



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

13 - Interregional Innovation Investments

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European Commission EISMEA

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Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument

What	For whom	How	How much
Commercialisation and scaling up of innovation projects for the development of European value chains	Interregional Q-Helix ecosystems: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Businesses• Researchers• Civic society &<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public administrations	Implemented under direct management. DG REGIO supported by EISMEA	Cohesion Policy ERDF (Art. 13) € 570 million (current prices)



Interregional Innovation Investments

STRAND 1: Financial and Advisory Support for Investments in Interregional Innovation projects



- Support partnerships in the **market uptake and scale-up of innovative solutions** in S3 priority areas
- **Co-investment**
Portfolio of innovative investment projects
- **Competitiveness of EU value chains**



STRAND 2a: Financial and Advisory Support for the development of value chains in less developed regions



- Build **experience and capacity** of less developed regions to **participate in EU value chains**
- **Partnerships** for small scale **investments projects between LDR** and more developed regional innovation ecosystems
- **Cohesion and growth in Less Developed Regions**

in both strands cohesion dimension
and focus on S3 priorities



Strand 1: Specific Objectives



Helping ecosystems to connect demand and supply side

Supporting companies investments in shared S3 priority areas

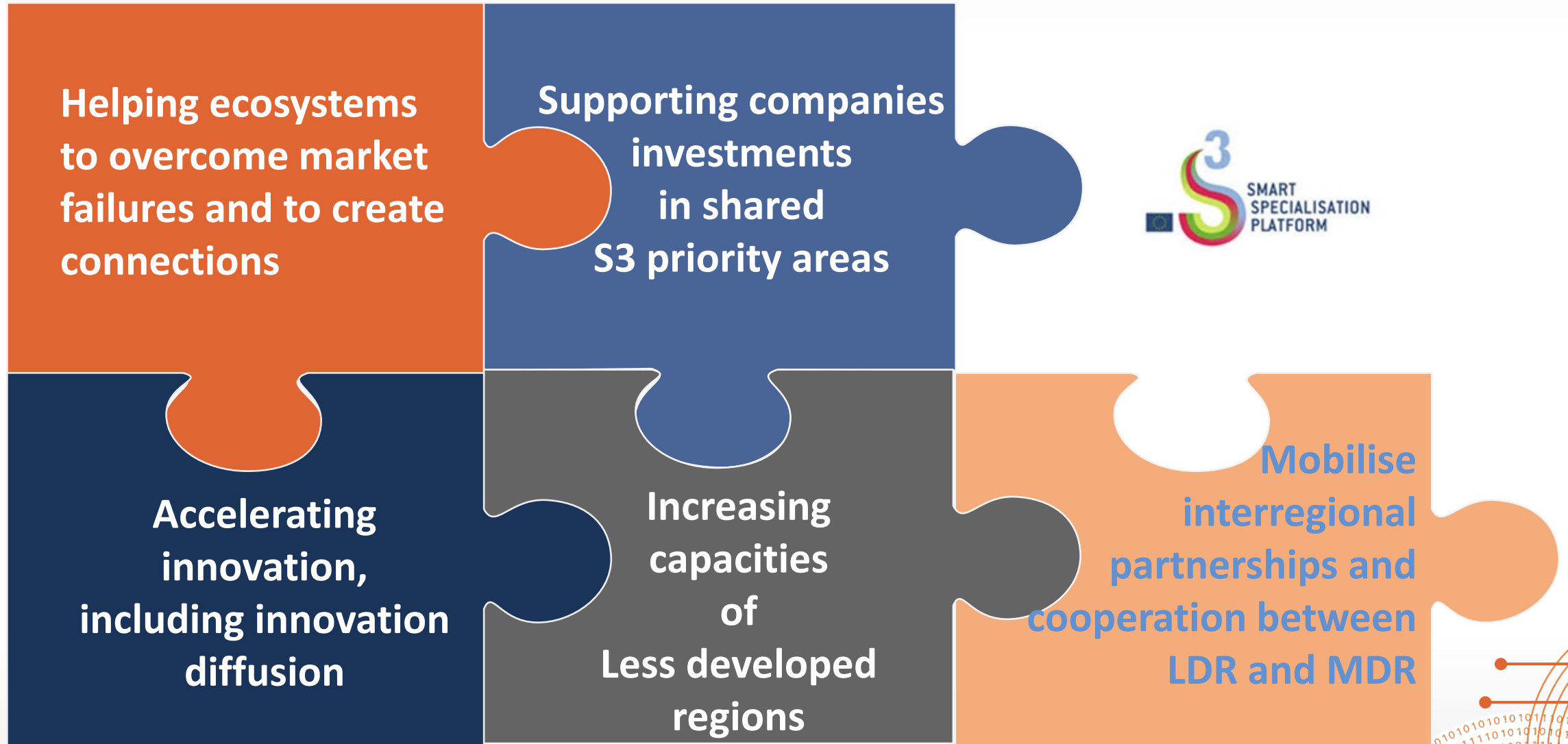


Accelerating interregional innovation

Increasing competitiveness of EU value chains

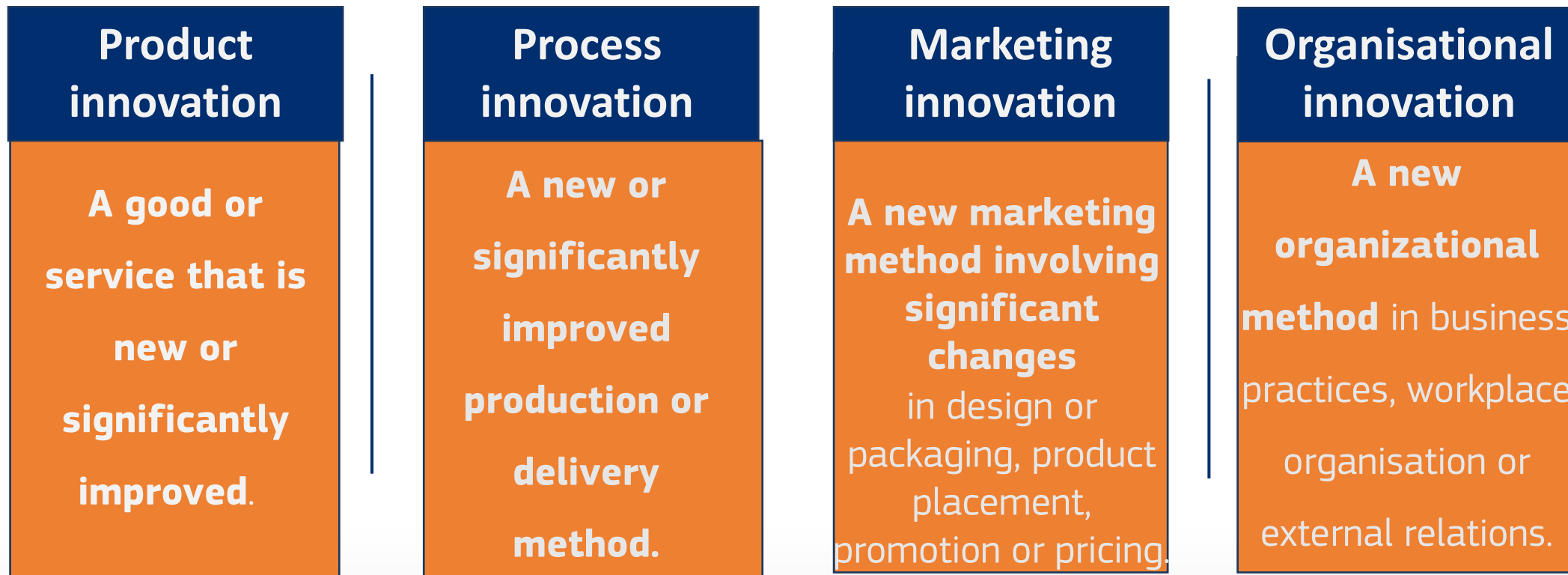


Strand 2: Specific objectives: creating value chains in less developed regions



Key features: all types of innovation

Innovation (Oslo Manual): New or improved products, processes, services, technologies or business models made available to markets, governments and society. Uptake of innovative technologies or solutions (**TRL 6-9**)

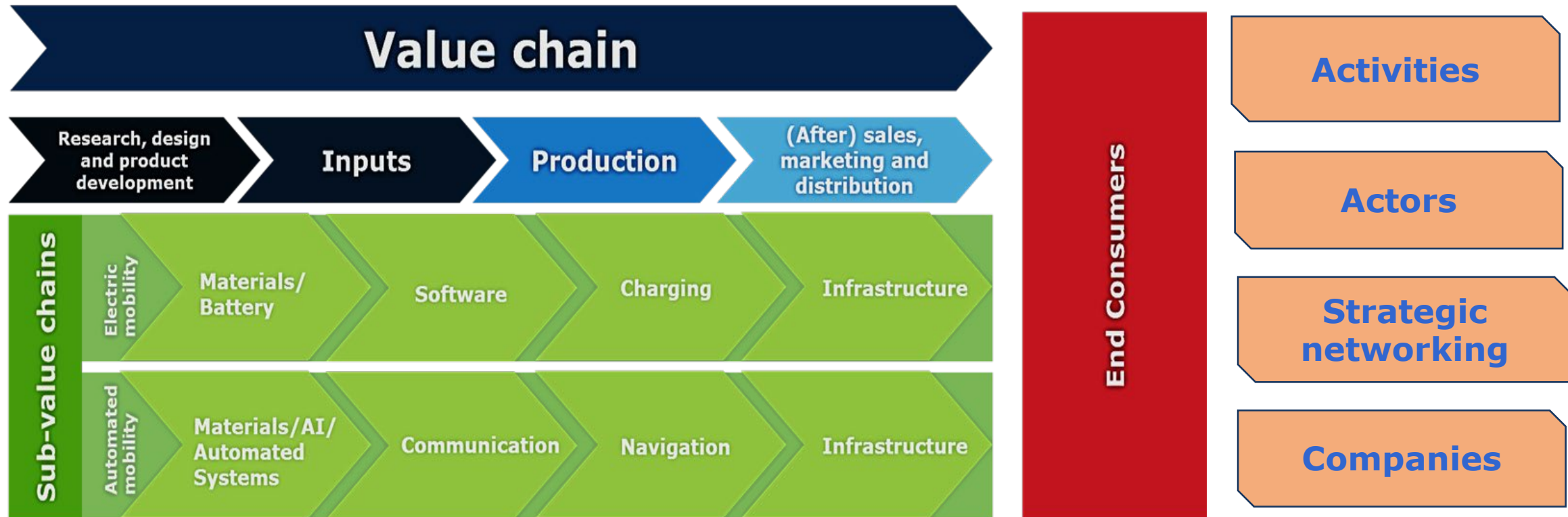


Uptake of innovative technologies or solutions TRL>6



Key features: Value chain dimension

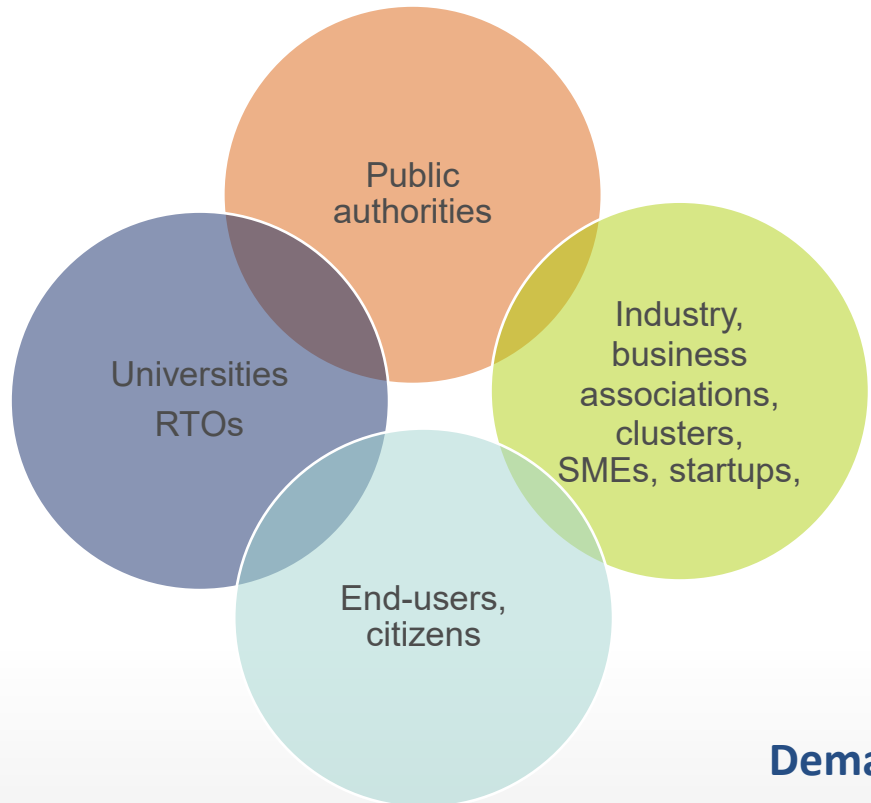
Example of Autonomous Vehicles



Interconnected across sectors and borders

Consortium conditions

Q-helix partnerships on behalf of a regional / national ecosystems



Demand and Supply side

Endorsed by competent bodies for Smart Specialisation

At the appropriate NUTS level (mostly NUTS 2)

Minimum conditions in terms of ecosystems involved

(different for strand 1 and 2a)

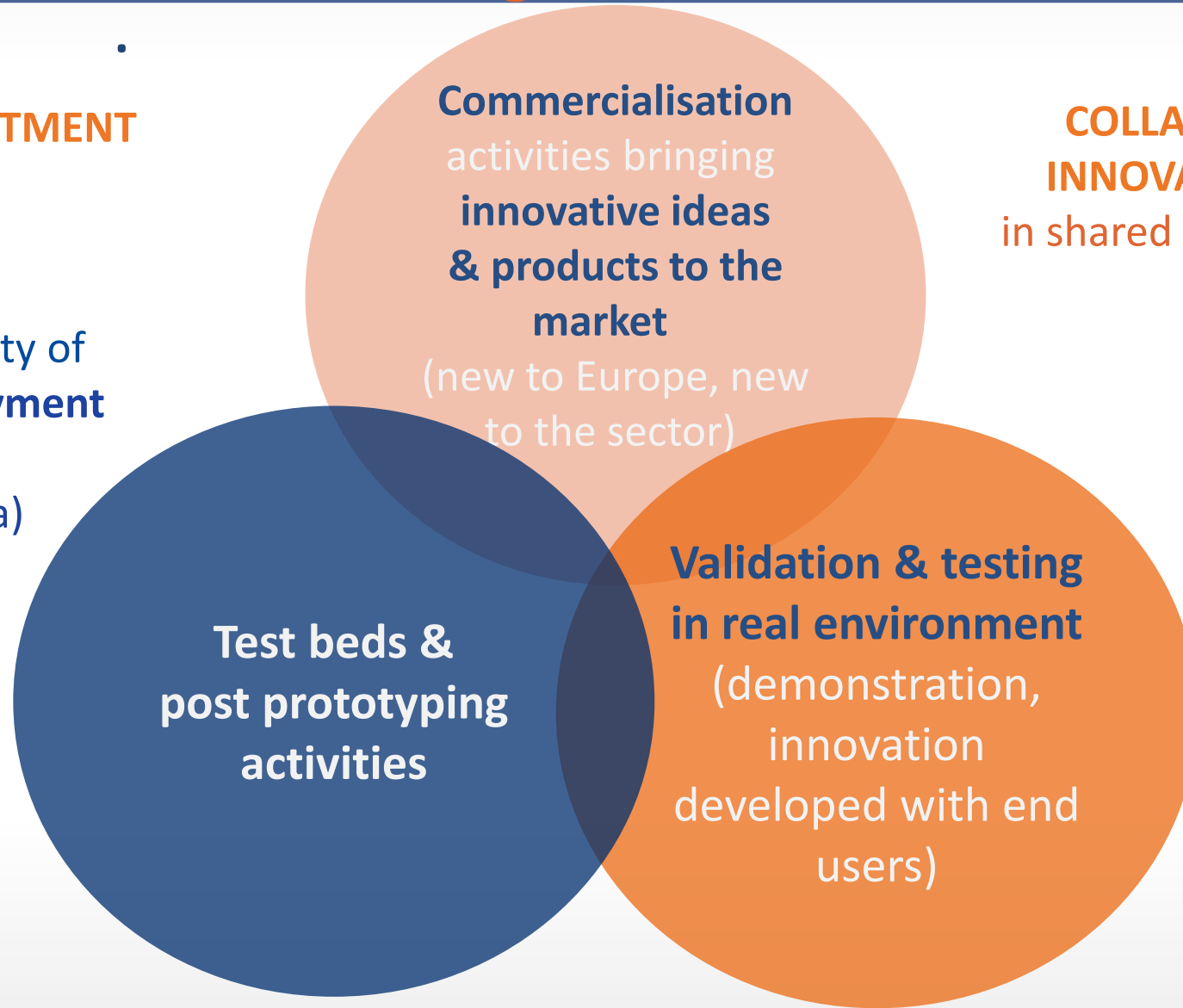


Types of activities

Activities instrumental to bring innovative ideas and new products to the market

VALUE CHAIN INVESTMENT PORTFOLIOS (INV1 - 2a)

Including possibility of “**innovation deployment & diffusion**” (only for INV2a)



COLLABORATIVE JOINT INNOVATION ACTIVITIES in shared S3 areas (INV1 - 2a)

Capacity building and supply side activities (only for INV2a)



Strand 1 vs Strand 2a

	Strand 1	Strand 2a
Objective	Development of EU globally competitive value chains New to Europe” or “new to the application sector	Develop value chains in Less Developed Regions (LDR) Innovation diffusion and multiple market applications,
Eligible activities	Demand side activities Minimum 5 partners, 5 regions, 3 countries, coordinator non-profit from More Developed Regions	Capacity building, demand and supply side activities Minimum 3 partners, 3 regions, 2 countries, coordinator non-profit from LDR, Transition Regions or Outermost
Consortium		
Budget 2022	€ 36.8 M	€ 32.9 M
Indicative project size	€ 4 – 10 M	€ 2 – 3 M



Strand 1 and 2a Topics (challenge based but wide spectrum)

STRAND 1

STRAND 2



DIGITAL TRANSITION
Topic 1 - I3-2021-INV1-DIGIT: Innovation
investments Strand 1- DIGIT

DIGITAL TRANSITION
Topic 1 - I3-2021-INV2a-DIGIT: Innovation
investments Strand 2a-
DIGIT



GREEN TRANSITION
Topic 2 - I3-2021-INV1-GREEN: Innovation
investments Strand 1-GREEN

GREEN TRANSITION
Topic 2 - I3-2021-INV2a-GREEN: Innovation
investments Strand 2a- GREEN



SMART MANUFACTURING
Topic 3 - I3-2021-INV1-MANU: Innovation
investments Strand 1 – MANU

SMART MANUFACTURING
Topic 3 - I3-2021-INV2a-MANU: Innovation
investments Strand 2a – MANU





Digital Transition – Specific objectives

Investments in businesses & administration:

- To *unlock digital growth potential & deploy innovative solutions*
- To *improve the accessibility & the efficiency of services* and bridge the *digital divide*
- To *support interregional investments* projects in the following areas:

- *Digital economy & innovation*
 - *Digitisation of the public administration*
 - *Digitalisation of healthcare*
- 




Green Transition – Specific objectives

- Support *innovative value chain investments*
 - Boost the economy through *green technology* and create **sustainable industry/transport.**
 - Support to interregional investments in *sustainable food systems, sustainable agriculture, clean and efficient energy, sustainable industry, building and renovating, sustainable mobility, eliminating pollution, climate action.*
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SMART Manufacturing – Specific objectives

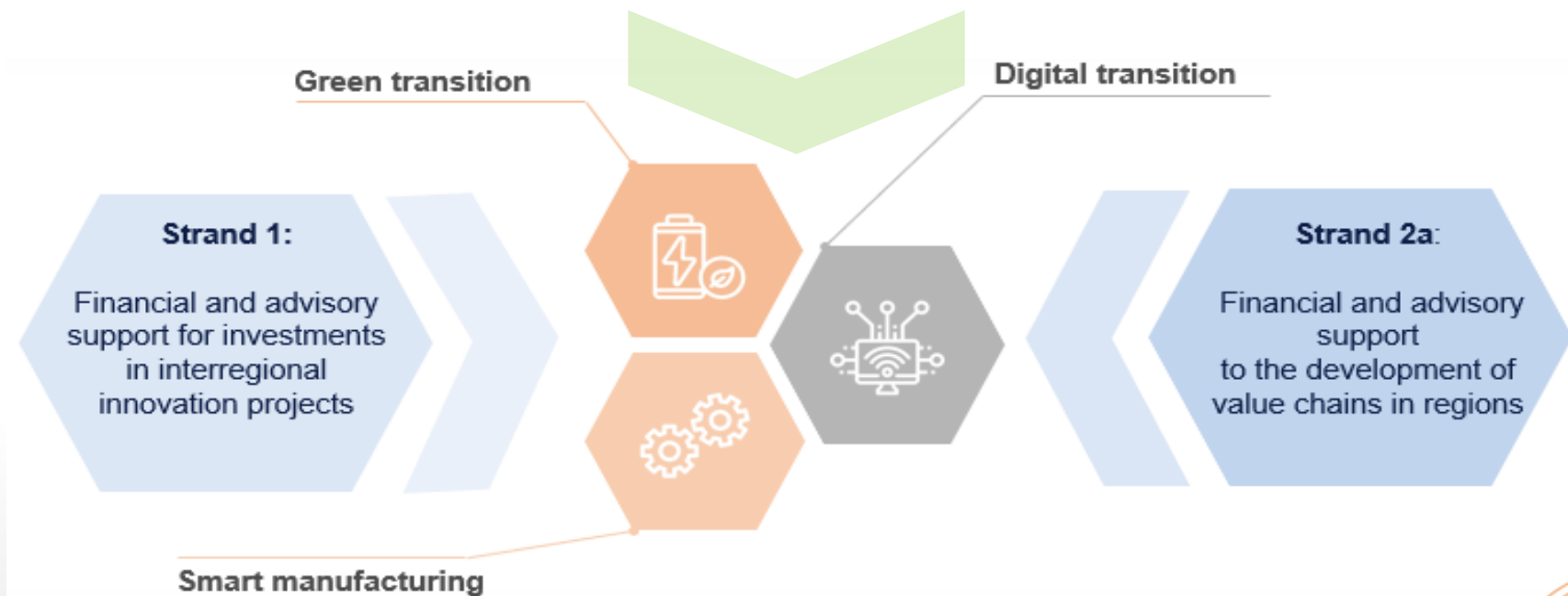
- Improve the delivery of *new or improved products, processes or services in the manufacturing industry*
 - Development of *complex products* and *improvement of processes to lower waste, pollution, material consumption and energy use*
 - Uptake of **new or improved manufacturing solutions** to face the challenge of *digitalisation* and to promote the shift towards a more environmentally sustainable production.
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I3 – Strand 2b - General Objective: capacity building

- **Strong cohesion dimension**
- **Linkages between EU regions**

Strand 2b
Capacity building in less developed regions

- **Capacities for Strand 1 & 2a participation**
- **Interregional cooperation to share good practices, experiment new approaches**



<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-results;programCode=I3>

Capacity building – Strand 2b call I3 2021-2022

WP

What	For whom	How	How much
Increase the capacity of regional innovation ecosystems in less developed regions to collaborate in EU value chains	Innovation actors such as public administrations, research and academia, industry, end users (Q-Helix)	Implemented under direct management . DG REGIO supported by EISMEA	Available budget per call € 7,155,858.00

I3-2022- CAP2b → Call opening: 15.12.2022 – Call deadline: 16.03.2023



Themes and Priorities

Capacity building
and investment
project piloting



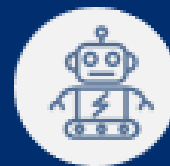
**DIGITAL
TRANSITION**



**GREEN
TRANSITION**



**SMART
MANUFACTURING**



**Deep tech
innovation**

Company engagement and identification of a pipeline of investment projects

Increase investment readiness & capacity for interregional business & investment plans

Technical assistance to structure and reinforce the local ecosystems

Building capacities to understand value chains articulation and implementation

Connecting the less developed regions with other ecosystems in More Developed Transition Regions

Cohesion status, [link](#) to the Commission implementing decision.

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021D1130&from=EN>

Eligible activities

Ecosystem building and Connection between Q-Helix ecosystem actors, building capacities of innovation actors to participate in value chains

Value chain mapping and benchmarking in S3 priority areas (roadmapping)

Supporting the identification of investments projects (match making, increasing the investment readiness)

Networking and staff exchange schemes (EU networks, S3TP, ECCP, ETPs, clusters visits, company visits...)

**Reinforcing
ecosystems
internally**

**Connect
ecosystems
externally**



Geographic location – Duration – Budget – Funding Rate



Proposals must be related to activities taking place in the eligible countries and S3 regions covered by the consortium.



Projects are expected to range between **18 and 24 months**.

Project budgets (maximum grant amount) are expected to be around **EUR 500 000 – EUR 1 500 000** per project.

The costs will be reimbursed at the **EU funding rate** fixed in the Grant Agreement (**up to 100%**).

Cohesion status, [link](#) to the Commission implementing decision.

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To know more about **I3 Instrument**:

https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/programmes/interregional-innovation-investments-i3-instrument_en

Reach us: **EISMEA-I3-INSTRUMENT@ec.europa.eu**



Project media

