



European Alliance Against Coronavirus initiative, the European Cluster Alliance

**EURADA's Position Paper – Interregional
Innovation Investment (I3) initiative**

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1. Introduction to Interregional Cooperation
2. Introduction to Interregional Innovation Investment (I3) Initiative
3. Presentation of EURADA's I3 Position Paper
4. Discussion



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Introduction to Interregional Cooperation



Meeting of Eurada's Board of Directors with Marc Lemaitre General Director DG Regio and Urban Policy 22nd January 2020



A robust innovation ecosystem for the future of Europe
25th November 2019

Interregional Innovation Investment (I3) initiative & development agencies

- Regional economic practitioners should give vision to design programmes
- Important opportunities in EU recovery funds 2021-2027 programming period
- All previous Position Papers on http://www.eurada.org/activities/position_papers/

There are already previous EC initiatives that favour interregional innovation investments

- S3P Platforms for Smart Specilisation
- Interreg
- INNOSOP-01: Cluster facilitated projects for new industrial value chains

The logo for ReConfirm, featuring the word "ReConfirm" in white text on a red circular background. The background of the slide is a dark, futuristic image of a robot head with a white face and a metallic, fragmented interior, set against a black background with red circular accents and a shower of metallic particles.

ReConfirm



European networks come together for a new statement on I3

- Main ideas of the Join Contribution

1. Thematic areas
2. Design
3. Preferred type of support
4. Complementarities:”. “...developing European world-class clusters connecting regional clusters, networks and innovation ecosystems. Building on bottom-up, collaborative and multi-disciplinary approaches, clusters constitute a powerful lever for achieving critical mass in Europe”
5. How complementarities can be encouraged?
6. Market failures
7. Main barriers
8. Governance



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Introducing '13'

“The overarching objective of European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) is to promote a harmonious economic, social and territorial development of the Union as a whole.” DG REGIO, 2020

Interregional Innovation Investment (I3) Initiative:

- is part of the continuation of 30 years of Interreg and the future of EU Cohesion Policy.
- Is an evolution of component 5 (from the 2018 European Commission proposal on ETC).
- departs from interregional project based to interregional investments.
- Is highly interlinked with Smart Specilisation

The European Commission's Public Consultation on I3



- **OBJECTIVE:** cluster together, scale up and bring innovation to the European market.
- ERDF Framework, €500 Million Budget.
- Two Strands:
 - Innovation Actions for Mature Partnerships (STRAND 1).
 - Simplified Innovation Actions (STRAND 2a) and Capacity Building (STRAND 2b) for Less Developed Regions.

I3 INITIATIVE	STRAND 1	STRAND 2a	STRAND 2b
Implementation Modalities	Biannual Work Programmes	Biannual Work Programmes	Annual Calls
Type of Calls	2-stage selection process	1-stage selection process	1-stage selection process
Applicant	Public authority (S3 quadruple helix partnership)	Public authority or research body, quadruple helix partnership	Public authority or research body, quadruple helix partnership
Type of Expenditure	Cascade funding	Investment/Demonstration/pilot costs of firms, possibility for coordination costs in partnership	Direct grant to coordinating organisation
Type of Funding	Grants	Grants	Grants
Duration	Multiannual projects	Multiannual projects	

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EURADA's POSITION PAPER

1

Introduction - Relevance of the Initiative

I3 as a welcome instrument towards a mature regional policy

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Recommendation 2.1

Private Companies

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Recommendation 2.3

Synergies

3

Recommendation 2.2

'All' Territories

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Conclusion

**Summarised
recommendations**

2.1 Oriented to Private Companies

EURADA's recommendations:

- Private company centric
- Easy implementation for beneficiaries and centrally managed

Why?

- There is a need to change the paradigm of public R&I investment
- EIC accelerator (SME Instrument) is a good example of how to de-risk R&I investment in FP and could be replicated for ESIF/Cohesion Policy.



2.2 Integrating 'all' territories

EURADA's recommendations:

- Focused on less developed region 'typology'
- Support for less developed regions
- Balanced fund through Strand 1 and 2
- 'Open to all'

Why?

- Focused on the less developed while balancing strand 1 and 2 = the best of both worlds.
- Open to all because our members are pan-European. There is great value and strength in the S3 experience of non-EU countries.



2.3 Synergies

EURADA' recommendations:

- I3 should be compatible with other EU funds (notably, related to COVID Recovery).
- I3's compatibility with other priorities beyond strictly R&I should be considered (Green and Digital Transitions)
- ?

Why?

- Synergies are a way to reduce divergences between job creation on one side and competition the other.
- For EURADA, with its experience of S3, synergies are





0.5 bn EUR is sufficient



Private Company centric



'Centrally Managed'

Concluding our recommendations



'All territorial typologies'



'Open to all'



ESIF Synergies and Beyond

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Discussion

**Thank you for your
attention**



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EURADA is the unique European club of economic developers able to bridge local and regional development agencies with Europe and its opportunities.

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