

S3 PLATFORM NEWS

THE CONFERENCE IS HOSTED BY THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT OF ANDALUSIA, SPAIN.

Date: 6 March 2015

Venue: Fundación Tres Culturas, Isla de la Cartuja, Max Planck, 2, 41092 Seville, (Spain)



PLEASE FIND THE AGENDA [HERE](#).

Speakers include:

- **Ms. Crețu, European Commissioner for Regional Policy, European Commission**
- **Carmen Vela, Secretary of State for Research, Development and Innovation, in the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness**
- **Professor Dominique Foray, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne**
- **Isfandyar Zaman Khan, World Bank.**

And policy makers from national and regional authorities from:

Andalusia, Central Denmark, Eastern Macedonia – Thrace Region, Emilia-Romagna and Lithuania.

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HIGH LEVEL CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION STRATEGIES FOR SMART SPECIALISATION: CHALLENGES AND MONITORING IMPLEMENTATION

Countries and regions are now embarking on the implementation phase of the RIS3. The European Commission is now better informed of the critical issues facing EU regions, having reviewed hundreds of strategies during the negotiations over the ESIF Operational Programmes.

The S3 Platform, a joint initiative of DG REGIO and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, is organising a high level conference on ‘Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation: Challenges and Monitoring Implementation’, in Seville, on 6 March 2015 which will present the state of play regarding the implementation phase of RIS3. Its main objective is to discuss what is needed to maximise the contribution of Smart Specialisation to the European Growth Agenda.

The Conference will bring together EU, national and regional representatives, experts and policy makers in charge of implementing and monitoring RIS3.



This will be a unique opportunity to listen to the new Commissioner's vision on the role of smart specialisation strategies on economic development and job creation and on the importance of developing the right institutions to ensure the effective implementation of these strategies.

S3 NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS

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OPENING SESSION: RESEARCH AND INNOVATION STRATEGIES FOR SMART SPECIALISATION (RIS3) AND THE EUROPEAN GROWTH AGENDA

Innovation is a key contributor to long-term growth. For this reason supporting innovation is one of the main objectives of the European Growth Agenda and of the EU Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF). For the period 2014-2020, regions and countries had for the first time to develop research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation which were assessed by the European Commission as an ex-ante conditionality for the attribution of these funds. This session will address (i) the importance of good innovation policies to increase their impact on economic growth and employment (ii) the research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation in Spain and in particular in Andalucía, and (iii) the role of the Joint Research Centre in supporting EU policies and, in particular, regional policy.

PANEL I: IMPLEMENTATION OF RIS3: CHALLENGES

The RIS3 implementation phase is at least as important as the design phase. However, the implementation of RIS3 has proven to remain a major challenge for policy makers. The ex-ante conditionality assessment of RIS3 has revealed some elements which still need further work: how is the EDP going to be reflected in the S3 strategies and OPs? How are policies mixes going to be transformed in line with RIS3 priorities? This session will seek experts and policy makers input and reflection on the main challenges and barriers in the implementation of RIS3 in order to help countries and regions to implement their RIS3.

PANEL II: IMPLEMENTATION OF RIS3: MONITORING

Monitoring the achievement of strategic goals and the degree of actual implementation of policy measures is key for ensuring accountability and achieving the best results with European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF). At the same time, monitoring will feed into the re-design and adjustments of innovation strategies across Europe. Regional and national authorities have highlighted this to be one of the main upcoming challenges when implementing innovation strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3). In this session, experts will discuss where we currently stand in terms of monitoring mechanisms and highlight possible venues for improving monitoring during the programming period 2014-2020.