The European Commission’s science and knowledge service

Joint Research Centre
S3 Platform for Agri-Food:

Working Together for Joint Investment and Growth

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Smart Specialisation Platform

Inside the European Commission - Support to various policy DGs

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

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

http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/home
S3 in Practice: Supporting Innovation-led Growth in EU Regions

Promote Transnational learning, Interregional collaboration & partnerships via:

**Supporting tools**: Regional priorities (Eye@RIS3), Regional Benchmarking, ICT Monitoring, Digital Innovation Hubs…

**Guidance**: RIS3 Guide, Implementation Handbook, Digital Agenda Toolbox, Good Practice Examples, FAQs…

**Analysis**: Conceptual and empirical developments, Policy Briefs, Peer Reviews, Working Papers…
Challenges and ways to overcome them

Key challenges:

1. **Developing a stronger regional innovation eco-system** through improved internal connectivity between existing industrial and knowledge provision strengths, supported by transnational learning;

2. **Growing a larger, stronger and more dynamic regional innovation eco-system** by opening it up and connecting it to transnational or macro-regional knowledge;

3. **Achieving economic growth through collaboration** and participation in transnational and macro-regional frameworks and networks.
Mapping of Competencies and Matching of business opportunities

Industry cooperation and design of projects

Scoping Note

Business Plan and Funding mix

Investment Projects

SCALE-UP

COMMERCIALISE

DEMONSTRATE

CONNECT

LEAN
S3 Thematic Platforms: Agri-Food, Energy and Industrial Modernisation

- To support interregional cooperation in new growth areas, aiming to build an investment pipeline of bankable projects
- To provide tailored advice and help regions establish links with the business and research communities
- To help regions develop shared infrastructure such as testing facilities, pilot plants, etc.
Agri-Food S3 Platform: Progress to date

- 5 qualified partnerships
- 49 regional and national authorities participating
- 7 leading/co-leading regions
- Many participating regions come from: Italy (8), Spain (8), Netherlands (4), France (4)
- 2 partnerships were now selected for DG REGIO's Interregional Pilot Actions
- EC DGs involved: AGRI, REGIO, RTD, JRC
- 2 new Expressions of Interest qualified
Priority related to innovation and adoption of new technologies in the agricultural sectors:

*Focus on 4 Value Chains:* Arables, horticulture, protected cultivations & livestock

*Technological areas explored:*  
- Sensors (meteo, soil, canopy, product, on-board/proximal etc)  
- Data (acquisition, analysis, layers/images, DSS)  
- Machineries, Programming/automation, Robotics  
- Technology oriented and educational oriented Services
2. Traceability & Big Data (LR: Andalucia & Emilia Romagna)

Encourages the creation of an ecosystem to support innovation and digitisation of the agri-food sector in Europe

Focus on three specific and one cross-cutting topics:

**ST 1.** TBD in the 'Lifecycles of the value chain'

**ST 2.** TBD 'Smart monitoring of the value chain (agricultural production, agri-food industry, logistics, distribution and consumers) to improve the overall competitiveness of the agri-food sector'

**ST 3.** TBD to 'incorporate consumer experience and the different operators in the food chain in decision-making processes'

Cross-cutting topic: Open data, interoperability, data governance and information security, cyber security.
Focus on the transition towards Industry 4.0 of the food industry and mainly SMEs

- The partnership aims at setting up a platform between agri-food and electronic/IT cluster organisations, relevant research and technology organisations (RTO’s) and other related stakeholders, to lower the barriers for agri-food companies to access and implement the newest smart electronic systems and to enable the Internet of Things (IoT) transition of the agri-food industry.

- Expected outcome: Initially to enable agri-food companies to quickly and accurate measure and share specific parameters and take charge of their own quality and safety monitoring by the use of state-of-the-art sensor technology.
• The overarching vision of this partnership is to involve consumers and end-users in Agri-Food innovation, as an innovative approach to both regional growth and as part of the solutions to the global food challenges.

• This thematic partnership on Consumer Involvement in Agri-Food Innovation envisions to empower communities of consumers by exploring and developing different paths to enhance consumer involvement in the innovation process in this sector.

• The partnership aims to develop methods for enhancing and channelling consumer involvement in Agri-Food innovation. And to stimulate (investments in) pilot-projects to validate various methods, by exploring the paths among which this can be achieved.
Aim: To develop an interregional partnership between agri-food actors, facilitating the cross-over of innovation in the field of nutritional ingredients, stimulate cross-sectoral collaboration and accelerate the development and commercialization of novel and/or improved ingredients.

The partnership will focus on five (5) main challenges:

- to collect and interpret consumer demands and trends observed in the regional markets
- to identify of the most promising innovative ingredients over Europe,
- to set up and elaborate the adequate innovation chain among the involved regions
- to build a strong technology network over Europe, to support the development of innovative ingredients for a selected category or functionality
- to set-up a database and its maintenance for efficient data management through the partnership

5. Nutritional ingredients (LR: Wallonia)
This Report is presented to the relevant Working Committee.

It contains three parts:

I. Management Report prepared by the Lead Region(s)

II. Progress Report prepared by the Lead Region(s)

III. Previous versions of the Progress Report; i.e., part II of past reporting periods

The report is a “cumulative” report, i.e. it is updated annually and covers the entire period of the Partnership.

Confidentiality: the documents will be made available to the public via the Partnership’s web page except for chapter II.E. Self evaluation.

Based on the monitoring results, the European Commission will decide on the following year’s support.
Monitoring Report: II. Progress Report

- II.A. Innovative results
- II.B. Inter-regional and inter-partnership collaborative results
- II.C. New activities
  - Regions from EU13 Member States in the Partnership
  - Involvement of non-EU regions/countries.
  - Communication/outreach activities
  - Activities and projects with partnerships working under other S3 Thematic Platforms (Energy and Industrial Modernisation).
UN Sustainable Development Goals:

- The EU has a strong position when it comes to sustainable development and is also fully committed to be a frontrunner in implementing the UN’s 2030 Agenda, together with its member countries and regions. Many interregional partnerships under the S3 Agri-Food Platform contribute strongly to the attainment of these 17 goals.

- Partnerships will be asked to indicate to which Sustainable Development Goals and to what extent your thematic Partnership contributes.
Monitoring Report: Self-Assessment

- Partnership Self-Assessment:
  - Scoping
  - Mapping of Competencies and (Global) Value Chain analysis
  - Industry Cooperation (Matching of Business Opportunities)
  - Design of Projects and Business Plan
  - Funding Mix and Investment Project(s)
  - Monitoring and Evaluation framework is in place.
Monitoring Report: Next steps and Needs

Next steps / Action Plan

• Pilots and Demo-cases implemented or planned

• Applications/proposals/projects under various relevant EU-funded programmes (Horizon 2020, INTERREG, etc.) (existing, submitted and / or planned)

• New applications/instruments under Regional or National Programmes

• The capacity of the Partnership to raise funds.

• Main drawbacks and difficulties encountered (if any)

Next steps / Action Plan: Methodological support, Training needs, Operational and Coordination support, etc.
Five Monitoring Reports: June 2018
First Joint cross-platform meeting, Bilbao

Save-the-Date (Tentative Dates):

27 November:
  • **Joint Event** 'Learning Together and from Each Other'
  • Industrial Modernisation Steering Committee Meeting

28 November:
  • **Agri-Food** Working Committee Semi-Annual workshop
  • Energy Platform meeting
Thank you!

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Any questions?