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**Dr. Marina RANGA profile**

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| **Dr. Marina RANGA** | **Title: Smart Specialisation as a catalyst for the development of early-stage regional innovation systems in Lagging Regions** |
| **Outline:** The presentation discusses the role of smart specialisation in catalysing the development of regional innovation systems in Lagging Regions, either by facilitating the emergence of key research and innovation elements that were lacking or by accelerating the development of others, such as: a regional knowledge base and dynamic learning processes, institutional capacity, network integration among key innovation actors, regional industrial specialisations, and collective identities. |
| **Biography:** Dr. Marina Ranga works with the EC Joint Research Centre in Seville and is also an Associate Professor on Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the University of Warsaw's School of Management. Prior to that, she held academic positions at Stanford University (2009-2015) and at several universities in Europe (Newcastle University, University of Groningen, SPRU-Sussex University, University of Warsaw) during 2005-2014. She holds a PhD and an MSc in S&T Policy from SPRU, Sussex University and an MSc in Chemical Engineering from the Polytechnic University of Bucharest. Her research focuses on National and regional i**nnovation systems**; Regional innovation and Smart specialisation; The Entrepreneurial University and academic entrepreneurship; Gender in innovation, technology and entrepreneurship. In these areas, she has an extensive research and publication record and has conducted consultancy, evaluation and advisory work for the EC, UN, and several national and regional government innovation agencies since 2003. She is a member of the International Advisory Board of the Accreditation Council for Entrepreneurial and Engaged Universities, of the Scientific Board of the University-Industry Innovation Network (UIIN) and of the Strategic Advisory Board of Imperial College's Institute for Molecular Science and Engineering.  |