

# List of publications on the use of action research in territorial development

The list below brings together all existing publications to date<sup>1</sup>, grouped around the main lines of work that have been generated through the use of ARTD, and facilitates access to those with 'open access' status:

1. Foundations of action research for territorial development
2. Enabling territorial development through action research
3. Action research for collaborative policy development
4. The role of conflict and resistance in policy development processes using action research
5. Action research in territorial strategies/policies for SMEs
6. Action research for collaborative governance
7. Action research for multilevel collaborative governance
8. Action research in building territorial leadership
9. Action research in urban development
10. Action research and the pedagogical approach to territorial development
11. Action research for university transformation
12. Action research, transformative communication and citizen science
13. Action research for territorial development and building futures
14. Action research as a methodology to address complex challenges
15. Action research for sustainable territorial development
16. First-person action research for territorial development: the role of emotions
17. Dialogues between different approaches to (action) research

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<sup>1</sup> Updated in July 2026.

| Publication                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Access                                                                                |
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| <b>Foundations of action research for territorial development</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                       |
| Estensoro, M. & Canto-Farachala, P. (Eds.) (2025) <b>The Evolution of Action Research for Territorial Development. Nurturing an intergenerational and multicultural environment.</b> Territorial Development Series. University of Deusto. <a href="https://doi.org/10.18543/DHFW6722">https://doi.org/10.18543/DHFW6722</a> |    |
| Larrea, M. (Ed.) (2022). <b>Raíces y alas de la investigación acción para el desarrollo territorial. Conectando la transformación local y el aprendizaje colaborativo internacional.</b> Territorial Development Series. University of Deusto.                                                                               |    |
| Larrea, M. (Ed.) (2020). <b>Roots and Wings of action research for territorial development. Connecting local transformation and international collaborative learning.</b> Territorial Development Series. University of Deusto.                                                                                              |    |
| Karlsen, J. & Larrea, M. (2015). <b>Desarrollo territorial e investigación acción: Innovación a través del diálogo.</b> Territorial Development Series. University of Deusto.                                                                                                                                                |  |
| Karlsen, J. & Larrea, M. (2014). <b>Territorial development and action research: Innovation through dialogue.</b> Gower.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                       |
| <b>Enabling territorial development through action research</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                       |
| Larrea, M. (2024). <b>Herri politiken eraldaketa errazteko artea.</b> University of Deusto. <a href="https://doi.org/10.18543/YNTR1387">https://doi.org/10.18543/YNTR1387</a>                                                                                                                                                |  |
| Larrea, M. (2024). <b>The Art of Facilitating Action Research. A first-person account in policymaking.</b> University of Deusto. <a href="https://doi.org/10.18543/SUFV4609">https://doi.org/10.18543/SUFV4609</a>                                                                                                           |  |
| Larrea, M. (2025). <b>El arte de facilitar el desarrollo territorial.</b> University of Deusto. <a href="https://doi.org/10.18543/TAJE2997">https://doi.org/10.18543/TAJE2997</a>                                                                                                                                            |  |

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| Costamagna, P., Delbon, S., Parra, J. & Rojo, L. (2023). <b>La facilitación de procesos como el motor del trabajo transversal y la innovación para lograr el cambio organizacional. El caso de la Municipalidad de Rafaela.</b> Digital journal: Desarrollo y Territorio, 15, December. |    |
| Costamagna, P., Delbon, S. & Rébola, R. (2021). <b>Personas Facilitadoras y Territorio. Experiencias de Fortalecimiento y construcción de capacidades.</b> Digital journal: Desarrollo y Territorio, 11, December.                                                                      |    |
| Costamagna, P. & Larrea, M. (2018). <b>Facilitative actors of territorial development. A social construction-based approach.</b> Territorial Development Series. University of Deusto.                                                                                                  |    |
| Costamagna, P. & Larrea, M. (2017). <b>Actores facilitadores del desarrollo territorial. Una aproximación desde la construcción social.</b> Territorial Development Series. University of Deusto.                                                                                       |    |
| <b>Action research for collaborative policy development</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |
| Bartels, K., Wittmayer, J. & Larrea, M. (2021). Introduction: <b>Action Research, Policy and Politics.</b> International Journal of Action Research, 17(1), 3-17. <a href="https://doi.org/10.3224/ijar.v17i1.01">https://doi.org/10.3224/ijar.v17i1.01</a>                             |  |
| Arrona, A. (2019). <b>Research and multi-actor collaboration in territorial development policymaking. Insights for an increasingly complex policy field in an increasingly complex policy world</b> (doctoral thesis). University of Deusto, Donostia-San Sebastián.                    |  |
| Arrona, A. (2017). <b>Can interpretive policy analysis contribute to a critical scholarship on regional innovation policy studies?</b> Orkestra Working Paper Series in Territorial Competitiveness, 2017-R01 (ENG).                                                                    |  |
| Karlsen, J. & Larrea, M. (2014). <b>The contribution of action research to policy learning. The case of Gipuzkoa Sarean.</b> International Journal of Action Research, 10(2), 129-155.                                                                                                  |  |
| <b>The role of conflict and resistance in policy development processes using action research.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                       |
| Larrea, M. (2021). <b>We are not third parties: Exploring conflict between action researchers and stakeholders as the engine of transformation.</b> Action Research, 19(1), 110-125.                                                                                                    |  |

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| <p>Larrea, M. &amp; Arrona, A. (2019). <b>Improving the approach to conflict in action research through deliberative policy analysis: A territorial development case in the Basque Country</b>. Policy Studies, 40(5), 492-509.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |    |
| <p>Arrona, A. &amp; Larrea, M. (2018). <b>Soft resistance, balancing relationality and criticality to institutionalize action research for territorial development</b>. In K. Bartels &amp; J. Wittmayer (Eds.), Action Research in Policy Analysis: Critical and Relational Approaches to Sustainability Transitions (pp. 134-152). Taylor and Francis. <a href="https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315148724-12">https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315148724-12</a></p>   |    |
| <b>Action research in territorial strategies/policies for SMEs</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |
| <p>Estensoro, M. &amp; Larrea, M. (2023). <b>Facilitation of entrepreneurial discovery processes by policymakers: an actionable definition of roles and challenges</b>. Journal of the Knowledge Economy, 14(2), 1321-1342. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s13132-022-00906-1">https://doi.org/10.1007/s13132-022-00906-1</a></p>                                                                                                                            |    |
| <p>Larrea, M. &amp; Karlsen, J. (2022). <b>Think tanks for a new generation of regional innovation policies</b>. European Planning Studies, 30(11), 2334-2351. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/09654313.2021.1985085">https://doi.org/10.1080/09654313.2021.1985085</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                   |   |
| <p>Rébola, R., Costamagna, P. &amp; Parola, L. (2022). <b>Acompañamientos desde la Investigación Acción a procesos territoriales para la construcción de capacidades Reflexiones metodológicas sobre las experiencias del Consejo Consultivo y Social de Rafaela, Proceso de Ramona en Desarrollo y Acompañamiento para la transformación de San Vicente ciudad (Santa Fe, Argentina)</b>. Revista Contraste Regional, 10(20), July-December. Mexico 2022.</p> |  |
| <p>Estensoro, M., Zumeaga, A. &amp; Salado, J.P. (2021). <b>Industria 4.0 trantsiziorako ekintza planak Gipuzkoako enpresa txiki eta ertainetan. Etorkizuna Eraikizeko Lurralde Garapenerko Laborategiko Faziladoreen ikerketa ekintza</b>. Cuadernos Orkestra, 08/2021.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
| <p>Larrea, M. &amp; Estensoro, M. (2021). <b>Governance of Industry 4.0 policies: making knowledge services accessible for SMEs</b>. Regional Studies, 55(10-11), 1839-1850. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2021.1954612">https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2021.1954612</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| <p>Pesme, J.O., Sugden, R., Mookken, M., Valania, M. &amp; Buschert, K. (2021). <b>A reflective process to explore identity in an emerging wine territory: the example of British Columbia</b>. International Journal of Wine Business Research, 34(1), 1-18. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1108/IJWBR-07-2020-0034">https://doi.org/10.1108/IJWBR-07-2020-0034</a></p>                                                                                          |  |

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| Arrona, A., Karlsen, J. & Larrea, M. (2020). <b>Policy learning in regions: the potential of co-generative research methodologies to help responsible innovation</b> . In M. González-López & B. T. Asheim (Eds.), <i>Regions and Innovation Policies in Europe</i> (pp. 46-65). Edward Elgar Publishing. <a href="https://doi.org/10.4337/9781789904161.00008">https://doi.org/10.4337/9781789904161.00008</a>                               |    |
| Alcalde-Heras, H., Estensoro, M. & Larrea, M. (2020). <b>Organizational ambidexterity in policy networks</b> . <i>Competitiveness Review: An International Business Journal</i> , 30(2), 219-242. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1108/CR-02-2018-0013">https://doi.org/10.1108/CR-02-2018-0013</a>                                                                                                                                               |    |
| Sisti, E. (2019). <b>Industria 4.0 en las PYMES de Gipuzkoa</b> . Cuadernos Orkestra, 2019/51.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |    |
| Karlsen, J. & Larrea, M. (2018). <b>Regional innovation system as a framework for the co-generation of policy. An action research approach</b> . In A. Isaksen, R. Martin & M. Tripple (Eds.), <i>New avenues for regional innovation systems - Theoretical advances, empirical cases and policy lessons</i> (pp. 257-274). Springer. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-71661-9_13">https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-71661-9_13</a> |    |
| Estensoro, M. (2015). <b>How can social innovation be facilitated? Experiences from an action research process in a local network</b> . <i>Systemic Practice and Action Research</i> , 28(6), 527-545. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11213-015-9347-2">https://doi.org/10.1007/s11213-015-9347-2</a>                                                                                                                                      |   |
| Estensoro, M. (2012). <b>Local networks and socially innovative territories: The case of the Basque Region and Goierri County</b> (doctoral thesis). University of the Basque Country (UPV-EHU), Bilbao.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |
| <b>Action research for collaborative governance</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                       |
| Estensoro, M., Icaran, C. & Larrea, M. (2025). <b>Action Research for the Simultaneous Transformation of Governments and their Territorial Governance</b> . <i>Systemic Practice and Action Research</i> , 38(8). <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11213-025-09721-6">https://doi.org/10.1007/s11213-025-09721-6</a>                                                                                                                         |  |
| Larrea, M., Arrona, A. & Barandiaran, X. (2024). <b>A place-based approach in collaborative governance</b> . <i>Oñati Socio-Legal Series</i> , 14(4), 983-1006. <a href="https://doi.org/10.35295/osls.iisl.1892">https://doi.org/10.35295/osls.iisl.1892</a>                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
| Larrea, M., Arrona, A., Sánchez, E., Begiristain, N. & Gaztañaga, M. (2023). <b>Methodology and method for territorial development. Lessons learnt on how to make efficiency and democratization compatible through action research</b> . Cuadernos Orkestra, 01/2023.                                                                                                                                                                        |  |

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| Arrona, A. & Larrea, M. (2022). <b>Frameworks for building collaborative governance</b> . Cuadernos Orkestra, 08/2022.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |    |
| Dallabrida, V., Büttenbender, P., Costamagna, P., Cabrita Mendonça Covas, M. & de Oliveira Menezes, E. (2022). <b>Estado e sociedade na construção de capacidades para fortalecer práticas de governança territorial</b> . Revista Brasileira de Estudos Urbanos e Regionais, 24(1), January-December. <a href="https://doi.org/10.22296/2317-1529.rbeur.202219pt">https://doi.org/10.22296/2317-1529.rbeur.202219pt</a> |    |
| Larrea, M. (2019a). <b>Systemic action research as a strategy to face the institutionalization of participatory approaches: A case study in the Basque Country</b> . Systemic Practice and Action Research, 32(6), 645-662. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11213-019-09482-z">https://doi.org/10.1007/s11213-019-09482-z</a>                                                                                          |    |
| Larrea, M. (2019b). <b>Una metodología para la construcción de gobernanza cooperativa. Compendio de los aprendizajes de una década de experimentación con la Investigación Acción para el Desarrollo Territorial en Gipuzkoa</b> . Cuadernos Orkestra, 2019/49.                                                                                                                                                          |    |
| Arrona, A., Estensoro, M., Larrea, M. & Sisti, E. (2018). <b>When collaborative governance meets New Public Governance: the case of Etorkizuna Eraikiz Territorial Development Lab in Gipuzkoa</b> . European Public & Social Innovation Review, 3(1), 33-45. <a href="https://doi.org/10.31637/epsir.18-1.4">https://doi.org/10.31637/epsir.18-1.4</a>                                                                  |  |
| <b>Action research for multilevel collaborative governance</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                       |
| Larrea, M., Estensoro, M. & Pertoldi, M. (2019). <b>Multilevel governance for smart specialization strategies: basic pillars for its construction</b> . S3 Policy Brief Series, Joint Research Center. Luxemburgo: Oficina de Publicaciones de la Unión Europea. <a href="https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2760/425579">https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2760/425579</a>                                                       |  |
| Larrea, M., Estensoro, M. & Sisti, E. (2018). <b>The contribution of action research to Industry 4.0. policies: Bringing empowerment and democracy to the economic efficiency arena</b> . International Journal of Action Research, 14(2+3), 164-180. <a href="https://doi.org/10.3224/ijar.v14i2-3.07">https://doi.org/10.3224/ijar.v14i2-3.07</a>                                                                      |  |
| Estensoro, M. & Larrea, M. (2016) <b>Overcoming policy making problems in smart specialization strategies: Engaging sub-regional governments</b> . European Planning Studies, 24(7), 1319–1335. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/09654313.2016.1174670">https://doi.org/10.1080/09654313.2016.1174670</a>                                                                                                                |  |
| Costamagna, P. & Larrea, M. (2015). <b>La gobernanza multinivel en los procesos de desarrollo territorial</b> . Digital journal: Desarrollo y Territorio, Número Cero.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |

## Action research in the construction of territorial leadership

Karlsen, J. & Larrea, M. (2021). **Action research as a methodology for the construction of territorial leadership**. In M. Sotarauta & A. Beer (Eds.), Handbook on City and Regional Leadership (pp. 324-342). Edward Elgar Publishing.



Karlsen, J. & Larrea, M. (2012). **Emergence of shared leadership in the Basque Country**. In M. Sotarauta, I. Horlings & J. Liddle (Eds.), Leadership and change in sustainable regional development (pp. 212-233). London: Routledge.

## Action research in urban development

Albizu, M. & Estensoro, M. (2024). **The role of VET profiles in ICT firms: the revelation**. Journal of Education and Work, 37(1-4), 234-252. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13639080.2024.2304298>



Albizu, M., Oliva, J. & Estensoro, M. (2022). **The role of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) workers in IT firms**. Informe Orkestra.



Oliva Peirano, J.G. (2022). **The Role of Action Research in Democratizing Governance: The Case of Bilbao Next Lab**. International Journal of Action Research 18(3), 221-246. <https://doi.org/10.3224/ijar.v18i3.03>



Albizu, M. & Estensoro, M. (2020). **The role of vocational training knowledge intensive business services. (Main conclusions)**. Cuadernos Orkestra, 71/2020.



## Action research and the pedagogical approach to territorial development

Costamagna, P. (2025). **Profundizando la mirada sobre la complejidad y su relación con el territorio**. Digital journal: Desarrollo y Territorio, 18.



Costamagna, P., Dallabrida, V.R., Büttenbender, P.L., Rotta, E., Parra, J., Rojo, L., Delbon, S. & Quadros, D.A. (2024). **Tranversalidade e Multidimensinalidade como foco da acao territorial**. Revista Desenvolvimento em Questão, 22(61). <https://doi.org/10.21527/2237-6453.2024.61.15851>



Editora Unijuí. (2024). **Edição Especial: Abordagem Territorial do Desenvolvimento: Gênesis, Base Epistêmica e Enfoques Teórico-Metodológicos Convergentes**. Desenvolvimento em Questão, 22(61).





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| <p>Pairola, L., Rébola, R., Spinelli, E. &amp; Costamagna, P. (2022). <b>Pedagogía de los territorios. Diálogos freireanos y pensamiento crítico para el desarrollo territorial.</b> In E. Alfieri, R.C. Rébola &amp; M. Suárez Elías (Eds.), Reinventarnos con Paulo Freire: educación popular, pedagogías críticas y procesos participativos (pp. 211-230). CLACSO.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                  |    |
| <p>Costamagna, P. &amp; Larrea, M. (2015). <b>El enfoque pedagógico y la Investigación Acción para el Desarrollo Territorial.</b> In P. Costamagna &amp; S. Pérez Rozzi (Eds.), Enfoque, Estrategias e Información para el Desarrollo Territorial. ConectaDEL.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |    |
| <p>Costamagna, P. (2014). <b>Los procesos políticos y de formación en la construcción de capacidades para el desarrollo territorial.</b> Una aproximación al aprendizaje desde la experiencia (doctoral thesis). University of the Basque Country (UPV-EHU), Donostia-San Sebastián.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |    |
| <p>Costamagna, P. &amp; Pérez, R. (2013). <b>Enfoque Pedagógico del Desarrollo Territorial y su relación con los espacios formales y no formales de formación.</b> ConectaDEL.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |    |
| <b>Action research for university transformation</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                       |
| <p>Larrea, M., Finnestrand, H., Aranguren, M.J., Arrona, A., Canto-Farachala, P., Costamagna, P. &amp; Estensoro, M. (2024). <b>Action Research Environments: Challenges for their Initiation and Sustainability.</b> Systemic Practice and Action Research, 37, 643–659. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11213-024-09703-0">https://doi.org/10.1007/s11213-024-09703-0</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
| <p>Rébola, R., Costamagna, P., Espinel Navas, H., Menardi, M., Vidal, M., Barbero, J., Gastaldi, F., Barbero, F., Aira, G., Giussani, V., Neiff, R., Bauducco, A., Giussani, J. &amp; Vaudagna, M.d.L. (2023). <b>Moldeada en los territorios. Nuestras experiencias desde la co- construcción para la transformación de la Universidad y los Territorios.</b> In M. Oraison, E. Torrejón Cardona, P. Paño, M. Giraldo, A. Goñi &amp; R. Rébola (Eds.), Experiencias y metodologías participativas en diálogo: saberes, actores y territorios. CLACSO.</p> |  |
| <p>Aranguren, M.J., Canto-Farachala, P. &amp; Wilson, J.R. (2021). <b>Transformative academic institutions: An experimental framework for understanding regional impacts of research.</b> Research Evaluation, 30(2), 191–200. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1093/reseval/rvaa030">https://doi.org/10.1093/reseval/rvaa030</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
| <p>Karlsen, J. (2020). <b>Studenter som aktører i regionale samskapingsprosesser – En ny form for praksis?</b> In H. Hiim, S. Gjøtterud, A.B. Emstad, D. Husebø, L.H. Jensen &amp; T. Leming (Eds.), Aksjonsforskning i Norge, volum 2 – grunnlagstenkning, forskerroller og bidrag til endring i ulike kontekster (pp. 463–485). Cappelen Damm Akademisk.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |



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| <p>Canto-Farachala, P. (2019). <b>Research institutes as change agents in territorial development. An analytical framework on responsible research communication</b> (doctoral thesis). University of Deusto, Donostia-San Sebastián.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                   |    |
| <p>Karlsen, J. &amp; Larrea, M. (2019). <b>Does a responsible university need a third mission?</b> In M.P. Sørensen, L. Geschwind, J. Kekäle &amp; R. Pinheiro (Eds.), <i>The responsible university: Exploring the Nordic context and beyond</i> (pp. 169-194). Palgrave Macmillan. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-25646-3_7">https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-25646-3_7</a></p>                                              |    |
| <p>Larrea, M. (2019). <b>Changing universities through action research: The dilemma of scope in pluralistic environments</b>. <i>Action Research</i>, 17(3), 400–416. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177/1476750318757851">https://doi.org/10.1177/1476750318757851</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                   |    |
| <p>Canto-Farachala, P., Costamagna, P., Eizagirre, A. &amp; Larrea, M. (2018). <b>Challenges for co-generation in the search for the social impact of the university: A case of the construction of a dialogic space through action research</b>. <i>European Public &amp; Social Innovation Review</i>, 3(1), 46-67. <a href="https://epsir.net/index.php/epsir/article/view/79">https://epsir.net/index.php/epsir/article/view/79</a></p> |    |
| <p>Romano, S. (2017). <b>El rol de la universidad en los procesos de desarrollo territorial. Experiencias comparadas y aportes para la UNTDF</b> (doctoral thesis). University of Deusto, Donostia-San Sebastián.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |   |
| <p>Karlsen, J., Larrea, M., Wilson, J.R. &amp; Aranguren, M.J. (2012). <b>Bridging the gap between academic research and regional development</b>. A case study of knowledge cogeneration processes in the Basque Country. <i>European Journal of Higher Education</i>, 47(1), 122-138. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1465-3435.2011.01512.x">https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1465-3435.2011.01512.x</a></p>                                 |  |
| <b>Action research, transformative communication and citizen science</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                       |
| <p>Canto-Farachala, P., Brogström, D., Czeplçedi, A., Hummer, P., Winther, C. &amp; Valle, N. (2024). <b>Communication in Youth Citizen Social Science</b>. In D. Borgström et al. (Eds.), <i>Handbook of Youth Citizen Social Science. Working with Young People and the Local Community for Social Change</i>. Zenodo. <a href="https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10566411">https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10566411</a></p>                  |  |
| <p>Canto-Farachala, P., Landsverk, A., Norvoll, R. &amp; Borgström, D. (2024). Introduction. In D. Borgström et al. (Eds.), <b>Handbook of Youth Citizen Social Science</b>. Working with Young People and the Local Community for Social Change. Zenodo. <a href="https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10566411">https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10566411</a></p>                                                                                 |  |
| <p>Canto-Farachala, P. &amp; Larrea, M. (2022). <b>Rethinking the communication of action research: Can we make it dialogic?</b> <i>Action Research</i>, 20(2), 199-218. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177/1476750320905896">https://doi.org/10.1177/1476750320905896</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                |  |

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## Action research in territorial development and construction of futures

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