



**Symposium on European Funding Instruments
for the development of Research Infrastructures
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The Smart Specialisation Platform (S3P): supporting regions and Members States

Susana Elena-Pérez
Scientific Officer

Institute for Prospective Technological Studies,
Knowledge for Growth Unit (KfG)
DG JRC - European Commission



Smart Specialisation Platform



<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

- Created in 2011 to provide science-based professional advice to EU national and regional policy-makers for the establishment and implementation of their research & innovation strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3), make better use of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) and thus contribute to the Europe 2020 goals.
- Managed by a team established at JRC-IPTS in Seville
- Monitored by a Steering Team incl. DG REGIO, RTD, ENTR, EAC, INFSO, SANCO, AGRI, CLIMA
- Input from a Mirror Group of European high-level experts and network representatives

A privileged perspective:

Outside the Commission - Support to countries and regions developing and implementing their RIS3 and to their "triple/quadruple helix" partnerships.

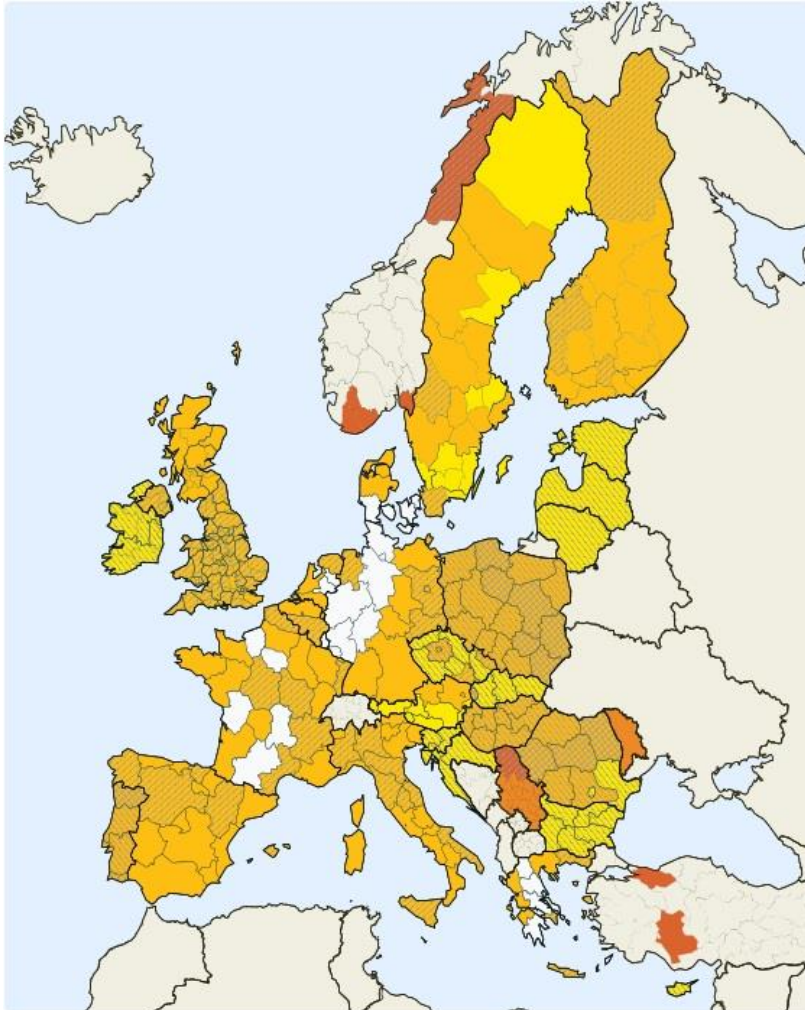
Inside the Commission - Support to the policy DGs (namely in assessing ESIF programming documents: 28 Partnership Agreements and more than 180 Operational Programmes).

In the scientific community - Contribution to the conceptual and methodological debate around smart specialisation.

Some achievements of the S3P

Guidance - Analysis - Support

- Comprehensive guidance tools: RIS3 Guide, Digital Agenda Toolbox, FAQs
- S3 Publication series: contributing to conceptual and empirical developments of smart specialisation
- Supporting tools: S3 self-assessment; regional S3 priorities, regional benchmarking, regional trade flows



- Wide membership: 162 regions + 18 countries.
- Strong endorsement by national/regional policy makers: average 4.5/5 satisfaction rankings (86% rankings at least 4/5; 100% at least 3/5).
- High “fidelisation rate”: > 50% of regions attending workshops come back.
- Political endorsement at EU level: EC (Hahn), EP (Winkler), CoR (Markkula), Council (Van Rompuy)
- Clear guidance tools (RIS3 Guide + online FAQs).
- Scientific impact: 9 published articles + 3 in progress (mainly on: applied network analysis; place-based analysis; peer learning) + 10 policy briefs + 6 working papers.
- 48 regional and 15 national RIS3 peer-reviewed under own-developed methodology inspired by trans-national mutual learning objective.

S3 Platform – Policy impact

Example of impact of peer review on national/regional policymaking

IMPACT RATE:

- 86% of respondents agreed that "it was an interesting exercise which made us more conscious of the elements in the RIS3 process".
- 50% of respondents agreed that "it made us introduce changes in the RIS3 process".
- 18% of respondents agreed that "it made us change substantially how we work with the RIS3 process".

OTHER RESULTS:

- Most respondents reported having adjusted their internal governance settings following recommendations and ideas from the RIS3 peer-review workshop.
- Respondents strongly reported being now able to provide timely and demand responsive services for partnerships in their region (in the context of RIS3).
- They have reported having enhanced information channels in their region (in the context of RIS3).
- Respondents have also reported that at least to some extent (i) participation in the workshop resulted in an increased competency of managing authorities in reviewed regions, and (ii) following peer review, they have revised a mix of appropriate tools in their region (in the context of RIS3).

S3P Sections

- **Actors of S3:** Universities (with EUA); Science parks (with JRC and IASP); SMEs (with UEAPME and EURADA); RTOs (with EARTO)
- **Governance of the S3 process:** Entrepreneurial process of discovery (EDP); Monitoring
- **S3P Targeted support:** RIS3 in REMth, Rural Innovation, Stairway to Excellence
- **S3 Themes:** SP3 Energy, Digital Growth, KETs, Value Chain.
- **S3 Cooperation:** Danube, Baltic Sea Region, Atlantic Arc

S3P Tools

- The Platform provides interactive tools that can help in identifying key features of regions and their Smart Specialisation Strategies, such as their structural similarities ([Regional Benchmarking](#)), Priorities ([EYE@RIS3](#)), [Inter-regional trade flows](#), and other sources for regional comparison.

Cohesion Policy and the synergies with the research and development funds: the Stairway to Excellence (S2E)

- Project launched in 2014 within S3P.
- It aims to support EU13 regions and countries in developing and exploiting the synergies between European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), Horizon 2020 (H2020) and other EU funding programmes and:
 - Assist them in closing the innovation gap, in order to promote excellence in all regions and EU countries;
 - Stimulate the early and effective implementation of national and regional Smart Specialisation Strategies.

Main activities of the S2E Project:

National Events

- Ease understanding of national and regional innovation ecosystems
- Raise awareness to enable synergies between EU funding programmes
- Share experiences in combining Structural Funds and Framework Programme to improve excellence
- Draw lessons for the future and identify follow-up actions to enhance potential synergies

Country & Region Information (quantitative & qualitative)

- National and regional Facts & Figures to draw the European profile of a country/ region with statistical and financial information coming from the EU's 7th FP and Structural Funds dedicated to research and innovation.
- S2E Country Reports provide further analysis on selected policy issues that affect optimal use and the combination of key EU funds for R&I and offer country-tailored policy suggestions.

Synergies examples

Real cases in which SF/ESIF and FP7/H2020 funds have been combined in order to amplify the R&I investments and their impact, using different forms of innovation and competitiveness support, or carrying innovative ideas further along the innovation cycle or value chain to bring them to the market.

Instruments, Platforms & Concepts

Fiches on a selection of European instruments/platforms/concepts that can be considered as facilitators especially for "downstream activities", to exploit and diffuse results from FP7 and H2020.

Reference Documents

We gather reference documents relevant to Cohesion Policy and the synergies with the research and development funds, including guidance for Policy-Makers, Implementing Bodies and Beneficiaries of EU Funds and instruments issued by the European Commission or other bodies.



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SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM

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Pilot Peer Review on integrated sustainable urban development strategies

The European Commission (DG REGIO and JRC) together with the city of Seville invite urban authorities eligible for ERDF funding under Art. 7 Reg. 1301/2013 to the pilot peer-review workshop on Integrated Sustainable Urban Development...

What we can do for you

The Smart Specialisation Platform provides professional advice to EU countries and regions for the design and implementation of their research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3). Our services include:

- Providing guidance material and good practice examples
- Organising information sessions for policy makers and participating in conferences
- Providing training to policy-makers
- Facilitating peer-reviews and mutual learning
- Supporting access to relevant data
- Participating in high quality research projects to inform strategy formation and policy making

S3P Calendar

January 2016

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

S3 Themes | S3 Governance

S3 Targeted Support | S3 Actors

S3 Cooperation | S3 Communities

Events Highlights

There aren't any results for the selected parameters

Reports & Publications

[S3 hub](#)

More is
on the
S3P web

S3 Targeted Support

[RIS3 in REMTh](#)

[Rural Innovation](#)

Stairway to Excellence

[What is Stairway to](#)

[Excellence](#)

[National Events](#)

[Country & Region](#)

[Information](#)

[Synergies Examples](#)

[Instruments, Platforms &](#)

[Concepts](#)

[Relevant Initiatives](#)

[Reference Documents](#)

[FAQ on S2E](#)

Latest News

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTION

S3 Targeted Support

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTION to forthcoming S2E events

Latest S2E activity

S3 Targeted Support

Latest publications available on-line

UPCOMING S2E National Events

Stairway to Excellence

What is Stairway to Excellence

The "Cohesion Policy and the synergies with the research and development funds: the STAIRWAY TO EXCELLENCE (S2E)" project was launched in 2014 within the [Smart Specialisation Platform \(S3P\)](#).

The **Stairway to Excellence (S2E)** project aims to support [EU13 regions and countries](#) in developing and exploiting the synergies between European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), Horizon 2020 (H2020) and other EU funding programmes and:

- Assist them in closing the innovation gap, in order to promote excellence in all regions and EU countries;
- Stimulate the early and effective implementation of national and regional Smart Specialisation Strategies.

[Activities of S2E](#)

[Background for the Project](#)

National Events

[National Events](#) are being organized in [EU13 Members States](#) to:

- Ease understanding of national and regional innovation ecosystems
- Raise awareness to enable synergies between EU funding programmes
- Share experiences in combining Structural Funds and Framework Programme to improve excellence
- Draw lessons for the future and identify follow-up actions to enhance potential synergies

Country & Region Information

Quantitative and Qualitative information are produced for [EU13 regions and countries](#):

- [National and Regional Fact & Figures](#) aim to draw the European profile of a country/ region with statistical and financial information coming from the EU's 7th Framework Programme and Structural Funds dedicated to research and innovation.
- [S2E Country Reports](#) provide further analysis on selected policy issues that affect optimal use and the combination of key EU funds for R&I and offer country-tailored policy suggestions aiming to tackle the weaknesses identified in the analysis.



S2E Web

... and in our
monthly
Newsletter



JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE
Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS)

Newsletter
ISSUE No 36 – December 2015

S3 PLATFORM NEWS

S3 PLATFORM MEMBERSHIP AND EYE@RIS3 - S3 SPECIALISATION MAPPING
Welcome to our latest newcomers to register:
Italy, Baden-Württemberg and
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (Germany)

More information and guidelines [here](#).

REMINDER : UPDATE YOUR S3 PAGES !
Please 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](#)).

The Urban Development Network
Peer Review Workshop
Sevilla, 28-29 January 2016

PILOT PEER REVIEW WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES
28-29/01/2016, SEVILLE, SPAIN
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN - DEADLINE ON 08/01/16!

The City of Seville and the European Commission (Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy and the Joint Research Centre) invite urban authorities eligible for ERDF funding under Art. 7 Reg. 1301/2013 to the pilot peer-review workshop on **Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Strategies**. Attendance at the seminar will offer urban authorities an opportunity to discuss and exchange on **Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Strategies** together with other EU cities, urban experts and the European Commission. The workshop's methodology will be based on the peer review one developed by the Smart Specialisation Platform. Four cities will present their **strategies** in two parallel sessions for open discussion and feedback.

To register, see the agenda and more information [here](#).

Thank you!



<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu>



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JRC-IPTS-S3PLATFORM@ec.europa.eu

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