

Kick-off Event of the Smart Specialisation Platform on Agri-Food

6 - 7 December 2016

Florence, Italy

Venue: [Congress Palace](#), Piazza Adua, 1 – 50123 Florence/Firenze

ABOUT THE EVENT

The Smart Specialisation Platform on Agri-Food (S3P Agri-Food) is meant to accelerate innovation and to promote regional economic transformation through the development of new value chains. The platform's main objective is to facilitate the creation of an *investment pipeline of projects in new growth areas* across the EU.

The platform will link different regions in Europe that have a common goal to develop specific parts of their economies following Smart Specialisation Strategies. In this way European wide value chains will be created. The projects, to be implemented under the platform, will be funded under existing instruments such as the ESI funds.

This *Kick-off Event of the Smart Specialisation Platform on Agri-Food* is co-organised by the European Commission's S3 Platform and the Government of Tuscany. The workshop will take place **on 6-7 December 2016 in Florence (Italy)**. Regional and national authorities as well as regional actors (including clusters, businesses, academia, cities, etc.) will get together to discuss joint investment opportunities in specific thematic areas.

The event is open to all committed regions – those that have already expressed interest and those that would like to move forward. A number of new partnerships formally joining this thematic platform as members will launch their proposed initiatives.

At the same time, the work at the workshop is expected to result in agreed working arrangements for the preparation of new partnerships in thematic areas of shared interest and take steps towards creation of project investment pipeline with a specific focus on pilots and demonstrators.

We look forward to meeting you in Florence!

6 December 2016

13:30 – 14:00 *Registration and coffee*

14:00 – 15:00 Welcome and official opening

- EU Commissioner Phil Hogan with Video-message
- Marco Remaschi, Regional Minister for Agriculture of Tuscany Region
- D. Ricardo Domínguez García-Baquero, Vice-Consejero de Agricultura, Pesca y Desarrollo Rural de la Junta de Andalucía
- Rudolf Niessler, Director for "Smart and sustainable growth and Southern Europe", DG Regio, European Commission

Moderated by Alessandro Rainoldi, JRC

15:00 – 16:45 Partnerships for Agri-Food

- Presentation about the Agri-Food Platform by Katerina Ciampi Stancova, DG JRC
- Presentation of the first candidate thematic partnerships: Traceability and Big Data (Andalusia) and High Technology Farming (Tuscany)
- Pitch Session: Rural diversification and Smart Agri-Food destinations (Central Macedonia and North Brabant), Better food value chains, more resilient, transparent and competitive (Castilla y Leon), Vanguard Initiative Bioeconomy Pilot - Agri-Food (Vanguard Initiative), Nutritional quality of mass catering (South Ostrobothnia)

- Q&A

Moderated by Colin Wolfe, DG Regio

16:45 – 17:10 *Coffee break*

17:10 – 18:30 S3P Agri-Food: Working arrangements

- Presentation of governance and operational arrangements for partnerships by Jan Larosse, DG Regio
- Presentation of support and advisory services by Iman Boot, DG Agri; Alexandra Tuijtelaars, DG RTD; Jan Larosse, DG Regio; Katerina Ciampi Stancova, DG JRC
- Vanguard Initiative pilot projects: process, achievements and challenges by Wim De Kinderen, South Netherlands
- From learning to commercialisation: reflection on investment needs and funding models by Marcello Colledani, VI Pilot pilot "De-and Remanufacturing"
- Discussion and feedback

Moderated by Ruslan Rakhmatullin, DG JRC

19:30 – 22:00 *Networking dinner*

7 December 2016

09:30 – 09:45 *Opening – Connecting Day 1 and Day 2 (Alexandra Tuijelaars)*

09:45 – 11:30 **Parallel sessions on thematic areas (Part 1)**

- Scoping notes for new partnerships, work flow in the proposed thematic areas and working arrangements:
 - ✚ Traceability and Big Data (Andalusia)
 - ✚ High Technology Farming (Tuscany)
 - ✚ Rural diversification and Smart Agri-Food destinations (Central Macedonia and North Brabant)
 - ✚ Open space

Brief intro by Katerina Ciampi Stancova, moderated by experts

11:30 – 11:45 *Coffee break*

11:45 – 12:45 **The role of ESI Funds and synergies with other instruments for trans-regional partnerships in Agri-Food**

- Rural Development and sectorial crossovers for innovative Agri-Food projects in Tuscany by Roberto Scalacci, Director for Agriculture and Rural Development of Tuscany Region
- Panel Discussion with experts from European Commission services (Iman Boot, DG Agri, Alexandra Tuijelaars, DG RTD, Jan Larosse, DG Regio), EIT Food (Luca Simone Cocolin) and Interreg Europe (Magdalini Anagnostou)
- Q&A

Moderated by Marcelino Cabrera, JRC

12:45 – 13:45 *Networking lunch*

13:45 – 15:00 **Parallel sessions on thematic areas (Part 2)**

- Groups reconvene for the 2nd part of the parallel workshop to discuss actions to take and next steps:
 - ✚ Traceability and Big Data (Andalusia)
 - ✚ High Technology Farming (Tuscany)
 - ✚ Rural diversification and Smart Agri-Food destinations (Central Macedonia and North Brabant)
 - ✚ Open space

Moderated by experts

15:00 – 15:20

Coffee break

15:20 – 16:30

Reporting from the parallel workshops and conclusions

- Discussions and Q&A

Moderated by Iman Boot, DG Agri and Alexandra Tuijelaars; DG RTD

- The way forward: Presentation of agreements and proposals

Moderated by Marek Przeor, DG Regio

- Closing ceremony