

Overview

- ▶ Mayor: Leoluca Orlando
- ▶ Lead staff on innovation:
Ciro Spataro
- ▶ Population of municipality:
673,735 (2017)
- ▶ Innovation/open data website:
www.comune.palermo.it/opendata.php

Vision and approach to innovation capacity

The city's innovation strategy

Along with 56% of cities surveyed, Palermo does not have an **explicit innovation strategy**.

The city most closely associates innovation capacity with the following terms:

Technological innovation

Human-centred design

Approaches to innovation capacity

Similar to 40% of cities surveyed, Palermo approaches innovation capacity **both** from a **holistic/macro level**, as well as in **specific policy areas**.

The **top two priority policy areas** for the city's innovation work include:

Housing

Social inclusion and equity

Most common innovation activities

Palermo's most common innovation activities are **promoting data-driven analytics** and **rethinking the city's approach to financing and partnerships**.



Funding for innovation capacity

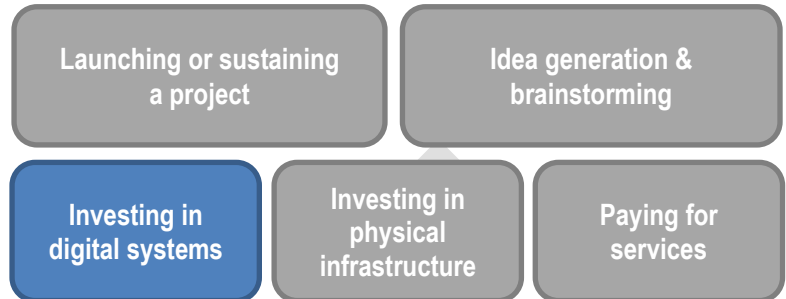
Funding to support innovation capacity

Like 77% of cities surveyed, Palermo has dedicated funding to support innovation capacity, which originates from the following sources:

- ✓ **Multilateral institution budget**
- ✓ **Higher levels of government** (national government budgets)

Types of activities being funded

While **launching or sustaining a project**, and **generating ideas & brainstorming** are the two most commonly funded activities among all cities surveyed, Palermo's innovation funding is generally directed towards **investing in digital systems**.



Organisational structure & staffing



As an independent body, Palermo has a dedicated team for innovation – *Servizio Innovazione*.

Staff skills and profiles include:

- ✓ **Data scientist**
- ✓ **Engineer**

Partnerships for innovation & data



Palermo has developed partnerships to promote its innovation capacity with **other public agencies, not-for-profit organisations, and city residents/resident associations**.

To improve data use, the city has also developed **data partnerships with academia and think tanks** to collect and analyse data.

Measuring outcomes

Policy areas that **benefit from sufficient data**, or **lack sufficient data**, to support innovation capacity in the city:



NB: No response provided by the city for the policy areas in grey.

Innovation is **helping the city** to:

- ✓ **Improve internal government operations**
- ✓ **Anticipate and manage future challenges**
- ✓ **Improve service delivery**
- ✓ **Improve resident outcomes**
- ✓ **Simplify administrative procedures for firms and residents**
- ✓ **Engage with residents and other stakeholders**

The most **critical success factors** in supporting the city's innovation work:

- ✓ **Focus on measurement**
- ✓ **Dedicated innovation team**
- ✓ **Human resource support**
- ✓ **Leadership from Mayor**
- ✓ **Culture of innovation in city**
- ✓ **Engagement with partners**
- ✓ **Support from outside city administration**