

The European Commission's science and knowledge service

Joint Research Centre



Smart specialisation as EU contribution to the Arctic

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Smart Specialisation, a framework for innovation-led integrated territorial development



► **SMART**: Identify the region's own **strengths and comparative assets**



► **SPECIALISED**: **Prioritise** research and innovation investment developing competitive advantages



► **STRATEGIC**: Define a **shared vision** for territorial innovation through the 'entrepreneurial discovery process'



*'Smart specialisation represents a **new way of working together, which ensures stronger local and regional participation in decision-making, and whose potential can be scaled-up for the benefit of the EU as a whole.**'*

(Reflection Paper on the Future of EU Finances, 2017)

Smart Specialisation, What's special in the S3 approach?

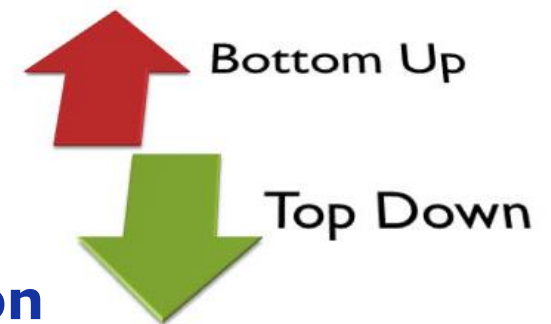


Not a "Neutral" Policy

- supports **selective intervention**, not only horizontal measures that cut across the whole economy
- requires identifying a **limited number of priorities** and concentrating investment on them

Choices Based on "Entrepreneurial" Knowledge

- No central and omniscient planner
- Use the (tacit) knowledge of the actors
- Interactive process of **knowledge exchange and creation**



The DNA of Smart Specialisation



*Setting transformative agendas relying on **four main features***



Localisation: focused on territorial specificities



Customisation: no "one size fits all" – adapted to local context and institutions



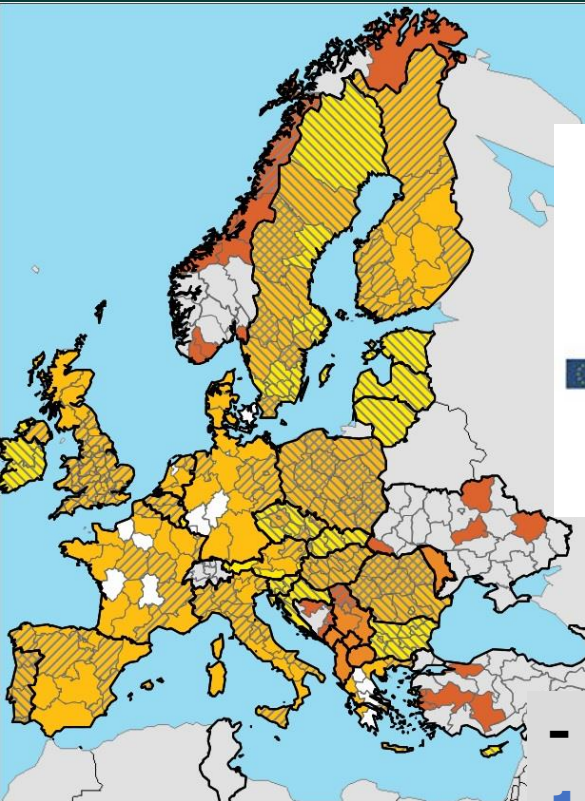
Prioritisation: targeting most promising potential for development/transformation



Mobilisation: involving public and private stakeholders

➔ Combining evidence-based and community-based knowledge

Smart specialisation applied in the EU and beyond



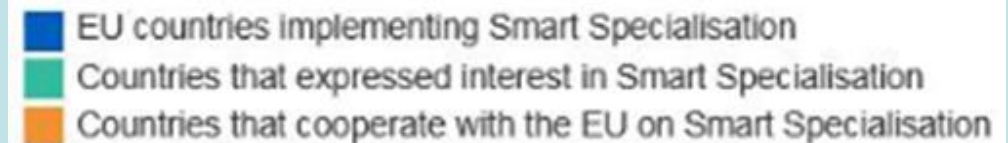
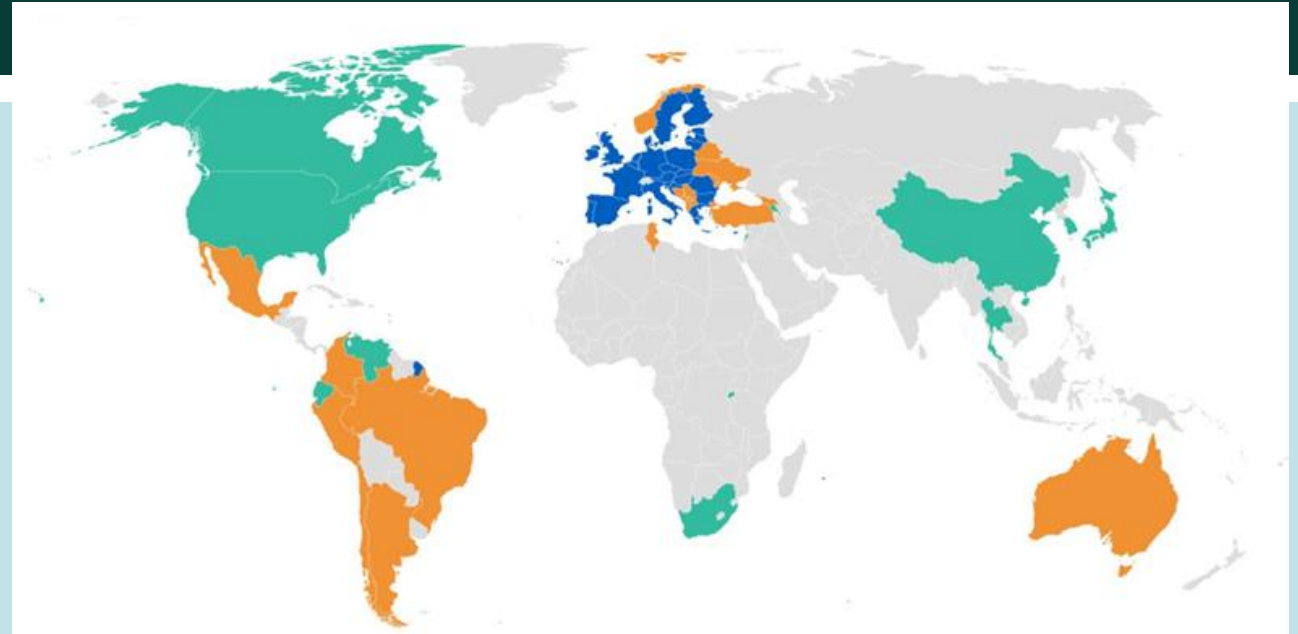
- In the EU

130 000 R&D&I projects
(estimate)

68 billion EUR
investment

120 S3 strategies

120 000 jobs to be
created



- Worldwide: 9
countries, Soft
support – incl. 3
pilot regions in
Tunisia

Beyond the EU
- Neighbourhood:
12 countries in the
process

Smart Specialisation and SDGs

Smart Specialisation as a transversal method to drive SDG implementation locally

- A common ambition: setting out a **transformational vision and agenda**
- **A powerful tool to operationalise the European Green Deal locally**
- **Innovation as a game changer** in all areas

In particular, Smart Specialisation can contribute to:



Territorial development
and urban perspective

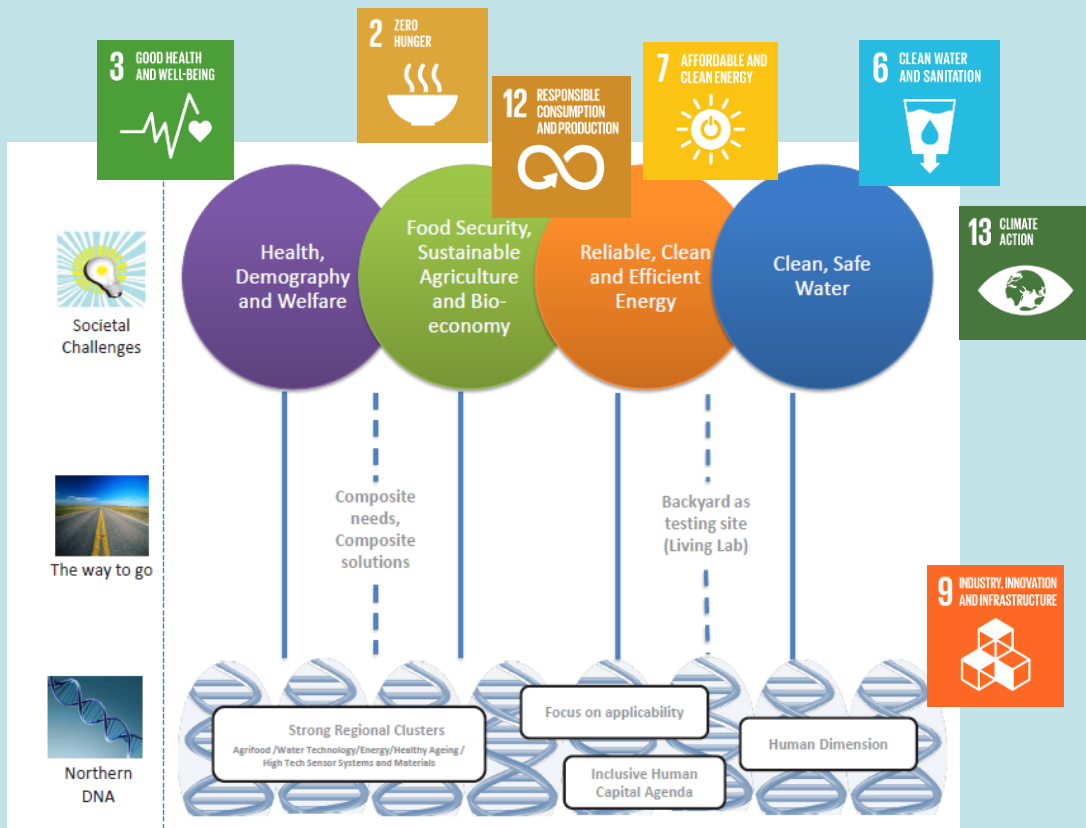


Global/local partnerships involving
all relevant actors
across **territories and themes**



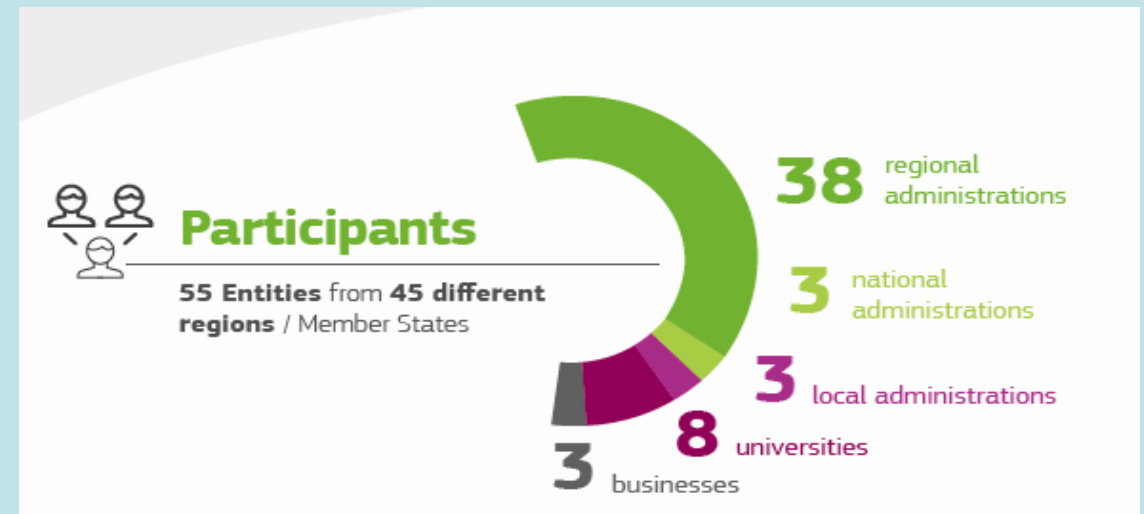
"For the future, priority should also be given to [...] research and innovation for sustainable solutions" – 1st Position Paper - SDG Multi-Stakeholder Platform

A couple of deep dives



S3 tackling societal challenges: Northern Netherlands

S3 promoting inter-regional partnerships and coalitions: S3 Platform on Energy - Sustainable Buildings



Partnerships across multi-level territorial governance

Making the most of geographical and territorial features

S3-steered territorial development

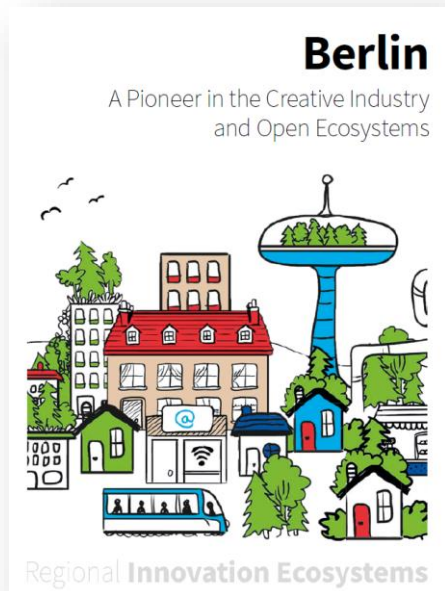
CITIES



REGIONS



**RURAL
AREAS**



- Place based innovation
- Mapping potentials and strengths
- Engaging communities
- Valorising local resources
- Taking account of territorial features
- For economic & sustainable growth



Smart Specialisation in the Arctic

S3 can be targeted to specific geographical and sustainability challenges

Innovation as a general enabler

global goals as key reference point

local touch as crucial element of the solution

Cooperation is a distinctive asset for S3 (territorially and thematically!)

developing both partnerships and deep dives simultaneously

Takk!

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