

**Joint Research Centre**

**Joint Workshop JRC & EARTO**

**RTOs AND SMART SPECIALISATION**

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*Serving society*  
*Stimulating innovation*  
*Supporting legislation*

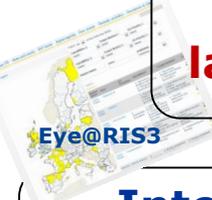


# Activities of the S3 Platform

**Synergies ESIF-H2020  
"Stairway to  
excellence"**

**Guidance and analysis:  
RIS3 Guide;  
Digital Agenda  
Toolbox;  
S3 policy briefs**

**Support to  
lagging regions**



**Interactive web  
tools, S3 Newsletter  
and Website**

**Trans-national  
learning and Peer  
Review**

**Value chains and  
alignment of  
innovation  
roadmaps**

**RIS3  
assessment  
and support to  
REGIO desks**

**Thematic focus  
on actors,  
process, common  
features and  
priorities**

**Focused approach on  
digital growth (CONNECT)  
and energy (ENER)**



# Thematic focus on actors

- Stakeholder involvement in S3 builds on the idea of quadruple helix, which refers to government institutions, universities and research organisations, industry and civil society as key actors in innovation ecosystems.
- RTOs have been identified as key agents in regional innovation systems.

## New actors in the Policy cycle



# Specific activities focused on actors

## **RTOs**

- "RTOs and Smart Specialisation" workshop in Sevilla in May 2015.
- Policy Brief "Research and Technology Organisations and Smart Specialisation", D. Charles and K. Ciampi Stancova, Oct. 2015.

## **Science Parks**

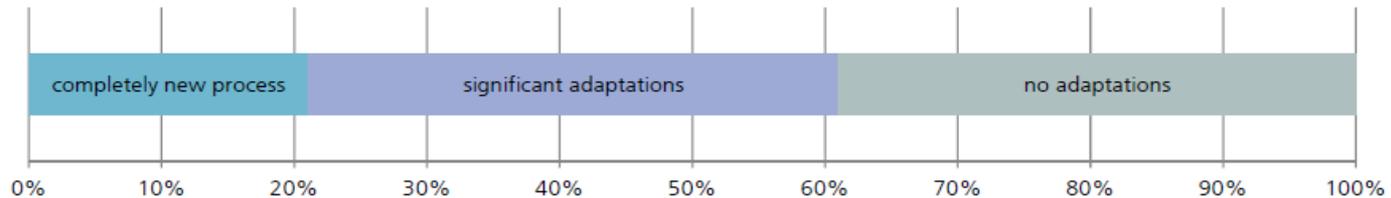
- "The Role of Science Parks in Smart Specialisation" workshop in Malaga in February 2014.
- Policy Brief "The Role of Science Parks in Smart Specialisation", C. Nauwelaers, A. Kleibrink and K. Stancova, July 2014.

## **Higher Education Institutions**

- "Territorial Competitiveness and Universities: The role of universities in regional smart specialisation strategies in Europe" seminar in Barcelona, June 2015.
- "Mobilising Universities for Smart Specialisation" conference in Brussels, June 2014.
- Policy Brief "Universities and Smart Specialisation", L. Kempton, J. Goddard, J. Edwards, F. B. Hegyi and S. Elena-Pérez.

## Policy achievements

60% of regional policy makers state that smart specialisation introduced significant adaptations in the stakeholder involvement process (and 20% spoke about a “completely new process”)



More than 40% state that there have been substantial adaptations to the existing policy mix.



More than 40% of respondents stated that smart specialisation had a high potential to trigger economic transformation in their regions, with a further 38% highlighting an at least moderate potential.

More than two thirds of the respondents state that smart specialisation has triggered the introduction of “new elements of governance” and more than 90% specify that these novelties will be maintained.

# Multiple role of RTOs in smart specialisation

- **Contribute to entrepreneurial discovery process:** stay close to the businesses and are engaged in informing firms about technological and market opportunities, thus they have a crucial role to play in ensuring that regions recognise real business opportunities at the centre of their smart specialisation.
- **Play an important role in connecting actors:** vehicles for internationalising regional strategies through supporting inter-regional collaboration.
- **Build research and technology capacities and contribute to technology transfer:** provide technology and innovation support to companies. They are resources for industry cluster, key delivery elements of a smart specialisation strategy aimed at upgrading the technological capabilities of such a cluster.

# Sevilla Workshop: GROUP MIND MAPPING questions

## **RTOs:**

- Given your governance structure and mission, how do you see your role in the implementation of regional smart specialisation strategy?
- What challenges can you face?

## **Regional representatives:**

- What will be the role of RTOs in the implementation of smart specialisation strategies?
- What are the barriers and bottlenecks (administrative, institutional, human, etc.)

# Sevilla Workshop: topics for discussions

- dilemma of internationalisation: internationalisation is both an opportunity and challenge,
- insufficient and short-term financial support,
- unsupportive policy instruments and differences in timescales.

# Thank you!



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