations, identifying the most suitable areas with the involvement of local authorities, citizens and agricultural experts; protecting existing ecological corridors as strategically essential, improving their connections.

### Main implementation instruments

LR 24/2017 "Regional regulations on land protection and use". LR 30/1981 "Incentives for the development and enhancement of forest resources, with particular reference to the mountain areas". LR 24/2011 "Reorganization of the regional system of protected areas and Natura 2000 network sites and establishment of the Stirone and Piacenziano regional parks" and its revision. LR 2/2004 "Law for the Mountains" and subsequent amendments and integrations. New Law for the Mountains. Three-year investment programs of the Unions of Mountain Areas. (DGR 349/2021 and D.D. n.4990/2021). Regional Forestry Regulation, no. 3/2018. LR 9/2006 "Regulations for the conservation and enhancement of geodiversity in Emilia-Romagna and related activities". RDP 2014-2020 extended to 2022. PSN (National Strategic Plan of the CAP) 2023-2027. Ultra Broadband Plan. Coordination Document for the Strategy for urban, ecological and environmental quality and Environmental and Territorial Sustainability Assessment of the General Urban Development Plan (DGR 2135/2019). Coordination Document for territorial standards (DGR 110/2021). New Regional Territorial Landscape Plan (PTPR) adjusted to the Cultural Heritage Code. New Regional Territorial Plan (PTR). Regional Forestry Plan 2014-2020, (DAL 80/2016). Plan for forecasting, preventing and fighting forest fires. (DGR 1928/2020). Environmental Action Plan for Sustainable Development pursuant to LR 3/1999 (DAL 46/2011 and subsequent integrations) and calls for free distribution of plants (DGR No. 597/2020 and DGR No. 2030/2020). Mountain Fund (updated to extend its use to support the attractiveness of new businesses). (Art. 8 LR 2/2004 "Law for the Mountains". PAF (Prioritized Action Framework) for the Natura 2000 Network. (DGR 1791/2014).

### REGIONAL TARGETS

- **REACHING 30% PROTECTED LAND AREAS OUT OF THE TOTAL REGIONAL SURFACE AREA**



Source: ISPRA

Within the Life on Land Goal, it was not possible to assess how far the Region is from reaching the European target because of lack of time series data. However, the latest reported data (2019) indicates that protected areas in Emilia-Romagna cover 4.2% of the total area. This figure, calculated by ISPRA, is based on the concept of protected area defined by Law 394/1991, which is limited to some types only. Taking into consideration the protected areas in the all-encompassing concept that includes national, regional and interregional parks, nature reserves, ecological rebalancing areas, protected natural and semi-natural landscapes, and considering also the areas included in the Natura 2000 Network, the **protected areas in Emilia-Romagna account for 16.31% of the total regional area, according to the Regions' survey.**

**Targets at a glance - GOAL 15**

Indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU(*)	
ER	Percentage of protected land areas	4.2%	10.5%		30% EU-2030
ER	Increase in lowland forest areas	CURRENTLY UNDER EVALUATION			+4000 ha ER-2025

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

**MAIN RELATED GOALS**





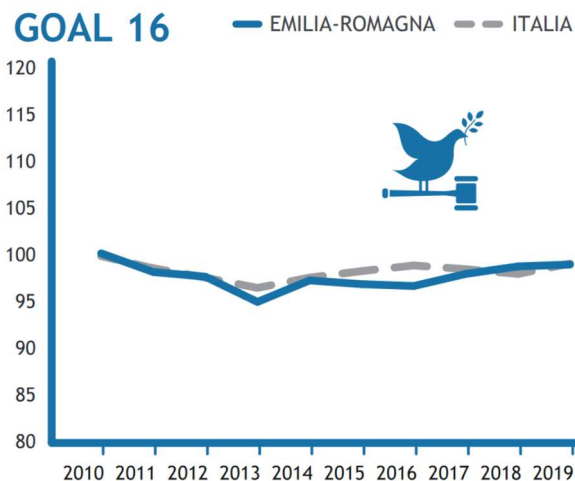
## PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

In Emilia-Romagna, the institutions are a community in which to place trust and with which to collaborate to reduce crime and promote reintegration into society. Peace and Human Rights are the centre of our cultural agenda.

### INTRODUCTION

We recognize **legality** as an inalienable value and a precondition for generating sustainable development in the region. Together with the Regional Council for Legality and Responsible Citizenship, we intend to strengthen the **prevention** and fight against mafia and organized crime infiltration and to spread the **culture and practice of legality** in society and the economy, in order to contribute to the fight against any phenomenon - squatting or environmental crimes, bogus cooperatives and illegal work, violation of workers' health and safety regulations, tax and social security dodging - that affects the rights and dignity of workers, pollutes our environment and generates unfair competition to the detriment of virtuous businesses, thereby weakening our society as a whole. We are working to strengthen and upgrade the Public Administration, **investing in the people and professionals** who work in it, and to **cut red tape** and **simplify the procedures and requirements for access to services**, by citizens and businesses, in order to reduce the time and costs, both public and private. It is not about deregulating, but increasing the level of legality, rights and social justice. We promote quality initiatives to build a cultural, educational and awareness process that puts the issue of **peace and human rights** back at the centre of the political agenda.

### POSITIONING



Elementary statistical indicators used to calculate the composite indicator:

- Victims of intentional homicide
- Predatory crime rate
- Computer scams and fraud
- Prisoners awaiting trial as a proportion of all prisoners
- Duration of civil proceedings
- Prison overcrowding
- Social participation
- Index of trust in institutions

Source: ASviS

The performance of the indicator at national and regional level was negative until 2013, and then the trend reversed thanks to the **overall improvement of indicators related to crime**, both predatory (robberies, thefts and pickpocketing) and homicides. In the decade under investigation, the **indicators relating to the efficiency of the legal system and trust in institutions** also showed **favourable trends**. Of note, however, is the increase in computer fraud, which increased by 73.3% from 2010 to 2018, and the decrease in social participation (-4.5 percentage points from 2010 to 2019). The regional composite indicator shows a similar

trend and level to the national one. In particular, the region has a **lower rate of intentional homicide** (0.4 per 100,000 inhabitants in 2018 compared to 0.6 of the national average), while it shows a **critical situation with respect to predatory crimes** (23.3 per thousand inhabitants in 2019 against 13.3 in Italy). Finally, Emilia-Romagna has a **more efficient legal system**, as evidenced both by the shorter duration of civil proceedings (300 days in 2019, compared to 421 of the national average) and by the lower share of prisoners awaiting first trial (12.2% in 2018 against 16.5% in Italy) and shows **higher social participation** than the national one (27.1% vs 22.7% in 2019). The good functioning of institutions also depends on their ability to innovate, simplify and digitalize both internal processes and the ways of offering online services. As far as this is concerned, **the whole Region is ready to implement digital transition in the public administration.**

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention



Relaunching the international role of Monte Sole Peace School Foundation, of the Historical Park of Monte Sole and of the other places of memory **to promote peace.**



**Re-use of real estate assets confiscated from organized crime for social purposes**, in order to make them living examples of legality. Social integration of people living in conditions of exclusion and marginalization and creation of public spaces to provide services to citizens.



**Digital governance and data economy:** to contribute to achieving the objectives of **simplifying and upgrading the quality of public administration**, Emilia-Romagna will lead the way in online services for its citizens and businesses via the creation and promotion of *digital first* public services; a new way of using data will be promoted as an information asset for institutions, the public and enterprises, by drawing up shared interoperability, data protection and common security protocols that together constitute a truly **regional "data strategy"**.



**Simplification of procedures and requirements for access to services**, both public and private, in order to reduce time and costs by implementing legislative and administrative measures to streamline procedures, to enhance the rule of law, increase the quality and strike a balance between the most efficient administrative solution and the necessary protection of the environment, work and rights.



Setting up a **permanent discussion forum**, consisting of representatives of the signatories to the Pact for Work and Climate, with the task of drawing up and preliminarily signing a **Simplification Pact** that puts the outlined principles in practice, adopts specific and measurable objectives, shares precise proposals, defines timeframes and methods, and monitors concrete and timely implementation.



A **strategic investment** in people and professionals working inside and outside the public administration.



**Simplification, investment and public works:** upgrading the construction and civil works supply chain and strengthening the civil service in its role of promoting investment and its commitment to managing contracts and work.



**Prevention of and fight against** mafia and organized crime infiltration, disseminating the culture and practice of legality in society and economy.



Strengthening the role of the **Regional Council for Legality and Responsible Citizenship** and its working groups.

**L**  
Legality **Designing new tools to combat the proliferation of companies, such as bogus cooperatives, that circumvent legal forms of labour and contracting.**

**L**  
Legality **Establishment of legality working groups**, in all the Provinces and in the Metropolitan City of Bologna, as a participatory space in which to combat organized crime and to promote a culture of legality.

**P**  
Participation **Promotion of the active participation of the institutional and social partners, with particular reference to the signatories to the Pact for Work and Climate.**

**P**  
Participation **Promoting the active participation towns, cities and districts:** achieving the sustainable development and ecological transition goals is very much dependent on the local districts, where economic innovation takes root and social cohesion is achieved, where the environment is a concrete matter and culture is everyday practice.

**P**  
Participation **Encouraging new models of participation** and signing **protocols relating to local governance** also with a view to achieve integration and coordination of local and regional policies.

**P**  
Participation **Promotion of the active participation of environmental associations and movements engaged in combating climate change.**

**P**  
Participation Promoting the widest possible regional participation in the formation and implementation of **European Union** policies and law, enhancing the **European Regional Network** and moving forward with the initiatives relevant to the public and the local authorities in order to raise awareness and strengthen their capacity for action in the context of the European Union and access the resources that will be made available through the numerous programmes supporting regional development policies.

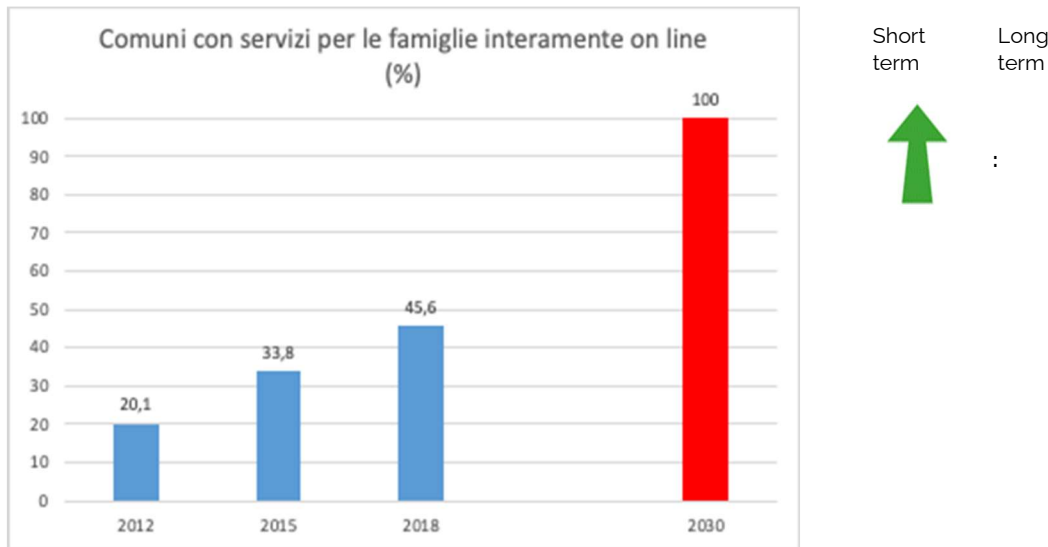
### Main implementation instruments

LR 11/2004 Development of the information society, LR 15/2013 Simplification of building regulations, updated by LR 14/2020 Urgent measures to promote the urban regeneration of historic centres, encourage redevelopments that benefit from the tax breaks referred to in art. 119 of DL 34/2020, LR 19/2008 and subsequent update of the procedures for the issuance of authorizations and opinions on seismic matters, LR 14/2020 Urgent measures to promote the urban regeneration of historic centres, encourage redevelopments that benefit from the tax breaks referred to in art. 119 of DL 34/2020 of 19 May, n. 34, LR 18/2016 Consolidated Act for the promotion of legality and the enhancement of responsible citizenship and economy, LR 15/2018 Law on participation in public policy making. Repeal of Regional Law n.3 of 9 February 2010, LR 16/2015 Provisions in support of the circular economy, reduction of urban waste production, reuse of end-of-life goods, separate collection and amendments to Regional Law n. 31 of 19 August 1996, LR 21/2012 Measures to ensure the regional governance of administrative functions according to the principles of subsidiarity, differentiation and adequacy, LR n16/2008 Rules on the participation of the Emilia-Romagna Region in the development and implementation of European Union policies and law, on the activities of international importance of the Region and on its interregional relations. Implementation of Articles 12, 13 and 25 of the Regional Statute, LR 13/2015 Reform of the system of regional and local government and provisions concerning the metropolitan city of Bologna, provinces, municipalities and their unions, LR 06/2018 amendments to Regional Law n. 16 of 28 July 2008 Rules on the participation of the Emilia-Romagna Region in the formation and implementation of EU law, on the activities of international importance of the Region and its interregional relations, LR 06/2004 Reform of the regional and local administrative system. European Union and international relations. Innovation and simplification. Relations with the university, LR 12/2002 Regional interventions for cooperation with developing countries and countries in transition, international solidarity and the promotion of a culture of peace, Regional Law 5/2018, System of agreements as programming plans, Data Valley as a Common Good - Digital Agenda of Emilia-Romagna 2020-2025 (DAL 2313/2021, Three-year Plan for ICT in Healthcare (DGR 1965/2020), Guidelines for digital transformation 2021-2023 (DGR 1965/2020), Regional Statistical Programme 2020-2022 (DGR n. 2001/2020), Regional regulatory interventions for the simplification of urban building procedures, also in the context of the review of LR 24/2017, National Simplification Agenda 2020-23 (see Unified Conference Agreement 23 November 2020), Technical coordination document covering the technical specifications for planning documents in the digital format\* pursuant to LR 24/2017 (DGR 2134/2019), for the purpose of archiving and simultaneously transmitting to the Region and the Urban Planning Committees the planning documents of the Municipalities in digital format, National Consensus Panels for the reform of state regulations on private building and public works, National Consensus Panels for the reform of state building regulations for the simplification of procedures, National Consensus Panels for the Implementation of the National Simplification Agenda, for the proposals on the simplification of state regulations on EIA, IEA, waste. National Simplification

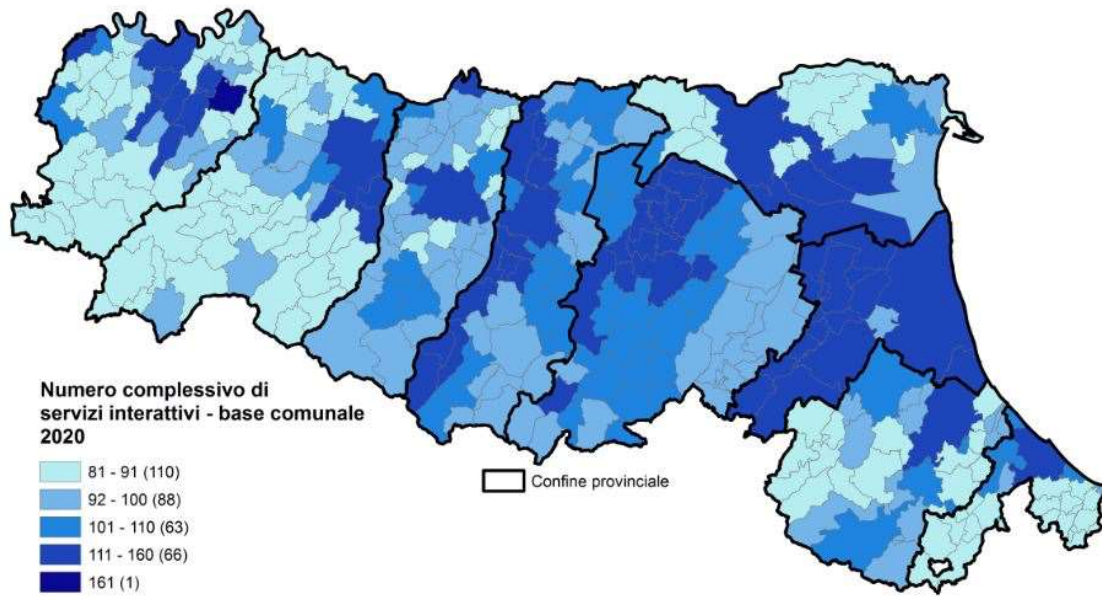
Agenda 2020-23 (see Unified Conference Agreement 23 November 2020), Organizational Plan for Agile Work (P.O.L.A.) 2021/2023 and adjustment of the specifications for the practice of remote work in the regional administration. (DGR 132-2021), Plan of personnel requirements for the three-year period 2019/2021. Adjustment of recruitment measures to cope with the increase in terminations, the launch of competitions for executives and concurrent redetermination of compliance with spending constraints and the number of staff. (DGR 1615/2020). Article 3, paragraph 1, letter g-bis) of Legislative Decree no. 50 of 18 April 2016, Public Procurement Code: one-time registration principle, Law no. 205 of 2017, art. 1, paragraph 61, Integrated Plan of regional actions for the promotion of the culture of legality and responsible citizenship and the prevention of organized and mafia crime and corruptive phenomena, pursuant to art. 3 of LR 28 October 2016, n. 18, Programme agreements with public bodies according to the provisions of the cited articles LR n. 18/2016, Participation Observatory, Local Observatories for the landscape pursuant to art. 63 of LR 24/2017, PlasticFreeER Strategy (DGR n. 2000/2019) and Controlling Body for the PlasticFreeER strategy, Programme of Territorial Reorganization 2018-2020, Integrated Plan of regional actions for the promotion of the culture of legality and responsible citizenship and the prevention of organized and mafia crime and corruptive phenomena, pursuant to art. 3 of LR 28 October 2016, n. 18, Programme Agreements with public bodies according to art. 19 LR n. 18/2016, Guidance document for activities of international importance 2021-2025, SNAI Internal Areas.

## REGIONAL TARGETS

- **REACHING 100% OF MUNICIPALITIES PROVIDING AT LEAST ONE ONLINE SERVICE**

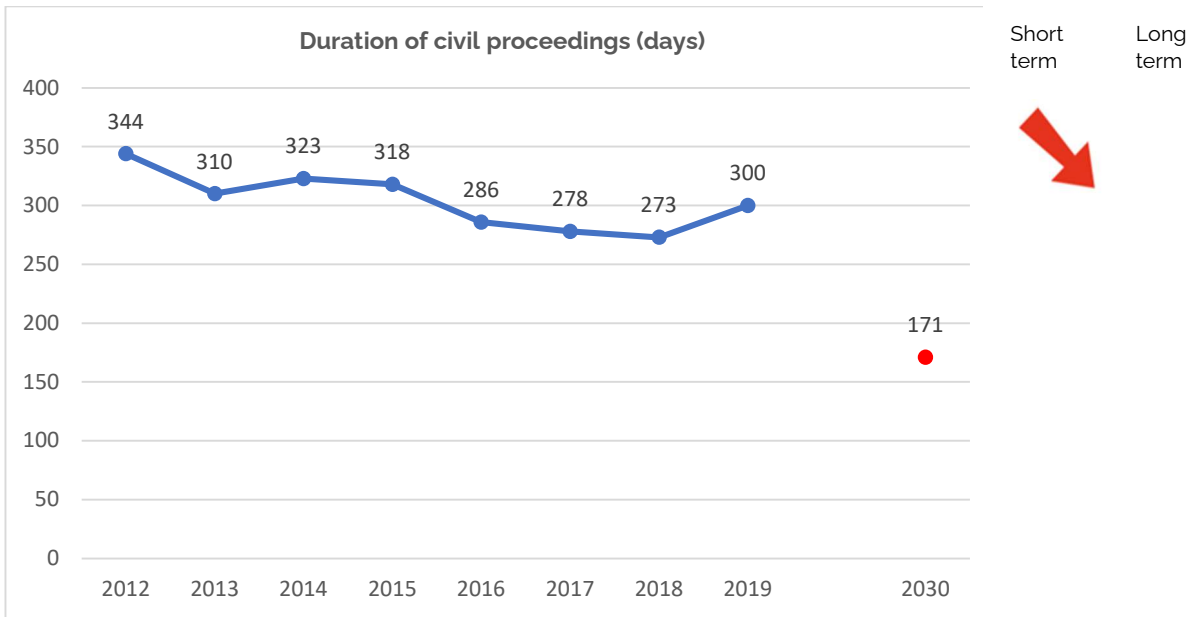


The ISTAT indicator measures the percentage of municipalities that provide at least one online service that allows the entire process to be initiated and completed electronically. This indicator, which can be compared at a national level, is a way to simplify reality, which is particularly complex and multi-faceted. The Emilia-Romagna Region, through its Digital Agenda Observatory, has been monitoring for more than 10 years the provision and use of online services in the municipalities, classifying them according to their level of interactivity. At present **there are 267 interactive online services offered directly or through regional or local platforms by the Municipalities of Emilia-Romagna**. The provision, as shown in the map, varies according to the size of the Municipality and the selected organizational structure (e.g. Unions of Municipalities). On average, the number of services falling within the municipal range of competence and offered online by Municipalities is 22 (data collected in September 2020), while *it was only 15* in 2019.



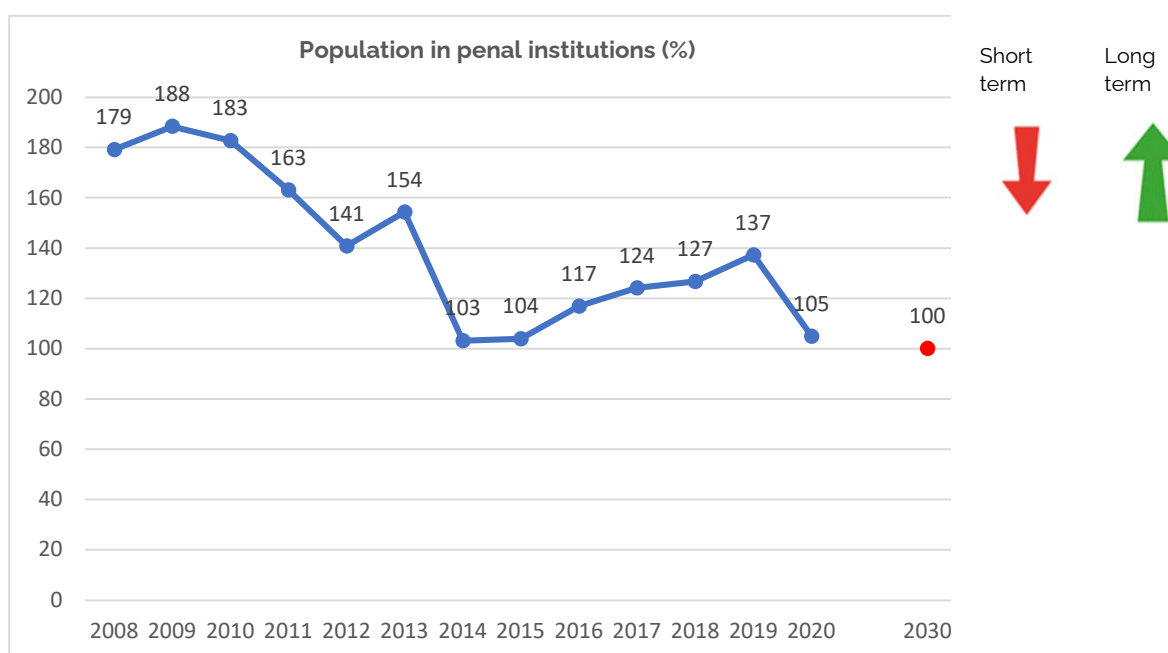
The region shows a positive trend which, if confirmed in the coming years, will make it possible to achieve the ISTAT target.

● **REACHING 171 DAYS' DURATION OF CIVIL PROCEEDINGS**



The trend of the indicator on the duration of civil proceedings in Emilia-Romagna shows a **positive trend over** the analyzed historical time series. In 2019, there was a reduction of 23 days over 2014 and 44 days over 2012. Nevertheless, the path to reach the target of 171 days by 2030 (based on the best performance recorded at regional level) seems particularly challenging.

● **REDUCING PRISON OVERCROWDING BY 100%**



With reference to **prison overcrowding**, the Emilia-Romagna region showed a positive trend, from 2008 to 2014, with a reduction of **76 percentage points** in the first six years considered. In the five-year period from 2014 to 2019, the indicator showed a reversal of the trend, worsening by 34.1 percentage points. In 2020, mainly due to the restrictive measures adopted to contain the pandemic, the index began to improve again, reaching 104.9% in the latest year for which data was available. **The long-term trend (2005-2020) would be enough to reach the 100% target by 2030.** It is worth noting, however, that the indicator has increased in recent years and if this trend continues in the coming years, the region will move away from the target.

### Targets at a glance - GOAL 16

Indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
ER	Municipalities providing at least one online service	45.6%	nd	nd	100% ER 2030
Elementary, included in the composite	Duration of civil proceedings	300	421	nd	171 ER 2030
Elementary, included in the composite	Prison overcrowding	104.9% (2020)	105.5% (2020)	nd	100% ER 2030
ER	Number of participatory processes carried out with regional contributions: 2020-2025 period	49	nd	nd	+200 ER 2025
ER	Number of participants in the Community of Participatory Practices: 2020-2025 period	200	nd	nd	300 ER 2025
ER	Number of young people registered for the regional YoungERcard: 2020-2025 period	77.718 (2021)	nd	nd	+4000 ER 2025
ER	Number of youth workers involved in training activities, in compliance with the European provisions on Youth workers: 2020-2025 period	379	nd	nd	1000 ER 2025



ER	Re-use and management of real estate assets confiscated from organized crime for social and institutional purposes (number of assets)	18 (2011-2020)	nd	nd	+10 (=55.5% in 5 years) ER 2025
ER	Programme agreements with public bodies aimed at strengthening primary and secondary prevention in relation to areas, categories or social groups at risk of mafia infiltration or establishment of organized crime and mafia-type activities	39 (2020)	nd	nd	60 ER 2025
ER	Number of local observatories on organized crime and for the promotion of a culture of legality in each province of the Region. So far, they have been established in the Province of Rimini, in the metropolitan city of Bologna; in the Unioni Terre d'Argine (MO) and Tresinaro Secchia (RE).	3	nd	nd	+6 ER 2025

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

### MAIN RELATED GOALS





## PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

**In Emilia-Romagna, we want to strengthen partnerships with other areas and the central role that the Region has to play in international relations and cooperation policies for sustainable development.**

### INTRODUCTION

Our project aims at continuing to pursue this commitment. We have made **new economic resources for developing countries** available, in line with the principles and strategies defined at international, community and national level in the field of Development Cooperation. The goals are those of the UN 2030 Agenda, aimed at promoting equitable development, combating all forms of poverty and social injustice, and tackling climate change. We are increasingly active in **climate diplomacy**, also within the Under2 Coalition and the International Declaration "Regions for global sustainable development", signed in Bologna in 2019 by Guangdong (China), California and Pennsylvania (USA), Gauteng (South Africa), Nouvelle-Aquitaine (France) and Hesse (Germany), to share new objectives and new areas of collaboration for a global and sustainable territorial development. The theme of **gender equality** and women's empowerment has become part of our cooperation policy and we want it to continue to play a relevant role in the next programming period. The same is true for the **environmental** theme, which is based on **strong partnerships**, to be further strengthened and increased, **among different countries and within local districts.**

Regional Law 12/2002 "Regional interventions for cooperation with developing countries and countries in transition, international solidarity and the **promotion of a culture of peace**" identifies the objectives of regional action, the subjects of international cooperation and the areas of intervention.

The global health emergency has amplified global inequalities and glaring imbalances between countries, increasing the gap with developing countries. The multidimensional nature of inequalities has increased differences in respect to the right to health, education, food and work, including in terms of gender. The main 'economic victims' of the pandemic are women with children and without work, and young women report a greater negative impact on their mental health.

The regional action will be aimed at **strengthening and continuing to promote the role of the Emilia-Romagna Region as a "leading" region in cooperation policies at national, European and international level** and at mobilizing further economic resources for developing countries from various sources.

It is also a priority to consolidate and expand the partnerships between the bodies and associations in the region and their counterparts in the target countries in order to encourage the exchange of experiences, good practices and relations among their respective areas.

Moreover, the Emilia-Romagna Region has always developed and established a dense and precious network of international relations together with the whole regional system and intends to consolidate and further relaunch it in order to play a leading role, together with its partners, in implementing the great changes that these new challenges impose at a European and global level. Precisely for this reason and following up on the commitments signed at international level to **combat the climate emergency** and to achieve the 2030 Agenda goals, the Region intends to focus its strategic international planning priorities on the areas of the new Pact for Work and Climate signed with the social partners on 14.12.2020, sharing the best solutions with its partners and also identifying new international interlocutors who are confronted with the same strategic objectives: ecological transition, digital transformation, research and innovation,

health and well-being of people, without forgetting the upgrading of local areas, cities and communities, productive vocations, knowledge and skills.

**To date, ASviS does not monitor Goal 17 at regional level**, since not all Italian regions are active in the field of cooperation and development. In addition, the National Strategy for Sustainable Development uses only one indicator, which is "Official Development Assistance as a share of (total) Gross National Income -GNI".

## REGIONAL STRATEGY

### Strategic lines of intervention



**International cooperation for development and humanitarian aid.** Emilia-Romagna is committed to contributing to reducing global inequalities and the evident imbalances between countries, which the COVID-19 health crisis has increased, widening the gap with developing countries. The action of the Region will be aimed at consolidating our role at European and international level in cooperation policies.



**Coordination of European Union funds and promotion of European cooperation activities.** In the new legislation term, the action of coordinating the programming, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of European Programmes and the Fund for Development and Cohesion (FDC) for the 2021-27 programming period will focus on the goals contained in this Regional Government Programme and the priorities defined in the new Pact for Work and Climate. At the same time, we will work to broaden the range of accessible financial instruments. To this end, the Region will further strengthen its role within the regional macro-strategies (EUSAIR - Western Balkans area and EUSALP - Alpine area) in the Mediterranean and will build on its role of guidance and management within transnational and cross-border programmes such as ADRION, MED Europe, Italy Croatia, Espon, Urbact, Central Europe, Interreg Europe. Finally, we will promote more effective forms of accountability, linking the actions implemented through the Regional Development and Cohesion Policy with the sustainable development goals and targets set forth in the 2030 Agenda.



**Strengthening climate diplomacy actions**, also within the Under2 Coalition. Emilia-Romagna intends to play a leadership role on these issues at an international level, also in view to the future installation - at the Bologna Technopole - of a supercomputing infrastructure that is among the most powerful in the world.



**Strengthening the relations of the Emilia-Romagna Region with the rest of the world, the agreements and collaboration/cooperation covenants as well as the international partnerships**, dynamically involving all regional interlocutors and the Clust-er network, with a view to consolidating relations in the area of economic exchange, culture, training and research, promoting the models of excellence and the good practices developed in the Region, the cultural and tourist offer and the territorial specificities also with a view to attracting talent and investment.

### Main implementation instruments

LR 12/2002 Regional interventions for cooperation with developing countries and countries in transition, international solidarity and the promotion of a culture of peace, LR 6/2004 "Reform of the regional and local administrative system, European Union and international relations. Innovation and simplification. Relations with the University"- art. 4 and 5, LR 12/2002 Regional interventions for cooperation with developing countries and countries in transition, international solidarity and the promotion of a culture of peace, Policy document for cooperation with developing countries and countries in transition (DAL 99/2016), Approval of the Operational Plan for International Cooperation implementing the three-year plan 2016-2018 (DGR 231/2018), Guidance document regarding the international activity of the Emilia-Romagna Region 2021-2025 (DAL 40/2021), EUSAIR Strategy approved by the European Council in December 2014, Action Plan of the European Commission, 2 April 2020, Interreg V-B ADRIATIC-IONIAN COOPERATION PROGRAMME 2014-2020 Approved on 20 October 2015, Interreg V-B ADRIATIC-IONIAN COOPERATION PROGRAMME 2021-2027, EUROPEAN NETWORKS: AREPO , AREFLH , AGRIREGIONS, ERIAFF, AIR, REGIONS4EURECOVERY , RICC , ERLAI, ERRIN , VANGUARD INITIATIVE ASBL , EUREGHA , NECSTOUR , CRPM, REGHUB, EURADA, Signing of the Under2 MoU "Subnational global climate leadership Memorandum of Understanding (DGR 1629/2015) , International Declaration "Regions for global sustainable development"

signed with California and Pennsylvania (USA), Gauteng (South Africa), Guangdong (China), Hesse (Germany) and Nouvelle-Aquitaine (France).

**Targets at a glance - GOAL 17**

Indicator	Description of the indicator	Positioning in 2019			Target
		Emilia-Romagna	Italy	EU (*)	
ER	Increase international projects that promote gender equality and equal opportunities (database years 2017/2020)	17 (2017-2020)	nd	nd	+20 ER-2025
ER	Increase projects for green transition (database years 2017-2020).	14 (2017-2020)	nd	nd	+20 ER-2025
ER	Increase regional stakeholders participating in projects (database years 2017-2020)	602 (2017-2020)	nd	nd	+5% ER-2025
ER	Increase international partners participating in projects (database years 2017-2020)	338 (2017-2020)	nd	nd	+5% ER-2025

(\*) EU27 (without the United Kingdom)

**MAIN RELATED GOALS**



## 7. IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY

### 7.1 Tools to guide administrative action

Just as the National Sustainable Development Strategy (SNSvS) has to be connected with the programming documents, in particular with the National Reform Programme (NRP) and, more generally, with the Economic and Financial Document (DEF), also the Regional Strategy has to be coordinated with a number of programming and governance tools, both internal and 'external' to the regional government. Both the 2030 Agenda and the National Strategy for Sustainable Development are very clear about this: the identified goals can only be achieved through the integration of different levels of governance. Governance must necessarily be collaborative and multi-level (vertical and horizontal), directing and catalyzing the actions of all stakeholders and, therefore, undertaking co-designing efforts with local government in order to improve the existing conditions and also targeting organizational performance to increase the level of cost-effectiveness, efficiency and effectiveness of its actions.

Below are the main economic programming, planning and control instruments used to implement the Regional Strategy objectives.

#### **European Session of the Legislative Assembly**

Since 2008, the Emilia-Romagna Region has developed its own model of participation for setting up and implementing the EU law and policies, i.e. the European Session of the Legislative Assembly (LR 16/2008). The European Session represents a moment of political reflection on what the Region has achieved (accomplishment phase) -as set forth in the Report on the State of Conformity of the Regional System prepared by the Council- and on what it intends to achieve (development phase) regarding matters of regional competence contained in the initiatives announced by the European Commission in its annual work programme, with particular attention to those having potential impact on the Emilia-Romagna regional territory.

The Report on the State of Conformity of the Regional System prepared by the Council will necessarily report on the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" in the context of the regional development policies, with special reference to cohesion policies.

#### **Regional Economic and Financial Document (DEFR)**

The Emilia-Romagna Regional Economic and Financial Document (DEFR), to be approved by the Council by 30 June each year, defines the strategic objectives, which the Council intends to achieve during its term of office on the basis of the Regional Government Programme and the Pact for Work and Climate. For each objective the document specifies the results expected annually -over a three-year period- in the time span envisaged in the budget forecast, and at the end of the legislation term.

The strategic objectives are illustrated by mission and budgetary programme, as required by Legislative Decree 118/2011, and are broken down by Department. The Regional Economic and Financial Document (DEFR) defines the reference framework for the preparation of multi-year and annual budgets and for the definition and implementation of the Region's policies.

The regional DEFR also includes the objectives for change, meaning the strategic objectives identified by the Council as the technical objectives against which performance is to be evaluated.

For some years now, the strategic objectives of the DEFR have been correlated with the national strategic areas and choices and through them with the global objectives of the 2030 Agenda. In the future, in order

to guarantee that programming is fully consistent with the Strategy, as well as to implement an increasingly integrated monitoring and evaluation system of regional policies, the strategic objectives of the DEFR and the objectives for change will have to be correlated with the goals and targets of the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

### **Community and national programming (ERDF, ESF+, EAFRD, FDC)**

For the 2021-2027 programming cycle, the European Union has adopted the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Green Deal as a higher-level strategic programming reference.

With the **Regional Strategic Document for the Joint Planning of European development policies 2021-2027** (DSR), approved by the Legislative Assembly in June 2021, the Region has outlined the strategic framework within which to direct all the European and national resources that the regional territory can benefit from, with the aim of relaunching sustainable development in the regional area and leading Emilia-Romagna towards the European goals to be reached by 2030 and 2050.

With a vision of programming based on integration and complementarity, the Regional Strategic Document provides guidance as to the operational programming of the funds managed by the regional administration towards the strategic objectives of the **Pact for Work and Climate**; it also identifies how the regional system can attract further resources, expanding the policy mix for sustainable development and promoting a vision of programming based on integration, which enhances complementarity and synergies.

The Regional Strategic Document is therefore the regional programming tool for European development policies that ensures the "translation" of the strategic objectives that can be pursued through the European Funds into specific objectives of the regional operational programmes. It contributes to defining the economic and financial programming within the DEFR.

The Regional Strategic Document and the **Smart Specialization Strategy 2021-2027**, also approved in June 2021 to give research and innovation a driving role for the transition towards fairer and more sustainable production and consumption models, have set the same priorities as the UN 2030 Agenda, with the same *challenge-based* approach, indispensable for facing the challenges of change and responding to the new needs of society on the economic, environmental and social side. Thanks to the thematic concentration thresholds<sup>[1]</sup> set forth in the Regulations, the Regional Operational Programmes will also represent a decisive tool to fully and concretely implement the development objectives consistently outlined by the Joint Regional Planning Document, by the Pact for Work and Climate and by the Emilia-Romagna 2030 Agenda Strategy. This consistent approach attaches even greater importance to the method of discussion and sharing with Local Authorities and all economic and social representatives officially introduced with the 2015 Pact for Work and further strengthened by the Pact for Work and Climate; it also reiterates the Regional Legislative Assembly's role of guidance and control and confirms the firm intention of the institutions and the entire regional system to pursue a precise trajectory of sustainable development.

The "Controlling Body for the governance and strategic control of regional planning" established by DGR 602/2021 will have the task of promoting and verifying full consistency between the **Regional Programming of European Funds 2021-2027 and the objectives of the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"**.

<sup>[1]</sup> The ERDF concentration threshold in the most developed regions is 85% for policy objectives 1 - A smarter Europe and 2 - A greener Europe, with at least 30% of the resources on the latter; in ESF+ at least 25% of the resources must be invested on social inclusion, 12.5% on NEETs, 5% on Child Guarantee, 3% on Fead

## **Territorial strategies**

With the endorsement of the new Leipzig Charter titled "The transformative power of cities for the common good", the EU Member States have re-stated their commitment to the European Urban Agenda towards 2030 in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the European Green Deal. The Leipzig Charter therefore supports transformation through integrated urban development, delivered through a multi-level and participatory approach.

The reflections made and the lessons learnt within the Urban Agenda for the European Union represent a reference also for the urban strategies that the Region promotes in the 2021-2027 programming.

In the face of a strategy and objectives of regional scope, the 2021-2027 Regional Strategic Document identifies four territorial macro-areas towards which to direct and organize resources and coordinated policies – the Via Emilia axis, the coastal axis, the Po River basin and lower Po Valley, the Apennine axis - and two specific areas on which to hinge integrated territorial strategies. On the one hand, the most fragile and peripheral areas and territories, identified by the Inland Areas National Strategy and, at any rate, the whole Apennine area, with the crucial aim of fighting territorial imbalances, starting from the demographic one. On the other hand, cities and urban/intermediate systems, as a privileged site for implementing strategies to achieve the 2030 Agenda Goals, maximizing the regional impact of ecological and digital transition. These are **transformative urban agendas for sustainable development**, linked to the Pact for Work and Climate and to the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". They are instruments of multi-level governance for the achievement of common objectives, which involve, albeit with different roles, the regional government, the local authorities, the citizens, the businesses and the stakeholders in a network where resources and commitments are shared.

More generally, the challenges posed through the objectives and targets of the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" will have to form integral part of all Integrated Territorial Strategies for local development, irrespective of whether they refer to urban, intermediate or inner areas, in order to promote the expected transformations, increase resilience, decrease inequalities and guarantee uniform territorial development.

## **Sectoral planning**

Sectoral planning, through which the strategic objectives defined in the various regional programming documents are implemented, will in turn have to consider the thematic and sectoral dimension of sustainable development by including the goals and targets of the Regional Strategy in its plans and programmes. Similarly, it will be fundamental to include the reference indicators defined in the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" in sectoral plan monitoring.

## **Environmental assessments**

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), introduced in accordance with European Directive 2001/42/EC in order to enrich plans and programmes under development with appropriate environmental considerations, represents an important opportunity for the effective integration of sustainability aspects in planning.

For all Plans and Programmes and their variations, as well as for Projects and their modifications, that are subject to environmental assessment procedures (SEA/VALSAT, EIA, screening for SEA/VALSAT and screening for EIA), the documents provided by the applicant(s) and the assessments of the competent Authorities must explain how the Plan/Programme or Project contributes to the achievement of the objectives identified in the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

In case the implementation of a Plan/Programme or Project leads to a worsening of environmental conditions, compared to the objectives and targets set forth in the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", evidence of the planned mitigation and compensation measures shall be provided.

The contribution to achieving the objectives and targets of the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" must be monitored over time using specific indicators, which are consistent and scaled with those of the Regional Strategy.

### **Performance Plan**

The Performance Plan is a three-year planning document drawn up in accordance with Legislative Decree no. 150/2009 and DGR n468/2017. Adopted annually by the Council, it contains the objectives for change and the resulting operational objectives, as well as the related indicators and targets for measuring and evaluating organizational performance on account of the strategic planning objectives of the DEFR and its Update Note (NADEFR),

To measure organizational performance in the future it will be necessary to introduce objectives for change, operational objectives and, consequently, **indicators of direct and indirect impact** closely linked to the targets defined in the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

### **Information systems and administrative acts**

In order to highlight, as well as to monitor, the contribution of regional action to the sustainable development goals outlined in the Regional 2030 Agenda Strategy, clear reference to the 17 SDGs could be included in the texts and information attached to the future Council and Executive resolutions. Administrative acts will be linked to the objectives set forth in the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" through an upgrade of the existing regional information systems.

## **7.2 Education for sustainability**

Education is one of the central themes of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Even if Goal 4 is specifically dedicated to it, education cuts across all the SDGs as an interdisciplinary element common to the entire system. Education for sustainability, as foreseen by the National Strategy, forms integral part of the 2030 Strategy: it is a 'vector of change' useful to trigger the transformation of the current development model. According to the most advanced international models, it should not be limited to transferring 'knowledge', but should promote the 'skills' necessary for ecological transition.

In Emilia-Romagna, Education for Sustainability received a particular boost thanks to Regional Laws n. 15/1996 and n. 27/2009, which made it possible to create programmes and establish the network of **CEAS - Centres for Education for Sustainability**, coordinated by the Regional Thematic Centre of Arpae, which has supported the sustainability strategies and actions of the regional system since the first Local Agendas 21 in the 1990s. This process and function have been fostered in the course of time, thus ensuring continuous improvement.

It is no coincidence that the Education for Sustainability Network (RES), supported by inter-institutional partnerships (including the one with the Ministry of Economic Development through the project 'Sustainability as a learning process') together with the areas of research and education, green businesses and volunteering, is and will continue to be an active element of the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" and of other strategies that will be developed at local level in the framework of its three-year programmes.



The Regional Programme for Education for Sustainability INFEAS 2020-2022 pursues precisely these aims, interpreting the main SDGs in an educational and participatory way, with an active and transformative approach. Its five areas of integrated educational action (human landscapes and ecosystems, sustainable management of resources, environment and well-being, climate crisis and urban resilience, green and circular economy) generate projects that help build knowledge and coherent actions<sup>27</sup>.

### 7.3 Accompanying actions

The Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" will be disseminated and deep-rooted throughout the regional districts and the effectiveness of its measurements will be further improved in accordance with the National Strategy.

To this end, the following lines of intervention will be pursued:

- Starting **collaboration with ANCI-ER and UPI-ER** to promote the so-called "territorialization" of the SDGs and the identification of sustainable development targets that are consistent with the various levels of governance.
- Defining, also in collaboration with the ASviS National Training School, a **2030 Agenda training plan** that foresees actions targeted towards regional and local government staff, actions for the employees of agencies that have an agreement with the SELF platform, training modules for training courses co-funded by the Region and, more generally, a training provision for the entire regional community, using MOOC.
- Defining **new indicators**, including decoupling indicators (see paragraph 7.3.1) with the aim of improving the monitoring of policies and lines of intervention contained in the Strategy in order to come up with common and uniform methods and measurement systems at regional level.
- Supporting the development of **participatory processes**, pursuant to Regional Law 15/2018 "Law on Participation in Public Policy Making", with the **Region's Participation Observatory**
- Collecting and screening **good regional practices**, starting with those nominated for the Responsible Innovators Award, in order to promote the actions carried out on the regional territory that contribute to the implementation of the 17 Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Implementing **information and communication campaigns** aimed at the regional community to increase awareness of the Regional Strategy "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", of its objectives and of the actions that the Region puts in place to achieve them and the contribution that each individual can make to the project. As evidenced by signing the Pact for Work and Climate, the challenges we have indicated require active and participatory citizenship. Communicating and sharing ideas with an informed and aware civil society is the first "**common good**" of a democracy. The path for the implementation of the Pact and of the Strategy, as well as the annual integrated monitoring results, will be accompanied by information and communication actions that guarantee transparency, accountability and sharing of responsibilities in relation to the changes that we want to pursue together, that coherently guide individual and collective behaviours with respect to the needs of transformation of the economy and society, with particular attention to the theme of climate change and its impacts, but also ensure that the public is aware of the opportunities that the current transition processes offer to the whole area and, more specifically, to the new generations.

<sup>27</sup>[https://www.arpae.it/it/temi-ambientali/educazione\\_alla\\_sostenibilita/azioni-educative/progetti-e-azioni-di-sistema/educare-all2019agenda-2030/educare-agenda-2030](https://www.arpae.it/it/temi-ambientali/educazione_alla_sostenibilita/azioni-educative/progetti-e-azioni-di-sistema/educare-all2019agenda-2030/educare-agenda-2030)

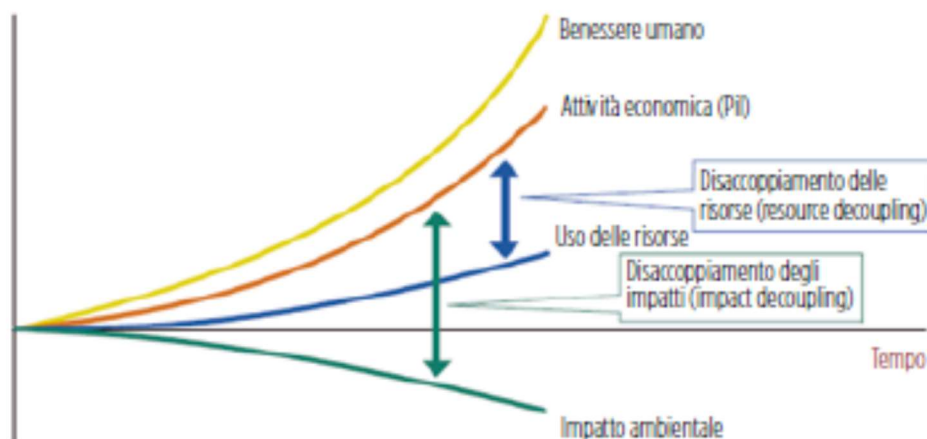
## 7.4 Decoupling indicators

The relationship between economic growth and environmental degradation has been the subject of much debate for some time now. The current economic model has to deal with the **limited resources** that the Planet makes available to us, both non-renewable resources (minerals and fossil fuels) and renewable ones (such as biomass) if their consumption occurs at a higher rate than the time needed for their regeneration.

For this reason, **decoupling resource consumption and economic development** (*Resource Decoupling*) has been identified as one of the main goals of the Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs (European Commission, 2005) and by the 17 Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs).

In fact, some SDGs call for the development of decoupling indices, more commonly defined as intensity indices, to break the link between environmental pressures or material flows and the generated economic value. These indices, also called integrated indicators, reflect the need for an integrated analysis and interpretation of sustainable development and therefore of our development model.

The OECD defines decoupling as breaking the link between environmental pressures and economic goods and refers to two complementary concepts: resource decoupling and impact decoupling. **Fig 1**



**Fig 1** Schematic representation of resource decoupling and impact decoupling. Source UNEP "Decoupling of natural resource use and environmental impacts from economic growth", p.5

*Resource decoupling* has the goal of reducing the use of resources per unit of economic output, represented by the ratio of GDP (determinant) to the rate of resource use (*Resource Use or Domestic Material Consumption*), for example energy or material consumption.

*Impact decoupling*, defined as the ratio between GDP and environmental impact, occurs over time if the environmental impact decreases while the generated economic value increases. **The higher both indices are, the greater the certainty that decoupling has taken place.**

The opposite of this index, i.e. the *intensity index*, is considered by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to be among the most effective ones in representing the decoupling of environmental pressure from economic growth, in a circular economy-oriented path.

The 3 criteria that ARPAE has extrapolated from the OECD methodology<sup>28</sup>, in the broader context described by UNEP to verify decoupling in a historical time series, are as follows:

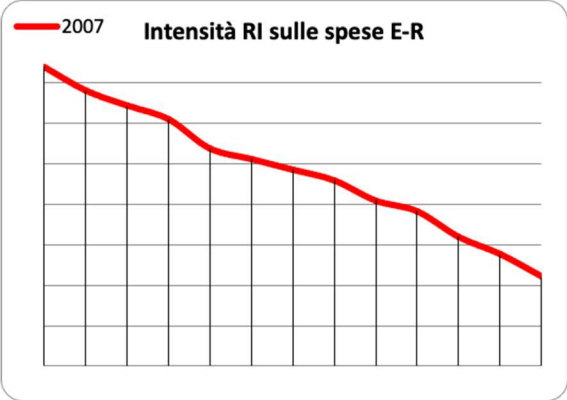
<sup>28</sup> "Indicators to measure decoupling of environmental pressure from economic growth", OECD 2002. Arpae extracted the methodology from the OECD publication and proposed it to the SNPA Task Force on Agenda 2030 in the Workshop on decoupling held online on 20 May 2020 <https://www.arpae.it/it/notizie/workshop-online-sul-disaccoppiamento>

1. Graphic representation of the intensity index considered as the relationship between environmental pressures and economic determinant. When the index decreases, a decoupling process is most likely taking place.
2. Simultaneous representation of the two indicators that make up the intensity index (*determinant and pressure or denominator and numerator*), made comparable in the same graph. The two graphs together (**1 and 2**) thus make it possible to verify a potential process of decoupling, absolute or relative, and to identify the relevant responsibilities
3. Analytical verification with the OECD decoupling factor. If it is between 0 and 1, decoupling is verified. Alternatively, if the factor is 0 or negative, there is no decoupling.

The first analysis that is proposed is the **decoupling of the production of unsorted municipal waste in the period 2007-2019**<sup>29</sup>, which may be followed by other decoupling analyses such as energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

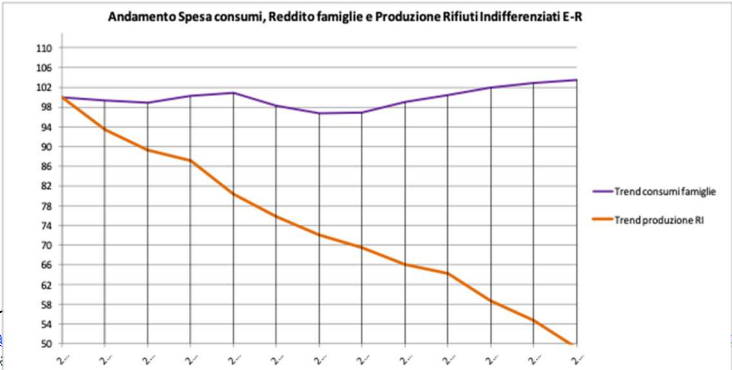
Application to case study:

- 1) In testing the decoupling of undifferentiated municipal waste (MSW) generation <sup>30</sup>from the economic growth indicator (Household Consumption Expenditure)<sup>31</sup> the intensity index is shown to be decreasing and therefore it can be assumed that a decoupling process is in place.



Graph 1 Intensity index – Data processed by Arpae

- 2) Analyzing the trends in **Chart 2**, and keeping the Intensity trend in mind, one can look for a cross-confirmation of the on-going decoupling process, whether absolute or relative, and of the relevant responsibilities: whether due to an increase in economic production (the denominator) or to a decrease in environmental pressure (the numerator).



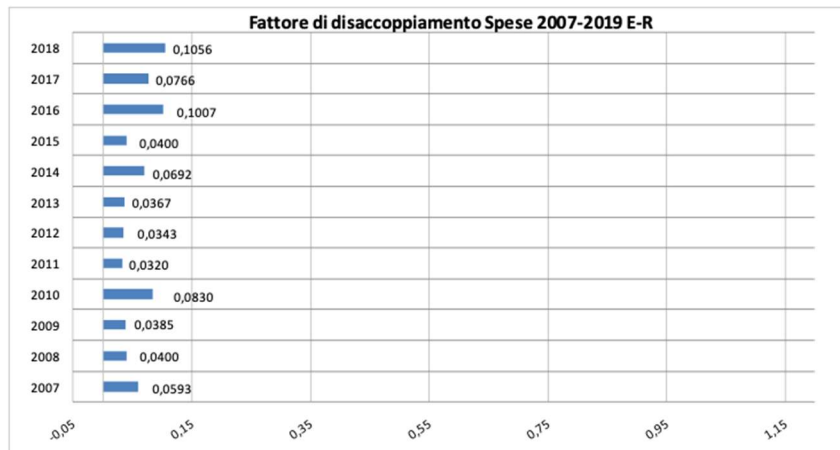
<sup>29</sup> <https://www.arpae.it/it/ecoscienza/ecos2021-03.pdf/view> (Bonazzi and P)

<sup>30</sup> This indicator of waste production, also defined as *intercept*, is suggested by the OECD 2002 document, i.e. the total amount of Urban Waste production that is sent for disposal and/or energy recovery.

<sup>31</sup> Household consumption spending is suggested as a determinant by the OECD 2002 document for the verification of municipal waste decoupling.

**Graph 2** Trend in household consumption and production of undifferentiated urban waste – Data processed by Arpae

- 3) This final verification confirms that decoupling has certainly taken place in the historical time series considered. (**Graph 3**)



**Chart 3** Decoupling factor – Data processed by Arpae

**Summary comment:** In the period considered, decoupling of the regional production of undifferentiated municipal waste from the economic growth indicator is confirmed, both from a graphical and from an analytical point of view.

In particular, **Graph 2 shows** how close we are to *absolute decoupling*, as witnessed by a continuous decrease of the intensity index (**Graph 1**).

The fact that Emilia-Romagna shows absolute decoupling of the production of this type of waste, in itself rare, is further characterized by the fact that responsibility for decoupling is linked to the constant decrease in environmental pressure.

The contribution to decoupling made by the continued reduction in unsorted municipal waste, the *intercept*, is greater than the increase in the economic indicator.

For this reason, the absolute decoupling in the years 2007-2019 was due to a greater reduction in undifferentiated waste rather than to economic growth that could not be fully confirmed after the financial crisis that began in 2007 and then became cross-sectoral and global.

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