

# Joint Research Centre

the European Commission's in-house science service

*Serving society  
Stimulating innovation  
Supporting legislation*

## Smart Specialisation Platform for Agri-Food (S3P Agri-Food)

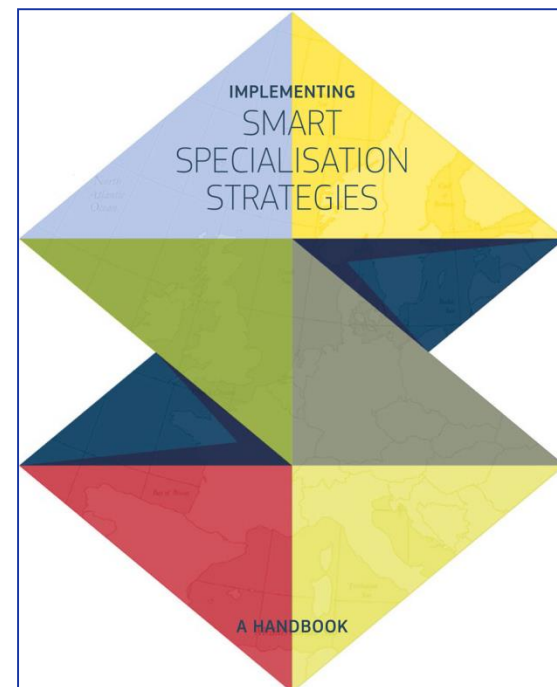
Smart Specialisation Platform  
DG JRC, European Commission

**Dr. Ruslan Rakhmatullin**

[www.ec.europa.eu/jrc](http://www.ec.europa.eu/jrc)

# Reasons for opening up Smart specialisation strategies:

- get access to wider business and knowledge networks
- get necessary research capacity
- reaching out to other markets
- expanding business opportunities
- combining complementary strengths
- joining GVCs
- etc.

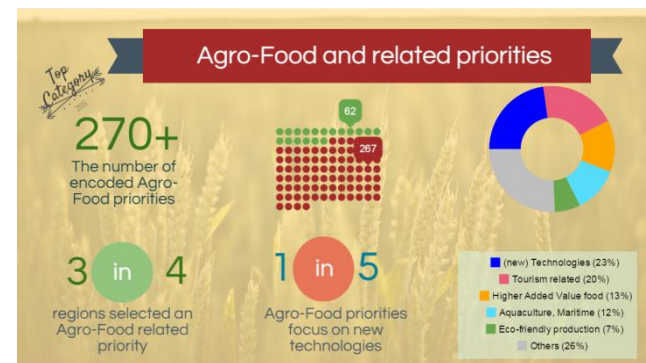
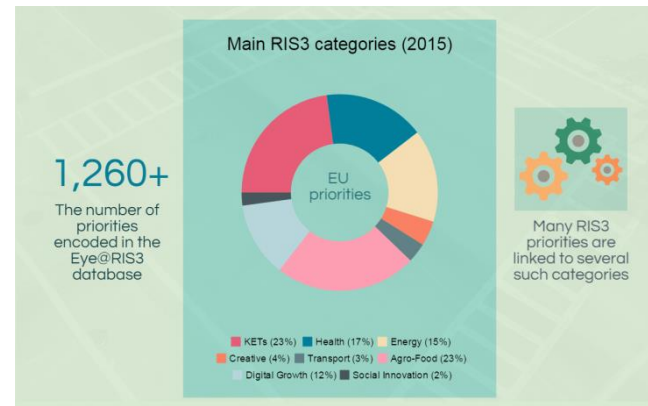


Handbook: European Commission  
(2016), Implementing Smart  
Specialisation Strategies

# Global value chains (GVC) in the context of smart specialisation

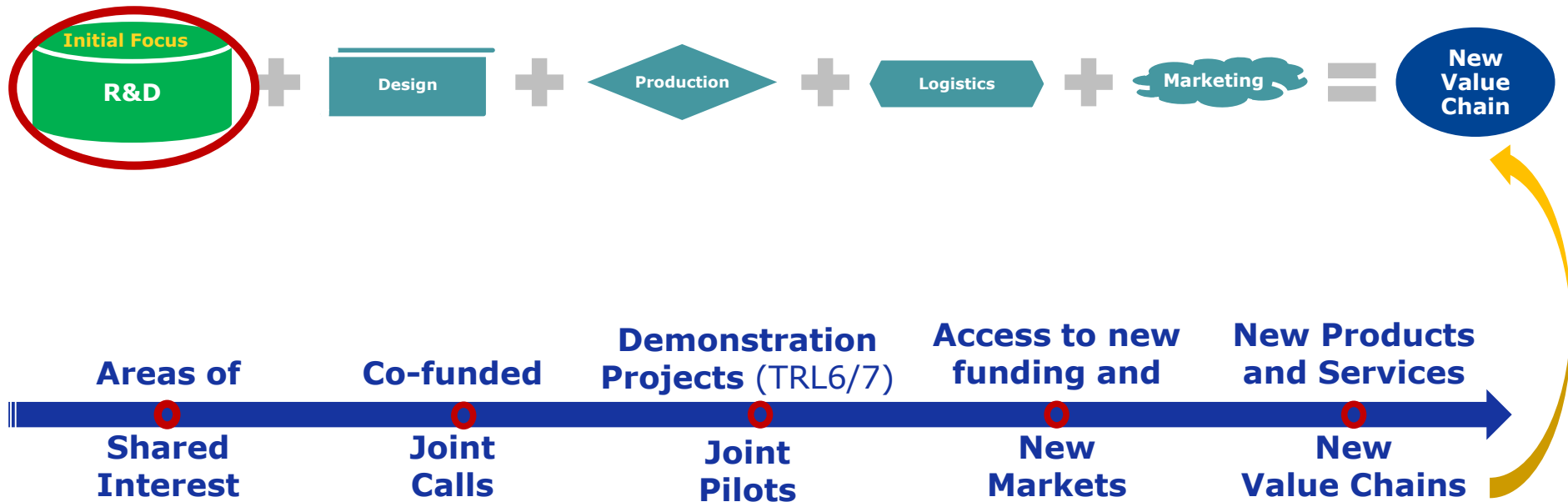
**What is it about?** The S3 Platform assists regions in their efforts to facilitate the development of **new value chains through the interconnection of regional innovation eco-systems** and their actors in quadruple helix in specific S3 investment areas.

**How?** The S3 Platform provides **a multi-level support mechanism, combining efforts at regional, national and European level**, which addresses the particular market and system failures that prevent breakthroughs, starting with information and coordination failures and demand uncertainty. The development of interregional collaboration will be driven by opening-up regional smart specialisation strategies.

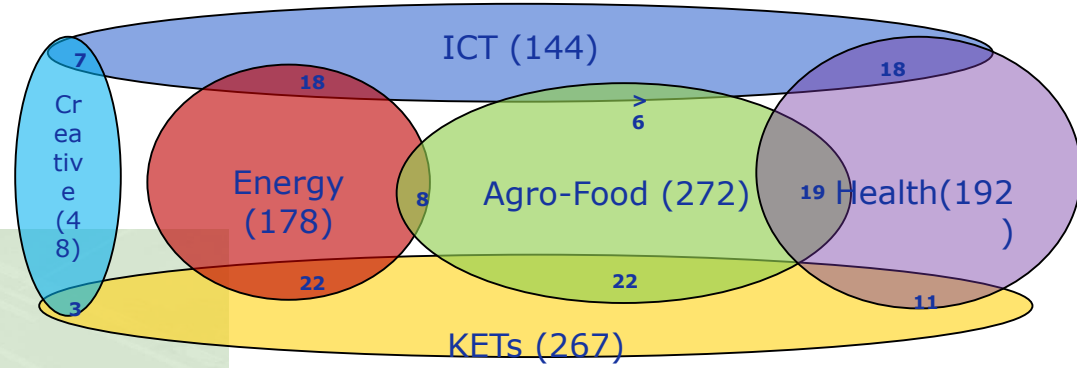


# European Commission aims to

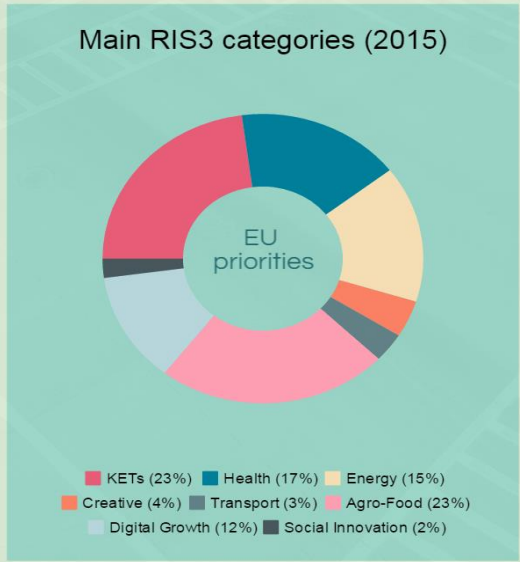
- **support** the development and enhancement of *European eco-systems for interregional collaboration based on areas of **smart specialisation***.
- **facilitate** the exchange of experience, *mutual learning and cooperation to achieve better matching of business entities with research*, as well as innovation actors with their business counterparts.
- **prepare** *guidance material on the role of regional authorities in co-creating and developing European value chains* in key smart specialisation niches.



# AF is one of the most prominent domains



1,260+  
The number of priorities encoded in the Eye@RIS3 database



Many RIS3 priorities are linked to several such categories

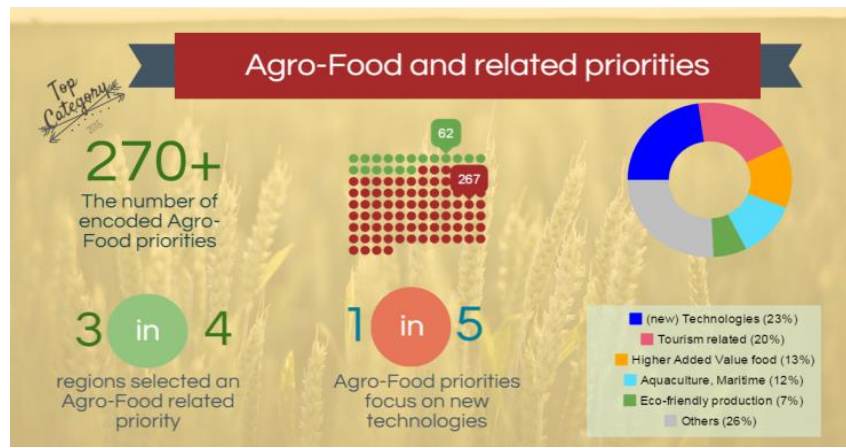


	Table : Agro-Food related sub-areas of specialisation (EU28)	count, n
1	Agro-food (new) technologies (incl. KETs and application of ICT in the field of agriculture)	62
2	Agro-food and Tourism	54
3	(Food) products & Organic food and food with higher added-value (healthy food, quality of life)	36
4	Water for Environment and Agriculture (incl. aquaculture, fisheries and maritime)	32
5	Food production, manufacturing and distribution	19
6	Environmentally-friendly agro-food production	18
7	Food safety and security	11
8	Research and Education in Food/Agriculture	2
9	Transport and logistics	2
*	(Generic) Agriculture as industry (agro-food)	36
	<b>Total</b>	<b>272</b>

	1 - R&D	2 - DESIGN	3 - PRODUCTION	4 - LOGISTICS	5 - MARKETING	6 - SERVICES
5	BE3 Wallonie	BE3 Wallonie	BE2 Flemish Region BE3 Wallonie DE4 Brandenburg DE5 Bremen DE8 Mecklenburg-Vorpommern DE9 Niedersachsen	BE3 Wallonie		BE3 Wallonie
3	DE34 Westfalen DK02 Sjælland DK04 Midtjylland DK05 Nordjylland EL12 Kentriki Makedonia EL13 Dytiki Makedonia EL21 Ipeiros EL24 Sterea Ellada	DE34 Westfalen	DK02 Sjælland DK04 Midtjylland DK05 Nordjylland EL12 Kentriki Makedonia EL13 Dytiki Makedonia EL21 Ipeiros EL24 Sterea Ellada EL42 Notio Aigaio ES11 Galicia			ES11 Galicia
4	ES12 Asturias ES13 Cantabria ES22 Navarra	ES13 Cantabria	ES13 Cantabria ES33 La Rioja ES34 Aragón			ES13 Cantabria
	ES30 Madrid ES41 Castilla y León	ES41 Castilla y León	ES42 Castilla-La Mancha ES51 Catalonia ES52 Valencia ES61 Andalucía ES62 Región de Murcia	ES51 Catalonia		ES51 Catalonia ES61 Andalucía ES41 Castilla y León
4	FI194 Etelä-Pohjanmaa FI196 Satakunta	FI196 Satakunta	FI196 Satakunta ES70 Canarias			FI196 Satakunta

# About the Platform

The Smart Specialisation Platform for Agri-Food (S3P Agri-Food) established at EU level aims to **accelerate the development of joint investment projects** in the EU by encouraging and supporting interregional cooperation in thematic areas based on smart specialisation priorities defined by regional and national government linked to agriculture and food.

Through the S3P Agri-Food, EU regions and member states are able to implement more efficiently their smart specialisation strategies, and regional stakeholders benefit from the new cooperation opportunities with partners from other regions.

**Partner DGs:** DG Agri, DG REGIO, DG RTD, DG JRC

# Webpage on the methodology

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## S3 Thematic Platforms

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[Energy](#)

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## Contacts

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S3P Agri-Food: [Katerina.CIAMPI-STANCOVA@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Katerina.CIAMPI-STANCOVA@ec.europa.eu)

S3P Industrial Modernisation and Investment: [Fatime-Barbara.HEGYI@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Fatime-Barbara.HEGYI@ec.europa.eu)

## Latest News

 **[Horizon 2020 Information Day on the Research Public-Private Partnerships](#)**

## About our methodology

### RECENT AND CURRENT EVENTS

The S3 Platform, on the initiative supported by a number of EC DGs, organised two Information Days:

**11 May 2016** (Brussels, BE)

**S3 Platform on Industrial Modernisation and Investment  
INFORMATION DAY**

Further information: [web-page](#)

Co-organised with  
DG GROW and DG REGIO

**12 May 2016** (Brussels, BE)

**S3 Platform - AGRI-FOOD  
INFORMATION DAY**

Further information: [web-page](#)

Co-organised with  
DG AGRI, DG RTD and DG REGIO

**16-17 November 2016** (Barcelona, ES)

**S3 Platform on Industrial Modernisation and Investment  
KICK-OFF EVENT**

Further information: [web-page](#)

Co-organised with  
the Government of Catalonia

**6-7 December 2016** (Florence, IT)

**S3 Platform - AGRI-FOOD  
KICK-OFF EVENT**

Further information: [web-page](#)

Co-organised with  
the Government of Tuscany

## The rationale

Smart specialisation requires EU MS and regions to focus their efforts and resources on a limited number of ambitious yet realistic priorities (niches or activities), where as a result, they would be able to develop excellence as well as compete in the global economy in a sustainable (financially, socially and environmentally) manner. When implemented, these strategies are expected to allow Member States and regions to strengthen their research and innovation systems, maximise knowledge flows, absorption and utilisation as well as spread the benefits of innovation throughout their economies.

The RIS3 approach requires looking beyond the national/regional administrative boundaries. In other words, a country/region should be able to identify its competitive advantages through systematic comparisons with other countries/regions, mapping their national and the international context in search of examples to learn from, or to mark a difference with, and performing effective benchmarking. Moreover, each country/region should be able to identify relevant linkages and flows of goods, services and knowledge revealing possible patterns

# Webpage on Agri-Food Platform

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## S3 Thematic Platforms

### Thematic Platforms

#### **Agri-Food**

- Thematic Areas

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## Contacts

S3P Agri-Food: [Katerina.CIAMPI-STANCOVA@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Katerina.CIAMPI-STANCOVA@ec.europa.eu)

## Latest News

### **Horizon 2020 Information Day on the Research Public-Private Partnerships**

14 Oct 2016

S3 Thematic Platform

The aim of the event is to give the research community an overview of ongoing activities in the following PPPs : Factories of the Future,...

## Agri-Food

### Flash News

**SAVE-THE-DATE:** A **kick-off event of S3P - Agri-Food** will be organised to foster interregional cooperation and investments on the **6-7 December 2016 in Florence, Italy**.

This meeting will result in the first group of partnerships formally joining the Agri-Food S3 Platform as members. At the same time, it will result in agreed working arrangements to prepare partnerships in thematic areas and establish a project investment pipeline, in particular for pilots and demonstrators in the targeted areas. The European Commission is committed to develop support and advisory services to accelerate this project pipeline.

**Further information about the event is available [here](#).**

**Please note that if you are thinking of joining exiting partnership(s) or proposing/ exploring new one(s):**

- you should attend the kick-off event of S3P Agri-Food in Florence on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016 (please [register](#)),
- you should be represented at this kick-off event by:
  - Managing authorities
  - Policy officers
  - Subject/technical experts

**OPEN CALL:** Expressions of interest for setting-up and co-leading new partnerships in specific thematic areas related to **Agri-Food** may be submitted [here](#).

The Smart Specialisation Platform for Agri-Food (S3P Agri-Food) established at EU level aims to accelerate the development of joint investment projects in the EU by encouraging and supporting interregional cooperation in thematic areas based on smart specialisation priorities defined by regional and national government linked to agriculture and food. Through the S3P Agri-Food, EU regions and member states are able to implement more efficiently their smart specialisation strategies, and regional stakeholders benefit from the new cooperation opportunities with partners from other regions.



# Our vision of the overall process:

## **Envisaged stages of the workflow**

**Learn:** interregional knowledge building

- ❖ 'Expression of interest' to propose a theme and a candidate lead-region
- ❖ Joint identification of cooperation areas within the broader priority domains, in perspective of co-investment.

**Connect:** key stakeholder search and matching

- ❖ Consolidation of this scoping note and establishment of a work plan with a coalition of regions
- ❖ matchmaking between the relevant actors to identify co-investment projects (an action plan for 1 year)

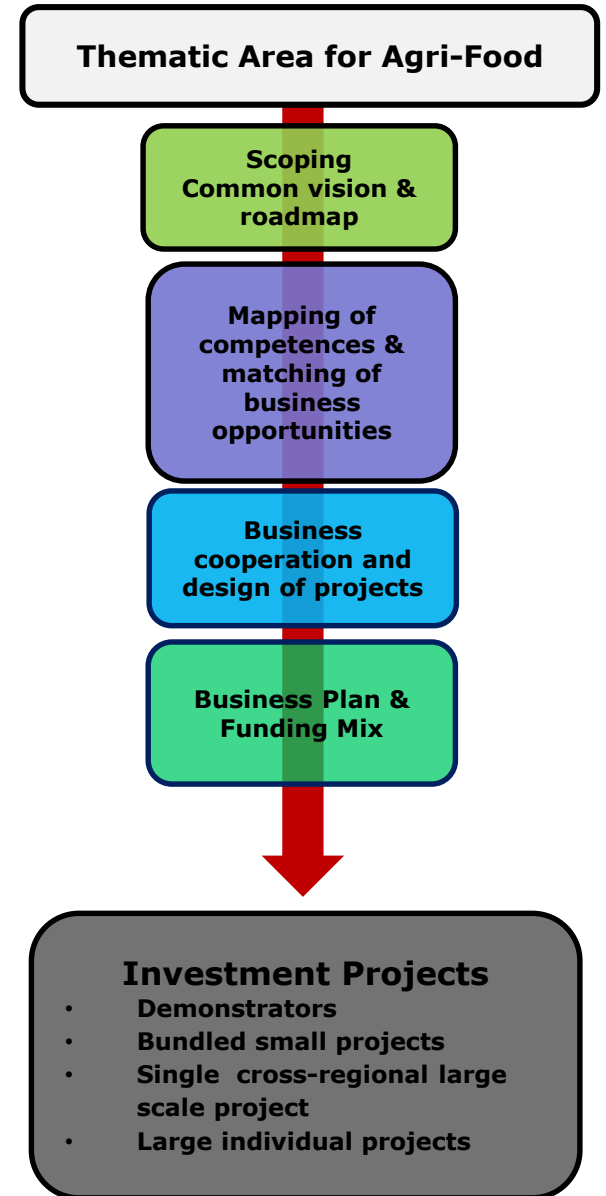
**Demonstrate:** support to deployment of innovative products/ services

- ❖ Preparing fundable projects and business plans
- ❖ Developing investment projects
- ❖ Operationalisation of Joint Demonstration

**Upscale:** financing, communication, documentation and knowledge management


# Steps

- ❖ *Combining instruments to accelerate investments in promising Agro-Food areas*
- ❖ *S3 Platform will facilitate work flow; partnerships are self-organising*
- ❖ *Structured dialogue between the partnerships and the EC services*




# Learn – Expression of Interest

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## SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM



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## S3 Thematic Platforms

### Agri-Food

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## Contacts

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[STANCOVA@ec.europa.eu](mailto:STANCOVA@ec.europa.eu)

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14 Oct 2016

[S3 Themes](#)

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### Objectives

# Propose a theme

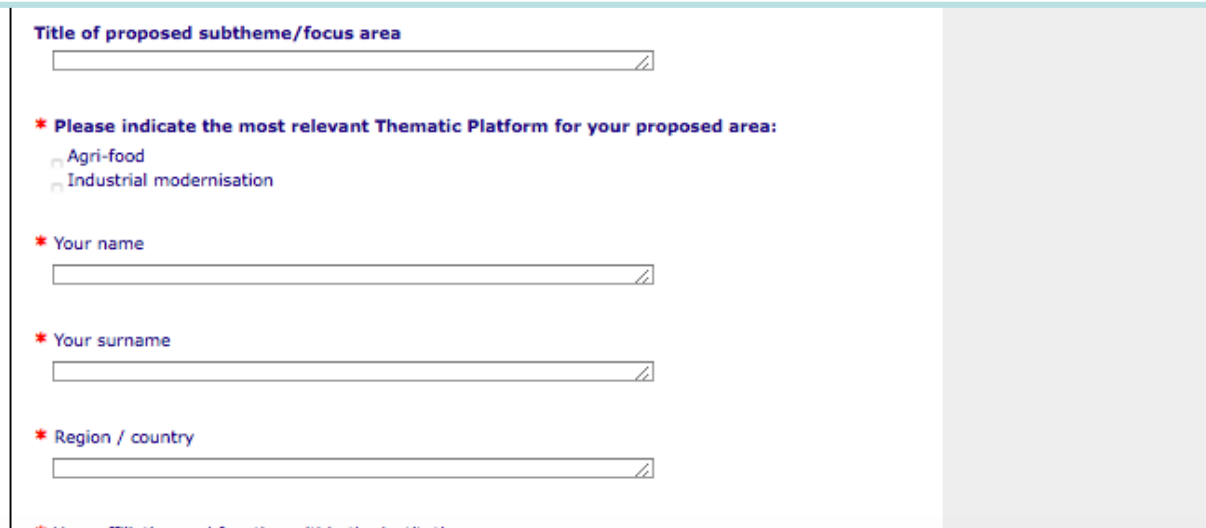


The screenshot shows the top part of the EUSURVEY website. On the left is the European Commission logo. In the center, the text 'EUSURVEY' is displayed. Below this is a blue navigation bar with the text 'European Commission > EUSurvey'. To the right of the navigation bar is a logo for 'SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM' featuring a stylized '3' and 'S'.

Expressions of interest for setting-up and co-leading new partnerships in specific thematic areas related to Agri-Food

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/S3thematicplatform> expression of interest

Next cut-off day: **20 April 2017**



The screenshot shows a form for proposing a subtheme. The form has the following fields and labels:

- Title of proposed subtheme/focus area**: A text input field.
- \* Please indicate the most relevant Thematic Platform for your proposed area:**: A section with two radio button options:  Agri-food and  Industrial modernisation.
- \* Your name**: A text input field.
- \* Your surname**: A text input field.
- \* Region / country**: A text input field.

# Proposals submitted by 25 November 2016












SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM



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## Proposals for the development of S3P Agri-Food thematic partnerships

Thematic area	Coordinating/lead region(s)	Proposal
Rural diversification and Smart Agri-Food destinations	Region of Central Macedonia and Noord-Brabant	
High-tech farming	Tuscany	
Public Meal as a driver of sustainability, health and innovation in the agri-food chain	Skane	
Nutritional quality of mass catering	South Ostrobothnia	
Traceability and big data	Andalusia	
Vanguard Initiative Bioeconomy Pilot - Agri-Food	Vanguard Initiative	
Sustainable development of production field crops	North East region (Romania)	
From farm to fork	West region (Romania)	
Better food value chains, more resilient, transparent and competitive	Castilla y Leon	

# Join an existing proposal/partnership

*Regions need to consider:*

- if the theme is linked to their S3 priority(-ies)
- if they have dedicated resources (for co-investment) to implement activities in this area
- if collaboration is of mutual benefit for all participating regions

*and also:*

- what they would like to achieve from such partnership
- what they are bringing in
- how they see the their region's activities fit into the possible value chains that would be developed by participating regions

# **Expert support services can be provided to the lead-region(s) whose proposals will be the most advanced in terms of:**

- Relevance and importance of the proposed thematic area for agri-food: transformative and innovative idea, clear added-value, sufficient granularity, business interest, synergies, etc.
- Level of ambition and commitment (political and financial)
- Leadership: two or more regions have commitment as lead-regions
- Number of regions involved and geographical balance
- Envisaged involvement of stakeholders (industry, academia, public authorities, civil society), including cluster organisations and business networks
- Links to RIS3 priority areas
- Openness towards other regions

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**Upscale:** financing, communication, documentation and knowledge management



# Learn - Mutual identification of cooperation areas

## Mapping priority areas

Eye@RIS3

Multi-level Mapping  
(innovation eco-systems)

Existing and new EU wide initiatives

Thematic sub-areas

EU Players

Government bodies and entities

Industry, Business Players

Knowledge Generators

Funding Sources

Vanguard Initiative

Energy

Agro-Food

ICT

KETs

Health

DG JRC Units  
Other DGs (incl. AGRI, CONNECT, RESEARCH, REGIO), EIT, EIB...

National, Region, Local authorities

SMEs, MNEs, Clusters

Academia, RTOs, labs

Regional, EU, International, Business R&D

EEN, EARTO  
EURADA

EU Cluster Observatory,  
KETs Observatory

Government agencies (enterprise support)

A network of boundary spanners (individuals and organisations)



European Commission

# ***Next opportunity to meet***

DG Regio High Level Event

1-2 June 2017

Helsinki, Finland

Save the date!

More information to come soon!



## Stay in touch

**S3 Platform webpage:** <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

**Email:** [Katerina.Ciampi-Stancova@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Katerina.Ciampi-Stancova@ec.europa.eu)