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## Parallel session 2 : Community Building and the Entrepreneurial Discovery Process



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# Community Building and the Entrepreneurial Discovery Process

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- **Rasmus Bergander**, Policy Advisor, Central Sweden European Office, Sweden
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*Moderator : Lena Tsipouri, S3 CoP Secretariat*

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S3 and the role of the entrepreneurial  
discovery process in North-West Romania



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# S3 and the role of the entrepreneurial discovery process in North-West Romania

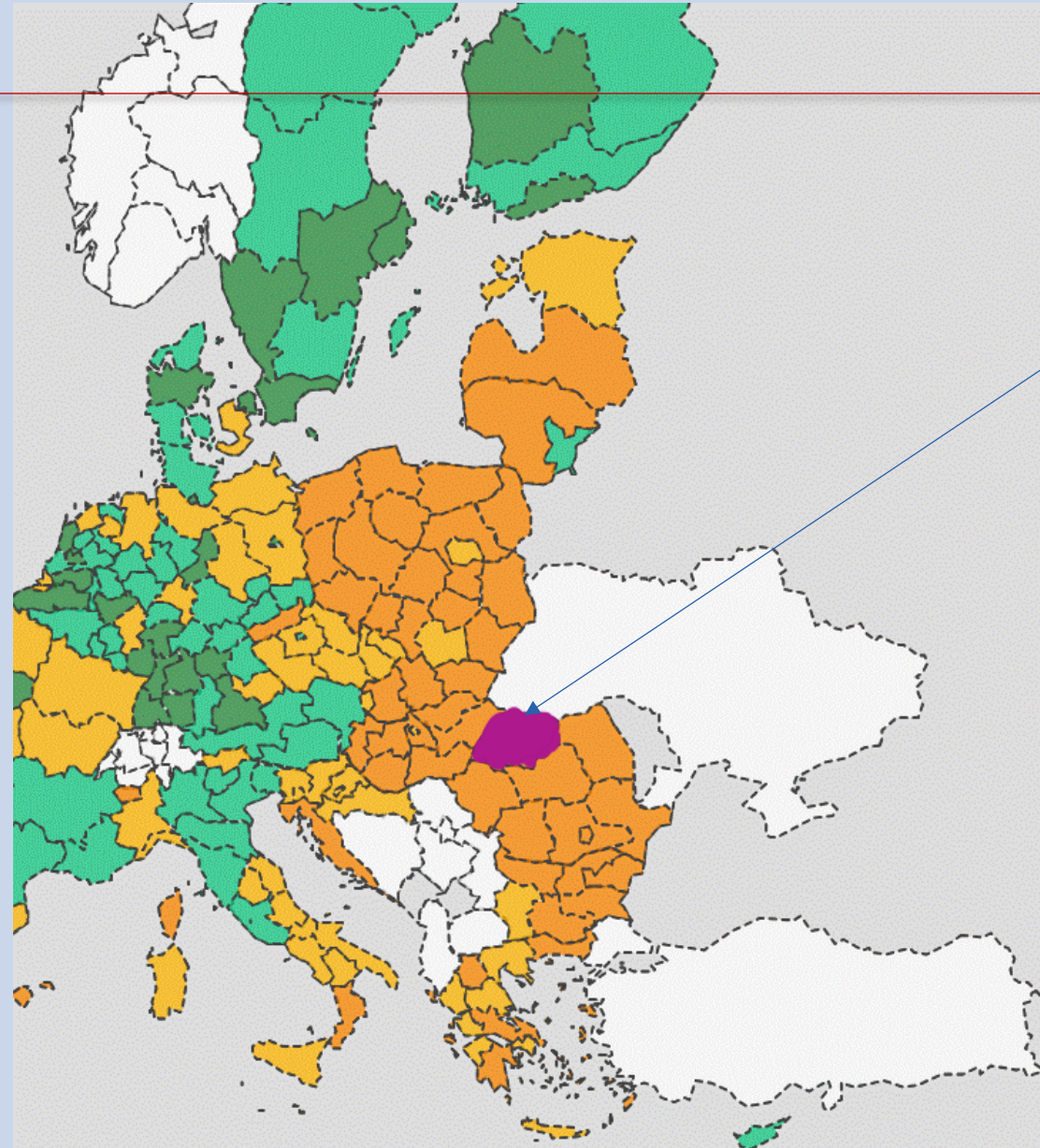
- ❑ About North West Romania
- ❑ Timeline of RIS3 NW Development
- ❑ JRC & World Bank support
- ❑ Future activities

# S3 and the role of the entrepreneurial discovery process in North-West Romania

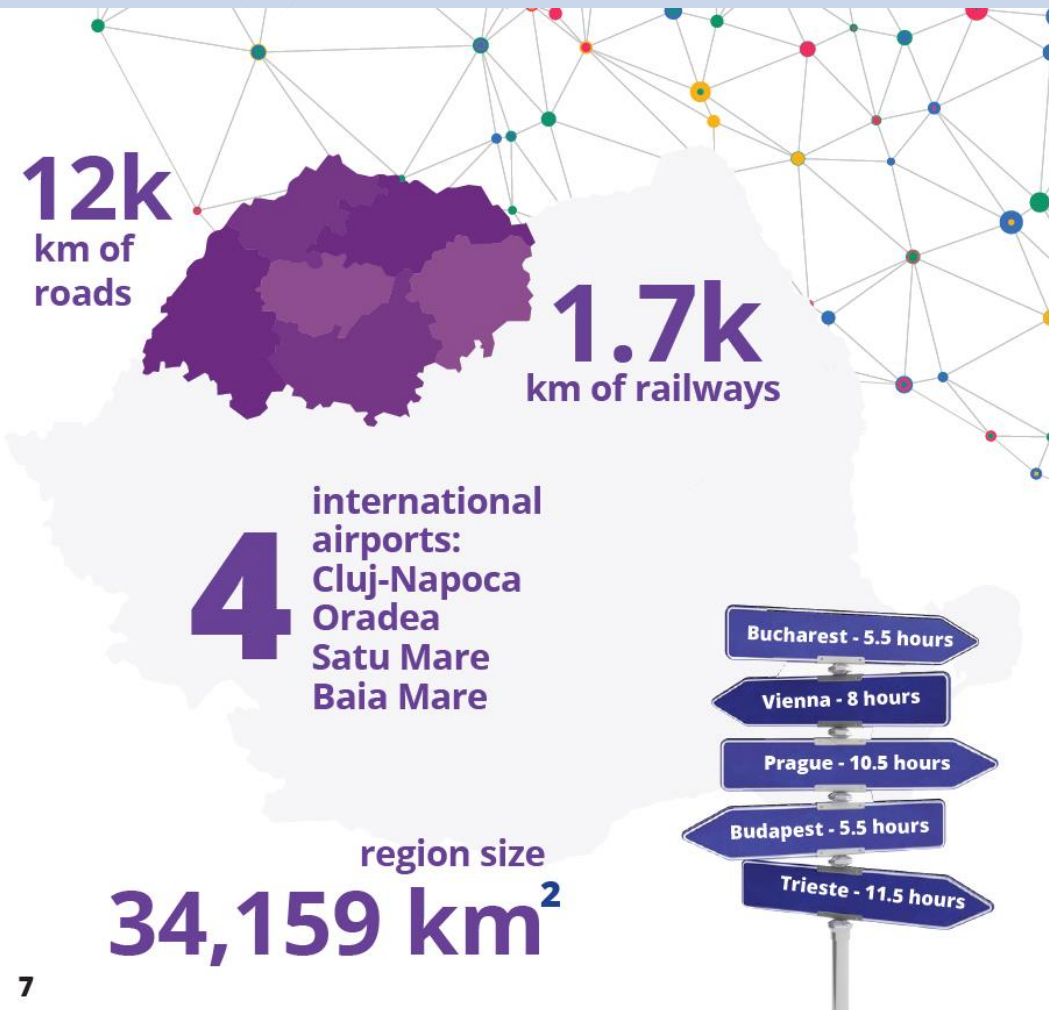
## About North West Romania







We are here



**2.5 MLN**  
INHABITANTS

**4**  
INTERNATIONAL  
AIRPORTS

**93,137**  
ACTIVE  
BUSINESSES

## GDP PER CAPITA

**11,800 €**

Source: EUROSTAT, 2021

**1** NO POVERTY



## TERTIARY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

**24.5 %**

Source: EUROSTAT, 2021

**4** QUALITY EDUCATION



## GENDER EMPLOYMENT GAP

**16.0 %**

Source: EUROSTAT, 2021

**5** GENDER EQUALITY



## GROSS DOMESTIC EXPENDITURE ON R&D (All sectors)

**0.20 %**

Source: EUROSTAT, 2020

**9** INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE





# S3 and the role of the entrepreneurial discovery process in North-West Romania

## □ Timeline of RIS3 NW Development



**Alice: Which road do I take?**

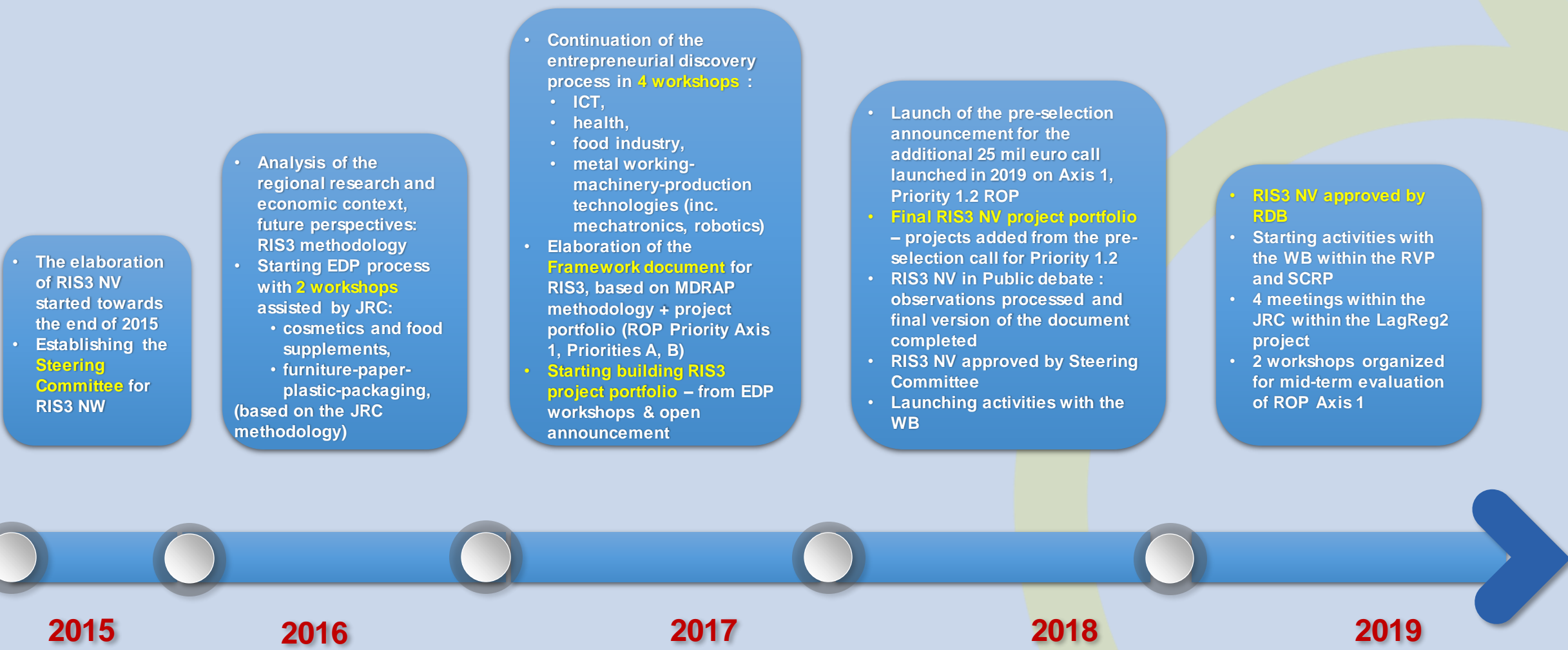
***Cat: Where do you want to go?***

**Alice: I don't know.**

***Cat: Then it doesn't matter.***

***Alice in Wonderland***

# Timeline of RIS3 NW Development



- The elaboration of RIS3 NV started towards the end of 2015
- Establishing the **Steering Committee** for RIS3 NW

- Analysis of the regional research and economic context, future perspectives: RIS3 methodology
- Starting EDP process with **2 workshops** assisted by JRC:
  - cosmetics and food supplements,
  - furniture-paper-plastic-packaging, (based on the JRC methodology)

- Continuation of the entrepreneurial discovery process in **4 workshops** :
  - ICT,
  - health,
  - food industry,
  - metal working-machinery-production technologies (inc. mechatronics, robotics)
- Elaboration of the **Framework document** for RIS3, based on MDRAP methodology + project portfolio (ROP Priority Axis 1, Priorities A, B)
- **Starting building RIS3 project portfolio** – from EDP workshops & open announcement

- Launch of the pre-selection announcement for the additional 25 mil euro call launched in 2019 on Axis 1, Priority 1.2 ROP
- **Final RIS3 NV project portfolio** – projects added from the pre-selection call for Priority 1.2
- RIS3 NV in Public debate : observations processed and final version of the document completed
- RIS3 NV approved by Steering Committee
- Launching activities with the WB

- **RIS3 NV approved by RDB**
- Starting activities with the WB within the RVP and SCRIP
- 4 meetings within the JRC within the LagReg2 project
- 2 workshops organized for mid-term evaluation of ROP Axis 1

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

- **6 EDP focus groups** in Oradea and Cluj-Napoca
- 1 call for the Portfolio of the projects in RIS3

- **4 EDP focus groups** held online
- 1 call for the Portfolio of the projects in RIS3
- 14 type A projects
- 149 type B projects
- 85 ideas during EDPs

- **2 EDP focus groups** held online
- 1 call for the Portfolio of the projects in RIS3
- **Designing the intervention for PO1 under RP NW**

- **2 EDP focus groups** held online
- 1 PDL for Smart Specialisation Parks
- **In June was approved the updated version of RIS3 NW**

**S4**

**2020**

**2021**

**2022**

**2023**

**2024**



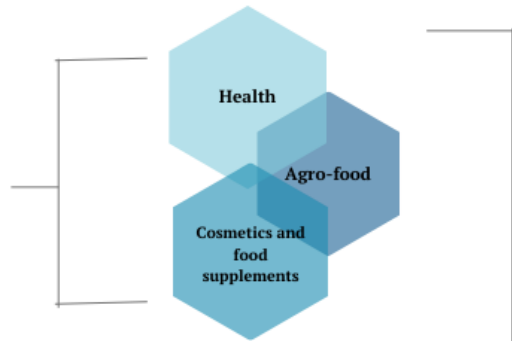
# Domains of Smart Specialisation in RIS3 NW



**PILLAR I- INNOVATION FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING**



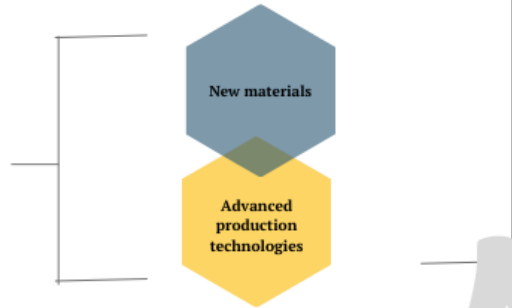
**Objective:** Support for innovation in traditional areas from the North-West region in order to improve the health and well-being of a large number of inhabitants.



**PILLAR II- DEVELOPMENT OF EMERGING SECTORS**



**Objective:** Capitalizing on the results of research and development activity based on advanced technologies in order to develop emerging economic activities, of niche, in line with global trends.



**PILLAR III- REGIONAL DIGITAL AGENDA**



**Obiectiv:** Digitalisation of the economy and society, supported by the transition of the ICT sector to innovation



# S3 and the role of the entrepreneurial discovery process in North-West Romania

□ JRC & World Bank support

# Nurtured

# Provoked

Environment

Resource

Process

Recognition

Reward



# Innovation

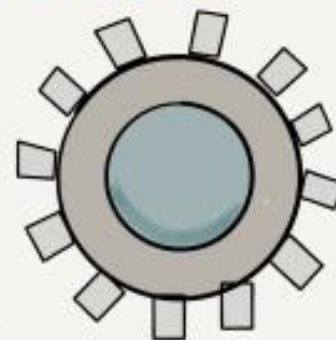
© Julian Stodd

Need

Constraint

Threat

Denied



## "Targeted Support to RIS3 Implementation in Romania" JRC (2016-2018)

### Stage 1

(Oct. 2016-Mar. 2017)

Exploratory visits, priority-setting, support to EDP and QH collaborative processes

### Stage 2

(April 2017 – May 2018)

Deeper transformative actions in the regional RDI system, interactions with the national RIS3 level

### Stage 3

(May –June 2018)

Conclusions, recommendations, communication of results

1. Four studies on technology transfer supply and demand (NE, NW)

2. Analysis of NW and NE RDAs' institutional capacity to perform RIS3-related tasks (July-Dec. 2017)

3. Evaluation of the entrepreneurial profile and tech transfer capacity of NW universities (Oct. 2017-May 2018)

4. Analysis of private sector's involvement in RIS3 (SMEs, large firms, clusters)

5. Working Group on human resources quality and mobility

6. Participation of NE and NW regions in horizontal activities of the "Lagging Regions" project, involving all the 9 regions:

7. Participation in transnational cooperation activities

8. Interaction with national RDI authorities



### Research Valorization Program (RVP)

2 RV programs have been carried out:

- RVP 1.0 with 5 teams of researchers from the Universities of the Region have received support;
- In RVP 2.0 a total of 9 teams have been involved in the program.

### Structured Contract Research Program (SCRCP)

### Technology Transfer Institutional Building Program (TTIBP)

### Proof of Concept Program (PoCP)

### Research Valorization Program (RVP)

### Structured Contract Research Program (SCRCP)

Two laboratories from Babeş-Bolyai University and Iuliu Hațieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy in the North-West Development Region were selected to receive support on the go-to-market and state aid component for infrastructure

Provide a Methodology to handle the management of the 80/20 non-economic/economic activity ratio of an infrastructure, in order for an aid not to be considered state aid.

### Technology Transfer Institutional Building Program (TTIBP)

### Proof of Concept Program (PoCP)

Research Valorization Program (RVP)

Structured Contract Research Program (SCRCP)

Technology Transfer Institutional Building Program (TTIBP)

Support for the tech transfer offices from inside 4 Universities in clarifying common aspects in the operation of technology transfer centers.

Proof of Concept Program (PoCP)

## “Romania: Catching-Up Regions” WB (2019-2022)

Research Valorization Program (RVP)

Structured Contract Research Program (SCRCP)

Technology Transfer Institutional Building Program (TTIBP)

Proof of Concept Program (PoCP)

Training in the field of proof-of-concept programs, and alignment of voucher programs with grants available in the region under ROP.



# S3 and the role of the entrepreneurial discovery process in North-West Romania

## Future activities

Steps to follow	Issues to overcome
<p><b>Implementing, monitoring, evaluating and updating RIS3 NW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organising EDP's (onsite/hybrid/online) as a continuous process to continue the dialogue inside the ecosystem and to assure a predictable framework for those interested</li> <li>• PDLs for identifying funding resources for RIS3 NW project portfolio</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of RIS3 NW through the new national platform</li> <li>• Updating RIS3 NW to RIS4 NW</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholders' fatigue in all these kind of activities</li> <li>• Shortage of human resources to implement the Action Plan</li> <li>• Collaboration with the national level to assure the right synergies</li> <li>• Motivate and maintain in NW RDA the trained specialized personnel in S3</li> <li>• Access to data sources for monitoring and evaluating RIS3 NW might be difficult (ex: info from ministries, market studies, etc.)</li> </ul>

**“Virtues are formed in man by his doing the actions”**

**Nicomachean Ethics - *Aristotle***

The writer **Will Durant** interpreted it thusly:

**“We are what we repeatedly do, therefore excellence is not an act, but a habit.”**



Thank you for your attention!

Cristian Otgon

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Personal data platform and stakeholder  
engagement: lessons learned

Elfi Goesaert - VITO



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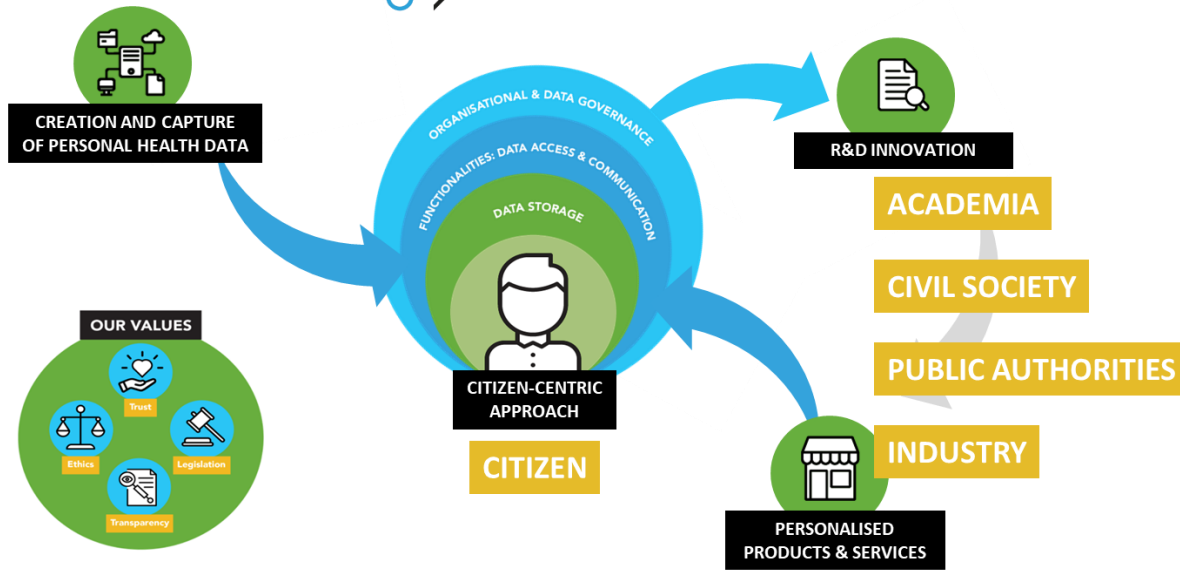
# Personal data platform and stakeholder engagement: lessons learned

## Content

- The start of the personal data platform
- Regional and interregional collaborations
- Conclusions: Stakeholder engagement and ways forward



 we are



## Origins of the personal data platform

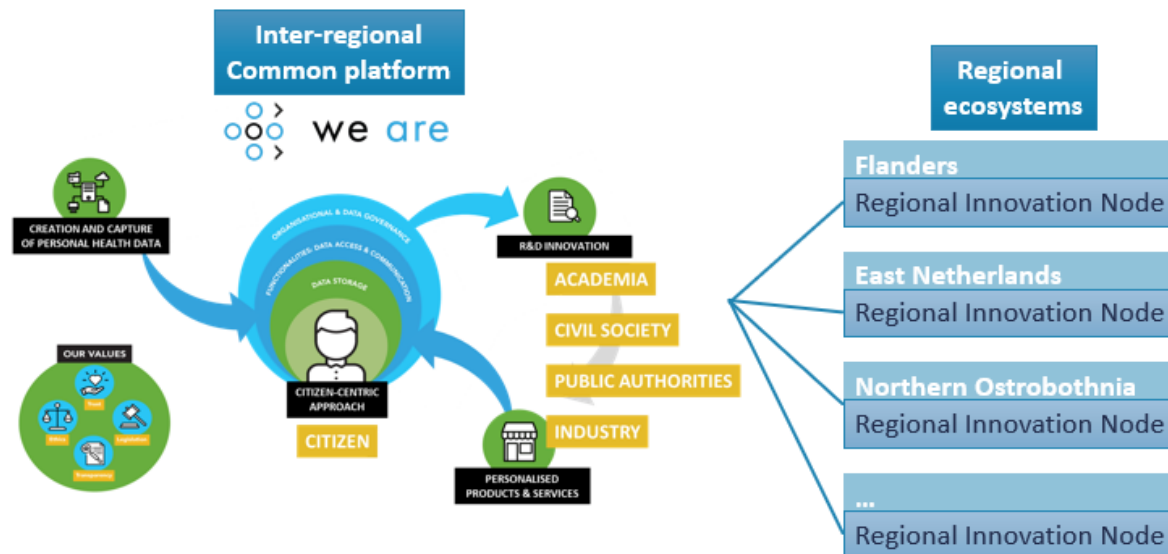
- The need to capture and collect personal health data
- Add context to clinical data
- Enrich and connect datasets
- New insights for R&D, innovation and personalized products and services
- With the citizen at the center, and with trust at the core

# Regional and interregional collaborations

- Start of the project: setting up regional collaborations
  - Consortium of research, patients, health care professionals (hospitals & care institutions and GP's) and civil society (King Baudoin Foundation)



# The interregional dimension



## Goals of the personal data platform

- Capture personal health data and connect a wide range of data for research and innovation
- Build on trust by setting ethical and legal boundary conditions, in a participatory governance structure
- Look towards scaling from the start, and interregional collaboration

# Regional and interregional collaborations

- First achievements and support:



## Business models

DEPARTEMENT  
ECONOMIE  
WETENSCHAP &  
INNOVATIE



Vlaamse  
overheid

Co-creation  
Stakeholders-involvement



vito UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE. | TECHMED CENTRE GULU HEALTH

## Governance model Legal

Technical Assistance Facility (TAF)

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Copyright principles: Fonds dr. Daniël De Coninck

- Interregional: TAF support business – legal
- Regional: short-term funding towards blueprint
- National: Caring Technology principles
  - Co-creation with stakeholder field

# Regional and interregional collaborations

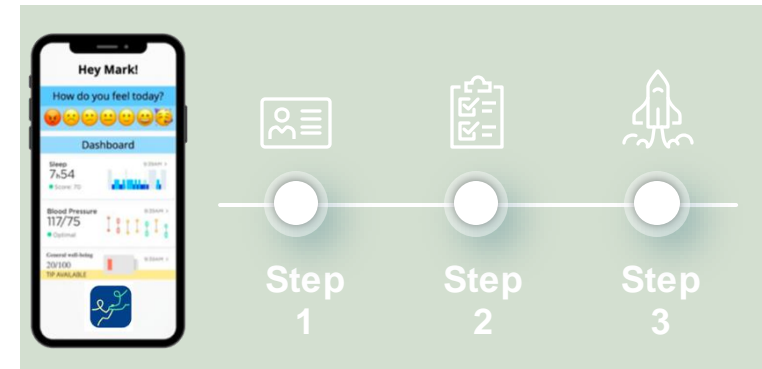
- Initial project phase: Basic EWI subsidy – exploration of:
  - Business models
  - Needs and stakeholder engagement
  - International/Interregional dimension-> Towards a blueprint and investment protocol
- Stakeholder engagement:
  - Research
    - Trust in data sharing by citizens
  - Stakeholder interviews and surveys
    - Needs and possible use cases and business cases
    - Main needs:
      - Safe data storage
      - Level playing field
      - Combining health data
      - Better connection to citizens/patients

# Regional and interregional collaborations

- Stakeholders and co-creation



Platform for health promotion  
Non-clinical health solutions integrated with EHR



## Creating transitions in healthcare together, from collected health data to insights

How?

- Provide technical building blocks to combine data and develop use cases
- Connect industry in matchmaking events
- Organize roadshows/dissemination of core concepts





# Regional and interregional collaborations

- From vision and needs to structural funding



# Conclusions

- Stakeholder engagement
  - From the start of the project: setting up collaboration to strengthen the project by involving main stakeholders in health
  - Looking for interregional likeminded partners
    - S3/I3
    - Also: MyData, SEMIC, SOLID community
  - Building the project
    - Active stakeholder mapping
    - Interviews & collaborations
    - Develop use cases and business cases together
    - Advisory Board
  - Regional and national level: connect with governments

- Before project:
  - Collaboration in setting up the caring technology network
  - Pilot on citizen engagement and empowerment
  - Involvement of citizens, patients and HCPs in setting up the project
- During project
  - Stakeholder mapping, focus groups and advisory board
  - Building use cases in co-creation with end users
  - Input on project governance in cocreation workshops
  - Projects on digital and health literacy

## Stakeholders helix

ACADEMIA & UNIVERSITIES

INDUSTRY & BUSINESS

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC SECTOR

CIVIL SOCIETY

- Before project:
  - Research and pilot with research institutions (AI Flanders, PhDs,...)
- During project
  - Deepening research topics in new projects (Interreg, Horizon,...)
  - Exploration of the use of the We Are platform in different context (genomics, cancer prevention, pharmacogenomics, digital twins, primary prevention,...)

- Before project:
  - interviews and stakeholder mapping
  - researching relevant use cases
- During project:
  - Cofinancing for use cases and business cases
  - Advisory groups
  - Workshops with industry on ethics, health innovation, data sharing and use cases
  - Building use cases

- Before project:
  - Engagement of EWI on smart specialisation
  - Pilot for impact on innovation and population health
  - Interregional interest in the PDP
- During project
  - Steering group
  - Workshops on caring technology and shared principles, personal data spaces and citizen-centric data management
  - Active participation and international contacts
  - Collaborations on related topics, working towards common use cases



# Conclusions

- Ways forward
  - On a regional level: good start to the project and wide engagement from stakeholders
  - On an interregional level: good contacts and some options for further projects
    - InterReg Flanders-Netherlands on Preventive Health Data Space and exchanging data across borders (pending)
    - Horizon Twinning: With East-Netherlands (Utwente) and Romania (INOMED) on enhancing personalized preventive digital capacity for cancer in Romania (submitted)
    - Horizon Health: Personalised medicine and prevention strategies (submitted)
    - Interreg NWEurope Digital Health 4 All (approved)

# Conclusions

- Ways forward
  - Challenges:
    - Funding to set up a truly interregional platform
    - Evolving towards long-term funding
    - Balancing all the stakeholder needs
    - Funding for social innovation
    - Involvement of social partners for implementation in society
    - Economic valorization



Thank you for your attention!

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# Re-shaping Regional Innovation

## Entrepreneurial Discovery processes to tackle shifting needs

- The EDP through transformational Roadmaps
  - The example of Sweden and Region Dalarna
- The PRI as a model for a strengthened EDP
  - The process of Mid Sweden and the plans ahead





*Johanna Bond, Central Sweden, presenterar Örebroregionens samarbete med Emilia Romagna*

European Commission

# 3 THEMATIC PLATFORMS DAYS

## Conference and Meetings

**27-28 Nov 2018**  
Bilbao, SPAIN

**Agenda**



**AGRI-FOOD**



**ENERGY**



**INDUSTRIAL MODERNISATION**



# THE ENTREPRENEURIAL DISCOVERY PROCESS





# The connection between S3 and reality

## Findings

- 57% of all ERDF-funded projects (49,749 of 86,487) display a linkage to the corresponding S3 priorities

## Conclusions

- A missing or lacking EDP process
- A need for more holistic presentation and specification of S3 priority areas to increase the effectiveness of smart specialisation

### Governance and EDP / Implementation

1. Build up **more effective and participatory governance** structures for the implementation of S3 strategies
2. Enlarge and improve the **outcomes of the EDP**
3. Enhance the promotion of supra-regional and international forms of **cooperation and networking**
4. Optimise the process from S3 strategy to implementation through **“transformation roadmaps”**
5. Reshape the **policy mix & funding instruments** for the support of S3 priority areas

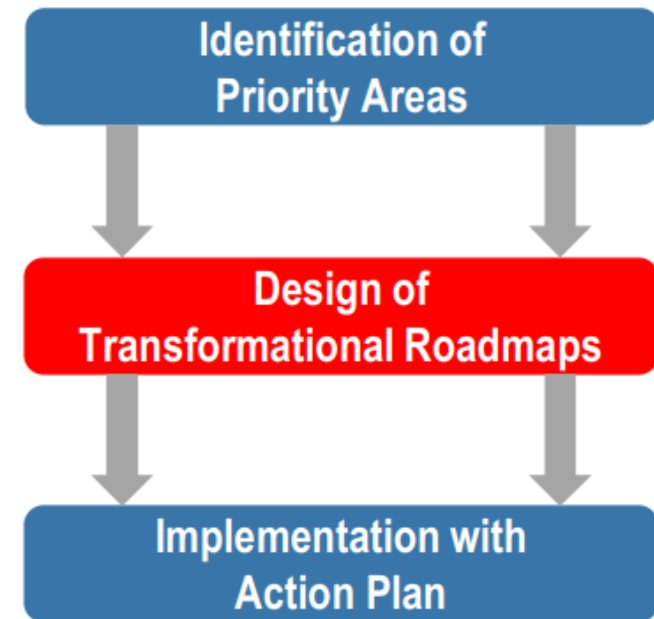
Source – Prognos study on prioritisation in S3 in the EU – Kramer et al., 2021

# Solution: The Transformational Roadmaps

Translating a priority into a transformational roadmap which will drive implementation

## Increased stakeholder engagement

- Different levels and organizations
- More input and analysis
- Increased co-creation



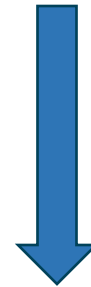


# The roadmap for S3 in Region Dalarna 2022- 2028

- Success factors:
- A jointly acknowledged starting point
- A joint vision
- Flexibility and openness towards the stakeholders
- Looking at actions rather than just goals
- Engagement and a regional “leadership of trust”



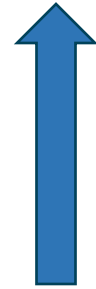
# 2021 – 2023: Top-down factors have changed



European Regions

# 2021 – 2023: Bottom-up factors have changed

## European Regions



# In sum

- New strategies, laws and rules **demands** and **directs** transformation towards a more sustainable innovation system
- New needs from citizens, civil society, companies (both industry and SME's) and from the public sector which both **demands** and **directs** transformation towards a more sustainable innovation system

→ **A developed and broadened EDP-process**

# But also other challenges for the innovation ecosystem

- Multilevel governance and cooperation within the innovation system
- Multi-actor partnerships that facilitates a sustainable transition
- Challenge and mission-oriented innovation policies
- Synergies between policy, funds and programmes





# The PRI Mid Sweden Consortium

Consists of:

- Eight regions in two NUTS-2 areas:
- North Middle Sweden (3)
- East Middle Sweden (5)
- Swedens Innovation Agency - Vinnova
- The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth - Tillväxtverket



Mid Sweden	
Inhabitants	2.6 million
Area	102 137 km <sup>2</sup>
Municipalities	93
BRP/Employee	893,5



## Why did these actors join forces around PRI? The main needs:

- To broaden the work with regional innovation towards more sustainability
- A more open EDP with more involved competences (ODP)



For a better multi-level governance when working with regional innovation



A wider flora of EU-funding and national funding (not only ERDF)



To be a part of shaping the next generation of regional innovation policy



PRI became a tool to find engagement and to structure this work

## Desirable effects and goals of the work with PRI in Mid Sweden



1 - 2 years

Coordinated funding calls between our national funds

A national mandate for smart specialisation

Increased interregional collaboration based on S3



3 - 5 years

Removed regulatory barriers within the national and EU frameworks for regional and innovation policy

New regional policy proposition integrating the S3-strategies within the regional development strategies



6 - 7 years

Better balance between social, economic and ecological priorities

Greater transformation capacity as well increased innovation capacity for societal change

More efficient use of development funds

sweden  
2023.eu

Agenda

# Partnerships for Regional Innovation: From Pilot to Practice

Tällberg, Dalarna, Sweden  
30 - 31 May 2023



European Committee  
of the Regions



European  
Commission

# High-level event on PRI

30 – 31 May 2023, Tällberg, Region Dalarna. Sweden





# Results & Plans ahead

- Engaged all levels – from civil servants to directors and politicians in the regions on PRI
- An improved dialogue and close cooperation with the European Commission and the JRC
- Two ERDF projects (planned) on PRI
- An open discovery process (ODP) to get all stakeholders onboard the PRI-process
- A Regional Innovation valley application



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Thank you for your attention!

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Enhancing the Entrepreneurial  
Discovery Process

Tomas Holinka



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# Outline

Why S3 missions?

EDP in „Mission-oriented approach“

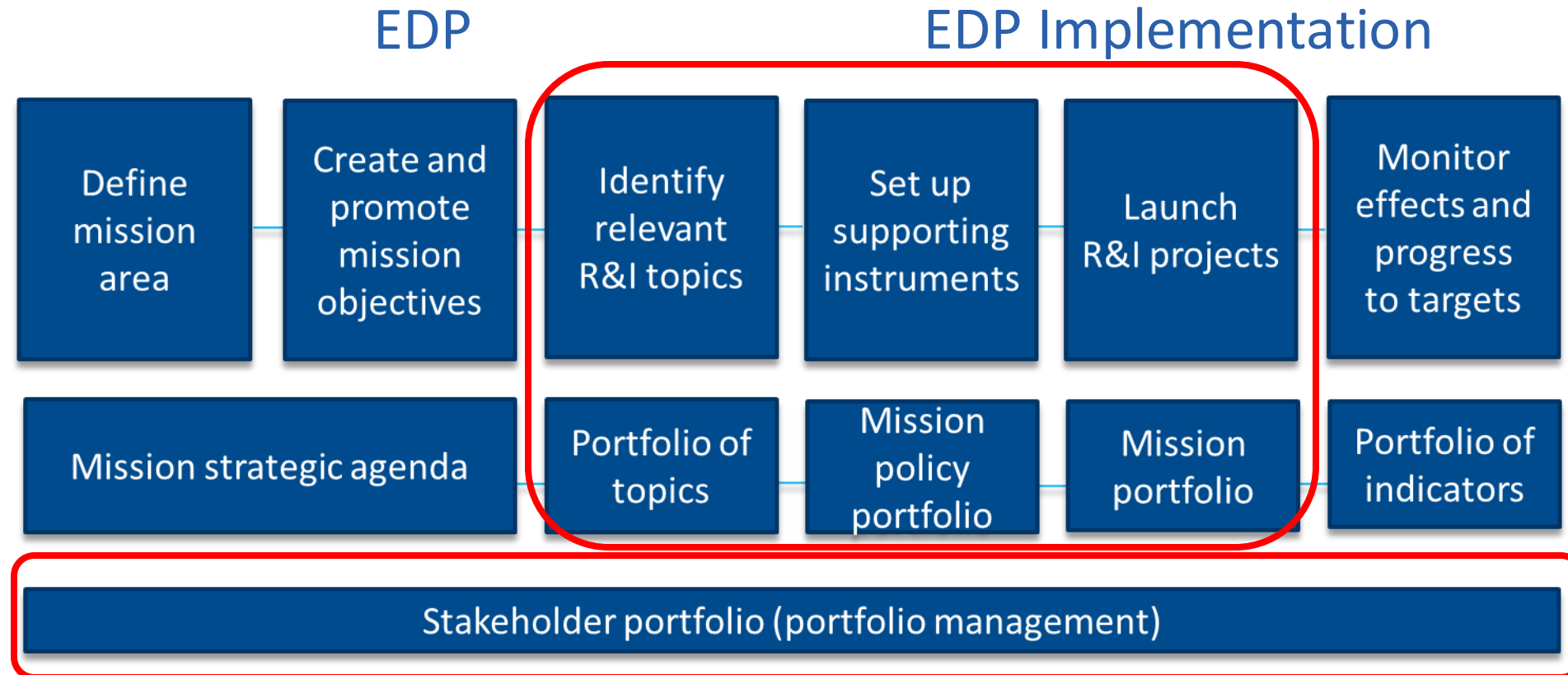
Cooperation between national and regional level in mission implementation

# S3 Missions – a new element to support sustainability

- Seeking a new approach to research and innovation policy “via addressing societal challenges“
- Focus on sustainability - pilot project with JRC [„Aligning smart specialization with transformative innovation policy“](#) (2023)
- Interdisciplinary and multi-ministerial approach
- One possible future trend in the allocation of EU R&D&I funds
- Concentrating funds from different sources to support research innovation and their coordinated use to solve the problem
- Key inputs from the regions in defining and implementing missions



# EDP „Mission-oriented approach“



# What we have done for regions ...

- We introduced two national S3 missions ("environmental" and "safety"), in which we took into account regional R&D&I topics and proposals for innovative solutions that contribute to the fulfillment of mission objectives
- As part of the implementation of S3 missions, we connected the national and regional levels:
  - Creation of a database of regional activities and their outputs aimed at fulfilling mission goals
  - Offer the regions to use national R&D support programs
  - Support for the creation of regional instruments

# ... And what is ahead of us?

- Based on the collected regional activities, create a marketing tool promoting regional case studies
- Support regions for development their own (mini) missions
- Consult with the regions about which forms of expert public involvement have already worked for them and which they would consider beneficial



# Question

- How to motivate the regions to join the fulfillment of the national S3 missions or design their own mini-mission?





Thank you for your attention!

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