

A journey through the evolution of SOM-INN PORT

SOM-INN PORT, the **Open Innovation Ecosystem of the Port of Tarragona**, was established in 2018 within the framework of the Innovation Plan. Specifically, the launch session took place on 21 July 2028, with the main objective of fostering collaboration among the stakeholders of the Port of Tarragona's port community and other external stakeholders to innovate in the Port of Tarragona's processes, services and business models, facilitating knowledge exchange, idea generation and the development of new solutions.



SOM-INN PORT Launch Session, June 21, 2018

During this first stage, a governance and participation model was defined and implemented based on different instruments: the **Innovation Committee and the Agora as coordination spaces, competitive intelligence, innovation and prototyping cells made up of innovation agents and external stakeholders, co-innovation through Design Thinking, and agile prototype development through Design Sprint.**



First meeting of the Agora of SOM-INN PORT, 20 July 2018



Innovation Commission of SOM-INN PORT



Innovation cells during the Open Innovation Cycle workshops



Innovation cells during the Open Innovation Cycle workshops



Cell prototyping during the Open Innovation Cycle workshops



Innovation cells presenting their prototypes

At the same time, **training activities on innovation and communication tools, inspiring talks and interviews were promoted to foster the culture of innovation, as well as networking activities**, establishing a common knowledge base and a culture of shared innovation among the members of the ecosystem.



Inspirational talk by Xavier Verdaguer, May 12, 2021



Training on innovation strategies given by Joan Ras

To facilitate both internal and external communication, as well as the work of the innovation agent cells, **a digital platform was created to support innovation management, together with a website and SOM-INN PORT social media profiles.**

Participation also began in **congresses, conferences and events related to Innovation.**



Participation of SOM-INN PORT members at 4YFN 2019

At the same time, SOM-INN PORT was invited to **explain its experience in different forums and to receive recognition.**



Presentation of SOM-INN PORT at WAYRA, during the Conference "Open Innovation in Public Enterprise", February 7, 2019



The Tarragona Smart *Mediterranean Region Foundation* presented an award to SOM-INN PORT, February 28, 2019

Some **indicators** of the first stage of the SOM-INN port:

- 43 Members
- 50 Innovation Agents
- 10 Innovation challenges developed
- 105 Innovation cases at the observatory
- 16 Training activities
- 11 Inspirational Talks
- 13 Innovation Workshops
- 46 Networking and benchmarking activities

After a great deal of work, dedication and 7 years of SOM-INN PORT's operation, during the second half of 2025 the Port Authority of Tarragona developed a **new Innovation Plan 2025-2030, marking the starting point of the second phase of SOM-INN PORT.**

Innovation is one of the guiding principles of the Strategic Framework of the Spanish Port System of General Interest, whose purpose is to define the direction of ports towards the 2030 horizon. This Strategic Framework gives innovation a fundamental role, considering it a necessary condition to ensure the future of ports, as without innovation it would not be possible to successfully implement any of its other guiding principles.

The Strategic Framework establishes that Port Authorities are responsible for promoting and encouraging innovative strategies and projects that stimulate the local economy surrounding ports within the context of blue growth.

Within this framework, and considering that the previous Innovation Plan dated back to 2011, the Port Authority of Tarragona collaboratively developed a new Innovation Plan for the Port of Tarragona for the 2025-2030 period, called the **Innovare Plan**, with the aim of establishing a new innovation strategy.

The Innovare Plan was approved by the Board of Directors of the Port Authority on 17 December 2025. It was presented to the Port Authority staff on 13 January 2026 and, on 13 February, to the Port Community, SOM-INN PORT members and regional stakeholders.



Presentation session of the Innovare Plan to APT staff



Public session to present the Innovare Plan

With this new Innovation Plan, a roadmap has been established to enable the Port of Tarragona to exercise active leadership in innovation within the field of the Blue Economy.

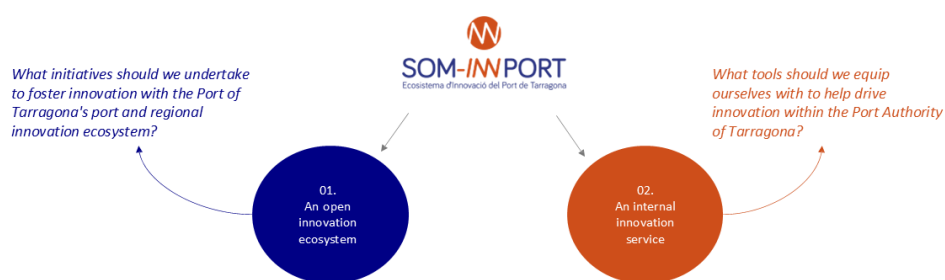
Under this strategic vision, **SOM-INN PORT is consolidated as the mechanism that institutionalises innovation at the Port of Tarragona**, both externally (through the port and regional innovation ecosystem) and internally (as the internal innovation service of the Port Authority of Tarragona).

Innovation Plan – 03. Strategic Vision 2030

We consolidate SOM-INN PORT to drive innovation



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