



S₃ SEMINAR

Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS₃) and transnational cooperation for an innovative Danube Region

What

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission is coordinating an initiative aiming to provide scientific support to the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) focusing on four vertical priorities: environment protection, irrigation and agricultural development, navigability and energy production. As a transversal priority, the initiative also supports the development of smart specialisation strategies for innovation in the Danube Region.

The initiative was launched in close cooperation with key scientific partners of the Danube Region. Through an integrated approach relying on different flagship clusters, the JRC and its scientific partners will gather essential scientific expertise and data to help decision-makers and other stakeholders of the Danube Region to identify the policy measures and actions needed for the implementation of the EUSDR.

In this framework, the JRC intends to promote a discussion on how to best stimulate transnational cooperation and exploit synergies to strengthen smart specialisation in areas of joint potential.

Smart specialisation is a concept that can make a valuable contribution to the integrated approach which macro-regional strategies such as the EUSDR rely on, in the sense that it can stimulate the constructive use of regional diversity by avoiding uniformity and duplication in regional investment goals as well as help develop critical mass to tackle major common challenges.

In this context, the flagship activity proposed by the JRC will use the Danube Region as a pilot to study and foster the integration and coordination of regional or national research and innovation strategies for Smart Specialisation at macro-regional level. This seminar is the kick-off event of the work outlined above.

The objective of the event is to (i) discuss the main characteristics of the RIS₃ concept and, in particular, the importance of the transnational dimension and the need for a Reference data infrastructure, (ii) present the draft national RIS₃ in a number of Danube countries and potential transnational projects, (iii) draw conclusions on concrete cooperation opportunities and work to be done with regard to stimulating transnational cooperation on areas of smart specialisation in the framework of the EUSDR, and (iv) discuss ways JRC can further support.

The event is aimed at representatives of national administrations and major stakeholders.



The outcome of the seminar will help further define the activities which will be undertaken to support the development of RIS3 in the Danube Region and to tailor the approach adopted to the needs of EUSDR macro-regional strategy. The seminar will contribute to the preparation of the session 'Towards a smartly specialised and innovative Danube Region' of 16 May 2013 high-level event to be organised in Bratislava (SK).

Organisers

European Commission (JRC)

When

26th April 2013

Where

Brussels, BE

European Commission, Centre "Albert Borschette"

Rue Froissart (Metro Schuman)



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26 April 2013 – DRAFT

08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:45	<p><u>First session: The development and implementation of the Smart Specialisation Strategies in the Danube Region - Issues and challenges</u></p> <p>Vladimír Šucha – Deputy Director-General, JRC, European Commission Normunds Popen – Deputy Director-General, DG REGIO, European Commission Clara de la Torre – Director, DG RTD, European Commission (tbc)</p>
09:45 – 11:00	<p><u>Second session: How to enhance transnational cooperation when drafting RIS3?</u></p> <p><i>Moderated by Alessandro Rainoldi, S3 Platform, JRC</i></p> <p>Smart specialisation and its transnational dimension – Dominique Foray, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Lausanne</p> <p>Transnational elements in the RIS3 six-step methodology – Ales Gnamus, S3 Platform, JRC</p> <p>How monitoring regional innovation facilitates transnational cooperation – DG ENTR (tbc)</p> <p>Discussion</p>
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 13:00	<p><u>Third session: The transnational aspect of RIS3 - Learning from other regions & an initial assessment of common strengths of the Danube Region</u></p> <p><i>Moderated by Colin Wolfe, DG REGIO</i></p> <p>The Baltic experience – Baiba Liepa, INTERACT, Baltic Sea Region</p> <p>The Central European experience – CluStrat (tbc)</p> <p>From basic research to knowledge society: the DREAM project – Helmut Habersack, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna</p> <p>Discussion</p>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	<p><u>Fourth session: The transnational dimension of RIS3 in Danube Region countries</u></p> <p><i>Moderated by Mikel Landabaso, DG REGIO</i></p> <p>Keynote presentation 1 – Representative of the Romanian Authorities</p> <p>Keynote presentation 2 – Representative of the Hungarian Authorities</p> <p>Example of a non-Danube country – Representative of the Lithuanian Authorities</p>



	"Tour de table" for updates by Danube country representatives and discussion
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:15– 17:00	<u>Final panel session: A roadmap for 2013 – Concrete steps towards the development of the transnational dimension</u> <i>Moderated by Xabier Goenaga, JRC</i> Panellists: Colin Wolfe, DG REGIO Stanislav Sipko, Plenipotentiary of Slovak Government for Knowledge Economy, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of Slovak Republic Miroslav Veskovic, Coordinator of Priority area 7, EUSDR

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