**S3 PLATFORM NEWS**

**S3 PLATFORM MEMBERSHIP AND EYE@RIS3 - S3 SPECIALISATION MAPPING**

More information and guidelines [here](#).

**REMINDER: UPDATE YOUR S3 PAGES!**

The S3 Platform is updating the information on the S3 priorities on the basis of the advanced stages of the regional/national RIS3s. Nevertheless, policy makers from the regions/countries are kindly invited to check and regularly update their S3 priorities in the [Eye@RIS3](#).

Please update your national/regional S3 pages with the S3 Related National Website, Related Links and Country News (see the example of Slovenia [here](#)). We now also have contacts on [S3 energy](#) (see the example for Andalucia [here](#)).

**EXPO MILANO 2015**

Now open for pre-registration

**NEW DATE 22/09/2015, MILANO, ITALY**

S3 Platform will be present at EXPO 2015 in Milano and you can be as well.

Register for S3 Platform workshop entitled SMART SPECIALISATION AND FOOD: FOOD, GASTRONOMY AND BIO-ECONOMY AS ELEMENTS OF REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGIES taking place at EXPO 2015 in the EU Pavilion on 22 September 2015.

Do not miss this special workshop and come to discuss the importance of food, cuisine, and tourism for regional and economic development as well as the implementation process of the food S3 priority area.

More information [here](#).

**DANUBE S3 WORKSHOP: “GATHERING OPPORTUNITIES AROUND RIS3 PRIORITIES”**

**07/07/2015, VIENNA, AUSTRIA**

Join the workshop, meet your partners, discuss your project idea and explore funding opportunities in the Danube region!

The S3 Platform together with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy welcome you to the Danube smart specialisation workshop: "Gathering opportunities around RIS3 priorities".

The workshop aims at identifying concrete initiatives for transnational cooperation around some common smart specialisation priorities in the Danube region. The workshop will provide the arena to explore collaboration opportunities in ICT, health, energy and sustainable innovations. More information can be found [here](#).

**RIS3 WORKSHOP ON 02/07/2015, MALTA**

The S3 Platform will participate in the National RIS3 meeting in Malta, that is organised by DG REGIO and the Maltese administration. The current state of play on issues identified during the past assessments will be discussed with the aim to support and facilitate the completion of the S3 process and delivering of the RIS3 strategy. The meeting will also discuss the opportunities of synergies between European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) and other Funds in the implementation of the Maltese RIS3 with the participation of Stairways to Excellence. More information will be available [here](#) soon.

**FOSTERING SME’S GROWTH THROUGH DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION ON 02/07/2015, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM**

Do you work for a public institution, business organisation or enterprise? Or are you a policy maker interested in digital transformation? Would you like to know more about the European Commission policy to boost the smart use of ICT by SMEs? The final conference on SME growth through digital transformation will take place in Brussels on the 2 July 2015. Information on programme, venue, speakers and more [here](#).

**KEY CONCEPTS AND MODELS FOR URBAN AND REGIONAL SMART SPECIALIZATION INNOVATION STRATEGIES (RIS3): 23-24/07/2015, IN BARCELONA (SPAIN)**

This 2 days programme, will introduce the strategy that led Barcelona to be awarded as the European Innovation Capital, and will present the smart specialization strategy (RIS3) implemented in the last years in Barcelona and its region. Various designed seminars, case studies and field visits to understand a successful strategy that can be benchmarked and translated to other cases. Also, a session is devoted to evaluate your region’s potential to develop an innovation smart specialization strategy based on RIS3 and the inspiring example of Barcelona. For more information, click [here](#).

**5TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON CORPORATE R&D: 1-2/10/2015, IN SEVILLE, SPAIN**

The European Commission’s Directorate Joint Research Centre (JRC) - Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS) - is organising the 5th European Conference on Corporate R&D and Innovation (CONCORDi 2015): Industrial Research and Innovation: Evidence for Policy. More information [here](#).
BLUE GROWTH, 8-9/10/2015 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. Full information and registration available at the end of August. Follow us here.

Have you noticed our S3P Calendar?
FOLLOW OUR EVENTS here

GUIDE (DG GROW): FOSTERING SME GROWTH THROUGH DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION
This guide is addressed to national, regional and local stakeholders interested in promoting regional innovation and competitiveness through the use of information and communications technology (ICT), with a special focus on small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). It introduces an EU initiative which aims to improve the framework conditions for the smart use of ICT in specific sectors and offers suggestions on how the results of these initiatives could be exploited by follow-up actions in other regions, to further advance the smart use of ICT in Europe. It should be of interest to all regions, in particular regions with a strong base in agriculture & food, textile & clothing, automotive, transport & logistics, tourism or construction as these sectors were covered by the six projects under the EU initiative. However, the methods developed are applicable in other industries. EU guides related to S3 here.

STAIRWAY TO EXCELLENCE (S2E)
The S2E team participated to the WIRE 2015 Conference as well as the side event of the NCP_WIDE.NET project. The Slovakia national event, the third of the series, will be organized on June 25, in Bratislava. S2E will participate to RIS3 Malta event on 2 July.

S3 PLATFORM ON TWITTER – FOLLOW US!

YOU CAN DOWNLOAD ALL S3-PUBLICATIONS here AND EU GUIDES RELATED TO S3 here

LAUNCH EVENT OF THE EUROPEAN SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM ON ENERGY (S3P – ENERGY)
A high-level conference launched in Brussels on the 26 May 2015 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. The European Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy is planned to become 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, and set up a strategic agenda of collaborative work in the frame of the Smart Specialisation Platform which will foster the identification and deployment of innovative practices in the renewable energy sources and energy efficiency. Further information on the S3P-Energy can be found here and the launching conference’s presentations can be accessed here

• Please note that a specific registration of the regions/countries to the S3P Energy is not necessary. However, regions/countries are kindly invited to provide additional contacts for the S3P-Energy (working with Energy policies), in addition to the traditional contacts for the S3 and the Digital Agenda for Europe (DAE) - see for example the case of Andalusia here.
• For any additional questions please do not hesitate to contact us through the S3P-Energy functional mailbox: JRC-IPTS-S3PLATFORM-ENERGY@ec.europa.eu

PEER-REVIEW, SIBIU, ROMANIA
The S3 Platform participated to the Thematic Peer-Review Workshop on RIS3 Governance in Sibiu, the Centru Region (Romania) on 27-28 May.
More information here

RIS3 WORKSHOP, LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA
S3P and DG REGIO organised the RIS3 workshop on 01/06/2015, to facilitate the exchange of information between the actors responsible for directing the Slovenian S3 process and drafting of its RIS3 Strategy. Follow us here.

RIS3 WORKSHOP, BORÅS, SWEDEN
S3P participated to the Smart textiles cluster RIS3 workshop on 02/06/2015, showing how this region has been working with developing high value added innovation in the textile industry, through design and new technologies. More information here.

SEMINAR "TERRITORIAL COMPETITIVENESS AND UNIVERSITIES", BARCELONA, SPAIN
S3P and S2E colleagues organised and attended the Seminar "Territorial Competitiveness and Universities: The role of universities in regional smart specialisation strategies in Europe" on the 3rd June 2015. A number of international experts from other European countries and regions presented their experience on the implementation of RIS3 and the key role of universities in the process. A Joint Statement has been produced highlighting the key issues discussed and potential line of actions. More information here.

WIRE 2015: WEEK OF INNOVATIVE REGIONS IN EUROPE 2015, RIGA, LATVIA
The International Conference "Week of Innovative Regions in Europe 2015", organised under the frame of the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, in Riga (Latvia) took place on 04 and 05 June 2015. This WIRE Conference provided new proposals for improving the effectiveness of regional, national and European governance, measuring the impact and supporting regional development. Various speakers with S3P and Stairway to Excellence (S2E) joined the Conference. Follow all information of the speakers and more here.