

## S3P Agri-Food Working Committee Meeting, 28/11/2018 Bilbao, Spain

### 11:00-12:30: Interactive Parallel Sessions

#### Conceptual Note of parallel session

#### **How DIHs can support Thematic S3 Partnerships in Agri-Food**

Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs) are at the core of the Digitising European Industry (DEI) initiative first industry-related initiative of the Digital Single Market package. DIHs are not-for-profit one-stop-shops that support companies – notably SMEs, startups and mid-caps in order to improve their business, production processes, products and services by means of digital technology. Conceived as ecosystems formed by RTOs, universities, technological companies and governmental institutions that provide services for the digitilisation of the local industry, Digital Innovation Hubs can also support the development of the regional innovation ecosystem as well as the business growth and upgrading of local suppliers.

With regards to Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3), while some Hubs focus more on horizontal digitalisation support, others are leading a S3 priority area or alternatively carry out a mixed portfolio of activities designed in interaction with stakeholder partners. Digital Innovation Hubs are very often closely linked with the S3 of the different European regions and there is an identified need in many regions to make available support easier to find by making the system more transparent and communicating it more clearly to potential beneficiaries.

Within this context the objectives of the session are the following:

- i) **EC presents** the progress made on the DIH policy instrument for digitising European industry and future plans for 2021-2027 (proposals of the EC for the new Digital Europe and the Horizon Europe programs)
- ii) **Regional authority** (leading region of Partnership) presents how a regional DIH interacts with the regional Smart Specialisation Strategies and the Interregional thematic partnerships under the S3P
- iii) **SmartAgriHubs project** - a great example of a European ongoing project to improve the services offered by the DIHs in the agrifood sector
- iv) **Provide space** to discuss how further DIHs and interregional partnerships could enhance their collaboration and contribute to the digital transformation of SMEs in regional and interregional level.

Taking into account that most of the partnerships under the Agri-Food thematic platform have a strong component of digital innovation we want to conduct this session on a highly interactive and participatory format. Participants in the session from the thematic partnerships will be asked to contribute with their experience in collaborating with regional DIHs and to propose ideas on how better facilitate interactions and benefit from the digitilisation services that the regional DIHs could provide them to achieve the partnerships goals.

**Moderated by:** Annita Kalpaka, JRC

**Duration:** 1 ½ hour

**Format:** Presentations & interactive discussion

**Agenda:**

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| 11.00 – 11.20 | Introduction to the session and state of play of the DIHs policy initiative and future plans within Digital Europe (2011-2027)<br><i>Annita Kalpaka, JRC</i>                   |
| 11.20 – 11.40 | Experience of collaboration between DIHs and the Interregional Partnership "Traceability and Big Data" under the Agri-Food S3P<br><i>Judit Anda Ugarte, Junta de Andalucia</i> |
| 11.40 – 12.00 | SmartAgriHubs H2020 project - improving the services offered by the DIHs in the agrifood sector<br><i>Prof. George Beers, Wageningen University, (tbc)</i>                     |
| 12.00 – 12.30 | Q&As and exchange of experience  |