

STEFANO MIZIO

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

COO of a new Venture Builder & Operational VC (YUS); previous Head of Startup Acceleration Programs and International Projects at Polihub; board member and former CEO of InnoVitsLab (boutique innovation consulting company fostering startup culture in organizations); actively engaged in the Italian startup ecosystem.

Experience in Silicon Valley USA (2010) and London (2015/2016) as technology and business scouting.

Speaker at Global Entrepreneurship Conference, he is also in charge of seminars on intrapreneurship and agile organizations at CFMT (Education Management School) and Lean Startup and Corporate Innovation workshops at PoliHub, MIP School of Management and Alta Scuola Politecnica.

He co-founded and served as Board Member of Innovits - MIP Alumni association - helping local communities to foster entrepreneurship.

In addition, he was Business Partner at Methodos, consulting company, focusing on business model innovation and change management.

Prior to this he was with Vodafone where, as head of technology departments, managed Mobile Internet and Value Added Service development in Italy.

In 1995 he joined Omnitel Pronto Italia, Italy's second largest mobile operator, where was involved in the telecom network rollout as head of Radiofrequency Department for South Italy.

CAREER HISTORY

Yunitestars SpA (Venture Company)

- December 2021 – present - (Milan) Chief Operating Officer

Role&Responsibility:

Oversee the implementation of company strategies, major organizational changes and planned rapid expansion.

Polihub (Innovation Park & Startup Accelerator)

- March 2016 – December 2021- (Milan) Head of Startup Acceleration Programs & International Projects

Role&Responsibility:

Work with internal and external staff to manage and delivery Startup Services once accelerated in PoliHub: from Marketing, Financial Accounting, Cost Accounting, Strategy to Business model analysis.

Track and map startup growth trajectory in terms of Technology Readiness Level and Investment Readiness Level.

Design and manage Switch2Product Challenge since 2017.

Support startup teams to develop business plan activities.

Advise product generation teams of needed changes, based on market testing and feedback.

Use quantitative and qualitative methodologies to assess project success outcomes.

Supervise all the activities with international partners: TusStar incubator University, Deep Tech Alliance and European Universities of Technology Alliance.

Recruit and train startup mentors.

Trainer at Entrepreneurship Innovation & Startup course at Politecnico di Milano MIP School of Management and lecturer at Alta Scuola Politecnica on entrepreneurship culture, Lean startup and agile methodologies. Director of EntrepreneurshipLab at PoliHub.
Train executive on Organization Agility, Ambidextrous organizations and Agility methodologies (Lean Startup, Customer Development, Blue Ocean Strategy).

InnoVitsLab (Consulting Company)

- May 2015 – Sept 2020 - (Milan/London) Board Member – previous Co-Founder and CEO

Role&Responsibility:

Evaluate UK Incubators and Acceleration models.

Develop relationships with local startup ecosystems actors.

Support Italian Startups to get funded mitigating risks in terms of technology and market uncertainty.

Contribute to the Italian startup ecosystem's evolution and maturation process.

Methodos (Change Management Company)

- June 2013 – May 2015 (Milan) Business Partner

Role&Responsibility:

Develop and delivery business model innovation projects focused on Medium Enterprises.

Perform Companies Technology and Innovation Audit; PEST and Value Curve analysis; Internal and organization Governance structure.

Innovits Management Board

- September 2011 – May 2015 (Milan)

Role&Responsibility:

Contribute to creating an entrepreneurial and innovation-based economy, fostering startup and "agile methodologies" and contaminating traditional management practices and culture.

Support startupper and managers providing them professional instruments and business opportunities and allow entrepreneurs to develop sustainable "business model"

Life Better Company (technology startup/location based services)

- June 2011 – September 2013 (Milan) Co-Founder and CEO

Role&Responsibility:

Perform product and business development to help Small and Medium Enterprises exploit and benefit from smartphones and mobile internet revolution.

Supervise Software development team.

Define product roadmap.

Spindex (Information and Technology Services)

- February 2011 – June 2011 (Milan) Business and Technology Advisory Consultant
- June 2010 – February 2011 USA (Bay Area - California) Technology scout and Business Development

Role&Responsibility:

Perform the early identification of technologies (Mobile Health, Carbon Management SW, "Internet of Things", "Location Based Services", Mobile Payments") and their screening.

Create technology briefs.

Attend conferences, meetup and startup events in Silicon Valley.

Vodafone

- 2008 – 2010 (Milan) Head of Internet Services Development & Operations – Vodafone Internet Services.
- 2006 – 2008 (Milan) Head of Technical Development & Maintenance-Product & Services – Vodafone Italy.

Role&Responsibility:

Responsible for Vodafone mobile internet product and services technology developments ("agile methodology") aimed to Italian consumer market and operations of Italian service platforms (mobile TV, "mobile advertising", sms/mms content, profiling, billing, mobile portal).
Manage an IT department including Demand, Development, Operations and Helpdesk functions.

Define and negotiate annual budget.

- 1999 – 2006 (Naples) Head of Radiofrequency Department Southern Area Italy

Responsible for Southern Italy for the design and optimization of the mobile radio network with objectives related to the development of coverage, service quality and the annual budget necessary to plan realization.

Define and negotiate annual budget.

Maintain relationship with technology providers (Nokia, Nortel)

Ensure the quality of mobile services.

2G and 3G technology expert: adjunct professor of mobile communications at the Università degli Studi di Napoli Parthenope Engineering Department: 2005 - 2006

Omnitel Pronto Italia

- 1995 – 1998 (Ivrea - Turin) Radiofrequency Design Engineer

OTHER INFORMATION

- Executive Management program on how to harness the power of open innovation ecosystems, MIT Sloan School of Management October 2019.
- Executive Product Management Program, University of California, Berkeley Haas School of Business October 2010.
- Executive Master in Business Administration, Milan Politecnico School of Management (MIP), 2010.
- Degree in Electronic Engineering (1991) at the University of Palermo – 110/110 cum laude.
- Adjunct professor at the Parthenope University of Naples teaching courses on Mobile Communications, major in Telecommunications for the academic years 2005 and 2006.
- Enrolled in PhD Program, Telecommunications Management 1993-1994, focusing on traffic modelling and telco performance. I went on leave from the program since joining Omnitel in 1995.
- Publications:
 1. Evaluation of the performance of Network Traffic Management for Operation Systems versus the more critical parameters; Singapore ICCS'94 IEEE Singapore Section; novembre 1994.
 2. L'entrepreneurial management: opportunità per manager e aziende; Sviluppo & Organizzazione; giugno 2016.
 3. Innovazione, uno sport sociale: come costruire un ecosistema di successo; Agenda Digitale; giugno 2020.
- Honors & Awards:
 1. Degree award SIP (Telecom Italia); scholarship for the development of a thesis project for the applications of satellite communications to corporate business; novembre 1991.

I hereby authorize the treatment of my personal data pursuant to the Italian Leg. Decree 196/2003.

Stefano Mizio LinkedIn