



Slovenian  
Presidency  
20-21

# 6<sup>th</sup> Forum

of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region  
**Along the coasts of the shared sea**  
Izola, 11-12 May 2021



## Boosting Innovation and Facilitating the EU Integration process of the Western Balkans: The case of Smart Specialisation Strategies

ADRION Special event at the 6<sup>th</sup> EUSAIR ANNUAL FORUM:

12 May 2021

Dr. Ales GNAMUS, European Commission, Joint Research Centre

# Enlargement Perspective for Enhanced EU Engagement with the Western Balkans



## SIX NEW FLAGSHIP INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WESTERN BALKANS

Through six flagship initiatives, the Western Balkans Strategy sets out the EU's unprecedented support to the transformation process in the Western Balkans, targeting specific areas of interest for both the EU and the Western Balkans countries:



### INITIATIVE TO STRENGTHEN THE RULE OF LAW

Existing tools, such as detailed action plans, will be expanded to all Western Balkans countries. Assessment of reform implementation will be enhanced, including through new advisory missions. Greater use will be made of leverage provided in the negotiating frameworks with Montenegro and Serbia.



### INITIATIVE TO REINFORCE ENGAGEMENT ON SECURITY AND MIGRATION

Reinforced cooperation on fighting organised crime, countering terrorism and violent extremism and on border security and migration management. Europol liaison officers will be posted in the region; Joint Investigation Teams further promoted and status agreements with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency concluded.



### INITIATIVE TO ENHANCE SUPPORT FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This will include expanding the Western Balkans Investment Framework, a significant boost in the provision of guarantees to crowd in private investment, support to start-ups and SMEs and greater trade facilitation. A new reinforced social dimension will see more focus on employment and social policies, with increased financial assistance to support the social sector, in particular education and health. Funding under Erasmus+ will be doubled.



### INITIATIVE TO INCREASE TRANSPORT AND ENERGY CONNECTIVITY

Within the region and with the EU, including new investment support. More effective use will be made of the Connecting Europe Facility in the Western Balkan countries. The EU's Energy Union should be expanded to the Western Balkans.



### INITIATIVE FOR A DIGITAL AGENDA FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS

This will include a roadmap to facilitate lowering roaming costs, support to the deployment of broadband and development of eGovernment, eProcurement, eHealth and digital skills.



### INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT RECONCILIATION AND GOOD NEIGHBOURLY RELATIONS

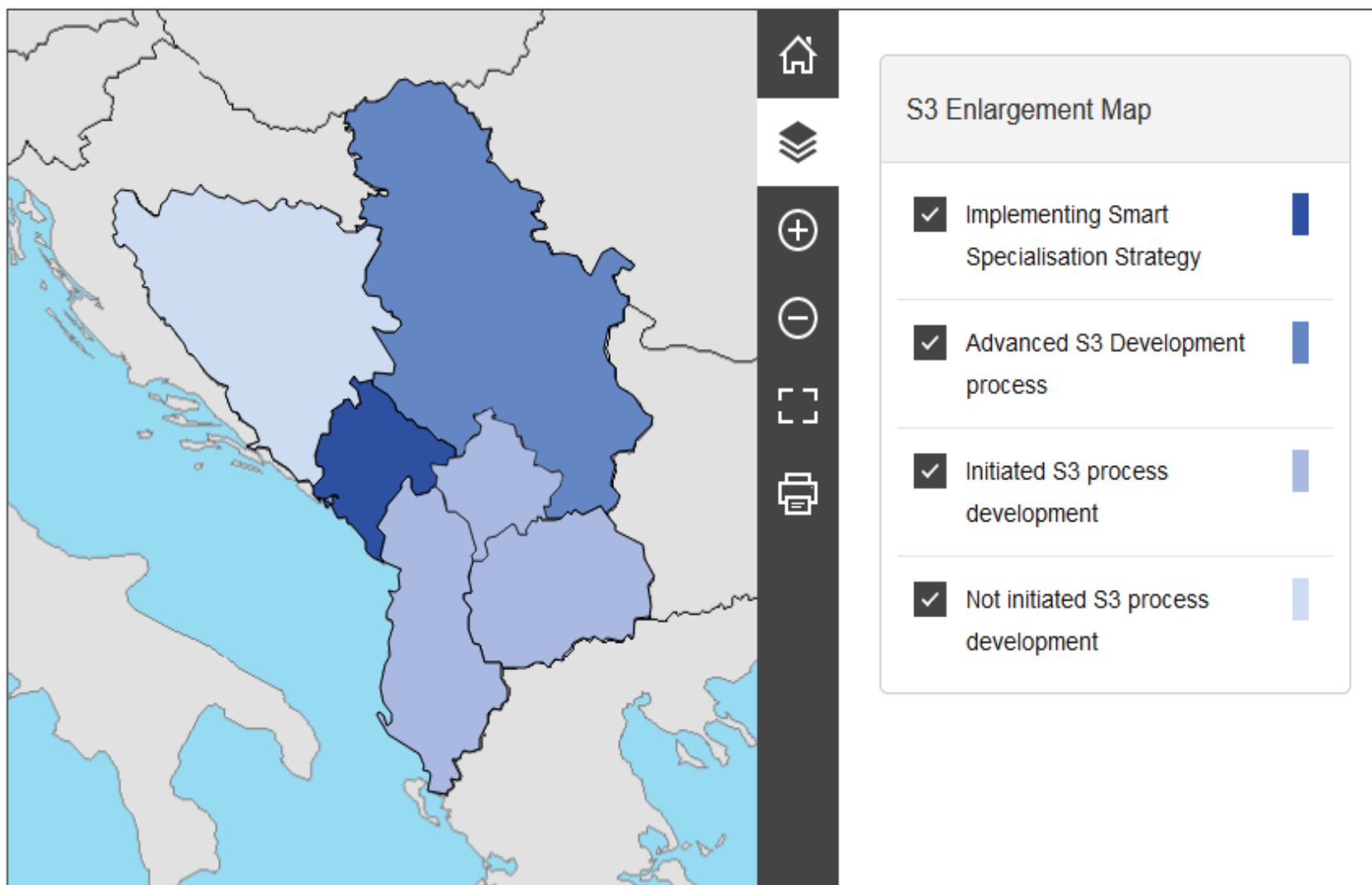
This will include support to transitional justice, missing persons and increased cooperation in education, culture, youth and sport, and expanding the scope of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office. The Western Balkans will be fully associated to the European Year of Cultural Heritage. The EU - Western Balkans Heritage Route will be launched.

introduced to strengthen the Economic Reform Programme exercise, which clearly recognises the critical importance of the S3 approach for the Western Balkans

# JRC S3 Framework for the EU and Beyond



## Smart Specialisation in the Western Balkans: Status



JRC (in cooperation with NEAR and RTD) supports WB's S3 through:

- Adjustments of the S3 process methodology;
- Targeted expert studies - GVCs;
- Customised ext. experts' support;
- SCOPE ("S3 Community Of Practice in the EU Enlargement region") mutual learning activities (trainings, WS, peer-reviews, etc.) aiming at strengthening the role of the region in the international value chains and encouraging coop. between the beneficiaries in the region on similar specialisation priorities;
- Analysis of WBs S3 potential in the MRS cooperation.



# JRC S3 supporting activities for the Enlargement region

## S3 Fiches:

Along the coasts of the shared sea  
Izola, 11-12 May 2021

### Smart Specialisation in the Western Balkans and Turkey

Dear June 2020

#### 1. Facts & Figures

Population (2019): 2.9 million (WB)  
GDP (2017): 13.0 billion USD (WB)  
GDP per capita in PPS (2018): 47 (EU28=100)  
Global Competitiveness Index (2018): 82/141 (WB)  
Global Innovation Index (2018): 82/141 (WB)  
Gross domestic expenditure on R&D in % of GDP (2017): 0.36 (EU28=0.74)  
Government effectiveness score (2.5 to 2.6, 2017): 0.14 (WB)  
Scientific/technical journal articles per million inhabitants (2018): 462.4 (WB)  
Ease of Doing Business score (2019): 90/190 (WB)

#### 2. General Framework Related to S3

Albania registered in the Smart Specialisation Platform (S3P) in November 2017. Albania's smart specialisation process is currently in preparation, following a recent decision by the Council of Ministers. The S3 process will follow the JRC methodological framework for smart specialisation. The S3 team is currently in the process of preparing the S3 process in the country.

#### 3. Institutional Capacity Building

In April 2018, a comprehensive training on S3 with the focus on the entrepreneurial discovery process (EDP) was organised in Ljubljana. In November 2018, a focus on the S3 process in the country was organised in Ljubljana. In November 2018, a focus on the S3 process in the country was organised in Ljubljana. In November 2018, a focus on the S3 process in the country was organised in Ljubljana.

#### 4. Stakeholder Dialogue

The entrepreneurial discovery process (EDP) will start in the mapping phase. However, since Bosnia and Herzegovina has not yet begun its S3 process, the mapping phase is not yet started. The S3 process will follow the JRC methodological framework for smart specialisation. The S3 team is currently in the process of preparing the S3 process in the country.

### Smart Specialisation in the Western Balkans and Turkey

Dear July 2020

#### 1. Facts & Figures

Population (2019): 0.63 million (WB)  
GDP per capita in PPS (2018): 47 (EU28=100)  
Global Competitiveness Index (2018): 82/141 (WB)  
Global Innovation Index (2018): 82/141 (WB)  
Gross domestic expenditure on R&D in % of GDP (2017): 0.36 (EU28=0.74)  
Government effectiveness score (2.5 to 2.6, 2017): 0.14 (WB)  
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Montenegro registered in the Smart Specialisation Platform (S3P) in November 2017. Montenegro's smart specialisation process is currently in preparation, following a recent decision by the Council of Ministers. The S3 process will follow the JRC methodological framework for smart specialisation. The S3 team is currently in the process of preparing the S3 process in the country.

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### Smart Specialisation in the Western Balkans and Turkey

Dear July 2020

#### 1. Facts & Figures

Population (2017): 2.09 million (WB)  
GDP per capita in PPS (2018): 38 (EU28=100)  
Global Competitiveness Index (2018): 82/141 (WB)  
Global Innovation Index (2018): 82/141 (WB)  
Gross domestic expenditure on R&D in % of GDP (2017): 0.36 (EU28=0.74)  
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Dear July 2020

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Population (2017): 1.9 million (WB)  
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### Smart Specialisation in the Western Balkans and Turkey

Dear June 2020

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### SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM

Home | S3 Platforms | Sections | Tools | News | Events | Knowledge Repository

#### S3 Cooperation

EU Macro-Regional Strategies  
Other Initiatives  
S3 Beyond EU  
EU Enlargement  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
North Macedonia  
Montenegro  
Kosovo  
Serbia  
Turkey  
EU Enlargement  
Non-EU  
S3 Enlargement

#### Publications

Coming soon

#### Contact

#### Albania

##### Facts & Figures

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##### Institutional Capacity Building

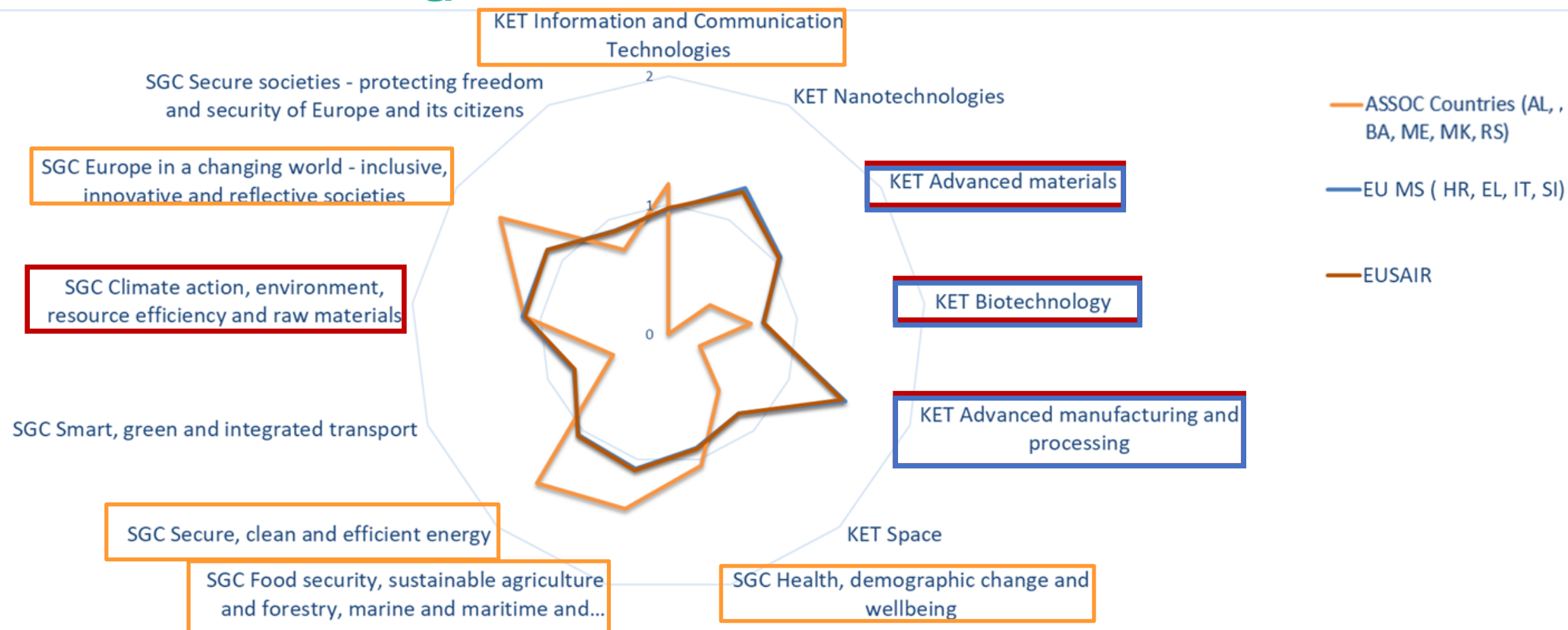
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## S3P-Website dedicated pages:

# Relative R&I Specialisation by H2020 Projects in Clustered S3 Domains (concentration of funding)



## JRC Study on **S3 priorities'** alignment in the EUSAIR

Clustered S3 Domains/Priorities	Main Keywords
<b>Better Societies</b>	Governance, Social and Societal issues, Culture, Creative, Arts, Services, Leisure, Entertainment, Tourism, Business, Financial, Security, etc.
<b>Electronic Technologies &amp; ICT</b>	Industry 4.0, Computers, Software, Optics, Photonics, etc.
<b>Sustainable Energy</b>	Energy Efficiency, Renewables, Smart Grids, Energy technologies, etc.
<b>Climate &amp; Environmental Sciences</b>	Biotechnology, Natural sciences, Conservation, Climate mitigation, Earth observation, Flora & Fauna, Pollution, Ocean & Seas, etc.
<b>Advanced Manufacturing &amp; Materials</b>	Process Industries, Machinery, KETs, Micro- & Nano-technology, Advanced materials, etc.
<b>Agro-Food</b>	Farming, Rural, Sustainable agriculture, Healthy food, Wine, Beverages, Agricultural products, Food Processing, Forestry, Wood, Freshwater and Marine foods, Food Safety, Biotechnology, etc.
<b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>	Medicine, Medical technologies, Pharmaceutical, Leisure, Spa, Healthcare, etc.
<b>Transport &amp; Mobility</b>	Vehicles, Aero/Space, Shipping, Transport Safety, Transport Security, Urban issues, Smart Cities, Logistics, etc.
<b>Other</b>	Basic sciences, Mathematics, Physics, Fundamental research, Blue sky research, etc.

## S3/R&I Specialisation of the EUSAIR territories as encoded in the Eye@RIS3

**Territorial Level**  
34 selected

Advanced search fields

**Economic Domains**  
None selected

**Scientific Domains**  
None selected

**Policy Objectives**  
None selected

Close advanced search ^

SEARCH Reset

Click on the following link if you want to [propose or edit priorities](#).



**EUSAIR: 34 territorial units (countries/regions) with info at relevant territorial level**

Encoded S3/R&I priorities grouped and clustered into 8+1 categories/R&I Domains

Note-info for 8/9 EUSAIR countries:

- IT, GR – at regional level;
- SI, HR, AL & BA (both only R&I), RS and ME – at national level;
- MK – no encoded priorities – incomplete info only at the quantitative mapping of economic, research and innovation potentials in the S3 process at national level!



## Specialisation by clustered S3 Domains: Analysis of S3 Priorities Eye@RIS3

Total 184 S3 (R&I - for Non-EU) priorities clustered in 8+1 S3 Domains

S3 Domain/Priority	No. of related S3 Priorities in the AI territories (MS/regions)	Coverage by EUSAIR Priority Actions
Better Societies (incl. CCI)	31	3 (PAs: 3,9,10)
Electronic Technologies & ICT	41	6 (PAs: 1,4,5,6,9 + PA10)
Sustainable Energy	34	4 (PAs 1,3,6 + PA7)
Climate & Environ. Sciences	38	4 (PAs: 6,7,8 + PA10)
Advanced Manuf. & Materials	16	4 (PAs 1,4,6 + partially PA7)
Agro-Food	23	5 (PA2 + PA9 + partially PAs: 8,9,10)
Health & Wellbeing	35	8 (PAs 2,3,4,5,7,8,9,10)
Transport & Mobility	12	7 (PAs 1,3,4,5,7,9 + PA10)
Other (e.g. Mathematic & Physics)	1	-
Total	184	All EUSAIR PAs covered

<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/map> Retrieved: March 2021

(A.Gnamus, JRC Study, in preparation 2021)

Note: The "Total" mismatch the line sums as in some cases certain S3 priority addresses more clustered S3 domains, in other cases different S3 priorities address the same domain.

## EUSAIR Strategy Pillars with Priority Areas vs. S3 Domains

S3 Domains /Priorities	Blue Growth (PAs 1-3)			Connecting the Region (PAs 4-6)			Environmental Quality (PAs 7-8)		Sustainable Tourism (PAs 9-10)		Total
	Blue Technol.	Fisheries& Aquacult.	Marit. & Marine Govnance	Maritime Transprt	Intermod. Connect. Hinterland	Energy Networks	Marine Environ.	Transnat. Terrestr. Habitats& Biodiversity	Diversified Tourism Offer	Sust.&Respons. Tourism Management	
<b>Better Societies</b>			<b>4</b>				<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Electronic Techn.&amp;ICT</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Sust.Energy</b>	<b>4</b>					<b>29</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Climate &amp; Env.Sciences</b>				<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Advanced Manufact.&amp;Materia ls</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>					<b>16</b>
<b>Agro-Food</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>					<b>6</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>					<b>19</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Transport &amp; Mobility</b>	<b>6</b>			<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Other</b>											<b>2</b>

Note: The “Total” mismatch the line sums partly as in some cases certain S3 priority addresses more AI PAs, in other cases different S3 priorities address one particular PA.

(A.Gnamus, JRC Study, in preparation 2021)

## Potential for S3 Cooperation in EUSAIR on prevailing S3 Domains

S3 Domain/Priority	Correlation of S3 Domains with EUSAIR Priority Areas	Potential for EUSAIR wide R&I Collaboration with broader EU impact	No. of related S3 Priorities in the EUSAIR territories (MS/regions)
Better Societies	+++++	+++++	31
Electronic Technologies & ICT	+++	+++ (++++*)	41
Sustainable Energy	++++	+++++	34
Climate & Environmental Sciences	++++	+++++	38
Advanced Manufacturing & Materials	++	++++	16
Agro-Food	+++	++++	23
Health & Wellbeing	++++	+++ (++++*)	35
Transport & Mobility	+++	++	12
Other	-	-	1

\*only for WBCs

(A.Gnamus, JRC Study, in preparation 2021)

# Forging for Competitiveness: Thematic S3 Platforms and Partnerships



## S3PEnergy

- 57 territorial administrative units (MS/regions/cities)
- DGs REGIO, ENER & JRC



BIOENERGY



GEOTHERMAL



MARINE  
RENEWABLE ENERGY



SMART GRIDS



SOLAR ENERGY



SUSTAINABLE  
BUILDINGS



## S3P-Agri-food

- 59 territorial administrative units
- DGs REGIO, AGRI, RTD & JRC



High Tech Farming



Traceability & Big Data



Nutritional Ingredients



Consumer Involvement  
in Agri-Food



Smart Sensors 4 Agri-Food





# S3P-Industry

- 24 partnerships
- 142 territorial administrative units, in 30 countries
- DGs REGIO, GROW, RTD & JRC



**Advanced manufacturing**



**Non-food Biomass**



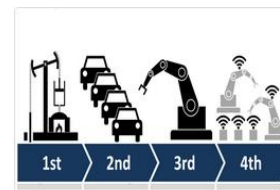
**Efficient and Sustainable Manufacturing**



**3D-Printing**



**New Nano-Enabled Products**



**SMEs to the Industry 4.0**



**Sport**



**Cultural and Creative Regional Ecosystems**



**European Cyber Valleys**



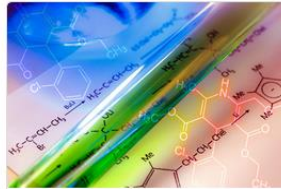
**Social Economy**



**Artificial Intelligence & Human Machine Interface**



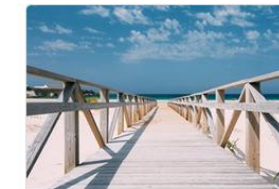
**Personalised medicine**



**Chemicals**



**Safe and sustainable mobility**



**Digitalisation and Safety for Tourism**



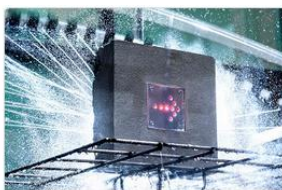
**Wireless ICT**



**Advanced materials for batteries**



**Mining industry**



**Water Smart Territories**



**Textile Innovation**



**Medical technology**



**Photonics**



**Hydrogen Valleys**



**Berry+**

## Participation in the TSSPs - Strategic Partnerships

Country	Number of participation	Country	Number of participation
Spain	93	Czechia	5
Italy	71	Romania	5
France	50	Bulgaria	3
Finland	48	Croatia	2
Netherlands	43	Estonia	2
Germany	31	Ireland	2
Belgium	27	Lithuania	2
Sweden	24	Luxembourg	2
Slovenia	19	Montenegro	2
Greece	15	Bosnia-Herzegovina	1
Portugal	15	Cyprus	1
Poland	14	Georgia	1
UK	12	Latvia	1
Austria	9	Malta	1
Denmark	9	Serbia	1
Hungary	9	Turkey	1
Norway	8	Slovakia	0

EUSAIR countries

WBs modest

involvement!



Pre-condition for more  
active participation =  
vigorous S3 process!

# Thanks for your Attention...Questions?

Keep in touch: [Ales.GNAMUS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Ales.GNAMUS@ec.europa.eu)  
<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/home>



REPUBLIC  
OF SLOVENIA



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EU Science Hub

