

Smart Specialisation in the Western Balkans

How to Launch the S3 Process and Lead Entrepreneurial Discovery

Venue: Technology Park Ljubljana, Slovenia

Date: 11-12 April 2018

The workshop will gather around 30 representatives nominated by the governments of the 6 Western Balkans countries and will be divided into two parts, depending on the status of smart specialisation development in the participating countries and economies:

- for **Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*** and **The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia** the workshop will represent an introduction to smart specialisation governance and guidance on creation national smart specialisation teams;
- for **Serbia** and **Montenegro** the workshop is a training enabling entrepreneurial discovery process (EDP) coordinators and facilitators to prepare and organize it in accordance with the established smart specialisation methodology.

Participants:

Group 1: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo* and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: representatives of institutions relevant for the smart specialisation process: ministries of economy, education and science, regional development, innovation (depending on the division of competences) – full costs for 4 participants per each country will be covered by RCC.

Group 2: Serbia and Montenegro: country teams consisting of one EDP coordinator and maximum 3 facilitators – full costs for 4 participants per each country will be covered by RCC (specific profiles described below**).

Trainers:

European Commission - **JRC team** (A.Gnamus, A.Kleibrink, M.Matusiak, N.Radovanovic, M.Ranga, G.Rissola and M.Dosso and E.Andonova) and invited external experts (Slovenia, Croatia and Poland).

Contributors / Invited Experts:

European Commission: **DG NEAR** (Y. Tadros), **DG GROW** (A.Lechien & J.Freitas) and **DG RTD** (B.Fabianek); **ETF** (P.Vuorinen & A.Gribben) and country experts - **SI:** the Slovenian S3 Team M.Hren (GODCP/MIZS), the Ljubljana Technology Park team and some stakeholders from the Ljubljana start-up ecosystem (organizing the EDP and business-academia-government dialogue within the Slovenian S3); **HR:** SmartEIT; and **PL:** national S3 representative (M.Krudnicka).

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

****Description of the EDP teams (for RS & ME):**

Profile of coordinators: the coordinator will be responsible for the organisation (including logistics) and coordination of the whole EDP process in the country/regions, including the mobilisation and invitation of participants. The coordinator can cooperate with other organizations/institutions in the organizational and logistical matters. He or she has to:

- be a member of the National Smart Specialisation Team,
- have good understanding of the smart specialisation process (e.g. participation in S3 training, workshops, knowledge of the results of the mapping exercise),
- represent a public authority at the level sufficient to allow the effective launch of the EDP process and guarantee the delivery of results.

Profile of facilitators: the facilitator will be responsible for the preparation of programme and content of the EDP workshops, their moderation and writing down the results. In case the qualitative analysis for priority domains has not been done, the facilitators will have to ensure it is organized as a first part of the EDP process (e.g. as focus groups). A facilitator has to:

- have good experience in working with companies and organizing workshops, meetings etc.,
- have a good understanding of minimum one industrial sector (preferably corresponding to the preliminary priority domains) or business experience,
- be fluent in the local language that will be used in the internal discussions,
- have a good understanding of strategic planning process and it's different stages (SWOT, vision, objectives and actions, indicators, etc.)
- know a variety of interactive methods and participatory approaches.

FINAL Agenda

Day 1 - 11 April

10.00 – 11.00 Plenary session

- Welcome address by RCC, JRC – the S3 Team and Ljubljana Technology Park
- Smart specialisation in the EU – basic rules and current stay of play – The S3 Team
- Overview of the progress of smart specialisation process in the Western Balkans and plans for 2018 – The S3 Team
- JRC framework for smart specialisation in enlargement and neighbourhood countries – The S3 team

11.00-12.00 Smart Specialisation practices – S3 governance, team composition, mapping exercises and qualitative analyses

- S3 lessons learnt from Croatia, Zoran Aralica, SmartEIT, HR (tbc)
- S3 governance/EDP in Slovenia, Marko Hren, ERDF Managing Authority, GODCP, SI
- S3 emerging practices in Serbia, Jelena Todorović, S3 Team, Public Policy Secretariat, RS
- S3 emerging practices in Montenegro, Darko Petrusic, Director General, Ministry of Science, ME
- Q&A session

12.00-12.30 Coffee break

12.30-14.00 Parallel sessions

Introduction to S3 governance	Entrepreneurial discovery training
Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the S3 team	Serbia, Montenegro, the S3 team and TP Ljubljana team
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Round table: Overview of current policies and instruments for science, technology, innovation, economic development and industrial policy.• Presentation: How is smart specialisation different than other policies? Place of smart specialisation in the national policy framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation: Why is the EDP essence of smart specialisation and how to do it well• Presentation: EDP in Poland, Malgorzata Krudnicka, Warsaw, PL• Presentation: EDP in Slovenia, TP-LJ team• Discussion: Experience and challenges for dialogue with business and research in RS & ME

14.00-15.00 Networking Lunch

15.00-16.30 Parallel sessions - continued

Introduction to S3 governance	Entrepreneurial discovery training
Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the S3 team	Serbia, Montenegro, the S3 team and TP Ljubljana team
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation: Smart specialisation success stories: what smart specialisation changed in the EU?• Presentation: First steps: how to start the smart specialisation exercise at institutional level• Discussion: What needs to happen to start S3 process in each country	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation: Qualitative and quantitative inputs to EDP – from evidence to participation• Country presentations and discussion: The results of quantitative and qualitative analyses• Summary: Are we ready to launch?

16.00-16.30 Coffee break

16.30-18.00 Parallel sessions - continued

Introduction to S3 governance	Entrepreneurial discovery training
Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the S3 Team	Serbia, Montenegro, the S3 Team and TP Ljubljana team
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation: S3 skills mapping in the WBCs - link between skills and smart specialisation, P. Vuorinen & A. Gribben, ETF• Individual technical talks: Assessment of interest in the S3 approach and needs for JRC support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation: Stakeholder identification for priority domains• Group work: Main stakeholder groups for each priority domain• Summary: Similarities and differences of approach

19.30 Official dinner

Day 2 - 12 April

09.30-11.00 Plenary session

- Short introduction and stock taking: main conclusions and exchange of experience from Day 1
- **Integrated approach to research, innovation, industrial and cluster policy: Presentations and panel discussion** with [Bernhard Fabianek](#) (DG RTD), [Youssef Tadros](#) (DG NEAR), [Jose Freitas](#) and [Aurelie Lechien](#) (DG GROW) and the S3 Team (DG JRC)

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

11.30-12.30 Plenary session – continued "Integrated approach to research, innovation, industrial and cluster policy":

- Case-study "Place-based Innovation Ecosystems: Ljubljana start-up ecosystem" - Slovenian business innovation supporting ecosystem as a part of the EDP and its role in the S3 Strategic Research-Innovation Partnerships (SRIPs) with presentation of a few selected business innovation facilitating organisations - [Gabriel Rissola](#) (JRC) & [Maja Bucar](#) (UNI-LJ) + TP-LJ, Slovene Enterprise Fund (SEF) and ABC Accelerator;
- Technology transfer capacities and their role in the regional innovation ecosystem - [Elena Andonova](#), JRC
- Q&A session with the WBC delegations on transferability of the presented organisational model to the Western Balkans countries

12.30-14.00 Parallel sessions

Introduction to S3 governance	Entrepreneurial discovery training
Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the S3 Team	Serbia, Montenegro and the S3 Team & TP Ljubljana team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: National vs regional: place-based innovation policies • Presentation: Evidence for smart specialisation: quantitative and qualitative analysis • Group work: S3 approach for each country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: EDP working groups: organisation and procedures • Group work: EDP framework for each country • Summary: Similarities and differences of approach

14.00-15.00 Lunch & networking

15.00-16.30 Parallel sessions - continued

Introduction to S3 governance	Entrepreneurial discovery training
Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the S3 Team	Serbia, Montenegro and the S3 Team & TP Ljubljana team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: Entrepreneurial discovery process – key success factors • Discussion: Experience with stakeholder dialogue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: EDP deliverables - SWOT analysis, common vision, objectives, policy mix, action plans, basic indicators and online platform • Group work: SWOT analysis for a chosen priority domain

16.00-16.30 Coffee break

16.30-18.00 Parallel sessions – continued

Introduction to S3 governance	Entrepreneurial discovery training
Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the S3 Team	Serbia, Montenegro and the S3 Team & TP Ljubljana team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: From S3 planning to getting started – a roadmap • Group work: Country roadmaps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group work: 3 exercises - common vision, strategic objectives and action plans, indicators • Summary: EDP in the strategy document and continuous EDP

18.00 – 18.30 Plenary session – Summary and Next Steps