

# The European Commission's science and knowledge service

Joint Research Centre



# Lagging Regions horizontal activity on interregional collaboration (fulfilment criterion 7)

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# Fulfilment criteria for the enabling condition

## Smart specialisation strategy(ies) shall be supported by:

1. Up-to-date analysis of bottlenecks for innovation diffusion, including digitalisation
2. Existence of competent regional / national institution or body, responsible for the management of the smart specialisation strategy
3. Monitoring and evaluation tools to measure performance towards the objectives of the strategy
4. Effective functioning of entrepreneurial discovery process
5. Actions necessary to improve national or regional research and innovation systems
6. Actions to manage industrial transition
- 7. Measures for international collaboration**

# S3 and interregional collaboration

- Priority domains should be neither too high (an entire sector), nor too low (an individual firm) (Foray, 2015) → mid-level economic unit offering greater learning possibilities and opportunities for knowledge spillovers (McCann and Ortega-Argilés, 2013)
- S3 is also appointing to more strategic cross border and transregional collaboration to achieve more critical potential and related variety (S3 Guide, Foray, 2012)
- Extra regional collaborations enlarge possibilities for discovery new functionalities/recombination of functionalities leading to a process of cascade (Bonaccorsi, 2011) → **relevance of RIS3**

# Horizontal activity on interregional cooperation in Lagging Regions

## Scope:

To explore key dimensions of interregional cooperation to better understand how it can bring about higher mobility of resources, competences, ideas, thus contributing to strengthen ecosystems of the lagging regions (7<sup>th</sup> criteria for the enabling condition of RIS3 good governance)

## Main research questions:

- How can interregional cooperation strengthen the role of S3 in regional innovation systems?
- Can interregional cooperation, through spillover effects and practices exchange, increase the capacity of regional innovation actors and institutional performance?
- Can cooperation between a lagging region and an advanced one increase the opportunities for making regional ecosystem more innovative?

# Horizontal activity on interregional cooperation in Lagging Regions

## Activities:

- **Analysis** of current status of and key issues in interregional cooperation, especially starting from the literature and previous experiences in lagging regions, and the level of internationalisation of the R&I ecosystem.
- **Organisation of up to 3 mutual learning workshops** with representatives of partner regions and other relevant stakeholders with the purpose of discussing the main findings of the analysis and the key issues arising.
- **Expert** support to the organization of the workshops and the analysis
- **Final report**