

# Beyond the horizon. Lessons from KEEN-Regions.

KEEN-Regions Final Conference

SMART  
SPECIALISATION  
STRATEGY

NEW PROGRAMMING  
PHASE

RESEARCH-DRIVEN  
CLUSTERS

The critical moment the European Union is going through is dramatically affecting all the society levels, including research and innovation. Regions will be deeply involved in setting up **smart measures to sustain their innovation systems with less and less available resources**. In such a framework, they are urged to define regional innovation strategies in order to exploit their competitive advantages and to valorise their assets. Channelling RD&I funding and triggering synergic actions at interregional level will be therefore vital to support the economic growth

as well as testing **new policy learning methodologies** to jointly react to the crisis.

In this respect, the Regions of Knowledge project "KEEN-Regions" tested a **creative approach for joint planning of regional innovation strategies**. **Research-driven clusters**, economic development and the valorisation of research infrastructures for the benefit of companies were brought into focus in order to develop an action plan shared among the actors involved and valorised at trans-

regional level.

In the frame of the KEEN-Regions final conference on April 17th 2012, representatives of the European Commission, Regional authorities and relevant stakeholders will have the chance for to meet and to **compare different approaches for delivering smart regional policies for research and innovation**.

In the first part keynote speakers will present in detail the concept of **smart specialisation** and its concrete

implications. The **regional dimension** of research and innovation as well as the future perspectives for **clusters** will be also presented, highlighting the links with the Cohesion policy and the next Programming period. In the final round table session, regional representatives will share experiences and provide operational inputs for integrating smart specialisation strategies in the forthcoming regional operative programmes.

EUROPEAN UNION



Committee of the Regions



Knowledge and Excellence  
in European Nanotechnology  
Regions

SAVE THE DATE

17 APRIL 2012 / BRUXELLES

from 13:00 to 17:30 / rue Beillard 99-101 (room JDE 70)

The event is hosted by the Committee of the Regions

**SIGN UP NOW:** <http://keen-regions.eu/signup>

Participation is free but registration is mandatory

# Agenda

13:00 – 14:00

Registration and  
Welcome Buffet  
Lunch (Atrium 5)

Moderator  
Giorgio Simonetto, Veneto Innovazione

Moderator  
Gerd Meier zu Köcker, VDI/VDE-IT

17:30

Signature of  
Joint Action Plan

14:00 **Opening and Welcome**

Marialuisa Coppola, Veneto Region and Innovation Union

14:10 **Thinking about Smart Specialisation and Regional Policies**

Dominique Foray, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne

14:30 **The regional dimension in the next programming period**

- ✳ Research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation. The new Cohesion Policy
- ✳ The regional dimension of R&I in Horizon 2020
- ✳ Clusters as breeding ground for SME innovation and internationalisation

Richard Tuffs, ERRIN

Dimitri Corpakis, DG Research & Innovation  
Sven Schade, DG Enterprise and Industry

15:30 **A keen methodology applied to regional policies on nanotechnologies**

Ivan Boesso, Veneto Innovazione

15:45 Round table  
**Smart specialisation strategies**  
**Experiences and expectations of the regions**

Basque Country — Edorta Larrauri  
City of Grenoble — François Peyronnet  
Flanders — Bernard De Potter  
Stuttgart — Stephanie Fleischmann  
Veneto — Caterina De Pietro

17:15 **Final remarks**

Marialuisa Coppola, Veneto Region and Innovation Union



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