Smart Specialisation & Future Cohesion Policy

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#CohesionPolicy
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Economic Challenges for EU regions

- Globalisation
- Automation and robotisation
- Emerging and digital technologies
- Decarbonisation
- Circular Economy
- Aging
- Brain Drain

Economic transformation is needed & No region should be left behind
Future Cohesion Policy Objective 1: innovative and smart economic transformation

- Enhancing R&I capacities + uptake of advanced technologies
- Digitisation for citizens, companies and governments
- Developing skills for S3, industrial transition and entrepreneurship
- Growth and competetitiveness of SMEs start-up/scale-up Eco-systems

Interregional innovation investments

See: Specific objectives of the ERDF in Article 2(1)a and (3)b ERDF proposal
Priorities for innovative & smart economic transformation via Cohesion Policy

1. **Innovation**
   - Business investment in R&I and entrepreneurial university
   - Pilot lines, early product validation, technology transfer
   - Key digital technologies
   - Living labs, test-beds

2. **Digitalisation**
   - ICT uptake in SMEs; B2B; B2C; C2C
   - E-government
   - E-inclusion, e-health, e-learning, e-skilling
   - New firms, start-ups/scale-ups
   - Industrial cluster development/ EDP process

3. **SME**
   - Access to finance and advanced business services
   - Innovation management in SMEs
   - Training, reskilling for smart specialisation areas

4. **Skills for S3**
   - Integration of education and training institution in innovation ecosystem
   - Skills in higher education to increase commercial viability
Smart Specialisation Strategies post 2020

2014-2020 S3 criteria:
- Limited number of RIS3 priorities building on own strength & potentials
- SWOT or similar analysis & EDP
- Monitoring system
- In line with national or regional R&I strategic policy framework
- Measures to stimulate private R&I investments
- Budgeting plans

Strengthened by 2021-2027 S3 criteria:
+ Analysis of bottlenecks for innovation diffusion & digitalisation
+ Ongoing entrepreneurial discovery process
+ Competent institution or body responsible for S3 management
+ Improve national or regional research and innovation systems
+ Actions to manage industrial transition
+ Measures for international collaboration
Main points for next generation S3:

▪ Continue with smart specialisation in the new financial perspective and **build on what has been developed by now**

▪ Go beyond simply prioritising innovation investments towards a mechanism of **economic transformation** that serves broader economic, social and environmental goals

▪ **Broaden the scope of smart specialisation strategies beyond R&I**
  ➢ Innovation, digitalisation of industry, SME competitiveness, skills

▪ **Complements to physical investment**
  ➢ Intangibles, software, IP, firm-level skills

▪ **Reinforce governance** of smart specialisation
  ➢ Accountable body, role of EDP as an ongoing process

▪ **Accelerate innovation diffusion** and increase cross-sectoral cooperation as part of adaptation to technological change

▪ **Benefit from interregional innovation investments and complementarities**
Role for Universities

- Technology and knowledge for economy
- Form and attract talent
- Universities as economic actors
- Stepping stone for international contacts

Get involved in:

- Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Strategies
- Entrepreneurial Discovery Processes for Smart Specialisation Strategies
Questions and Answers