



**Enabling Social
Innovation**

Regulatory Social Sandbox

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Agenda

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Central Elements

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Definiton

Regulatory sandboxes, often also called regulatory experimental spaces, are transdisciplinary and participatory research and development formats established by a government or a regulatory body, to foster innovation. We therefore refer to this format as regulatory social lab.

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Three central elements

1. **Regulatory social labs test innovative solutions with a limited duration under real conditions** .
2. **Regulatory social labs make use of legal/regulatory exemptions** . Experimentation clauses or other forms of flexibility instruments make it possible to carry out projects even if the general applicable legal framework initially opposes them. This may require granting exemptions from legal or regulatory provisions to enable such experimentation.
3. **Regulatory social labs are driven by an active regulatory interest of knowledge** . The focus lies on innovation as well as on the question, what legislators can learn for the design of future framework conditions.

Participation of the practitioners

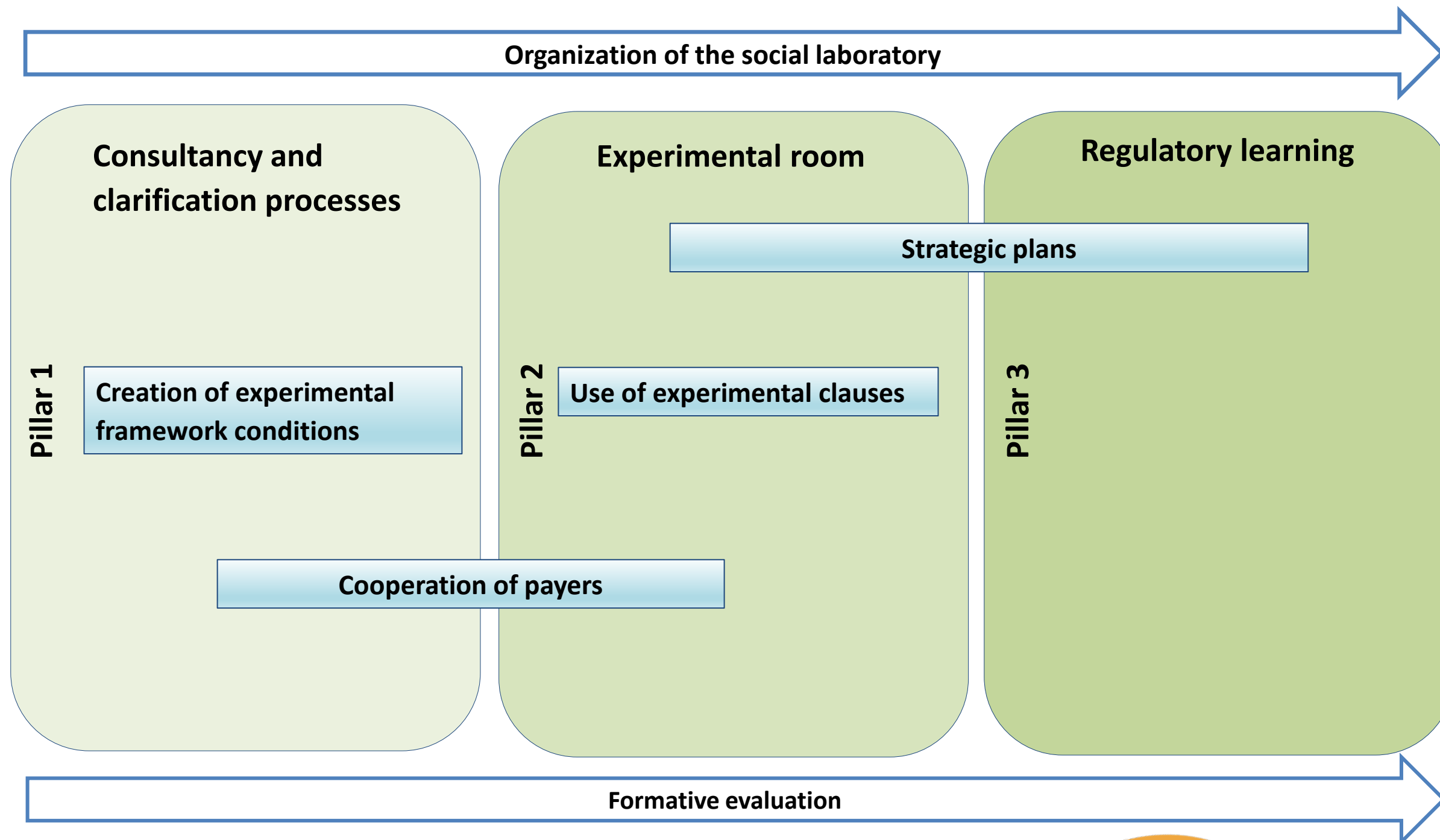
The participation of the practitioners is a constitutive component of this development format. Practitioners are not simply the object of investigation, but also central participants in the respective development and knowledge processes.

The active involvement of the practitioners increases the social relevance and impact of the results. This enhances the impact of the associated proposed measures and facilitates the implementation of regulatory innovations.

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Design of a Regulatory Social Lab



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Initiative at the EU-Level

The Council of the European Union highlights in its conclusions of 16.11.2020, "that flexibility and experimentation can be important elements for an agile, innovation-friendly, future-proof, evidence-based and resilient regulatory framework". The EU considers regulatory social labs as specific frameworks that allow innovative technologies, products, services (...) to be tested in a real environment for a limited period of time or in a limited part of an industry or territory, under regulatory supervision whilst ensuring appropriate safeguards.

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Initiatives in Austria

The establishment of regulatory social labs can be found in the government program 2020-2024, e.g. in the chapters on technology offensive, digitalization and innovation, de-bureaucratization and modernization (...).

This year, a regulatory social lab in the social field has been implemented for the very first time in the federal state of Carinthia. With the establishment of the regulatory social lab, the government of Carinthia has set itself the goal of integrating persons with disabilities labelled as “unable to work” by law into the labor market in the best possible way, so that they can find their way to a largely self-determined life through their own income and social security.

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Thank you for your attention!

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