Small Foundation, Big Impact: Crowdfunding for Civic Regeneration and Local Democracy

EFA, Fundraising4Democracy Tour

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September 18, 2025

Before the web revolution

- One-to-many, top-down approach
- Citizens as passive receivers
- Organizations spoke, people listened







After the web revolution

- Peer-to-peer communication
- Disintermediation: anyone can tell stories
- Social networks = active communities



Donors and Digital Giving in Italy

- 80% of onliners donated in 2023
- Crowdfunding at record level since observatory started, 23%
- Smartphone = main donation device and touchpoint
- 32% donated during online checkout
- 8/10 donors demand impact reports









Crowdfunding: a key fundraising leverage

1

Beyond donations: from engagement to building communities

2

Transparency & measurable impact

3

Donors as active stakeholders

The democratic dimension



Crowdfunding = bottom-up participation

- Donors choose which projects to support
- They share and amplify campaigns
- They ask for local impact



Strengthens trust & democracy

Fondazione Carifano Crowdfunding



Territory: Fano, Cartoceto, Colli al Metauro, Fossombrone, Mondolfo, Monte Porzio, Pergola, Terre Roveresche, San Costanzo e Senigallia.

Population: 165.821

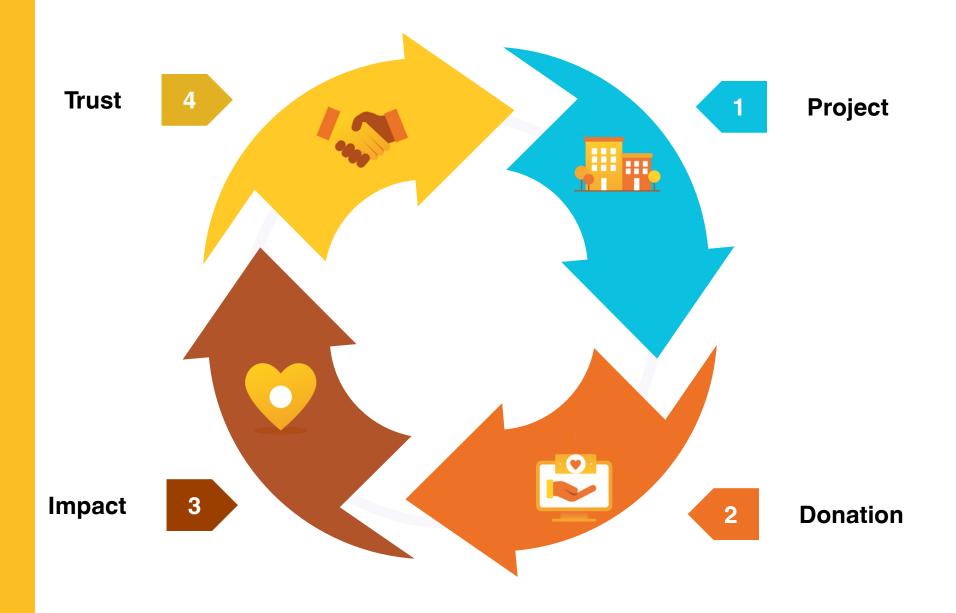
A Civic Regeneration Program

Fano (PU), Marche Region

- **Goal:** civic, social, and digital regeneration
- Partner: Carifano Foundation,
 CSV Marche, Rete del Dono
- **Sectors**: culture, education, environtment, social services
- Activities:
 - a. Capacity Builing
 - b. Civic engagement
 - c. Crowdfunding & Matching Grant Program

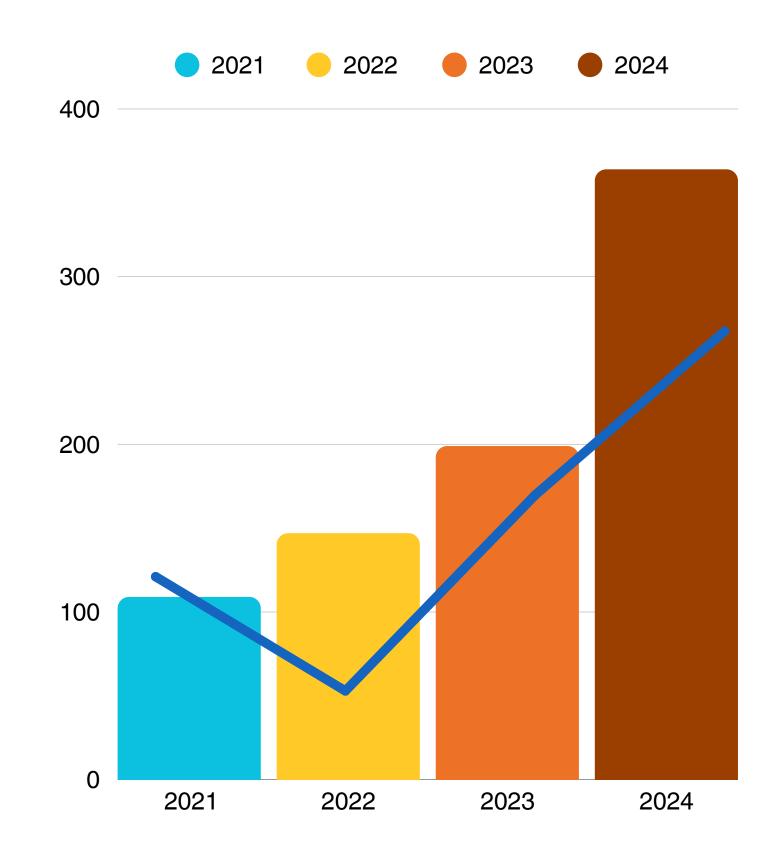
Crowdfunding Virtuous Mechanism: a bottom up regenerative cycle

- Matching grants up to €15,000
- Capacity building & training
- Engagement, activation of new donors
- Transparency builds trust



Fondazione Carifano Results

- 40+ local non-profits involved
- €800K+ raised
- 3,300+ donors mobilized
- Average annual growth:
 25%+







Key Takeaway From Fundraising to democracy

Crowdfunding

- Redistributes resources
- Activates communities &
 Strengthens civic space
- Pushes over the local dimension to embrace new practice and improve organisations' sustainability
- Builds a culture of giving





Together, we can make an impact!

Any questions?

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