The S3 KEY for Self-Assessment

Getting started with smart specialisation in your region
The S3 KEY for Self-Assessment has been developed in the context of the international project „Drafting Smart Specialisation Strategies“, launched by the OECD Working Group for Innovation and Technology Policy (TIP)
The S3 KEY wants to ...

– unlock the idea of smart specialisation for regions

– mobilise & activate the key regional stakeholders towards joint priority-setting and a RIS3
The S3 Self Assessment KEY is....

- a 4-page, easy-to-use, easy-to-digest tool to get started with a RIS3 process
- a quick first assessment of the status and potential, starting from existing regional innovation strategies, supporting the preparation of a SWOT analysis;
- an invitation hidden in a list of easily understandable questions to unlock the particular expertise of
  - entrepreneurial leaders of a region,
  - the regional lead institutions of the science / knowledge & creative sector, and
  - the regional policy makers and planners
to develop a shared view on the region’s potential and find the smartest selection priorities & specialisations for the regional innovation system at large
- a complement to the steps 2 and 3 in the S3 Guide.
The triple helix as an underlying concept
How can you use the S3 Self-Assessment KEY?

**Initiation & Management of the Assessment**
- Regional Government
- Stakeholder Enterprise Sector
- Stakeholder Science, Knowledge and Creative Sector

**Assessment Process**
- Self Assessment
- Mutual Assessment

**Results**
- Existing strengths and potentials for future development efforts
- remaining gaps and bottle-necks in the regional innovation system

**RIS3**
Elements of the S3 Self-Assessment KEY

Assessment of the status and potential of the enterprise sector

– Sample question:
  „What market opportunities, technologies, and products do you conceive as very promising for your regional economy in the upcoming decade?“

Assessment of the status and potential of the Science / Knowledge & Creative Sector

– Sample question:
  „How strong is your regional science/smart/creativity/skills base and its potential to address conjointly the grand challenges (health and ageing, climate change, urbanisation, energy, social inclusion etc)?“
Elements of the S3 Self-Assessment KEY

Assessment of the government sector

– Sample question:
  „What is the strategic approach to regional growth and innovation policy in your region (do you already have a long term vision, written strategic concepts and priorities ...)?

Assessment of the smartness of the regional innovation and growth policy framework

– Sample question:
  „What are the main challenges your region is facing economically (i.e. in which sectors face structural change now or in the future)?
The S3 KEY $^{S^3}_3$’s secret ...

might not lie in companies diligently answering every single question.

However, the KEY should establish a consensus in the region that the intelligence to answer the questions should be around, that all key stakeholders should be aware of each other’s strengths, capacities and priorities,

*and that regional growth strategies will only be smart if based upon the joint priority-setting of the lead entrepreneurs, lead institutions, and the policy leaders of a region.*
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The final version will be available by mid-May 2012.

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