

S3 PLATFORM FOR AGRI-FOOD

FROM JOINT INVESTMENTS TO NEW EUROPEAN VALUE CHAINS

To better connect and align this regional investment and innovation dynamic with EU priorities, policies and instruments, to scale up successful regional approaches to interregional or EU level, and to promote interregional collaboration based on smart specialisation priorities identified at the regional level.

SAVE THE DATE!

Info Day, 12 May 2016,
Brussels

This event will be open to regional authorities and other actors interested in taking part in a new European Agri-Food Platform to jointly align priorities, investment efforts and innovation support activities in this area. Further information and agenda are available [here](#).



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The European Commission is to launch a new and exciting initiative to assist regions in their efforts to facilitate the development of new value chains through the interconnection of regional innovation eco-systems and their innovation actors in specific S3 investment areas such as Agri-Food.

AIMS

The aim is to facilitate an open process for interregional collaboration on business-driven investments in Agri-Food, for agreed innovation themes. The Platform will promote exchange of information and mutual learning (across regions; across levels), but the focus will be on regional authorities and regional actors (clusters, businesses, academia, cities, citizens, etc.) developing their S3-based Agri-Food value chains through collaboration, matchmaking and joint investment.

JOINT INVESTMENTS

The investment opportunities generated by the Agri-Food Platform will contribute to a more competitive and sustainable EU food supply chain, more resilient food systems, and to a more effective targeting of the EU regional funds on growth and jobs, especially through the numerous SMEs and micro-companies that make up this chain. The Platform will also promote the complementarity of funding instruments in the support of an investment project pipeline.



AGRI-FOOD AND EMPLOYMENT

More than one in five of the EU's total workforce – close to **48 million people** are employed in the various parts of this chain, in farming, food and drinks manufacturing, wholesale, retail and food services.



ENTERPRISES

Approximately 17 million different holdings and enterprises, many of them SMEs and microenterprises, generate almost 6 % of the EU's GDP, and contribute substantially to the trade surplus of the EU.



REGIONAL PRIORITIES

An impressive **85 EU regions** indicated Agri-Food as one of their key investment areas under smart specialisation¹, thereby showing the importance of the Agri-Food sector for EU regions.



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DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIFIC IDEAS FOR COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF AGRI-FOOD?

We are looking forward to learning about your ideas for joining forces with other regions in the area of Agri-food.

You are invited to submit your region's ideas through this [tool](#).