



Cooperation for Smart Specialisation

– 1st Western Balkans workshop –

on Tuesday 5th February 2019

at CentreVille Hotel, Podgorica, Montenegro

General information

There are 120 smart specialisation strategies at regional and national level in the European Union. They constitute a new, place-based innovation policy concept that focuses on knowledge-based economic transformation. Its successful application requires institutional capacity and commitment on the public administration side; good evidence base showing economic, innovative and scientific potential at regional level; open dialogue with a wide range of stakeholders representing business, academia and civic society and viable monitoring, financing and implementation systems.

Smart Specialisation has been met with a lot of interest also beyond EU. Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, as a part of its Enlargement and Integration Action, has been working since 2016 to help the Enlargement and Neighbourhood countries develop their smart specialisation strategies. At the moment 12 countries have initiated or are already advanced in this process. Also other countries, like Australia or Latin American countries have started working on this topic. Montenegro, together with Serbia, Ukraine and Moldova is one of the target countries of JRC Enlargement and Integration Action, and is thus receiving support and methodological guidance on the design, implementation and monitoring of smart specialisation strategies.

Outward looking smart specialisation strategies and transnational cooperation

The present event is to be the first of a series of locally organised events in the Western Balkans (WB) and neighbouring EU Member States. Its mission is to make smart specialisation in the Western Balkans an important tool to promote transnational cooperation in the region. It should provide a dialogue forum to jointly discuss strategic innovation policies, the identification of priorities of common interest and their implementation across the WB. The specific objectives of the event are to:

- 1) facilitate peer discussions to improve the elaboration process and content of smart specialisation strategies across the WB;
- 2) start discussing opportunities for collaboration and joint projects within those domains, once the first WB economies have defined their place-based innovation priorities for smart specialisation through an evidence-based and participatory process.

Profile of participants:

The event is directed to a wide range of stakeholders representing national and regional smart specialisation teams, business, science and civic society. Special invitation is extended to those, who that wish to be involved and have expertise in thematic areas of Montenegro preliminary smart specialisation domains: *Information and Communication Technologies (ICT); Renewable Sources of Energy and Energy Efficiency; Sustainable Agriculture and Food Value Chains; New Materials and Sustainable Technologies and Sustainable and Health Tourism.*

DRAFT AGENDA

10.00 – 10.30	Registration of participants, welcome coffee
10.30 - 11.00	<p>Opening and Welcomes: <u>Sanja Damjanovic</u>, Minister of Science of Montenegro [<i>confirmed</i>] <u>Charlina Vitcheva</u>, Deputy Director-General, Joint Research Centre, European Commission [<i>confirmed</i>]</p>
11.00 - 11.30	<p>S3.me – Smart Specialisation Strategy for Montenegro Introduction by <u>Darko Petrusic</u>, [<i>confirmed</i>] Montenegro Smart Specialisation Team, on process of preparation, followed by presentation of draft strategy by <u>Nina Radulović</u>, [<i>confirmed</i>] Montenegro Smart Specialisation Team</p> <p><i>Montenegro is one of the first countries beyond EU to develop a Smart Specialisation strategy with JRC support. The presentation outlines how the process was organized and lessons learnt that can inspire also other countries and economies embarking on this road. A special focus will be put on the explanation of the Smart Specialisation priority domains and the vision for their development.</i></p>
11.30 - 12.30	<p>Panel discussion: Sharing experiences - feedback from JRC, Member States and experts on Montenegro Smart Specialisation priority domains</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> <u>Charlina Vitcheva</u>, Deputy Director-General, Joint Research Centre, European Commission [<i>confirmed</i>]</p> <p><i>Panellists:</i> <u>Francesco Massucci</u>, SIRIS Academic, Spain [<i>representative confirmed</i>] <u>Yannis Tolia</u>s, Innovatia Systems [<i>confirmed</i>] <u>Claire Nauwelaers</u>, independent expert – smart specialisation [<i>confirmed</i>] <u>Hugo Hollanders</u>, Maastricht University <u>Tbd</u>, Joint Research Centre, European Commission</p> <p><i>The panel of experts and Member State representatives will begin with 5 minute interventions commenting on the descriptions of Montenegro smart specialisation priority domains provided by the Montenegro Smart Specialisation Team. Their reflections will focus on the EU experience and lessons learnt, thinking especially of the possible challenges concerning the implementation of the strategy and the opportunities resulting from the international cooperation. Joint Research Centre will also provide an assessment of the process and available results so far.</i></p>
12.30 – 13.00	<p>Cooperation potential for smart specialisation in the Western Balkans and beyond <u>Monika Matusiak</u>, Territorial Development unit, Joint Research Centre, European Commission [<i>confirmed</i>]</p> <p><i>The presentation will focus on the opportunities for thematic international cooperation in the area of the preliminary smart specialisation priority domains of Montenegro. The identification of these opportunities will be based on the analysis of economic specialisations financed by JRC in May 2017 and the follow-up tool "Scientific and technological panorama of the Western Balkans" elaborated within JRC Enlargement and Integration Action. The resulting online tool and a draft report will be launched at the event.</i></p>
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch

14.00 – 15.30	<p>Roundtable: How to initiate and nurture transnational cooperation for smart specialisation</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> <u>Manuel Palazuelos Martinez</u>, Team Leader – Smart Specialisation Platform, Territorial Development unit, Joint Research Centre, European Commission [<i>confirmed</i>]</p> <p><i>Discussants:</i> <u>Zoran Dimitrijevic</u>, RTD Health Cluster, Bosnia and Herzegovina <u>Gozard Jenko</u>, Secretary, Smart Specialisation Coordination Unit, Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy, Slovenia <u>Jasmina Majstoroska</u>, Head of the S3 working group, FYROM <u>Viktor Nedovic</u>, Assistant Minister for International Co-operation and EU Integration, Serbia <u>Claudio Polignano</u>, representative of Region Apulia in Montenegro and Albania, Italy <u>Marija Rajakovic</u>, Head of Sector for Competitiveness, Ministry of Economy, Croatia <u>Ahmet Shala</u>, Metal Industry and Renewable Energy Cluster of Kosovo¹</p> <p><i>Rapporteurs:</i> Montenegro Smart Specialisation Team</p> <p><i>The roundtable discussion will be focused around the identified preliminary smart specialisation priority domains for Montenegro:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Information and Communication Technologies (ICT);</i> • <i>Renewable Sources of Energy and Energy Efficiency;</i> • <i>Sustainable Agriculture and Food Value Chains;</i> • <i>New Materials and Sustainable Technologies;</i> • <i>Sustainable and Health Tourism.</i>
15.30 - 16.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.00 - 16.45	<p>Governance of smart specialisation strategy and key success factors</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> <u>Sanja Damjanovic</u>, Minister of Science of Montenegro</p> <p><i>Contributors:</i> <u>Atanas Kocho</u>, University St. Cyril and Methodius Skopje, FYROM [<i>confirmed</i>] </p>
16.45 – 17:00	Closing remarks

¹ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.