

# **S3 Partnerships and Cooperation under IGJ goal**

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**On-line**

## **Report**

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As consequence of the first [findings](#) of the [mapping of the arrangements for interregional cooperation in IGJ Regional OPs](#), where there is a huge interest in interregional cooperation actions related to RIS3 topics.

The event focussed on the practical use of interregional cooperation provisions under art. 96.3d CPR as well as the legislative framework for 2021-2027 programming period as laid down in art. 17(3)(d)(v) of the draft Common Provisions Regulation in order to exploit at its best the S3 partnerships and allow concrete cooperation projects, to be funded under the respective Regional OPs, by allowing concrete discussions and Q&A.

This is now the time for designing and drafting the corresponding Regional OPs and to encourage the inclusion of the partnerships' activities into Programmes' strategies, and this webinar will provide information about the practicalities and the dedicated draft "Operational Guidelines".

### **Introduction and presentation**

The event started with a brief presentation of the event's objectives and aims by European Commission – Joint Research Centre: S3 Partnerships, under RIS3, ran for the last four years, and there are a lot of topics of interest for interregional cooperation under the RIS3 strategies.

This seminar represents one opportunity for finding inspiration and knowledge for practical ways of implementing interregional cooperation in the framework of smart specialisation, especially for partnership coordination, testing of pilot ideas.

More than 90 participants connected on-line, including representatives of EU Regions, S3 platforms organisations, project partners, Interreg Programmes, National Authorities, European Commission, R&I Centres etc.

Despite cooperation between regions is possible under ETC/Interreg, the provisions under art. 96.3d CPR and art. 17(3)(d)(v) of the draft Common Provisions Regulation for the

programming period 2021-2027, may unlock opportunities for overcoming some of its limitations, i.e. geographical coverage or funding allocation. Furthermore, due to the latest developments, it will take some more time for the instrument for Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) to be effectively in place, considering a tough competition for its funding. Thus, these provisions represent a concrete possibility and flexible option to set up cooperation actions for the implementation of these partnerships.

Even if there are only a few experiences about the implementation of these type of actions, the interventions of this event presented knowledge-based hints and methodology for concrete and practical implementation in the framework of ERDF OPs 2021-2027, whose drafting phase is now on-going.

The “key” consists in adopting a collaborative approach among the partner organisations of the S3 platforms’ partnerships and the respective ERDF Managing Authorities in their region in order to include cooperation actions and partnerships’ activities into the OPs and strategies, by achieving advanced forms of collaboration within the S3 partnerships, financed under the IGJ ERDF Programmes, linking value chains across Europe and linking innovation ecosystems.

The aim is that the new wave of S3 and OPs consider those international and regional aspects and allow for strategic synergies and alignments among EU Regions, in addition to funding synergies and interactions, also at project level, maximising the impact of the funding in R&I to also overcome this difficult period, for a more sustainable recovery, in line with the overall EU Recovery Policy and Policy Objectives.

Interact provided then a summary of the work undertaken in supporting cooperation actions in the previous years as well as the methodology followed for the mapping of Section 4.4 of IGJ OPs and its main findings. See the presentation [HERE](#).

Mr. Dirk Peters, Senior Level Expert at European Commission DG REGIO – Unit D.2, also presented the main features of the main legislative framework and rules, as well as the elements to be considered in order to enhance and embed cooperation under IGJ goal. See the presentation [HERE](#).

As main outcome, Interact announced the contents of the upcoming [Guidelines on Cooperation under IJG goal 2020+](#) that contain all the available knowledge, methodology and indications for setting up, concretely, interregional cooperation actions in the framework of ERDF Operational Programmes.

**Recording of the event and Q&A:** <https://youtu.be/YpjoEjcPft8>

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