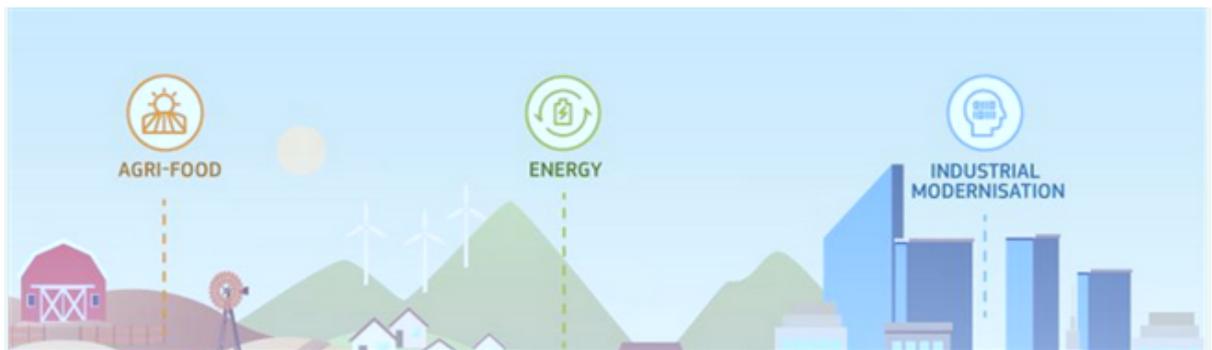# Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms
Monitoring Progress Report

> Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Thematic Smart Specialisation Partnership
Monitoring Progress Report

This report is presented to the relevant Working/Steering Committee.

The report is updated every six months.

Confidentiality:
The management report (section I) and progress report (section II) will be made available to the public via your Partnership's web page.
The part on self-assessment is confidential.

Based on the monitoring results, the European Commission will decide on the following term's support.

* Reporting period

January - June 2020

* Please select the name of your partnership

Photonics

* Start date of your partnership

01/09/2017

Partnership's webpage

https://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/photonics

I. Management report

* Please provide the executive summary of the objectives of your partnership

Formed in September 2017, the European Photonics Alliance is an active network of European Digital Innovation Hubs and clusters. Each member has deep domain knowledge of light-based technologies, often termed "photonics". This is one of the 6 key-enabling technologies defined by the European Commission in Horizon2020. The regions listed here have identified Photonics as one of their Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation.

Photonics Important to Other Industries
Photonics is starting to have a knock-on effect in different sectors of society including healthcare (needle-free testing for diseases), secure 5G communications, self-driving vehicles, food safety tests for pathogens as well as environment monitoring on earth and from space. It's becoming clearer that light-based technologies are the key to building smaller, cheaper, faster devices to solve a lot of these grand societal challenges.
Because of the complex nature of these (nano)technologies, Europe needs an inter-regional collaborative approach if it wants to scale up Photonics companies. The partners want to maintain their lead in the development of Photonic Integrated Chips. Scaling up to volume manufacture of chips and products are important for a financially, socially and environmentally sustainable industry.

The goal of the Alliance is to amplify existing inter-regional initiatives and, when needed, kick-start new ones. Our focus is on building projects with inter-regional collaboration. Five members of the Alliance are also active partners in the EPRISE project which is organising successful outreach workshops on a local and national level.

* Please provide the list of leading regions

South Netherlands, NL

* Please provide the list of participating regions.
If possible, please follow this format: "Name of the region in English (Country abbreviation), NUTS code".
e.g.: Lapland (FI), FI1D7

Baden-Württemberg, Germany

Berlin, Germany

Bretagne, France

Catalonia, Spain

East Netherlands, Netherlands

Flanders, Belgium

Lubelskie, Poland

Mazowieckie, Poland

North Karelia, Finland

North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany

Östergötlands län, Sweden

South Region (Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur) France

Stockholm, Sweden

Styria, Austria

Thüringen, Germany

Please provide the list of interested regions or other entities (other than national /regional authorities)

Please provide an overview of the **working areas** of your partnership

	Working area	Region in charge	Involved regions	Other actors
1	IPhotonic Integrated circuits (PICs).	South Netherlands, East Netherlands, Berlin	Attica, Bretagne, Stockholm, Thuringia	
2	Sensing, Measuring and Imaging.	PACA, Mazovia, North Karelia and Thuringia	Attica, Berlin, Bretagne, North Karelia, East Netherlands, Stockholm	
3	Optical Fibres for Industry.	Bretagne, Mazovia and Lublin	Attica, East Netherlands, Stockholm, Thuringia	
4	Pilot Facility for Photonics-based Manufacturing.	North-Rhine Westphalia	Attica, Bretagne, North Karelia, East Netherlands, Stockholm, Thuringia	
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

Please provide information regarding past meetings, workshops and dissemination activities (six months prior to filling out the survey)

	Event	Date	Place	Any other information
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
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10				

Please provide information regarding planned future meetings, workshops and dissemination activities

	Event	Date	Place	Any other information
1				
2				
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II. Progress report

Innovative results

Please describe innovative results and achievements that could be attributed to the partnership (specific examples of results vs. objectives)

The management of the Photonic Alliance is currently in discussion with Vanguard Initiative to make a formal connection between the Alliance and Vanguard to ensure a further sustainable and powerful participation of regional clusters in future photonic programs under Horizon Europe. In September we expect to have a clear view on what the Alliance under the umbrella of Vanguard could and should work out.

PhotonDelta is together with Actphast/VUB and Tyndall, one of the founders of the proposal for the PhotonHub Europe ICT-call. A project of EUR 19Mio, to be decided in the course of Q4 this year. We hope and expect that this proposal is rewarded. One important reason why this proposal does have a good chance to win, is the participation of many photonics clusters that are also part of the Photonics Alliance.

Photonics21 (as project leader), Photonics France (as WP leader on this topic) and the whole network of Photonics national platform have also submitted the complementary H2020 project proposal BESTPHORM21 which has the aim to boost the collaborations of regions willing to co-invest in collaborative projects and develop complementary photonics services (such as pilot line, prototyping, proof of concept) or sub-systems addressing end-user markets. To achieve the expected results, the national platforms partners of the BestPhorm21 project will contact the regions in their respective country and advocate the European Photonics Alliance to further boost the initiative by expanding the number of the regions involved in the partnership and initiate coordinated activities. The project BestPhorm21 would also organize one large yearly meetings gathering most of the regional representative having an interest in the photonics field and work closely with associations of regional authorities such as ERRIN (European Regions Research Innovation Networks) and the consortium of the submitted PhotonHub project.

In Q4, David Méchin, Markus Wilkens and Ewit Roos will present a new plan to further revitalize the role and goals of the Photonics Alliance within the context of the three important developments listed above.

Tangible short- and medium-term socio-economic impacts achieved or expected (specific examples)

Inter-regional and inter-partnership collaborative results

Additional results obtained from working with other partnerships under the thematic S3 Platforms (specific examples)

Evaluation of the involvement of relevant business sector (clusters, SMEs, business associations, chambers of commerce, Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs), etcetera) in the Partnership activities (specific examples)

Evaluation of whether the level of inter-regional cooperation is sufficient to potentially provide practical and relevant socio-economic impacts (specific examples)

New activities

Involvement of regions from EU13 Member States in the Partnership, in particular with respect to scoping, mapping and/or matchmaking. In addition, justification should be provided if no EU13 regions are involved

Involvement of regions/countries from outside of EU28 Countries. (Number of participants from non-EU countries (specify their contribution)

Advancement and promotion of the Partnership through publications and other communication/outreach activities (number of outreach activities that resulted from the partnership)

Activities and projects with partnerships working under other S3 Thematic Platforms (AgriFood, Energy and Industrial Modernisation)

Your Partnership and the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The EU has a strong position when it comes to sustainable development and is also fully committed to be a frontrunner in implementing the UN's 2030 Agenda, together with its member countries and regions. Many interregional partnerships under the thematic S3 Platforms contribute strongly to the attainment of these 17 goals.

Please indicate to which Sustainable Development Goals and to what extent your thematic Partnership contributes?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Not applicable
Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere	○	○	○	○	○	○
Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition & promote sustainable agriculture	○	○	○	○	○	○
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives & promote well-being for all at all ages	○	○	○	○	○	○
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	○	○	○	○	○	○
Goal 5. Achieve gender equality & empower all women and girls	○	○	○	○	○	○

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎
Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment & decent work for all	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation & foster innovation	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎
Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎
Goal 11. Make cities & human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎
Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption & production patterns	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas & marine resources for sustainable development	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎
Goal 16. Promote peaceful & inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎

all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels						
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development	◉	◉	◉	◉	◉	◉

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