

Joint Research Centre

the European Commission's in-house science service

*Serving society
Stimulating innovation
Supporting legislation*

Introduction to the Smart Specialisation Process and the S3 Platform

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Smart Specialisation Platform

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www.ec.europa.eu/jrc





R&I Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3) = **Economic Transformation Agendas**

aiming at using inspired R&I for producing competitive economic return and lasting welfare for the society!

NOT ONLY FOR THE BEST! as innovation is multi-dimensional & includes basic inventions or development of applications → at minimum RIS3 transform less-advanced regions into good followers! Regions need to seek the concentration of resources and do it in original and rather unique area of knowledge expertise!

Source: D.Foray 12/2011

RIS3 towards novelties...

Building on the past (RIS)...

- *Widespread experience of national/regional innovation strategies in the framework of the EU research & innovation + cohesion policies*
- *Achieved greater co-operation among private and public stakeholders and better communication between technology providers and clients*

but also...Breaking from the past!

- *Lack of international and trans-regional perspective*
- *Not in tune with the industrial and economic fabric of the region*
- *Too narrow vision of innovation*
- *Picking the winner syndrome*
- *Just copying the best performing regions*

What is **Smart Specialisation?**

S3 the policy concept

- Promote **inclusive and sustainable growth**
- **Place-based policy:**
 - Valorise existing assets and local specificities
 - Mobilise local economic players as the main actors of economic change
- Based on transparent **selection of economic activities** with high transformative potential for the economy

RIS3 the strategy

- National or regional **agenda for economic transformation**
- **Coordinate financial and entrepreneurial resources** to support the selected economic activities
- Define **governance and monitoring mechanisms**



Main Design Principles for RIS3

- 1. ANALYSIS:** discovery of the socio-economic and innovation engines of regional growth, competitive advantages & weaknesses
- 2. MAKE CHOICES:** identify a limited set of priorities for development where to concentrate investment
- 3. STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT:** setting priorities should be an inclusive and interactive process centred on *entrepreneurial discovery*
- 4. BROAD VIEW OF INNOVATION:** support technological as well as practice-based and social innovation
- 5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION:** feeding back information into the policy cycle and allowing strategy revision



RIS3 Guide of the European Commission

With contributions of D. Foray, P. McCann, J. Goddard, K. Morgan, C. Nauwelaers

Available on the **S3 Platform webpage**
<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

Centrality of Entrepreneurial Discovery Process

Priority-Identification Process:

- 1. Entrepreneurial actors in a broad sense:** all actors potentially holding some type of entrepreneurial knowledge, from businesses to research institutions and the public administration
- 2. Interactive process where *different* actors can meet:** become aware of potential for synergies and complementarities, or explore experimental ideas
- 3. Shielded environment where actors can disclose information:** both virtual and physical space
- 4. Non-hierarchical process:** stakeholders in this process stand on the same foot as the administration

from the S3 Platform experience...



Public authority will prioritise those activities that:

- (i) Have critical mass of entrepreneurial resources and capabilities
- (ii) Show commitment of stakeholders / entrepreneurs
- (iii) Are suitable to realize the strategic goals/meet the needs and challenges of the local economy and society

Key steps for developing RIS3

Step 1 – Analysis of regional/national context & potential

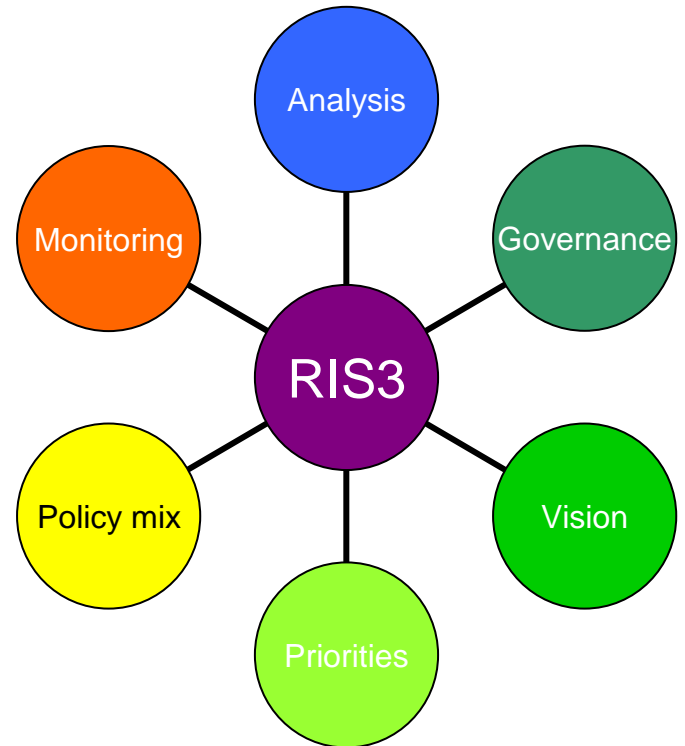
Step 2 – Governance

Step 3 – Vision for the future

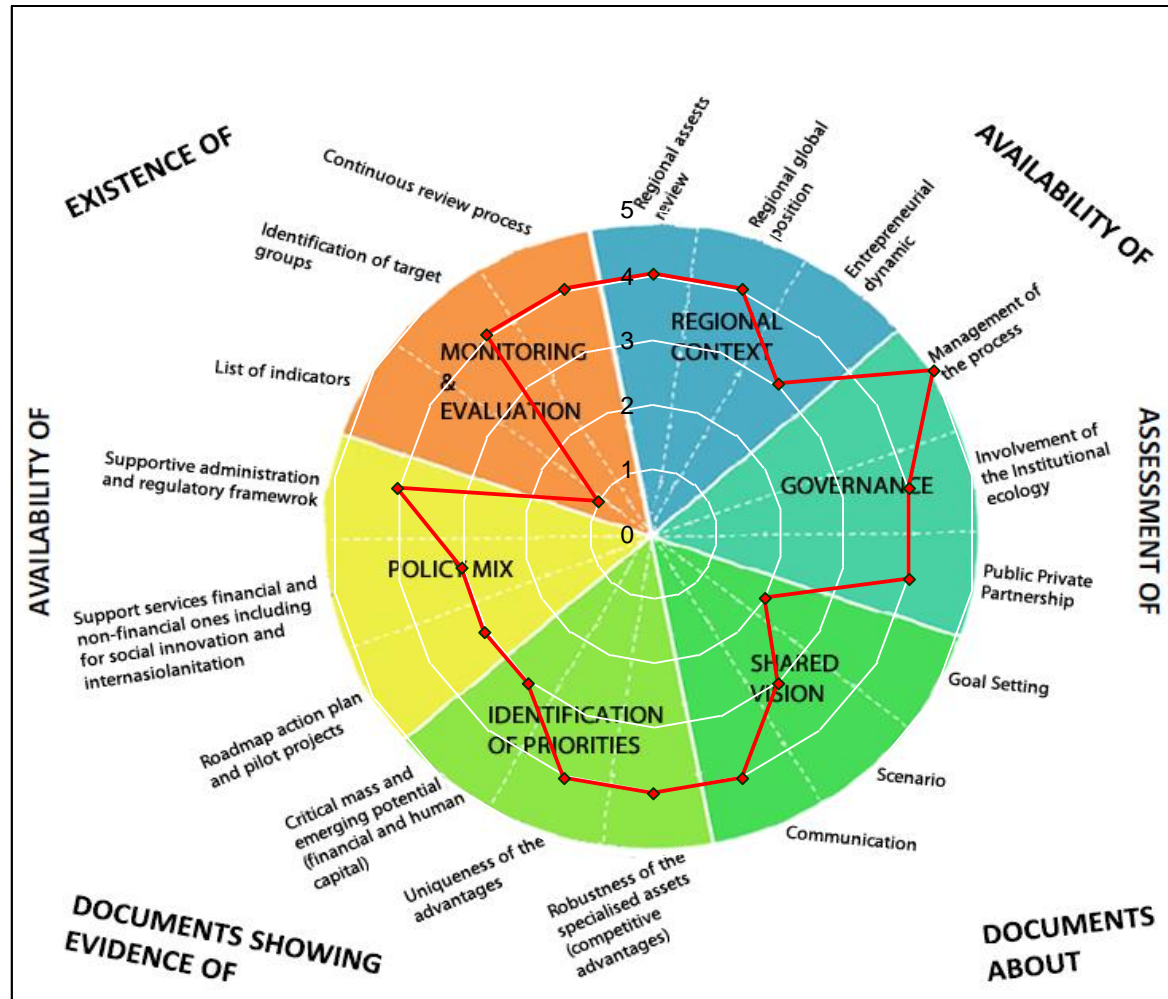
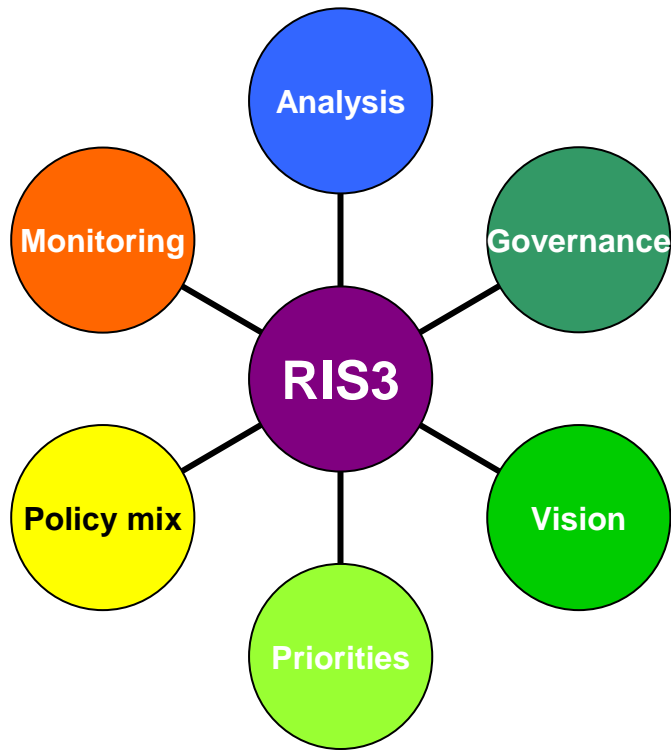
Step 4 – Identification of priorities

Step 5 – Policy mix

Step 6 – Monitoring & evaluation



RIS3 Design vs. RIS3 Assessment





Participatory process w/ Continuous Stakeholders' Engagement Quadruple Helix



Business

- Manufacturing and services
- Primary sectors
- Financial sector
- Creative industries
- Enterprises (large and SMEs)
- Clusters and organisations



Research and Education

- Public and private research bodies
- Universities
- Education and training
- VET centres
- Science and technology parks
- Technology transfer offices



Public administration

- Different government levels
- Energy and innovation agencies
- Regional development agencies
- Business advice offices
- Public procurement departments
- Public incubators



Civil society/ Users

- Non-Governmental Organisations
- Citizens' initiatives
- Societal challenges
- Cooperative innovative solutions
- Consumers associations
- Talents

Entrepreneurial discovery.

The process of systematically scanning for technological, political and regulatory, social, and demographic changes to discover opportunities to produce new good and services

Entrepreneurial in composition & spirit:
risk-taking, broader view beyond boundaries ...

Smart Specialisation Platform



Created in 2011 to provide **science-based** professional advice to EU national and regional policy-makers for the establishment and implementation of their Research & Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (**RIS3**), make **better use** of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) and thus **contribute to the Europe 2020** goals.

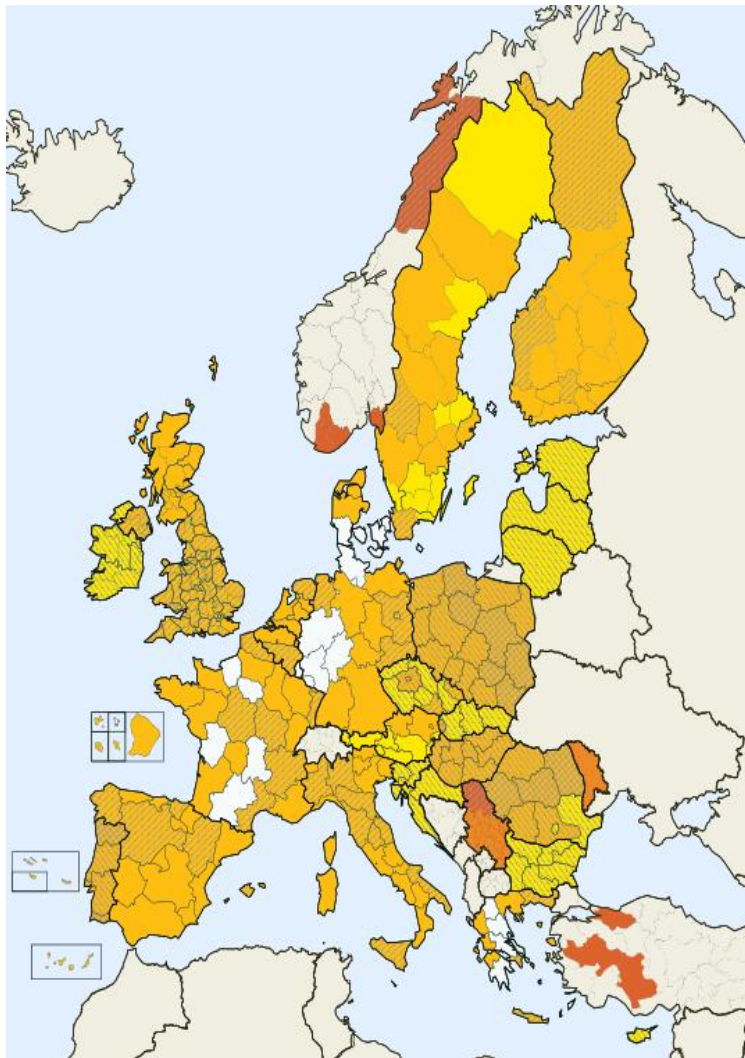
A privileged perspective to bridge the communities:

Outside the Commission - Support to countries / regions developing and implementing their RIS3 and to their "triple/quadruple helix" partnerships

Inside the Commission - Support to DG REGIO and other policy DGs

In the scientific community - Contribution to the conceptual and methodological debate around smart specialisation

Smart Specialisation Platform



Key Data:

Wide membership: 177 regions + 20 countries

- Open to the Non-EU regions/countries (8 Non-EU regions and 2 Non-EU countries registered so far!) – **UA invited!**

Strong endorsement by national/regional policy makers: average 4.5/5 **satisfaction rankings** (86% rankings at least 4/5; 100% at least 3/5)

High **“loyalty rate”**: > 50% of regions attending workshops come back

Strong **political endorsement** at EU level:

EC (Hahn, Cretu), **EP** (Winkler, Buzek, Van Nistelrooij), **Council** (Van Rompuy, Tusk), **CoR** (Markkula)

Main activities of the S3 Platform

Support to lagging regions & Synergies ESIF-H2020 "Stairway to excellence"

S3 Knowledge Base: Guidance and Analysis, RIS3 Guide, DA Toolbox, S3 publications, S3 Seminar Series on Territorial Development

S3 Website & Newsletters

Trans-national focus Peer Reviews (in total 75 regions/countries)

S3 Interactive web tools

Peer eXchange & Learning Thematic focus on actors, process, common features and priorities

RIS3 assessment and support to REGIO desks

Support to the EU Macro-Regional Strategies & Alignment of innovation roadmaps

Focused approach on Value Chains - Thematic S3 Platforms: Energy, Agro-Food, Industrial Modernisation, Digital Growth...



S3P support to the Danube Macro-Regional Cooperation



- S3P registration:

177 regions (23 MS + 4 non-EU)

18 MS + Serbia & Moldova

- from **Danube:**

23 regions (6MS+RS)

9 MS + RS & MD

S3P peer-reviewed:

60 regions + 15 MS

- from **Danube:**

8 regions

7 MS

<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/home>

Source: S3 Platform, September 2016

Smart Specialisation...

... as an **ex-ante conditionality** for the release of ERDF resources on Thematic Objective 1 (Research and Innovation)

TO1 directly linked to 40 B EUR + indirectly TOs 1-4 >110 B EUR

... as a **leverage** for additional funding (national/regional/PPP) supporting identified S3 value chains in countries/regions
= up to 6 times more!

... as a **trigger for change** in innovation policies (& strategies) + in overall transparency and participatory policy making

... as an **influential pattern** for other public investment policies (e.g. application to other EU policies – enlargement + thematic objectives and other EU policies)

... S3 towards a **cross-cutting policy paradigm??**



REGIO, JRC & Spec.policy DGs

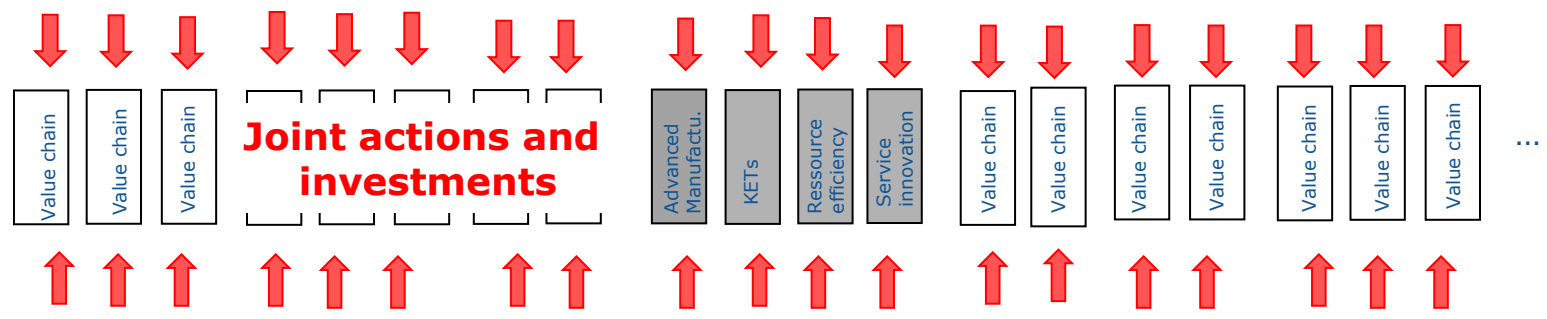
S3 Strategic Developments - EU

Regional authorities

Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms

Energy Agro-Food Digital Growth **Industrial Modernisation** (Health) (Circular Economy)

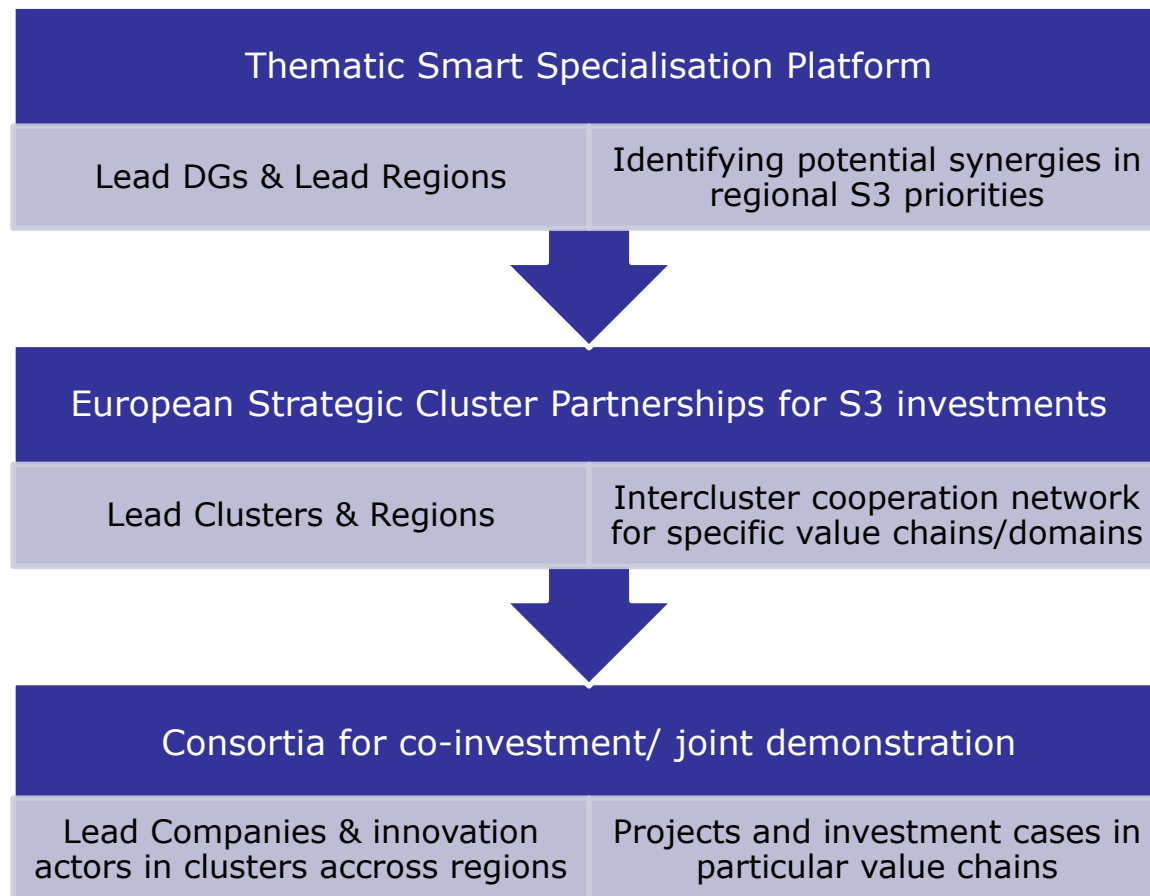
Business



Cluster organisations

European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for Smart Specialisation Investment

Three steps of the 'Entrepreneurial Discovery Process' at the EU-level



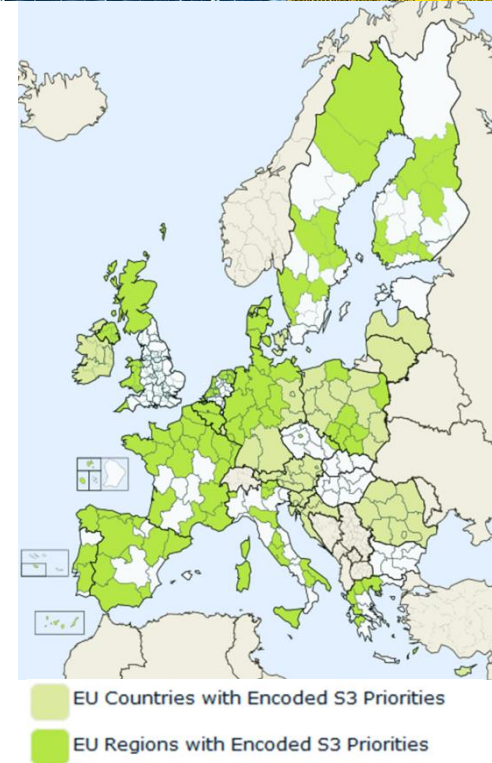
Specific S3 Thematic Activities

1) Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy (S3P-Energy)



What? The S3P-Energy is designed to deliver change by:

- **Improving trans-regional learning**
- **Enhancing policy coordination among existing resources:** at national, regional and local levels.
- **Improving cross-policy coordination:** Linking the innovation and energy 'worlds'.
 - *Funding:* support the optimal and effective uptake of the Cohesion Policy Funds for energy.
 - *S3:* Help implementation of smart specialisation priorities related to energy



Why? Energy is among the most popular priorities selected in smart specialisation strategies across Europe, **with over 2/3 of all EU territory choosing at least one energy-related priority.**

S3P-Energy integrates and profits from JRC's multidisciplinary competences in energy!



Specific S3 Thematic Activities

2) Global value chains (GVC) in the context of smart specialisation

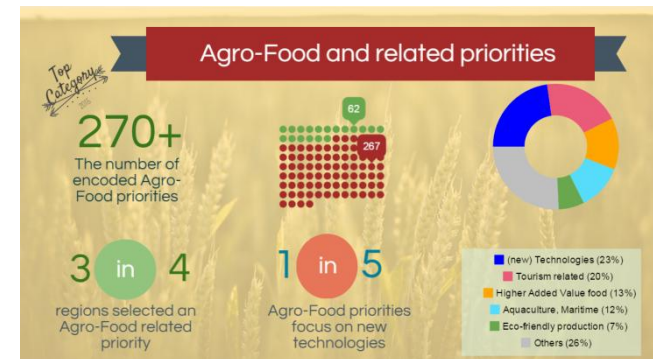
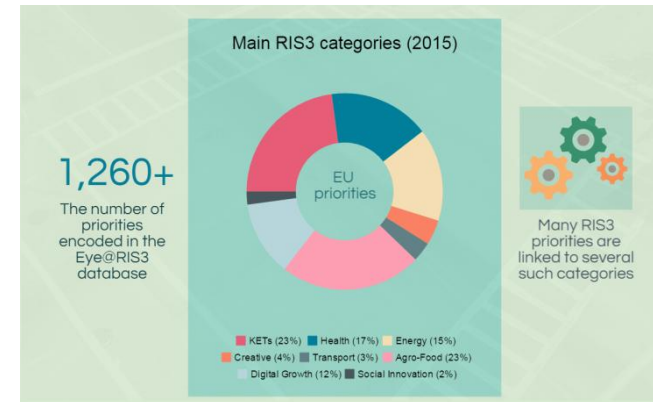
What is it about? The GVC aims at assisting regions in their efforts to facilitate the development of **new value chains through the interconnection of regional eco-systems** and their actors in quadruple helix in specific S3 investment areas.

Why? S3 is an engine for the development of European eco-systems that are necessary to gather critical mass for market breakthroughs.

How? Thematic S3 Platform provide **a multi-level support mechanism, combining efforts at regional, national and European level**, addressing in particular market and system failures that prevent breakthroughs, starting with information and coordination failures. The development of interregional collaboration is driven by opening-up regional smart specialisation strategies.



Thematic S3 Platform on Agro-Food & Thematic S3 Platform on Industrial Modernisation!



JRC-IPTS Activities in Associated Countries

Danube

Danube-
INCO.net

Scientific
support
to EUSDR

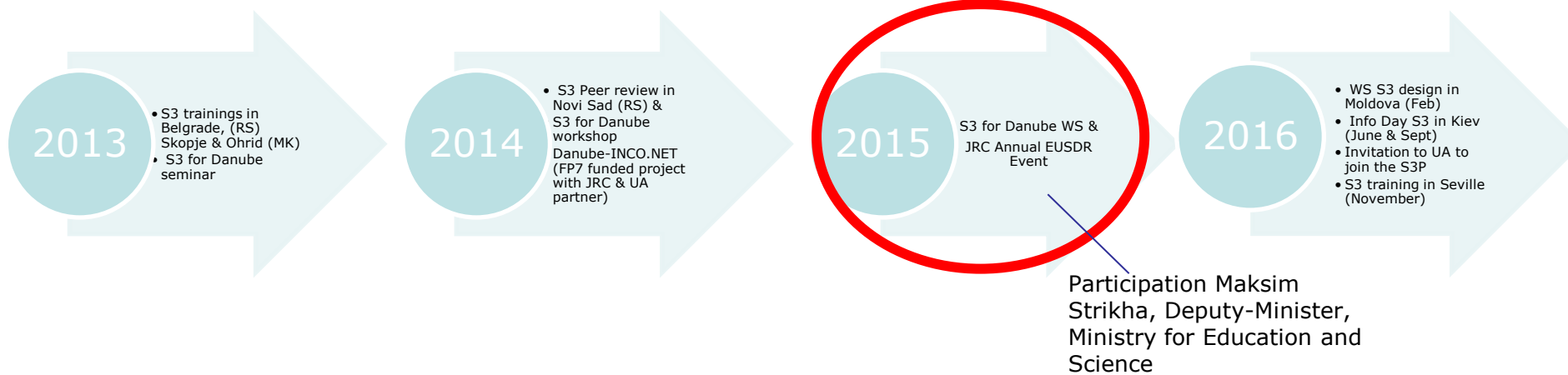
JRC
E&I
Action

Foresight
training

Targeted
support

S3 Platform Supporting Activities to UA and Enlargement/Neighbourhood Countries related to Smart Specialisation (S3)

S3 Platform through 'Smartly Specialised Danube' has been supporting transnational collaboration and mutual learning through S3 approach in the enlargement and neighbourhood countries since early 2013.



S3 Beyond the EU... growing interest in...

- Norway and Switzerland (at national & regional level)
- EU Candidate and Neighbourhood countries (Serbia, Turkey, Tunisia, Moldova, **Ukraine**,...)
- Latin America (Chile, Brazil, Peru, Mexico), Australia & South Africa

Collaboration JRC-Ukraine on the S3

- JRC and the Commission support UA through active participation in S3 related projects (**FP7 Danube INCO.NET**) and through the JRC Enlargement & Integration Action (E&IA) S3 related activities.
- **JRC E&IA S3-support: Kick-off in 2016:**
 - Info days in target countries (**MD** 2/16; **UA** 9/16; **RS** 10/16)
 - Training seminar (7-9 Nov. 2016) & Immersion stay (10-11 Nov. 2016, Seville)
 - Policy roundtable at Open Evaluation Conference (Danube INCO.NET; 25 Nov. 2016, Vienna)
 - Set up of expert support (1 expert per country)
 - Possibly participation in EDP events of the lagging regions' project.

SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM

European Commission / Smart Specialisation Platform / Home

Home S3 Platform S3 Guidance S3 Sections S3 Tools News Events Knowledge Repository

Invitation for Smart Interregional Cooperation in Energy

The S3Energy platform launches an open invitation to EU regions to cooperate on S3 priorities in the fields of Bioenergy, Sustainable Construction, Smart Grids and Marine Offshore

S3P Calendar

September 2016

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

S3 Themes **S3 Governance**
S3 Targeted Support **S3 Actors**
S3 Cooperation **S3 Communities**

Event Highlights

- JRC Information Events in Kiev (UA)
 - 14 Sep 2016 - 15 Sep 2016
 - S3 Cooperation S3 Targeted Support
- Cyprus S2E Workshop
 - 23 Sep 2016
 - S3 Targeted Support
- Macro-Regional Innovation Week: At the crossroads of three European Macro-Regions: Danube, Adriatic-Ionian and Alpine
 - 24 Sep 2016 - 30 Sep 2016
 - S3 Actors S3 Cooperation S3 Governance
- 1st SMARTER Conference on Smart Specialisation and Territorial Development
 - 28 Sep 2016 - 30 Sep 2016
 - S3 Actors S3 Governance S3 Targeted Support
- Smart Specialisation in Energy and innovation in European Regions
 - 13 Oct 2016 - 14 Oct 2016
 - S3 Cooperation S3 Themes
- Kick-off Event of the Smart Specialisation Platform on Industrial Modernisation
 - 16 Nov 2016 - 17 Nov 2016
 - S3 Actors S3 Cooperation S3 Themes S3 Governance S3 Communities S3 Targeted Support

What we can do for you

The Smart Specialisation Platform provides professional advice to EU countries and regions for the design and implementation of their research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3). Our services include:

- Provide guidance material and good practice examples
- Conduct high quality research projects to inform strategy formation and policy-making
- Facilitate peer-reviews and mutual learning
- Support access to relevant data
- Train policy-makers
- Organise information sessions for policy-makers and present at conferences

S3 Tools

The Platform provides interactive tools that can help you in identifying key features of regions and their Smart Specialisation Strategies, such as the **CYC@RIS3** - an online tool showing the RIS3 priorities of regions/countries, the **ESIF-viewer** - a tool to search planned investments in European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) data (ERDF, CF, ESF and YEI), the **ICT Monitoring Tool** to search European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) data (ERDF, CF, ESF, YEI and EAFRD) on planned investments in the ICT, the **Regional Benchmarking** tool showing structural similarities of the EU regions and the tool presenting **Inter-regional trade flows**, as well as other **Data Sources** to benchmark the EU regions and Member States.

S3 Actors **S3 Cooperation** **S3 Communities**

Smart Regions

EU Countries registered in S3P: 18
 EU Regions registered in S3P: 169
 Non-EU Countries registered in S3P: 2
 Non-EU Regions registered in S3P: 8
 S3P Peer-reviewed Countries: 15
 S3P Peer-reviewed Regions: 60

The Smart Specialisation Platform

EYE@RIS3 **ESIF - viewer** **ICT Monitoring**
Regional Benchmarking **EU Trade** **Data Sources**

S3 Tag Cloud

agri-food digital legends and ic flash news funds global value chains innovation innovation strategies for smart specialisation (ris3) inter-regional collaboration roma s2c s3 balic s3 danube s3 energy s3 kota s3 smcs s3 value chains smart specialisation synergies transnational collaboration value chains

Reports & Publications

S3 Hub / S3 in Media
 RIO - Research & Innovation Observatory

S3 Platform @S3Platform
 Open invitation to EU regions to cooperate in common S3 energy priorities
 #S3Platform #S3Energy
 pic.twitter.com/3H58FvCjP
 36 days

S3 Platform @S3Platform
 Report: 'Opportunity Now: Europe's Mission to Innovate' now available
 cc.europa.eu/opport/publicat...
 #SmartSpecialisation
 pic.twitter.com/WpqqBicbau
 65 days

Joint Research Centre Commission's in-house science service

*Serving society
Stimulating innovation
Supporting legislation*

Thank you for your attention!

<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

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