# Networking Workshop on the Smart Specialisation Cooperation in Central Europe initiative

### 8-9. December 2016. Zagreb

**Rationale**

Knowledge- and innovation-based regional policy and the 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) require a joint and strategic priority-setting regarding smart specialisation with the active involvement of the three main stakeholder groups (knowledge triangle) in the European regions. A joint approach in the field of smart specialisation would create a coordinated closer cooperation and aims to bring together the main actors of regional policy and the research & innovation communities of the geographical area in question. The Directorate General for Regional and Urban policy (DG REGIO) of the European Commission has launched an initiative in mid-2016 that aims at contributing to the setting up of a type of long-term dialogue for an efficient and enhanced cooperation and exchange of knowledge between actors of the knowledge triangle (Business/Government/Research&Education) in Central Europe. The participating Member States are the following: Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany (Bavaria), Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia.

**Objectives**

A key objective for this operational networking meeting is to identify and agree on the areas with the highest potential for cooperation in the field of Smart Specialisation among partners from the Central European Member States. The event should result in initialising several working parties to be led by leading organisations for the identified Technology Priority Areas (TPAs) or sub-areas. It is also envisaged that this event will result in concrete ideas regarding governance and working arrangements that would allow regions to collectively activate the proposed partnerships and encourage partner regions to focus on jointly-funded pilots and demonstration projects leading to a pipeline of later bankable investment projects.

**Participants** (*Planned Participants: +/-70 )*

* National and regional managing authorities involved in the implementation of the Smart Specialisation Strategies;
* National and regional authorities in charge of Smart Specialisation Strategies;
* Selected national and international experts on collaborative innovation networks and project partnerships;
* Selected representatives from businesses, business associations, universities, research centres and other organizations with interest and openness to cooperate in the highlighted TPAs;

**Organisers**

European Commission, Directorates-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) in cooperation with the Joint Research Centre (DG JRC-S3 Platform); Ministries responsible for Smart Specialisation in Croatia and the Croatian Agency for SMEs, Innovations and Investments (HAMAG –BICRO).

# Draft Agenda

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| 8 December |
| 12:00 – 13:00  | **Registration – Opera Room (17th Floor)** |
| 13:00 – 13:30  | **Opening session - Institutional welcome – Opera Room (17th Floor)** European Commission DG REGIO – **Ms Vittoria Alliata di Villafranca (Director** at Directorate E - Administrative Capacity Building and Programmes Implementation II) Croatian Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and Crafts – **Mr Mario Antonić (State Secretary)**Croatian Ministry of Regional Development and EU funds – **Ms Spomenka Đurić** (**State Secretary)** |
| 13:30 – 14:00 | **Presentation of the Report on the prospective comparative analysis of the national Smart Specialisation Strategies in Central Europe** |
|  | **Slavo Radosevic** (Professor of Industry and Innovation Studies, University College London) **Jacek Walendowski** (Senior Consultant at Technopolis |group|) |
| 14:00 – 19:00 | **Parallel thematic workshops of the 7 Technology Priority Areas (TPA)** |
|  | Moderated by Slavo Radosevic and Jacek Walendowski*(incl. a coffee break at 16-16:30)*

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| Room 1 - Zrinjevac room (ground floor) | **Room 2** - Maksimir room (ground floor) |
| Advanced materials and nanotechnologyAdvanced manufacturing systemsICT and electronicsTransport and mobility | Energy and environmentPublic health, medicine and life sciencesAgro- and bio-economy |

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| 20:00 –  | **Networking dinner (Westin Hotel)** – Panorama room ( 17th floor) |

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| 9 December |
| 9:00 – 10:00 | **Report on the outcome of the 7 TPA working groups** **Crystal Ballroom (ground floor)**Moderated by Jack Engwegen, Head of Unit, DG REGIO |
| 10:00 – 13:00 | **Future cooperation within Central Europe** |
| *10:00 – 11:15* *I. Presentations on:**1. S3 Policy Framework -* existing European tools to facilitate cooperation networks*:* Marek Przeor, DG REGIO, European Commission – Smart Specialisation, S3 PlatformsAgnieszka Krasicka, DG REGIO European Commission – the Peer2Peer tool2. *Innovation cooperation in practice (lessons learned)* A/ Thematic Cooperation: Set-up, Progress, Governance – Successes and challenges of the Vanguard InitiativeTBCB/ Cooperation in a Macro Region – Collaborating networks in smart specialisation areas in the Baltic Sea region, common aims with different rulesEmily Wise – Research Fellow, Lund University*3. The Opportunities of the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme in Implementing S3*Monika Schönerklee-Grasser (Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE)*4. Possible Models for Cooperation and Governance* Slavo Radosevic and Jacek Walendowski |
| *11:15 – 11:30 Coffee break* |
| *11:30 – 12:30**II. Interactive discussion on actions towards governance cooperation models in Central Europe and planning of concrete future steps* |
| Moderated by Ms Vittoria Alliata di Villafranca, Director at Directorate E - Administrative Capacity Building and Programmes Implementation II |
| *III. Conclusions and ways forward*  |
| Ms Vittoria Alliata di Villafranca, Director at Directorate E - Administrative Capacity Building and Programmes Implementation II |
| 12:30 – 13:00 | **Closing** **Mr Krešo Zadro , Assistant to the Minister**, Ministry of Science and Education**Ms Vittoria Alliata di Villafranca, Director DG REGIO**, European Commission |
| 13:00 – 14:30 | **Networking lunch - Restaurant Kaptol (hotel restaurant)** |
| 14:30 – 17:00 | **Parallel sessions** |
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| Room 1 Tuskanac room (ground floor) | **Room 2 Zrinjevac room (ground floor)** |
| Peer to Peer meeting of national/regional S3 managers on implementation of Smart Specialisation Strategies in Central Europe*(SPECIAL REGISTRATION)* | Optional bilateral meetings between participants  |

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