



3 THEMATIC PLATFORMS DAYS

Conference and Meetings

27-28 Nov 2018
Bilbao, SPAIN

Draft Agenda
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AGRI-FOOD



ENERGY



**INDUSTRIAL
MODERNISATION**



PART 1

**Thematic S3 Platform
for Industrial Modernisation**

**Steering Committee
Meeting II/2018**

Bilbao, Spain

27 November 2018

09:00-13:20

Smart Specialisation Platform on Industrial Modernisation

Steering Committee Meeting

27 November 2018, 09:00–13:20. Euskalduna Conference Centre

Over the last few years, the Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Industrial modernisation offered all qualified partnerships with access to valuable knowledge and a dedicated expert support network. As regions participating in thematic partnerships under this thematic platform share common regional research and innovation smart specialisation priorities, thematic partnerships continue working together by developing concrete joint investment projects by connecting relevant elements of their respective regional innovation eco-systems. This form of interregional collaboration contributes to the creation of a strengthened EU-wide innovation eco-system, opening EU regions to new paths of development and improved participation in strategic value chains.

The 4th Steering Committee meeting of the S3P – Industrial Modernisation will take place in Bilbao on the 27th of November 2018. The event is co-organised with the Basque Country and offers the next occasion to further build the community of the S3P - Industry.

The S3P – Industry continues to grow and the event in Bilbao provides a place for discussions among its 18 partnerships and various European Commission services. These discussions will focus on topics expressed by lead regions in their previous progress report I/2018 reflecting the needs expressed by all partnerships.

The Steering Committee meeting in Bilbao will be followed by the first Joint event of all three thematic platforms (Agri-Food, Energy and Industrial Modernisation) to explore synergies across thematic platforms and partnerships.

S3P on Industrial Modernisation Steering Committee Meeting

27 November 2018, Bilbao, Spain

8:30 – 9:00 Registration

9:00 – 9:45 **Welcome and Opening**

Opening by the Basque Country and the European Commission

Slawomir Tokarski, Director of Innovation and Advanced Manufacturing, DG GROW

Rudolf Niessler, Director of Smart and Sustainable Growth and Programmes Implementation IV, DG REGIO

Directorate General for Research and Innovation, DG RTD (*tbc*)

A keynote speech by Professor **Kevin Morgan**, Cardiff University, followed by a panel discussion:

Cristina Oyon, Head of Strategic Initiatives at the Basque Business Development Agency

Gernot Kellermayr, CEO of Inmotiotec GmbH, Austria

Q&A

Discussion moderated by **Alessandro Rainoldi**, Head of “Territorial Development” Unit, JRC

9:45 – 10:30 **Welcoming new partnerships and ongoing experiences**

A panel of representatives of the most recent thematic S3 partnerships

Moderated by **Krzysztof Mieszkowski**, JRC

Discussion with all partnerships

10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee & Networking**

11:00 – 11:30 **Presentation of Investment ideas**

A panel of representatives of thematic S3 partnerships:

Vincent Duchene, 3D printing

Ewit Roos, Photonics

Rene Wijlens, Sport

Lia Voermans, Chemicals

Moderated by **Nikos Pantalos**, DG GROW

11:30 – 13:00 **S3P Clinic: Understanding and Addressing Current and Future Challenges**

These parallel sessions address some of the needs indicated by partnerships:

1) Synergies between European Strategic Value Chains, European Strategic Cluster Partnerships and Thematic Partnerships

Moderated by **Carsten Schierenbeck**, DG GROW

2) IPR and related issues in the context of interregional investment projects –

S3P on Industrial Modernisation Steering Committee Meeting

27 November 2018, Bilbao, Spain

Moderated by **Inna Dimova**, IPR expert

3) The Role of Training/Testing Facilities in addressing skill gaps identified by thematic partnerships

Moderated by **Ana Grigore**, DG RTD and **Iikka Upanne**, Omnia Education Partnerships Ltd.

4) How Digital Innovation Hubs can support Thematic Partnerships?

Moderated by **Annita Kalpaka**, JRC and **Arian Zwegers** DG CNECT

13:00 – 13:20 Conclusion

Summary of today's discussions and reflections from the parallel sessions

Ewit Roos, PhotonDelta, Photonics Thematic partnership

PART 2

**Joint Thematic Platforms Conference
2018**

**Working Together towards
Joint Investments**

Bilbao, Spain

27 November 2018

14:00-18:00

Joint Thematic Platforms Conference 2018

Working Together towards Joint Investments

27 November 2018, 14:00-18:00. Euskalduna Conference Centre

About the Thematic S3 Platforms

The importance of the global economy and innovation networks clearly calls for a regional innovation policy that goes beyond regional and national borders. In its 2017 Communication¹, the European Commission stresses that Europe's competitive edge is increasingly dependent on its capacity to promote new growth models at regional level, by targeting investments in innovative sectors with significant growth potential and high added value.

As a response, three *Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms for Agri-Food, Energy and Industrial Modernisation* were successfully launched by the European Commission (DG AGRI, DG GROW, DG REGIO, DG RTD and JRC) in 2015/2016 as a support action to accelerate the implementation of smart specialisation across the EU while contributing to the competitiveness and innovation capacity of the EU industry in these three thematic niches.

As of now, a total of **28 existing thematic partnerships** supported by the three platforms already help European regions tackle various obstacles linked to the implementation of their smart specialisation strategies.

Exploring new paths of development through inter-platform collaboration

However, cooperation *between* partnerships across the three platforms can further support the knowledge base of regional innovation systems, enhancing the potential for upgrading products, improving participating regions' position in global value chains, and leading to new opportunities and growth. New paths of development could be created through inter-partnership collaboration on business/research opportunities, policy tools, effectively leading to inter-platform joint initiatives of innovation.

The European Commission suggests that linking innovation actors with relevant industrial stakeholders at the regional level and across the EU could help explore complementarities in the development of products and process design. This is then expected to enable building and reshaping new EU-wide value-chains by encouraging the synergy of investment between the private and public sector. Furthermore, inter-platform cooperation can be used to source new ideas, innovative approaches and skills already tested by other thematic partnerships. It can facilitate transfer of knowledge and capabilities and facilitate learning processes.

The thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms can also be used to deepen cooperation between less developed regions, regions in industrial transition and more advanced ones, to facilitate their industrial and technological transition.

¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Strengthening Innovation in Europe's Regions: Strategies for resilient, inclusive and sustainable growth [SWD(2017) 264 final].

Joint Thematic Platforms Conference

27 November 2018, Bilbao, Spain

Understanding and overcoming challenges together

One driver behind potential inter-platform and inter-partnership cooperation in the S3 context relates to an attempt to overcome *the lack of public and private investment in R&I*, while trying to align various S3 agendas through joint S3 initiatives in order to overcome capability failures hindering innovation.

Collaborating across the three thematic S3 platforms can help regions and partnerships combine complementary strengths, exploit other partnerships' competences in R&I, get necessary research capacity, overcome any lack of critical mass or skills as well as fragmentation and access to global value chains.

Furthermore, the Commission recognises that additional efforts are still required to integrate other large European initiatives with these platforms and their interregional partnerships, to facilitate the commercialisation and scale-up of inter-regional innovation projects and to incentivise joint business investment.

About the Joint Event:

The Joint event will propose an open and interactive discussion on the ways of exploring the future of the thematic approach to Smart Specialisation. It will launch a discussion on the collaboration opportunities across the three thematic platforms. The discussions will further explore some of the following questions:

How can the three thematic platforms harness synergies and complementarities between EU policies and instruments?

What opportunities can be offered by inter-partnership cooperation across the three platforms? What formats can be used to support cooperation between partnerships? How can thematic platforms facilitate entrepreneurial discoveries, exploiting the new possibilities that can be created by inter-platform links?

Can thematic platforms help contribute to further improvement of research and innovation ecosystems within and across regions? Can interregional partnerships solve existing challenges by connecting regional innovation ecosystem with relevant actors outside the region?

Can interregional partnerships help regional actors join emerging European and macro-regional networks and innovation eco-systems? What opportunities can the existing thematic partnerships offer their regional actors to join global, European, and macro regional value chains and business networks?

How can thematic partnerships help increase cooperation in innovation investment across regions? Can inter-platform cooperation help leveraging research and innovation in less developed and industrial transition regions?

Joint Thematic Platforms Conference
27 November 2018, Bilbao, Spain

13:00 – 14:00 *Registration*

14:00 – 14:10 **Welcome and Opening**

Opening by **Alessandro Rainoldi**, Head of the Territorial Development Unit, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission and by the Basque Country

14:10 – 15:00 **Interactive panel I: Discussing the Future of the Thematic Approach to Smart Specialisation in the next Multiannual Financial Framework**

Professor Kevin Morgan, Setting the scene & Moderation of the panel discussion

Rudolf Niessler, Director, “Smart and Sustainable Growth and Programmes Implementation IV”, Directorate-General Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO), European Commission

Slawomir Tokarski, Director of Innovation and Advanced Manufacturing, Directorate General Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), European Commission

Mario Milouchev, Director for Rural development and Pre-accession assistance, and in charge of digitisation, Directorate-General for Agriculture and rural development (DG AGRI), European Commission

Tudor Constantinescu, Principal Adviser to the Director-General, Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER), European Commission

Alessandro Rainoldi, Head of the Territorial Development Unit, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

Directorate General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) representative, European Commission (*tbc*)

15:00 – 15:30 **Thematic Platforms: Investing Together**

Presentation of the Thematic S3 Platforms and their activities

Manuel Palazuelos, S3 Platform Project Leader, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

Presentation of the Methodological Guidance Manual

Ruslan Rakhmatullin, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

DG REGIO Pilots: Progress and Lessons Learnt

Marek Przeor, Head of Sector Smart Growth, Directorate-General Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO), European Commission

15:30 – 17:00 **Coffee & Networking**

Participants are invited to enjoy a coffee while discovering a total of more than 20 partnership stands and exploring opportunities for cooperation

Joint Thematic Platforms Conference
27 November 2018, Bilbao, Spain

17:00 – 18:00 **Interactive Panel II: Sharing Experiences: Partnering for Joint S3 Investments**

This panel discussion brings together several regional stakeholders representing various partnerships and triple helix nodes from different parts of Europe:

Valeria Bandini, ASTER, Emilia-Romagna (IT), Industrial Modernisation Platform

María Luisa Borra Marcos, Andalusian Energy Agency (ES), Energy Platform

Wim de Kinderen, Brainport Eindhoven, South Netherlands (NL), Industrial Modernisation Platform

Ilari Havukainen, Cluster Development Manager, Lapland (FI), Energy Platform

Ewit Roos, Photondelta, South Netherlands (NL), Industrial Modernisation Platform

Moderated by **Aitor Mintegui**, Basque Country Delegation to the EU

Q&A

18:00 **Conclusions and Closing**

PART 3

Thematic S3 Platform for Agri-Food

**Working Committee Semi-annual
Meeting**

Bilbao, Spain

28 November 2018

09:00-13:00

Smart Specialisation Platform on Agri-food

Working Committee Semi-annual Meeting

28 November 2018, 09:00-13:00. Euskalduna Conference Centre

About the Smart Specialisation Platform on Agri-Food

Interregional collaboration plays a crucial role in the implementation of the smart specialisation strategies. The main factor driving interest in interregional cooperation for smart specialisation is linked to effective implementation of the EU cohesion policy, particularly in the thematic objective 1 (research and innovation).

To help with the implementation of Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3) and accelerate the development of joint investment projects at the EU level in the smart specialisation agri-food areas, the European Commission services including DG AGRI, DG REGIO, DG RTD and JRC established Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform on Agri-Food. Since its launch in 2016, the S3 Platform (JRC) and other EC services have facilitated the implementation of interregional cooperation on smart specialisation.

To date, a total of five partnerships demonstrated a good level of maturity:

- Consumer Involvement in Agri-Food Innovation (lead regions: Province of Gelderland, NL and Östergötland, SE)
- High-tech Farming (lead region: Tuscany, IT)
- Nutritional Ingredients (lead regions: Wallonia and Flanders, BE)
- Smart sensors for agri-food (lead regions: Flanders and Wallonia, BE)
- Traceability and Big Data (lead regions: Andalusia, ES and Emilia-Romagna, IT)

A total of 50 territorial administrative units have committed to or expressed interest in participating in one of five existing partnerships. Many regions participate in more than one partnership. In particular, four geographical entities take part in the Consumer involvement in Agri-Food innovation partnership, 24 geographical entities in the High-tech farming partnership, 10 geographical entities in the Nutritional Ingredients partnership, 12 geographical entities in the Smart sensors for Agri-Food partnership, and 19 - in the Traceability and big data partnership. The majority of participating entities are located in Italy (8), Spain (8), France (5), Hungary (4) and the Netherlands (4).

About the Agri-Food event on the 28 of November 2018

This half-day event will focus on the progress of the partnerships, issues and challenges faced and ways to overcome these. The ongoing Agri-Food partnerships will be offered an opportunity to discuss their current progress, any specific pilots/ projects supported by the partnerships as well as the past/future activities of the Thematic Platform for Agri-Food.

S3P Agri-Food Working Committee Meeting

28 November 2018, Bilbao, Spain

The S3P team is planning to hold a number of presentations by experts and representatives of lead regions focusing on project aspects related to scoping and mapping phases. Furthermore, participants will explore how a good governance structure as well as development of business models & planning can help partnerships progress to the next phase. This session will be followed by a (parallel) interactive session during which participants will discuss in more detail some of the following issues:

- Scoping and mapping (owned by the *Nutritional Ingredients/Consumer Involvement partnership*)
- Good Partnership Governance: Key Principles and Challenges (owned by the *Smart Sensors partnership*)
- Business planning and models (owned by the *Smart Farming and Traceability and Big Data partnership*)

The European Commission will publish a report after the event summarising the most important messages for the participants and broader audience.

Why participate?

The event is the place-to-be to meet, connect, discuss and learn about ongoing activities and issues related to the field of Agri-Food. The workshop provides space for learning, matchmaking and presentation of the projects in Agri-food Smart Specialisation areas and collaboration opportunities.

The Working Committee Semi-annual meeting allows participants to:

- Assess and benchmark the progress of each partnership, discuss any ongoing/future challenges and develop new solutions;
- Receive information on possible synergies with other initiatives, e.g. EU Framework Programmes, ESIF, Interreg, EIT Food;
- Share strategic guidance for the next period on key issues such as building synergies with EU funding programmes, overcoming regulatory obstacles for investment, understanding financial instruments, and skills.

Who should participate?

In order to benefit extensively from the event, we invite you to come as a team of:

- Managing Authorities
- Policy officers
- Business Development experts
- Subject/technical experts.

S3P Agri-Food Working Committee Meeting
28 November 2018, Bilbao, Spain

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 09:25 **Welcome and Opening**

Opening by representatives from the Basque Country and the European Commission

S3P Agri-Food Platform: progress and results achieved

Katerina Ciampi Stancova, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

09:25 – 10:30 **Plenary Session AF**

Learn phase: scoping and mapping

*A joint presentation by **Marc Pattinson** and Partnerships: Nutritional Ingredients, Consumer Involvement*

Good Partnership Governance: Key Principles and Challenges

*A joint presentation by **Cecilia Gañán de Molina** and Partnership Smart Sensors for Agri-food*

Business Planning and Models

A joint presentation by an invited speaker (EIT Food) and Partnerships: High-tech Farming and Traceability and Big Data

10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee & Networking**

11:00 – 12:30 **Interactive Parallel Sessions: Moving Forward**

1. Learn phase: scoping and mapping

*Moderated by **Marc Pattinson**, the focus is on 3-4 questions from Nutritional Ingredients and Consumer Involvement*

2. Good Partnership Governance: Key Principles and Challenges

*Moderated by **Cecilia Gañán de Molina**, the focus is on 3 questions from Smart Sensors 4 Agri-food*

3. Business Planning and Models

Moderated by an invited speaker (EIT Food), the focus is on 3-4 questions from High-tech Farming and Traceability and Big Data

4. How Digital Innovation Hubs can support Thematic Partnerships?

*Moderated by **Annita Kalpaka**, JRC*

12:30 – 13:00 **Closing**

Discussions and Q&A

Closing

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch & Networking**

PART 4

Thematic S3 Platform for Energy

**Joint Partnerships Semi-annual
Meeting**

Bilbao, Spain

28 November 2018

14:00-18:00

Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy

Joint Partnerships Semi-annual Meeting

28 November 2018, 14:00-18:00. Euskalduna Conference Centre

About the Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy

The Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy (S3PEnergy) of DG JRC was launched in May 2015 as a joint initiative of DG REGIO, DG ENER and DG JRC, with the main objective of supporting the effective uptake of the Cohesion Policy funds for energy as well as to help regions and Member States in the implementation of their smart specialisation strategies (S3). The activity of the S3PEnergy has been centred on providing expertise and methodological support to all the agents engaged in energy and innovation, and in promoting mutual transnational learning activities.

The specific objectives of the S3PEnergy have been as follows:

1. Support the implementation of the S3 of those regions and Member States that have chosen energy-related priorities in their strategies.
2. Assist regions and Member States in the uptake of the Cohesion Policy funding opportunities for energy under Thematic Objectives 4 and 7(e) from the European structural and investment funds (ESIF).

Energy is a topic of high interest amongst EU Member States and regions. Currently, nearly 200 EU members – 179 regions and 20 MS – have identified energy-related priorities as part of their S3. These strategies set priorities at national/regional level and build competitive advantage by matching research and innovation strengths with business needs.

The S3PEnergy provides added value not only through its bottom-up approach where EU regions actively contribute to enrich the effect, but also thanks to the joint engagement of several services of the European Commission, concretely: DG REGIO, DG ENER and DG JRC.

Since 2015, the S3PEnergy has assisted several EU regions in their implementation of their S3, focusing on energy priorities. One of its more tangible results is the creation of five interregional partnerships, with the participation of more than 70 regions or Member States. The existing S3 Energy Partnerships are as follows:

- Smart Grids
- Solar Energy
- Marine Renewable Energy
- Bioenergy
- Sustainable Buildings

S3PEnergy Joint Partnerships Meeting

28 November 2018, Bilbao, Spain

About the S3PEnergy event on the 28 of November 2018

The S3PEnergy half-day event will cover topics which have been identified relevant by partnership leaders.

During the first session of the event, representatives of each partnership will present the progress of their respective projects, emphasising on the lessons they are learning as they proceed in the implementation phase. The progress of the S3PEnergy Heating and Cooling initiative will also be presented. A particular focus will also be given to the development of the pilot projects which have been assigned to projects within two S3PEnergy partnerships (Marine Renewable Energy and Sustainable Buildings partnerships). This discussion will give the opportunity to other regions, as well as to representatives of the relevant European Commission directorates, to learn about these experiences and better prepare for future activities.

Following the presentation of the partnerships and pilots' development, the discussion will move on to the topic of State Aid, in particular with respect to energy investments by public authorities. An expert will elaborate on this topic and answer questions from participants.

The following session of the event will consist in an interactive discussion with representatives from DG REGIO, DG ENER and DG RTD on the progress and future development of the S3PEnergy platform and its partnerships, followed by a Q&A time with all participants. The session will address the ways in which regions and partnerships can better prepare for the changes that can be expected in the coming years, for instance changes to energy project funding that could be introduced by the new Programming Period. The proposed modifications from the EC to funding schemes and investment dynamics with respect to ESI funds will be presented, with a particular attention to a proposed new funding scheme dedicated to interregional collaboration.

During the whole event, the floor will be opened to questions from all participants, offering the opportunity to delve deeper into the challenges for partnerships and pilots' implementation and their possible solutions, the expected modifications for the coming years, energy-funding issues, or any other topic which are of interest to the audience.

Why participate?

This session will be valuable to all participants for three main reasons. Firstly, regional participants will gain access to first-hand information on the upcoming changes to ESIF as well as obtain feedback on their perceptions of the impact such changes will have on their regional S3 investments in energy from experts on the topic. On top of this, they will benefit from training from the part of an expert on the topic of State Aid. Secondly, it will allow regions to collaborate and start working on joint action plans ahead of the new Programming Period, placing them on a strong position to better seize funding opportunities in the future. Thirdly, Commission representatives will have direct contact with regional authorities and the opportunity to extensively discuss policy implementation with them. This should be a starting point to build on and ensure the success of ESIF in the upcoming Programming Period.

Who should participate?

In order to benefit extensively from the event, we invite you to come as a team of:

- Managing Authorities
- Policy officers
- Business Development experts
- Subject/technical experts.

S3PEnergy Joint Partnerships Meeting
28 November 2018, Bilbao, Spain

13:30 – 14:00 Registration

14:00 – 14:15 **Welcome and Opening**

Opening by the Basque Country and the Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy (S3PEnergy)

14:15 – 15:30 **Session I: The S3PEnergy Partnerships**

Presentation of the S3PEnergy partnerships' progress:

Bioenergy partnership representative (*tbc*)
Smart Grids partnership representative (*tbc*)
Solar partnership representative (*tbc*)

Heating and Cooling Initiative:

Johan Carlsson, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

Presentation of the S3PEnergy pilot's progress:

José I. Hormaeche, Director of the Basque Energy Cluster (ES), for the Marine Renewable Energy partnership
Joaquín Villar, Head of Internationalisation and Prospective Department, Andalusian Energy Agency (ES), for the Sustainable Buildings partnership

Q&A and Open discussion on lessons learnt from the pilots' experience.

Moderated by **Isabelle Seigneur**, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee & Networking**

16:00 – 16:45 **Session II: State Aid in Regional Energy Investments**

State aid rules in the RIS3 context: presentation of new tools to facilitate the application of State aid rules in the Energy sector

Palma Muñoz Morquilla, State Aid Expert, Agency of Innovation and Development of Andalusia (IDEA)

Q&A

16:45 – 17:45 **Session III: Interactive Discussion: Discussing opportunities for the future**

S3PEnergy: State of play and reflections for the future

Tudor Constantinescu, Principal Adviser to the Director-General, Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER)

Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) representative, European Commission (*tbc*)

Directorate General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) representative, European Commission (*tbc*)

Moderated by **Fernando Mérida**, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

Q&A

17:45 – 18:00 **Closing**

S3PEnergy Joint Partnerships Meeting
28 November 2018, Bilbao, Spain

Conclusions and Closing

JRC Mission

As the science and knowledge service of the European Commission, the Joint Research Centre's mission is to support EU policies with independent evidence throughout the whole policy cycle.



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