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Joint Research Centre

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Targeted Support to Smart Specialisation in Lagging Regions

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JRC – KAIST Joint Workshop

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JRC project "Targeted Support to RIS3 Implementation"

Four closely complementary JRC activities

STRIVE - Support to Transitions in Regional Innovation Eco-systems

RIS3 Support to Lagging Regions	RIS3 Support to Romania	Higher Education +VET in Smart Specialisation	Stairway to Excellence
European Parliament DG REGIO	European Parliament DG REGIO	DG EAC DG EMPL	European Parliament DG REGIO
2016 - 2020	2016 - 2019	HESS3 - 2018-20	S2E-4 2018-20

Main objectives

MAIN AIM:
Support the refinement and implementation of the RIS3 of selected EU regions

Low-growth regions:
GDP/capita below EU average

Less developed regions:
GDP/capita <50% of EU average

Develop and provide appropriate and **specific support** to selected regions in RIS3 implementation

Develop and implement **horizontal approaches** to key issues in the growth and governance of RIS3

Help meet the 2021-7 **enabling condition** of good governance of smart specialisation strategy with **7 fulfilment criteria**

Generate lessons and a model for other regions

Test-bed for theories on S3 and for understanding RIS3

SELECTED LAGGING REGIONS
- 1 - Centro
- 2 - Extremadura
- 3 - Puglia
- 4 - Eastern Macedonia and Thrace
- 5 - Warminsko Masurskie
- 6 - Észak-Alföld
- 7 - Nord-Vest
- 8 - Nord-Est
- 9 - Severen Tsentralen
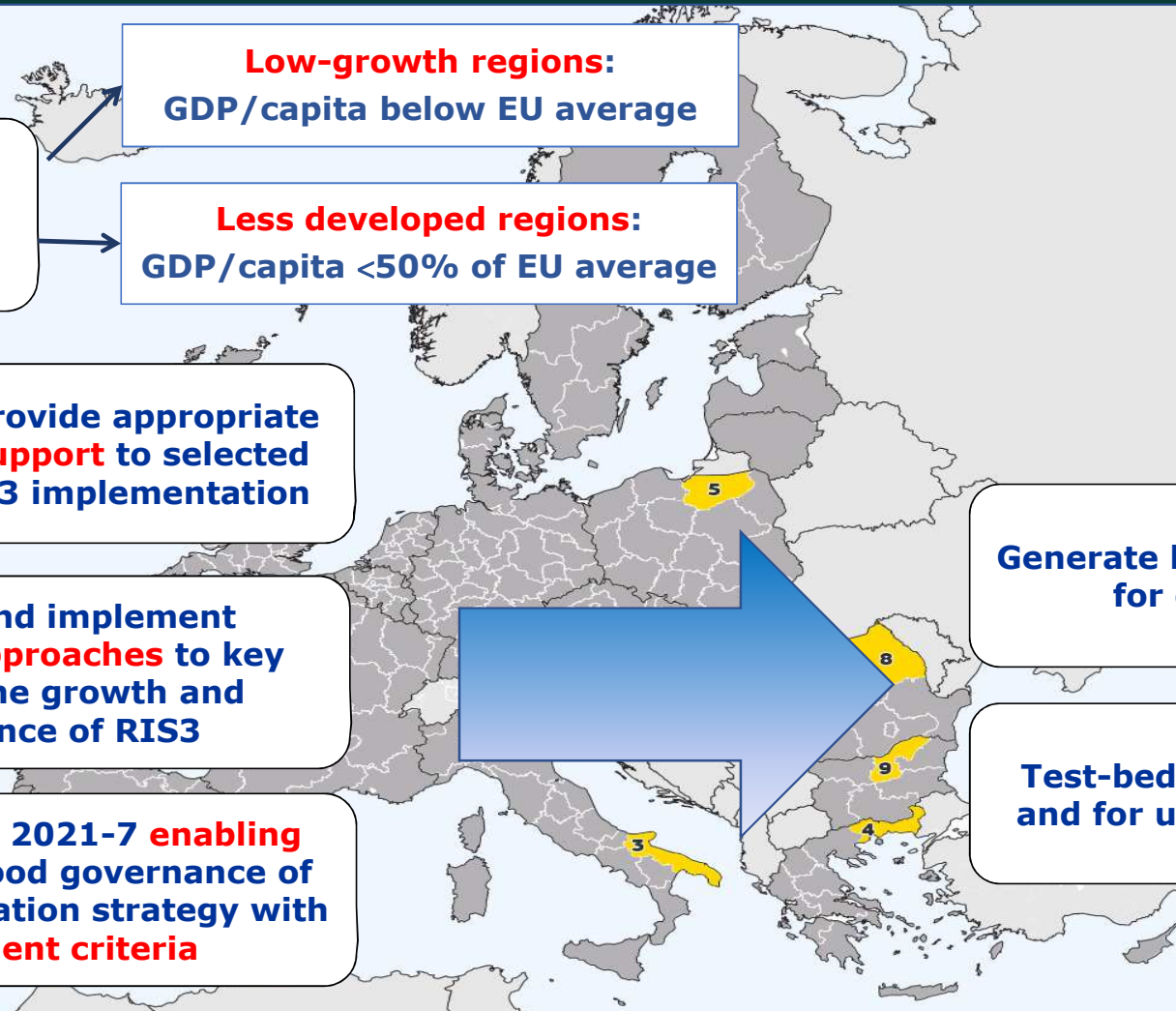
Geographical Coverage

**1. Low-growth regions
(GDP/capita below EU average)**

- Greece
- Italy
- Portugal
- Spain

**2. Less developed regions
(GDP/capita <50% of EU average)**

- Bulgaria
- Hungary
- Poland
- Romania
- Croatia (stage 2)

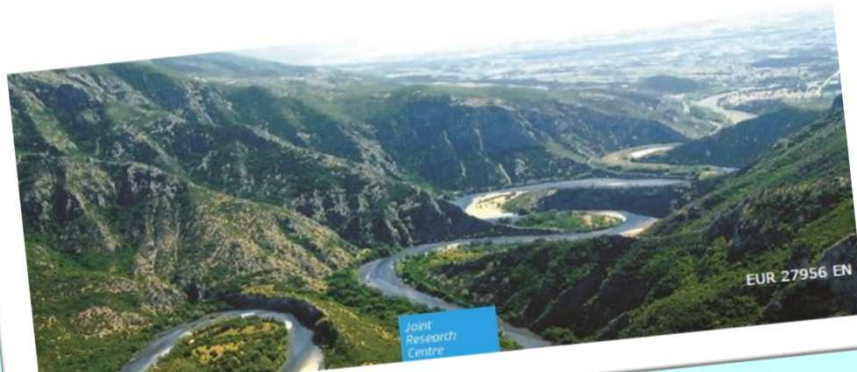|	Lagging Regions (Stage 1)	Lagging Regions (Stage 2)
BG	Severen Tsentralen	national level
HR		national level
EL	Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, national roll-out	Central Macedonia, Western Greece, national level
HU	Észak-Alföld (Hajdú Bihar county)	national level
IT	Puglia	Puglia & Campania
PL	Warminsko Mazurskie	Kujawsko-Pomorskie, Lubuskie, Podlaskie
PT	Centro	Centro, national level (HESS)
ES	Extremadura	Extremadura, national/regional linkages
RO	Nord-Est, Nord-Vest	Rollout to all 8 regions, national level

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History…

JRC TECHNICAL REPORTS

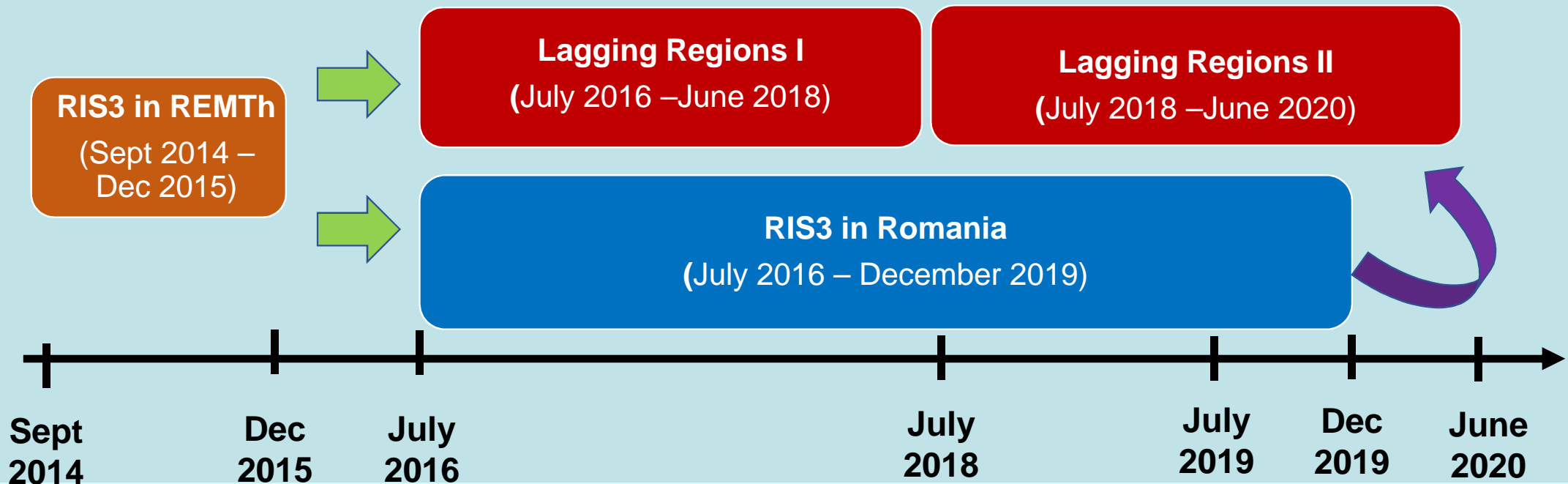Implementing RIS3 in the Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace: Towards a RIS3 tool box

JRC S3 Policy Brief Series No. 20/2016

Mark Boden, Patrice dos Santos, Karel Haegeman, Elisabetta Marinelli, Susana Valero

2016

EUR 27956 EN

RIS3 in the Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace

- EP – Preparatory Action
- AA - DG REGIO

Project timeline 2014-2020

RIS3 in REMTh (Sept 2014 – Dec 2015)

Lagging Regions I (July 2016 – June 2018)

Lagging Regions II (July 2018 – June 2020)

RIS3 in Romania (July 2016 – December 2019)

Sept 2014 | Dec 2015 | July 2016 | July 2018 | July 2019 | Dec 2019 | June 2020

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Enabling condition Policy Objective 1: Good governance of S3 – 7 fulfilment criteria

1. **Up-to-date analysis of bottlenecks for innovation diffusion, including digitalisation**

2. Existence of competent regional/national institution or body, responsible for the management of the smart specialisation strategy

3. Monitoring and evaluation tools to measure performance towards the objectives of the strategy

4. **Effective functioning of entrepreneurial discovery process**

5. Actions necessary to improve national or regional research and innovation systems

6. Actions to manage industrial transition

7. Measures for international collaboration

combined support

+ Crosscutting concern: enhancing administrative capacity building and cooperation

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Project Toolbox

Specific (vertical) support	Profiling and analysis	EDP focus groups in several regions	Project Development Labs
General (horizontal) support	WGs on RIS3 governance, monitoring & evaluation	MOOC on RIS3 monitoring	Board of critical friends

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Catalysing the EDP in Lagging Regions

- **EDP focus group approach**
  - Lagging Regions methodology to engage Quadruple Helix stakeholders to develop priorities and identify ideas for innovative projects
  - First developed in Eastern Macedonia & Thrace (EL) (wine, tourism, marble, meat and dairy etc.)
  - Rolled out and refined across LR partner regions and beyond
  - Applied at *sub-regional* level (e.g. mechatronics, Gabrovo, BG)
- **Project Development Labs (PDL)**
  - Aim to further develop focus group project ideas – focus on funding dimension (link to S2E)

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Example of EDP Workshop
(Cluj, NV Romania 2016)

**Cosmetics and food supplements
based on natural resources**

Business 21

Research ánd education 24

Entrepreneurial in **composition** and **spirit:** (risk-taking, broader view beyond boundaries ...)

Public administration 26

Civil society / Users 2
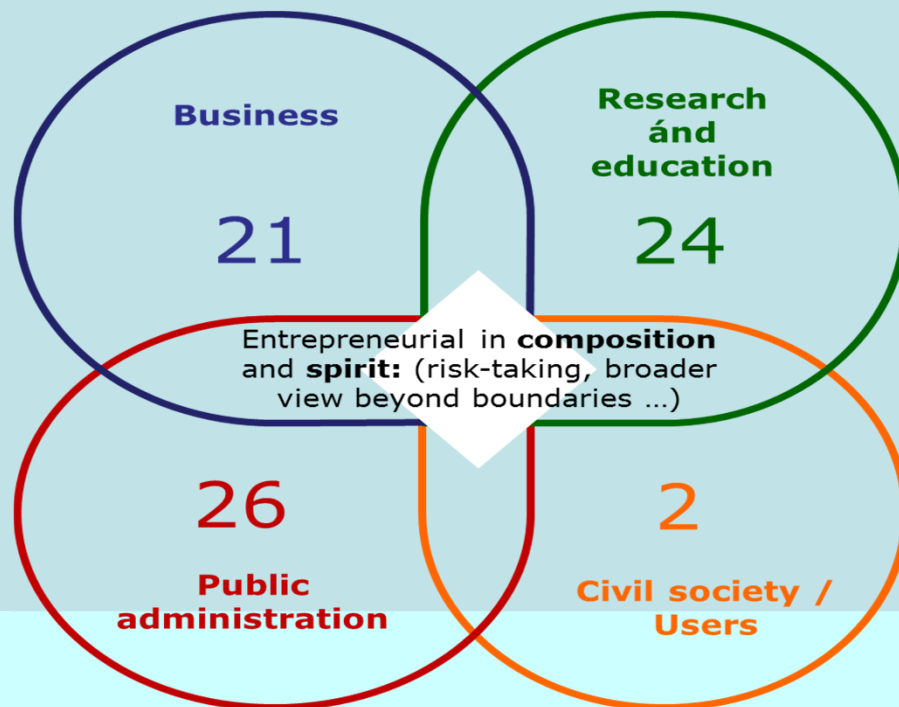
38 project ideas:

- Database of plant resources - edible plants for anti/healthy-ageing

- Anti-acne products

- Transylvanian Cosmatopea Cluster

- Locally branded bio products

- In-house technology quality control and testing of ingredients and final products

- Smart packaging: anti-microbe protection and smart labels changing colour if expired

- Cosmetics and (para)pharma: From harmful to beneficial cosmetics

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Horizontal support, peer learning & analysis

- Issues common to the partner regions and relevance to five policy objectives (especially PO1), associated enabling conditions and fulfilment criteria:

  - Governance, Monitoring and Evaluation (2,3,4,5)

  - Managing Industrial Transitions (6)

  - Transregional and transnational collaboration (7)

  - Crosscutting concerns - administrative capacity building and cooperation

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RIS3 Governance: national and regional

- **Greece** – shifting focus from regional to national and articulation between them
  - Diffusing impact on REMTh and collaboration with national RIS3 network of regions

- **Romania** – success in 2 RO pilot regions led to full roll-out
  - Centralised strategy but JRC & REGIO working to develop governance, ecosystem, EDP and capacities to manage funding

- **Bulgaria** – challenge of centralised approach
  - Development of ecosystem (innovation hubs) and need to harness sub-regional potential

- **Spain and Italy** – lessons for national/regional coordination (e.g. monitoring)
  - LR project led to successful Interreg bids by ES and IT partners

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Monitoring & Evaluation – system & impacts

- **JRC MOOC** initially developed with Lagging Regions
- **Monitoring** S3 priority areas
- **Combining functions:** measuring & accountability also communication & learning
- **No simple recipe:** good monitoring system requires significant knowledge of the territory and its strategy in all its complexity
- **Coordination** of national and regional RIS3 monitoring
  - cross-regional stakeholder working groups
- **Integration of evaluation** of RIS3 – efficient, appropriate, effective –
  - a well-functioning M&E system, the right governance? the right priorities? identifiable RIS3 impacts

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JRC Massive Online Open Course
https://iversity.org/en/courses/monitoring-smart-Specialisation-strategies

Managing Industrial Transitions

- Addressing the challenge of deindustrialisation (DG REGIO Pilot Action: *Regions in Industrial Transition*)

- Exploring the central role of RIS3 strategies in responding to deindustrialisation

- How best to support regions in better tailoring RIS3 to the specific challenges of industrial transitions?
  - Detailed analysis of key issues with hands-on engagement and mutual learning activity with stakeholders in both lagging and transition regions.
  - Expert review and workshop
  - Mutual learning working group

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Project website – major update in progress!

http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ris3-in-lagging-regions

Thank you!