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Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms Monitoring Progress Report

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Thematic Smart Specialisation Partnership Monitoring Progress Report

This report is presented to the relevant Working/Steering Committee.

The report is updated every six months.

Confidentiality:

The management report (section I) and progress report (section II) will be made available to the public via your Partnership's web page.

The part on self-assessment is confidential.

Based on the monitoring results, the European Commission will decide on the following term's support.

* Reporting period

January - June 2020

* Please select the name of your partnership

Traceability & Big Data

* Start date of your partnership

December 2016

Partnership's webpage

https://www.traceabilityandbigdata.eu/

I. Management report

* Please provide the executive summary of the objectives of your partnership

The main objective of the Traceability & Big Data Partnership is to encourage, motivate and facilitate the incorporation of the necessary digital technologies in the agri-food sector value chain to make progress towards digital economy.

In order to achieve the above goal, the operational objectives are:

- To contribute to the global sustainable growth by promoting the digitalisation of the agri-food sector and make it more competitive and aligned with the Global Agenda.
- To support an innovative agri-food model respectful with the environment.
- To generate fluent and dynamic connections among interregional stakeholders from the fields of knowledge, public administration, ICT and agri-food businesses and civil society.
- To contribute to new entrepreneurs and start-ups arousal as a result of the importance new data economy is gaining in the change of the agri-food value chain business model.
- To promote the transition of regional stakeholders' nodes towards a network of agri-food Digital Innovation Hubs offering services in Europe in the agri-food value chain.

* Please provide the list of leading regions

Andalusia (ES) - lead region Emilia Romagna (IT) - co-lead region

* Please provide the list of participating regions.

If possible, please follow this format: "Name of the region in English (Country abbreviation), NUTS code". e.g.: Lapland (FI), FI1D7

Aragon (ES) - ES24

Basque Country (ES) - ES21

Extremadura (ES) - ES43

Galicia (ES) - ES11

Navarra (ES) – ES220

Oulu Region Council (FI) - FI1D6

Satakunta (FI) - FI196

South Ostrobothnia (FI) - FI194

South Savo (FI) - FI1D1

Pays de la Liure (FR) – FRG0

Britanny (FR) - FRH0

Central Macedonia (GR) - EL52

Cork County Council (IE) - IE025

Friuli Venezia Giulia (IT) - ITD4

Sardinia (IT) - ITG2

South Transdanubian (HU) - HU23

Hadjú-Bihar (HU) - HU321

Limbourg (NL) – BE22

Pazardzhik (BG) - BG423

Middel Black Sea (TR)

Please provide the list of interested regions or other entities (other than national /regional authorities)

Other entities already involved:

Greenport West-Holland (NL)

Wageningen University (NL)

ICT Innovation Network (SI)

INL (PT)

Innovisa (PT)

ISQL (PT)

Agrocluster Ribatejo (PT)

CENSE (PT)

Agrotransilvania Cluster (RO)

AFBI Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (UK)

Agrigo (IT)

Cluster Agrifood Nazionale (IT)

Regions interested:

Transilvania (RO)

Trentino Alto Adige (IT)

Occitanie (FR)

Nouvelle Aquitaine (FR)

Please provide an overview of the working areas of your partnership

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						WA4: Open data, interoperability, data governance and information security, cyber security	WA3: Incorporating consumer experience & different operators in food chain decision making processes	WA2: Smart monitoring of the value chain to improve the overall competitiveness of the agrifood sector	WA1: Life-cycles of the value chain	Working area
						Friuli Venezia Giulia	Friuli Venezia Giulia	Pays de la Loire	Emilia-Romagna & Aragón	Region in charge
						All regions	All regions	All regions	All regions	Involved regions
						Quadruple helix members of regional nodes	Quadruple helix members of regional nodes	Quadruple helix members of regional nodes	Quadruple helix members of regional nodes	Other actors

Please provide information regarding past meetings, workshops and dissemination activities (six months prior to filling out the survey)

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T&BD webinar: Territorial Cooperation: economic public measures against COVID-19	T&BD webinar: ICT-AGRI-FOOD: ERA-NET Cofund on ICT-enabled agri-food systems	High level event "STI Roadmaps for SDGs – paving the pathways for sustainable recovery and future resilience"	Technical Meeting Traceability & Big Data Thematic Partnership	Event
April 28	February 4	June 30	June 10	Date
Online	Online	Online	Online	Place
Speaker: Esteban Pelayo (Eurada)	Presentation and explaination of the network and the call	Presentation of the Traceability & Big Data ODS strategy	Progress monitoring, presentation of new activities promoted and alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals. Specific panels dedicated to the preparation of the next programming period: TAF training, European Commission Round Table: useful tools for the Traceability & Big Data Partnership and Andalucia & Emilia Romagna regional preparation for 2021-2027.	Any other information

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Webinars cycle about digital solutions and internationalization	Workshops 1-4: Updating the Oulu Region's smart specialisation priorities (Pohjois-Pohjanmaan älykkään erikoistumisen painopisteiden päivittäminen - työpajat)	The EIP-AGRI seminar: New skills for digital farming'	Smart Farming, Digitalization of Agriculture and Visions for the New CAP	T&BD webinar: S3P-Industry: opportunities of collaboration	T&BD webinar: Smart Specialisation Thematic Platform on Agri-food in the context of SDGs
30 January, 21 April, 20 May, 29 May	WS1: 7 May 2020, WS2: 12 May 2020, WS3: 13 May 2020, WS4: 20 May 2020	February 5-6	January 29	June 23	May 19
Online	Online	Aranjuez (Spain)	European Parliament	Online	Online
Organised by TRACK	Workshops organised by Oulu Region	Organised by EIP-AGRI	High level event	Speakers: Fernando Mérida & Isabelle Seigneur	Speaker: Katerina Ciampi (JRC)

Please provide information regarding planned future meetings, workshops and dissemination activities

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Informative workshop related to S3 —thematic networks to regional stakeholders working on food & Agriculture	Netweek Smart Horticulture	Matchmaking event for food chain operators and ICT/technology providers	Closing Session TrackGrowingData	Smart Agri-Food Summit	T&BD webinar: cross collaboration with ICT-AGRI-FOOD 2	T&BD webinar: Regions4Food lessons learnt	T&BD webinar: Driving Earth observation with Artificial Intelligence	Event
TBD	9 July	3 November	20 September	24-25 September	TBD	TBD	29 September	Date
TBD	Rotterdam, Netherlands and partly remotely	Place TBD + Online	Online	Malaga and partly remotely	Online	Online	Online	Place
Organised by SEAMK	Network meeting, seminar	Organised by OULU region: https://www.oamk.fi/en/724	Organised by TRACK	Organised by CAGPDS, Startup Europe, among others	Speakers: TBD	Speakers: TBD	Speakers: Joao Ribau and Bruno Ferreira (ISQ, associated member of the Partnership)	Any other information

10	Φ
"Io Sono Friuli Venezia Giulia" initiative presentation	Regional meeting for actors operating in S3 networks
TBD	10 August 2020
TBD	Online
Some meetings to be placed during August and September	Meeting, organised by Oulu's region

II. Progress report

Innovative results

Please describe innovative results and achievements that could be attributed to the partnership (specific examples of results vs. objectives)

COMPLAT

- Provided by expert assistance through the Technical Assistance Facility (TAF) of DG GROW (starting January 2020). Work is focused on private firms (Naturcode-Andalusia and Open Fields-Emilia Romagna) participating in the case; additional T&BD partner regions (Pazardzhik, Extremadura, Emilia-Romagna, South Savo and Andalusia) support the project.
- A mature and bankable business plan has been achieved during the last months.

SMARTAGRIHUBS

- Launching of 3 open calls against COVID-19: Respond (closed), Restart and Expand (ongoing). The project has assigned up to 5,000,000€ funding to these open calls, addressing DIHs that are supporting diverse stakeholders in the agri-food economy and specifically SMEs as drivers for digital innovation.
- Fully implementation of the Innovation Portal as web-based interactive platform that connects the DIHs of the agri-tech sector in Europe.
- Presentation of the DIHs observatory: it aims to foster and grow a solid connection between DIHs and relevant stakeholders from the agri-food value chain. It enables some features: Updated Matchmaking tool, DIH User feedback, Best Practices, Observatory Data & Indicators, Badge system, Improvement guide, and SAH Observatory Publication and Reports.
- Webinars done:
- Steps towards creating a DIH, 31/01
- SAH Observatory: Building joint tools for sustainable digital agri businesses, 11/03
- Governance for DIH, 21/04
- Data sharing in agriculture and the Code of Conduct, 20/05
- Strategy Development for DIHs,18/06
- Regional Clusters tours
- Launch of the Maturity Tool: allows a self-assessment of the services maturity level per DIH. Linked to the Observatory functionality "improvement steps" and to a personalised peer review.
- Covid19 task force has been conformed to work on finding and analysing challenges/solutions/initiatives to agrifood problems caused by covid-19 pandemic. Specific activities and materials have been developed.

REGIONS4FOOD

The project partners dedicated 2020 1st semester mainly to elaborate their Action Plan 1st draft, according to a template provided by the Lead Partner, the Andalusia Regional Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Sustainable Development. Action Plan drafts are the result of the interregional learning process resulting from the previous methodologies implemented, the identification of good practices and their later study visit. The Andalusia Regional Ministry, organized a webinar on 14th February to present the Action Plan draft template to partners and solve eventual doubts.

Most partners met this semester with their stakeholders to present the study visits reports and discuss actions to include improving the Policy Instrument tackled by the project. Others exchanged by email. With this information, project partners wrote a 1st draft of Action Plan presented at the Steering Committee online meeting.

Also, during the Steering Committee project partners communicated which good practice had most inspired the actions included in their Action Plan draft and requested its partner owner of this good practice to review the Action Plan draft, or at least the actions concerned. With this information, the Lead Partner elaborated a calendar for the peer reviews that will take place during the next semester.

Finally, the Lead Partner uploaded 25 good practices from all partners into the Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform for validation.

NIVA

- Harmonisation of the NIVA KPIs (Key Performance Indicators), with a dedicated Workshop on Agri-Environmental Indicators on Feb 5.
- Progress in the different Large Scale Pilots, with an additional meeting held in Madrid on 12/13 February, with the objectives to achieve a common understanding on the NIVA Simplified Architecture, a common component definition and definition of missing software components.
- Harmonisation progress, with a questionnaire on technical and semantic interoperability. A special effort is devoted to define a common crop list, for which the different available lists and standards are carefully being examined
- Strengthening collaboration with the SEN4CAP project.
- 3 Virtual Stakeholder Forum Webinars have been successfully organized with 60-to-90 external participants.

ICT-BIOCHAIN

The Project has finished on 31st May. During the last months, it was presented the platform developed for connecting biomass & ICT providers. A roadmap and e-learning materials for promoting the implementation of bioeconomy DIHs at European level, both in English and Spanish.

During May, several events were organized for presenting the data model of the platform, in charge of analysing biomass coming from the olive tree, horticulture and algae in the Andalusia region. A catalog with more than 100 ICT solutions for the biomass supply chain was also presented. Events "train-the-trainer" and the "Public Final" event where organised and 3 specific webinars about bio-resources of Andalusia.

Tangible short- and medium-term socio-economic impacts achieved or expected (specific examples)

- Regions of the partnership represent 10% of the EU regions (NUTS 11 level)
- 10% of EU farming exploitations are under the scope of partner regions
- 10% of EU agroindustries are located in partner regions
- More than 1600 institutions from the quadruple helix are connected within this partnership
- The partnership has become an instrument to make proposals to the Commission like policy instruments and strategies related to the digitalization of the agri-food value chain
- A documented methodology for the creation of the thematic partnership
- The promotion of cooperation between regions running at different speeds in terms of digitalization of the agri-food sector
- More than 300 direct subscriptions to the monthly newsletter of the partnership

Inter-regional and inter-partnership collaborative results

Additional results obtained from working with other partnerships under the thematic S3 Platforms (specific examples)

The Traceability & Big Data Partnership is double affiliated to S3 Agri-food and Industry Platforms. Cooperation with other thematic partnerships of the three S3 Platforms has continued to ensure a better positioning on the future financing of regional innovation and S3P thematic partnerships in the next programming period.

Evaluation of the involvement of relevant business sector (clusters, SMEs, business associations, chambers of commerce, Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs), etcetera) in the Partnership activities (specific examples)

Traceability and Big Data Partnership was born under the quadruple helix vision, so the business sector is called to be a relevant actor in its functioning. Every region has defined its own node with includes companies from the agri-food sector and ICT, also clusters and business associations in charge of empowering digitalization of the agri-food value chain in their regions. Business participants are invited through their reference regions to active participate in the activities organized. Concrete examples are:

- Some of the muti regional business sector actors that have participated in the last webinars promoted by the partnership are: Hispatec, Hidralia, Ecogestiona, Ayming, ByProductPlace, Insiel, Beantech (companies); Corporación Tecnológica de Andalucía, INL, Fundecyt-PCTEX, Parco Agroalimentare, Agrocluster, DIHBU40, Andalucia Agrotech DIH (Clusters); Eurada, INTEC (Business Associations), among others.
- Around 50% of subscribers to the monthly partnership newsletter, come from the business sector involved through the different regional nodes.
- Specific training have been developed for the business sector in order to take advantage of their belonging to the Partnership, like the S3P-Industry webinar or the Technical Assistance Facility training, both accessible through the Traceability & Big Data Youtube channel.
- TAF and Reconfirm initiatives from S3P-Industry have been disseminated across the business companies of the different nodes in order to promote the exploitation of resources available thanking to the double affiliation of the partnership.
- During the Technical Meeting of the Partnership, on June 10th 2020, it was presented the "flow-chart initiative" in charge of scouting relevant projects that are currently being developed by companies in the regional nodes. The main objective is to encourage the creation of common projects and pilots amongst the companies involved in Traceability & Big Data through their relative nodes.

About the specific involvement of business sector in the implementation of existing projects:

- COMPLAT: work is focused on private firms, Naturcode from Andalusia and Open Fields from Emilia Romagna. Currently the Traceability & Big Data partnership is collaborating with these companies on the search of an additional company to the case, coming from a partner region.
- SMARTAGRIHUBS: Business sector is actively involved in the Flagships Innovation Experiments and the Open Calls for network expansion and against COVID-19. Participation of the sector is both at company and DIH level.
- TRACK: the partnership is made up of five clusters: Vegepolys, Agro Transilvania Cluster, Emilia Romagna Regional Agrifood Clust-ER, Corporación Tecnológica de Andalucia and Greenpor West-Holland.
- REGIONS4FOOD: the project has rely on regional companies for the exchange of experience. They are active members in the regional staholder groups, have participated in the regional mappings and in the study visits. Synergies and business to business agreements have been achieved.

Evaluation of whether the level of inter-regional cooperation is sufficient to potentially provide practical and relevant socio-economic impacts (specific examples)

Partnership building is at the very core of what we do. So far, the Traceability & Big Data partnership involves:

- 22 regions
- 12 associate members
- 14 countries
- More than 1600 stakeholders
- 2 charter of collaboration signed with TRACK and ICT AGRI FOOD 2 networks

However, as stated in previous reports for a larger socio-economic impact of the partnership, financial support to thematic partnerships is necessary.

A stronger involvement of the civil society could be reached, but, again, concrete opportunities in the framework of feasible projects are usually needed to engage new actors.

New activities

Involvement of regions from EU13 Member States in the Partnership, in particular with respect to scoping, mapping and/or matchmaking. In addition, justification should be provided if no EU13 regions are involved

Three regions (South Transdanubian and Hadju-Bihar in Hungary and Pazardzhik in Bulgaria) and their regional nodes and also two associate members (Agrotransilvania Cluster in Romania and ICT Innovation Network in Slovenia) from EU13 member states are included in the Traceability & Big Data partnership actively in the development of projects and activities.

Specifically, South Transdanubian and Pazardzhik regions are members of the REGIONS4FOOD project partnership.

Pazardzhik region has also participated in the Smart Pilot action: interregional partnership for innovative projects supported by the EU Commission where the COMPLAT business case has been developed with the TAF support from DG GROW.

The Agrotransilvania Cluster is one of the five clusters of the TRACK project consortium.

All of them are active members, participating in the activities developed by the partnership and the technical meetings. For instance, a webinar about Cluster/DIH management will be organizing in the next months with the Agrotransilvania Cluster.

Involvement of regions/countries from outside of EU28 Countries. (Number of participants from non-EU countries (specify their contribution)

Middle Black Sea region, from Turkey, is a member of the Traceability & Big Data partnership that contributes in the activities and methodological documents, although due to elegibility conditions, it cannot take part in most EU-funded projects currently submmitted within the partnership.

Its regional node is made up of 35 members. They have participated in most of the webinars promoted during the last months, like "Interregional Cooperation to response to COVID-19" and "Smart Specialization Thematic Platform on Agri-food in the context of SDG"

Advancement and promotion of the Partnership through publications and other communication/outreach activities (number of outreach activities that resulted from the partnership)

- Participation in the high-level event "European Union STI for SDGs Roadmaps" focused on the implementation of the STI for SDGs roadmaps in the context of their contribution to sustainable recovery and future resilience, on 30 June. It joined about 200 people representing public sector (national, subnational and UN bodies and EC services), knowledge institutions, clusters and innovation actors. Cecilia Gañan de Molina (Expert Advisor) presented the experience of the agri-food international smart specialization Partnership on T&BD.
- Production of a poster (jointly the JRC) of the Smart Specialisation Strategy Innovation for Sustainability of the Partnership. Presented in the 'Virtual poster session: the implementation examples of Smart Specialisation Strategies Innovation for Sustainability' of the STI Roadmaps for SDGs event. Katerina Ciampi presented 12 posters of local, regional, national and interregional partnerships inspirations for the application of Smart Specialisation as a localised and transformative STI for SDGs Roadmaps.
- T&BD website: it has been developed the dedicated website (https://www.traceabilityandbigdata.eu/) including the design, web development, creation of content, involvement of the partnership members, etc. Sections are: about, partners, projects, best practices, agenda, calls & collaborations, documents and communication sections. A draft of the website was presented to members in the Technical Meeting occurred on 10 June.
- In May, the first monthly newsletter of T&BD was launched. During the previous months, the definition and preparation of the design, editorial line and contents was done. Sections: articles, announcements, news, calls, events & workshops and documents.
- Twitter account @dataagriS3 generates daily content, promoting activities, events and useful information about the partnership activities or related external ones. Starting in January, it has been launched the "Twitter Week" initiative: a week dedicated to a Partnership region, describing the node, projects and pilots, best practices, events, etc. Dedicated weeks already made are: Andalusia, Pays de la Loire, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Extremadura, Greenport West-Holland and Oulu.
- The following webinars has been organized and promoted by coordination team (CAGPDS Andalusia):
- •Title: ICT-AGRI-FOOD: ERA-NET Cofund on ICT-enabled agri-food systems. February 4th 2020. Speakers: Maria Garcia Alegre, Nathalie Chavrier (CTA) and Marijke Hunninck (ILVO). Attendees: 23. Summary: it was presented the ICT-AGRI-FOOD network and its current call, topic and dates, by explaining

Title: Territorial Cooperation: public measures to support the economic response to COVID-19

to participants the requirements for applying.

•Title: Territorial Cooperation: public measures to support the economic response to COVID-19. April 28th. Speaker: Esteban Pelayo (EURADA). Attendees: 42.

Summary: Esteban presented the future opportunities of Territorial cooperation in the EU programming period 2021-2027. He also advised partner regions to be prepared in advance for the opportunities that the new programming period of European funds will provide; and to work beyond a specific pipeline of projects, establishing a strategy to support their own economic development priorities with international cooperation.

•Title: Platform on Agri-food in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030. May 19th. Speaker: Katerina Ciampi (EC-JRC). Attendees: 51.

Summary: Katerina presented how the European Smart Specialisation Platform in Agrifood is working towards the achievement of the Agenda 2030. She pointed out the contribution that the European interregional partnerships are already making to its achievement, mainly to the Objectives 2 (end hunger); 3 (healthy lives); 12 (sustainable consumption); and 17 (global partnerships). Finally, she highlighted that, the European Green Deal & 2030 Agenda will be the EU recovery frameworks for resilient and sustainable future.

•Title: The thematic platform on Industrial Modernisation: opportunities of collaboration. June 23rd. Speakers: Fernando Mérida and Isabelle Seigneur (EC-JRC). Attendees: 31.

Summary: speakers presented the support provided by this Smart Specialisation Platform to EU regions in the generation of a pipeline of industrial investment projects implemented through interregional cooperation,

cluster participation and industry involvement. They presented concrete details on the functioning of the Re-Confirm initiative and the Technical Assistance Facility, main tools provided by DG GROW to support the scale-up of innovative investment projects across Europe.

- The T&BD Youtube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLQJAmPyNG5u1jnOLs8bp4A) has uploaded the recording of the webinars previously commented and a specific training about the Technical Assistance Facility (TAF) which was done by Marta Kulesza (Ecory) to the partners during the Technical Meeting on June 10th.

Activities and projects with partnerships working under other S3 Thematic Platforms (AgriFood, Energy and Industrial Modernisation)

Traceability & Big Data has collaborated in the agreement on common position for thematic partnership for next programming period, collaborating on the dissemination through the social media accounts.

Closer cooperation with other S3P partnership is envisaged, working on that mainly in the next semester 2020.

Your Partnership and the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The EU has a strong position when it comes to sustainable development and is also fully committed to be a frontrunner in implementing the UN's 2030 Agenda, together with its member countries and regions. Many interregional partnerships under the thematic S3 Platforms contribute strongly to the attainment of these 17 goals.

Please indicate to which Sustainable Development Goals and to what extent your thematic Partnership contributes?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Not applicable
Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere	0	0	0	0	0	•
Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition & promote sustainable agriculture	•	0	0	0	0	0
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives & promote well-being for all at all ages	0	0	•	0	0	0
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	0	0	0	0	•	•
Goal 5. Achieve gender equality & empower all women and girls	0	0	•	0	0	•

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	0	•	0	0	0	0
Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	•	0	0	0	0	0
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment & decent work for all	•	0	0	•	•	•
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation & foster innovation	•	0	0	•	•	0
Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries	0	0	•	0	0	0
Goal 11. Make cities & human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	0	0	0	0	0	•
Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption & production patterns	•	0	0	0	0	0
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	0	•	0	0	0	0
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas & marine resources for sustainable development	0	0	0	0	0	•
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss	•	•	•	•	•	•

Goal 16. Promote peaceful & inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels	•	•	•	•	•	•
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development	•	0	©	•	•	•