Towards synergies between S3P-Industry and Interreg Europe projects

A Policy Brief from the Policy Learning Platform on Research and innovation

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Summary

This policy brief identifies potential complementarities and synergies between partnerships of the Smart Specialisation Thematic Platform for Industrial Modernisation (S3P-Industry) and Interreg Europe projects. Many regions are active in both communities, and the similarities in stakeholder groups and thematic interests is a starting point for identifying opportunities for innovation led interregional cooperation. The policy brief looks into how the Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform may be of support to this cooperation, before concluding with four concrete suggestions for enhancing synergies between the two project communities.

Why this policy brief?

Harnessing the research and innovation potential of regional economies is recognised as one of the key challenges facing European and regional policy makers alike. The results of the recent consultation exercise undertaken as part of the review of Cohesion Policy **identified innovation and interregional cooperation** as key policy approaches to tackle the challenges facing Europe.¹ Trends such as globalisation, automation and digitalisation are having a profound impact on the competitiveness of regional economies. Recent years have seen the deployment of a range of policy tools that seek to exploit the innovation strengths but also address the structural weaknesses facing regions. Within this policy mix, **actions aimed at enhancing industrial modernisation and driving interregional cooperation through innovation co-investment are increasingly being deployed.** To benefit from these experiences, it is important to share lessons and help regions unlock their potential for transformation and contribute to regional competitiveness.

The focus of this Interreg Europe policy brief is to identify potential complementarities and synergies between partnerships of the Smart Specialisation Thematic Platform for Industrial Modernisation (S3P-Industry) and Interreg Europe projects. Whilst the projects and partnerships clearly have their own policy rationales, the fact that many regions are active in both communities justifies this interest. The similarities in stakeholder groups and thematic interests, provides a action. starting point for such The development concrete of cooperation synergies will allow policy makers to be more responsive to innovation and interregional challenges and ensure that they are learning from each other.



The policy brief is structured as follows: overview of the benefits of cooperation, presentation of the S3P-Industry and related Interreg Europe regional communities followed by some

¹ Commission Staff Working Document Impact Assessment, Strasbourg, 29.5.2018 SWD (2018) 282 final



ideas regarding opportunities for cooperation and joint actions and how the Policy Learning Platform can support them and concludes with some recommendations.

Benefits of Interregional Cooperation

Figure 1 illustrates the type of benefits which interregional cooperation can deliver. Interreg Europe projects, for instance, are mainly focussed on level 1 and 2 and are considered particularly relevant for capacity building to prepare smarter investments in the region. Some Interreg Europe projects, led by more advanced regions, may also be in a position engage in co-investment to actions (Level 3). Meanwhile S3P-Industry regions, are clearly aligned with Level 3, although implemented many have comprehensive regional policy mapping and scoping actions



Figure 1: Envisaged benefits of increasing intensity of interregional cooperation

prior to determining co-investment priorities.

This brief identifies opportunities and synergies that could be developed between the S3P-Industry and Interreg Europe projects² based on the **concept of innovation led interregional cooperation.** It also offers some recommendations on how the Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform can facilitate activities that help move regions from capacity building to co-investment.

S3P-Industry – The Smart Specialisation Platform for Industrial Modernisation in a nutshell

What is industrial modernisation?

The concept of industrial modernisation is relatively broad and relates to areas such as high-performing manufacturing, Key Enabling Technologies (KETs), digital transformation, advanced materials, as well as service innovation concepts. Against this background, S3P-Industry Platform has been established to offer hands-on support for European regions to match their <u>smart specialisation priorities</u> related to industrial modernisation.³

² The projects included mainly belong to the programme priority on "Research and innovation" and a smaller number to the "SME competitiveness" priority.

³ DG GROW <u>website</u>.



The objective of the Thematic Platforms (Agri-Food, Energy and Industrial Modernisation) is to "generate an investment pipeline of mature projects in new growth areas across the EU, by providing tailored advice and helping regions establish links with the business and research communities"⁴. The platforms are expected to help regions identify, develop or share infrastructures such as testing facilities, pilot plants and fabrication laboratories (fablabs). The participating regions are encouraged to combine different EU investment instruments, such as the European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds (e.g. through Interreg Europe), COSME, Horizon2020, EFSI (European Fund for Strategic Investments).

Overview of S3P-Industry partnerships

There are currently 12 partnerships around specific thematic areas in S3P-Industry (see Annex 1). Some of the partnerships are still in their early stages, whilst others, notably those active in the <u>Vanguard initiative</u>, have already identified interesting co-investment opportunities. A number of European regions are particularly active in the S3P-Industry partnerships such as Cataluña (ES), Emilia-Romagna (IT), Lombardia (IT), Flanders (B) and Norte (PT).

Identifying projects on Industrial Modernisation in Interreg Europe

From the 158 approved Interreg Europe projects (Call 1,2 and 3), 29 projects from the "Research and innovation" and "SME competitiveness" priorities can be clearly related to industrial modernisation (see Annex 2). These include projects directly aligned with a thematic or sectoral approach such as textiles, chemicals, maritime industries, space and mining/resources. Key stakeholder communities such as technology transfer actors or clusters/SME intermediaries engaged in driving the transformation of regional economies are clearly linked to industrial modernisation processes and can be mobilised for developing synergies between projects and partnerships.

Bringing the two worlds together – Interreg Europe and S3P-Industry partnerships side-by-side

The next table presents those Interreg Europe projects that have a good fit with the corresponding thematic areas of S3P-Industry.

⁴ Smart Specialisation Platform <u>website</u>.



S3P-Industry	Interreg Europe Projects
Advanced manufacturing for energy application	MANUMIX
Bioeconomy – Interregional cooperation on innovative use of non-food Biomass	BRIDGES; SmartPilots
Efficient and Sustainable Manufacturing	NMP-REG; MANUMIX
High Performance Production through 3D- Printing	
New Nano Enabled Products	S3Chem; P2L2; NMP-REG
Smart Regional Investments in Textile Innovation	RESET
Medical technology	TITTAN; HoCare; HELIUM; ITHACA; Medtech4 Europe
Photonics	STEPHANIE
Incorporation of SMEs to the Industry 4.0 paradigm and their assimilation of specialised digital services	INNO PROVEMENT
Sport	Inno4Sports
Digitalisation and Safety for Tourism	Digitourism
Cybersecurity	CYBER

 Table 1:
 Mapping of S3P-Industry Partnerships and Interreg Europe projects by thematic domain. Projects in red are linked to more than one Thematic Area.

A number of the Interreg Europe projects are focussed on addressing the challenges in the fields of advanced manufacturing/materials, for example <u>MANUMIX</u>, <u>NMP-REG</u>, <u>S3Chem</u> and <u>P2L2</u> and are well placed to engage with the respective S3P-Industry project partnerships. Likewise, the group of health, ageing and healthcare related projects <u>TITTAN</u>, <u>HoCare</u>, <u>HELIUM</u> and <u>ITHACA</u>, all innovation-oriented, could find common areas of interest with the Medical technology partnership. The focus of the Interreg Europe project <u>RESET</u> on smart textiles offers another area of potential cooperation. Moreover, a set of newly approved projects from the third call of Interreg Europe, including **Digitourism**, **CYBER**, **Inno4Sports** are well-aligned with thematic areas of S3P-Industry.

There are also some Interreg Europe projects that have a clear link to the Industrial Modernisation concept but do not have a specific sectoral focus or have an industry thematic focus other than those of the S3P-Industry partnerships. The first category includes cluster-oriented projects such as <u>CLUSTERIX 2.0</u>, <u>CLUSTERS3</u> and <u>ClusterFY</u>, and those concerned with research and innovation infrastructures, like <u>INNO-INFRA-SHARE</u> and **TraCS3**. Whilst the latter category includes projects like <u>REMIX</u>, <u>CLIPPER</u>, <u>UrbanM</u>, <u>TRINNO and RECORD</u>.

Opportunities for innovation led interregional cooperation



The diversity of themes and activities supported by Interreg Europe projects provides many opportunities for regions to develop cooperation with the S3P-Industry. The type of benefits will depend on the nature of the regional policy objectives being pursued (e.g. sector excellence, SME innovation support, SME internationalisation, development of new industrial value chains) and the ability of regional partners to operationalise these interactions. Examples of the types of interactions and resultant synergies are detailed below.

• Sharing methodological tools

Most project stakeholders agree⁵ that mutual learning and the sharing of good practices in innovation policy design and implementation, governance and monitoring plays a key role in enhancing the performance of regional innovation ecosystems. Regions in both initiatives have invested heavily in various mapping or scoping methodologies and policy benchmarking exercises, consequently, **a first step of cooperation comprises the sharing of these tools and the results of these activities.** By putting regional rivalry and competition aside, sharing knowledge via good practices and working with shared challenges can be a starting point for working on synergies and sustainable interregional cooperation. Mapping tools are also important levers for creating synergies and should be considered as "extraordinary tools for learning and acting" ⁶. The good use of mapping tools can help regions discover new or unknown components of the regional ecosystem. The sharing and co-development of appropriate project indicators of achievement would seem also to be of interest as regions are seeking to shift the emphasis from activity or spend reporting to focus on results and impact evaluation.

Knowledge sharing that leads to a better understanding of the needs of different stakeholder groups could also benefit from cooperation. For example, the Higher Education Institutes (HEI) are often closely involved in the design and implementation of smart specialisation strategies and need to be successfully engaged in technology transfer and diffusion actions. By sharing good practices project partners can identify mechanisms that best lever the resources available in HEI's.

Furthermore, new Interreg Europe projects (Call 3) such as those in the thematic areas of Sport and Medtech can learn from the regional mapping experiences of the S3P-Industry and help accelerate the implementation of their projects.

⁵ As expressed in discussions by stakeholders participating at joint JRC and Interreg Europe interactive oneday event held on the 11 April, 2018, in Rovaniemi, Finland.

 ⁶ Valeria Bandini, ASTER (INNO INFRA SHARE and S3P Industry 4.0 Partnership during Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform webinar on the theme of Industrial Modernisation 6 June 2018.



How can the Policy Learning Platform support?

The Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform's expertise could be utilised to identify regional interest in sharing specific mapping and benchmarking methodological tools deployed by stakeholders. These could be uploaded to the Policy Learning Platform Good Practice database.

The Policy Learning Platform could also facilitate exchanges between the different expert groups such as <u>Re-Confirm</u>⁷ and the S3P-Industry regional experts to review approaches to developing key performance indicators and other impact or outcome measurement tools.

• Thematic or sector-based cooperation

Developing synergies by facilitating exchanges between policy makers and key stakeholder groups based on specific thematic and sector interests is considered a pragmatic way to link the various regional actors. An illustration of such an action can be found in the event "S3P-Industry and Interreg Europe working for industrial modernisation" an interactive one-day event held on the 11 April, 2018, in Rovaniemi, Finland⁸. It was co-organised by Interreg Europe together with the European Commission, the Smart Specialisation Platform (JRC) and the Lapland region and attracted more than 70 participants representing some 30 European regions.

Many partners from both communities have already commenced thematic based exchanges, for example, the cooperation among Interreg Europe projects in the health and "Silver Economy" domain initiated by the <u>HoCare</u> lead partner. The sector approach can reinforce linkages based on smart specialisation synergies and through value chain analysis. The latter can be used to identify ways for removing innovation bottlenecks and combining the resources from different regions to create stronger European value chains. Within S3P-Industry the Tourism and Sports partners recently organised a joint matchmaking mission in Rovaniemi.⁹

A number of Interreg Europe projects have already secured benefits from thematic based joint meetings, for instance <u>CLUSTERIX2.0</u>, <u>ClusterFY</u> and <u>CLUSTERS3</u>. Synergies can also be relevant for concerning interregional value chains in emerging industries, or for <u>P2L2</u> and <u>NMP-REG</u> concerning KETs like advanced materials and nanotechnology respectively.

Thematic workshop discussions can be used to develop emerging concepts such as the scaling up of industrial value chains and their role in strengthening interregional innovation cooperation. Interreg Europe projects can contribute to the acceleration of pilot initiatives, for example the <u>SmartPilots</u> project in the field of bio economy and industrial biotechnology.

By building on the inter-project cooperation experiences regions can logically progress towards organising inter-initiative cooperation between Interreg Europe and S3P-Industry. This would seem particularly interesting for those Interreg Europe projects now commencing

⁷ Re-Confirm is a COSME project, launched in December 2016, to assist European regions and industrial stakeholders in developing investment plans under a Thematic Area of the S3P-Industry.

⁸ More information about the event can be found in this <u>news item</u> from the Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform.

⁹ Watify Tourism and Sports <u>matchmaking event</u>.



the implementation of their action plans whom are also able to share their experiences regarding policy mapping and benchmarking.

How can the Policy Learning Platform support?

The Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform can assist in bringing regions from projects and partnerships of related themes or challenges together, through thematic workshops or back to back events. This includes larger events like the one held in Rovaniemi, that serve as an opportunity to showcase the successes and encourage new interregional cooperation initiatives. Thematic workshops, such as the one on health, organised by the Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform in June 2017 demonstrate how it is possible to create the conditions for closer and sustainable thematic based cooperation.

The Policy Learning Platform can support joint communication efforts through news articles, thus promoting the results and successes of interregional cooperation actions.

• Developing Financial Instruments and preparing for Interregional Innovation Coinvestments

Interreg Europe projects are not specifically aimed at designing and implementing S3P-Industry partner type co-investment projects. Nevertheless, managing authorities, who are engaged in both types of projects can play a role in their preparation and co-financing (possible use of Common Provision Regulation Art. 70). A number of the Interreg Europe projects such as the <u>SmartPilots, S34Growth</u> and **TraCS3** are focused on developing common initiatives. Inspiration for how to activate Article 70 for interregional cooperation can be taken from, for example, the ERDF Managing Authority network in EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) and from previous Policy Learning Platform policy briefs¹⁰.

Consultation documents regarding the new Cohesion Policy mix have highlighted the importance of suitable financial instruments for interregional cooperation. The concept of "scale-up"¹¹ is a further element that justifies interest in enhanced interregional cooperation. Lastly, the nature and need for enhanced governance structures to facilitate interregional co-investment would also seem to merit consideration.

How can the Policy Learning Platform support?

The Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform could organise thematic webinars or discussion hours with experts. For example, to discuss the theme of Action Plan implementation and the scope for better alignment of pilot projects with strategic investments by regional authorities and highlight the type of financial instruments or

¹⁰ Policy brief "<u>Cooperation, complementarities and alignment of different funding sources for a more efficient</u> <u>use of resources</u>", published on the Policy Learning Platform in 2017.

¹¹ Scale up typically refers to the range of measures, such as funding and technology support, facilitating links to large companies – that are provided to SMEs to help accelerate their growth.



investment tools that have been successfully utilised.

• Promoting business and SME engagement

The desire to respond to business needs, notably from SMEs and the engagement of private investment resources are key aspects of the S3P-Industry methodology. Interreg Europe projects and S3P-Industry are in a position to pioneer and communicate solutions based on interregional cooperation that create value for SMEs and incentivise them to engage in technology transfer actions. Regions from both communities utilise cluster bodies to engage with SMEs. Among the Interreg Europe projects, <u>CLUSTERS3</u> and <u>ClusterFY</u> in particular deal with the role of clusters in supporting SME innovation and their inclusion in global value chains. A number of S3P-Industry partnerships such as ClusSport and Medtechs also rely on cluster ecosystems to develop their project pipeline.

Innovation diffusion is a further dimension that is of interest to enhance existing technology diffusion and uptake by SMEs. <u>INNO-INFRA-SHARE</u> and **TraCS3** are projects that highlight the importance of access to research and innovation infrastructure for innovation in SMEs. Support infrastructures such as demonstration facilities or pilot plants and commercialisation experiences, such as those tested by <u>S34Growth</u>, are also of interest. The recently approved **INNO PROVEMENT** project, for instance, is focused on SMEs and their challenges associated with the Industry 4.0 paradigm

How can the Policy Learning Platform support?

The Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform can help raise the awareness regarding the engagement of SMEs in regional innovation projects through the organisation of thematic workshops, the publication of good practices and creating linkages with other relevant networks and platforms for example the European Cluster Collaboration Platform¹. Sharing experiences of interregional cooperation involving SMEs for example through structural funds, innovation vouchers, the use of Article 70 or "cascade funding" type models such as the Horizon 2020 INNOSUP call. Promoting the attendance in matchmaking events organised by S3P partnerships could be of interest to regional stakeholders.

Way Forward

Current discussions regarding the future Multiannual Financial Framework post 2020 point to the increased focus (and funding) of innovation and high value-added activities and the concept of "smart economic transformation"¹². The project experiences presented above clearly point to the value and benefits associated with the development of innovation led

¹² Policy objective 1 in the new ERDF and Cohesion Fund Regulation: "A smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation". <u>COM(2018) 372 final 29.5.2018</u>



strategic interregional cooperation and the construction of strong linkages between regional ecosystems along smart specialisation priority areas.

This policy brief concludes with four concrete suggestions for enhancing synergies between the two project communities:

- Sharing of mapping and/or scoping methodologies to enhance policy makers bottom up knowledge of regional ecosystems and create the conditions for European level cooperation and scale up;
- Implement thematic or sector level working groups to build linkages between similar stakeholder groups and construct European level value chains to support and accelerate industrial transformation;
- Share experiences regarding the engagement of businesses and notably SMEs to ensure the robustness of policy options and project ideas; and
- Collect and share experiences of interregional funding and governance models to support overall project implementation opportunities.

Regions can also benefit from the favourable policy framework conditions that currently exist. During 2017-18 DG Regio launched a series of pilot initiatives¹³ to support regions committed to implementing innovation based interregional cooperation and test novel approaches. These new EU initiatives provide opportunities for regions to develop strategic interregional cooperation initiatives using smart specialisation priority areas to increase regional competitiveness. Meanwhile DG Grow launched a call asking regions to put forward proposals to develop interregional cooperation based on S3 regional priorities with the support of clusters.¹⁴

The Interreg Europe project community is well placed to take advantage of these opportunities. By encouraging and facilitating open discussions between regions from the Interreg Europe and S3P-Industry communities, the Policy Learning Platform can support concrete and enhanced policy impacts, project synergies and the identification of co-investment opportunities.

¹³ Eight interregional partnerships were selected, many have close links to the S3P-Industry partnership community. The aim is to help the partnerships scale up their projects in priority sectors such as big data, bioeconomy, resource efficiency, advanced manufacturing or cybersecurity. More information can be found in this press release from the European Commission.

¹⁴ DG Grow/EASME - The objective of this call is to boost industrial competitiveness and investment in the EU via cross-regional cooperation and networking by supporting the establishment of European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for smart specialisation investments (ESCP-S3).



Sources, further information

- Commission Staff Working Document Impact Assessment, Strasbourg, 29.5.2018 SWD (2018) 282 final <u>https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/10102/2018/EN/SWD-2018-282-F1-EN-MAIN-PART-1.PDF</u>
- DG GROW https://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/smart-specialisation_en
- European Structural and Investment Funds https://cohesiondata.ec.europa.eu/funds
- COSME https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/cosme
- Horizon 2020 <u>https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/what-horizon-2020</u>
- European Fund for Strategic Investments http://www.eib.org/efsi/
- Vanguard initiative http://www.s3vanguardinitiative.eu/
- Smart Specialisation Platform <u>http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s3-thematic-platforms</u>
- Re-Confirm http://www.regione.toscana.it/documents/10180/14158584/RE-CONFIRM+.pdf/a1e26c09-81b9-416e-8770-29bee0c1b46e
- News item on Rovaniemi event <u>https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/news/3087/towards-synergies-for-industrial-modernisation/</u>
- Watify Tourism and Sports matchmaking event https://watify-rovaniemi.b2match.io/
- Policy brief on funding sources
 <u>https://www.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/plp_uploads/T01_Policy_Brief_</u>
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- European Commission Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund COM/2018/372 final - 2018/0197 (COD) <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=COM:2018:372:FIN</u>
- European Commission press release <u>http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-5108_en.htm</u>



Annexe 1: Summary of the current list of Industrial Modernisation Partnerships¹⁵

Industrial Modernisation Partnerships				
Thematic Area	Objective	Leading Regions		
Advanced manufacturing for energy applications in harsh environments (ADMA Energy)	One of the pilot actions inside the Vanguard Initiative. Its objective is to make the EU a global leader in manufacturing robust high integrity components for marine renewables and offshore energy applications.	Basque Country, Scotland		
Bioeconomy – Inter- regional cooperation on innovative use of non-food Biomass	One of the pilot actions inside the Vanguard Initiative. The objective is to develop new integral biobased value chains and new connections between sectors as chemistry, agro, wood & paper, cosmetics and energy.	Lombardy, Randstad		
Efficient and Sustainable Manufacturing	One of the pilot actions inside the Vanguard Initiative. The main objective is transferring to industry innovative solutions coming from research and exploiting the potential of smart specialisation in order to promote new efficient and high value-added supply chains.	Lombardy, Catalonia		
High Performance Production through 3D printing	One of the pilot actions inside the Vanguard Initiative. The key objective is to identify opportunities for joint-demonstration between regions, based on a solid mapping exercise and the detected complementarities between existing demonstration facilities and company needs.	Flanders, South Netherlands, Norte		
New Nano Enabled Products	One of the pilot actions inside the Vanguard Initiative. Focus is on identifying existing and missing value chains within nanotechnology across Europe, to build concrete joint demonstration cases.	Skåne, Emilia- Romagna		
Smart Regional Investments in Textiles Innovation	Aims to bring together stakeholders from the textile, clothing and related industries, their research, technology and education providers as well as public authorities and agencies in a joint effort to develop and implement strategies that will facilitate and accelerate the emerging industrial renewal in traditional manufacturing regions across Europe.	Valencia, North-East Romania		
Medical technology	The focus is on medtech crucial to Predictive, Preventive, Personalised, Participatory, Precision medicine and integrated care. The objective is to reconcile better health / healthy ageing with growth opportunities for healthcare industries.	Auvergne-Rhône- Alpes, Lombardy		
Photonics	The goal is to identify the European photonic clusters that have unique and valuable propositions, capabilities and capacities in the various supply and value chains.	Flanders, South- Netherlands		
Incorporation of SMEs to the Industry 4.0 paradigm and their assimilation of specialised digital services	The objective is to involve and facilitate for SMEs to move towards the Industry 4.0 paradigm by increasing their absorption of specialised digital services. For SMEs to successfully transition they need to change their technological, behavioural and business model.	Castilla y Leon, Catalonia, Mazowieckie, Slovenia, Tuscany, Valencia		
Sport	The objective is to help strengthen the sport industries at the EU level, by bringing together stakeholders from the sport sector and related industries.	Lapland		
Digitalisation and Safety for Tourism	The objective is to strengthen tourism industries in the EU, especially in tourism digitalisation and tourism safety. The main goal is to reinforce the regional innovation capacity to facilitate investments based on open innovation infrastructure or new technology by clusters in regional innovation ecosystems.	Andalucia, Lapland, Slovenia		
Cybersecurity	The aim is to develop interregional cooperation to create synergies among regions specialised in cybersecurity, facilitate the development of EU cybersecurity value chain, address the challenges that hamper commercialisation of products and services, and foster business investment on cybersecurity.	Bretagne		

¹⁵ dated May 2018



Annexe 2: Current list of relevant Interreg Europe projects

Interreg Europe projects linked to S3P-Industry Thematic Areas			
Project	Objective	Industry sector	
S3Chem	To improve the implementation of Regional Innovation Strategies with focus on chemical related topics.	Chemical industry	
P2L2	To improve the effectiveness of regional development policies in fostering science and innovation in advanced materials and related sectors.	Advanced materials	
RESET	To improve the effectiveness of regional development policies in fostering science and innovation in advanced materials and related sectors.	Textile and clothing	
NMP-REG	To improve regional policies for the delivery of innovation in nanotechnologies, new materials and new production technologies (NMP) to the manufacturing.	Nanotechnology	
BRIDGES	To improve RIS3 implementation governance and the delivery of the structural funds. The industry-led focus is bioeconomy.	Bioeconomy	
SmartPilots	To improve regional policies in support of Shared Pilot Facilities to increase their impact on the Key Enabling technology (KET) Industrial Biotech and the bioeconomy.	Shared pilot facilities	
TITTAN	To improve the quality and performance of the European regional healthcare systems in relation with the providing of products and services for a healthy and active ageing.	Healthcare	
HoCARE	To boost delivery of home care innovative solutions in regional innovation chains by strengthening of cooperation of actors in regional innovation system using Quadruple-helix approach.	Healthcare	
HELIUM	To improve policy instruments by increasing efficiency of public funding dedicated to health innovation.	Healthcare	
ITHACA	To improve regional policies and implementation across the smart health and care innovation cycle and enhance regional and interregional ecosystems.	Healthcare	
MEDTECH4 EUROPE	To promote the adaption of RDI facilities to the specificities of the medical technology domain.	Medical technology	
MANUMIX	To strengthen and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of innovation policy-mixes for advanced manufacturing at regional level through evaluation.		
STEPHANIE	To support a move towards public policy capable of promoting effective use of research and innovation in space technology based on photonics.	Photonics	
INNO PROVEMENT	To improve SME policy instruments targeting innovation activities and adapting them to Industry 4.0 requirements.	Industry 4.0	
Inno4Sports	To improve the performance and efficiency of development programmes able to support sports clusterisation processes.	Sports	
Digitourism	To improve policies in order to foster a tourist channelled innovation in the Digital Realities sector.	Tourism/ICT	
CYBER	To boost competitiveness of cybersecurity SMEs.	ICT	



Cross-thematic Interreg Europe projects			
Project	Objective	Cross-thematic component	
CLUSTERIX 2.0	To increase the number of collaborations between enterprises and knowledge institutions.	Cluster cooperation	
INKREASE	To mainstream policies and tools to increase the capacities of the various innovation ecosystems, reinforce the collaboration between research and business communities and exploit the economic valorisation processes of research results.	Research-enterprise coop.	
CLUSTERS3	To strengthen the innovation and competitiveness 'enablers'; a better alignment of clusters, policies and projects with RIS3; overcome the disadvantage of SMEs dimension and make regional procedures and programmes more cluster-friendly.	Cluster cooperation	
S34GROWTH	To develop and improve existing regional policy instruments to facilitate interregional collaboration.	Interregional collaboration	
ClusterFY	To improve regional/national policy instruments seeking to intensify clusterisation processes (KETs related), fostering clusters' and business networks interregional cooperation, integration into innovative value chains and better employment for the implementation of S3.	Cluster cooperation	
INNO INFRA SHARE	To improve efficiency and impact of the policies addressed to the exploitation of Research and Innovation Infrastructures (RII) for economic and social growth.	R&I infrastructure	
TraCS3	To support innovation infrastructure in S3 key priority sectors with strong innovation potential.	R&I infrastructure	

Interreg Europe projects with other relevant industry focus

Project	Objective	Industry sector
REMIX	To improve regional strategies and implementation aiming to enhance the sustainable mining and related industry.	Mining
CLIPPER	To improve policies in support to maritime industries' SMEs, through diversification and differentiation of business.	Maritime industry
UrbanM	To ensure that collaborative maker spaces like fab labs, living labs, open innovation centres and cross-sector incubators can thrive.	Manufacturing industry
TRINNO	To promote competitiveness by improving policy instruments for business support systems that focus on applying digital innovation in the local economy.	ICT
RECORD	To help SMEs in the railway sector invest more and better in research and innovation activities by redesigning the regional policy instruments accordingly.	Railway sector

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