

Smart specialisation for economic recovery at the local and regional level

22 June | 15.00-17.00

WEBINAR



ERRIN European Regions
Research and Innovation Network



**European Committee
of the Regions**

Friends of Smart Specialisation

WELCOME (Pirita Lindholm, ERRIN Director)

- EU long term budget foresees an increasing number of programmes and initiatives that can support regional innovation ecosystems:
 - Horizon Europe: EIE, European partnerships, missions
 - ERASMUS+: European Universities, Centres of vocational excellence
 - Digital Europe: Digital Innovation Hubs
- Von der Leyen Commission: moving towards transition thinking
- From crisis response and repair to recovery – how can S3 support? – governance, process
- Collaboration and strategic partnerships

The screenshot shows the ERRIN website's 'COVID-19 Related News' section. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the ERRIN logo and menu items: Home, About Us, Members, Working Groups, Activities, Latest Updates, and Contact Us. Below the navigation bar is a dark banner with the text 'UPLOAD EXAMPLES OF YOUR MEMBER ORGANISATION' and an 'Upload' button. The main content area features three news items, each with a thumbnail image, a title, a byline, a date, and a short description. The first item is titled 'Exit strategies in regions' and includes a diagram with nodes for 'Exit strategies in regions', 'Socio-economic impact', 'Tech sol', and 'Silly deal'. The second item is 'European Federation of Napoleonic Cities and Destination Napoleon announce channels'. The third item is 'Commission to fund 8 coronavirus research projects through IMI'.

The screenshot shows the ERRIN website's 'COVID-19 Related Member Initiatives' section. It features a navigation bar similar to the previous screenshot. Below the navigation bar is a dark banner with the text 'COVID-19 Related Member Initiatives' and a sub-header: 'Read the innovative solutions introduced by our member organisations to tackle the COVID-19 crisis. Below you can find a button to add an initiative carried out.' There is a 'Working Group' dropdown menu set to '- Any -' and an 'Apply' button. The main content area displays two initiative cards. The first card is titled 'TOURISM #POSTCOVID19 CHALLENGE TO HELP THE SECTOR RECOVERY IN ANDALUSIA' and includes a 'Read More' button. The second card is titled 'HAUTS-DE-FRANCE FUNDS TWO SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS TO COMBAT COVID-19' and also includes a 'Read More' button.

RIDING ON THE CRISIS WAVE VIA THE S3: A CREDIBLE PERSPECTIVE? (Dimitri Corpakis, FoSS)

As we go through the Covid19 crisis we need to chart our paths to the future.

The **Next Generation EU** is an unprecedented support and growth package, pointing to the **Green and Digital Transitions**. But we have not seen yet a clear role for the regions.

Investment is the key to the future of the EU: we have the direction, but we need to identify the profiles: **what kind of investments we need to promote?**

The *Friends of Smart Specialisation* would like to open this debate by pointing to *targeted, place-based, joint co-investment efforts driving new European value chains*: we believe that smart complementarities, interregional partnerships driven by clusters and skills, will make change happen.

But above all we need a new European multi-level governance, supporting *an overall mainstreaming of Smart Specialisation*.

Q&A SESSION



S3 LINKING TO THE RECOVERY PLAN

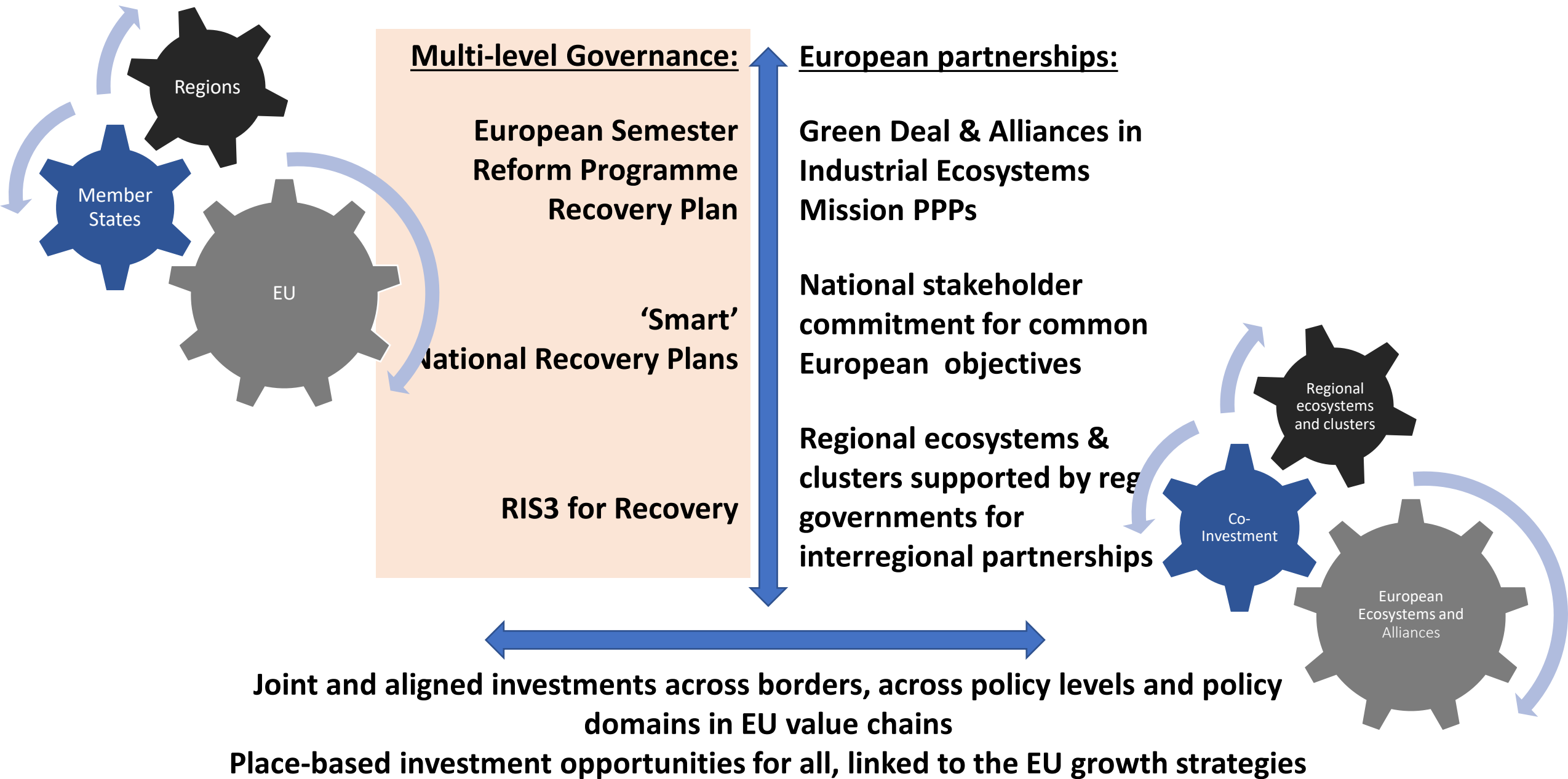
Framework for conclusions (Jan Larosse, FoSS)

‘Mainstreaming smart specialisation’, more relevant than ever (FoSS mission)

A new narrative for smart specialisation at EU level?

(RIS3 should build further on and beyond ERDF for the new growth strategy)

1. A combined supply-demand shock needs a systemic approach, for recovery and for green & digital transitions as well: all regions have to participate in **restructuring European value chains** with targeted innovation and transformation investment strategies.
2. Fiscal policies are in the lead for recovery investments: **avoid duplication and fragmentation at European level!** Smart specialisation is a **condition** for effective and efficient government expenditures.
3. **Multi-level governance** is required for aligning targeted investment strategies across all Europe’s unique clusters in ‘European Industrial Ecosystems’. Combine top-down ‘**directionality**’ (European objectives and missions) & bottom-up ‘**discovery**’ (entrepreneurial opportunities and niches)



HOW TO NAVIGATE THE CRISIS WAVE? (Jan Larosse, FoSS)

1. **Update RIS3** for recovery and twin transition with co-investment plans
2. Include RIS3 in National Reform Plans (= '**Smart Recovery Plan**')
Present in October for first version Recovery Plan (+ REACT-EU)
Present in April 2021 as full part of National Recovery Plans
Role of Technical Assistance/ S3 Platform!
3. **Mainstreaming** requires joint-ownership at all levels: recognise win-win between RIS3 and Recovery Plan/Green & Digital transformation
4. **Role for pioneering regions** to develop 'European' RIS3; for political leaders at all levels (CoR!) to commit to co-investments.
5. New instruments for topping-up **interregional co-investments**, needed for co-creating supply & demand conditions and critical mass in new value chains (role infrastructures for joint demonstration)

The new governance for the Recovery Plans in the EU Semester is the window of opportunity for regions and smart specialisation to be full partners in Next Generation EU

Anne Karjalainen
SEDEC Chair, Committee of the
Regions



FAREWELL (Pirita Lindholm, ERRIN Director)

- Invitation to create a **more systematic collaboration with the Committee of the Regions** for example via the renewed **Knowledge Exchange Platform (KEP)**
- **ERRIN Annual General Meeting on 25 June** – policy debate on the impacts of COVID-19 recovery on research and innovation – an opportunity for a more resilient society and a greener economy



THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK (MFF) AND RESEARCH AND INNOVATION - WILL THE EU'S RECOVERY BE GREEN?