

S3 PLATFORM NEWS

HIGH LEVEL CONFERENCE: 06/03/15

**RESEARCH AND INNOVATION STRATEGIES FOR
SMART SPECIALISATION: CHALLENGES AND
MONITORING IMPLEMENTATION**

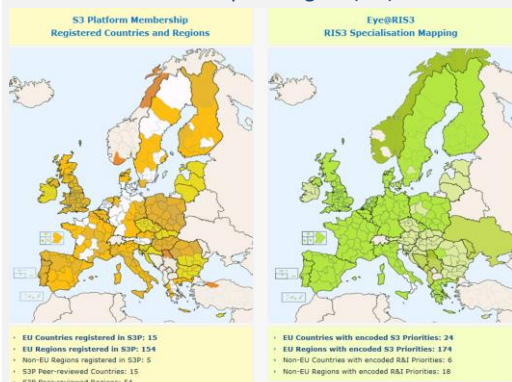
REGISTRATION STILL OPEN.

We welcome you in Seville together with
Commissioner Crețu.
See our Newsletter n° 26 Special issue [here](#).

**S3 PLATFORM MEMBERSHIP AND
EYE@RIS3 - S3 SPECIALISATION MAPPING**

Welcome to our latest newcomer to register:

Sofia Capital Region (BG)



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 February 2015

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

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



PEER-REVIEW WORKSHOP: 19-20/03/15, RZESZÓW, PODKARPACKIE, POLAND

REGISTRATION IS OPEN. We are pleased to inform you about the next Peer-Review Workshop on regional smart specialisation strategies. The workshop is co-organised by the S3 Platform and the Marshal Office of Podkarpackie Region. It will take place on 19-20th March 2015 at the Rzeszów University of Technology. The main topic of this workshop is *ECONOMIC TRANSITION OF REGIONS*.

Regions to be peer-reviewed in Rzeszów are: Pääjät-Häme (FI), Podkarpackie (PL) and Saxony-Anhalt (DE).

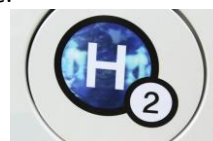
Please **make sure to register each individual participant online, because of limited space at the venue: [here](#)**. More information about the workshop can be found [here](#).

SMART SPECIALISATION WORKSHOP ON FUEL CELLS & HYDROGEN, LYON (FR) – 22-23/04/2015

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN. Our upcoming workshop aims at bringing together regions interested in fuel cells and hydrogen (FCH) as part of their Smart Specialisation strategies. It will focus on the role of FCH technologies on regional development for both clean transport (cars, buses, captive fleets...) and sustainable low carbon energy (stationary power generation, energy storage and grid balancing...). The objective is to initiate practical FCH cooperation between European regions, including their industry and research partners.

Each session will be opened by high-level speakers who represent experienced regions, various stakeholders or the European Commission. The Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking is launching this initiative together with the Smart Specialisation Platform and the Rhône-Alpes region of France. Please [follow this link to register](#).

The draft agenda is available [here](#).



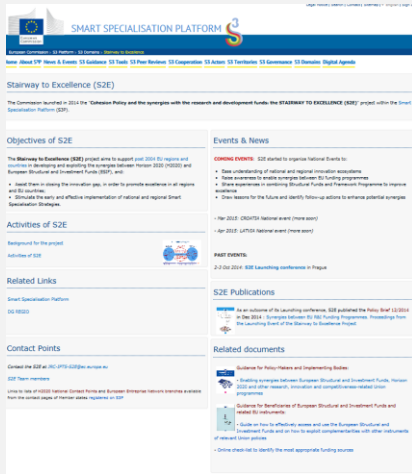
COR BRIEFING: SMART SPECIALISATION STRATEGIES, STATE OF IMPLEMENTATION, 17/03/15, BRUSSELS (BE)

Implementing “smart specialisation strategies” has become a priority for all member states regions receiving funding from the European Structural and Investment Funds between 2014 and 2020. These strategies will help regions to tap into their innovation potential and the EU will accompany their implementation through various networking activities including the “Smart Specialisation Platform” set up by the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre (JRC) in Seville. Representatives of the European Commission’s DG REGIO and JRC will present an overview on the planned 2014-2020 strategies and discuss way of cooperation between them. Details and registration [here](#).

THE EASTERN MACEDONIA AND THRACE: IN DEPTH PEER REVIEW AND TOURISM FOCUS GROUP

Organised under the European Parliament Preparatory Action on RIS3 in Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, consecutive events successfully took place in Alexandroupolis on 11-13 February 2015. With the active participation of more than 100 stakeholders from the tourism sector, the project’s 3rd focus group on the Entrepreneurial Discovery Process was followed by the first peer event centred on the RIS3 of a single region. Further details [here](#).

STAIRWAY TO EXCELLENCE PAGE ALSO RESHUFFLED



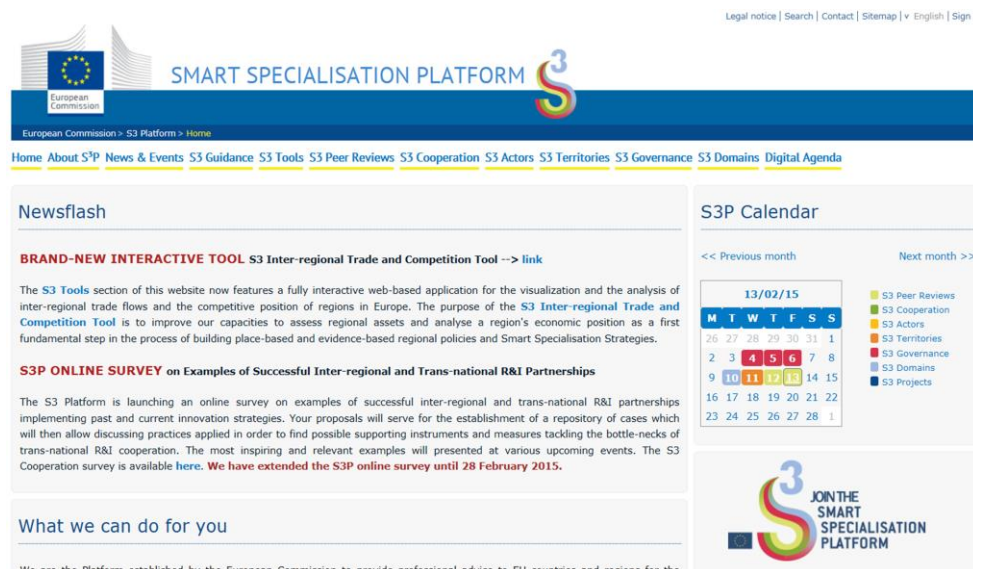
Have a look at our new S2E page [here](#).

S3 PLATFORM ON TWITTER – FOLLOW US!



NEW S3 PUBLICATIONS – You can DOWNLOAD ALL DOCUMENTS HERE

SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM RESHUFFLED



The newly enhanced S3Platform website has an updated main menu and includes also a new events Calendar, linking past and future events to the specific menu categories. Visit the S3P [here](#).

2015 UNECE IDEAS FOR CHANGE AWARD COMPETITION

2015 is the year of Sustainable Development and it’s time to take action for people and the planet. On 14 April 2015, the 1st ever Start-ups event will take place at the UN in Geneva. This will show-case how innovative entrepreneurial talent can contribute to meeting today’s social and environmental challenges through new ground breaking ideas that can become successful businesses.

Deadline: 28th of February

Finalists will be invited to present their projects in the 2015 UNECE session, a high-level intergovernmental conference, where our member states will commit to actions to advance the sustainable development agenda in the region in the years to come. Winners will be honoured at an award ceremony during the session. You can find the call for ideas and all necessary information [here](#).

EU INVESTMENT OFFENSIVE: EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND EIB LAUNCHED NEW ADVISORY SERVICE ON FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The European Commission, in partnership with the European Investment Bank (EIB), launched **Fi-compass**, a new advisory service on financial instruments for the European Structural and Investment Funds. This service is part of the "one stop shop" advisory hub, launched as an important part of the EU [Investment Plan](#).

This new fi-compass platform was launched during a two-day [conference](#) attended by European Commission Vice-President Jyrki Katainen responsible for Jobs, Growth and Competitiveness, Commissioner for Regional Policy Corina Crețu, and EIB Vice-President Wilhelm Molterer. They joined Member States and regions at this high-level conference to exchange experience and best practice on the design and use of these instruments. More information [here](#).