

# EU Budget for the future International cooperation in future smart specialization

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*#CohesionPolicy*  
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## PO1 Smart Growth specific objectives

In accordance with the policy objectives, the ERDF shall support the specific objectives of "*a smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation*" by:

1. enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies;
2. reaping the benefits of digitisation for citizens, companies and governments;
3. enhancing growth and competitiveness of SMEs;
4. developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship;

# Scope of support from the ERDF

The ERDF shall support:

- a) investments in infrastructure;
- b) investments in access to services;
- c) productive investments in SMEs;
- d) equipment, software and intangible assets;
- e) information, communication, studies, networking, cooperation, exchange of experience and activities involving clusters;
- f) technical assistance.

In addition, the ERDF shall also support:

- productive investments in enterprises other than SMEs when they involve cooperation with SMEs research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies under PO1 Smart Growth (a) (i)
- training, life-long learning and education activities under PO1 (a) (iv);

Eligibility based on location:

- **NEW!** No restrictions for operations outside the Member State or the Union, provided they contribute to the programme's objectives.

# Enabling condition for smart specialisation

Policy objective	Specific objective	Name of enabling condition
1. A smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation	ERDF: All specific objectives under this policy objective (i.e. research and innovation, digitisation, SMEs, skills)	Good governance of national or regional smart specialisation strategy

## Fulfilment criteria for the enabling condition

Smart specialisation strategy(ies) shall be supported by:

1. Up-to-date analysis of bottlenecks for innovation diffusion, including digitalisation
2. Existence of competent regional / national institution or body, responsible for the management of the smart specialisation strategy
3. Monitoring and evaluation tools to measure performance towards the objectives of the strategy
4. Effective functioning of entrepreneurial discovery process
5. Actions necessary to improve national or regional research and innovation systems
6. Actions to manage industrial transition
7. **Measures for international collaboration**

# Synergies

- Member States can choose to transfer up to 5% of their Cohesion Policy resources to the new InvestEU fund.
- On a voluntary basis, and up to 5%, Member States can transfer Cohesion Policy resources to another EU instrument to fund a project; in this case, the rules of the other instrument apply.
- The other way around, Member States can also choose to use their Cohesion Policy money to finance a project selected under another EU budget tool; in this case Cohesion Policy rules apply.
- The “Seal of Excellence” allows projects successfully evaluated under Horizon Europe to be funded by Cohesion Policy without having to pass another selection process, if they are consistent with the region’s or the programme’s smart specialisation strategy.

# Specific provisions for the European Territorial Cooperation *(COM(2018) 374 final)*

Component	Budget proposed Total budget: EUR 8,4 Bln
1. Cross-border cooperation	• EUR 4.4 Bln (52,7%)
2. Transnational cooperation and maritime cooperation	• EUR 2.6 Bln (31,4%)
3. Outermost regions cooperation	• EUR 0.2 Bln (3,2%)
4. Interregional cooperation	• EUR 0.1 Bln (1,2%)
<b>5. Interregional innovation investments</b> <i>« ...through the <b>commercialisation and scaling up</b> of interregional innovation projects having the potential to encourage the <b>development of European value-chains</b> »</i>	• <b>EUR 0.9 Bln (11,5%)</b>

# Innovation investment across regions

Stronger **strategic inter-regional cooperation** and sustainable linkages **between regional ecosystems** along smart specialisation priority areas can increase competitiveness and resilience.

## Already existing models of cooperation:

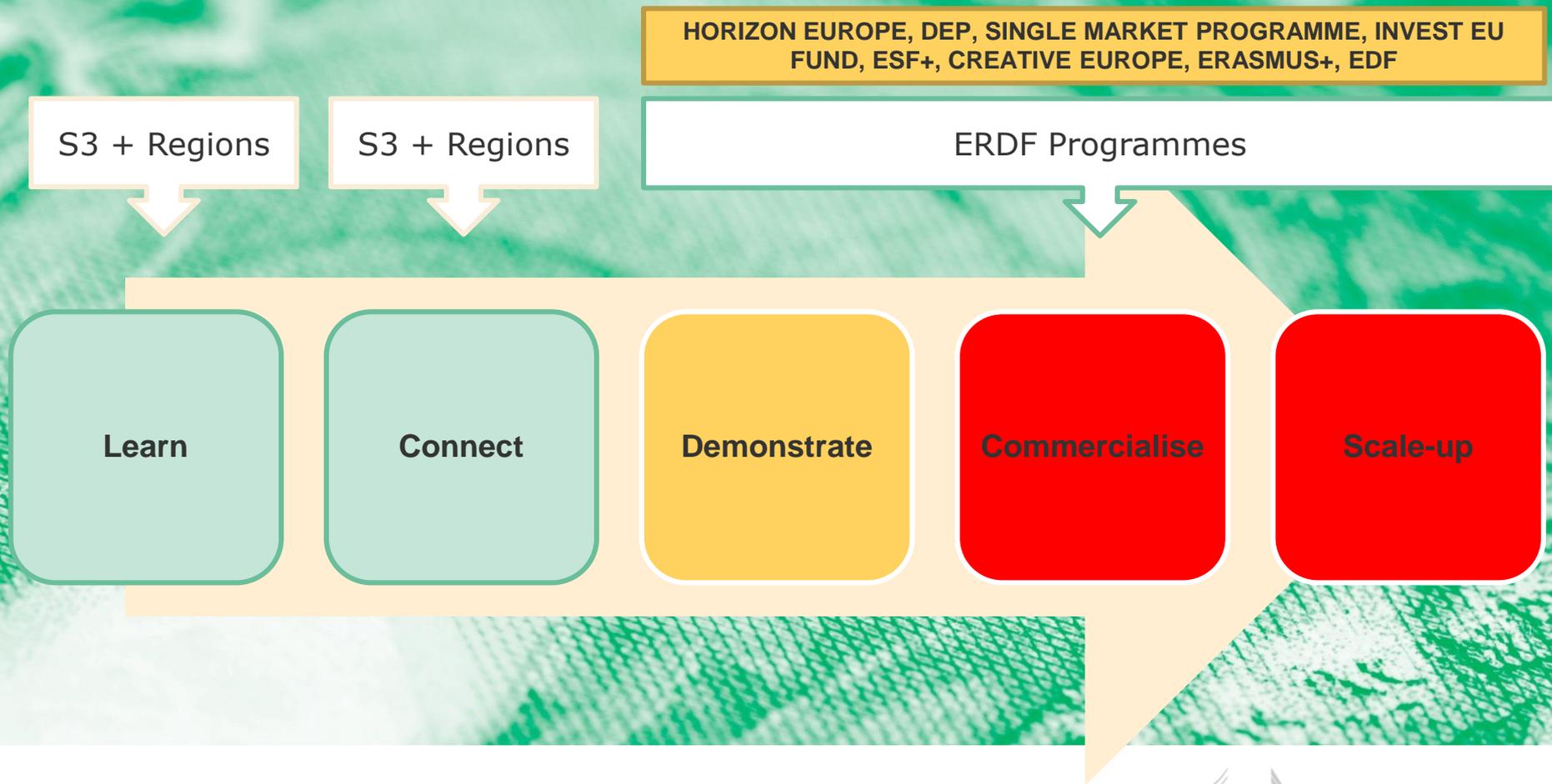
**Vanguard Initiative: a network of 30 EU regions with strong political commitment to use their RIS3 to boost new growth. It seeks to help regional clusters and eco-systems to focus on priority areas for transforming and emerging industries.**

<http://www.s3vanguardinitiative.eu/>

**Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms: joint EC's initiative set up in December 2015. They focus on industrial modernisation, energy and agri-food. More than 80 regions around 20 partnerships.**

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

# Pilot Project: Strategic interregional investment projects



## Selected partnerships

THEMATIC AREA	COORDINATED BY	LEAD REGIONS	PARTICIPATING REGIONS
 <p>3Dprinting</p>	<p>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Industrial modernisation</p>	<p>Flanders (BE), Noord-Brabant (NL), Norte (PT)</p>	<p>Emilia-Romagna (IT), Wallonia (BE), Lombardy (IT), Aragon (ES), Saxony (DE)</p>
 <p>Bio-economy</p>	<p>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Industrial modernisation</p>	<p>Flanders (BE)</p>	<p>Wallonia (BE), Lower-Austria (AT), North Rhine-Westphalia (DE), Emilia-Romagna (IT), Navarra (ES), Noord-Brabant (NL), Helsinki-Uusimaa (FI), Łódzkie (PL)</p>
 <p>Cybersecurity</p>	<p>New thematic area</p>	<p>Brittany (FR)</p>	<p>Estonia, North Rhine Westphalia (DE), Central Finland (FI), Castilla y Leon (ES)</p>
 <p>De- &amp; re-manufacturing for circular economy</p>	<p>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Industrial modernisation</p>	<p>Lombardy (IT)</p>	<p>Tampere (FI), Norte (PT), Scotland (UK), Saxony (DE), Basque Country (ES), Flanders (BE), Emilia Romagna (IT)</p>

## Selected partnerships

THEMATIC AREA	COORDINATED BY	LEAD REGIONS	PARTICIPATING REGIONS
 <p>High-tech farming</p>	<p>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Agri-food</p>	<p>Tuscany (IT)</p>	<p>Estonia, Flanders (BE), Weser-Ems (DE), Central Macedonia (EL), West Macedonia (EL), Galicia (ES), Extremadura (ES), South Ostrobothnia (FI), Pays De la Loire (FR), Marche (IT), Veneto (IT), Emilia-Romagna (IT), North East Romania (RO), East Central Sweden (SE), Northern Netherlands (NL), Gelderland (NL), Noord Holland (NL), Zuid Holland (NL), North-Brabant (NL), Limburg (BE), Northern Ireland (UK), Centro (PT)</p>
 <p>Marine renewable energy</p>	<p>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Energy</p>	<p>Basque Country (ES) &amp; Scotland (UK)</p>	<p>Asturias (ES), Andalucia (ES), Navarra (ES), Norte (PT), Flanders (BE), Emilia Romagna (IT), Lombardy (IT), South Denmark (DK), Skåne (SE), Dalarna (SE), Ostrobothnia (FI), Brittany (FR), Cornwall (UK), Sogn og Fjordane (N)</p>
 <p>Sustainable buildings</p>	<p>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Energy</p>	<p>Andalucía (ES)</p>	<p>Friuli Venezia Giulia Region (IT), Central Slovenia (SI), South Karelia (FI), Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur (FR), Algarve (PT)</p>
 <p>Traceability and big data in agri-food</p>	<p>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Agri-food</p>	<p>Andalucía (ES), Emilia-Romagna (IT)</p>	<p>Pays de la Loire (FR), Friuli Venezia Giulia (IT), Aragon (ES), Extremadura (ES), Pazardzhik (BG), South Ostrobothnia Region (FI), South Savo (FI)</p>

# Interregional innovation investments

## WHAT

**Interregional innovation investments** through **the commercialisation and scaling up** of interregional innovation projects having the potential to encourage **the development of European value chains** ('component 5'). (ETC Art 3.5)

## HOW MUCH

11.5 % of ETC Resources (i.e., **a total of EUR 970m**) for interregional innovation investments (component 5). (ETC Art. 9.2)

## HOW

It shall be implemented under **direct or indirect management**. (ETC Art 16.1)

## FOR WHOM

At the initiative of the Commission, the ERDF may support interregional innovation investments, as set out in point 5 of Article 3, **bringing together researchers, businesses, civil society and public administrations involved in smart specialisation strategies established at national or regional levels**. (ETC Art 61)

**Thank you!**