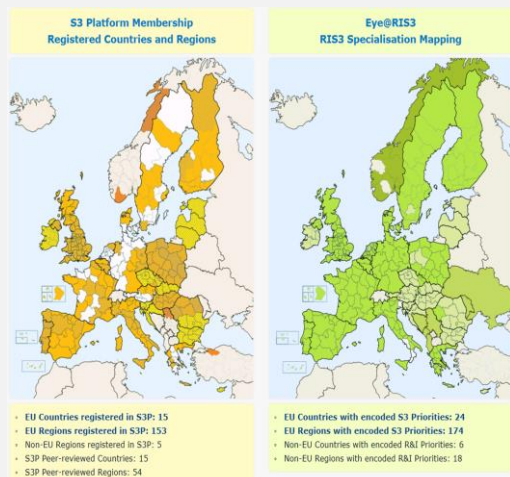


S3 PLATFORM NEWS

S3 PLATFORM MEMBERSHIP AND EYE@RIS3 - S3 SPECIALISATION MAPPING

Welcome to our latest newcomers to register:

East Marmara (TR)
Vest-Adger (NO)
Aust-Adger (NO)



More information and guidelines [here](#)

In order to keep all contact details up to date, we kindly ask those who have not yet provided us with the contact details of those responsible for issues related to the **Digital Agenda for Europe** and **ICT** to let us know as soon as possible at:

JRC-IPTS-S3PLATFORM@ec.europa.eu

S3 ONLINE SURVEY ON EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFUL INTER-REGIONAL AND TRANS-NATIONAL R&I PARTNERSHIPS

Deadline: 28th of February 2015

This [survey](#) is intended to gather information on successful and sustainable R&I collaboration partnerships.

The S3 Cooperation survey is available [here](#).



EVENTS IN THE GREEK REGION EASTERN MACEDONIA AND THRACE - COMING SOON!

The European Parliament preparatory action supporting the implementation of the RIS3 in the Greek Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace (REMTh) is organising three events in the region in the next month:

- An **in-depth Peer-Review of REMTh** will take place on Feb 12-13 in Alexandroupolis, Greece. The draft agenda is available [here](#). Please [follow this link to register](#)
- The **2nd Entrepreneurial Discovery Process Focus Group on dairy and meat products** will take place on Jan 29-30 in Komotini, Greece. The draft agenda is available [here](#). Please [follow this link to register](#)
- The **3rd Entrepreneurial Discovery Process Focus Group on tourism** will take place on Feb 11 in Alexandroupolis, Greece. The draft agenda is available [here](#). Please [follow this link to register](#)

More information, draft agendas and links to register to REMTh events [available here](#).

LAUNCH EVENT OF NEW ACTIVITY ON RIS3 AND ENERGY – STAY TUNED!

On 6 March 2015 the European Commission (JRC, DG REGIO and DG ENER) will launch its new support activity on RIS3 and energy, which will be carried out by the S3 Platform. We welcome you in Seville together with Commissioners Cañete, Crețu and Navracscs. More information soon available in the [S3 Platform website](#).

THEMATIC WORKSHOP ON RIS3 AND FUEL CELLS & HYDROGEN, LYON (FR) – 22-23 APRIL 2015

This thematic workshop organised by the European Joint Undertaking on Fuel Cells & Hydrogen (FCH) in cooperation with the S3 Platform boosts collaboration between regions (interested in) prioritizing FCH based solutions in Smart Specialization strategies. It aims to exchange experiences of FCH technologies and explore their regional deployment opportunities. Simultaneously, it serves as a meeting point between technology developers, appliers, end-users and regional governments.

The two-day workshop will take place in Lyon, France, on 22–23 April 2015.

Its programme will signify the various application areas where FCH solutions are conducive to emission reductions and decarbonisation. Separate sessions will be devoted to cleaner transport and energy.

More information and registration coming soon in the [S3 Platform website](#).

S3 NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS

EUROPEAN REGIONAL NETWORK ON SECURITY ASPECTS,
GENOVA CP EXPO, 11 DECEMBER 2014



The [CP EXPO 2014](#) on Research Security was organised by the Italian Region of Liguria and the Regional Cluster SIIT. This global event was supported by the EU Presidency of the Council and the European Commission. It hosted around 700 participants from 21 countries.

The participants from the Region of Liguria (IT), Magellano Cluster (PT), Castilla y León (ES), Bretagne (FR), Clusters PACA (FR) discussed the scope, aim and organisation of the network. The expected follow-up should be the concentration of the efforts in the short term for the network creation and identification of common methodologies for financial engineering with the support of S3 Platform. The planned activities should take into account typical regional competences such as training, staff exchange, dissemination and SME support.

In the preparation phase of the project, the participants will fill up a matrix mapping priorities and excellence from each region according to 9 topics related to security aspects. This initiative is expected to define some possible common projects in Interreg Europe, H2020 or Erasmus+.

Regions interested in this initiative are welcome to email the Region of Liguria, Ms Simona Costa: simona.costa@casaliguria.org.

S3 PLATFORM ON TWITTER – FOLLOW US!



[NEW S3 PUBLICATIONS – You can download all documents here](#)

DIGITAL GROWTH STRATEGIES IN EU REGIONS: TAKING STOCK FROM LEARNING ACTIVITIES

AUTHORS: ALEXANDER KLEIBRINK, JENS SÖRVIK AND KATERINA STANCOVA

S3 POLICY BRIEF SERIES 11/2014

The development and implementation of regional development policies comprising information and communication technologies (ICT) is a complex process. ICTs play a crucial role in regional development both as a horizontally enabling tool, such as high-speed internet infrastructures, and at the same time, some regions have an interest in supporting the vertical development of ICT industries or as part of emerging regional specialisations like eTourism. Due to the technical nature and the socio-culturally embeddedness of ICT, policy processes have to include technical, socio-economic and policy capabilities in order to work with ICT. Using participatory methods, policy makers can encourage transfer of knowledge amongst regions to address this complex reality. This policy brief presents the findings from three learning workshops where Andalusia (ES), Lodz (PL), Lombardy (IT), Malopolska (PL), Noordvleugel (NL) and Scotland (UK) have presented their work. The regions' individual experience is distilled into four general observations: i) the importance of an adequate infrastructure as a crucial pre-condition for the development of the digital economy; ii) the significance of involving stakeholder groups in ICT policy development and in governance structures and processes, since every actor is a potential agent of change; iii) the need for inter-regional collaboration both for learning and co-development of policies; and iv) the need for a broad array of policies tailored to the specific needs of each region.

SYNERGIES BETWEEN EU R&I FUNDING PROGRAMMES. POLICY SUGGESTIONS FROM THE LAUNCHING EVENT OF THE STAIRWAY TO EXCELLENCE PROJECT

AUTHORS: SUSANA ELENA PEREZ, ANDREA CONTE AND NICHOLAS HARRAP

S3 POLICY BRIEF 12/2014

This Policy Brief addresses the concept of synergies arising from the two major EU funding sources (The European Structural and Investment Funds and Horizon 2020) in the context of the new Stairway to Excellence Project. This project is centred on the provision of assistance to Member States who joined in 2004, 2007 and 2013 in using innovation funding under ESIFs via the early and effective implementation of RIS3 with the aim of closing the innovation gap and promote scientific and technological excellence. This Policy Brief summarises the discussion and case studies presented at the launching conference of the Stairway to Excellence Project held in Prague in October 2014. This event offered a first opportunity to identify the key elements for building successful synergies and gave a useful insight into how synergies could be achieved in practice. A diverse set of experiences from five EU countries (Cyprus, Czech Republic, France, Spain, and the UK) and an international organisation were presented. In turn, this could be a source of inspiration for other regional and national managing authorities and the research community.

REGIOSTARS AWARDS 2015



The deadline for applications for this year's RegioStars Awards is fast approaching! Send your [application](#) before **February 28th** for a chance to win one of the prestigious 2015 RegioStars Awards.

More information [here](#).