

**WIRE 2018 - hosted by ERRIN and Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes**

## **“Cooperation between regional innovation ecosystems: inspiration from Alpine Regions”**

**5 July 2018 / 16.00-17.30**

Smart specialisation strategies elaborated by all NUTS-2 regions have supported the creation of a new cooperation culture within the regions when developing and implementing their innovation strategies. These strategies are based on a collaborative and participatory process that facilitates demand-led innovation and collective solutions, and catalyse the development of regional innovation ecosystems fostering quadruple helix cooperation.

To maximise impact and the European innovation potential, experience shows that strong territorial innovation ecosystems are essential. These ecosystems connect different actors to create an environment that allows development, commercialisation and exploitation of innovation. Regional innovation ecosystems create value locally, but these benefits can be further accelerated if regional innovation ecosystems further connect with each other to access complementary skills, infrastructure or markets. Interregional cooperation based on Smart Specialisation could help to reshape EU value chains by promoting investment synergies between the private and public sectors within different regional innovation ecosystems. This contributes also to the development of the EU economy as a whole.

Currently, a substantial number of regional, national and European policy programmes and instruments exist to encourage and promote interregional cooperation in the fields of innovation, growth and jobs. Better coordination of the various policies and instruments across different governance levels is needed to increase their impact in delivering key European priorities. This more integrated approach could ensure stronger involvement of industry in the implementation of these strategies. Creating further cross-regional cooperation and investment opportunities would also facilitate scaling up regional and local innovation.

This workshop will focus on how to use EU policies and instruments in a coordinated manner, across governance levels, to support transformation towards resilient, inclusive and sustainable growth at territorial level. Practical examples on regional innovation ecosystems from Alpine Regions will be showcased to highlight the importance of interregional cooperation and to make proposals for further synergy and better coordination between the different programmes and instruments.

Time	Agenda
16.00	Welcome and introduction Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes: Hortense LUTZ-HERMELLIN, Head of Brussels office
16.10	Examples of existing initiatives in Alpine Regions Presentation of speakers by Moderator: Dr. Thomas Ammerl, Bavarian Research Alliance
16.10	Valentina Pinna, Head of Research and Innovation sector, Lombardy Region (IT) How to better use existing European initiatives to promote inter-regional cooperation on advanced manufacturing?  <i>Lombardy Region will share its vision of inter-regional collaboration between regional ecosystems as an active member of the <a href="#">Vanguard Initiative</a> and the <a href="#">S3 Platform on Industrial Modernisation</a> on Advanced Manufacturing.</i>
16.30	Quentin Courbon, project manager, <a href="#">VIAMECA</a> Boosting Innovation in Factory of the future value Chain in the Alps (BIFOCALPS)  <i><a href="#">BIFOCAlps</a> is an INTERREG Alpine Space project involving clusters and RTOs to boost collaboration and synergies among main actors of the Alpine eco-system for a sustainable, smart and competitive development of the manufacturing value chain toward the factory of the future.</i>
16.40	Dr Philip Pfaller, Bavarian Research Alliance Creating synergies between different funding schemes. Smart specialisation with smart clusters.  <i>How to handle synergies between several funding schemes (H2020, ESIF etc.) based on experience as partner within the S3-4AlpClusters-project that offers also an insight on activities on Smart Specialisation and transnational cluster cooperation.</i>
16.50	Mr. Paolo Gregori, Managing Director, “ProM” Mechatronics prototyping facility of Trentino Sviluppo.  <i>The Mechatronics Hub run by Trentino Sviluppo is a flagship investment of Trentino in line with its 3S strategy and the regional development plan and represents the core of a quadruple helix innovation ecosystem. Within it, the ProM Mechatronics prototyping facility is an enabling factor supporting the participation of the Trentino in inter-regional projects and initiatives, both at national and European level, such as the Vanguard Initiative, the Progetto Fabbrica Diffusa, <a href="#">Digital Innovation Hubs (DIH)</a> and future KIC on Advanced Manufacturing. It is also a successful example demonstrating synergies between European, national and regional funding.</i>
17.00	Reaction from European Commission, Magda De Carli, Head of Unit, DG RTD
17.15	Summary and conclusion: Pirita Lindholm, Director, <a href="#">ERRIN</a>