

The Italian experience in the evaluation of the socio-economic impact

G7 working group on research assessment

Rome, 9th November 2017

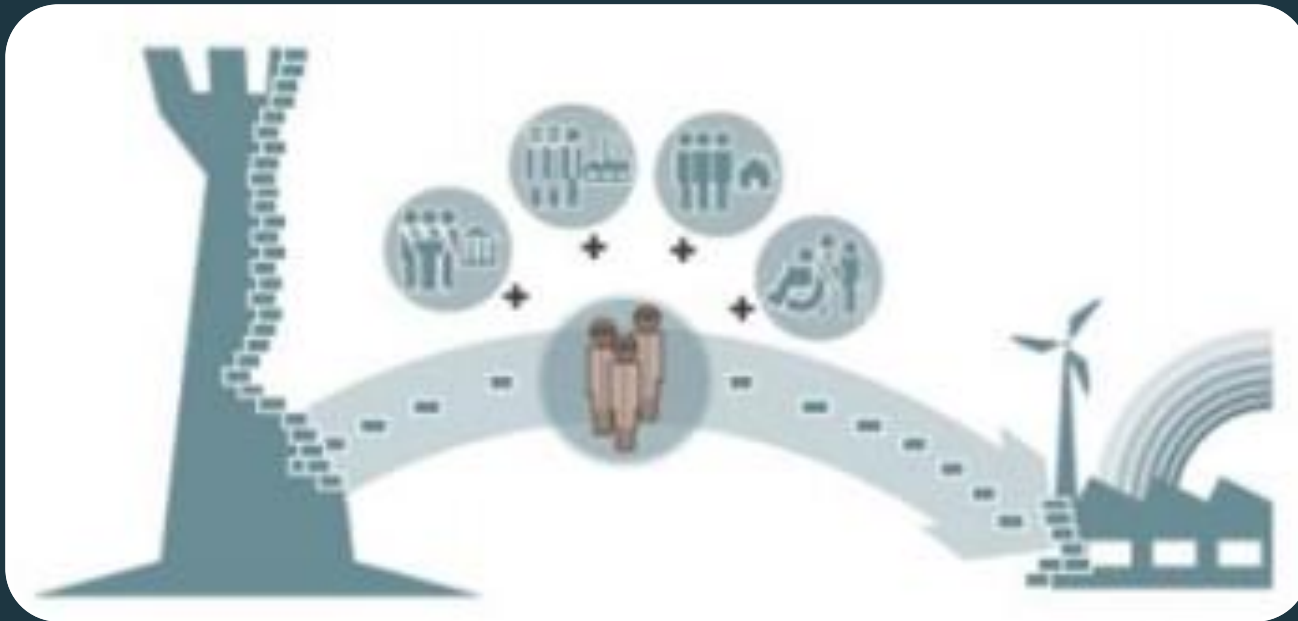


*Brigida Blasi,
Third Mission Unit*

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Evaluation path



how to evaluate Third Mission (TM)?

2011

2017

VQR 2004-2010



**ONE FINAL INDICATOR FOR
THIRD MISSION**

2011

2017



VQR 2004-2010

- amounts of **third party contracts**
- number of granted **patents** owned by the university
- number of **spin-out companies**
- presence of **incubators**
- number of **technology transfer consortia and associations**
- number of **archaeological excavations**
- presence of **museums**
- number of **other third mission activities**

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(data, evaluation,
indicators)

international workshops

consultation of the
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EVALUATION MANUAL
&
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**THIRD MISSION
EVALUATION MANUAL
&
DATABASE**

VQR 2011-2014

- Adoption of ANVUR TM Manual
- Broad definition of TM (valorization of research & production of public goods)
- Institution of a TM Evaluation Panel



**FINAL EVALUATION REPORT
ON THIRD MISSION**

2011

2017

TM Evaluation Manual

- Classification of activities (what is there inside TM?)
- Evaluation methodology
- Criteria, indicators & questions

Inside Third Mission



the degree of openness of the University towards the socio-economic context through the valorization and transfer of knowledge

Inside Third Mission

valorization of research

transformation of goods supported by public funding (public research) into private goods (economic and commercial applications)

production of public goods

the impact of universities on society at large, through the production of public goods of social, cultural and educational nature

Inside Third Mission

valorization of research

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

inventive activity, portfolio management, exploitation

ACADEMIC SPIN-OUT COMPANIES

revenues, job creation, demography, growth rate, collaboration with the university, exit strategies

THIRD PARTY FUNDING

third party research, service and teaching, institutional funding, industry funding

COLLABORATION WITH INTERMEDIATION AGENCIES

promotion of territorial networking, use and coordination of internal resources, use of external structures

production of public goods

CULTURAL HERITAGE

museums, archaeological excavations, historical buildings (conservation and access)

CONTRIBUTION TO PUBLIC HEALTH

clinical experimentation, bio-banks and clinical research centers

LIFELONG LEARNING

volume of LLL provided, use of the potential teaching body, impact on the population

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

non-profit activities with educational, cultural and social value (clarity of objectives, entity of the committed resources, impact)

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Evaluation approach & methodology

- Evaluation takes place area by area
- Universities are evaluated only if active in one area
- The presence of the university in each area is motivated by the institutional strategy and associated resources
- Evaluation is carried out by informed peer review, analysis of quantitative indicators through expert judgement

Criteria, indicators & questions



Criteria, indicators & questions

EXAMPLE:

AREA	Intellectual Property
CRITERIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. inventive activityb. portfolio managementc. exploitation



Criteria, indicators & questions

EXAMPLE:

AREA
CRITERIA

Intellectual Property

- a. inventive activity
- b. portfolio management
- c. exploitation

ability to strategically choose the inventions to be valorized through assignments, licenses, options and spin-out constitutions



Criteria, indicators & questions

EXAMPLE:



AREA	Intellectual Property
CRITERIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. inventive activityb. portfolio managementc. exploitation
INDICATORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. number of assignments, licenses, options contracts / total number of university patents2. number of spin-out companies using university patents / total number of university patents3. total revenues / total number of university patents

Criteria, indicators & questions

EXAMPLE:



AREA
CRITERIA
QUESTIONS

Intellectual Property

- a. **inventive activity**
- b. **portfolio management**
- c. **exploitation**
 1. Has the university developed a policy on intellectual property management and exploitation?
 2. Is the intellectual property portfolio able to attract the interest of the economic world and obtain a flow of revenues?

TM Database

- For the 8 TM areas, standardized and comparable data related to all the universities have been collected
- Data are often drawn directly from official databases (European Patent Office for patents, Chamber of Commerce for spin-out companies):
 - quality, homogeneity and continuity in data collection
 - reduction of the burden & costs for universities
- On this base, 90 TM indicators have been produced and used by the VQR evaluation panel

TM in vQr 2011-2014

TM in VQR 2011-2014

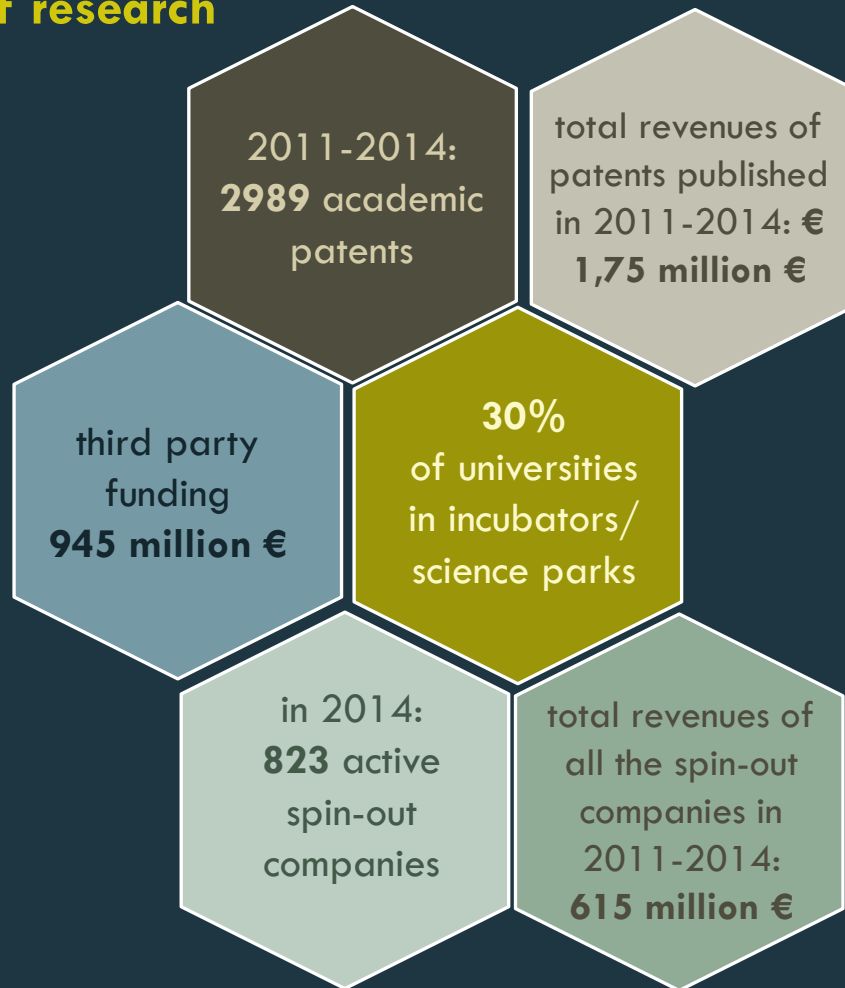
- The evaluation of TM has been inserted in the 2011-2014 Research Evaluation Exercise (DM 458/2015, art. 2 c. 6):
 - Adoption of the Manual definition and methodology
 - TM evaluation is independent from research performance
 - It is based on informed peer review: institution of the Evaluation Panel

TM in Italian Universities at a glance 1/4

	Universities
Monitoring of the TM	85%
Presence of a manager of the TM	74%
Integration of the TM-related functions	53%

TM in Italian Universities at a glance 2/4

valorization of research



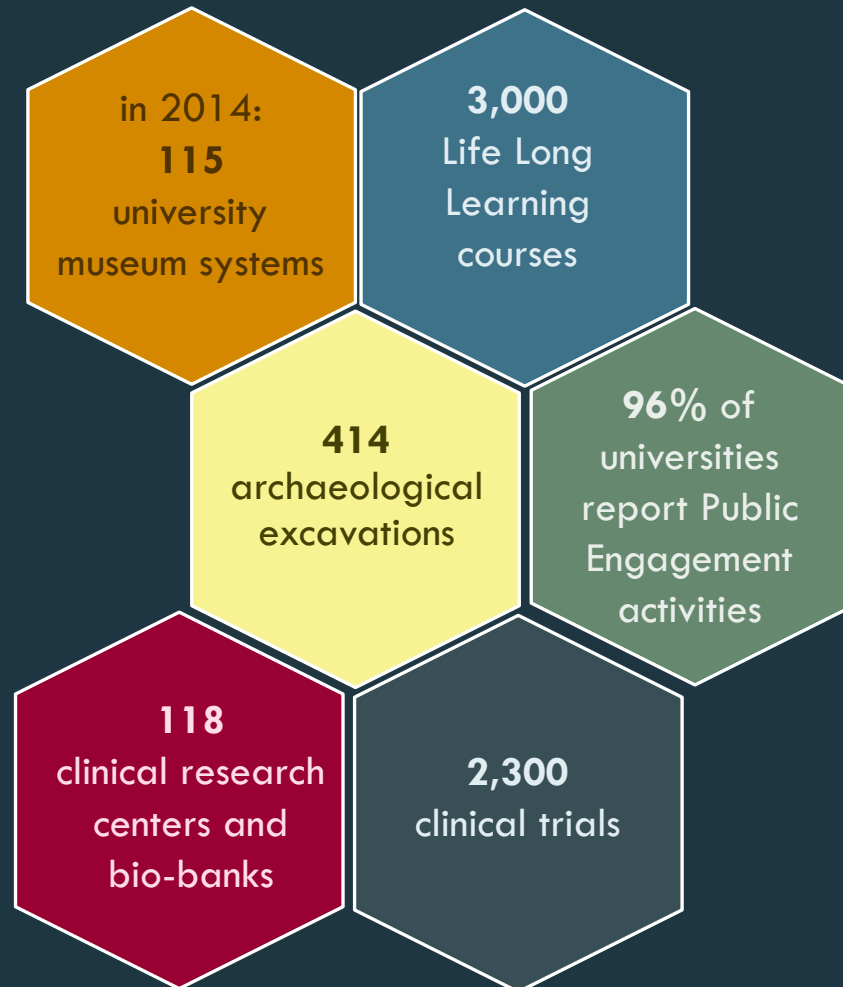
TM in Italian Universities at a glance 3/4

valorization of research

- on average 8 patents per 1,000 researchers from STEM
- on average 1 patent out of 3 is owned by the university
- on average 8 protected plant varieties per 1,000 researchers from Agricultural Sciences
- in ten years constant increase in the creation of spin-out companies (same definition in VQR1 and VQR2)
- increase in the economic and occupational impact of the spin-out companies and in the share of acquisition (exit)

TM in Italian Universities at a glance 4/4

production of public goods



Critical issues and future perspectives

- Need for data quality improvement:
 - New connection to official databases for further areas (better quality and less costs for universities)
 - Clear definitions within the TM areas
 - Improvement in the monitoring processes by universities

Thanks for your attention

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This work has been done in collaboration with Sandra Romagnosi