JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS)

S3 Newsletter

Seville, 9 October 2013

Welcome to the thirteenth issue of the S3 Newsletter

S3 PLATFORM - A GROWING COMMUNITY

137 EU regions, 12 EU countries and 2 non-EU regions are now registered in the S3 Platform

Newcomers:

Ireland - Éire (IE)
Polska (Poland) (PL)
Gävleborg (SE)
Örebro (SE)
Pays de la Loire (FR)
Provincia autonoma di Trento (Autonomous Province of Trento) (IT)

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

S3 PEER-REVIEW

OPEN FOR REGISTRATION!!
The S3 Platform 12th peer-review workshop will be organised on 05-06 November 2013 in Potsdam (DE), with a specific focus on **smart cities** and **urban/rural linkages**, including a plenary session on "Linking innovation potentials of metropolis and their peripheries".
The following four European regions will have their strategy discussed by peers and experts: Berlin-Brandenburg (DE), Mazowieckie – Warsaw region (PL), Prague capital city (CZ) and Greater Manchester (UK).
More information and registration: http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/12th-peer-review-5-6-november-2013-potsdam.

We are currently preparing the calendar of peer-review workshops for the first semester of 2014!
If your region/country is registered to the Platform and wishes to be peer-reviewed in an upcoming workshop or host one, please contact us at jrc-ipts-s3platform@ec.europa.eu. Please do not forget that we can organise focussed specific peer-review workshops on **national/regional digital agenda strategic policy frameworks** or digital agenda chapters of your S3 as well.

KEY ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES (KETs) IN THE EU REGIONS

The **preliminary JRC report on KETs in the EU regions**, prepared by the S3 Platform, is available at our new webpage http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/kets. The report consists of information on KETs and smart specialisation that we have developed and diffused in different forms.

The first part of the report focuses briefly on the **role of KETs in smart specialisation** as a means of regional development.

The second part summarises **policy recommendations** and tools with regard to Smart Specialisation and KETs, as have been identified in events on the topic, where the S3 Platform has participated.

The third part provides maps on **regional priorities related to KETs**. The data for this section come from the "Eye@RIS3". Finally, the report presents some initial conclusions and envisaged next steps. To follow up this work, a survey will be carried out amongst the regions registered in the S3 Platform in order to allow a more in-depth understanding of the actual level of awareness of the role and potential of KETs in the context of smart specialisation and of the perceived obstacles or limitations.

S3 INTERACTIVE MAP ON THE WEB

We have created an interactive map at http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s3-platform-registered-regions. By clicking on a region or country in the map an individual page is opened where you can find various data.

An important element, which is currently missing partially, is the **information on regional priorities**, which would allow for benchmarking and potential exchange and cooperation with peers.

We would kindly invite regions, regardless of their registration in the S3 Platform, to upload a synthetic indication of their S3 priorities (if available, even at draft or provisional level) following the instructions and taking account of the categories of the "Eye@RIS3" at http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/eye-ris3. Such indication is of course not binding and can be modified at any moment, simply by letting us know.

Should regions wish to provide additional data or information (e.g. link to regional websites, S3-related links and news, video-clips, strategy documents), please feel free to provide us with the relevant materials.

Contact us at jrc-ipts-s3platform@ec.europa.eu.

S3 FOCUS - DIGITAL AGENDA AND S3 ON THE WEB

The S3 Platform's website presents a **new sub-section** with material and information on issues related to the **Digital Agenda for Europe** (DAE), taking inspiration from the forthcoming **Digital Agenda Toolbox**. The sub-section is accessible via the webpage http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda. It includes general information as well as downloadable thematic sheets and useful links, and is structured around the following areas:

- **ICT as enabler** (Broadband infrastructure - Next Generation Networks (NGN), H2020 R&D / e-Infrastructure for R&D, Cloud Computing, Key Enabling Technologies (KETs), Network and information security, Open data portals);

- **ICT as specialisation** (Digitisation of cultural heritage to boost innovation, Music rights management infrastructure, Language resources, e-Health, Active and healthy ageing, e-Government, Intelligent transport systems, Smart cities, Smart grids, A safer Internet for children);

- **Policy measures to support ICT innovation** (Digital skills, Living Labs, Web entrepreneurs and start-ups, Innovation vouchers).

S3 FOCUS - HAVE YOUR DIGITAL GROWTH STRATEGY ASSESSED

The S3 Platform can assist up to 20 registered countries/regions in **having an independent expert informally assessing their strategic policy framework for digital growth** (possibly within their S3) and (if appropriate) the related sections of their draft Operational Programme.

We are currently preparing the first pilot assessment together with the French region of Bourgogne (Burgundy).

More info and applications: please contact us at jrc-ipts-s3platform@ec.europa.eu.

S3 FOCUS – EU STRATEGY FOR THE DANUBE REGION

In the context of the initiative **"Scientific Support to the EU Strategy for the Danube Region"**, launched by the Commission's Joint Research Centre, the S3 Platform will work together with Danube region authorities and stakeholders to study and foster the integration and coordination of regional or national RIS3 at macro-regional level.

In fact, smart specialisation is a concept that can make a valuable contribution to the integrated approach which macro-regional strategies, in the sense that it can stimulate the constructive use of regional diversity by avoiding uniformity and duplication in regional investment goals as well as help develop critical mass to tackle major common challenges.

Read more: http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/danube-macroregion-activities

JUST PUBLISHED – GUIDE ON "REGIONAL POLICY FOR THE SMART GROWTH OF SMEs"

The family of S3 Guides has a new baby – the guide on "Regional policy for the smart growth on SMEs".

The purpose of this guide is to help ERDF managing authorities and regional RIS3 penholders design a policy mix that supports enterprises in maximising objectives and opportunities. The guide draws not only on SME specific policy experiences, but spans across a wide range of policies, including research, innovation, cluster, state aid, internal market, education and training.

This guide highlights, in particular, that SME competitiveness in Europe relies heavily on innovation and thus the successful RIS3 implementation and the quality of its design and delivery mechanisms for financial and non-financial support services. In line with the 2014-2020 ERDF thematic priorities, these support services should enhance R&D+I activities or strengthen enterprise competitiveness. This guide provides thoughts, tips and ideas on how to achieve this.

You can read and download it at http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/guides.

JUST PUBLISHED – EUROSTAT REGIONAL YEARBOOK 2013

The **Regional yearbook 2013** presents regional statistics from a wide range of fields, giving a more detailed and diverse picture of the EU than national level data. It also enables an analysis, for example, of how the financial crisis has affected regions across the EU. It indicates, among other things, in which regions employment, population and GDP have decreased the most and in which there have been increases.

You can download it at: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-HA-13-001/EN/KS-HA-13-001-EN.PDF.

S3 NEXT

EC LARGE EVENTS

November 08
Regions as motors of new growth through smart specialisation (Brussels, BE)
http://en.vleva.eu/smartspecialisation

October 10
Photonics21 workshop (Paris, FR)
http://www.photonics21.org/Events/index.php

October 16-17
Smart specialisation in the UK and beyond (Belfast, UK)
http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/belfast

October 22-23
S3 Platform thematic workshop: Smart specialisation in rural areas (Fundão - Centro region, PT)
http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/rural

October 24
Scientific support for growth, jobs and solidarity: culture and creative industries (Brussels, BE)
http://www.cinemaalliance.eu/?World-Cinema-Alliance=2965&WCA=Scientific-Support-for-Growth-&-Jobs&PHPSESSID=enmeiaqcnabndr68koa379pt80

October 28-29
III Congreso europeo de cooperación territorial europea y de vecindad (Cordoba, ES)
http://centrodeestudiosandaluces.es/actividades/sitios/cte/?pagina=35

October 28-29
Second annual forum of the EU strategy for the Danube Region (Bucharest, RO)
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/danube_forum2013/index_en.cfm

October 29
RIM+ Workshop - Engaging the Private Sector for Smart Specialisation (Brussels, BE)
http://errin.eu/content/rim-plus-workshop-engaging-private-sector-smart-specialisation

November 05-06
S3 Platform 12th peer-review workshop (Potsdam, DE)
http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/12th-peer-review-5-6-november-2013-potsdam

November 06-07
Get smarter in the Baltic Sea Region (Malmö, SE)
http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events

November 14-15
Invest in researchers: Better training and careers using new funding opportunities (Vilnius, LT)
http://www.investinresearchers2013.eu/

November 29
Resilient territories: innovation and creativity for new modes of regional development (Faro, PT)
http://www.apdr.pt/evento_19/index.html

Info on past events related to S3: http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/past-events

http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu jrc-ipts-s3platform@ec.europa.eu