

# The European Commission's science and knowledge service

Joint Research Centre



# **Enhancing Rural Innovation Capacity and Performance: policy challenges and exchange of experiences**

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# Smart Specialisation Platform

**Inside the European Commission -**  
Support to various policy DGs

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

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

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Smart Specialisation Platform. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the European Commission logo and the platform's name. Below this is a search bar and a menu with options like Home, S3 Platform, Sections, Tools, News, Events, and Knowledge Repository. The main content area features a banner for the 2018 SMARTER Conference on Smart Specialisation, a section titled 'What we can do for you' with a list of services, and a calendar for March 2018. There are also several colored buttons for 'Thematic Platforms', 'Guidance', and 'Targeted Support', and a 'Reports & Publications' section at the bottom.

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

# S3 in Practice: Supporting Innovation-led Growth in EU Regions

Promote Transnational learning, Interregional collaboration & partnerships via:

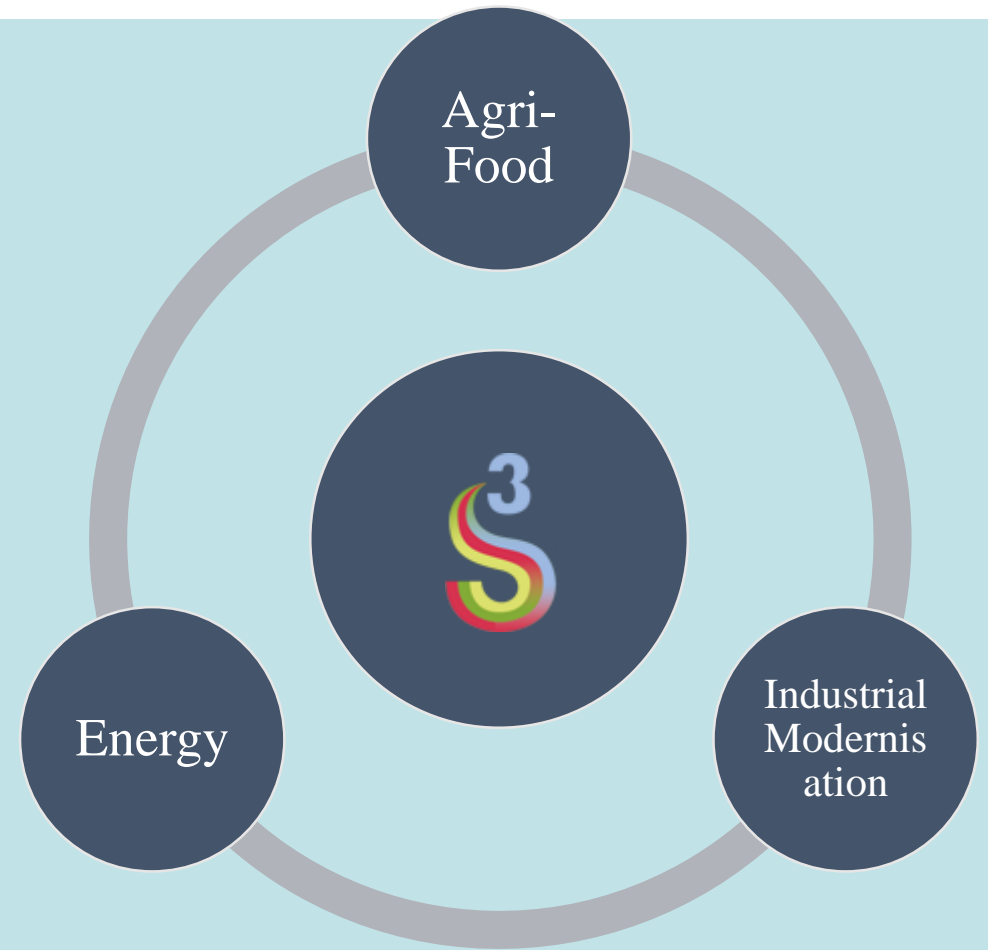
**Supporting tools**: Regional priorities (Eye@RIS3), Regional Benchmarking, ICT Monitoring, Digital Innovation Hubs...

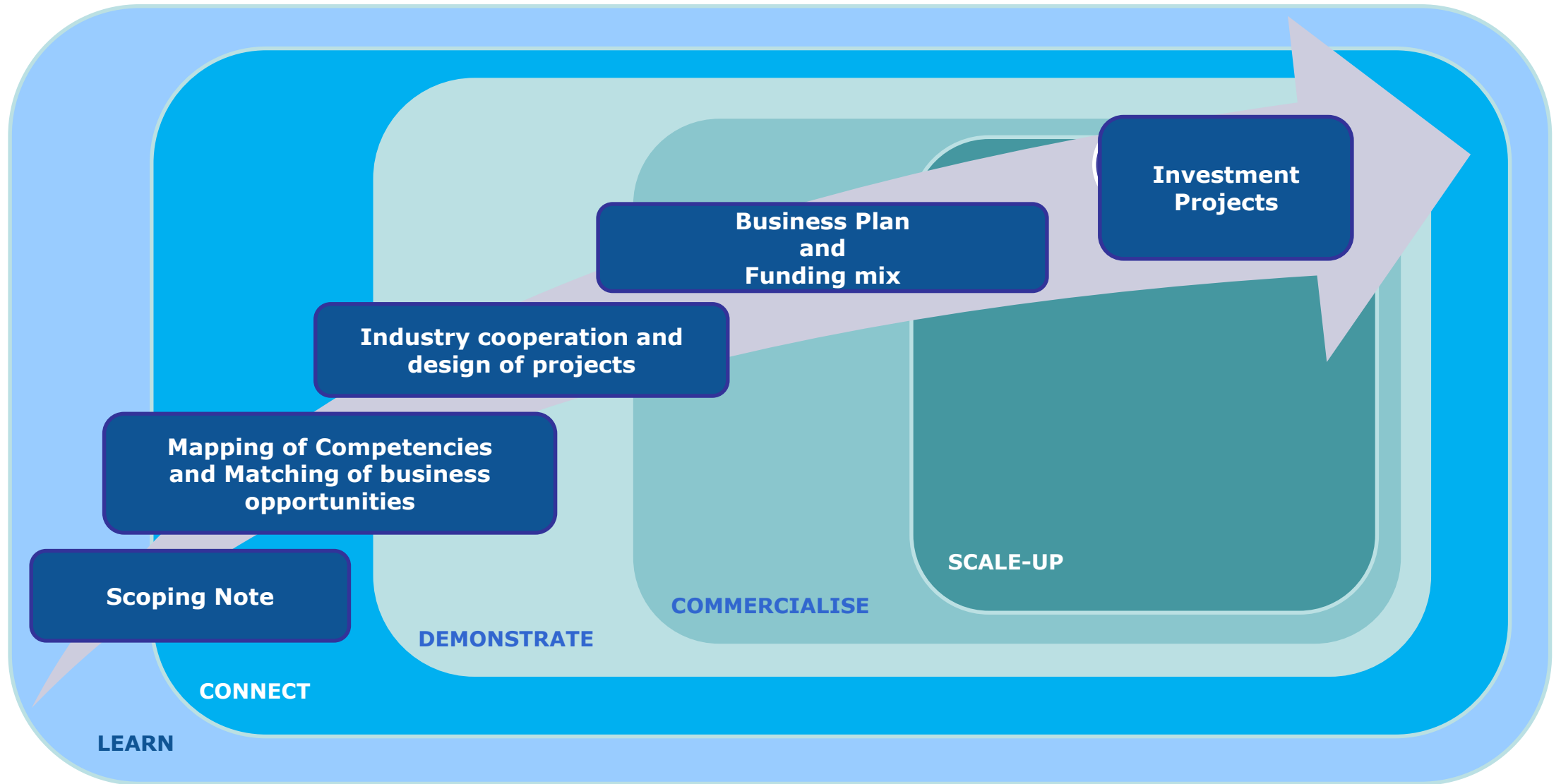
**Guidance**: RIS3 Guide, Implementation Handbook, Digital Agenda Toolbox, Good Practice Examples, FAQs...

**Analysis**: Conceptual and empirical developments, Policy Briefs, Peer Reviews, Working Papers...

# S3 Thematic Platforms: Agri-Food, Energy and Industrial Modernisation

- To support interregional cooperation in new growth areas, aiming to build an investment pipeline of bankable projects
- To provide tailored advice and help regions establish links with the business and research communities
- To help regions develop shared infrastructure such as testing facilities, pilot plants, etc.





**Areas of  
Shared  
Interest**

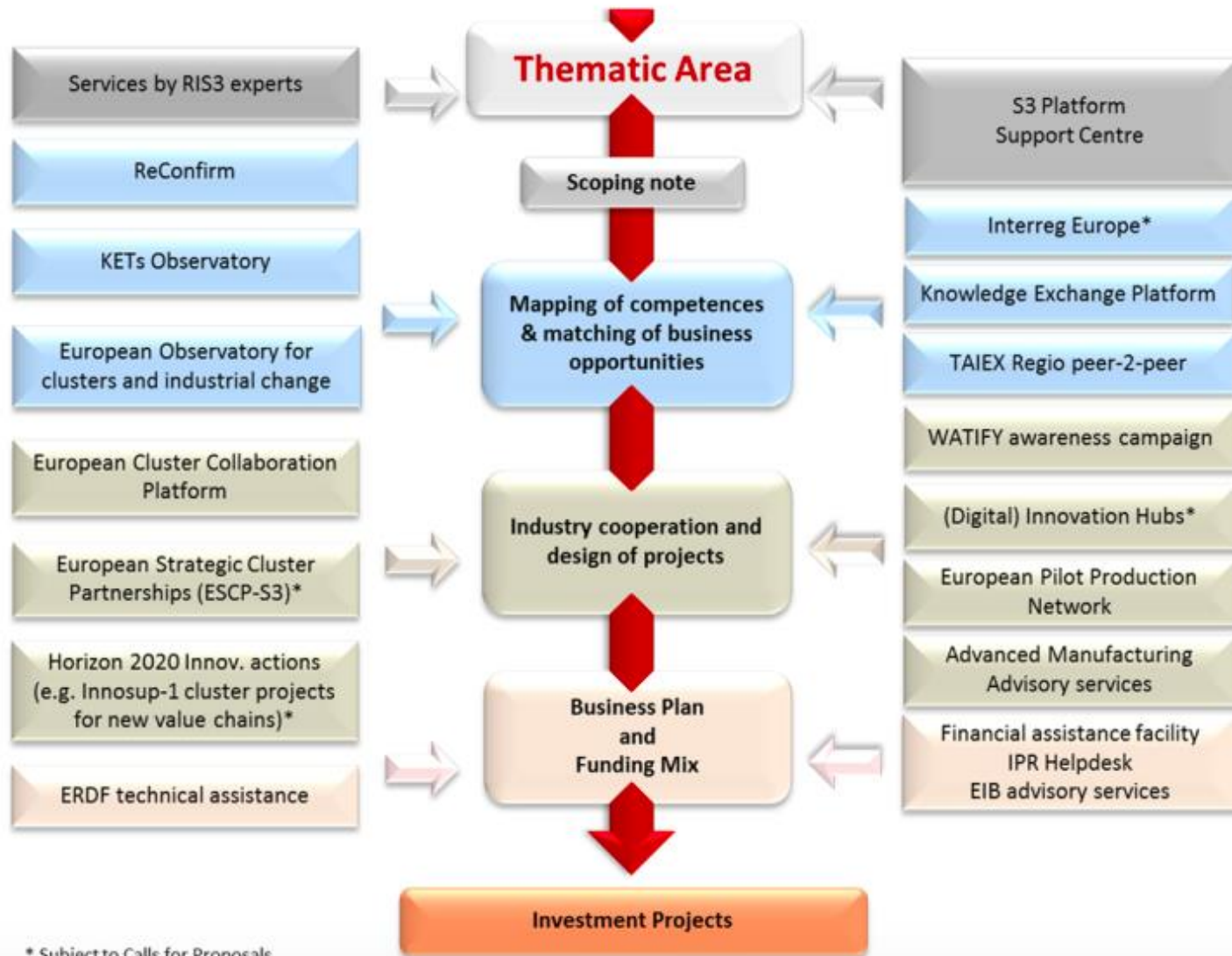
**Co-funded  
Joint  
Calls**

**Demonstration  
Projects (TRL6/7)  
Joint  
Pilots**

**Access to new  
funding and  
New  
Markets**

**New Products  
and Services  
New  
Value Chains**

# Direct EU support actions



Partnerships established under the three thematic Platforms benefit from a number of EU support actions in each phase.

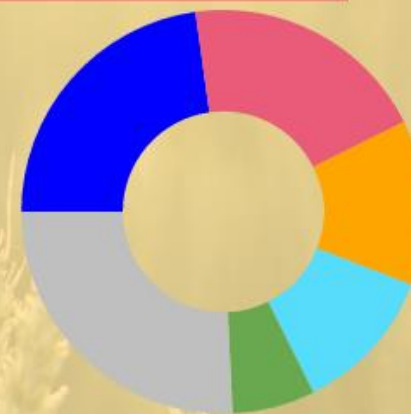
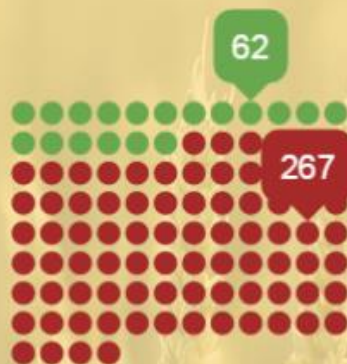
# Why a Thematic Platform on Agri-food?

## Agro-Food and related priorities

Top Category  
2015

270+

The number of encoded Agro-Food priorities

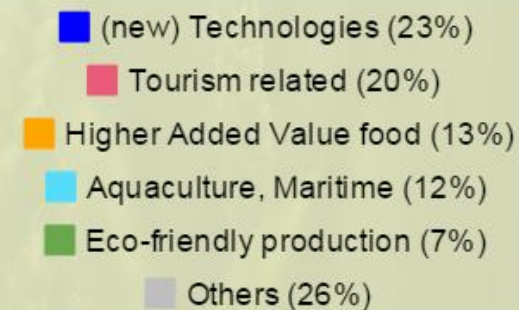


3 in 4

regions selected an Agro-Food related priority

1 in 5

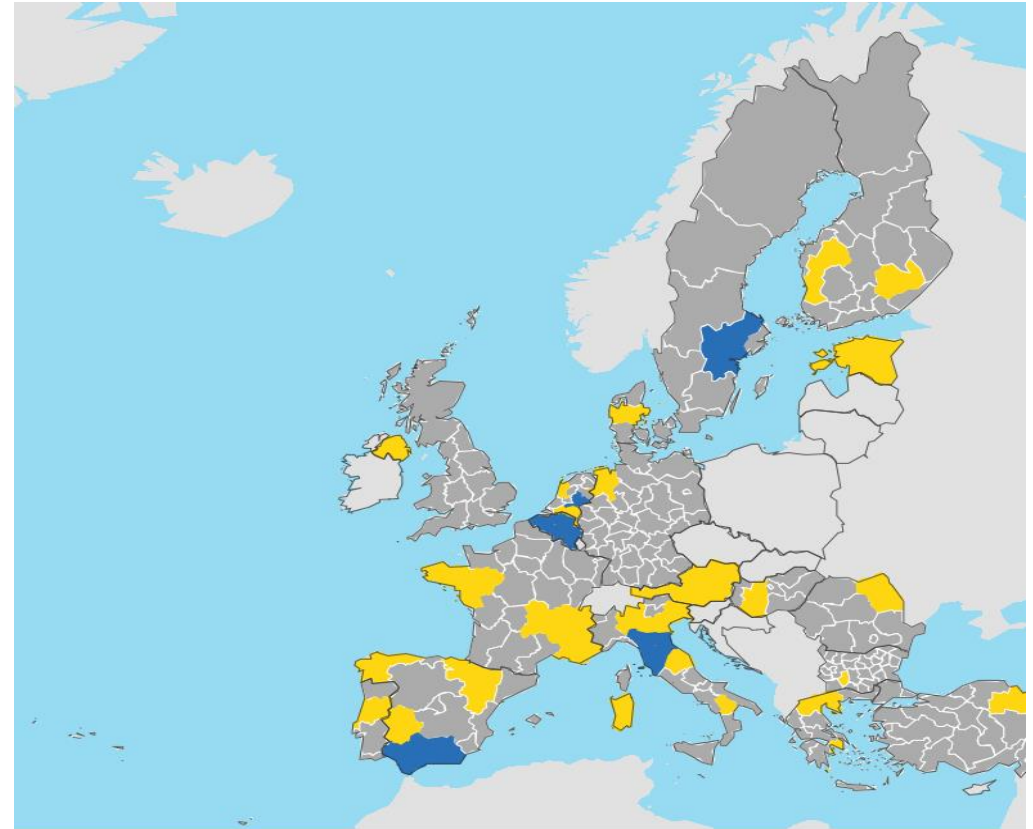
Agro-Food priorities focus on new technologies





# Agri-food Platform

- 49 territorial administrative units
- The majority of participating entities are located in Italy (9), Spain (8), France (4), Hungary (4) and the Netherlands (4)
- Many regions participate in more than one partnership (e.g. Galicia – 4, other 4 regions are participating in 3 partnerships)
- Consumer Involvement in Agri-Food (4), High-tech Farming (26), Nutritional Ingredients (10), Smart Sensors for Agri-Food (13), and Traceability and Big Data (20)



# 1. High Tech Farming (LR: Tuscany)



**Priority related to innovation and adoption of new technologies in the agricultural sectors:**

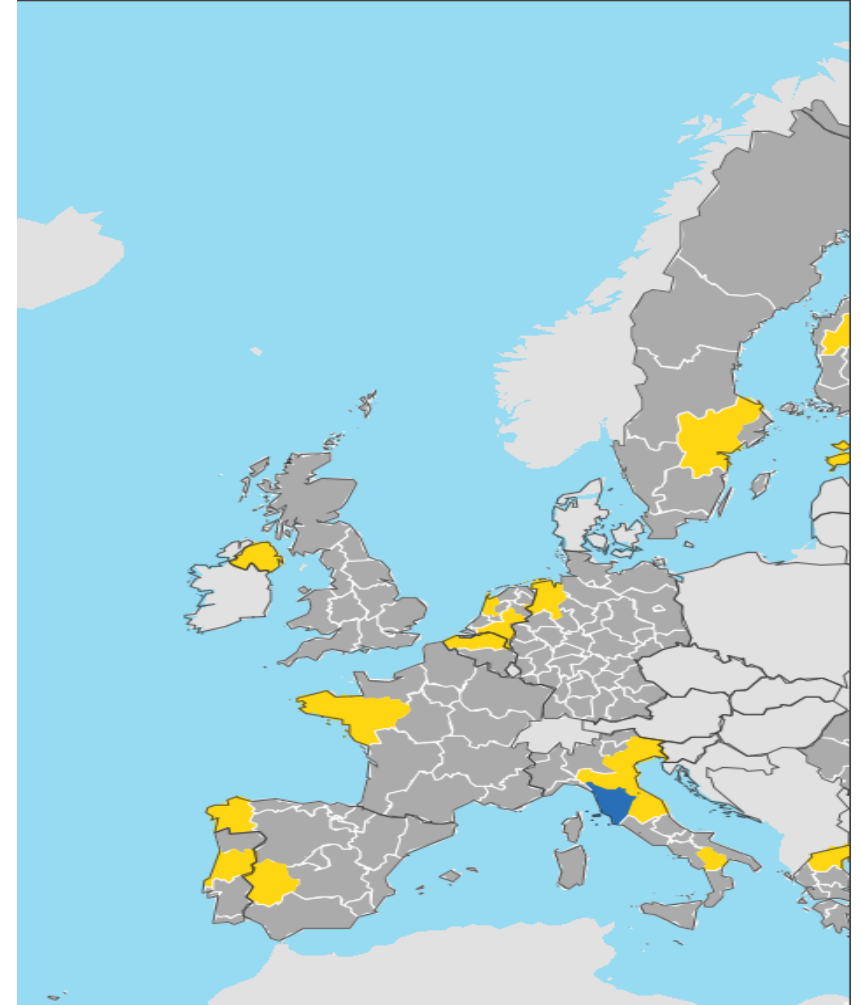
Focus on 4 Value Chains:

Arables, horticulture, protected cultivations & livestock

Technological areas explored:

- Sensors (meteo, soil, canopy, product, on-board/proximal, etc)
- Data (acquisition, analysis, layers/images, DSS)
- Machineries, Programming/automation, Robotics
- Technology oriented and educational oriented Services

26 participating regions



## 2. Traceability & Big Data (LR: Andalusia & Emilia Romagna)



**Encourages the creation of an ecosystem to support innovation and digitisation of the agri-food sector in Europe**

*Focus on three specific and one cross-cutting topics:*

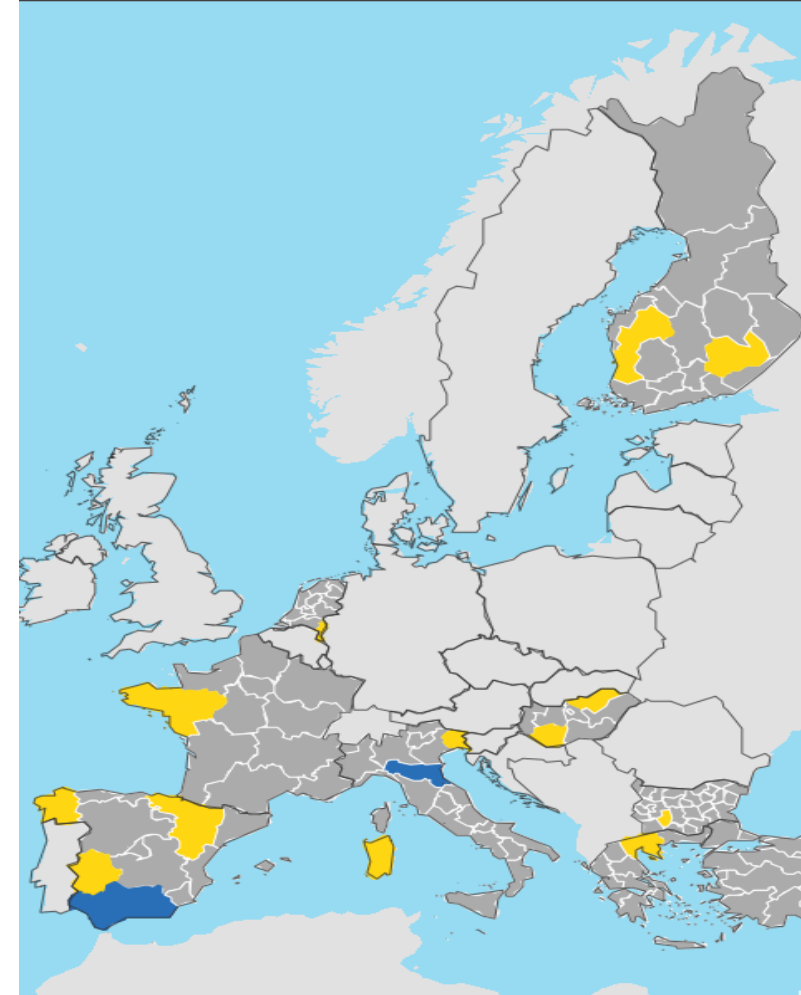
**ST 1.** TBD in the 'Lifecycles of the value chain'

**ST 2.** TBD 'Smart monitoring of the value chain (agricultural production, agri-food industry, logistics, distribution and consumers) to improve the overall competitiveness of the agri-food sector'

**ST 3.** TBD to 'incorporate consumer experience and the different operators in the food chain in decision-making processes'

**Cross-cutting topic:** Open data, interoperability, data governance and information security, cyber security.

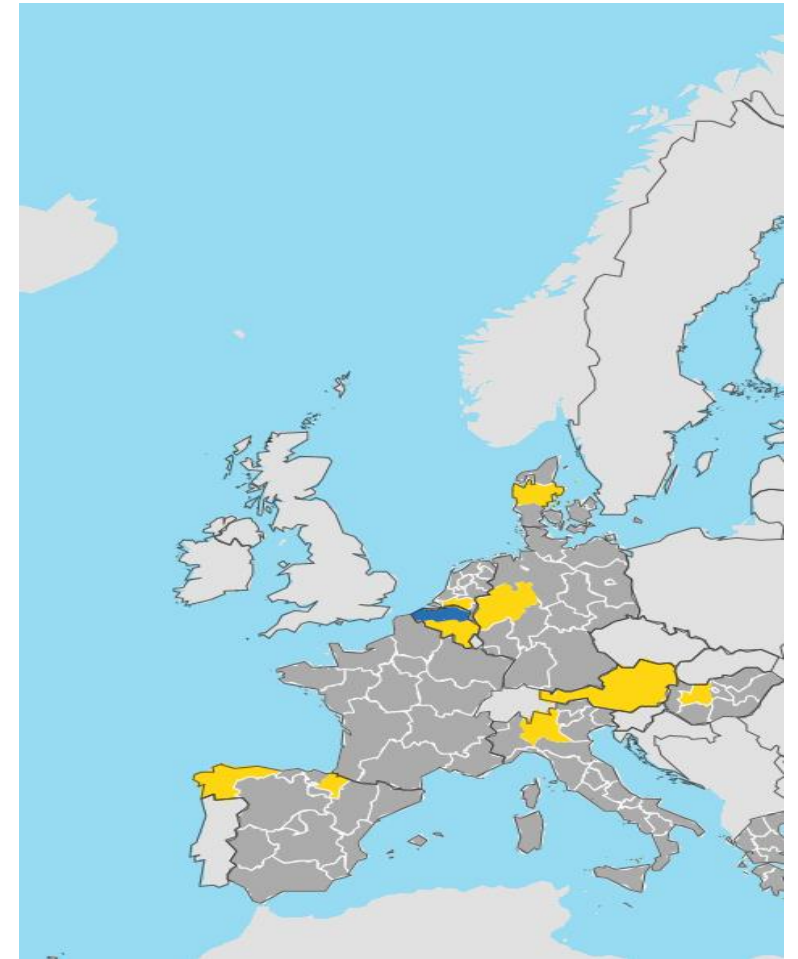
*20 participating regions*



### 3. Smart Sensor Systems 4 Agri-Food (LR: Flanders & Wallonia)



*13 participating regions*



#### **Focus on the transition towards Industry 4.0 of the food industry and mainly SMEs**

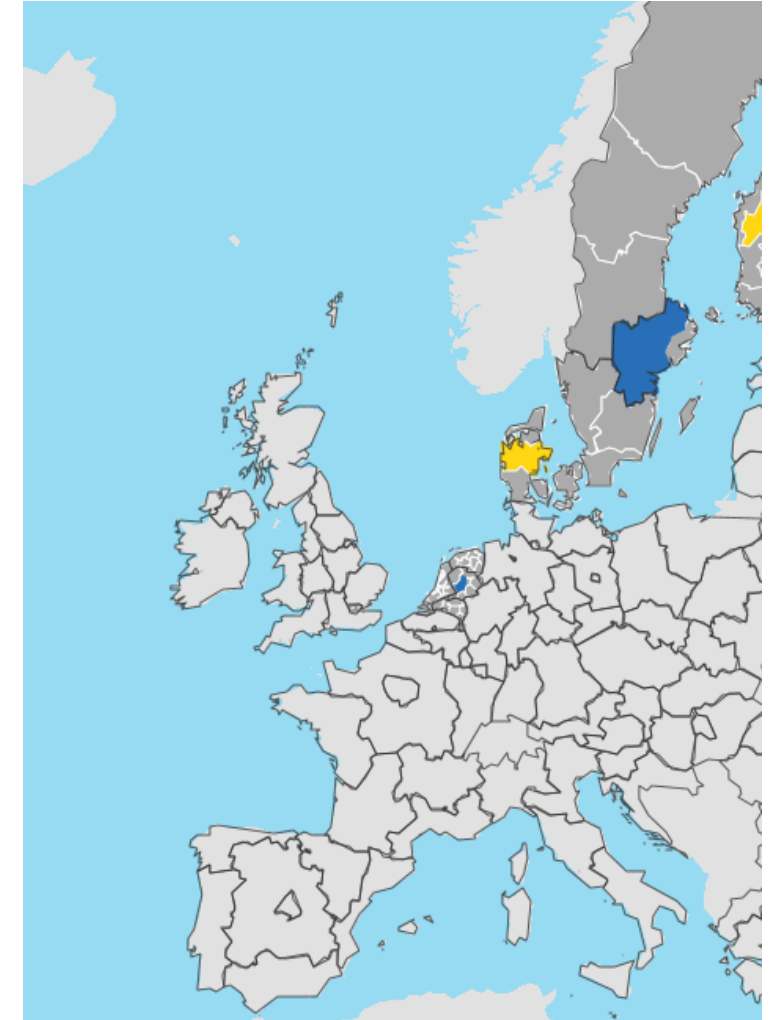
- The partnership **aims** at setting up a platform between agri-food and electronic/IT cluster organisations, relevant research and technology organisations (RTOs) and other related stakeholders, to lower the barriers for agri-food companies to access and implement the newest smart electronic systems and to enable the Internet of Things (IoT) transition of the agri-food industry.
- **Expected outcome:** Initially to enable agri-food companies to quickly and accurately measure and share specific parameters and take charge of their own quality and safety monitoring by the use of state-of-the-art sensor technology.

## 4. Consumer Involvement in AF Innovation (LR: Province of Gelderland/Region FoodValley & Östergötland)

*4 participating regions*



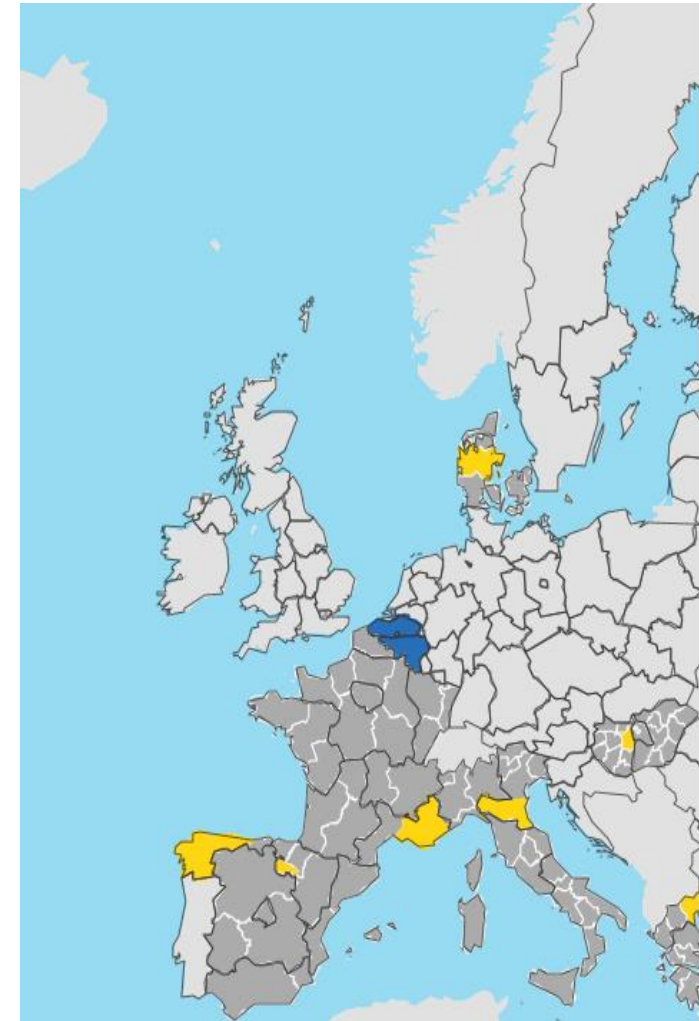
- The overarching vision of this partnership is to **involve consumers and end-users** in Agri-Food innovation, as an innovative approach to both regional growth and as part of the solutions to the global food challenges.
- This thematic partnership on Consumer Involvement in Agri-Food Innovation envisions **to empower communities of consumers** by exploring and developing different paths to enhance consumer involvement in the innovation process in this sector.
- The partnership aims to develop methods for enhancing and channelling consumer involvement in Agri-Food innovation. And to stimulate (investments in) **pilot-projects to validate various methods**, by exploring the paths among which this can be achieved.



# 5. Nutritional ingredients (LR: Wallonia & Flanders)



10 participating regions



**Aim:** To develop an interregional partnership between agri-food actors, facilitating the cross-over of innovation in the field of nutritional ingredients, stimulate cross-sectoral collaboration and accelerate the development and commercialization of novel and/or improved ingredients.

The partnership will focus on five (5) main challenges:

- to collect and interpret **consumer demands and trends** observed in the regional markets
- to identify of the most promising **innovative ingredients over Europe,**
- to set up and elaborate the **adequate innovation chain** among the involved regions
- to build a **strong technology network** over Europe, to support the development of innovative ingredients for a selected category or functionality
- to set-up a **database and its maintenance** for efficient data management through the partnership

# Agri-food and S3 publications



JRC TECHNICAL REPORTS

## Dynamics of Smart Specialisation Agri-food Trans-regional Cooperation

S3 Policy Brief Series  
No. 21/2017

Katerina Ciampi Stančová  
Alessio Cavicchi

2017



JRC SCIENCE FOR POLICY REPORT

## Food and gastronomy as elements of regional innovation strategies

Alessio Cavicchi  
Katerina Ciampi Stančová  
2016



# Smart specialisation and digital agenda



JRC SCIENCE FOR POLICY REPORT

Assessment of strategies for ICT investments using European Structural and Investment Funds: reflections from experts and practical examples

Katerina Ciampi Stancova  
Jens Sörvik  
2015



EUR 27668 EN



JRC TECHNICAL REPORTS

Digital Growth Strategies in EU Regions

*Taking Stock from Learning Activities*

53 Policy Brief Series  
No. 11/2014

Alexander Kleibrink, Jens Sörvik and Katerina Stancova

2014



Report 038 27073 DE



## Assessment Grid for Evaluating Strategic Policy Frameworks for Digital Growth & Next Generation Network Plans

This assessment grid follows a step by step approach to evaluate Strategic Policy Frameworks for Digital Growth and Next Generation Network (NGN) plans. The steps presented here follow closely the structure of the RIS3 Guide,<sup>1</sup> the guidance presented in the Digital Agenda Toolbox<sup>2</sup> and the ex-ante conditionalities for European Structural and Investment Funds (for Thematic Objectives 1.1, 2.1 and 2.2).<sup>3</sup> This assessment grid does not replace these guidance documents, but rather provides further assistance to policy-makers and experts in evaluating the strategy development processes of regions and Member States at the interface of two of the EU's flagship initiatives, the Digital Agenda for Europe (DAE) and the Innovation Union.

The guiding questions are sorted along the different steps of the strategy development process. The eight steps of this assessment grid are:

1. Context of the Strategic Policy Framework
2. Analysis
3. Governance
4. Priorities
5. Policy mix
6. Synergies with other programmes and funds
7. Monitoring and evaluation
8. Recommendations

In the assessment grid below some of the questions are underlined; this indicates that the question is relevant for regions (generic wording including inter, cross-border and transnational regions) and Member States (MS) investing in broadband under Thematic Objective 2.2 of the European Structural and Investment Funds.

<sup>1</sup> <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s3pguide>  
<sup>2</sup> <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/dae-toolbox>  
<sup>3</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/sources/docgener/informat/2014/dae\\_guidance\\_esif\\_part2\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/informat/2014/dae_guidance_esif_part2_en.pdf)





# Thank you!



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Any questions?