European Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy Launching Event:

**26/05/2015, Berlaymont - Brussels, Belgium**

A high-level conference is going to launch the joint initiative of the Directorates-General for Regional and Urban Policy, Energy, and the Joint Research Centre (JRC) to set up a platform on smart specialisation on energy and will bring together representatives from EU institutions, Member States and their regions, energy experts and stakeholders to reflect on and discuss the relevance of Smart Specialisation in the energy sector.

The conference with the participation of:

- **Tibor Navracsics**, European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport
- **Corina Crețu**, European Commissioner for Regional Policy
- **Jerzy Buzek**, Member of the European Parliament
- **Markku Markkula**, President of the Committee of the Regions
- **Vladimir Šucha**, Director-General of the Joint Research Centre

will:

- Bring together representatives from EU institutions, Member States and their regions, energy experts and stakeholders to reflect on and discuss the relevance of Smart Specialisation in the energy sector.
- Launch the European Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy, an enabling tool for regions to coordinate, rationalise and plan their respective energy strategies.
- Develop a shared vision on knowledge-based energy policy development in regions.
- Give participants the opportunity to discuss and reflect on effective strategies and concrete bottom-up cooperation opportunities to accelerate the development and deployment of energy technologies for sustainable growth in regions.

To register to the event, please send an email to: JRC-CONFERENCE@ec.europa.eu.

You can follow the [web streaming here](#) (streaming will start on 26 May 2015 at 9:30 AM).

Peer-Review, 27-28/05/2015, Sibiu, Romania

The S3 Platform is pleased to announce that a Peer-Review will take place in Sibiu, the Centru Region (Romania), on 27-28 May.

About details of this event you will be informed via separate email soon.

Follow us [here](#) for more details, including how to register.

Research and Technology Organisations (RTOs) and Smart Specialisation: 28/05/2015, Seville, Spain

In the frame of the S3P project, joint EARTO-JRC workshop that will take place in Seville on 28th May 2015 to discuss the role of RTOs in smart specialisation (in particular implementation). RTOs are important actors in the innovation chain and can play a key role in the implementation of Smart Specialisation Strategies. Representatives from local governments, RTOs and European Commission will participate in this workshop.

One of main objectives is to recommend strategies and actions that will ensure that the capabilities of RTOs are fully exploited by regional authorities when implementing smart specialisation strategies. Policy brief will be prepared so that the results of the workshop can be shared and disseminated.

To display the agenda, click [here](#).
S3 NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS

SMART SPECIALISATION AND FOOD: FOOD, GASTRONOMY AND BIO-ECONOMY AS ELEMENTS OF REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGIES, 21-22/09/2015, MILANO, ITALY

EXPO MILANO 2015
Now open for pre-registration!
More information here.

EVENT POSTPONED: CANARY ISLANDS, SPAIN

The S3 Platform workshop on Smart Specialisation and Blue Growth in cooperation with the Canary Islands has been postponed until 8-9 October. More information to follow.
If you are interested in presenting your priorities related to Blue Growth at this workshop, please let us know. More details including how to register will be available here soon.

EUROPEAN CLUSTER TREND REPORT

The European Cluster Observatory has published its new European Cluster Trends report.
The report:
- Identifies global megatrends affecting Industrial transformation;
- Gives an overview of cross-sectoral trends within the ten emerging industries identified by the Observatory (namely Advanced Packaging, Biopharmaceuticals, Blue Growth Industries, Creative Industries, Digital Industries, Environmental Industries, Experience Industries, Logistical Services, Medical Devices, and Mobility Technologies – for each of them a specific trend report is also available);
- Identifies cluster internationalisation trends (separate longer report still to be approved) and trans-regional collaboration paths of European Clusters in Emerging Industries
- Identifies collaboration spaces spanning through emerging industries

Present the results of the cluster foresight expert workshop organised in January 2015.

STAIRWAY TO EXCELLENCE

The Stairway to Excellence (S2E) pages keep being enriched: FAQs and further National and Regional Fact & Figures have been added. Also a Slovakia national event will be organized on June 25, in Bratislava, the third of the series.
More on S2E here.

S3 PLATFORM ON TWITTER – FOLLOW US!

NEW S3 PUBLICATIONS – YOU CAN DOWNLOAD ALL DOCUMENTS HERE

SUPPORT TO RIS3 TO THE REGION OF EASTERN MACEDONIA AND THRACE (REMTh) IN GREECE:

2nd PROJECT DEVELOPMENT LAB, 24 JUNE 2015, ALEXANDROUPOLIS

In further supporting the implementation of the RIS3 of the Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, JRC-IPTS and its partners in the region are organising a second Project Development Lab (PDL). This will take place on the 24th of June at the Hotel Astir Egnatia in Alexandroupolis, and will build on the outcomes of the four previous Entrepreneurial Discovery Process focus groups (on wine, dairy and meat, tourism and marble/non-metallic minerals) and of the first PDL (DATE May 2015). At this event, selected ideas will be further developed towards concrete implementation and Pilot calls for proposals for the implementation of the RIS3 will be presented by the Special Managing Authority of the Region. You can already consult the list of ideas under discussion here.

4th ENTREPRENEURIAL DISCOVERY PROCESS (EDP) FOCUS GROUP EVENT ON MARBLE AND NON-METALLIC MINERALS, 5 MAY 2015, DRAMA

Organised by JRC and its partners in the Greek Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, (REMTh), a fourth Entrepreneurial Discovery Process (EDP) focus group event, this time focused on marble and non-metallic minerals took place in Drama on 5 May 2015. This event followed the approach used in the previous three EDP focus groups on wine, meat and dairy products and tourism in the region. The agenda is available here. Presentations and a summary will also be available shortly.

1st PROJECT DEVELOPMENT LAB ON 6-7 MAY 2015, KOMOTINI

Many of the promising ideas generated during the four REMTh Entrepreneurial Discovery Process (EDP) focus groups have been further examined in line with possible funding sources in a first Project Development Lab (PDL). This workshop event, bringing relevant stakeholders in the region together, took place in Komotini on 6-7 May 2015. The agenda is available here. Building on this event, an on-line stakeholder consultation is being carried out via the project website, aiming to identify those ideas most appropriate for further development.

WIRE 2015: WEEK OF INNOVATIVE REGIONS IN EUROPE 2015, 4-5 JUNE 2015, RIGA (LATVIA)

The State Education Development Agency of Latvia and the European Commission have the pleasure to invite you to participate at the International Conference "Week of Innovative Regions in Europe 2015", which is organised under the frame of the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, in Riga (Latvia) on 04 and 05 June 2015. The WIRE Conference provides a forum for policy dialogue on Regional Strategies, Innovation and Growth. Organised since 2010, it has been established as a debate leading to new proposals for improving the effectiveness of regional, national and European governance, measuring the impact and supporting regional development.

In the Conference focus this year:
- From programme to implementation: the key challenges for regions
- How to close the innovation divide: the role of regions
- Overcoming the barriers to innovation and stimulating regional strategies

To obtain preliminary programme and practical information, click here. Registration to the conference via website is open. Please note that your registration will not be done automatically. In order to offer you hotels at negotiated fares, please register as soon as possible.
The WIRE Organisers are looking forward to welcoming you in Riga.

Contact http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu
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