

Smart specialisation and P2P collaboration: potential for widening participation

Karel Haegeman and Mark Boden

14-15 January 2016 – Brussels

The views expressed are purely those of the authors and may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the European Commission.

Joint research Centre (JRC)

The European Commission's in-house science service. Serving society, stimulating innovation supporting legislation.

www.jrc.ec.europa.eu

Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS) - Seville

Developing science-based responses to policy challenges

<http://ipts.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

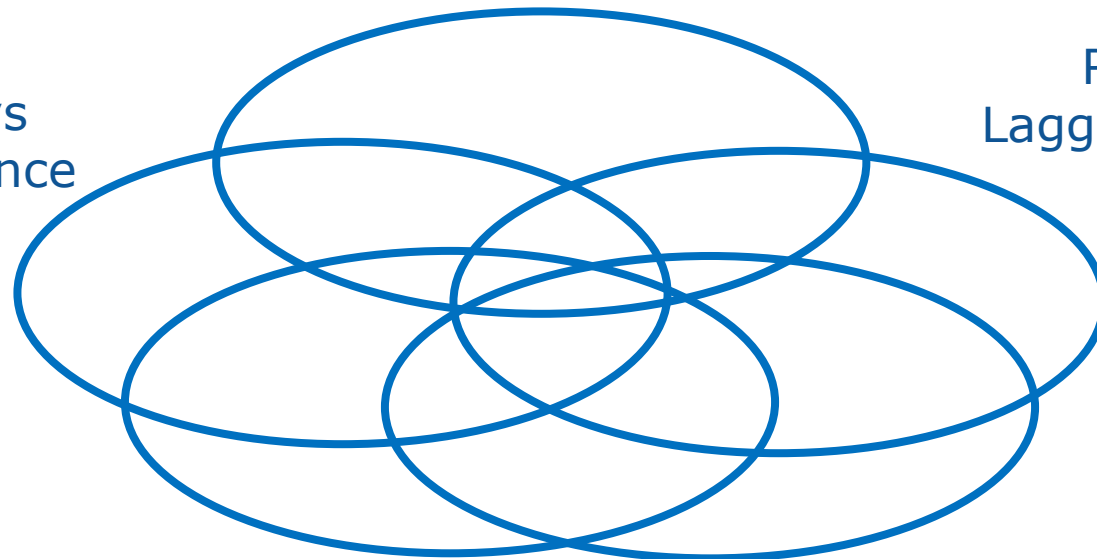


Background

Smart
Specialisation Platform

Stairways
to Excellence

RIS3 in
Lagging Regions



NETWATCH/ERALEARN

ERAWATCH/RIO

Overview

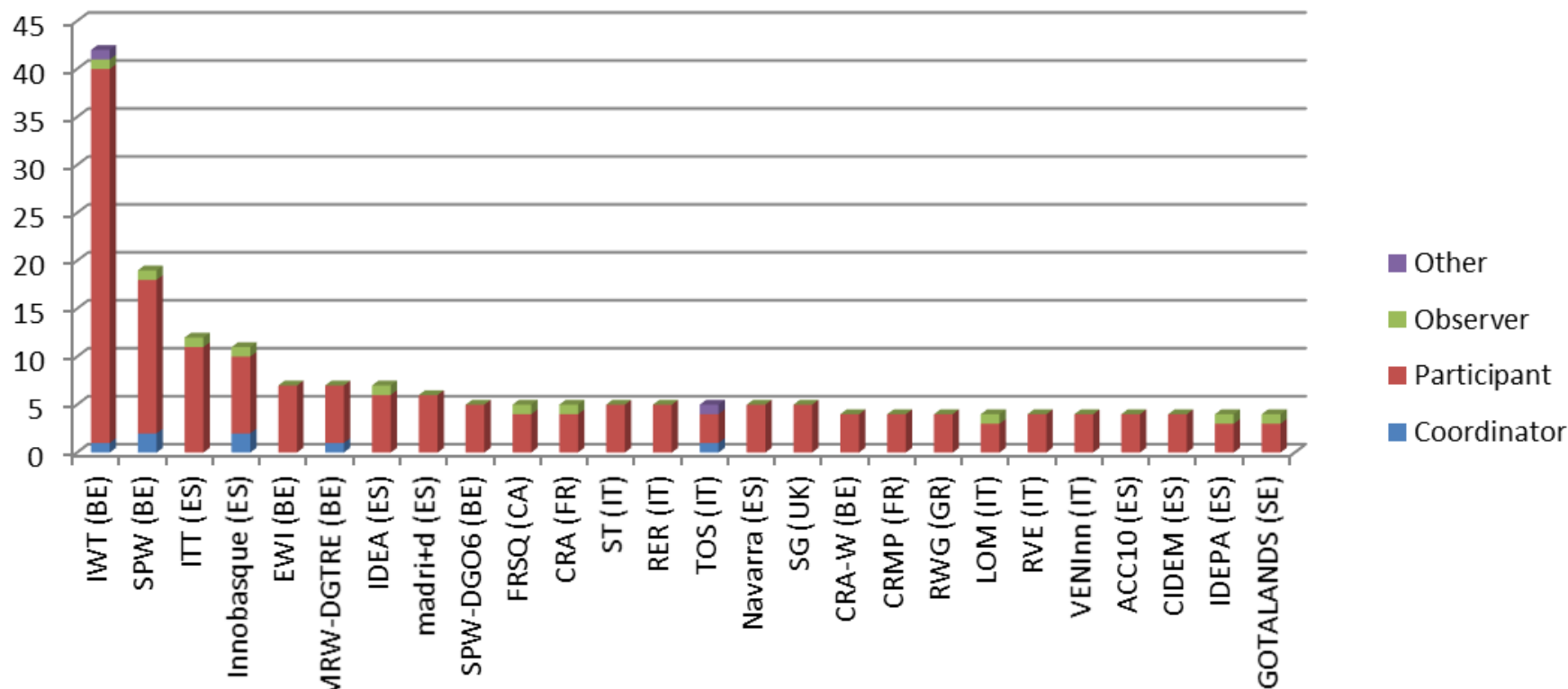
1. Framing regional collaboration in P2P: extent and importance?
2. Smart specialisation: importance and development
3. Potential for linking P2P and RIS3: Opportunities and challenges
4. Areas for mutual learning
5. Conclusions

1. Regional collaboration in P2P

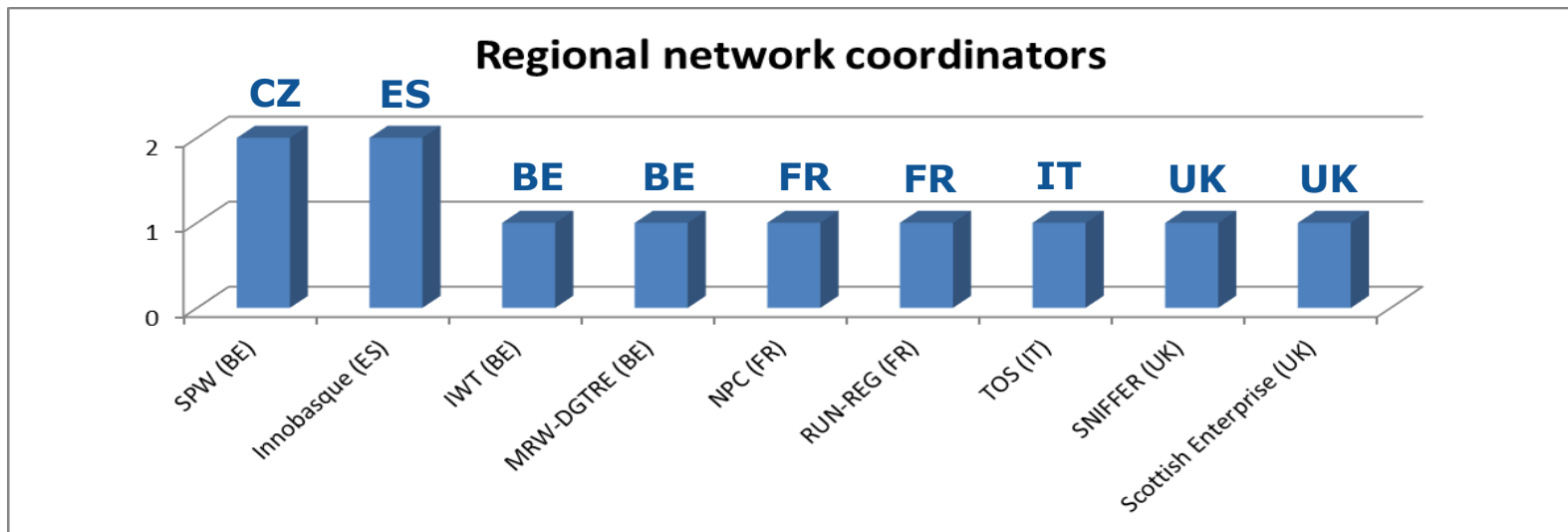
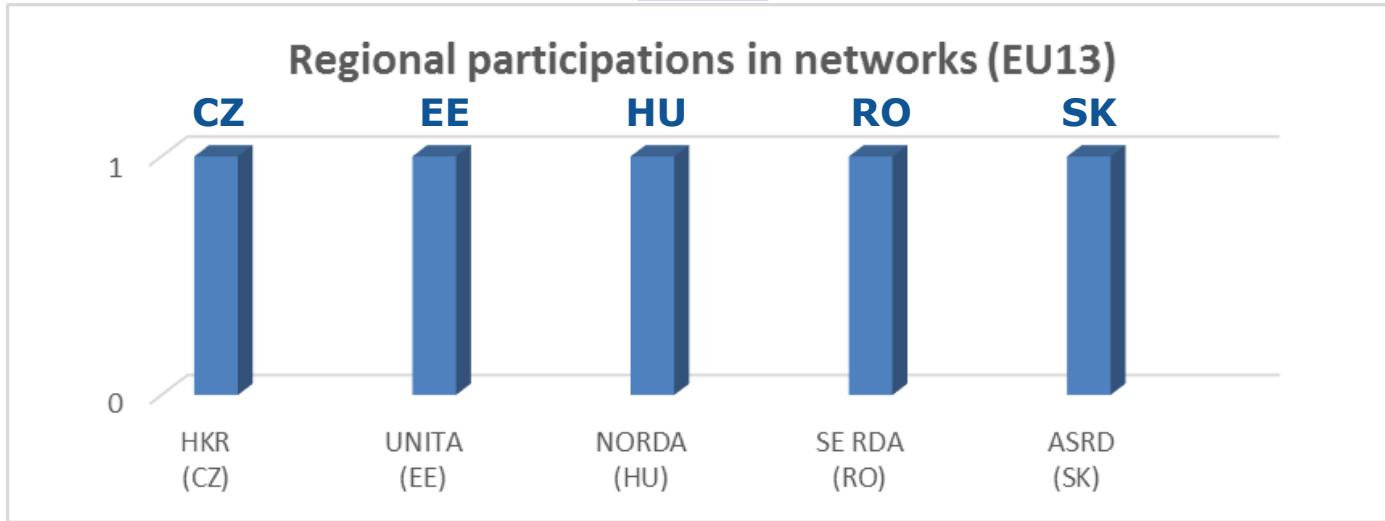


Collaborating European regions in R&I programming

Regional participations in networks (EU28)



1. Regional collaboration in P2P

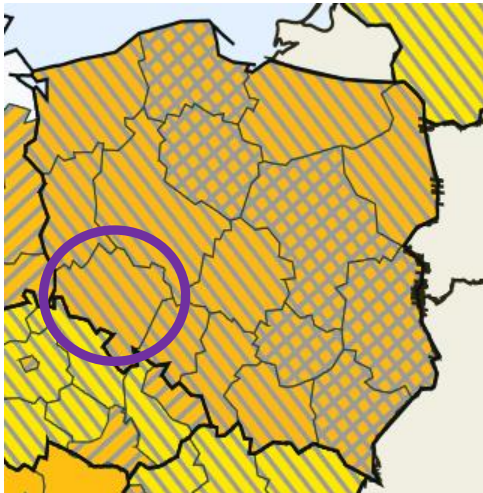




Bertrand Van Ee – CEO Climate KIC

"A significant amount of Europe's low-carbon investments are made at the sub-national level. We can scale up the development of solutions to climate change by better coordinating these investment programmes."

May 30, 2014 – NEWS CANADA+



Example: Lower Silesia is aiming to spend over **€600m** European Structural and Investment (ESI) funds in its low-carbon economy (2014-2020). Climate-KIC will invest €400 million annually up to 2020.

Climate-KIC and Poland's Lower Silesia region have agreed to coordinate their multi-million Euro investment programmes.



Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3)

- At the core is an entrepreneurial discovery process (EDP) involving the quadruple helix: business, research (& education), public administration and civil society
- RIS3 plays a central role in cohesion policy
 - RIS3 as an ex-ante conditionality for thematic objective 1 (R&I)
 - Entrepreneurial discovery and collaborative dimensions are central
 - Action plan is mandatory
- Policy shift towards implementation of RIS3
 - Collaboration to specialise
 - Synergies between instruments
 - National RIS3

2. Smart specialisation

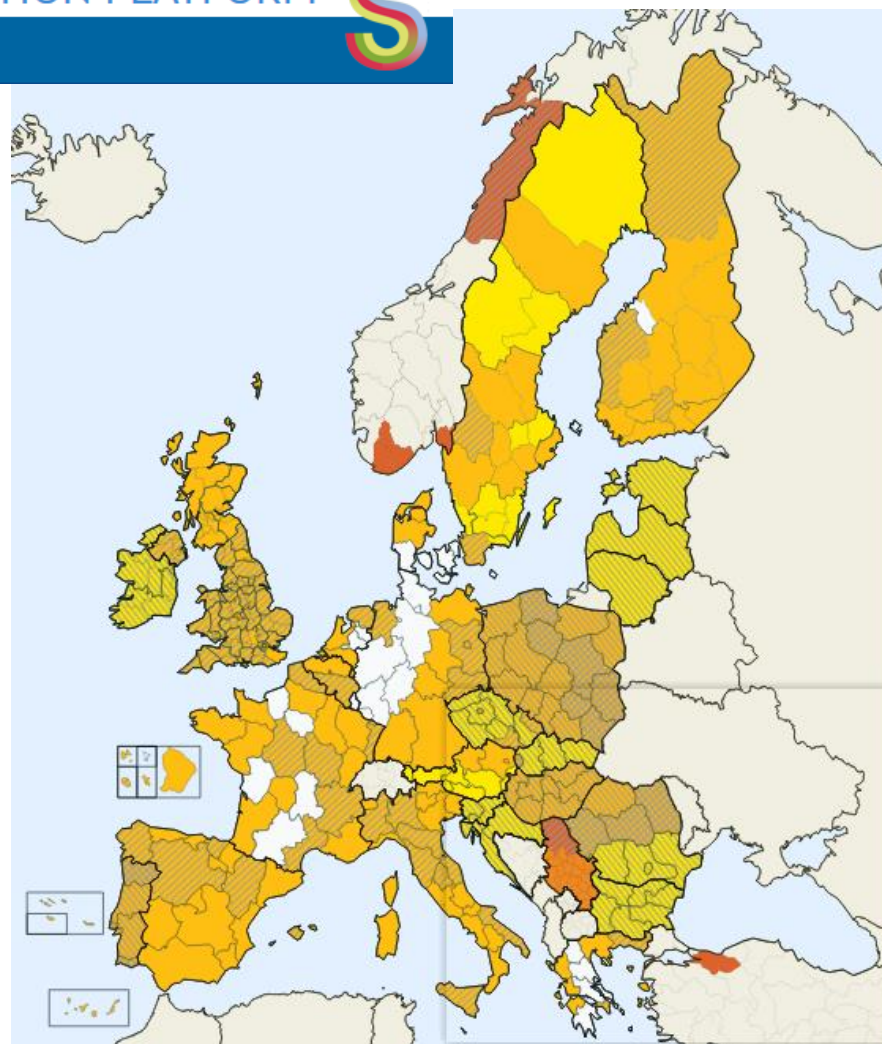


SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM



Platform membership

- 18 EU MS registered + Serbia
- Most of the regions registered, including outside the EU
 - 162 EU regions
 - 6 non-EU regions
- Very good coverage of EU 13

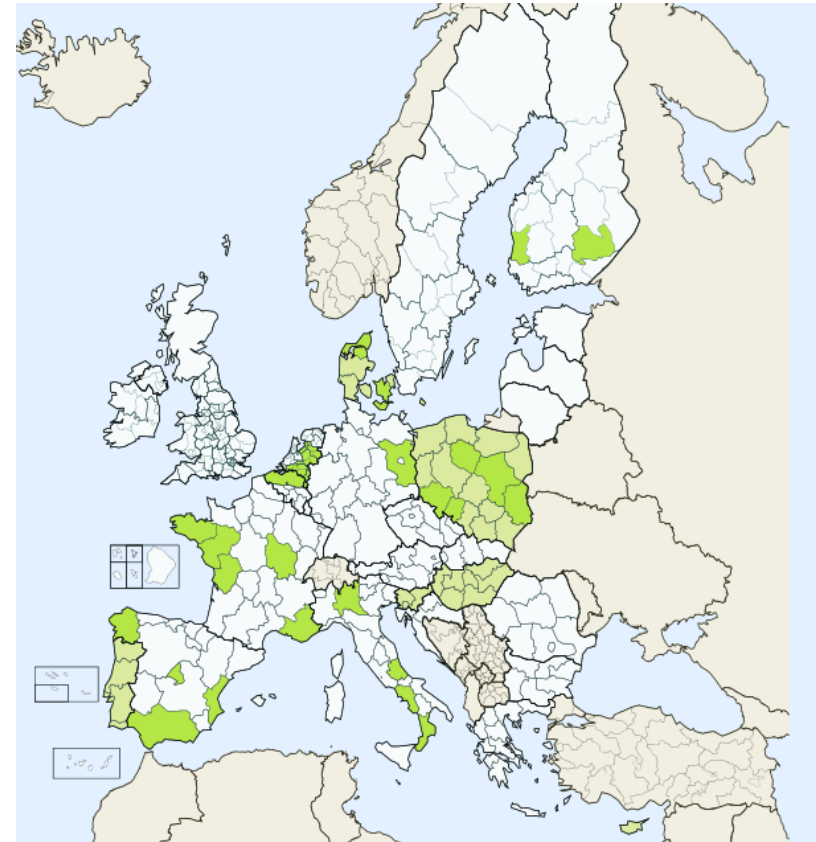


3. Potential for linking P2P and RIS3



- Large budgets for RIS3
 - up to €100bn for R&I until 2020.
- Focus on societal challenges:
 - Potential to align JPI research agendas with R&I priorities of selected regions
- RIS3 an excellent entry point to understand broader structural problems
 - e.g. in RDI, education, business environment and governance
- RIS3 as catalyst for inter/transnational cooperation
- Natural overlap between RIS3 and national research strategy
 - especially in smaller countries

Regions with RIS3 priority in food security and safety

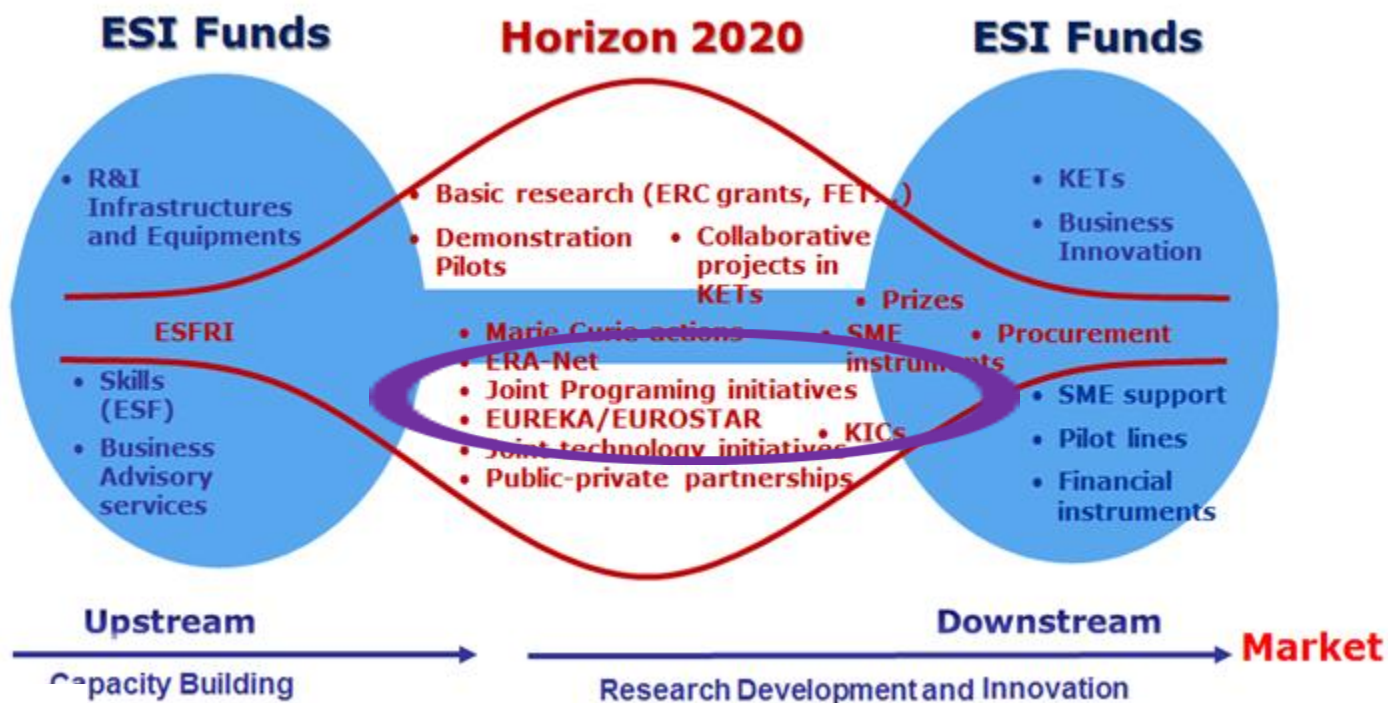


(Source: Eye@RIS3, JRC-IPTS)



*Horizon 2020: excellence-based non-territorial approach and competitive;
But: to introduce also novel measures for 'spreading excellence and widening participation'*

*ESIF: Socio-economic development/place-based, non-competitive;
But: aim to also build regional/national excellence and capacities.*



Source: DG REGIO

3. Potential for linking P2P and RIS3



Opportunities

Towards value chains in RIS3

- Bringing regions with similar or complementary priorities together to develop bottom-up value chains
- Supported by thematic S3 platforms
- First areas: energy, agro-biofood,...

Example: <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s3p-energy>

Synergies (Stairway2Excellence)

- Mutual learning process
- Examples of parallel funding, sequential funding, alternative funding, simultaneous/cumulative funding
- EU13 and soon EU28

Example: <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/stairway-to-excellence>

Lagging regions could particularly benefit

- Targets both “low growth” and “under developed” regions
- RIS3 as entry point to understand broader structural problems (RDI, education, business environment and governance).
- Pilot project in Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, soon to be replicated

Example: <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/remth>

Trans-regional/national collaboration in EU13



Policy brief:

http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/documents/10157/409345/JRC96030_W%20final.pdf



Challenges for RIS3 implementation

- Multi-level ("lasagne") governance
- Building trust and commitment – especially for collaboration
- Legal and administrative challenges – complex state aid and funding rules
- Administrative capacity
- New forms of RIS3 governance, include capacity for operating collaboration
- Human resources – limitations in training and mobility
- Experience and awareness of opportunities and tools

Challenges for linking P2P and RIS3

- Multi-level ("lasagne") governance
- RIS3 and P2P: two different communities
- Different national ministries dealing with structural funds/RIS3 and with JPIs/national research funding?
- Lack of national budget for participation in JPIs - structural funds may be the main source of funding
- Different types/roles of regional managing authorities

4. Areas for mutual learning



- R&I **instruments**:
 - financial (grants, venture capital),
 - non-financial (knowledge spaces, incubators, TTO,...),
 - regulatory (innovative procurement)
- Models of (decentralised) **monitoring**
 - tracking implementation progress
 - clarify intervention logic - comprehensible to the broader public
 - support constructive involvement and **participation of stakeholders** (incl. civil society) through transparent communication and trust building
- **Educational** dimension: sectoral and international mobility schemes, summer schools, ICT training,...
- Role of **entrepreneurs** and "**entrepreneurial discovery process**"
- **Toolbox** for RIS3 and for P2P

4. Areas for mutual learning



RIS3 implementation toolbox

Objectives	Tools
Idea generation, trust building and support cooperation	EDP focus group methodology
Open up to wider (online) communities	Online stakeholder engagement
Address brain drain, build skills	Mobility Working Group
Increase coordination between national and regional levels	Methodology PDL1
Widen funding sources to draw on for idea implementation	Methodology PDL2
	Online RDI Funding Guide
	Case descriptions
Optimise RIS3 governance structure	Governance working group
Support ongoing stakeholder engagement	Stakeholder round table discussions
Identification of barriers and possible solutions	Tailored peer review events
Mutual learning	Board of critical friends
Support international cooperation	Collaboration spotting through Tool for Innovation Monitoring (TIM)



Joint publications and patents related to wine grape varieties (JRC in collaboration with CERN)



Conclusions

- Opportunities of RIS3 and P2P: alignment, critical mass, mutual learning
- Challenges to overcome: lack of trust and awareness, multi-level governance, administrative and legal barriers, learning process
- Strengthening the regional dimension of ERALEAN 2020?
- Widening the (national) stakeholder engagement in RIS3?
- What about synergies with other funds (e.g. agricultural)?

THANK YOU

Karel-herman.haegeman@ec.europa.eu

Mark.boden@ec.europa.eu

Joint Research Centre