



TRANSNATIONAL RIS3 INVESTMENT FORUM



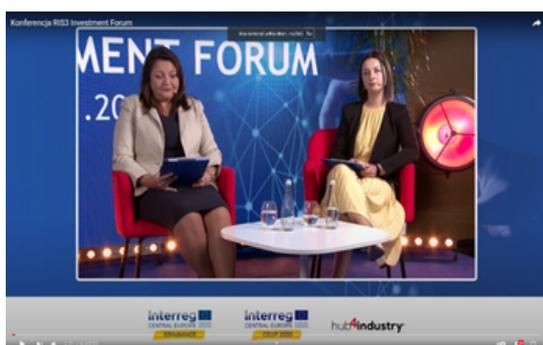
D.T3.4.2 Transnational RIS3 Investment Forum Report for A.C.4.

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DESCRIPTION OF RIS3 INVESTMENT FORUM

Introduction

The RIS3 Investment Forum was designed as an exclusive knowledge and exchange event bringing together the project partners, representatives of EU institutions, businesses, academia, representatives of universities, and last but not least representatives of regional and national authorities. Through interactive panel discussions, keynote presentations and companies interviews the participants were to gain insightful knowledge on the role of Digital Innovation Hubs in boosting regional smart specializations, and learn about achievements of functional, cross-sectoral transnational network of technological excellence created within project. The aim of RIS3 Investment Forum was presenting recommendations for policies, including thematic priorities for transnational cooperation in the field of RIS3 and strengthening the sustainability of project results based on pilot implementations.



Report

The RIS3 Investment Forum & final conference was an online event featuring key actors of the entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem addressed to companies, research institutions, universities, regional administration that plan to foster digital transformation through Digital Innovation Hubs.

Within S3HubsinCE realization the projects partners created and implemented a rich portfolio of regional use cases and identified RIS 3 Champions to demonstrate that cooperation between Digital Innovation Hubs and regional authorities brings realistic, scalable and measurable benefits in boosting regional smart specializations.

Within project the consortium identified over 50 best in class pioneers in 10 key technology priority areas. They become the ambassadors of digital transformation and drivers of the industry 4.0 growth sharing their know how and expertise in core technology implemented in their factories. Some of the best cases of RIS3 champions were presented during the conference. The participants of the conference were offered the opportunity for B2B meeting with 51 RIS3 Champions on the dedicated on-line platform EXPO ZONE (detailed description below).

The event took place on 15 of November 2021 and was planned in hybrid format with final conference and RIS3 Investment Forum taking place in Krakow Technology Park, Poland. The originally planned agenda included also B2B meetings, networking and study visit to hub4industry showroom. Due to COVID-19 it had to be transferred to an online format.



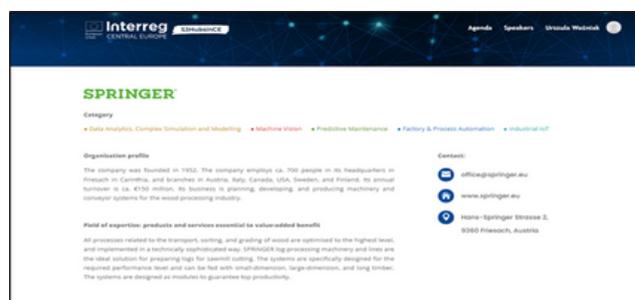
RIS3 Investment Forum aim was to connect, learn and discover regional deployment of innovation and entrepreneurship actions and see how innovation ecosystem champions play a greater role in the digital transformation within their regions.

During the conference the following challenges were tackled:

- Europe’s digital transformation and the role of EDIHs
- Regional ecosystems shaping European innovation
- S3HubsinCE excellence - technology blueprint for innovative future
- Effective instruments supporting digital transformation - guidelines for policy makers
- European technology champions: practices worth spreading

The event offered an expo zone with over 50 companies and institutions presented. The aim of expo zone was to attract investors, companies, entrepreneurs, research institutions, policy makers and innovators and encourage them to B2B meetings, networking. It was also designed as the platform for exchanging new ideas and common project business opportunities. The portfolio of companies presented on networking platform consisted of European champions identified within S3HubsinCE project but was also open to all interested.

The event also offered numerous networking opportunities where participants were able to meet their potential partners. The event was streamed on event platform. The link to recording of the event is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fg-Nf9P7GwI>



The institutions represented 10 Navigation Crews technologies:



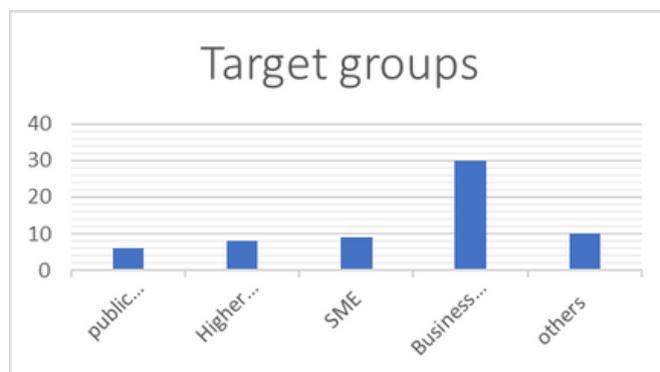
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DESCRIPTION OF TARGET GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDERS

The information and promotion campaign has started 3?4 weeks before the event. It has included promotion on social media as facebook, linked in, instargram, twitter ? and was accompanied by emailing campaign and direct invitation letters being sent to key stakeholders of the partnering regions.

The total number of registered participants is 123. The event had over 63 participants from over 9 counties from different target groups:

- public authority - 6
- Higher education and research - 8
- SME - 9
- Business Support Organisation - 30
- others - 10



THE EVENT IN NUMBERS

123 registered participants

9 countries

10 European Digital Innovations Hubs

51 European champions

high level panels

expo zone & dedicated event platform

inspirational talks about technology blueprint for innovative future

ebook - CERIS Champion Network

networking sessions

03

MAIN TOPICS OF THE EVENT

The first Interreg CE call presented in a nutshell - Angelika Van Es - Joint Secretariat Vienna



NEW FUNDING

First call of Central Europe Programme in a nutshell

S3HubsinCE Final conference, Krakow 15th November 2021
Angelika van Es

Konferencja RIS3 Investment Forum

Join our Applicant Community

- Browse project ideas
- Upload your own ideas
- Look for partners
- Organise meetings
- Register for upcoming webinars



Angelika Van Es
Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme

www.community.interreg-central.eu

interreg CENTRAL EUROPE S3HubsinCE
interreg CENTRAL EUROPE CEUP 2030
hub4industry

32:27 / 4:43:52

Europe's digital transformation and the role of EDIHs - Matthias Kuom - DG Connect

Europe's digital transformation and the role of EDIHs

Matthias Kuom
DG Connect A4: Digital transformation of industrial ecosystems

RIS3 Investment Forum / S3HubsinCE final event
November, 15 2021



Konferencja RIS3 Investment Forum

Putting SMEs at the core of the twin transitions

Green transition

- EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM → Dedicated support through green tech clusters and other green innovation
- enterprise europe network → EEN Sustainability Advisors and other sustainability services* from 1/1/22

Digital transition

- European Digital Innovation Hubs → Technological expertise, Experimentation, Digital skills and training, Support to find investment
- Internationalisation advice, Innovation assessment, Partnerships

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Mathias Kuom
DG Connect

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE S3HubsinCE

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE CEUP 2030

hub4industry

50:07 / 4:43:52

Meet European technology champions: practices worth spreading

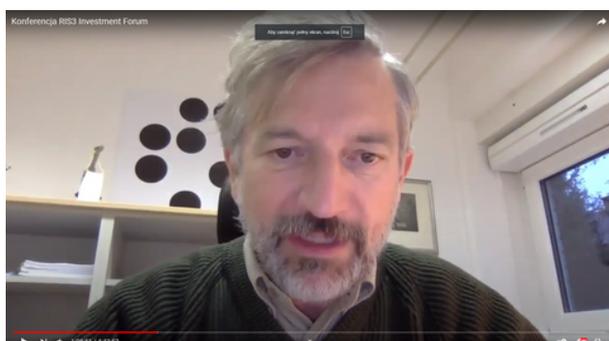
10 recorded pitches of European RIS3 Champions and moderated by Balazs Barta (am-LAB and Pannon Business Network) and Simona Knezevic (Vernon, Slovenian Tool and Die Development Centre) discussion with representatives of champions



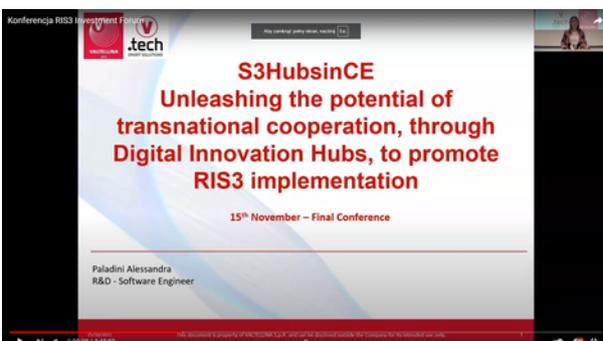
Nerosubianco



Smart 3



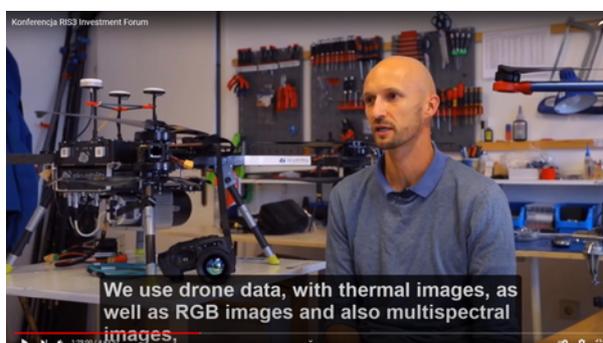
Jozef Stefan Institute



Valtellina



Mobilisis



Skyability

Meet European technology champions: practices worth spreading



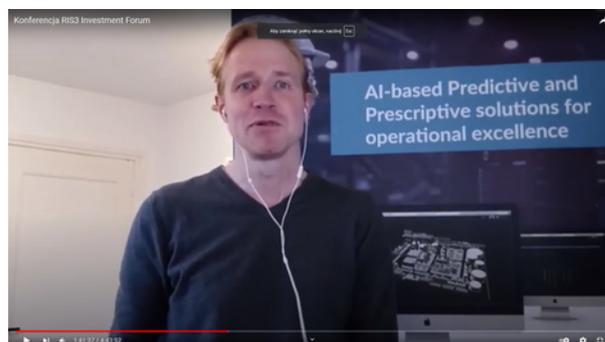
Ivy Technology



Truphysics



Wild Hi Precision



Reliasol

Summary of the panel discussion & key reflections

Over 50 best in class pioneers in 10 key technology priority areas identified in the project. They are ambassadors of digital transformation and drivers of the industry 4.0 growth. In the session there were presented 10 champions from 7 countries.

THE KEY CONCLUSIONS

DIHs and its partnering stakeholders are crucial for explaining and accelerating the technology discovery from the SMEs perspective

all services offered by DIHs (know-how, competences, access to technology specialists and experts, support on assessing technology readiness as well as proof of concept) reduce for SMEs the risk associated with new investments. DIHs and EDIHs are well positioned and placed to explain regionally digitization trends

DIHs and EDIHs should continue its mission on supporting a common transnational roadmap, built on practical pilots to be implemented during the project lifetime

DIHs and EDIHs act as touchpoints for companies, universities, R&D and BSOs

Moderated panel discussion: "Regional ecosystems shaping European innovation"

Panelists:

Alissa Zaccaria, Consorzio Intellimech

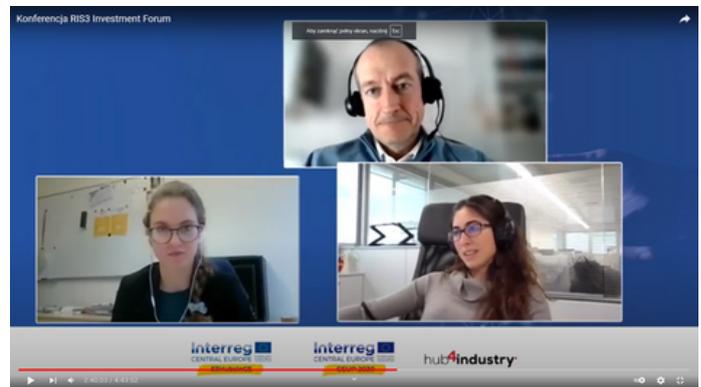
Laura Salomon, Fraunhofer Institute for Machine Tools and Forming Technology IWU

Moderator:

Andrea Jester, Nerosubianco

The main topics of the panel were:

1. How S3HubsinCE project helps to connect regional ecosystem members (including DIHs) to wider ecosystems and why these transregional connections are important to boost innovation also at regional level.
2. Description of one (or more) action/s that are highly representative of the added value of a project like S3HubsinCE.
3. Role and focus associated DIHs in the future (which would be your focus and which role would you see for your associated DIHs if you may be given the opportunity to continue your cooperation starting from tomorrow).



Key reflections & highlights:

- Initiating cooperation in the RIS3 area through a common understanding of digitization trends at the supranational and international level, and mapping these trends to relevant technological priorities for Central Europe (e.g. biotechnology / medical devices, photonics, detection technologies, automation of production processes, etc.).
- Through network of regional institutions and associated DIHs all stakeholders benefit by strengthening the development of key technologies of regions.
- Network of regional institutions and associated DIHs as created under S3HubsinCE supports and stimulates companies growth in the area of Industry 4.0 technologies, as well as export.
- The role of champions is crucial for mentoring and disseminating best practises, lesson learnt, and joint pilot actions, they serve as point of contact for less advanced companies.

Moderated panel discussion: "S3HubsinCE excellence - technology blueprint for innovative future"

Panelists:

Laura Salomon Fraunhofer IWU

Monika Machowska Krakow Technology Park

Balazs Barta Pannon Business Network

Andrea Jester Nerosubianco

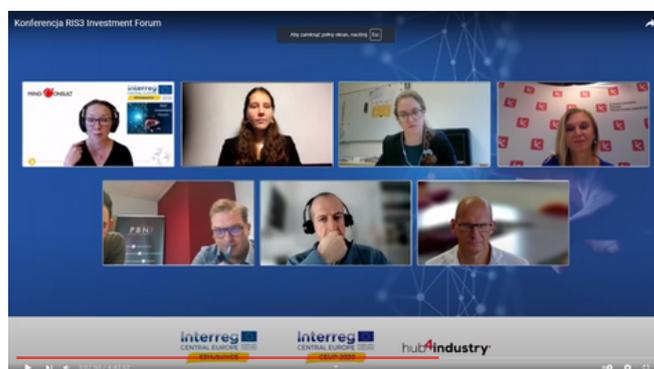
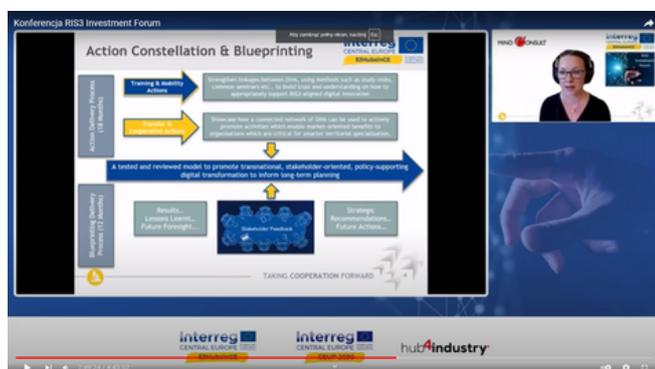
Roland Willmann Carinthia University of Applied Science

Moderators:

Sarah Hedden, Mathilde Besnard Mind Consult & Research

The main points of the panel were:

1. Presentation of the main project result Transnational Technology Blueprint
2. Panel discussion focused on:
 - how policy-makers and best-in-class organisations worked together to evidence RIS3 implementation at local, regional and national level,
 - about main partners' actions & their reflections on them in testing model of DIHS in each regions,
 - how they plan to develop these strategic interactions further to improve DIH/DIH interaction and create stronger innovation networks, and how to fundamentally exploit these networks.



Key reflections & highlights:

- The Blueprint created under S3HubsinCE project represents a series of directional and detailed recommendations addressed to regional authorities how to overcome gaps identified by projects partners and its stakeholders in respect to RIS3 implementation. The core input for the Blueprint have been generated within market-focused initiatives undertaken by project partners and regions in the scope of thematic topics associated to 10 Navigation Crews.
- Representatives of project partners from Germany, Poland, Hungary, Italy and Austria agreed on that both companies and regional authorities in their regions face similar challenges in the process of boosting regional specializations and making them fly wheel of digital transformation. The
- Training & Mobility Actions, Transfer & Cooperation Actions, accompanied by lessons learnt, sharing best practices, joint webinars and B:B initiatives led to building common understanding of model of utilizing Digital Innovation Hubs. It also proved to be supportive and effective instrument for boosting RIS3 in the regions as a means for improving support to Central Europe's RIS3 Champions.

Key message

- Knowing and understanding the needs and expectations of the business is crucial for creation of regional strategies on smart specializations (fact based, measurable, achievable).
- Screening competences & specializations of the regions led to creation of CE constellation of RIS3 Champions.
- Clear action constellation and blueprint supported strengthening of relations between business, academia and regional authorities both on regional and transnational levels.
- Investment in building relations between digital innovation hubs, increasing level of confidence was significant for defining new common European strategy on smart specializations and role of EDIHs.
- Understanding needs of companies but also gaps and barriers they face is crucial to defining relevant mechanism and financial instruments.
- Building strength and competitive advantage is possible both on synergies and differences (similarities build your strong positions, differences make the DIH unique).
- Building on differentiations between DIHs may lead to creation of corridors of specializations.
- Tested within S3HubsinCE methodology (Navigation Crews) and approach (policy learning labs) can be easily and successfully transferred to other areas as health or circular economy.

Moderated panel discussion: Effective instruments supporting digital transformation - guidelines for policy makers

Panelists:

Thomas Kremsner - Forschung Burgenland

Anna Pająk - Future Industry Platform Foundation

Ivan Boesso - Veneto Innovazione S.p.A

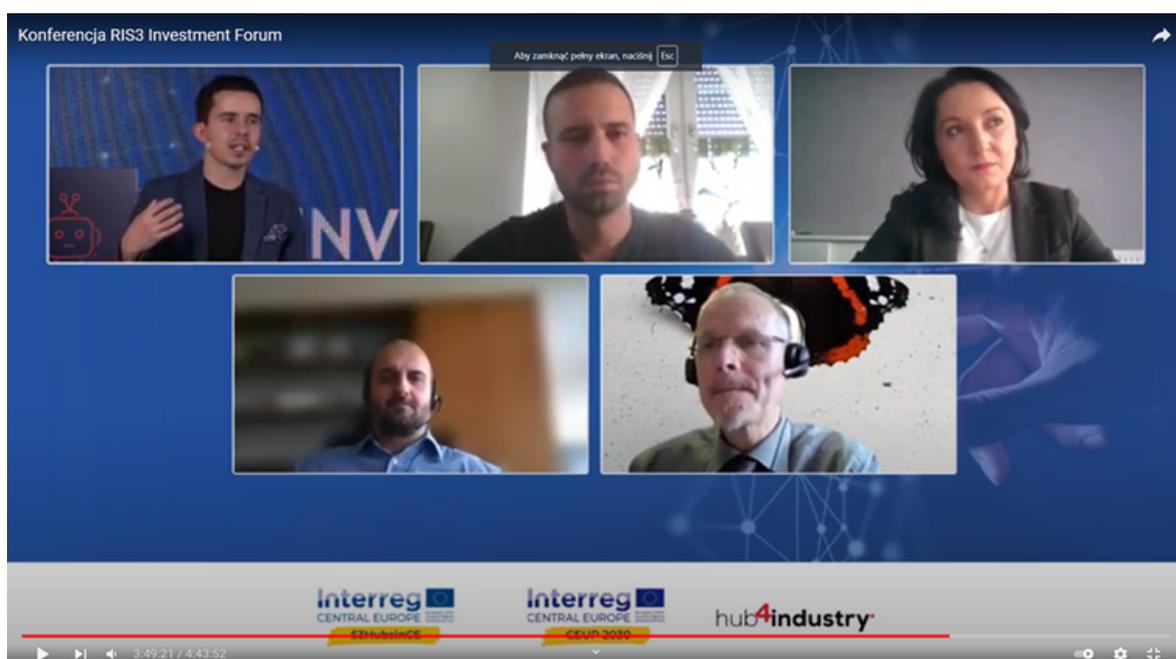
Borut Zrim - Pomurje Technology Park

Moderator:

Bartosz Józefowski - Krakow Technology Park

Panelists tried to answer the following questions:

1. What does NOT work in legislation and could be fixed
2. How to involve stakeholders in a policy making process
3. How to work through dilemma: big scale actions but shallow vs deep impact but at small sample = instruments with high visibility and reach but low individual impact on companies and low expertise involved vs high expertise, big impact on companies but for small group of companies. Do we observe some multiplier effects in digitalisation projects? Maybe this dichotomy is fake?
4. What will be the biggest challenges for digital transformation instruments in next 5 years.



Key reflections & highlights:

Defining the effective instruments to support the SMEs is a challenge as the companies represent different level of digital technology readiness, they have got different needs and expectations, different challenges and barriers as well as different resource including human resources.

From regional authorities and BSO perspective it is important to engage companies in participatory activities addressed to defining smart specializations of the region, as well as for identifying best effective tools and instruments to support them in digitalization.

It is important to adjust and tailor the supporting mechanism and financial instruments to company's needs, but also to simplify the procedures as much as possible to let companies concentrate on doing the business not filling complex documents, without any additional burdens.

To undertake effective digital transformation companies need professional support from the organisations like BSO or DIHs to advise them how to plan the transformation process, how and where to absorb funds for dedicated improvements in the company.

Business Supporting Organisations and dedicated DIHs - acting as intermediaries - are one of the key actors in co-creating and implementing the Regional Innovation Strategy and pushing digital transformation.

Creating one common strategy for digital transformation on the European level is a challenge as it has to take into consideration varied interests and dominants of the regions and market based activities.

An important factor to success of effective digital transformation is defining the common language.

Test before invest approach should be introduced to regional smart strategies at the binding requirement for the company before getting the funds for investment (to reduce risk of unsuccessful investments) .

Coordination the creation of regional innovation strategies on regional levels should lead to elaboration of joint framework of RIS3.

Establishment of a sustainable transnational Digital Innovation Hubs for RIS3 and merging them with ecosystem of regional innovation significantly increased the exchange knowledge and innovation on the basis of priority technological areas.

04 SUMMARY

RIS3 Investment Forum brings together various target groups including leaders at the forefront of innovation from many sectors to explore the opportunities for creating global digital future. The event provided to the participants a possibility to:

- get insight of the digital thinking across 10 technology priority areas
- discover top industrial technologies & solutions under one roof presented by identified 51 RIS3 Champions and 10 regional DIHs
- to explore collaboration between European Digital Innovation Hubs in the network, including trans-national cross-border hubs and corridors
- to get inspired how Digital Innovation Hubs as an instrument helps to boost digitalization of companies
- to get knowledge about EDIH & Interreg Central Europe calls
- to explore the impact of digital transformation on business, technology and society
- to have meeting with companies, start-ups and business innovation centres
- to network and connect within expo zone

05 PARTNERSHIP

WWW.INTERREG-CENTRAL.EU/CONTENT.NODE/S3HUBSINCE.HTML

