



Study Smart Specialisation in Latin America

Rationale

Most of EU Member States and regions have now completed the process of designing a Smart Specialisation Strategy for using the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) in the domain of research and innovation. Accordingly, national and regional authorities are expected to be more entrepreneurial and become active part of the regional innovation system itself. The development of competitive R&I activities in a globalised economy means that policy makers must be more outward looking, positioning their country or region in global value chains and exploring cooperation opportunities.

The Smart Specialisation approach requires looking beyond the national/regional administrative boundaries. Countries and regions should be able to identify their competitive advantages through systematic comparisons, mapping their national and the international context in search of examples to learn from, or to mark a difference with, and performing effective benchmarking.

Main objective

The objective of this study is to analyse how policy makers and other territorial actors in Latin America are designing and implementing the Smart Specialisation concept. The study will suggest how countries and regions of the European Union and Latin America can establish cooperation frameworks within Smart Specialisation areas. The Study will build-up on the work and analysis already carried out by DG REGIO.

Expected outputs

- Analysis of strategies leading to facilitate participative process of territorial actors as well as their governance methods in Smart Specialisation.
- Identification of good practices in the definition of "priorities" to drive Smart Specialisation.
- Suggestions on how countries and regions of the European Union and Latin America can establish cooperation frameworks to create added value and complementarities within Smart Specialisation, particularly in the context of Global Value Chains (GVC).
- Identification of S3-related initiatives (e.g. activities, plans, strategies and roadmaps) implemented by International Organisations in Latin America.

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