

# **LIVING LABS OR LIVING LABORATORIES AS OPEN ECOSYSTEMS FOR INNOVATION**

*Posted on 15/03/2022 by Naider*



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## LIVING LABS O LABORATORIOS VIVIENTES COMO ECOSISTEMAS ABIERTOS PARA LA INNOVACIÓN

**Una herramienta en auge para la creación sostenible de nuevos productos, espacios o infraestructuras adaptadas a las necesidades de la sociedad y territorio en el que se implantan**

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In recent decades, *Living Labs* have emerged internationally as research and open innovation infrastructures and collaborative, in real life settings. Their goal is sustainable creation of new adapted products, spaces or infrastructures to the needs of the society and territory in which they are established. For it involve different agents, both public and private, that make up the so-called quadruple helix (citizens, organizations of research, business and government agencies/levels) in a open, iterative and user-centered ecosystem. They encourage co-creation in an environment real, being its function to act as intermediaries/orchestrators thereof.

Therefore, the fundamental keys that a *Living Lab* must comply with are:

- Orchestration:  
acts as an orchestrator within the ecosystem to connect and partner with relevant stakeholders.
- Stake  
multi stakeholder
- Stake  
active users
- Co-creation, understood

as a *bottom-up* process.

- Around

real: operates in the real environment of the end users, incorporating innovations into their real lives instead of move the user to test sites to explore innovations.

- Multi-method approach: each

Living Lab activity is based on a problem. Therefore, the methodological approach for each activity will be selected based on the expected results of the activity and the interested parties that should participate.

Under this premise, there are different types of *living labs*. The **living labs territorial** are

committed to local development, the promotion of digital culture and the innovation, entrepreneurship at a local scale, the creation of networks of digital citizens, citizen participation in local government, the discovery of new technologies and the uses they may have for the citizenship. One of the functions of territorial *living labs* is to promote coordination between territorial agents to improve the well-being, the quality of life of the population and thus contribute to the development and sustainability of the territory. An example of this could be *Living Labs* of Smart cities,

Los ***living labs***