S3 PLATFORM NEWS

S3 PLATFORM MEMBERSHIP AND EYE@RIS3 – S3 SPECIALISATION MAPPING

Welcome to our latest newcomers to register:
Southern-Netherlands (The Netherlands), Basse-Normandie (France) and Etelä-Savo (Finland).

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 Andalusia here).

Registration are closed

EXPO 22/09/2015, MILAN, ITALY

The S3 Platform will be present at EXPO 2015 in Milan with the Workshop: Smart Specialisation and Food: Food, Gastronomy and Bio-economy as elements of Regional Innovation Strategies. More information here.

RIS3 IMPLEMENTATION WORKSHOP ON BLUE GROWTH: 08-09/10/2015, CANARY ISLANDS, SPAIN

The Canary Islands will host this event on 8-9 October. It is also a Local Event of the 2015 Open Days, and includes participants from policy making, research and industry. Four members registered with the S3 Platform will present their plans for specialising in Blue Growth: The Canary Islands (Spain), Nordland (Norway), Portugal and Ireland. Registration and more here.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DUAL USE TECHNOLOGIES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF RIS3 STRATEGIES IN EUROPE, 27-28/10/2015, SEVILLE, SPAIN

The Regional Government of Andalusia through IDEA Agency and the European Commission organize an International Conference on dual use technologies (products, services and technologies that can address the needs of civil and defence communities). The event is to gather regional, national and European Community authorities, companies, original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), SMEs and knowledge management agents. Its aim is to explore and promote cooperation opportunities, sharing common challenges, developing business opportunities and bring about lines for actions. More information here.

EARTO-JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE JOINT EVENT, 15/10/2015, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

The objective of the event is to present the JRC publication on Research and Technology Organisations and Smart Specialisation, currently under preparation by the S3 Platform and the University of Lincoln. The objective to discuss RTOs' role in Smart Specialisation and provide for some practical examples of RTOs from the S3 perspective. The paper draws some conclusions from the EARTO-JRC event that took place in Sevilla on 28th May 2015. Registration, venue and agenda here.

DG REGIO OPEN DAYS 12-15/10/2015, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

The S3 platform will participate to the DG REGIO Open Days in Brussels. The “13th European Week of Regions and Cities” at Workshops on the 13th and 14th of October. More information here and the Full Programme here.

PEER EXCHANGE & LEARNING ON RIS3 MONITORING: 10/11/2015, BOLOGNA, ITALY

Emilia-Romagna together with the S3 Platform will host a workshop on “Peer Exchange & Learning on RIS3 Monitoring”. Emilia-Romagna together with the S3 Platform will host this workshop on the 10th of November 2015 in Bologna. Emilia-Romagna (Italy), Sweden and Wielkopolska (Poland) will present their work on monitoring. More information can be found here.
Registration still open here for the 5th European Conference on Corporate R&D and Innovation (CONCORDI 2015) which will focus on "Evidence for policy". The conference organized by the European Commission, Joint Research Centre's Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (JRC-IPTS) will take place on 1-2 October 2015 in Seville (Spain). More information here.

**UNIVERSITY BUSINESS FORUM, 24-25/09/2015, VILNIUS AND KAUNAS, LITHUANIA**

The next University-Business Forum will be held in Vilnius and Kaunas, Lithuania. The theme of the Forum is 'Developing Talents for Innovation Based Economies' which is vital for the RIS3 implementation. Registration and more here.

**JRC ANNUAL EVENT ON THE SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT TO THE DANUBE STRATEGY, 27-28/10/2015, ULM, GERMANY**

The Joint Research Centre of the European Commission is organising in Ulm (DE) its annual event on Scientific Support to the EU Strategy for the Danube Region. The event incorporates four parallel technical workshops on the 27th October allowing for interactive discussions between scientists and policy makers on the following subjects: Energy, Water, Smart Specialisation in ICT, Instruments for fostering scientific exchange and collaboration. More available here.

**REGIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION INAUGURAL CONFERENCE, 31/08-02/09/2015 MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA**

The EU Smart Specialisation approach was presented in the Regional Studies Association Australasian Conference 2015. The S3 Platform delivered a keynote speech titled “Smart Specialisation, an Opportunity for Growth in the European Union”. The intervention earned the attention of the audience, helping to spread the message of Smart Specialisation beyond the EU boundaries and supporting the momentum that Smart Specialisation policy is gaining internationally.

**S3 NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS**

**DOWNLOAD S3 PUBLICATIONS AND EU S3 GUIDES**

**Bridging thinkers and doers: first lessons from the Entrepreneurial Discovery Process in Eastern Macedonia and Thrace**

**AUTHORS:** MARK BODEN, ELISABETTA MARINELLI, KAREL HAEGEMAN AND PATRICE DOS SANTOS

**S3 POLICY BRIEF 14/2015**

At the core of Research and Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3) is the bottom-up identification of a limited set of priorities for knowledge-based investments, focusing on regional strengths and comparative advantages. For setting such priorities entrepreneurs are in the driving seat, by identifying business opportunities together with other research and innovation actors. Such a process, also referred to as an entrepreneurial process of discovery (EDP), has been widely described in theory, but reported experiences on its implementation are scarce. This policy brief takes stock of a novel experience in implementing an EDP process in the Greek region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, drawing on practices from a European Parliament Preparatory Action in which the JRC-IPTS has been engaged, centred on the refinement and implementation of a RIS3 strategy in this region. This is one of poorest regions in Europe and was heavily hit by the crisis. The challenge of implementing a RIS3 strategy in this context offers lessons not only for the region itself but also for other convergence regions in Greece and the EU. (see all Policy brief here).

**ENERGY EUROPEAN UNION, 08/09/2015, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM**

During this Committee of the Regions (CoR) Plenary the JRC was given the opportunity to present its activities in the field of Smart Specialisation. This is a good example of institutional collaboration in the realm of S3.

**REGISTRATION FOR THE SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM ON ENERGY IS NOW OPEN**

For more information and registration on the S3P-ENERGY click here.

**DG JRC / DG RTD WEBSITE ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION OBSERVATORY**

**Website release**

**RESEARCH AND INNOVATION OBSERVATORY**

**Horizon 2020 Policy Support Facility**

The joint DG JRC / DG RTD website provides data and analysis on R&I developments at national and EU levels to support policymaking in Europe and practical support to design, implement and evaluate reforms that enhance the quality of national R&I investments, policies and systems.

To contact the Research and Innovation Observatory (RIO), click here. For questions relating specifically to the Horizon 2020 Policy Support Facility, here.

**STAIRWAY TO EXCELLENCE (S2E)**

- **Country & Region information** available for all EU13 countries now includes S2E Country Reports.
- **Synergies examples** in which funds have been combined are also being provided.
- **New: Open Call for contribution:** the S2E team invites contributions to be presented at the forthcoming national S2E events or the final S2E conference.
- As for the similar recent events in Croatia and Latvia, a **Joint Statement** has been published after June Slovakia national event.
- Next two S2E events are: the **Lithuania National event** in Vilnius, on 30th October, and in Romania on 20th November. More on events and S2E here.