

WIFI: LVEU

Password: 12345678ab!

EARTO Innovation School

Regional Innovation Ecosystems Post-2020: the Role of Technology Infrastructures



14 January 2019, Brussels

RTOs Solve Real-World Problems



Plan your predictive maintenance strategy with Big Data



Monitor your cows' health and location from your app



Eat delicious cakes with no added sugar



Make the green chemicals of the future out of wood and waste



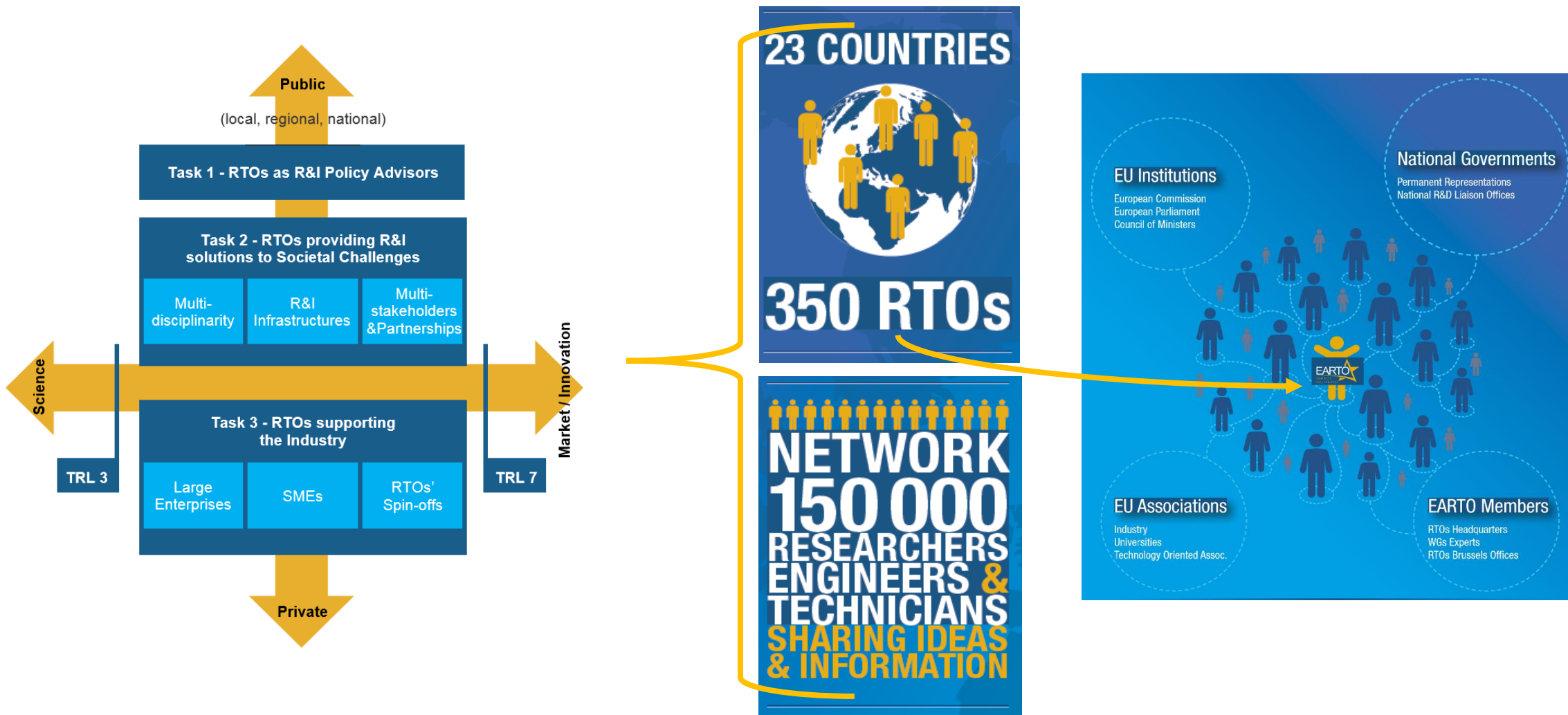
Manage air traffic in the drone age



Tan leather without waste water by using CO₂

EARTO Motto: **Impact Delivered!**

EARTO Vision: **Technology for a Better World**



EARTO WG Structural Funds

Members: 35 experts discussing issues related to EU Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), how RTOs can support regions in Smart Specialisation Strategies & how to best achieve synergies between ESIF & FPs

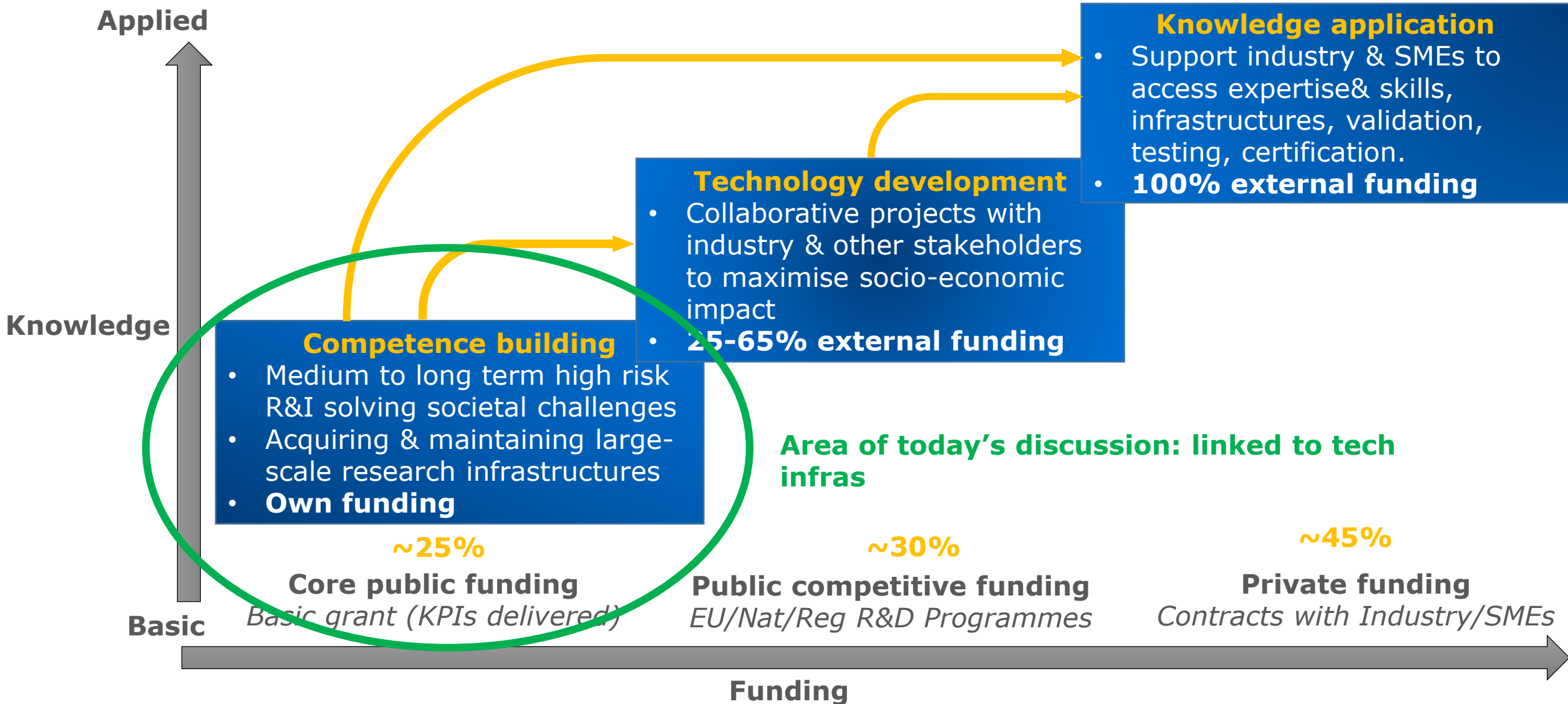
Papers Produced:

- ERRIN-EARTO Comments on "Enabling synergies between ESIF, Horizon 2020 and other R&I related Union programmes" - 1 July 2014 – [link](#)
- JRC Policy Brief on RTOs and Smart Specialisation – October 2015 - [link](#)
- EARTO Inputs to ESIF Simplification – 19 April 2016 – [link](#)
- EARTO Press Release - Kallas Report, First Steps Towards a New Approach to Cohesion Policy - 12 July 2017 - [link](#)
- EARTO Press Release - Boosting Innovation-Led Growth in EU Regions - EARTO Welcomes EC Communication on Smart Specialisation Strategies - 20 July 2017 - [link](#)
- EARTO Analysis of EC Proposal for a Regulation laying down common provisions on the ERDF, the ESF+, the CF, and the EMFF – 5 July 2018 – [link](#)
- EARTO & Vanguard Initiative Statement on Synergies Post-2020 - 16 November 2018 – [link](#)



Organisation of EWRC sessions since 2015
Involvement in DG REGIO ESIF Structured Dialogue
Collaboration with JRC RIS3

RTOs' Funding Model



Dynamic Regional R&I Ecosystems Through Excellent Technology Infrastructures

- **Tech Infra are used to:**
 1. investigate completely new technology piloting and spin-off incubation,
 2. test changes in existing products,
 3. validate emerging concepts, either with single industry partners or together with a consortium of several players.
- **Crucial role of Tech Infra:**
 - for any innovative technology to **reach high enough maturation level** and to be validated before they can enter the market
 - **lower both the costs and the risks of R&I investment**, making it more accessible to industries of all sizes



Dynamic Regional R&I Ecosystems Through Excellent Technology Infrastructures

- **Costs get higher:** Industry relies on Competence Centres to access excellent technology infrastructures, as they very often cannot afford the investment needed to operate such infrastructure
- **Skills required gets more complex:** Tech Infra hosted by Competence Centres require high level of investments and highly skilled staff to be maintained and kept at the forefront of innovation

Key issue today: Ensuring long term sustainability of Tech Infra is crucial and requires support

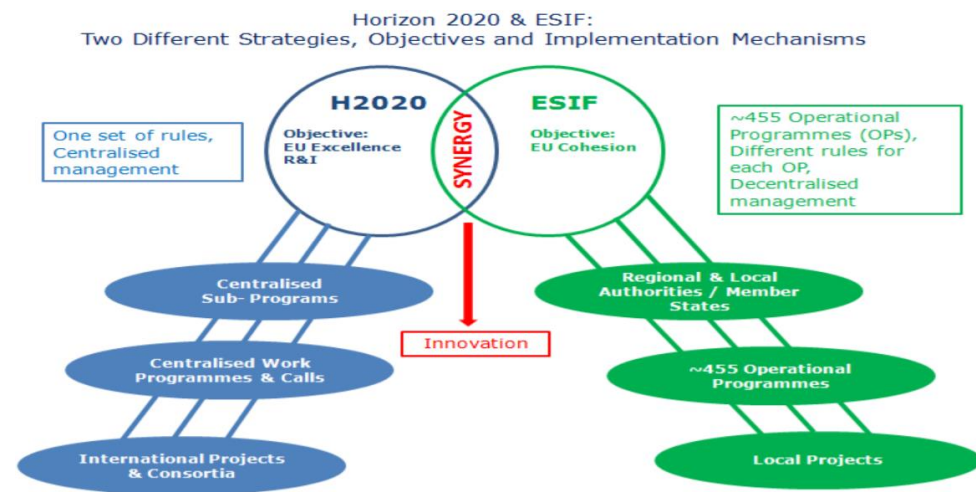


Synergies with EU Framework Programmes

Joint EARTO-ERRIN joint paper published in 2014

- Importance of synergies, both at the strategic and the implementation level
- Synergies as support of R&I policies
- ESIF and FPs: programmes that are different in their scale, scope and flexibility
- Possibilities for synergies are de facto quite limited in most advanced Regions: organisations from these Regions benefit from smaller ESIF budget

Search for synergies should remain an important goal for all regional programmes within the context of their research, innovation and industrial structures, without becoming a criterion for FP projects evaluation.



EARTO Inputs to Kallas HLG's Report

Key points still valid today:

Transfer of resources


- Improve cross-border, transnational cooperation, and the financing of innovative actions or pilot projects
- Keep possibility of transferring 5% of Programme allocations to other EU funds
- Increase possibility of transferring allocations to more developed regions

Interregional innovation investments

- In addition to European territorial cooperation, the inclusion of cooperation in Thematic Platforms lead by JRC in Smart Specialization Platform, is recommended.

State Aid

- Special exemption should be given to cross-borders RD&I actions

 <p>EARTO Analysis of EC Proposal for a Regulation laying down common provisions on the ERDF, the ESF+, the CF, and the EMFF</p> <p>5 July 2018</p> <p>EARTO welcomes the EC proposal for the next Cohesion Policy post-2020, especially in its simplification efforts on auditing issues compared to the 2014-2020 period, but also for the possibility for Member States to transfer 5% of the ESIF funding to any other Fund which could improve the realization of synergies. EARTO has already prepared several papers on the synergies, on ESIF simplification, on the High-Level Group of ESIF Simplification report, and on EC DG REGIO communication on Smart Specialisation. With the EC proposal for Cohesion Policy, EARTO would like to react on several issues of interest.</p>			
Topic	Cohesion Policy 2021-2027 Article (Text & Number)	Analysis	Text Changes (if needed)
Transfer of resources	Article 10 Member States may allocate, in the Partnership Agreement or in the request for an amendment of a programme, the amount of ERDF, the ESF+, the Cohesion Fund and the EMFF to be contributed to InvestEU and delivered through budgetary guarantees. The amount to be contributed to InvestEU shall not exceed 5 % of the total allocation of each Fund, except in duly justified cases. Such contributions shall not constitute transfers of resources under Article 21.	Due to current participation and funding rules, RTOs are not using well the currently available funds under EFSI (under used for RD&I). More funds for EU/Invest will not make a difference and may detract from programmes that are working well for RTOs and their ecosystems.	Add text in Article 10: Member States may allocate, in the Partnership Agreement or in the request for an amendment of a programme, the amount of ERDF, the ESF+, the Cohesion Fund and the EMFF to be contributed to InvestEU and delivered through budgetary guarantees. The amount to be contributed to InvestEU shall not exceed 5 % of the total allocation of each Fund, except in duly justified cases i.e. cross-border, transnational cooperation, and the financing of innovative actions or pilot projects that may allow the transfer of the results obtained to other EU territories thus allowing an improvement in the capitalization of the results. Such contributions shall not constitute transfers of resources under Article 21.
	Article 21 Member States may request the transfer of up to 5 % of programme financial allocations from any of the Funds to any other Fund under shared management or to any instrument under direct or indirect management.	Synergies must be achieved between the Funds and directly managed instruments. This new possibility would allow Regions to invest in other instruments, like for example JTI's where their country/region usually do not invest, allowing for actual synergies between funds.	Important, keep text as is.

Post-2020 Cohesion Policy Package

Joint paper with Vanguard Initiative supporting key EC proposals for new instruments offering real possibilities of EU Funds synergies:

- **INTERREG Component 5** on Interregional Innovation Investments:
 - Through the commercialisation and scaling up of interregional innovation projects
 - Synergies with HEU: technology infrastructures, complement of HEU Pillar III 'innovation ecosystems'
 - Continuity of work initiated by RIS3 and Thematic Platforms
- Possibility for Member States/Regions to **transfer up to 5% of their Cohesion Policy resources** to another EU fund would allow Regions to:
 - further co-invest in other EU instruments such as Horizon Europe and its Partnerships
 - enter key EU industrial partnerships linking their regional actors to key (global) industrial value chains identified in their RIS3 strategies

Support needed!



VANGUARD INITIATIVE
NEW GROWTH THROUGH SMART SPECIALISATION

Supporting Key EC Proposals for New Instruments Offering Real Possibilities of EU Funds Synergies

16 November 2018

On 29 May 2018, the European Commission has published draft regulations for the 2021-2027 Cohesion Policy programming period. Among these texts is the proposed Regulation on specific provisions for the European territorial cooperation goal (INTERREG, [2018/0199\(COD\)](#)) which features a **new INTERREG Component 5 on Interregional Innovation Investments**, financed at almost €1 billion, representing 11,5% of the Interreg budget. This component 5 aims to be dedicated to interregional innovation investments through the commercialisation and scaling up of interregional innovation projects having the potential to encourage the development of European value chains. This would take on board the work already initiated by the RIS3 and its Thematic Platforms linking further regions having similar smart specialisation as well as allow for synergies with Horizon Europe programme (HEU), for example concerning technology infrastructures. Among others, this new INTERREG component 5 would complement the Horizon Europe Pillar III's innovation ecosystems area by facilitating interregional collaboration and supporting targeted investments aiming among others to increase the capacity of regional innovation eco-systems in less developed regions.

In parallel, the EC proposal [2018/0196 \(COD\)](#) laying down common provisions for the different Cohesion Policy funds, a **new provision offers to Member States/Regions the possibility to transfer up to 5% of their Cohesion Policy resources to another EU fund (on a voluntary basis)**. This new provision, offered only as an option and not an obligation, would allow regions ready to further co-invest in other EU instruments such as Horizon Europe (HEU) to do so. This would be of particular interest when looking at the future HEU partnerships (e.g. future JTIs). Indeed, this provision would allow regions to enter key EU industrial partnerships linking their regional actors to key (global) industrial value chains identified in their RIS3 strategies (especially key when national investments may be lacking).

EARTO and the Vanguard Initiative very much welcome the new component 5 and the new possibility of transferring resources between EU programmes for the regions politically courageous enough to do so: both could be key drivers to achieve synergies between the Cohesion Policy and other programmes, in particular Horizon Europe. **These two new possibilities are offering concrete solutions to synergy of EU funds which have been lacking so far.** EARTO and the Vanguard Initiative therefore call on the European Parliament and the Council to show strong support to those two EC proposals in their current negotiations while preserving the proposed budgets for both.

EARTO, the Vanguard Initiative and their experts remain ready to further discuss these recommendations with the European Institutions' representatives.

EARTO - European Association of Research and Technology Organisations
Founded in 1999, EARTO promotes RTOs and represents their interest in Europe. EARTO network counts over 350 RTOs in more than 20 countries. EARTO members represent 150.000 highly-skilled researchers and engineers managing a wide range of innovation infrastructures.

The Vanguard Initiative New Growth through Smart Specialisation is an initiative that is driven by a political commitment of regions to use smart specialisation strategy for boosting new growth through bottom-up entrepreneurial innovation and industrial renewal in European priority areas.

EARTO Annual Conference 2019

19-20 March 2019 in Espoo, Finland

Hosted by:



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