

Agenda for the S3 Forum 2023

Title of the event	S3 Forum 2023
Date of the event	28 and 29 of November 8:30 – 17:00 CET
Location of event	La Llotja de Mar – Edifici Llotja, Pg. d'Isabel II, 1, Pis 2, 08003 Barcelona

Day 1: 28 November 2023

S3 Forum Programme

The S3 Forum is open to all participants.

8:00 – 9:00 **Registration and welcome coffee**

9:00 – 9:30 **Welcome and introduction**
(Session with online streaming)

Catherine Wendt (Host), Head of Unit for Smart and Sustainable Growth, DG REGIO, European Commission

Manuel Szapiro, Head of Representation of the European Commission in Barcelona

Natàlia Mas, Regional Minister of Economy and Finance, Generalitat de Catalunya

9:30 – 10:20 **Panel on Smart Specialisation in a changing world**
(Session with online streaming)

Catherine Wendt, Head of Unit for Smart and Sustainable Growth, DG REGIO, European Commission

Fernando Merida, Member of the Cabinet of the Secretary for Innovation, Spanish Ministry for Science and Innovation

Aleix Cubells, General Director of European Funds of the Catalan Government

Thomas Wobben, Director of Legislative Works for the COTER, ECON and SEDEC commissions, Committee of the Regions

*Moderator: **Elisabetta Marinelli**, S3 CoP Secretariat*

10:20 – 10:40 **Presentation of the latest developments in the S3 Community of Practice**
(Session with online streaming)

Elisabetta Marinelli and **Els Van de Velde**, S3 CoP Secretariat

10:40 – 11:00 Coffee break & networking

11:00 – 12:30 **Parallel sessions on experiences and activities related to Smart Specialisation Strategies implementation**

(all parallel sessions are only presential)

Parallel session 1: S3 and industrial transition

Pirkko Taskinen, Director of OIA Water Ecosystem & SuperIoT, University of Oulu, Northern Ostrobothnia, Finland

Claire Nauwelaers, Independent Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Expert

Luis Goñi Navarro, Regional Strategy Director, Sodena Development Agency of Navarra, Spain

Marek Przeor, Policy Officer, DG GROW, European Commission

Moderator: Yari Borbon, S3 CoP Secretariat

Parallel session 2: Community Building and the Entrepreneurial Discovery Process

Cristian Otgon, Head of Smart Specialisation Department, North-West Regional Development Agency, Romania

Elfi Goesaert, R&D Researcher, VITO, Flanders, Belgium

Rasmus Bergander, Policy Advisor, Central Sweden European Office, Sweden

Tomáš Holinka, Head of S3 Strategy Unit, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Czechia

Moderator: Lena Tsipouri, S3 CoP Secretariat

Parallel session 3: From Local Strengths to Interregional Cooperation

Aitor Mintegui, EU Affairs Officer, Basque Country Delegation to the EU, Spain

Pirita Lindholm, Director, ERRIN

Richard Tuffs, Friends of Smart Specialisation

Marc Pattinson, Senior thematic expert, Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform

Moderator: Els Van de Velde, S3 CoP Secretariat

Parallel session 4: Experiences monitoring and evaluating S3 performance

Tatiana Fernández, Head of Economic Strategy, Generalitat de Catalunya, Spain

Ieva Gurklyte, R&D&I coordinator of ICT Lab division, Lithuania

Jennifer Maria Grisorio, Head of Research and Education System, ARTI- Puglia, Italy

Alexandra Avdeenko, Evaluation Specialist, Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation, World Bank

Gabriela Macoveiu, Director for Communication, Innovation, and External Cooperation, North-East Regional Development Agency, Romania

Moderator: Daniela Kretz, S3 CoP Secretariat

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch & networking

14:00 – 15:30

Parallel sessions on experiences and activities related to Smart Specialisation Strategies implementation

(all parallel sessions are only presential)

Parallel session 5: Driving Innovation Diffusion and Digitalisation Trends

Thomas Wobben, Director of Legislative Works for the COTER, ECON and SEDEC Commissions, Committee of the Regions

Vincenzina Cristofaro, Project Manager, Direzione Generale Università, Ricerca, Innovazione, Lombardy, Italy

Daniel Všečeka, Director of Digital Economy and Smart Specialisation department, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Czechia

Kerstin Koren, Head of Department of Economy, Tourism and Technology, Office of the Lower Austrian Government, Austria

Moderator: Susana Elena Perez, S3 CoP Secretariat

Parallel session 6: Improving Regional Research and Innovation Systems

Stephan Satijn, Regional Minister for Economy, Finances, Business Operations and Public Affairs, Province of Limburg, the Netherlands

Katalin Kovacs, Senior Consultant, Innomine, Hungary

Eva Damm, Policy Officer Research and Science, Culture and Tourism, Free State of Saxony, Germany

Magdalena Cymerys, Policy Officer, DG RTD, European Commission

*Moderator: **Alasdair Reid**, S3 CoP Secretariat*

Parallel session 7: S3 Governance: Evolving Structures and Challenges

Karolina Lipinska, Deputy Director, Department for Economic Development, Office of the Marshal of the Pomorskie Voivodeship, Pomorskie, Poland

Valeria Bandini, Head of Europe and International Area of ART-ER, Emilia Romagna, Italy

Sander Van der Molen, Partner Innovation & Funding, Civitta

Florence Hennart, Senior advisor in the Economic Policy Directorate at the Walloon administration for Economy, Employment and Research, Wallonia, Belgium

*Moderator: **Matthieu Lacave**, S3 CoP Secretariat*

Parallel session 8: Fostering interregional collaboration through S3 Thematic Platforms and Thematic Smart Specialisation Partnerships (TSSPs)

Ramunas Linartas, Policy officer, Smart and Sustainable Growth Unit, DG REGIO, European Commission

Wim De Kinderen, Programme Director European Affairs, Brainport Eindhoven EU Office, Netherlands

Rene Wijlens, Executive director, Cluster Sports & Technology/EPsi, Eindhoven, Netherlands

Marisa Fernandez, Cluster Manager ZINNAE, Spain

*Moderator: **Els Van de Velde**, S3 CoP Secretariat*

15:30 – 16:00

Coffee break & networking

16:00 – 16:30

Outcomes from the parallel sessions

(Session with online streaming)

16:30 – 17:00

Conclusions and takeaways for practitioners and closing

(Session with online streaming)

Teresa Riesgo, General Secretary for Innovation of the Spanish Government

Tatiana Fernández, Head of Economic Strategy, Generalitat de Catalunya, Spain



Miquel Royo Secretary for the Government's Foreign Action and the European Union Generalitat de Catalunya

Catherine Wendt, Head of Unit for Smart and Sustainable Growth, DG REGIO, European Commission
(closing remarks)

17:30 – 19:00 **Networking cocktail**

Day 2: 29 November 2023

S3 Thematic Platforms Steering Committee meeting

8:30 – 9:00 **Registration and welcome coffee**

9:00 – 9:15 **Welcome and opening**

Wolfgang Munch, Deputy Head of Unit for Smart and Sustainable Growth, DG REGIO, European Commission

9:15 – 10:00 **Welcoming new partnerships**

Els Van de Velde, S3 CoP Secretariat

David Bassett, Circular Smart Aquaculture TSSP

A. Tiziana De Nittis, Maritime Sustainable Blue Bio-Economy TSSP

10:00 – 11:00 **Presentation of I3 and EIE**

Ramunas Linartas, DG REGIO, European Commission

Magdalena Cymerys, DG R&I, European Commission

Montse Daban, Biocat la Fundacio Bioregio de Catalunya, EDAH & INNAXE project

André Filipe De Carvalho, Cluster Portugal Mineral Resources, I4-GREEN project
Q&A

11:00 – 11:15 **Coffee break & networking**

11:15 – 12:30 Session per S3 Thematic Platform: Agri-food, Energy, Industrial Modernisation, Sustainable Blue Economy

Detailed agenda of session on Agri-food

11:15 – 11:30 **Welcome & Overview of recent developments related to agri food policies: focus on R&I funding opportunities in agriculture, forestry and rural areas**

Natalia Brzezina, DG AGRI

- 11:30 – 11:45** **Presentation of recent policies related to bioeconomy**
Laura Liepina, DG R&I
- 11:45 – 12:00** **Good partnership practices: Overview of the current status of the regional ecosystems call**
Veerle De Graef, Smart Sensors for Agri-food Partnership
- 12:00 – 12:30** **Q&A and open discussion**
Moderated by Els Van de Velde, S3 CoP Secretariat

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch & networking**

Detailed agenda of session on Sustainable Blue Economy

- 11:15 – 11:30** **Welcome & presentation of Sustainable Blue Economy policies and S3 Sustainable Blue Economy Platform**
Eleni Hatziyanni & Irene Vecchiato, DG MARE
- 11:30 – 11:45** **Presentation of the services & good partnership practices under the S3 Community of Practice**
Daniela Kretz, S3 CoP Secretariat
- 11:45 – 12:00** **Example of good partnership practices: ADMA Energy TSSP**
Stefano Valentini, ADMA Energy Partnership
- 12:00 – 12:30** **Q&A and open discussion**
Moderated by Daniela Kretz, S3 CoP Secretariat

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch & networking**

Detailed agenda of session on Industrial Modernisation & Energy

- 11:15 – 11:30** **Welcome & presentation of recent policies related to Industrial Modernisation**
Marek Przeor, DG GROW
- 11:30 – 11:40** **Presentation of the services & good partnership practices under the S3 Community of Practice**
Jean-François Romainville, S3 CoP Secretariat

11:40 – 12:00 Example of good partnership practices: Chemicals & Bioeconomy

Monika Bańka, Chemicals Partnership
Ilaria Re, Bioeconomy Partnership

12:00 – 12:30 Q&A and open discussion

Moderated by Jean-François Romainville, S3 CoP Secretariat

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch & networking

In the afternoon, there will be the possibility for ongoing TSSPs to meet to discuss their current progress, any specific pilots/ projects supported by the partnerships as well as the past/future activities of their specific TSSP. The TSSP specific meeting will offer the opportunity to delve deeper into the challenges of the specific partnerships and pilots' implementation and their possible solutions.

Interested leading regions of TSSPs should contact the S3 CoP secretariat, which supports the practical organisation of these meetings.

[Catalonia's S3 in action: Shared Agendas explained by their main players](#)

This event is open to all participants and will **not** be streamed.

15:00 – 15:15 Institutional welcome and presentation of Catalonia's S3: a shared agenda for a greener, more digital, more resilient and fairer socioeconomic model.

Natàlia Mas, regional Minister of Economy and Finance, Generalitat de Catalunya

15:15 – 15:25 EU funds as an opportunity for a more sustainable economic development in EU regions.

Miquel Puig, Secretary for Economic Affairs and European Funds, Generalitat de Catalunya

Wolfgang Munch, Deputy Head of Unit for Smart and Sustainable Growth, DG REGIO, European Commission

15:25 – 15:45 Building a challenge-oriented regional innovation systems through S3 and shared agendas.

Elisabetta Marinelli, S3 CoP Secretariat

Fernando Mérida, Cabinet of the Secretary General for Innovation, Spanish Government

Tatiana Fernández, Head of Economic Strategy, Generalitat de Catalunya

15:50 – 17:20 Parallel sessions

Parallel session 1: Terres de Lleida, Pirineu i Aran Shared Agenda: Addressing the challenge of depopulation in a rural area through a smart specialisation based on the bioeconomy

Institutional presentation by the **President of Lleida's Provincial Council**

Presentation of the Shared Agenda by its main actors: representatives from local governments, academia, RTOs, civil society, companies, farmers, entrepreneurs.

*Moderator: **Teresa Botargues**, Lleida's Provincial Council innovation advisor*

Parallel session 2: Bages Shared Agenda: Addressing the challenge of an aging population through a smart specialisation based on deep technology- and social-driven care service

Institutional presentation by the **Mayor of Manresa**.

Presentation of the Shared Agenda by its main actors: representatives from local governments, academia, RTOs, civil society, companies, health organisations, entrepreneurs.

*Moderator: **Xavier Gironès**, Generalitat de Catalunya*

17:20

Closing