JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS)

S3 Newsletter

Seville, 5 March 2013

Welcome to the eighth issue of the S3 Newsletter

S3 PLATFORM - A GROWING COMMUNITY

118 regions, 6 countries and 2 non-EU regions are now registered in the S3 Platform

Newcomers:

Κύπρος (Cyprus)
Slovenija (Slovenia)

Abruzzo (IT)
Autonome Provinz Bozen-Südtirol – Provincia Autonoma di Bolzano-Alto Adige (Autonomous Province of South Tyrol) (IT)
Calabria (IT)
Dél-Dunántúl (South Transdanubia) (HU)
Franche-Comté (FR)
Közép-Dunántúl (Central Transdanubia) (HU)
Közép-Magyarország (Central Hungary) (HU)
Region Midtjylland (Central Denmark Region) (DK)
Nord-Est (North-East) (RO)
Nyugat Dunántúl (West Transdanubia) (HU)
Varsinais-Suomi (Southwest Finland) (FI)

More info:
http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s3-platform-registered-regions

S3 PEER-REVIEW

S3 Platform 7th Peer-review workshop

13-14 March 2013 in Brno (CZ)
Organised jointly with the South Moravian region. Four regions have confirmed their interest in submitting their RIS3 to peer-review. These are: Saxony (DE), South Moravia (CZ), Świętokrzyskie (PL) and Wales (UK).
The workshop will include a session on multi-level governance and in particular on discussing the links and co-ordination between the national and regional level.
More info: http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/7th-peer-review-13-14-mar

More peer-review workshops will be organised in the coming months.
Provisional dates are as follows:

- 14-15 May 2013 in Vaasa (FI), focusing on stakeholder involvement – dates confirmed – registration will be opened soon through our website
- late June 2013 in Budapest (HU), focusing on national-level RIS3
- late September 2013 in Crete (GR)
- November 2013

If your region/country is registered to the Platform and wishes to be peer-reviewed in an upcoming workshop or host one, please contact the S3 Platform at jrc-ipts-s3platform@ec.europa.eu.

S3 THEMES - EYE@RIS3

The RIS3 guide urges regions to support structural change and enable emergence of new activity sectors or industries. There is a strong emphasis on regions setting priorities and increasing transparency by providing strong evidence-based data to support the chosen themes. In order to support regions with this work the S3 Platform is developing a number of activities that supports the regions in priority setting and collaboration with other regions.
In particular, **Eye@RIS3** is an **online database** that will provide you with information on the envisioned priorities of regions. The purpose of the database is to give an overview of regions' priorities in order to enable them to position themselves, to find their unique niches and to seek out potential partners for collaboration.
More detail and info on our thematic activities:
http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/thematic-activities

THE S3 PLATFORM GOES FOR THEMATIC WORKSHOPS

The S3 Platform has developed a concept around thematic workshops in order to **support regions and countries with their work in the prioritised areas**. The thematic workshops can concern specific economic areas like ICT and tourism, but also the specific roles of some regional stakeholders like SMEs or universities, or policy measures. The concept is modular in the sense that it can be the basis for a complete workshop or part of another workshop as a specific session. We have developed templates for how these sessions can be designed, how to address issues, who to involve, PPT templates to be used in preparing participant presentations, etc.
We **strongly encourage interested regions or associations to contact us for co-development of thematic workshops**. We can provide support to expert involvement and participate as speakers; furthermore the events can be communicated through our channels (direct communication to member regions and through the Platform website).
More info: http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/thematic-workshops
Please contact us at: jrc-ipts-s3events@ec.europa.eu

Next envisaged thematic workshops:
- Key enabling technologies for Smart specialisation strategies in Agro-food (11-12 April 2013, Murcia, ES)
  (more info: http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ketfors3inagro)
- A European research strategy for intermodal transport (17-18 April 2013, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, ES)
  (more info: http://www.intraregio.eu/intconference/)

S3 FOCUS – THEMATIC WORKSHOP ON INDICATORS

On 24-25 January 2013 the S3 Platform co-organized in Groningen and Drachten (NL) the thematic workshop "Economic Indicators and Monitoring and Evaluation Tools for

Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3)" together with the University of Groningen and the SNN - The Northern Netherlands Provinces Alliance.

The purpose of the initiative was to discuss the role of different types of indicators in the process of developing and implementing RIS3 in general and with the support of the Structural Funds. The event was organized around two main subtopics: tools and indicators for analysing and profiling regional economies, and tools and indicators for monitoring and evaluation of policies. Presentations by leading academics, practitioners and policy makers were followed by regional case studies (Skåne, Navarra, Northern Netherlands, and Northern Brabant). The event gathered around 120 attendees involved and interested in the development of RIS3: regional/national policy makers, practitioners and academics. The S3 Platform prepared two background notes to introduce the participants to the two main topics of the event.

The agenda of the workshop, the background notes and the presentations are available on the S3 Platform website at: http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/groningen-workshop.

S3 FOCUS – THEMATIC WORKSHOP ON THE ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES

A workshop was held in Seville on 21-22 February on the role of universities in smart specialisation. Organised in cooperation with the European University Association, it brought together university leaders and regional authorities from 18 different Member States. The objective of the workshop was to develop key messages on the role of universities in S3, and in the development of RIS3 in particular. Universities are crucial but often under exploited institutions for nurturing regional innovation and this workshop aimed to make contribution in filling the gap between theory and practice that can be used widely across Europe.

The fruitful discussion during the workshop will be eventually published on the S3 Platform website in the form of key messages. Further activities in this theme are also being considered because of the importance of universities for many regions in the development and implementation of RIS3.

More info and presentations: http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/universities

DIGITAL S3

REMINDER - If your region/country is registered to the Platform and wishes to actively participate in DAE/ICT-related activities, such as:

(i) discussing DAE/ICT-related subjects (please specify) in thematic workshops;

(ii) having the DAE components of your RIS3 peer-reviewed at specifically focused peer-review workshops;

(iii) having an independent expert informally assessing the DAE components of your RIS3 and (if appropriate) the related sections of your draft OP in the second part of 2013 (we can assist a sample of 20 countries/regions on the basis on the requests we receive);

please contact the S3 Platform at jrc-ipts-s3platform@ec.europa.eu specifying your interests.

S3 OVER EUROPE – MAIN EVENTS HELD

National Smart Specialisation Conference in Zagreb (HR), 12 February 2013

The representatives of several Croatian Ministries presented the development of smart specialisation strategies in the Republic of Croatia and their position regarding the implementation of national RIS3. These presentations were followed by a panel discussion which offered an opportunity to discuss a number of key recommendations for the development and implementation of RIS3 strategies in Croatia.

The conference was attended by a large number of Croatian policymakers and decision makers at the national and regional level, representatives of Croatian ministries, the business/industry sector and research/scientific institutions.

More info on Croatia's regional development:
http://www.regionalna-konkurentnost.hr/default.aspx?id=3422

Conference on Accelerating European Growth through Innovation in Berlin (DE), 31 January 2013
The European Institute of Technology and Innovation (EIT) and its ICT Lab in Berlin presented success stories of start-ups and SMEs and explained different tools offered to accelerate open innovation. A set of large companies presented technical business challenges they are interested in to solve in partnership with EIT ICT Labs. This opportunity may also be of interest to regional efforts in supporting SME activities in ICT. More info:
https://www.eitictlabs.eu/news-events/events/article/business-conference-accelerating-european-growth-through-innovation-in-berlin/#gridView

S3 NEXT

OTHER EVENTS

April 02-04
"InnoMatch" Regional Innovation Fair (Arad, RO)
http://www.regiuneavest.ro/en/events/innovation-fair/

April 10-11
4th Working Meeting on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (Helsinki, FI)
http://www.balticsea-region-strategy.eu/item/388146

April 11-12
Training Workshop on Smart Specialisation for South East European countries (Belgrade, SR)
http://wbc-inco.net/object/event/11347

May 05-08
RSA European Conference 2013 - Shape and be Shaped: The Future Dynamics of Regional Development (Tampere, FI)
http://www.regionalstudies.org/conferences/conference/rsa-european-conference-2013

May 21-22
European maritime day (Valletta, MT)
http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/maritimeday/index_en.htm

May 23-24
EARTO Annual Conference 2013 (Dubrovnik, HR)
http://www.earto.eu/earto-events/events/1369260000/detail/earto-annual-conference-2013-dubrovnik.html

June 05-07
Week of innovative regions of Europe - WIRE IV (Cork, IE)
http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=events&eventcode=66E6AF2A-D56A-2DC0-23EB10615C995197

June 19-20
Digital agenda assembly (Dublin, IE)
http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/

CONTACT

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