

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

SMART REGIONS FOR CO-INVESTING IN

AGRI-FOOD INNOVATION

S3 AGRI-FOOD PLATFORM - INFO DAY
12 May 2016, Brussels, Belgium

SAVE THE DATE

This event is open to regional and national authorities as well as 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 thematic area. The European Commission encourages the participation of regional authorities who are actively involved in the development and implementation of Agri-Food strategies with a regional focus. We are looking forward to learning about your ideas for joining forces with other regions in the area of Agri-Food.

If you wish to attend the event, [please sign up here](#). You will be invited to answer to a set of questions regarding your region's experience and ambition in the context of Agri-Food investment and innovation.

Call for Expression of Interest: we look forward to receiving your ideas for joining forces with other regions in the area of Agri-Food. You are invited to submit your ideas through this [tool](#).

ABOUT THE S3 AGRI-FOOD PLATFORM

- **THE S3 PLATFORM FOR AGRI-FOOD** will improve the targeting of public funding in priority areas identified by regions in view of exploring new growth opportunities in global value chains.
- **ENTREPRENEURIAL DISCOVERY PROCESS.** The Platform will enable the entrepreneurial discovery process at European level: focusing innovation efforts of regions and scaling up innovation projects that have the potential to be a business driver across regions. The platform will work as a complement to the work done by the European Innovation Partnership Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability (EIP-AGRI).
- **JOINT PILOTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS**
This could concern pilots and demonstrators to favour the uptake of new technologies and business-models.

TO FOCUS AND COORDINATE AGRI-FOOD INVESTMENT THROUGH SMART SPECIALISATION

The European Commission is organising an info day for regions, regional clusters and representatives of the Agri-Food sector who are actively interested in co-creating a smart specialisation platform to share best practices, jointly promote investments and innovation, and develop positions in new global value chains in the Agri-Food sector.

The info day, which will take place in **Brussels on 12 May 2016**, will give regions the possibility to define sub-themes of common strategic interest – such as for instance Agriculture and ICT, Water, Low Impact Farming, Food and Health.

The sub-themes defined at the info-day will feed into the launch of a **Smart Specialisation Platform for Agri-Food in June 2016**. In practical terms, this could mean that these sub-themes will become a priority for the work of the platform, granting the regional partnerships behind support from the Commission to develop. In the longer term, the aim is also to help regional partnerships develop common projects and investment platforms that could target support from the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI).

THIS INFO DAY IS ORGANISED BY THE S3 PLATFORM, ON THE INITIATIVE OF DG AGRI, DG RTD AND DG REGIO.

<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

HIGH-LEVEL EVENT 1-2 JUNE 2016, BRUSSELS

'SMART REGIONS: driving smart specialisation investments in priority areas for European growth.'

The S3 Platform for AGRI-FOOD will be officially launched at this conference which will bring together stakeholders for smart specialisation investments. Regions that have indicated their interest to start a partnership in specific Agri-Food value chains will be invited to present their proposal at the launch event. Further information can be found [here](#).