

Press Release



Upcoming RELOS3 meeting discusses deploying Smart Specialisation Strategies at the local level

The Interreg Europe project RELOS3 is going to hold its 5th thematic event on 13 and 14 June in Seville (Spain). The event is jointly organised by the project and the Joint Research Committee of the EU, which is based in Seville.

RELOS3 is a five-year (2017-2021) Interreg Europe project that proposes an innovative approach of smart specialisation strategies deployment with a local / regional perspective. Its consortium is made of institutions from Sabadell (Spain - lead partner), Bologna (Italy), Wielkopolska (Poland), Emmen (The Netherlands), Tartu (Estonia) and Malta.

The meeting has attracted about 50 participants from all around the EU, all focussed on finding the most effective methods of implementing the EU's guidelines on Smart Specialisation (which underlie the EU's structural funds). As such the meeting's goals have been set as follows:

- To give local representatives tools to understand the different components of the most recent concepts and trends in innovation policy at subnational and local scale.
- To make them aware of the potential of RIS3 to promote innovation and competitiveness in their local context.
- To present to political representatives of RELOS3 partners what has been achieved in the framework of the project

Together, it will remind everybody about the potential improving and fostering economic development plans to implement new economic innovation policies, usually called local or regional action plans.

To achieve this goal, creative and collaborative workshops have been set up, with participants from other Interreg Europe projects, from the Joint Research Centre of the European Union and of course practioners from the RELOS3 partnership.

Participants will also be informed about the baseline study that the project has commissioned to the *Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna* in Pisa. It describes the project partners' situation with regards to smart specialisation. Within the report, there are four thematic topics that can be used as a benchmark, and for inspiration the good practice database can be used.

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