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

Smart Specialisation Platform
DG JRC, European Commission

Dr. Katerina Ciampi Stancova
Overview

1. **Context**
   - Internationalisation of S3
   - Role of interregional cooperation to position and align agri-food related priorities.
   - Value chain as a policy framework for cooperation on complementarities

2. **S3P Agri-Food**
   - Envisaged stages of the workflow
   - Expression of interest
   - First Partnerships for Agri-food

3. **Support through S3 Platform**
   - Analytical tools
   - Publications, methodological guidance and case studies
Context

- Internationalisation of S3
- Role of interregional cooperation to position and align agri-food related priorities
- Value chain as a policy framework for cooperation on complementarities
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.
Internationalisation of smart specialisation

- Includes export and FDI as well as strategic alliances, joint research, co-development, outsourcing, relocation, mergers and acquisitions, licensing intellectual property rights (IPR), soft landing, technology showcase
- Strong correlation between the extent of involvement of firms in both international and innovation activities
- Global innovation systems operates within GVC

- Context within which regions are able to identify 'niche's' or specific domains and reveal possible patterns of integration with partner regions
- Value chain as a policy framework for cooperation on complementarities
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.
S3P Agri-Food

- Envisaged stages of the workflow
- Expression of interest
- First Partnerships for Agri-food
AF is one of the most prominent domains

Table: Agro-Food related sub-areas of specialisation (EU28) count, n

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Sub-Area</th>
<th>Count, n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Agro-food (new) technologies (incl. KETs and application of ICT in the field of agriculture)</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Agro-food and Tourism</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>(Food) products &amp; Organic food and food with higher added-value (healthy food, quality of life)</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Water for Environment and Agriculture (incl. aquaculture, fisheries and maritime)</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Food production, manufacturing and distribution</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Environmentally-friendly agro-food production</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Food safety and security</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Research and Education in Food/Agriculture</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Transport and logistics</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*</td>
<td>(Generic) Agriculture as industry (agro-food)</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

European Commission
Learn – Expression of Interest

SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM

S3 Thematic Platforms

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.

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.

Objectives

Contacts

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STANCOVA@ec.europa.eu

Latest News

Horizon 2020 Information Day on the Research Public-Private Partnerships
© 14 Oct 2016 S3 Thematic Platforms
The aim of the event is to give the research community an overview of ongoing activities in the following PPPs: Factories of the Future, ...
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: **1st February 2017**
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
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
## Proposals for the development of S3P Agri-Food thematic partnerships

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

Mapping priority areas

Eye@RIS3

Existing and new EU wide initiatives

Thematic sub-areas

Vanguard Initiative

Energy

Agro-Food

ICT

KETs

Health

DG JRC Units

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

EU Players

Government bodies and entities

Industry, Business Players

Knowledge Generators

Funding Sources

EEN, EARTO

EU Cluster Observatory, KETs Observatory

EURADA

A network of boundary spanners (individuals and organisations)

Academia, RTOs, labs

Regional, EU, International, Business R&D

National, Region, Local authorities

SMEs, MNEs, Clusters

Funding Sources

Knowledge Generators

Industry, Business Players

Government bodies and entities

EU Players

Multi-level Mapping (innovation eco-systems)
Presentations of first partnerships for Agri-Food

- Presentation of the first candidate thematic partnerships:
  - Traceability and Big Data (Andalusia)
  - 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) via videolink

- Q&A
Support through S3 Platform

- Analytical tools
- Publications, methodological guidance and case studies
Webpage on the methodology

S3 Thematic Platforms

Thematic Platforms
- Agri-Food
- Energy
- Industrial Modernisation

About our methodology

Guidance
- Targeted Support
- Cooperation
- Communities & Actors
- Governance

Contacts
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- S3P Agri-Food: Katerina.Ciampi-Stancova@ec.europa.eu
- S3P Industrial Modernisation and Investment: 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 May 2016 (Brussels, BE)</td>
<td>S3 Platform on Industrial Modernisation and Investment INFORMATION DAY</td>
<td>Further information: <a href="#">web-page</a> Co-organised with DG GROW and DG REGIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 May 2016 (Brussels, BE)</td>
<td>S3 Platform - AGRI-FOOD INFORMATION DAY</td>
<td>Further information: <a href="#">web-page</a> Co-organised with DG AGRI, DG RTD and DG REGIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-17 November 2016 (Barcelona, ES)</td>
<td>S3 Platform on Industrial Modernisation and Investment KICK-OFF EVENT</td>
<td>Further information: <a href="#">web-page</a> Co-organised with the Government of Catalonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-7 December 2016 (Florence, IT)</td>
<td>S3 Platform - AGRI-FOOD KICK-OFF EVENT</td>
<td>Further information: <a href="#">web-page</a> Co-organised with the Government of Tuscany</td>
</tr>
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</table>

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...
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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 6th and 7th December 2016 (please [register](#)),
- you should be represented at this kick-off event by:
  - Managing authorities
  - Policy officers
  - Subject/technical experts

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Benchmarking Regional Structure

Finding reference regions based on structural similarities

A key to build sound innovation strategies for smart specialisation at the regional level is to identify opportunities for learning policy lessons and transferring practices from other regions. But what are the regions one should consider as a reference for these purposes? Our proposal is to start by identifying regions that share similar structural conditions which are relevant for innovation-driven development (social, economic, technological, institutional and geographical characteristics). That is, characteristics that cannot be easily changed in the short term and that are demonstrated to affect the way innovation and economic evolution take place in a region. Below you will find an interactive tool that allows you to identify reference regions across Europe based on a methodology jointly developed by Orange – Sense Institute of Competitiveness and the S3 Platform.

Interactive tool

How it works
1. Select a region in the top window
2. Choose the number of reference regions you want to be displayed
3. Press “refresh” to get the results
4. A list of regions will appear on the right side of the screen sorted in descending order from the ones that are more similar (top) to the less similar (bottom) to the region selected.
5. The order is given by a synthetic index of structural distance (lower values structurally closer to the selected region) explained in the methodological paper.

The 20 nearest regions to Burgenland (AT11) Distance index

- Kärnten - Austria (AT21) 0.016
- Tirol - Austria (AT33) 0.019
- Provincia Autonoma Trento - Italy (TH2) 0.022
- Steiermark - Austria (AT22) 0.026
- Oberösterreich - Austria (AT12) 0.026
- Salzburg - Austria (AT23) 0.027
- Niederösterreich - Austria (AT12) 0.029
- Vorarlberg - Austria (AT44) 0.037
- Umbria - Italy (I2) 0.030
- Syddanmark - Denmark (DK05) 0.031
- Comunidad Foral de Navarra - Spain (AS23) 0.031
- Cantabria - Spain (AS13) 0.032
- Skåne - Denmark (SE02) 0.034
- Poitou-Charentes - France (FR33) 0.037
- Bourgogne - France (FR26) 0.039

R&I Regional Viewer

As an output of the Smart to Excellence project, the R&I Regional Viewer (ESR/ESF/HD2020 data) allows a structured and coherent visualisation of three sets of data: namely, main economic indicators from Eurostat, planned R&I-related investments under ESF and Horizon 2020 funding expressed by stakeholders across EU Regions.

LAST UPDATE concerning Horizon 2020 figures: 18/10/2016

WARNING: The Horizon 2020 figures provided are only estimations of the amounts received by Regions in the programme due to possible Headquarter effect (see methodological note here under). A version with corrected Headquarter effect will be released in the coming weeks.

Paper 2: Science for Policy Report; Cavicchi, A. and K., Ciampi Stancova, (2016); **Food and gastronomy as elements of regional innovation strategies.** European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Institute for Prospective Technological Studies, Spain. EUR 27757 EN; doi:10.2791/284013

Paper 5: Mariussen A°; Rakhmatullin R; Stanionyte L., (2016); **Smart Specialisation: Creating Growth through Trans-national cooperation and Value Chains.** Thematic Work on the Understanding of Transnational cooperation and Value Chains in the context of Smart Specialisation. EUR 28049 EN. doi:10.2791/658931

Handbook (draft):

Support in practice

- 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

First Meeting of Steering Group
End of January/beginning February
Stay in touch

S3 Platform webpage:  http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu
Email:  Katerina.Ciampi-Stancova@ec.europa.eu