

Expert Group Universities/RC as Vehicle for SS at Regional Level

Launch Meeting
Brussels, ORBN, 05/A066 - 24 June 2013

Expert Group

Universities as Vehicles for Smart Specialisation at Regional Level

Brussels, ORBN, 05/A066

24th June 2013

Experts

Costas Fotakis (CF)	Public Res Centre	GR
Magdalene Rosenmöller (MR)	IESE	ES
John Brennan (JB)	Open University	UK
Liviu Matei (LM)	Central European University	HUN
Roumen Nikolov (RN)	Univ Library Studies	BG
Caroline Petiot (CB)	EADS	FR
Jaana Puukka (JP)	Innovation Engage	FIN

European Commission

Dimitri Corpakis (DC),	DG Res Head of Unit C5,
Ralitsa Atanasova (RA)	DG Research C5 Reg. Dim
Nadine Robberecht (NH)	DG Research C5 Reg. Dim
Pierre Godin (PG)	DG Regions
XX	DG Research

Meeting goals:

- Introduction of goal of the Expert Group
- Post negotiation update, implications
- Ensure a clear understanding of roles, responsibilities and obligations
- Decide on Time Plan and Working Methods
- Elaborate first Draft Outline of Report

Draft Agenda

9h30	Registration and reimbursement
10h00	Welcome and introduction: why this expert group? EU Research and Innovation policy and Smart Specialisation: <i>Dimitri Corpakis, Head of Unit C5, DG Research and Innovation</i>
10h30	Universities and regional growth: Pierre Godin, DG Regional policy
11h00	Presentation of Research Potential and Regions of Knowledge programmes, overview of study materials and data: <i>Ralitsa Atanasova, Unit C5, DG Research and Innovation</i>
11h30	Discussion on the objectives and tasks of the group – <i>Moderator: C. Fotakis (designated chairman)</i>
12h30	Lunch
13h30	Discussion on the methodological approach, distribution of tasks, dates for the next meetings <i>Moderator: C. Fotakis (designated chairman)</i>
15h30	End of the meeting

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Agenda items			
10:00-10:15	Welcome and introduction		
	<p>Dimitri Corpakis (DC), Head C5 Regional Dimension, EC DG Research, welcomed the Expert Group. Brief round table introduction of all.</p>		
10:15-11:45	Overview Expert Group Task		
	<p>DC provided a general overview of the context of the task (Universities and Research Organisations as drivers for Smart Specialisation) Context of the Europe 2020 Strategy Rationale for the creation of the Expert Group. EU Innovation Divide / Gaps Investment in R&D as response to the economic crisis Smart Specialisation as a new policy approach at the regional level Elements of RIS3. Examples Bremerhaven / Flanders Key Questions for the Expert Group: (1) Role of universities and RO in SS, governance being main issue. (2) Role for the Entrepreneurial University/ Limits to its function (3) Key pre-requisites for making this role a success</p>		
11:45-12:10	The View from DG Regions		
	<p>Pierre Godin (PG), DG Regional policy, gives the regional policy perspective. The new EU context (2014 – 2020), ESIF, ERDF, RIS3, Smart Specialisation Platform, Stairs to Excellence – Research – Innovation Excellence; Interservice Working group on synergies between EU funding sources; Universities / HEI contribution to RIS3; Activities eligible to ERDF (important: impact on regional economy) Connecting Universities to Regional Growth, A Practical Guide - RegioStars Awards 2013; other Examples of support involving Universities</p>		
12:10-12:30	Universities /RC in "Research Potential" and "Regions of Knowledge"		
	<p>Ralitsa Atanasova (RA) on Research Potential and Regions of Knowledge programmes Presentation of a few selected projects: Opengene, Beyond Everest, Rok-FOR; INTRAREGIO, Wastekit, Instructions for the Expert Group Work Costas Fotakis - designated Chairman Magdalene Rosenmöller – designated Rapporteur Timeline for Group Work Up to 4 working meetings to be held in July, August, September, October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress report – by end-July 2013 • Draft of the final report – by end-September 2013 • Final report – by end-October 2013 • Communication and dissemination activities– October 2013 		
ACTION 1	Dates Fixed for Meetings in Brussels		ALL
	<p>Tuesday, 30 July 2013 Thursday 29 August 2013 Monday 23 September 2013 Thursday 31 October 2013</p>		

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ACTION 2	Preparation of Meeting Minutes		Magda
12:30-13:30	LUNCH		
13:30-15:30	Expert Group Discussion		
Group Discussion	<p>CF let discussion of group</p> <p>Points to consider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important to look beyond Europe / international view • Look at the diversity of universities / Research institutions • University as drivers in this process? Leadership. • How can Universities be more responsive • Smart specialisation: design vs. implementation phase Demand – curiosity – policy driven • Look at Best practices from existing projects (eg. Regpot) but Erasmus, etc. • Barriers / Challenges : culture, slow/small steps, • Important role of regional authorities <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to make it work, direct recommendations also to regional authorities • Use Excellence Framework to define Best Practices of Universities 		
ACTION 3	Creation of Dropbox / space in CIRCA Put important documents to consider by group (ALL)		MR / RA ALL
	<p>Discussion on the first outline: (with subpoints) to be reviewed by all</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction 2. Background and Context 3. Contribution of Research Ecosystems to Regional Development 4. Challenges and Opportunities of Smart Specialisation 5. Good Practices 6. Recommendations 		
ACTION 5	Magda to prepare first draft outline based on discussion Revision of Minutes and Outline (ALL) Think where to contribute (ALL)	28/6 1/7	MR ALL