

Final version
Date: September 21, 2020

ADRIATIC-IONIAN REGION (EUSAIR) S3 NETWORK
A PUSH FOR STRENGTHENED INTERNATIONALISATION:
First EUSAIR Smart Specialisation Strategies
Governance representatives meeting
23 & 24 September 2020

Venue: Izola (Slovenia) and video conference via EUSAIR's Stakeholders Platform.

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone:

DAY 1: <https://www.gotomeet.me/EusairStakeholderPlatform10/first-eusair-smart-specialisation-strategies-gover>

DAY 2: <https://www.gotomeet.me/EusairStakeholderPlatform10/first-eusair-smart-specialisation-strategies-gov-9>

Participants:

DAY 1: Smart Specialisation Strategies departments in the Adriatic-Ionian region, DG Regio, JRC, OISAIR project representatives, interested government participants.

DAY 2: DG MARE, BLUE-AIR project representatives, Regional clusters (e. g. Slovenian Strategic research and innovation partnerships), best practice project examples from the EUSAIR region, Interact, interested stakeholders, interested government participants.

Invited guests: EUSAIR key implementers, ADRION Managing Authority and blue growth-related projects, European Commission, EUSAIR Pillar 1 representatives, Facility point project partners

Objective of the meetings: The ambition of the initiators of the meeting, EUSAIR Facility Point Lead Partner and Slovenian Smart Specialisation Strategy department, is to boost and kick-off cross-cutting collaboration and mutual learning among different stakeholders, involved in the S3 design and implementation towards future macro-regional partnerships. Initiators firmly believe there is huge potential in more systemic and long-term collaboration among policy makers of different S3 in



respected regions to better exploit the research and business potentials thus leading to more sustainable and robust development of the region. Exchange of experience, good practices and ideas shall promote and contribute to the internationalisation within the region. The meeting is the first of a series of meetings, dedicated to getting to know each other better and see the overall state of the art in terms of the S3 state of the art in the Adriatic-Ionian region.

Whilst the first day of the meeting is focused towards exchange of experience and alignment of the S3 departments of the region, the second day aims to present some real and actual good practices, and boost collaboration and joint potential consortia in the area of Blue Growth.

Furthermore we believe this and meetings to follow will substantially contribute to Entrepreneurial discovery process in the cross-regional dimension of internationalisation in the period where new S3's are being prepared in respected Adriatic-Ionian regions, as well as exchange experience on the Entrepreneurial discovery process so far.

Agenda:

23 September 2020 – DAY 1	
10:00-12:00	<p><i>Smart Specialisation Strategies in the Adriatic-Ionian Region – who, what, how, why</i></p> <p><i>PART 1: Moderated presentation and discussion with contributions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EUSAIR - JRC: State of the art and opportunities within A-I region - OISAIR transnational ADRION project findings
10:00-10:20	<p><i>Welcome address by hosts:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government Office for Development and European cohesion policy, Bojan Suvorov, Head of S4 Unit - EUSAIR Presidency, Andreja Jerina, national coordinator, Republic of Slovenia Ministry of Foreign Affairs - EC – DG REGIO, Jean-Pierre Halkin, European Commission, Head of Unit of the unit D1 in DG REGIO: Macro-regions, transnational/Interregional/External Cooperation, Enlargement.
10:20-10:40	<p><i>Tour de table: country representatives present themselves and own expectations from the two days meeting</i></p> <p><i>Due to high number of listeners, other participants are invited to post their introduction and expectations via chat option.</i></p>
10:40-11:00	<p><i>JRC: State of the art and opportunities within the Adriatic-Ionian region (Aleš Gnamuš)</i></p>
11:00-11:20	<p><i>OISAIR transnational ADRION project findings: Innovation and blue growth potentials and placements (Domagoj Šarić, Croatian Chamber of commerce, partner of OIS-AIR project)</i></p>

11:20-11:40	<i>Short reflections</i>
11:40-12:00	<i>Virtual break</i>
12:00-14:15	<p><i>Smart Specialisation Strategies in the Adriatic-Ionian Region – who, what, how, why</i></p> <p><i>PART 2: Moderated discussion on the state of the S3 in A-I countries with contributions from S3</i></p>
12:00-13:15	<p>S3 PRESENTS THEMSELVES – TOWARD THE S3 NETWORK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Slovenian Smart specialisation strategy: EDP process for the period 2021-2028 (11:20-11:30), Gorazd Jenko, Republic of Slovenia, Government office for development and European cohesion policy,</i> - <i>S3 departments in the Adriatic-Ionian region presents themselves: S3 design and implementation in the programming period 2014-2020; S3 design in the next programming period – 6 minutes per country:</i> <i>Linda Pustina, Albania</i> <i>Tanja Lučić, Bosnia and Herzegovina</i> <i>George Alexakis, Region of Crete, Greece</i> <i>Stefano Valentini, Emilia Romagna - Italy</i> <i>Branka Žižić, Montenegro</i> <i>Jasmina Majstoroska, North Macedonia</i> <i>Viktor Nedović, Serbia</i> <p><i>Presentation should focus added value of S3, difficulties encountered in its implementation and what is expected/needed for the new phase 2021-2027.</i></p>
13:15-14:00	<p><i>Discussion on the value added of transnational cooperation in coordinated policy making, with input from EC, Gregor Čufer, DG REGIO</i></p> <p><i>Reflection on experiences of non EU neighbour countries and transnational cooperation.</i></p>
14:00-14:15	<i>Conclusions and next steps</i>

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24 September 2020 – DAY 2	
10:00-13:30	<i>Exchange of experiences and best practices, looking for common grounds</i>
10:00-10:10	<p><i>Welcome address by</i></p> <p><i>Government Office of Slovenia for Development and European Cohesion Policy, Monika Kirbiš, state secretary</i></p>

	<p><i>EUSAIR Presidency, Andreja Jerina, national coordinator, Republic of Slovenia Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i></p> <p><i>Isabelle Viallon, Deputy Head of Unit A3 Sea basin strategies, Maritime Regional Cooperation and Maritime Security, European Commission – DG Mare</i></p>
10:10-10:20	<i>Recap of day 1 (Simona Knežević Vernon)</i>
10:20-10:30	<i>EUSAIR Facility point, Staša Mesec, Lead partner, Slovenia Government office for development and European cohesion policy</i>
10:30-10:45	<i>Blue Growth as a Pillar of EUSAIR – state of the art and future perspectives, ICT ECOLOGICAL WATER MONITORING BY heart rate of the shells, Aleksandar Joksimović, Institute of marine biology, Kotor, Montenegro - Institut za biologiju mora, University of Montenegro</i>
10:45-11:00	<i>From OISAIR to BLUE AIR – Blue growth in Smart Specialisation (Area Science park, Elena Banci, Lead partner of OIS-AIR and BLUE AIR project)</i>
11:00-12:10	<p><i>Presentations of good practice examples of projects and S3 Initiatives within Adriatic-Ionian region, 8 minutes each followed by discussion after each presentation(tbc)</i></p> <p><i>The focus of the presentations should be on:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Approach to the project and its specifics</i> - <i>The role of “international”</i> - <i>Lessons learnt and path forward</i> <p><i>Cultural and Creative Regional Ecosystems (CCRE-S3), Stavros Kalognomos, Balkan and Black Sea Commission, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), France</i></p> <p><i>ICT ECOLOGICAL WATER MONITORING BY heart rate of the shells, Aleksandar Joksimović, Institute of marine biology, Kotor, Montenegro - Institut za biologiju mora, University of Montenegro, Montenegro</i></p> <p><i>INNOFEIT, Mr. Vladimir Atanasovski Professor and vice dean of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technologies, North Macedonia</i></p> <p><i>Strategic research and innovation partnership Networks towards circular economy, Dragica Marinič, Chamber of commerce and Industry of Štajerska Slovenia</i></p> <p><i>Strategic Research and Innovation partnership for Sustainable Food Production, Tatjana Zagorc, Chamber of commerce of Slovenia, Slovenia</i></p> <p><i>Panoramed project, Živa Antauer, Institute Jožef Stefan, Slovenia</i></p> <p><i>PlanetCare project, Andrej Kržan, Slovenia</i></p>
12:10-12:30	<i>Virtual coffee break</i>

12:30-13:00	<p><i>Presentations of good practice examples of projects and S3 Initiatives within Adriatic-Ionian region, 8 minutes each followed by discussion after each presentation, - if enough interest(tbc)</i></p> <p><i>The focus of the presentations should be on:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Approach to the project and its specifics</i> - <i>The role of “international”</i> - <i>Lessons learnt and path forward</i>
13:00-13:30	<i>Conclusions and next steps</i>

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DAY 2: <https://www.gotomeet.me/EusairStakeholderPlatform10/first-eusair-smart-specialisation-strategies-gov-9>

Please confirm the list of presenters by 16.9.2020

Please register for the event by 18.9.2020

<https://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/event/mediterranean-coast-and-macro-regional-strategies-week-2020/registration-slopresidencyeusair/>

About EUSAIR:



The general objective of the Adriatic-Ionian Macro regional Strategy (EUSAIR) is to promote economic and social prosperity and growth in the region by improving its attractiveness, competitiveness and connectivity. With four EU members (Croatia, Greece, Italy, Slovenia) and five non-EU countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia and North Macedonia) the

strategy is contributing also to the EU Enlargement process and further integration of the Western Balkans.

The participating countries of the EUSAIR agreed on areas of mutual interest with high relevance for the Adriatic-Ionian Region, being it common challenges or opportunities. The countries are aiming to create synergies and foster coordination among all territories in the Adriatic-Ionian Region in the four thematic areas/pillars: blue growth, connecting the region, environmental quality and sustainable tourism. Link to agreed Priorities / Flagships: https://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/EUSAIR-flagships-GB_F.pdf

EUSAIR is a platform for cooperation, which brings together stakeholders from governments, local institutions, civil society, private entrepreneurs, academia, projects etc. **It allows capitalisation on one side, and policies coordination and innovation with existing EU initiatives across the region.**

EUSAIR also provides orientation for funding programmes in the region. In the period 2021-2027, European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) and IPA investment funds should increasingly focus on a broad range of actions linked to improving the performance of regional innovation ecosystems (both in terms of their institutional strength/governance, as well as in terms of specialisation/diversification).

Since Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) represent a common innovation and regional development policy lever within the Adriatic-Ionian Region, **the creation of a strong S3 stakeholder network is a way to push forward the governance of innovation on multiple levels. At the current state all participating countries have agreed on flagship projects, and on common approach towards including the flagships in the future programming documents connected with ESI funds.** With this being done the time is coming to boost economical exchange, internationalisation and further develop joint collaboration opportunities.

S3 play a crucial role in European regional development and innovation policy. Through S3 European regions and countries are identifying and supporting a limited number of priority areas for knowledge-based investments. The design and implementation of regional and national S3 is aimed at ensuring more effective spending of public resources, concentrating on certain domains of national and regional knowledge or expertise. **Although S3 are based on a place-based approach, they require looking beyond national and regional boundaries.** In the next period, S3 should become a structuring mechanism for a broader range of transformational processes, such as the digitisation of the economy, measures to develop SME competitiveness, and entrepreneurship and internationalisation. The effectiveness and efficiency of S3 design and implementation can only be achieved through systematic and constructive comparisons, mapping national and the international context in search of examples to learn from and performing effective collaboration.

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If you have any technical questions, please contact the EUSAIR Stakeholder Platform staff at the following e-mail addresses:

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