

Q&A

From Felicia Fai to Everyone: 06:36 PM

the focus of S3 is on cities and networks of cities, but what does S3 have to offer rural/ peripheral regions and areas in terms of having little 'choice' about which opportunities to 'strategically' follow? How would you suggest such regions approach/ adopt S3?

From Emanuela Todeva to Everyone: 06:36 PM

I would like to invite participants - to put some questions forward for Jan Larosse

From Anna to Everyone: 06:39 PM

how can we increase the level of leadership in the governance as a key in implementation smart specialisation strategy

From Dimitri Corpakis to Everyone: 06:46 PM

A very interesting question from Felicia: at the basis of the S3 process lies the Entrepreneurial Discovery Process (EDP) where the future growth drivers for the given region would be identified. In the case of rural regions - where tough choices for the future have to be made - the objectives should be identified by focusing crucially on modernization, rationalisation and future productivity. In addition new objectives for transforming the local economies could be potentially identified. Furthermore, the concept of functional regions (with a larger capture on the ground) could also offer new (but realistic) perspectives.

@Anna: Leadership in the context of the EDP should be understood as a consensus creation mechanism among different trends and interest groups. The risk is that the process is hijacked by vested interests that are traditionally better organised. Here universities and local authorities could offer good mediation services.

From janla to Everyone: 06:51 PM

What with peripheral areas? Smart specialisation is linked to functional region dimensions; this means that periphery is always proximity. It is about alliances of these 'weaker' territories with stronger, also developing their complementarities. The trick is to draw on these neighbouring strengthsLeadership? This is political vision and the 'co-creation' methodology to engage allies. This is hard work! Keep learning ...

From Anna to Everyone: 07:01 PM

@Richard disconnected region with elites like in emerging markets how they might start in even thinking of smart specialisation, I'm doing my JM research in east africa (egKenya, Rwanda) and I'm seeing a lot of challenges

I did the research and develop the concept of integration between clusters and present the examples of clusters cooperation within the global value chain (GVC), both in terms of horizontal and vertical integration. Cooperation of clusters within the global value chains gets more and more intense with the processes of globalisation and, paradoxically, is boosting the significance of regions.

From Dimitri Corpakis to Everyone: 07:04 PM

@Anna: Not really a paradox since linking with the Global Value Chains seems one of the best routes to 'unlock' peripheral regions. Local clusters linking is particularly promising.