

The Smart Specialisation Community of Practice (S3 CoP)

Agri-Food Platform: Plant-Based Food
Innovation Partnership

12.02.2025

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Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms

S3 Thematic Platforms



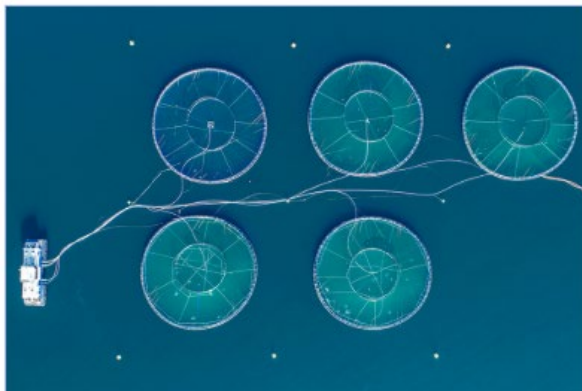
Agri-food



Energy



Industrial Modernisation






Sustainable Blue Economy

Alustan ydintoiminnot toteutetaan temaattisissa älykkään erikoistumisen **kumppanuuksissa, joissa alueet käynnistävät ja tutkivat uusia elintarvikearvoketjuja, kehittävät alueiden välisiä investointiprojekteja, alueiden välisiä yhteistyöprojekteja ja/tai pyrkivät sovittamaan yhteen älykkään erikoistumisen strategioita.**

Agri-food platform partnerships

- Consumer involvement
- Food for positive health impact
- Food packaging
- High Tech Farming
- Ingredients for a Circular Economy (I4CE)
- **Plant-based food innovation**
- Smart Sensors for Agri-food
- Traceability and Big Data in the agri-food value chain

Background & Relevance

-  Climate change and climate transition
-  Resilience, food security and self-sufficiency as key targets
-  Health promoting policies and consumer trends

Partnership history

- ④ Common Smart Specialisation challenges
- ④ Unifying ambition and believe
- ④ Joint previous initiatives and projects
- ④ Networking and knowledge sharing practice
- ④ Opportunities of complementarity, avoid duplication and join forces

Partnership

- ✓ Balanced interregional scope
- ✓ All partners prioritise agri-food in their S3 strategies
- ✓ Open to new partners
 - ✓ On-going discussion with several actors
 - ✓ “On hold” until pre-scoping activity finalized
 - ✓ E.g., interfaces to other platforms

- ✓ **Lead Actors:**

- Vidzeme Planning Region, Latvia
- TAGUSVALLEY, Portugal
- Development Center Murska Sobota, Slovenia
- **Regional Council of Päijät-Häme, Finland**

1. Agricultural Sciences
2. Food Science
3. Nutrition & Health Sciences
4. Biotechnology:
5. Material Science
6. Data Science & AI:
7. Process Engineering
8. Nanotechnology
9. Blockchain Technology
10. Cross-Domain Studies Environmental Science
11. (Cross-Domain Studies) Consumer Science
12. (Cross-Domain Studies) Regulatory and Ethical Studies
13. Method and coordination structures

- ✓ **Non-leading actors:**

- Regionalna razvojna agencija Posavje, Slovenia
- BSC Kranj Regional development agency of Gorenjska , Slovenia
- Comissão de Coordenação e Desenvolvimento Regional do Centro, I.P., Portugal
- **LAB University of Applied Sciences, Päijät-Häme, Finland**



Overarching goal

To enhance Europe's resilience, self-sufficiency, and leadership in plant-based sustainable food innovation.

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Parantaa Euroopan kestävyyttä, omavaraisuutta ja johtajuutta kasvipäristön kestävien elintarvikeinnovaatioiden alalla

Specific objectives

- ④ To establish **forum of regional stakeholders** to exchange challenges, ideas, solutions, network, use complementarities and collaborate towards fostering innovation in the sector.
- ④ To **explore underused potential of locally grown food innovation** by linking innovation stakeholders of knowledge-intensive and resource-rich regions and enhancing and developing new value chains.
- ④ To develop interregional **knowledge and infrastructure sharing environment** for research and prototyping.
- ④ To integrate **hybrid local & European value chains**, with special attention to aspects like **side streams**.

Preliminary activity plan

- ✓ Establish **interregional stakeholder forum and utilize existing platforms**
- ✓ Analyse common challenges, facilitate mutual learning sessions, and define solutions
- ✓ **Map and showcase resources, infrastructures, and expertise**
- ✓ Roadmap towards reaching partnership's objectives.
- ✓ **Expand network through value-driven growth and geographical balance.**
- ✓ Facilitate exchange and potential piloting of interregional shared innovation infrastructures and services.
- ✓ **Explore funding opportunities.**
- ✓ Develop a communication plan and initiate outreach efforts.
- ✓ Forge cooperation with other EU-wide and macroregional networks.

