



# Stairway to Excellence

## Connecting stakeholders in Smart Specialisation – a macro regional context

**Budapest**  
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# The Idea

Fragmentation of the  
research system  
>> hampering the  
development of  
centres of excellence

Uncoordinated  
investments –  
investing in the  
same areas,  
leading to sub-  
optimal solutions

**SMART  
SPECIALIZATION**

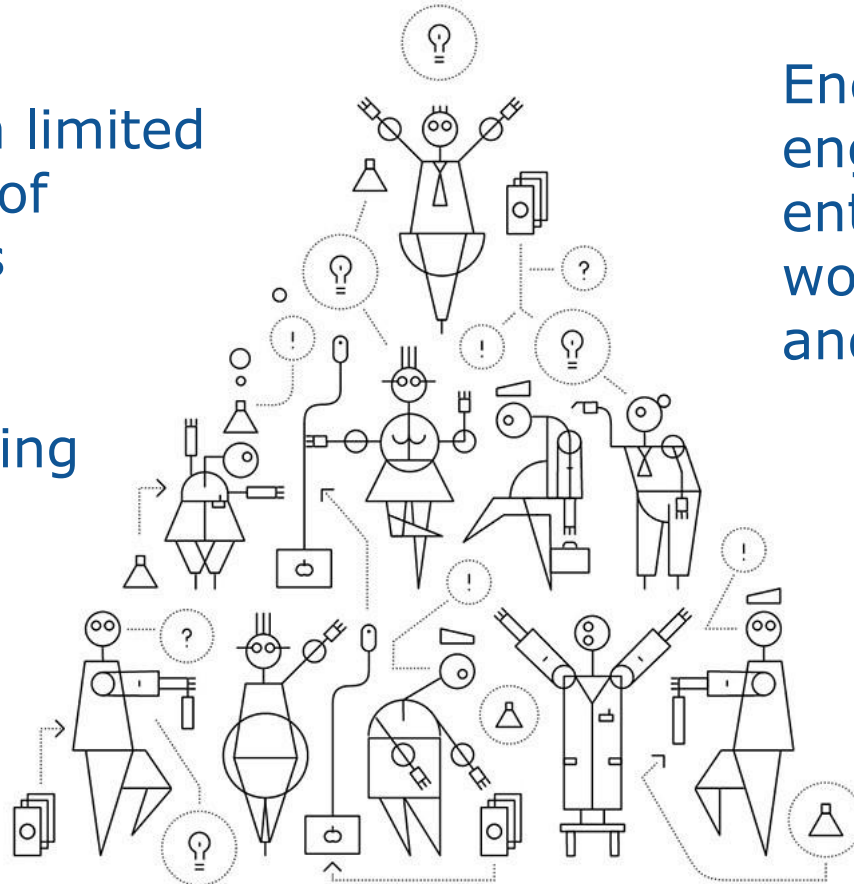
# The policy approach in Smart Specialization can / should...

Focus on limited  
number of  
priorities

Encourage  
engagement in the  
entrepreneurial  
world – national  
and international

Build the missing  
connections  
between the  
knowledge  
triangle

Concentrate  
and coordinate  
resources





European  
Commission

## EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2020: 1/3 of the EU budget

The reforms agreed for the **2014-2020 period** are designed to **maximise the impact** of the available **EU funding**.

OVERALL EU 2014-2020 BUDGET

€1 082 billion

67.5%

Other EU policies  
agriculture  
research  
external  
etc.

€730.2 billion



32.5%

COHESION POLICY

€351.8 billion

Smart  
Sustainable  
Inclusive

Cohesion Policy  
delivers  
Europe 2020 Strategy

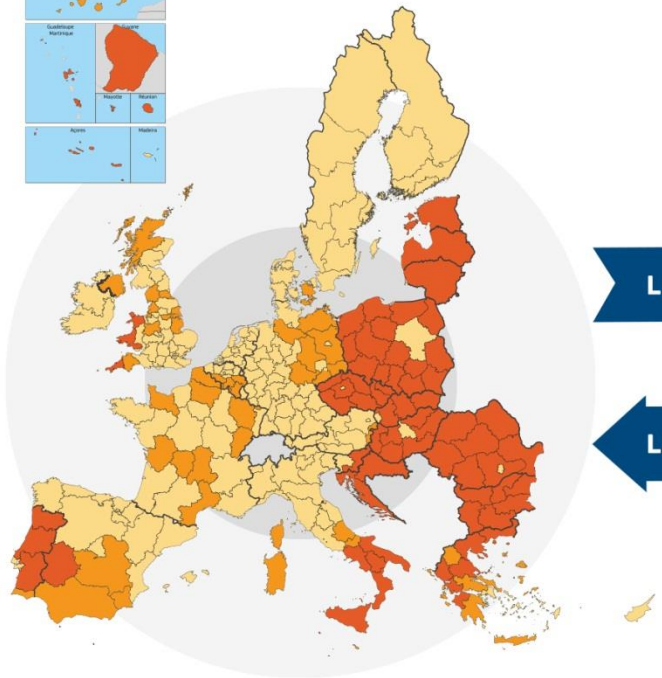
GROWTH

**Smart agenda:** innovation; education; digital society  
**Sustainability agenda:** climate, energy, and mobility  
**Inclusive agenda:** employment and skills; fighting poverty and social exclusion



European Commission

# Highest support for the less developed regions



**Around 80% of Cohesion Policy funding goes to the less developed regions & countries**  
**Around €160 billion will be invested in innovation-drivers and take-up, notably research and innovation, SME competitiveness, digital growth and energy efficiency & renewable energies**  
**See Cohesion Policy Data: <https://cohesiondata.ec.europa.eu/>**





# SMART SPECIALISATION IN THE COMMON PROVISIONS REGULATION (CPR)

## Article 2(3)

'smart specialisation strategy' means the national or regional innovation strategies which set priorities in order to build competitive advantage by developing and matching research and innovation own strengths to business needs in order to address emerging opportunities and market developments in a coherent manner, while **avoiding duplication and fragmentation** of efforts;

Stakeholder  
**involvement** -  
EDP

Joint smart specialization  
approaches –  
interregional  
**cooperation**

**International**  
& transnational  
actions

**Cooperation**  
to achieve  
critical mass

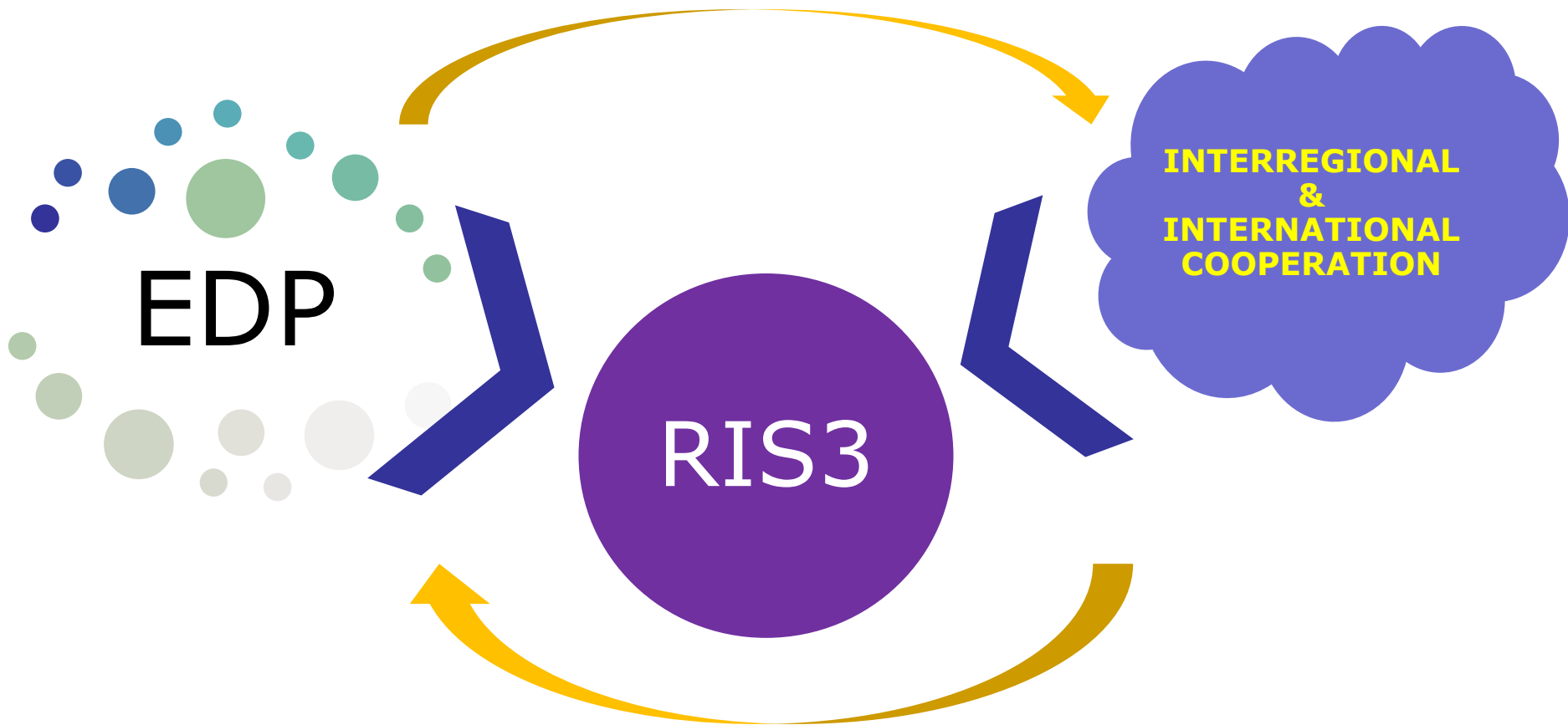


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# COOPERATION

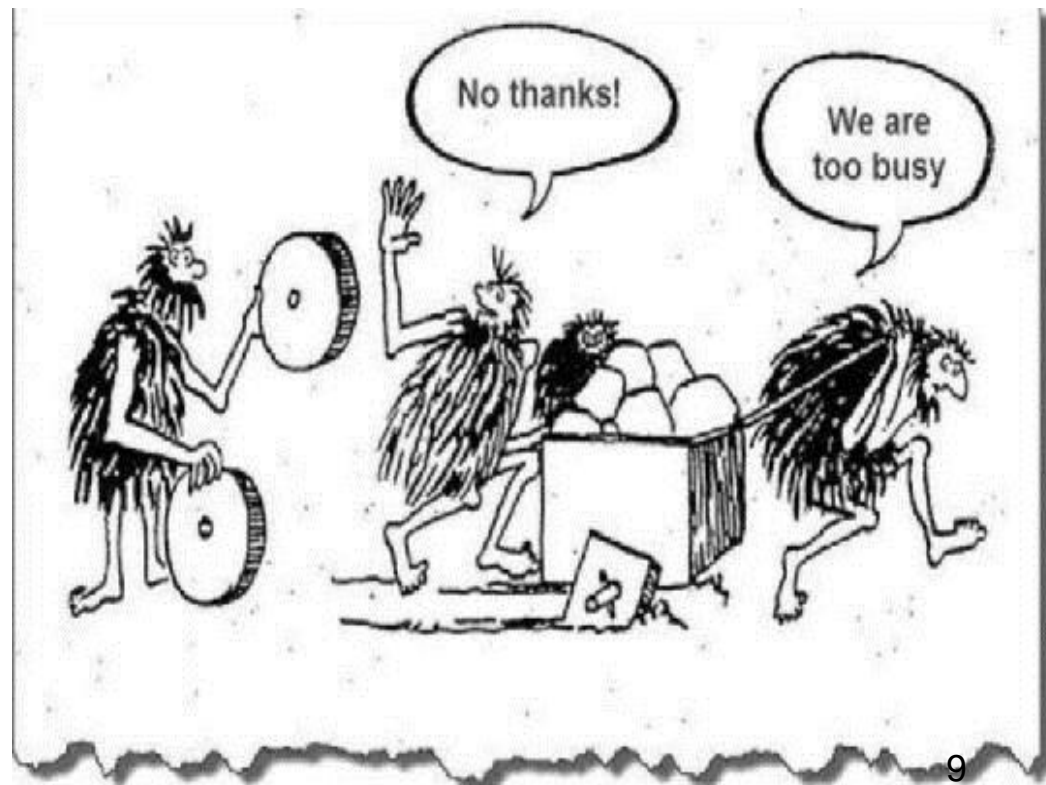
# On-going process





➤ **RIS3 will only work** if there is a committed political leadership, active and continuous real business and research involvement implementation,

➤ **All innovation actors** (incl. public administration) have to ***listen, learn and talk to each other***, and take steps towards each other in collaborative spirit





# S3 Central Europe

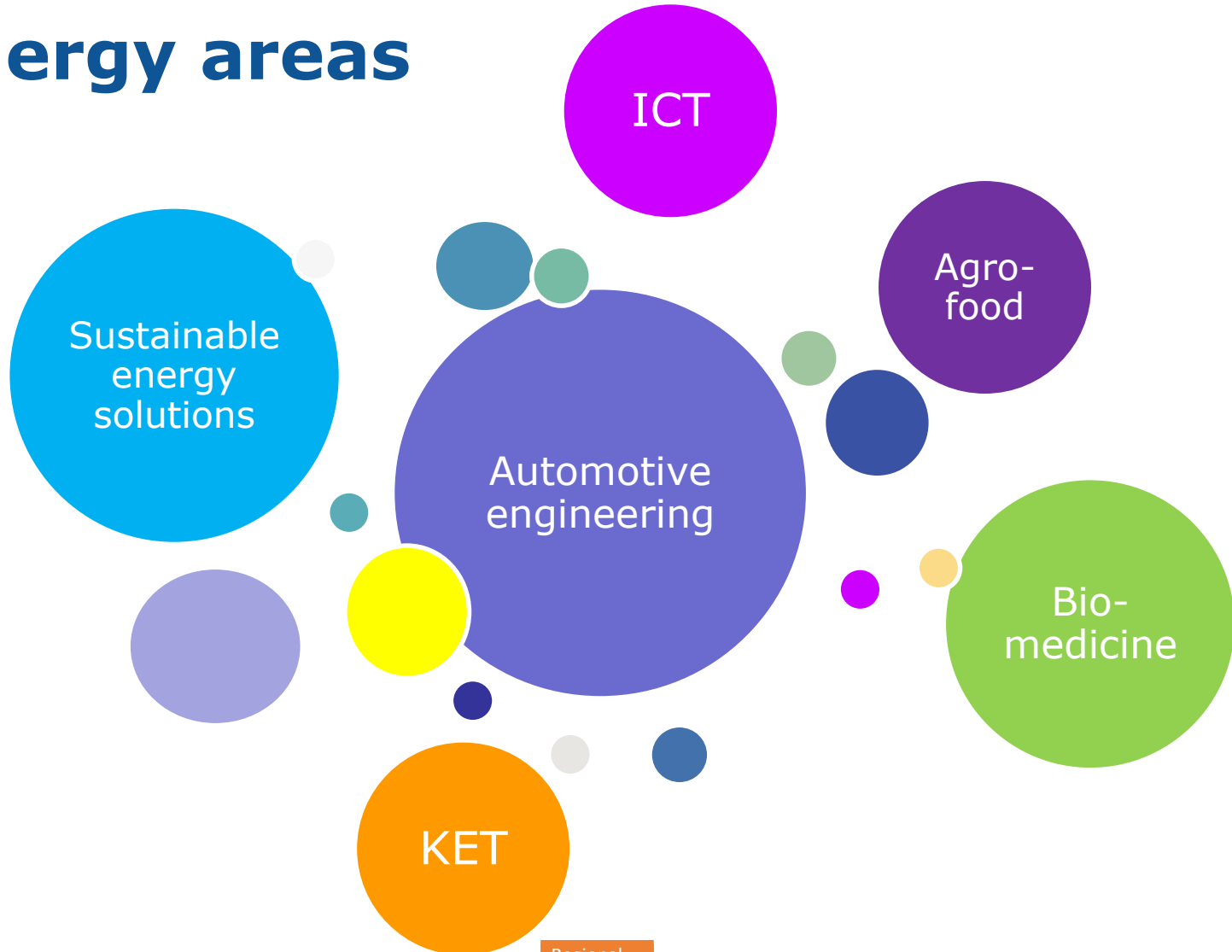
a cooperation project





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# Synergy areas



Regional  
Policy

## **The reasons for starting the project:**

- Low level of macro regional cooperation
- Missing trust
- Parallel developments in similar fields
- Lack of information exchange between stakeholders

## **The project aims to...**

- Identify the synergies in the macro region Central Europe
- Analyse possible governance models and forms of joint actions
- Connect stakeholders around a thematic structure
- Exchange of good practices
- Inspire the forming of international alliances to tackle "grand challenges"
- Encourage transnational approach towards the RIS3 implementation process
- Strengthen national priority areas while creating transnational links

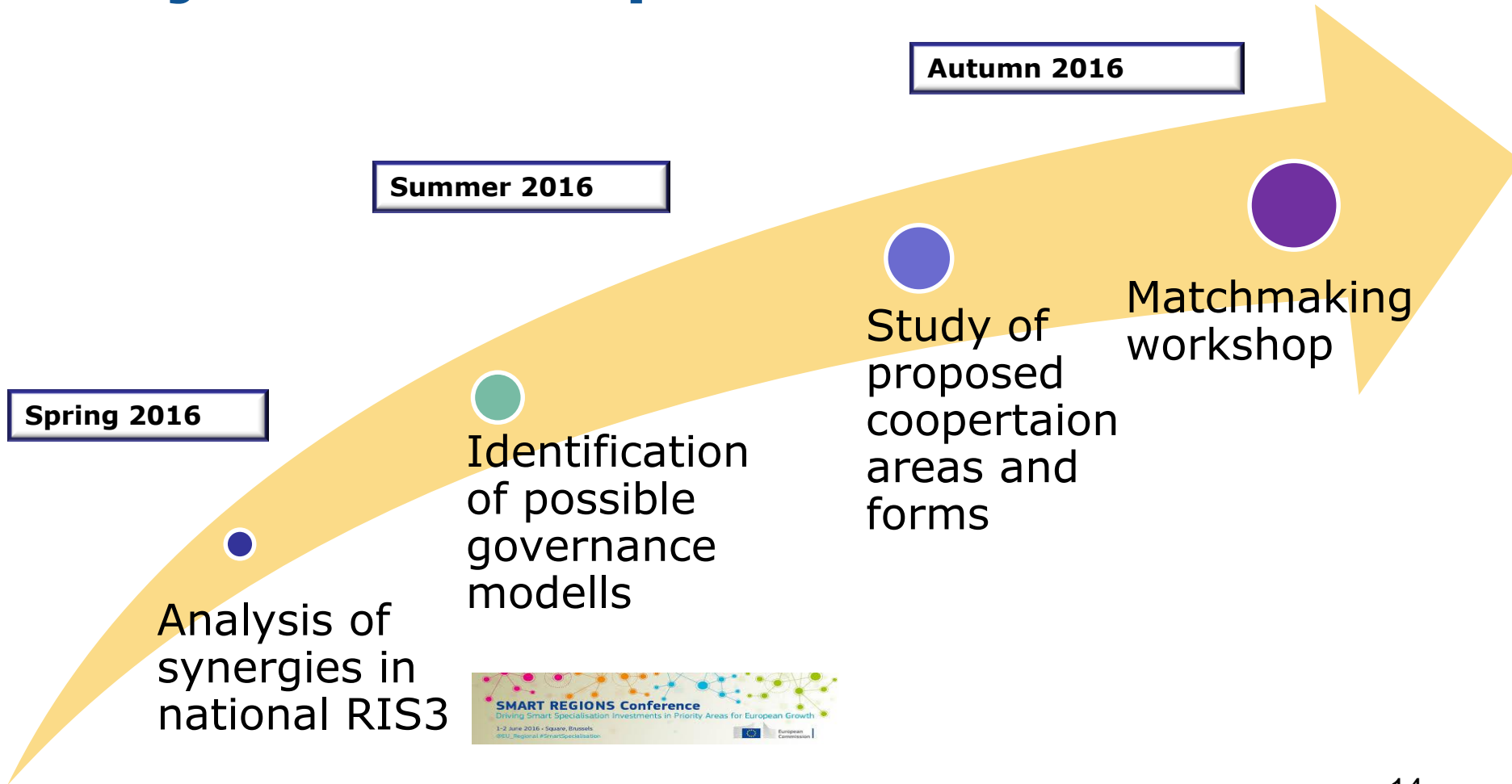
## What is needed:

- Opened information exchange with the experts and among stakeholders
- Project ideas
- Willingness to cooperate

*Coming together is a beginning, working together is a success!*



# Project Roadmap



# Thank you for your attention!

*For more information:*

*on Cohesion Policy:*

*[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/index\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.cfm)*

*on Smart Specialisation Strategies*

*<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s3pguide>*



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**“The gingerbread house, the giant pumpkin house, the castle on top of the beanstalk, the famous brick house owned by the smart little pig. That’s why Mother Goose stopped writing stories and became a real estate agent.”**