Smart Specialisation Strategies for Sustainable Development

European Union Approach

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EU Cohesion Policy – Smart Specialisation

- Cohesion Policy / Single Market with some 50 billion Euro/p.a. over 2014-20
- Cohesion policy reform: from absorption logic to investment policy for growth and jobs
  - Greater focus on results
  - Targeting resources at key growth sectors
  - Pre-conditions for funding – ex ante conditionalities
  - Reinforced partnership
  - Increased synergies between Funds and with other EU instruments
  - Stronger link to the EU economic governance "European semester"

- Smart Specialisation: Key feature of reformed Cohesion Policy
EU Cohesion Policy 2014-20 in the EU economic policy mix

Country-specific recommendations are reference for Cohesion Policy Programmes

Fiscal consolidation

Macro-economic conditionality
Preserve growth-friendly expenditure

European Semester
Country-specific recommendations

Growth enhancing investment

Ex-ante and macro-economic conditionalities
Capacity building
Structural reforms

(COHESION POLICY)
(WITH SMART SPECIALISATION)
Smart Specialisation (S3) has 6 fundamental methodological elements any EU country or region has to undertake:

1: Analysing one's strengths, weaknesses, competitive advantages and potential for excellence

2: Involving innovation stakeholders, in particular the business community

3: Elaboration of an overall vision for the future of the region

4: Selection of priorities for S3 + definition of objectives

5: Definition of coherent policy mix, roadmaps and action plans

6: Integration of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms
Entrepreneurial discovery process means a genuine involvement of local innovation actors to develop and implement S3
• 153 EU regions are currently improving their intra-regional connectivity through specially created for this purpose: S3 Platform

• Almost all EU regions will invest EU funds in smart specialisation strategy

• Our efforts should trigger further Interregional cooperation and clustering of innovation actors
Emerging fields of Smart Specialisation

Mapping of specialisations will help in facilitating the process of exploiting our European value chains

- Energy
- Life science
- ICT
- Environment
- Agro-food
- Tourism
- New materials

See: http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/map45
Conclusions

• Smart Specialisation Strategies = driver for Cohesion Policy 2014-2020
• Some €120 billion to be invested in supporting directly business, research and innovation, ICT and low carbon economy
• More than 200 regions will develop and implement their individual S3 in a common framework
• Cross-border & transnational/transregional cooperation will bring more added value
Thank you for your attention!

For more information:
- on Cohesion Policy:  
  http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.cfm
- on Smart Specialisation Strategies 
  http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s3pguide