



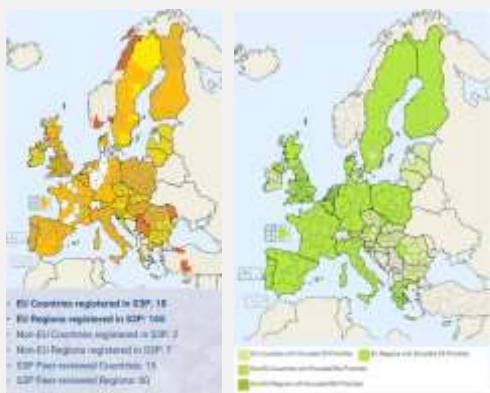
Newsletter

ISSUE No 39 – March 2016

S3 PLATFORM NEWS

S3 PLATFORM MEMBERSHIP AND EYE@RIS3 - S3 SPECIALISATION MAPPING

Welcome to our latest newcomers to register: MOLDOVA and Keski-Pohjanmaa (FINLAND).



More information and guidelines [here](#).

REMINDER : UPDATE YOUR S3 PRIORITIES !

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 urged to check and update their S3 priorities in the **Eye@RIS3**.

You are also kindly invited to update your national/regional S3 pages with the S3 Related National Website, Related Links and Country News (see the example of Slovenia [here](#) or our contacts on **S3 Energy** (see the example for Andalusia [here](#)).

REGIOSTARS AWARDS:

LAUNCH OF THE 2016 REGIOSTARS AWARDS BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR REGIONAL AND URBAN POLICY



If you have any questions please contact regiostars2016@iservice-europa.eu.



EVENTS IN SLOVENIA: 06-07/04/2016 IN LJUBLJANA
 STAIRWAYS TO EXCELLENCE NATIONAL EVENT - THE SYNERGIES BETWEEN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FUNDING, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SMART SPECIALISATION STRATEGY (S3)
 - CONTRIBUTION TO THE NETWORKING OF INNOVATION ACTIVITIES ON SELECTED S3 AREAS

A 2-day event organised jointly by the S3 Platform & Stairways to Excellence team, the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, and the Slovenian government (Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, and Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy) will provide an opportunity to share experiences in combining European Structural and Investment Funds with Horizon 2020, COSME and other funding sources to improve excellence in the national R&I systems. The national event will be followed the next day with the workshop on implementation of the smart specialisation strategy in Slovenia. Around 120 private and public stakeholders are expected at the event. For more information and registration [here for S2E](#) and [here for S3](#).



This High-Level Event will highlight the key role of regions in developing new growth dynamics for Europe, based on bottom-up entrepreneurship and innovation. It will mark the mobilisation of this potential for transformation in priority areas, e.g. energy transition, health, digital growth, circular economy, agro-food or industrial modernisation. The event will accelerate the set-up of effective partnerships for co-investing across regions that commit to their smart specialisation priorities. It will show a way forward in using the synergies between the different public and private funding mechanism to support such investment dynamics.

During the two days, the participants will have the opportunity to visit the Smart Regions Exhibition where regions will showcase their smart specialisation areas.

Event Secretariat e-mail: smart_regions@iservice-europa.eu

Event webpage: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/conferences/smart-regions/



1ST SMARTER CONFERENCE ON SMART SPECIALISATION AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT
 CHANGING PATTERNS OF TERRITORIAL POLICY: SMART SPECIALISATION AND INNOVATION IN EUROPE, 28-30/09/2016, SEVILLE, SPAIN

The First SMARTER Conference on Smart Specialisation and Territorial Development is co-organised by the S3 Platform and the Regional Studies Association.

For more information and registration [here](#).

Please also see our [Call for abstract](#) to submit by 30/06/2016.





ICT MONITORING : A NEW TOOL FOR MONITORING PLANNED ESIF INVESTMENTS IN ICT

The S3 Platform, together with the Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content & Technology (DG CONNECT), has developed this [online tool](#) to visualise planned ICT investment data on a regional level. The tool is a help for national and regional policy makers and EC officials working on ICT issues and for beneficiaries of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), to better know what kind of ICT activities are being planned in Europe under these funds. The ICT monitoring tool can be searched through a number of predefined filters, as well as advanced searches exploring planned amounts for different of investment categories; as well for which kind of financial forms will be used to deliver the investments. The tool also contains a database of keywords built up by a semantic search for keywords in Operational Programmes (OPs). This database allows the user to identify which OPs more frequently mention a number of ICT activities than others, or if a specific topic is mentioned.

STAIRWAY TO EXCELLENCE (S2E)

Recent updates on [Stairway to Excellence](#) pages include some new guidelines on the [reference documents](#) page.

Presentations are now available for the recent [S2E National Events](#):

-  [Czech Republic](#): in Prague on March 3, 2016
-  [Estonia](#): in Tallinn on March 11, 2016

S2E keeps its [Call for contribution](#) to forthcoming national S2E events or the final S2E conference, incl.

- 6 Apr 2016:  [Slovenia National Event](#) in Ljubljana
- 27 Apr 2016:  [Poland National Event](#) in Warsaw

S3 PLATFORM ON TWITTER – FOLLOW US!



[DOWNLOAD S3-PUBLICATIONS AND EU S3 GUIDES](#)

INTER-REGIONAL COLLABORATION IN SMART SPECIALISATION AND INVESTMENT FUNDS: REFLECTIONS FROM EXPERTS AND PRACTICAL EXAMPLES

Authors: **KATERINA CIAMPI STANCOVA, JENS SÖRVIK**



An integral part of Smart Specialisation is the outward-looking dimension, to find a region's potential advantages in international markets, and to identify partners to help deliver new solutions and solve common challenges.

This is the topic of a new technical report by the Smart Specialisation Platform that present the findings from a survey sent out to S3 Platform members last year.

The final report is available [here \(pdf and PowerPoint\)](#).

FOOD AND GASTRONOMY AS ELEMENTS OF REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGIES

Authors: **ALESSIO CAVICCHI, KATERINA CIAMPI STANCOVA**



The paper discusses recent innovation and diversification paths in agro-food, specifically the linkage between food, territory and branding, the emerging phenomenon of Food Cities and increasing interest in healthier and more sustainable food products. It also focuses on EU policies and instruments in support of R&I activities in agro-food and explores agro-food domain within the context of smart specialisation.

The report is available in pdf and as a PowerPoint [here](#).

URBAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

On 18 February 2016 the third Urban Development Network meeting organised by the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO). The S3 Platform delivered a presentation on the application of its peer review methodology. The pilot workshop was addressed to those urban authorities eligible for the ERDF allocation earmarked for sustainable and integrated urban development within the European Structural and Investment Funds in the period 2014-2020 (8% of the overall ERDF allocation, i.e. 15 billion Euros). It hosted around 60 participants, among whom were policy makers from 27 urban authorities and 16 countries across Europe.

SMART SPECIALISATION SUCCESS STORIES – LET YOUR SUCCESS STORY BE SEEN!



The S3 Platform is seeking stories of how Smart Specialisation is working in practice, showing how S3 has impacted the country / region. The stories will be used in publications and on-line media with great visibility.

If you wish to share your story with policy makers and practitioners all over Europe, please [let us know](#).

[Instructions for Smart Specialisation Stories Example](#)

**Deadline for submission:
31 March 2016.**