

# WEBINAR 4-6-2019

“INNOVATIVE PLACE-BASED TRIPLE HELIX APPROACHES FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SMART SPECIALISATION STRATEGIES”

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The **political** dimension of smart specialisation  
as a new policy approach towards  
**European integration**

THE **POLITICAL** DIMENSION OF SMART SPECIALISATION  
AS A NEW APPROACH TOWARDS **EUROPEAN INTEGRATION**  
(DECENTRALISED ALIGNMENT ON COMMON OBJECTIVES)

## OVERVIEW

1. The increasing role of ‘missions’ and ‘strategic European partnerships,’ articulating smart specialisation around issues as **leadership and complementarity**
2. In particular the **potential of cities as transition leaders** and the challenge to build networks based on smart specialisation strategies to make them effective.
3. The challenge of **instrument mixes for S3 in multi-level governance** of smart specialisation: each competence domain considering the **place-based** nature of innovation to align their instruments for integrated transformative S3 strategies
4. The role of strategic intelligence (indicators) to shift policy focus from internal RIS3 priorities to **external** positioning, from benchmarking with peers to **matching** with partners.

## Guidance for 'policy entrepreneurship'

- Role of the civil servant in standing administrations as match-maker/orchestrator for LT joint interests
  
- Requirements for success
  1. Vision ('European integration')
  2. Instruments (Smart specialisation approach)
  3. Orchestration capacity (Change governance)
    - = policy approach (3) spanning common objectives (1) and bottom-up entrepreneurial discovery (2)
  
- Learning - adapting

THE INCREASING ROLE OF  
**MISSIONS** AND STRATEGIC EUROPEAN **PARTNERSHIPS**,  
ARTICULATING SMART SPECIALISATION AROUND  
**LEADERSHIP** AND **COMPLEMENTARITY**

- The political economy of S3 = transformation strategy (very **context-dependent**)
- S3 as **European** policy approach, for solving the EU policy integration challenge with innovation agenda

MISSIONS

STRATEGIC VALUE CHAINS

- S3 is BOTH: common reference framework AND decentralised decision making

MAKING CHOICES

- S3 is BOTH leadership and co-creation

SMART COMPLEMENTARITY

IN PARTICULAR THE **POTENTIAL OF CITIES AS TRANSITION LEADERS**  
AND THE CHALLENGE TO  
**BUILD NETWORKS BASED ON SMART SPECIALISATION STRATEGIES**  
TO MAKE THEM EFFECTIVE.

- CITIES: a growing political clout to handle complex challenges at the human/citizen scale
  - COMMON challenges: transition challenges
  - DECENTRALISED (entrepreneurial) decision making:
  - S3 = European strategies
- QUADRUPLE HELIX: citizens come in with cities as innovation actor!
- PLACES: no place-neutral RDI strategy!
- City networks are mostly on mutual learning/ thematic - role in value chain orchestration!

**INSTRUMENT MIXES FOR S3  
IN MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE**

EACH COMPETENCE DOMAIN CONSIDERING  
THE **PLACE-BASED** NATURE OF INNOVATION  
TO **ALIGN** THEIR INSTRUMENTS  
FOR INTEGRATED TRANSFORMATIVE S3 STRATEGIES

THE ROLE OF **STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE** (INDICATORS)

TO SHIFT POLICY FOCUS FROM INTERNAL RIS3 PRIORITIES  
TO **EXTERNAL** POSITIONING, FROM BENCHMARKING WITH PEERS  
TO **MATCHING** WITH PARTNERS.

- City networks: partnerships for transition  
Co-investments ? Joint roadmapping !
- City Positioning? Similar regions or complementary regions? To do what?
- S3 Additive Manufacturing Platform: differentiation in application field and in position in value chains Compare concentrations of sector-specific AM
- S3 Vanguard Initiative: political capacity to co-invest?

## Today's Webinar:

# The political dimension of smart specialisation as a new approach towards European integration (decentralised alignment on common objectives)

4<sup>th</sup> June 2019 @ 18:00 CEST



### Speaker: Jan Larosse

is a former policy adviser of the Flemish Government for innovation and industrial policies. Jan Larosse graduated in economics and philosophy at the University of Leuven. He worked for 25 years in the innovation policy of the Flanders Region. He was a long-time member of the OECD Working Party on Technology and Innovation Policy and national expert in DG Research and DG Regio of the European Commission. In these capacities he was also engaged in the development of smart specialisation policy frameworks and implementation. He is co-founder of the 'Vanguard Initiative for New Growth through Smart Specialisation' and of the 'Friends of Smart Specialisation'