From planning to implementing Smart Specialisation Strategies: lessons learnt so far through the S3 Platform

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1. The S3 Platform. Concept and Development of Smart Specialisation

2. Some lessons learnt so far about the Smart Specialisation Strategies through the S3 Platform
Outline

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2. Some lessons learnt so far about the Smart Specialisation Strategies through the S3 Platform
S3 Platform Members
(12 June 2014):

151 EU regions + 15 EU countries + 2 non-EU regions
RIS3 is an Economic Transformation Agenda

- Smart specialisation
- Behavioural change
- Growth and jobs
RIS3 guide – Key steps for developing a RIS3

Step 1 – Analysis of regional context/potential
Step 2 – Governance
Step 3 – Vision for the future
Step 4 – Selection of priorities
Step 5 – Policy mix
Step 6 – Monitoring and evaluation
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1. The difficult issues in RIS3

Our experience at S3P peer-review workshops

We focus on the novelties

We discuss the elements of change

- Outward-looking dimension
- Stakeholders
- Broad view of innovation
- Critical mass
- Policy tools
- Monitoring indicators
- Priorities as "activities"
2. Change of culture..., but difficult to break with the past. From RIS to RIS3

Building on the past
- Widespread experience of national/regional innovation strategies in the framework of the EU Cohesion Policy
- Achieved greater co-operation among private and public stakeholders and better communication between technology providers and clients

Breaking with the past
- Not in tune with the industrial and economic fabric of regions
- Too narrow vision of 'technological' innovation
- The best performing regions were just copied or resources spread across 'all sectors'
- Lack of international and trans-regional perspective
3. The key to a good RIS3 process? The ENTREPRENEURIAL DISCOVERY PROCESS (EDP)

- The EDP distinguishes Smart Specialisation from traditional industrial and innovation policies
- Empowerment of stakeholders in the design of S3 strategies
- Good Prioritisation ...and no longer the exclusive role of the public planner
- Iterative self-discovery of a new domain of opportunity
  - Ear to market signals
  - *Entrepreneurs* scan technological & market opportunities/bottlenecks
4. Emerging fields of Smart Specialisation

Mapping of regions' and MS intentions in terms of smart specialisation fields has started:

Specialisation fields are emerging that are related to:
- Energy
- Life science
- ICT
- Environment
- Agro-food
- Tourism
- New materials

Scope for cooperation and fine-tuning!

See: http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/eye-ris3
5. Selection of priorities: (too?) many, broad

Recalling the suggestions of the RIS3 Guide Identification of priorities (Step 4)

- Modernisation of the old transport sector: integrated logistic system
- Transition of the cluster: from ICT to med-tech
- Diversification of SMEs: from automotive to biomedical sector
Thank you!

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

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