



**EUROPEAN WEEK** of  
**REGIONS** and **CITIES**

How can AI, digitalisation, and greening ensure smart and sustainable growth for EU regions and cities?  
Naples, 26 November 2024

## Session II: Artificial Intelligence in practice: Ideas and Projects

### Leveraging AI for Cohesion Fund Management and Strengthening Administrative Capacities

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*Formez PA*

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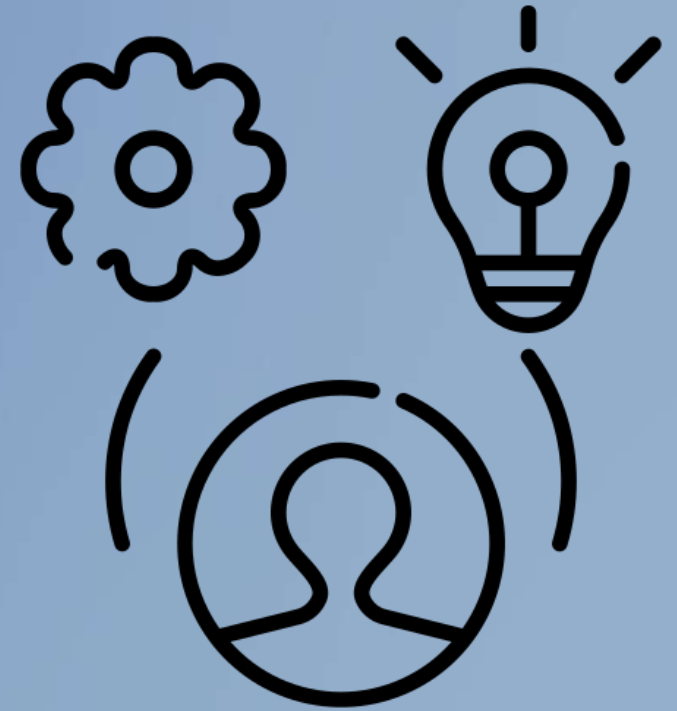
# Challenges in cohesion funds implementation

- **Intricate Administrative Processes:** overlapping regulations, excessive workloads, poor interoperability (affecting small municipalities)
- **Spending Inefficiencies:** fraud, irregularities, delays undermine funds' credibility
- **Lack of Public Awareness:** citizens unaware of investments' impact



# The role of AI: addressing key applications

- **Predictive Analytics:** Anticipating delays or issues in projects for more informed decision making
- **Automation of Administrative Controls:** Simplifying verification processes and timing
- **Anomaly & Fraud Detection:** Identifying suspicious patterns in data minimizing risks
- **Simplification of Reporting:** Chatbots and user-friendly tools for easier communication



# Our approach for AI in Public Administration

- AI should be a "support, not a substitute"
- Human expertise remains central to effective management



# AI4Funds Project: Smart Innovation in Cohesion Fund Management

- **Automating First-Level Controls:** Reduce verification time by 40%
- **Spending Risk Prediction:** Predict project delays and take corrective actions
- **Smart Digital Assistance:** AI conversational assistant for intuitive interactions



# Formez's Initiatives for AI

**AI in PA Working Group:** Exploring AI opportunities with the Ministry of Public Administration

*“AI should expand the value chain, creating a virtuous circle aimed at more efficient service delivery to citizens and businesses, which is ultimately the mission of public administrations”* Giovanni Anastasi,  
**President of Formez PA**



# Formez's Initiatives for AI

AI Training: Webinars and courses on the Syllabus platform

<https://www.formez.it/notizie/formazione-sull'intelligenza-artificiale-si-riparte-un-ciclo-3-webinar>



The screenshot shows the Syllabus platform interface. At the top, the logo 'SYLLABUS' is on the left, and navigation links 'La tua formazione', 'Catalogo', and 'Assistenza' are on the right. A notification bell icon with the number '3' is also present. Below the navigation bar, there is a back arrow and the text 'Indietro'. A dark blue button labeled 'TRANSIZIONE DIGITALE' is visible. The main heading is 'Introdurre all'intelligenza artificiale', with the subtitle 'Introdurre all'intelligenza artificiale' above it. Below the heading, it says 'Fornito da: FormezPA'. There are three icons: a video icon, a clock icon showing '1 ore 45 minuti', and a document icon showing '1 modulo'. At the bottom, it indicates 'Livello: Introduttivo', 'Rilascia attestazione', and 'Completato il 23/11/2024'. On the right side of the interface, there is an illustration of a hand holding a chip labeled 'AI' in front of a stylized human head with circuitry.

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# Formez's Initiatives for AI

**Call4Ideas:** Engaging staff to enhance innovative ideas on AI

5 evaluation criteria: scope and detail, cost-benefit analysis, originality and innovation, sustainability and feasibility, and appeal and external communicability



# Formez's Initiatives for AI

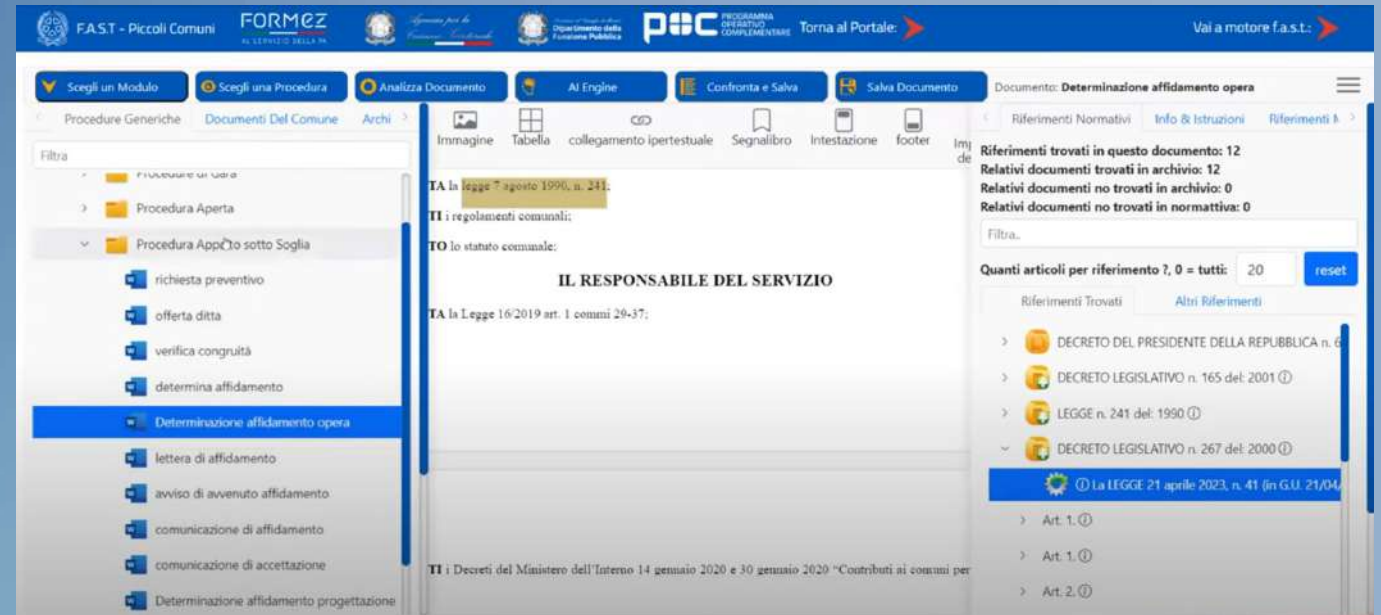
**Applied Projects: "Camilla" –**  
Using virtual assistants to support candidates in navigating the selection processes managed by Formez



# Formez's Initiatives for AI

Applied Projects: Automation of Document Templates in Small Municipalities - **Legal Desktop** (FAST Project)

digitalization of about 250,000 documents and mapping of about 110 municipal processes



# Vision for AI in Public Administration

- Continuous **training** to develop technical and decision-making skills
- Focus on **people, skills and ethical responsibility**
- Building an “**ethical guardrail**” to ensure AI’s inclusive, reliable use



“Innovation distinguishes between a leader and a follower” *Steve Jobs*

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