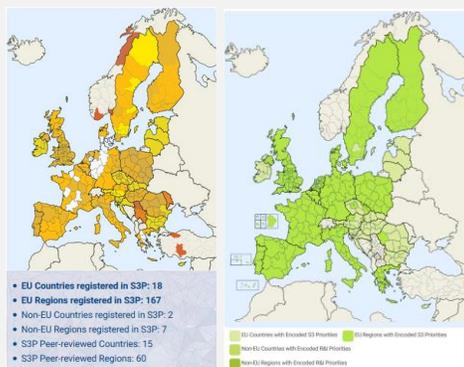# *Newsletter*

ISSUE No 43 – Summer 2016

S3 PLATFORM NEWS

S3 PLATFORM MEMBERSHIP AND EYE@RIS3 - S3 SPECIALISATION MAPPING

Welcome to our latest newcomers to register:
Eastern Netherlands (NL)

- EU Countries registered in S3P: 18
- EU Regions registered in S3P: 167
- Non-EU Countries registered in S3P: 2
- Non-EU Regions registered in S3P: 7
- S3P Peer-reviewed Countries: 15
- S3P Peer-reviewed Regions: 60

REMINDER: UPDATE YOUR S3 PRIORITIES AND YOUR NATIONAL/ REGIONAL S3 PLATFORM PAGES

The S3 Platform is updating the information on S3 priorities on the basis of the advanced stages of the regional/ national RIS3s.
Regional/ national policy makers are invited to update their S3 priorities in the **Eye@RIS3**.
S3 Platform Country pages have been updated with additional features: REGIO Info-view Page, ESIF Open Data Platform, KEEP-Territorial Cooperation Programmes links.
(see the examples for Slovenia)

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEMATIC SUB-AREAS

The two recently launched S3 Thematic Platforms for Agri-Food and Industrial Modernisation are collecting proposals for thematic sub-areas. EU Regions or group of regions keen to act as coordinating/leading region(s) should submit their on-line proposal for thematic area:

- related to either agri-food or industrial modernisation,
- linked to their smart specialisation strategies (RIS3), and
- on which they wish to collaborate with other regions for joint co-investments and the development of new value chains.

S3PENERGY INVITES EU REGIONS TO INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION

The S3PEnergy provides support to regional bottom up initiatives around four specific thematic fields of smart specialisation through inter-regional cooperation: **bioenergy, sustainable construction, marine offshore and smart-grids.** Other thematic areas will be considered upon request of the Regions.

There is an OPEN Invitation for smart interregional cooperation in Energy to regional public authorities and/or stakeholders representing them.

SMART SPECIALISATION, INNOVATION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: LET US KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING ABOUT IT!

The S3 Platform is looking for smart specialisation processes showing complementarity between smart specialisation and LEADER/CLLD in rural areas, such as the Smart Story of Extremadura (see below) or regional/ national RIS3 that engage local actors in rural areas. A workshop on innovation and LEADER will be organized in November.
To share your S3 specific experience and start a dialogue between smart specialisation and Rural Development policy, please send us a short description of your S3 story and why you are interested.

CONNECTING RIS3 TO THE CITY, A TWO WAY BRIDGE   INFOCUS THEMATIC WORKSHOP
21-22/09/2016, OSTRAVA (CZ)

This Infocus thematic workshop Connecting RIS3 to the city, a two way bridge is a first attempt to think about effective articulation of smart specialisation between city and region levels. By bringing together city practitioners, regional representatives in charge of RIS3 and experts, it aims to gather ideas and initiatives to facilitate interaction and alignment between both levels.

MACRO-REGIONAL INNOVATION WEEK: AT THE CROSSROADS OF THREE EUROPEAN MACRO-REGIONS
(DANUBE, ADRIATIC-IONIAN AND ALPINE)   *26-30/09/2016, TRIESTE (IT)*

The Macro-Regional Innovation Week intends to focus on the exchange of best practices and knowledge among local and international policy and decision makers, academics, financial actors and various types of innovation and technology transfer practitioners.

S3 NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS

Watch the video released after the Smart Regions Conference, the DG-REGIO High-Level Event that highlighted the key role of regions in developing new growth dynamics for Europe, based on bottom-up entrepreneurship and innovation.

STAIRWAY TO EXCELLENCE (S2E)

Presentations from the Bulgaria national event and Romania national event, Joint Statement of the National Event of Poland now available

SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM ON ENERGY (S3PE)

Conclusions and presentations are now available for the recent targeted events on implementation of S3-Energy priorities:

- How Europe's regions are implementing their priorities?   - How to build Smart Energy Regions!

Download S3·publications and EU S3 guides

MAPPING EU INVESTMENTS IN ICT - DESCRIPTION OF AN ONLINE TOOL AND INITIAL OBSERVATIONS
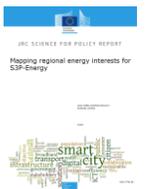
Authors: JENS SÖRVIK, ALEXANDER KLEIBRINK

This report describes how the ICT monitoring tool works, how it was developed and makes an initial analysis of planned ESIF investments in ICT using the tool. It suggests that ICTs not only constitute an important sector themselves, but are also an important enabler of other sectors.

MAPPING REGIONAL ENERGY INTERESTS FOR S3P-ENERGY

Authors: JUAN PABLO JIMÉNEZ NAVARRO, ANDREAS UIHLEIN

The S3PEnergy has mapped different interests in energy technology-related research across the EU in a bid to help regions develop collaborations and help policy makers define action plans.
This policy report found that energy efficiency, followed by smart grids, electric vehicles and wind energy technologies are key priorities in regions and countries across Europe.

IMPLEMENTING SMART SPECIALISATION IN SPARSELY POPULATED AREAS

Authors: JUKKA TERÄS, ALEXANDRE DUBOIS, JENS SORVIK, MARTINA PERTOLDI

This Working Paper explores Research and Innovation Strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3) in Sparsely Populated Areas (SPA). It discusses the most significant elements of smart specialisation (S3) in SPA focusing on its theoretical background and the empirical processes related to the introduction and implementation of the S3 concept in selected European regions. Presenting both issues emerging from theoretical debates and practice-based examples, a critical discussion on the operationali-sation of S3 in the specific context of European SPA is provided.

SMART STORIES: EVIDENCE FROM THE REGIONS

View more and share your story

In recent years, over 100 smart specialisation Strategies have been developed, mostly at regional level, across the Union. The smart stories reflect the way in which managing authorities have used the RIS3 concept to develop their own innovation-driven regional development policies.

This month, the testimonial from the **Extremadura Region** in Spain is highlighted, discussing the "A territorial perspective on smart specialisation"

IMPLEMENTATION EXAMPLES: THE PLATFORM ANALYSIS

View more and submit new examples

The Platform has developed a wide range of S3 implementation examples, based on practical experiences from regions and countries across Europe. These cases show effective ways to tackle specific problems and challenges, taking into account the context, resources and institutional settings characterising each region and country.

This month, the example relates to the Entrepreneurial discovery process (EDP) cycle, with a special focus on **Eastern Macedonia and Thrace** in Greece. It concentrates on maintaining stakeholders' engagement and providing feedback to EDP consultations.

S3 HUB / S3 IN MEDIA

The Europe Media Monitor (EMM) collects thousands of news sources in over 70 languages and allows to easily explore and understand current news reported by the world's online media.

Smart specialisation is a topic followed by the EMM.