BRIDGES
Interreg Europe

European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

# PGI 00040 BRIDGES
## 4th interregional meeting
## June 7th and 8th, Helsinki, Finland

Contributing partner: CERTH, PP9
ADVISORY PARTNER

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# Purpose and structure of the presentation

1. To refresh the concept of RIS3 in terms of technological connectivity references in the CPR
2. To share a common definition of what technological connectivity is about
3. To give examples of technological connectivity
4. To discuss barriers
5. To discuss technological connectivity from the perspective of the BRIDGES project



8.6.2017

# 1. RIS3 & technological connectivity

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State of play re. the ex-ante conditionalities for IP 1, 2 and 3

1. **Research and innovation**
2. **ICT use and quality**

RIS³

**ICT access** ⇨ **Next Generation Access / Network Plan**

**3. Competitiveness of SMEs**

- **Small Business Act**
- **Late payment Directive**

**All 3 smart growth elements are inter-linked:**

- ▶ No socially & environmentally sustainable competitiveness without innovation
- ▶ Hardly any innovation & new business models without ICT
- ▶ SMEs are 99% of firms and offer 2/3 private sector jobs: they need to innovate!

Cohesion Policy

# 1. RIS3 & technological connectivity



**Technological connectivity is integral part of of the CPR (CPR 1303/2013, Title II PROGRAMMING, pages 385-387, on thematic objective 1) :**

"(1) strengthening research, technological development and innovation:

(a) enhancing research and innovation **(R&I)** infrastructure **[...]** and capacities to develop R&I excellence and promoting centres of competence, in particular those of European interest;

(b) promoting business [...] investment in innovation and research, and developing links and synergies between enterprises, R&D centres and higher education, in particular product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation and public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation [...] supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advanced manufacturing capabilities and first production in Key Enabling Technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies". (*) ICT, photonics, nano-electonics, nano- and bio-technologies, advanced materials, etc..

## 2. Definition of technological connectivity



### What do we mean by technological connectivity in the knowledge economy literature?

- Shift from traditional economies to ones where the production and use of knowledge in different disciplines are dominant
- Intra and inter regional knowledge relatedness between technological domains, with many variations existing

### How does technological connectivity or knowledge transfer, or interactions between university/research and industry differ, or not differ?

- Research institutes capacities to coordinate industrial collaboration
- Enhancement of both ways knowledge flows through long term commitments
- Funding analogous to long term collaboration (future) perspectives
- Creation of total business environment favouring exploitation of innovation potential (in industry and research institutes)

## 3. Examples of technological connectivity



- Any transfer of knowledge
- Five out of the eight types of connectivities we identified as needed through the innovation maps in the BRIDGES project innovation maps (improvement of TRL, KET applications, regional innovation chain, centres of competence, access to research services)

# 4. Identified barriers

- At regional level, RIS3 does not coordinate connectivity actions planned and/or implemented by several actors
- Lack of operational capabilities by regional authorities personnel to coordinate efforts that will create a knowledge-based business environment that will support technological excellence and connectivity, diffusion of innovation and technologies, creation of spin-offs and key investments attraction
- Overestimation of businesses' capacity to absorb external (imported) technology and incorporate it in a well planned, coherent strategy and action plan for innovation and growth
- Focus on regional promising businesses need for connectivity with centers of excellence at interregional level underestimating the positive effect at regional level of the reverse procedure: Connectivity of center of excellence of the region with businesses abroad.
- RIS3 may focus on knowledge-based development, BUT does not take into account the connectivity concept during planning, neither at regional nor at national level, though indirect considerations are present.
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# 4. Identified barriers

- Lack of existing methodologies on how to make connectivity core element of RIS3. Need for methodology to incorporate during RIS3 revision.
- Intra-regional connectivity is important within the region to activate and optimise functioning of regional innovation system around an innovative and promising economic sector. In cases of less developed regional innovation system, inter-regional connectivity can trigger the procedure.
- No clear link between the concept of technological connectivity and the physical connectivity between regions (e.g. transport and logistics hubs, transport networks).
- No clear role of "Mega Regions" in technological connectivity, meaning regions bordering or in proximity to work closely together even if they belong to other countries
- Lack of reliable KPIs, long term success indicators etc., to measure technological connectivity
- There is no alignment between national RIS3 and regional RIS3
- National technological clusters have no clear influence on RIS3 at regional level.

# 5. Technological connectivity within the BRIDGES project, state of play today (findings from the innovation maps):

- Type 1 Programme based: Centre of competence & associated business application projects
- Type 2 Access to research services
- Type 3 KET applications
- Type 4 TRL improvement / certification
- Type 5 Innovation management chain
- Type 6 Constant renewal services (upstreaming and downstreaming, Annex I of the CPR)
- Type 7 Commercialisation of research, cross border
- Type 8 Direct research to business cooperations

# 5. Technological connectivity within the BRIDGES project

## Next streps

**Through IWG2 session to select GPs**

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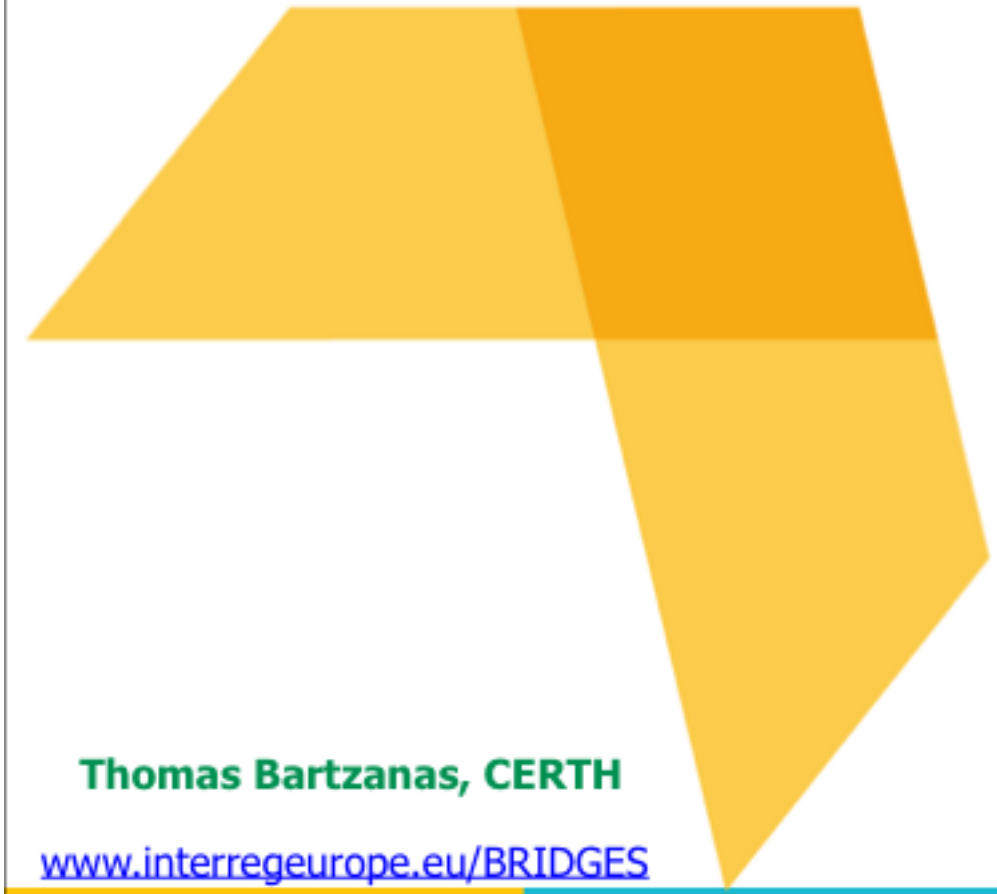

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