



# Smart specialisation strategies & bio-economy

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# Content

1. Regional Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3)
2. Integrating bio-economy in RIS3 to boost regional development



# Cohesion Policy 2014-2020

- **Mission:**
  - Reduce disparities between Europe's regions **strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion**
  - Contribute to the **Europe 2020 Strategy** for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth
- Need to **increase the performance and impact** of the funds:
  - Ex-ante conditionality
  - Thematic concentration of funds: 11 thematic objectives linked to the Europe 2020 Strategy

# Thematic objectives

Europe 2020

smart

sustainable


inclusive

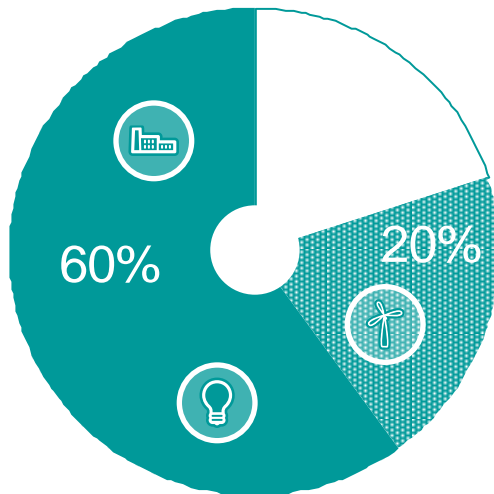
1. **Research and innovation**
2. **Information and Communication Technologies**
3. **Competitiveness of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SME)**
4. **Shift to a low-carbon economy**
5. **Climate change adaptation and risk management & prevention**
6. **Environmental protection and resource efficiency**
7. **Sustainable transport**
8. Employment and support for labour mobility
9. Social inclusion and poverty reduction
10. Education, skills and lifelong learning
11. Increased institutional capacity and effectiveness of public administration

# Concentration of ERDF to maximise impact

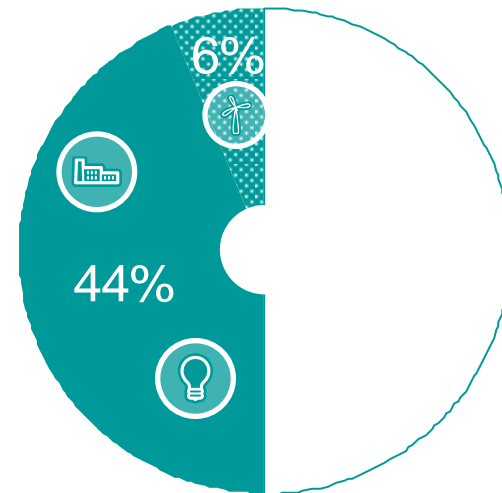
 Research and Innovation

 SMEs competitiveness

 Energy efficiency and renewable energy



Developed regions and transition regions



Less developed regions

Flexibility (different regions present different needs)  
Special arrangements for the previously convergence regions

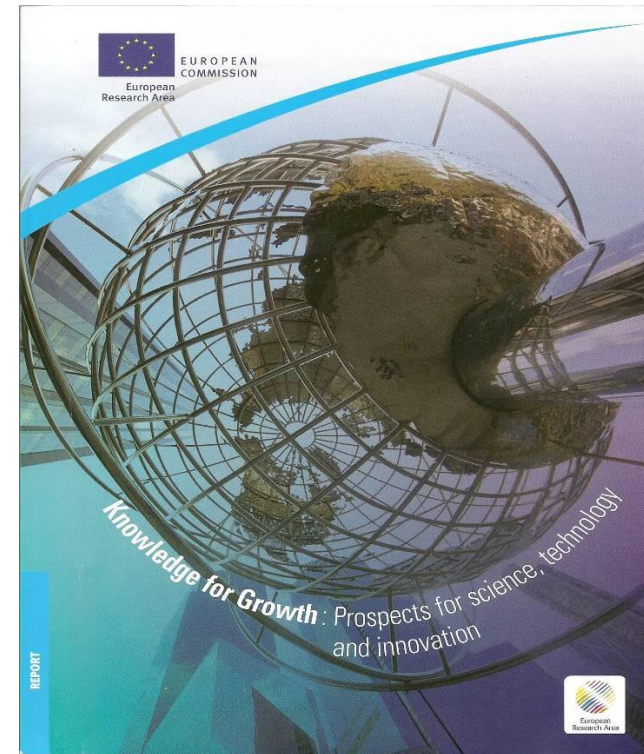


# Ex-ante conditionality on innovation

Thematic objectives	<u>Ex ante conditionality</u>	Criteria for fulfilment
<p>1. <b>Strengthening research, technological development and innovation (R&amp;D target) (referred to in Article 9(1) )</b></p>	<p>1.1. <b>Research and innovation: The <u>existence of a national or regional research and innovation strategy for smart specialisation</u> in line with the National Reform Program, to leverage private research and innovation expenditure, which complies with the features of well-performing national or regional research and innovation systems.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>A national or regional research and innovation strategy for smart specialisation is in place that:</b></li> <li>- <b>is based on a SWOT analysis to concentrate resources on a limited set of research and innovation priorities;</b></li> <li>- <b>outlines measures to stimulate private RTD investment;</b></li> <li>- <b>contains a monitoring and review system.</b></li> <li>- <b>A Member State has adopted a framework outlining available budgetary resources for research and innovation;</b></li> <li>- <b>A Member State has adopted a multi-annual plan for budgeting and prioritization of investments linked to EU priorities (European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures -ESFRI).</b></li> </ul>

# Why Smart Specialisation ?

- 'Knowledge for Growth' expert group (DG RTD) launched concept
- Problems:
  - innovation policy suffering of '**picking winners syndrome**': no priorities are identified
  - '**copy-paste**' **not successful**: need for a sound analysis of the assets of the region
  - Need to include all regions with a public strategic intelligence approach to **avoid the 'agglomeration effect'** = cause economic, social and territorial problems



❖ [http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/publication\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/publication_en.cfm)



# What is **Smart Specialisation** ?

= **Evidence-based considering all assets and problems in a region**, incl. External perspective / internal / global market

= No top-down decision, but **dynamic / entrepreneurial discovery process** uniting key stakeholders around shared vision

= Mobilisation of investments and **synergies across different departments and governance levels** (EU-national-regional)

= **All forms of innovation** – not only technology driven also social

= **Differentiation**: SWOT analysis (all types of assets), **competitive advantages**, potential for excellence, opportunities

= **Concentration of resources** on priorities, problems and core needs (no sprinkler principle, no picking the winners, yes to catalytic investments)

= **Place-based economic transformation**: rejuvenating traditional sectors through higher value-added activities, cross-sectoral links, new market niches by sourcing-in and disseminating new technologies rather than re-inventing the wheel; exploiting new forms of innovation

# Steps to develop a RIS3

Step 1: Analysis of regional potential for innovation-driven differentiation

Step 2: RIS 3 design and governance – ensuring participation & ownership

Step 3: Elaboration of an overall vision for the future of the region

Step 4: Selection of priorities for RIS3 + definition of objectives

Step 5: Definition of coherent policy mix, roadmaps and action plan

Step 6: Integration of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms



# Who prepares the RIS3?

## The actors in an innovation system: "knowledge triangle" & "quadruple helix"

- Enterprises (SMEs, micro, large, industry & services, creative industries, ...), including key innovators
- Research centres, universities
- Cluster initiatives, business networks ...
- NGOs, consumers / users ...
- Regional development agencies, financial actors, incubators ...
- National authorities and /or regional (from different departments: economics, research, education, environment, social ...), Managing Authorities ...

# RIS3 is a process ...

*... to identify areas of specialisation / differentiation*

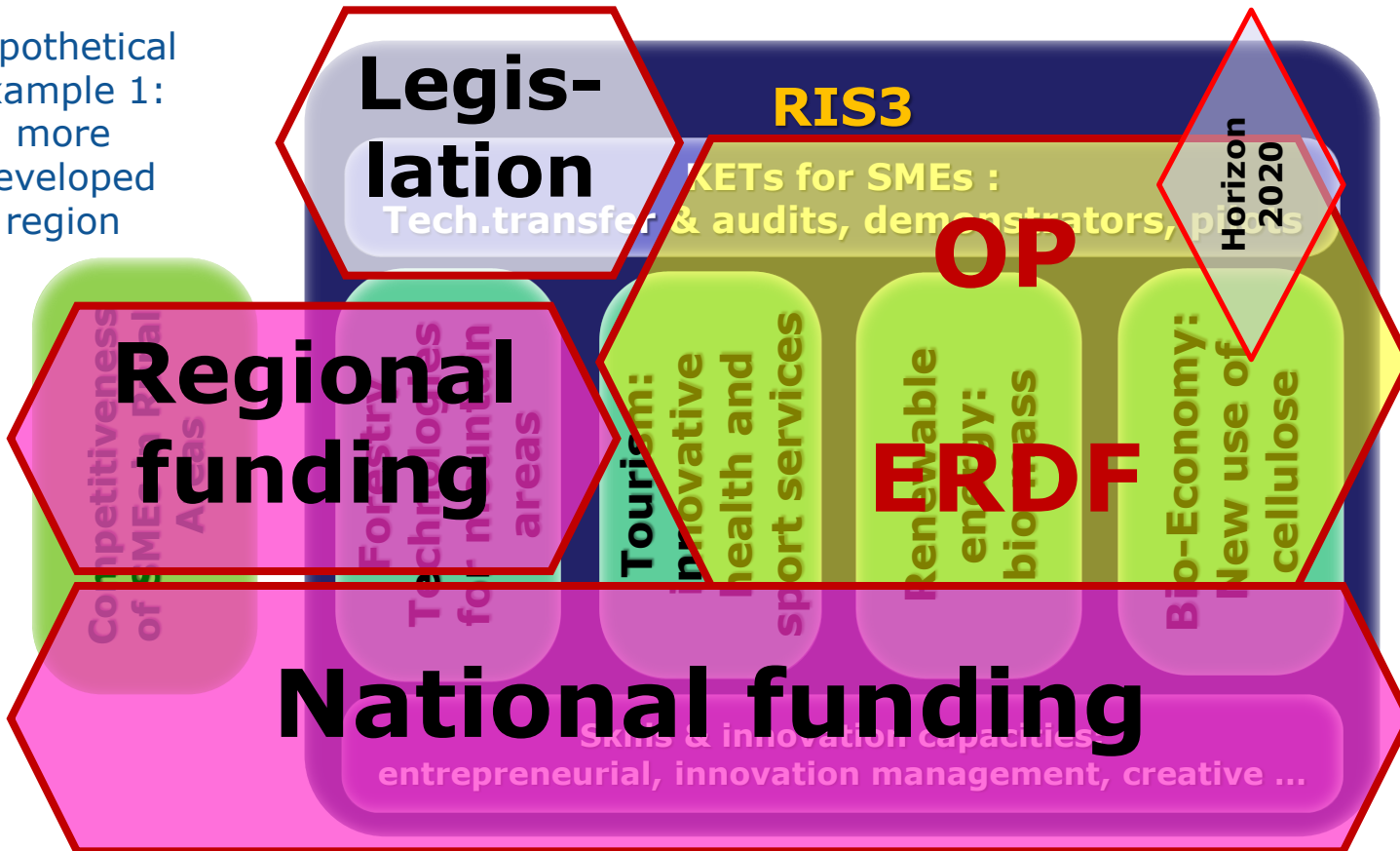
## **But: How to say NO?**

- Lack of critical mass / excellence
- Lack of future perspectives
- Lack of mobilisation/ a shared vision of the actors
- Consulting other regions ("peer reviews")
- Evaluation of the strategies / previous experimentation (check list) ...

***Without reinventing the wheel!***

# RIS3 ≠ Operational Programme

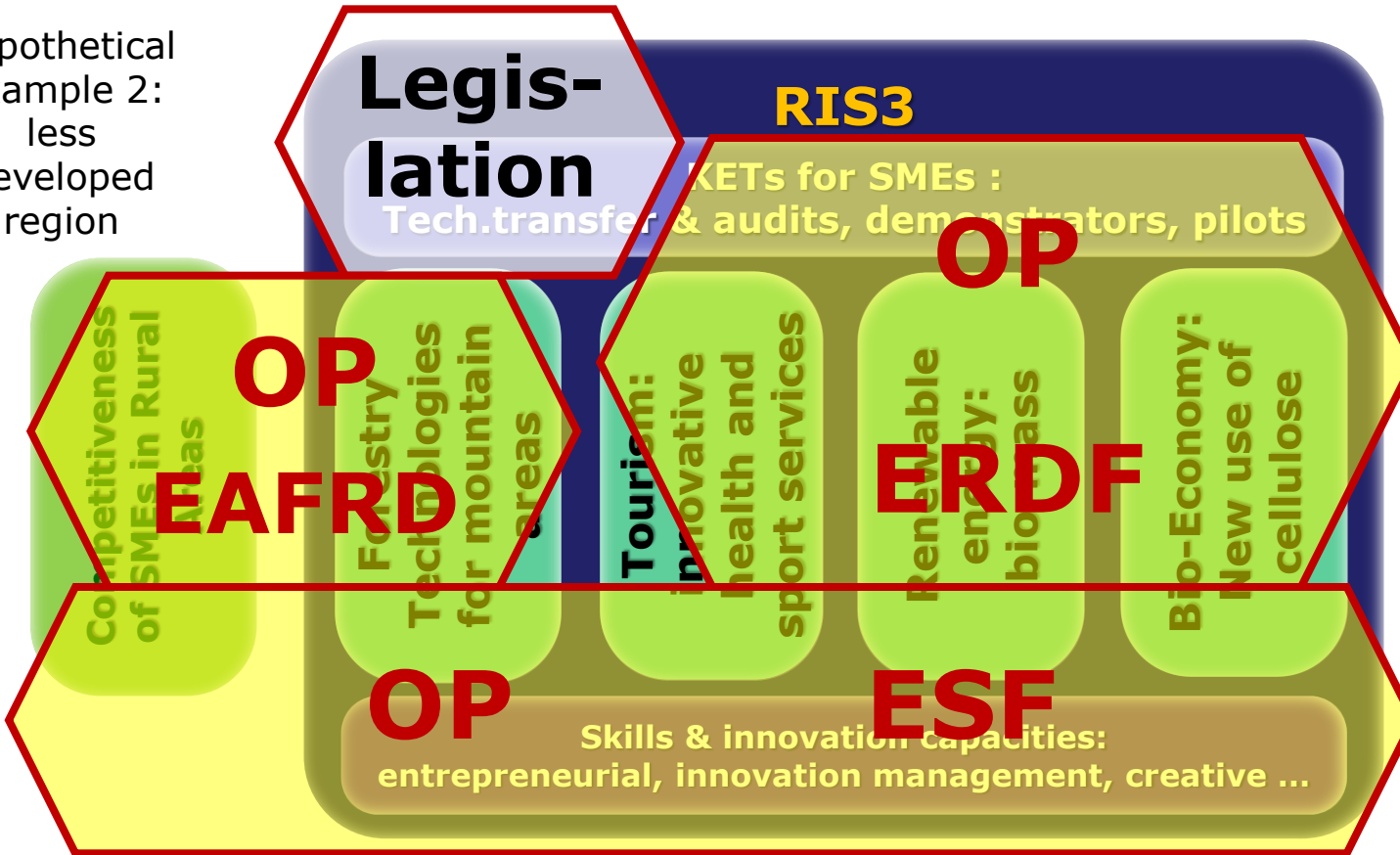
Hypothetical  
example 1:  
more  
developed  
region



Implementation  
drawing on a  
variety of  
sources ...

# RIS3 ≠ Operational Programme

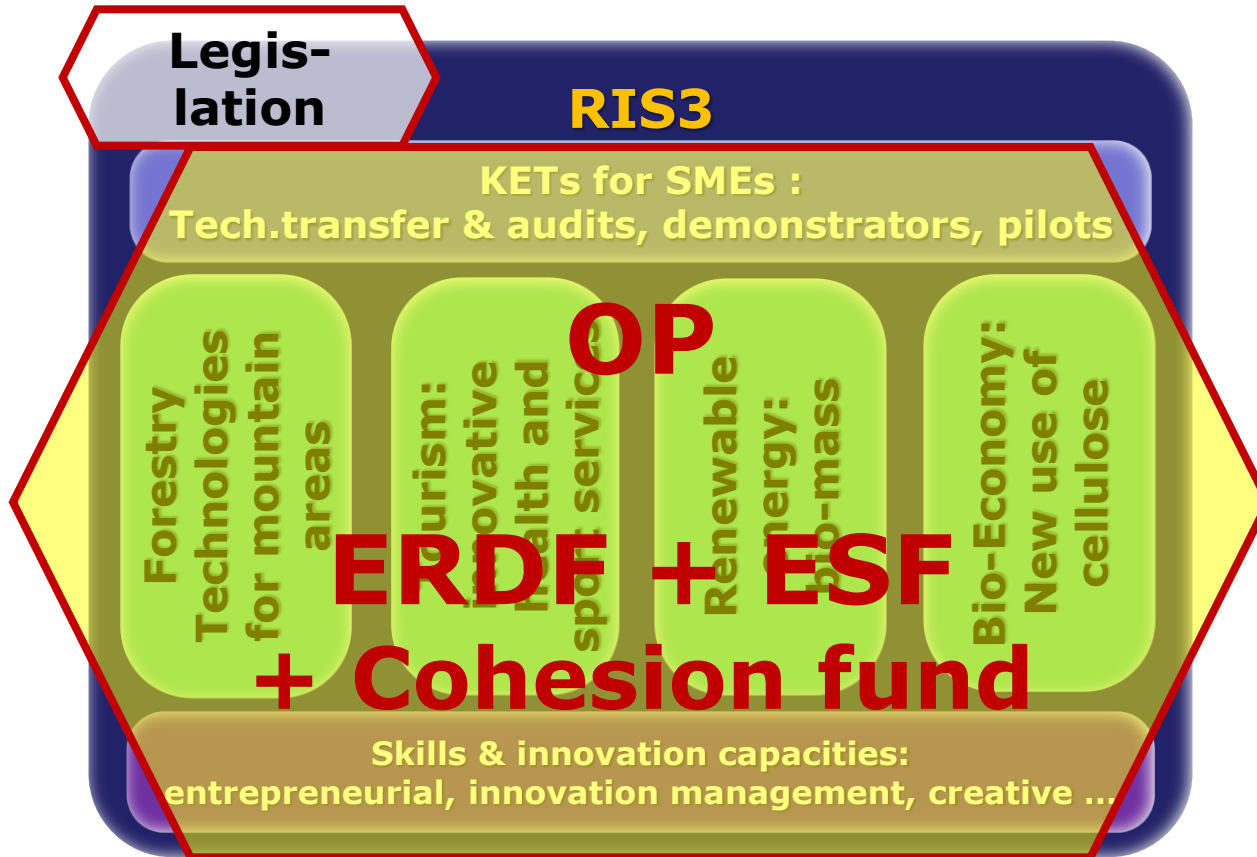
Hypothetical  
example 2:  
less  
developed  
region



Implementation  
drawing mainly  
on Structural  
Funds ...

# RIS3 ≠ Operational Programme

Hypothetical  
example 3:  
multi-fund  
OP



# Smart Specialisation Platform

*Launched in 2011 to assist the MSs and regions in their development processes for RIS<sup>3</sup>:*

- Based in the IPTS institute in Seville
- Managed by a team of representatives from the DGs of the European Commission (REGIO, EMPL, RTD, ENTR, EAC, INFSO, SANCO, CLIMA, AGRI and JRC)
- Supported by a group of high level experts, and representatives of networks and organisations

## **Services offered:**

- Website: <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/home>
- Guidance on process for development of RIS3, analytical support
- Organises "peer-reviews" of national / regional strategies
- Conferences, working groups, trainings ...





**83 registered regions from 19 MS**  
+ 1 country and more are in the process of registering



**Register here:**  
<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/registration>



- BELGIQUE**
- Région de Bruxelles-Capitale
  - Vlaanderen
  - Wallonia
- ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA**
- Jihomoravský kraj
  - Capital City of Prague
- DEUTSCHLAND**
- Berlin
  - Brandenburg
  - Freistaat Sachsen
  - Weser-Ems
  - Sachsen-Anhalt
- ELLADA**
- Attiki
- ESPAÑA**
- Andalucía
  - Aragón
  - Canarias
  - Cantabria
  - Castilla y León
  - Castilla-La Mancha
  - Catalunya
  - Comunidad Valenciana
  - Galicia
  - La Rioja
  - Madrid
  - Navarra
  - País Vasco
  - Principado de Asturias
  - Región de Murcia
  - Illes Balears
- FINLAND**
- Kainuu
  - Päijät-Häme
  - Pohjanmaa (Ostrobothnia)
  - Satakunta
  - Oulu

- FRANCE**
- Alsace
  - Aquitaine
  - Bretagne
  - Centre
  - Champagne-Ardenne
  - Corse
  - Guadelupe
  - Guyane
  - Languedoc-Roussillon
  - La Réunion
  - Martinique
  - Nord-Pas-de-Calais
  - Picardie
- ITALIA**
- Lombardia
  - Marche
  - Piemonte
  - Puglia
  - Sardinia
  - Emilia-Romagna
  - Toscana
  - Umbria
  - Veneto
  - Sicily
- MAGYARORSZÁG**
- North-Hungarian Region (HU) – Miskolc
- NEDERLAND**
- Noord Nederland
- ÖSTERREICH**
- Niederösterreich
  - Oberösterreich
- POLSKA**
- Dolny Śląsk (Lower Silesia)
  - Lubelskie
  - Lubuskie
  - Mazowieckie
  - Podkarpackie
  - Pomorskie
  - Świętokrzyskie
  - Wielkopolska
  - Województwo Podlaskie
- PORTUGAL**
- Alentejo (Alto, Baixo, Central e Litoral)
  - Centro
  - Norte
  - Região Autónoma dos Açores
- ROMÂNIA**
- Vest
- SLOVENSKÁ REPUBLIKA**
- Bratislavský kraj
- SVERIGE**
- Skåne
  - Västerbotten
  - Västra Götaland
- UNITED KINGDOM**
- Buckinghamshire
  - Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly
  - Kent
  - Northamptonshire
  - Northern Ireland
  - West Midlands

# What is Smart Specialisation ?

In a nutshell:

## Fact-sheet

On InfoRegio website in all  
languages:

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/what/future/proposals\\_2014\\_2020\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/what/future/proposals_2014_2020_en.cfm)





# Integrating bio-economy into RIS3 to boost regional development



# Innovation for Sustainable Growth

- **Smart & Sustainable = 2 sides of same coin**
- **Consider inclusion of bio-economy dimension into RIS3 & Innovation developments**
- R&D&I much needed to boost bio-economy in all sectors
- R&D&I in bio-economy **≠** 'mainstream' investments in bio-economy

# Key aspects on bio-economy in RIS3

- **Critical first step on assessment/analysis** of local/regional situation / state-of-play:
  - Available assets & capacities related to bio-economy
  - Existing businesses/SMEs in this area?
  - Research centres, universities with strength in bio-economy?
  - Regional gaps, needs ?
  - Leadership position, follower, starter ?
- **Vision & strategies:**
  - Existing bio-economy or related strategies/plans
  - Existing targets?

# Key aspects on bio-economy in RIS3

- **Financial** framework:
  - Existing subsidy or financial support schemes in areas linked on bio-economy?
  - Specific support on innovation in bio-economy?
  - Think about financial instruments
- Development of **platforms/broad partnerships**
  - Involve local/Regional innovation/agriculture/gorestry agencies
  - Universities doing R&D&I on bio-economy
  - NGOs, associations dealing with energy
  - Chambers of commerce, SME/business representatives

# Key aspects on bio-economy in RIS3

- Need to analyse & address the **capacity & skills** factor both for innovating in bio-economy and for the 'mainstream' investments
- **Demand-side measures:** GPP...
- Open-up: **connect**/work with other regions, countries; focus on **internalisation**
- Measuring: **monitoring & evaluation focused on bio-economy policies/programmes**



# Regio Stars Awards 2014

- Award category on "Green growth and jobs through Bioeconomy"
- Open to any project co-funded by cohesion policy funding
- Deadline for submission: spring 2013 (tbc)
- Information for applications at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/cooperate/regions\\_for\\_economic\\_change/regiostars\\_13\\_en.cfm?exp=5#anchor5](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperate/regions_for_economic_change/regiostars_13_en.cfm?exp=5#anchor5)



# Conclusions

- Bio-economy should be seriously considered as part of RIS3 development & regional policy funds!
- Major opportunity for new economic developments & jobs
- Develop cross-cutting approaches, engaging all stakeholders (quadruple helix)





# Many thanks for your attention

