



WESTERN BALKANS
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION MEETING

Skopje - 21-22 March 2018

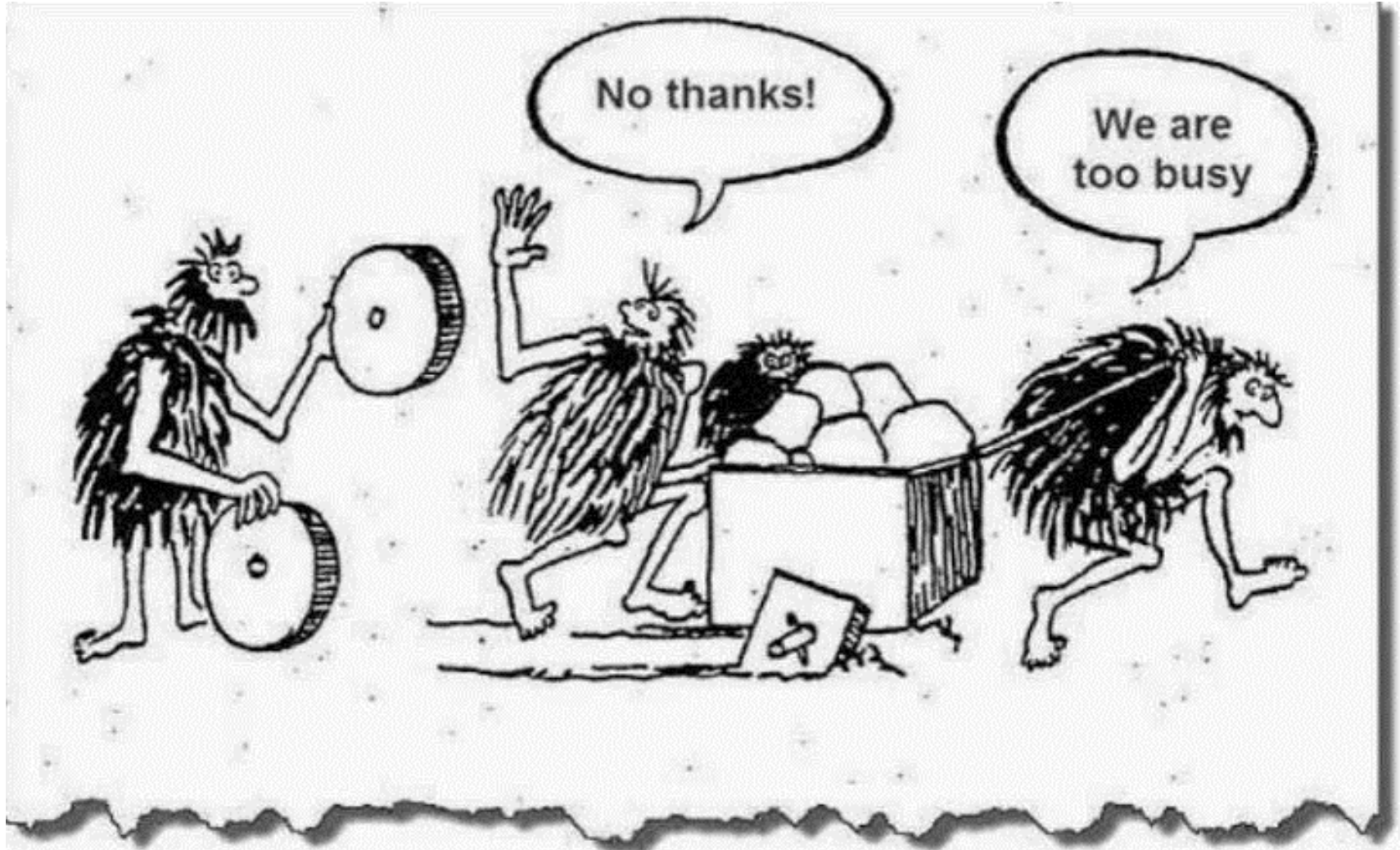
Update on the Smart Specialisation Capacity Building in the Western Balkans

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Capacity Building for Innovation in Support to Policies:

...fundamental precondition = favourable framework for innovations



Aligning S3 Agendas in the EU and beyond = Opportunity for R&I Collaboration & Better Economic Integration!

S3/RIS3: R&I Strategies for Smart Specialisation = Economic Transformation Agendas aiming at using inspired R&I for producing competitive economic return and lasting welfare for the society!

NOT ONLY FOR THE BEST! Innovation is multidimensional & includes basic inventions/development of new applications/services → at minimum RIS3 transform less-advanced regions into good followers!

Regions need to seek the concentration of resources around the original / unique area of knowledge expertise!

Source: D.Foray 12/2011

Smart Specialisation – place based framework for territorial development

S3 the policy concept

- Promote **inclusive and sustainable growth**
- **Place-based policy:**
 - Valorise existing assets and local specificities
 - Mobilise local economic players as the main actors of economic change
- Based on **selection of economic activities** with high transformative potential for the economy
- Promotes **connectivity of innovation ecosystems**

RIS3 the strategy

- National or regional **agenda for economic transformation**
- **Coordinate financial and entrepreneurial resources** to support the selected economic activities
- Define and reinforce **governance and monitoring mechanisms**



What is Smart Specialisation?



= **fact-based**: all assets + capabilities + bottlenecks in a region, incl. external perspective, cooperation potential, global value chains

= **differentiation**: focus on competitive advantages, potential for excellence, emerging opportunities, market niches, at the level of activities - granularity

= no top-down decision but choices based on **dynamic entrepreneurial discovery process** uniting key holders around shared vision

= **concentration of resources** on priorities, problems and core needs, for critical mass/critical potential

= **synergies** across different departments and governance levels (EU-national-regional); cross-sector/technology links – **NO Silos Thinking!**

= **all forms of innovation**, not only technology-driven, existing / new knowledge

= **place-based economic transformation**: rejuvenate traditional sectors through higher-value activities; aiming at developing a strategic approach to territorial development

= **ecosystem approach**: creating environment for change, efficiency of institutions

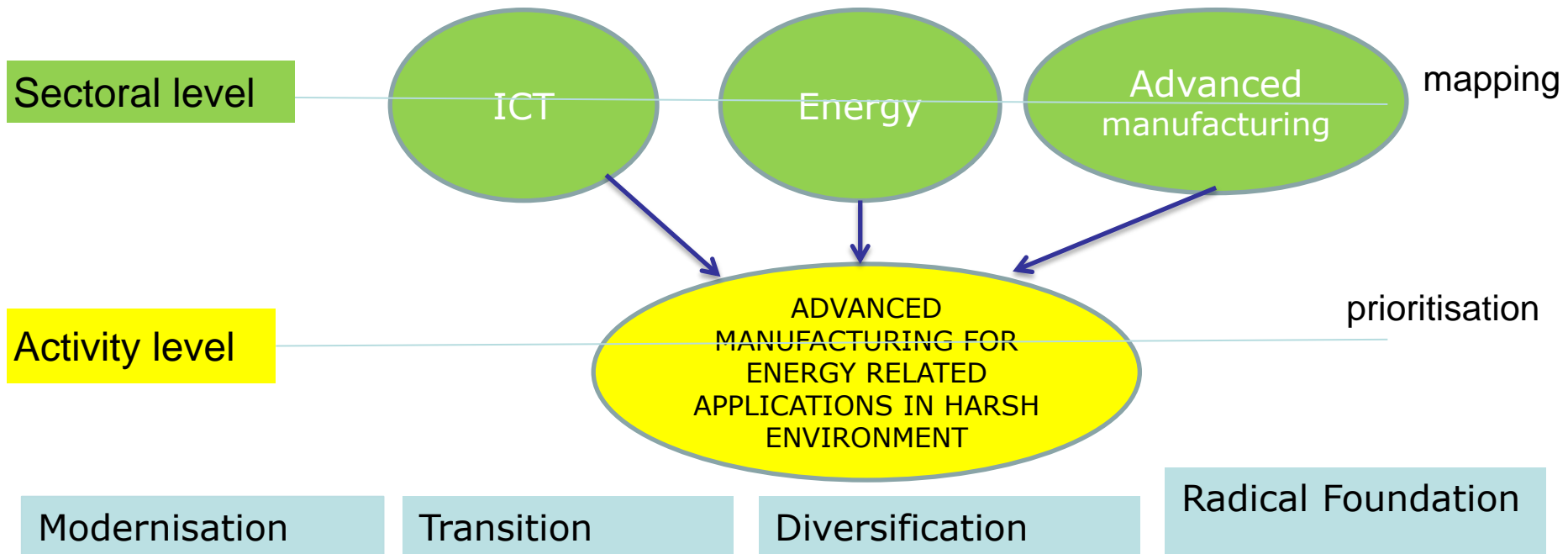
= **NOT a "Neutral" policy**: it requires policy makers to take risks associated with the selection of a limited number of activities to support by relying on the knowledge of local entrepreneurs



S3: The Notion of Specialisation

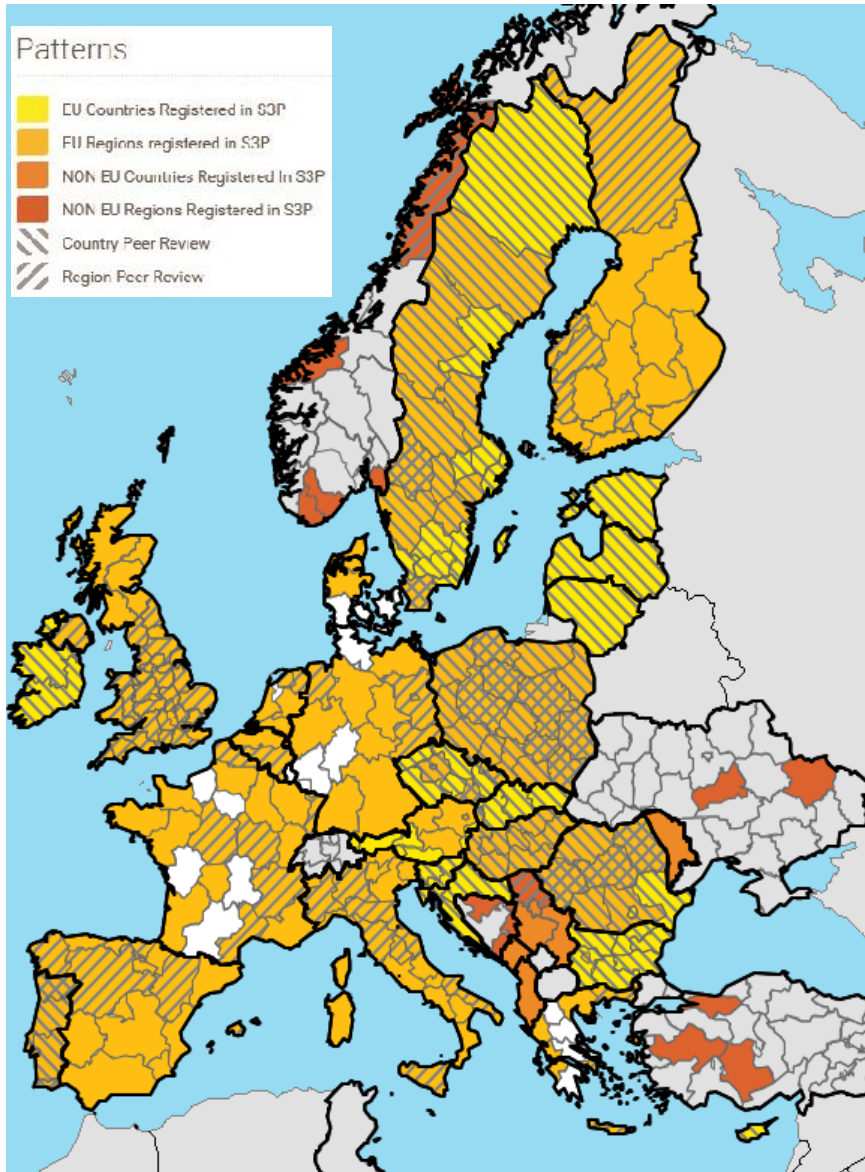
S3 is about developing new specialities based on regional concentration of knowledge, competence and market potentials (dynamic)

S3 is NOT to be understood as a sector specialised or relative to other regions (passive)



Smart Specialisation Platform

Broad membership open to Non-EU! Activities: Guidance - Analysis - Support



Comprehensive guidance tools – RIS3 Guide, Digital Agenda Toolbox, FAQs, Implementation Handbook

S3 Publication series - Policy briefs co-authored with leading academics and practitioners; Working papers contributing to conceptual and empirical developments related to smart specialisation

Supporting tools: self-assessment (RIS3 assessment wheel), regional/national priorities (EYE@RIS3), regional benchmarking, bilateral trade flows, ESIF monitoring tool on investments

Broad membership: 184 regions, 22 countries (incl. non-EU: RS, MD, ME, AL & regions from BA, NO, RS, UA & TR)

Strong endorsement by national/regional policy makers: average 4.5/5 satisfaction ranking

High "fidelisation rate": >50% of regions attending workshops come back

Political endorsement at EU level: EC, EP, CoR, Council

Main activities of the S3 Platform

Support to lagging regions & Synergies ESIF-H2020 "Stairway to excellence"

S3 Website & Newsletters

S3 Interactive web tools: Eye@RIS3, etc.



S3 Knowledge Base: Guidance and Analysis, RIS3 Guide, DA Toolbox, S3 publications, S3 Seminar Series on Territorial Development

Trans-national Peer Reviews (in total 75 regions/countries)

Peer eXchange & Learning - thematic focus on actors, process, common features and priorities

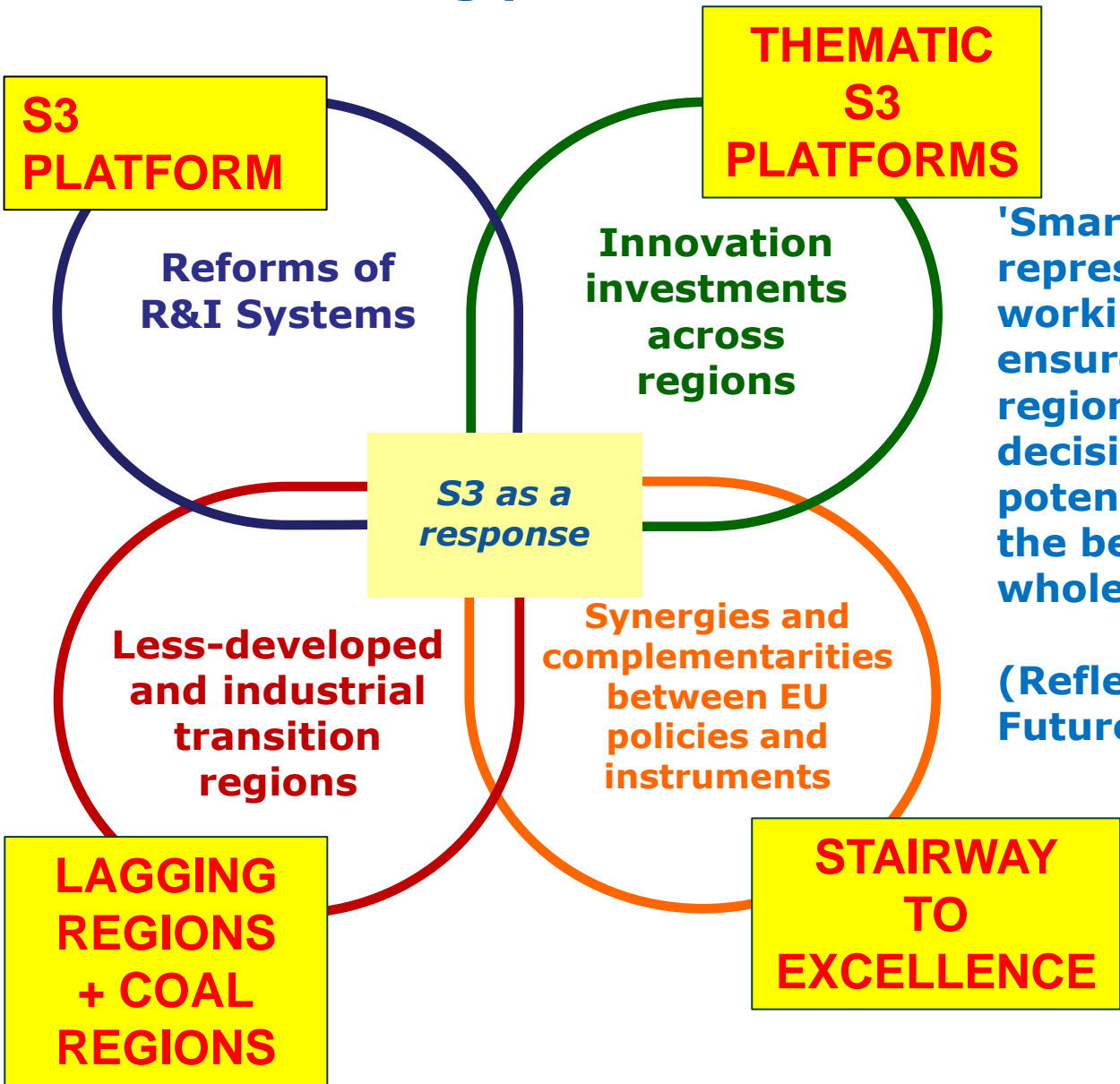
RIS3 assessment and support to REGIO desks

Support to the EU Macro-Regional Strategies & Alignment of innovation roadmaps

Focused approach on Value Chains - Thematic S3 Platforms (TSSP):
Energy, Ind. Modernisation, Agri-Food + additional to come...



Smart specialisation provides answers to challenges for boosting place-based innovation-led growth



'Smart specialisation represents a new way of working together, which ensures stronger local and regional participation in decision-making, and whose potential can be scaled-up for the benefit of the EU as a whole.'

(Reflection Paper on the Future of EU Finances, 2017)

Timeline of the JRC activities in support of the E&N countries

"Smart Danube" - Horizontal JRC support activity to the EU Macro-regional Strategy for the Danube

2013

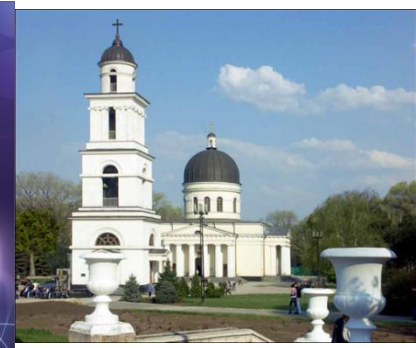
2014

2015

2016

2017

- S3 trainings in Belgrade & Skopje (RS/MK)
- S3 for Danube seminar
- Peer review in Novi Sad (RS)
- S3 for Danube workshop
- JRC Annual EUSDR Event with particular attention to non-EU Danube partners
- S3 design WS in Chisinau (MD)
- JRC S3 info day in Kiev (UA)
- Launch JRC S3 pilot project for **Serbia, Moldova Ukraine**



S3 Activities 2013-16

Preparatory

Connection
with EU macro-
regional
strategies
(Danube)

S3 awareness
events &
Seminars

Peer reviews
of R&I systems

S3 Activities 2016-17



Preparatory

S3 Design learning workshops and awareness events in MD, RS & UA

S3 training (6 country teams) in Seville

Forming National S3 teams in RS, MD and UA + Montenegro

Preparing Countries S3 Roadmaps

Mapping

Report on Smart Specialisation in E&N countries

Expert support: quantitative analysis

Preparation of qualitative analysis

Recent S3 pilot activities



Preparatory

Mapping

EDP

2017
23-27 Jan

2017
5-7 April

2017
3-5 July

2017
Oct / Nov

2017
15 Dec

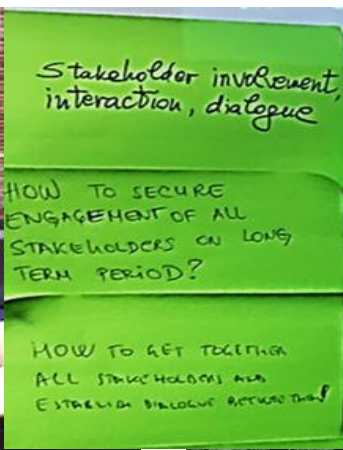
- **S3 Training Seminar in Seville** for pilot countries' officials

- **Start S3 event in Chisinau**
- Launching S3 Mapping for the pilot countries (RS, MD & UA)

- **S3 event in Belgrade** - Discussing first R&I mapping results for the pilot countries

- **S3 events MD & UA** - Presenting S3 mapping results for MD & UA
- **S3 awareness events** in Montenegro, Tunisia & Turkey

- **S3 Innovation Camp on ICT in Belgrade** - Starting the EDP process in RS



S3 on-going activities with WBC 2017-18



2018

S3 Roadmap on-going* by JRC E&IA (institutional funding)

Serbia & Montenegro

S3 initiation*

Albania

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

+ Bosnia and Herzegovina

+ Kosovo*

with S3 seminars, workshops, expert support, creation of mutual learning community of practitioners

2019>

Administrative Agreement JRC/NEAR on systematic S3 support to the Enlargement = Western Balkan Countries

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

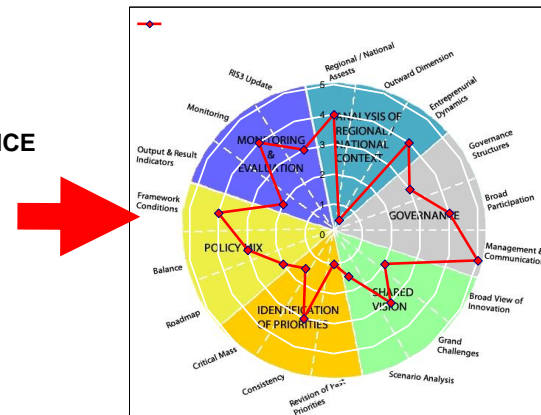
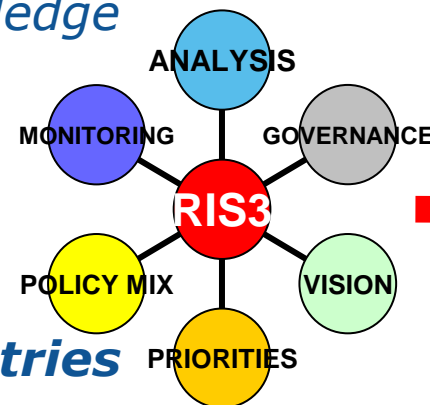
Western Balkan Countries – partners in the Danube and Adriatic-Ionian EU Macro-regions

S3 is an opportunity:

- *to promote structural change and economic transformation*
- *to advance on-going reforms*
- *to improve the governance of R&I and territorial development towards more open and inclusive patterns*
- *to connect cross-borders with potential partners and access value chains*
- *to gain from technology and knowledge transfer*

S3 as an EU "trade mark":

Policy concept and methodology developed in the EU context and proposed/applied in non-EU countries



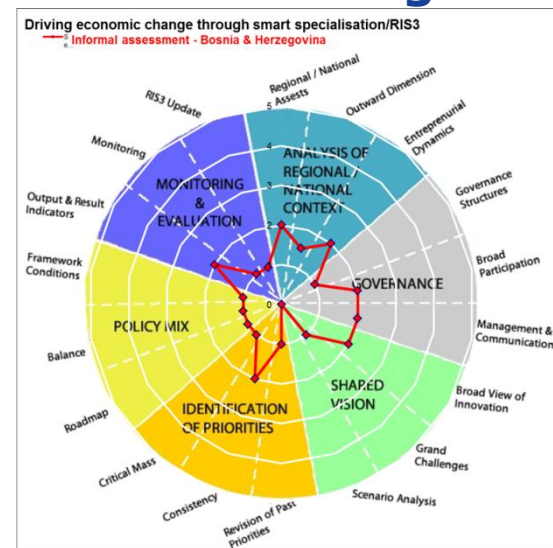
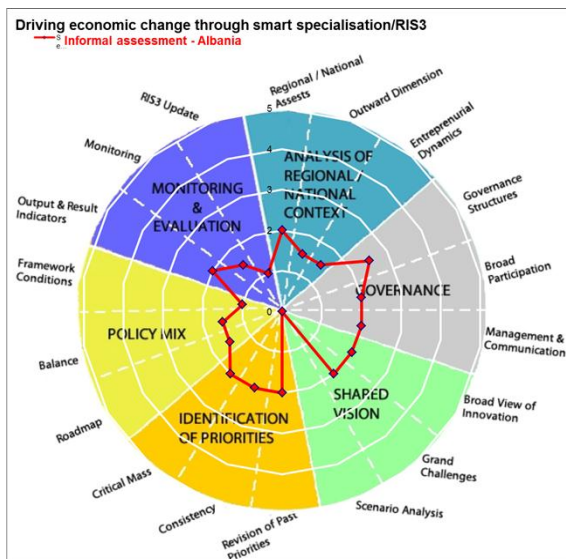
S3 in Western Balkan Countries

Albania

Bosnia & Herzegovina

S3 process in WBC has been launched

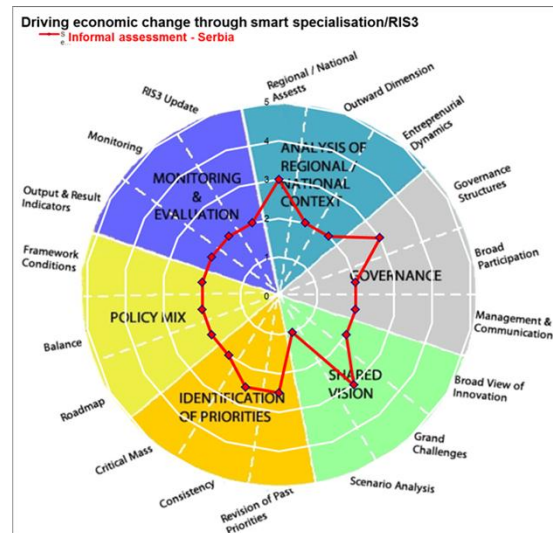
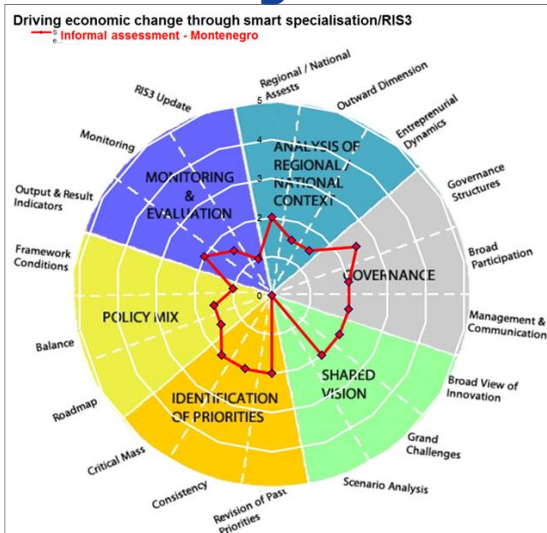
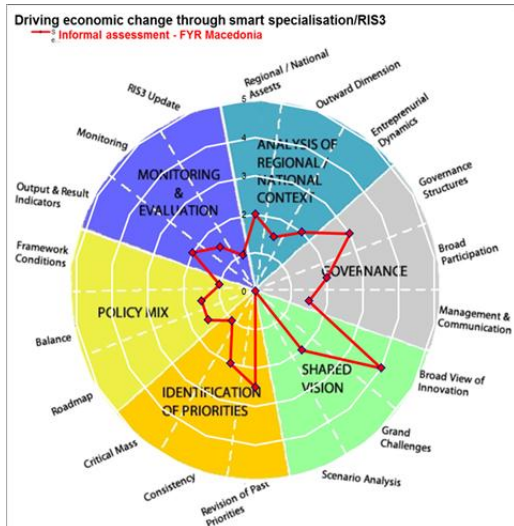
Evaluation of R&I in WBC-5 carried out in January 2017



FYROM

Montenegro

Serbia



SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM

European Commission / Smart Specialisation Platform / Home

Home S3 Platform S3 Guidance S3 Sections S3 Tools News Events Knowledge Repository

Invitation for Smart Interregional Cooperation in Energy

The S3Energy platform launches an open invitation to EU regions to cooperate on S3 priorities in the fields of Bioenergy, Sustainable Construction, Smart Grids and Marine Offshore

What we can do for you

The Smart Specialisation Platform provides professional advice to EU countries and regions for the design and implementation of their research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3). Our services include:

- Provide guidance material and good practice examples
- Conduct high quality research projects to inform strategy formation and policy-making
- Facilitate peer-reviews and mutual learning
- Support access to relevant data
- Train policy-makers
- Organise information sessions for policy-makers and present at conferences

S3 Tools

The Platform provides interactive tools that can help you in identifying key features of regions and their Smart Specialisation Strategies, such as the **CYC@RIS3** - an online tool showing the RIS3 priorities of regions/countries, the **ESIF-viewer** - a tool to search planned investments in European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) data (ERDF, CF, ESF and YEI), the **ICT Monitoring Tool** to search European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) data (ERDF, CF, ESF, YEI and EAFRD) on planned investments in the ICT, the **Regional Benchmarking** tool showing structural similarities of the EU regions and the tool presenting **Inter-regional trade flows**, as well as other **Data Sources** to benchmark the EU regions and Member States.

Smart Regions

EU Countries registered in S3P: 18
 EU Regions registered in S3P: 169
 Non-EU Countries registered in S3P: 2
 Non-EU Regions registered in S3P: 8
 S3P Peer-reviewed Countries: 15
 S3P Peer-reviewed Regions: 60

S3 Tag Cloud

agri-food digital legends and ic flash news funds global value chains innovation innovation strategies for smart specialisation (ris3) inter-regional collaboration romh s2c s3 balic s3 danube s3 energy s3 kota s3 smcs s3 value chains smart specialisation synergies transnational collaboration value chains

Event Highlights

JRC Information Events in Kiev (UA)
 14 Sep 2016 - 15 Sep 2016
 S3 Governance S3 Targeted Support

Cyprus S2E Workshop
 22 Sep 2016
 S3 Targeted Support

Macro-Regional Innovation Week: At the crossroads of three European Macro-Regions: Danube, Adriatic-Ionian and Alpine
 26 Sep 2016 - 30 Sep 2016
 S3 Actors S3 Cooperation S3 Governance

1st SMARTER Conference on Smart Specialisation and Territorial Development
 28 Sep 2016 - 30 Sep 2016
 S3 Actors S3 Governance S3 Targeted Support

Smart Specialisation in Energy and innovation in European Regions
 13 Oct 2016 - 14 Oct 2016
 S3 Cooperation S3 Themes

Kick-off Event of the Smart Specialisation Platform on Industrial Modernisation
 16 Nov 2016 - 17 Nov 2016
 S3 Actors S3 Cooperation S3 Themes S3 Governance S3 Communities S3 Targeted Support

Reports & Publications

S3 Hub / S3 in Media

RIO - Research & Innovation Observatory

S3 Platform @S3Platform
 Open invitation to EU regions to cooperate in common S3 energy priorities
 #S3Platform #S3Energy #S3Penergy
 pic.twitter.com/3H58FvCjP
 36 days

S3 Platform @S3Platform
 Report: 'Opportunity Now: Europe's Mission to Innovate' now available
 cc.europa.eu/opport/publicat...
 #SmartSpecialisation
 pic.twitter.com/WpqqBkcbau
 65 days

More tweets

Joint Research Centre Commission's in-house science service

*Serving society
Stimulating innovation
Supporting legislation*

Thank you for your attention!

<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

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