

# Clean Sky working together with the Member States and Regions

Synergies with European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)



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# Foreword

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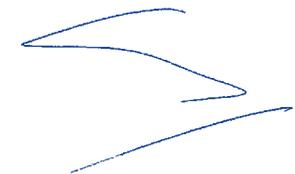
Working together has always been in the DNA of our research community, which is why the Europe-wide framework programmes for research, launched over 30 years ago, have been so successful. Each successive programme has been bigger and more ambitious than its predecessor helping to keep Europe competitive in key technologies and excellent science.

The current framework programme, Horizon 2020 with its budget of nearly EUR 80 billion, represents a significant step forward because it combines within a single EU-level programme support for both research and innovation. To complement Horizon 2020, national and regional authorities across Europe were asked to design smart specialisation strategies to use the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) more efficiently, and develop and exploit synergies between different EU, national and regional policies.

These synergies offer remarkable opportunities to help the Public-Private Partnerships/Joint Undertakings that were launched under Horizon 2020 to optimise their Strategic Research Agenda and achieve their goals.

I am very pleased to see that the Clean Sky 2 Joint Undertaking has been actively working with many regions to develop closer interaction with ESIF and to underpin smart specialisation strategies in the field of aviation. The following pages showcase some pilot projects that have benefitted from the synergies that have arisen from the Memoranda of Understanding between Clean Sky 2 and participating EU Member States and regions.

I am confident these examples will provide inspiration for developing new initiatives between the Joint Undertakings and regional infrastructure programmes. They show that by working together, we can maintain European leadership and have a significant impact on jobs and growth in areas where there are enormous societal benefits as well.



Robert-Jan Smits  
*Director General*  
*Directorate General for Research and Innovation*  
*European Commission*



# Introduction

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The Europe 2020 strategy towards smart, sustainable and inclusive growth will make significant progress by building on the synergies between the cohesion policy – European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) – and the excellence objectives within Horizon 2020. The fostering of synergies between these two policy instruments aims to maximise the quantity and quality of investments, thus ensuring a higher impact of the funds. The ESIF will invest approximately €100 billion in innovation and research during the period 2014-2020.

The increase of the innovation and competitiveness-related budgets under EU cohesion policy over the past decade is of the utmost importance to ensure optimal synergies between the funds as a result of the increasing competitive pressure from global markets and to maximise the impact and efficiency of public funding. The European Parliament and the Council have made it clear that this approach is no longer a “nice to have” but a “need to implement”.

In this context, Article 20 of the Horizon 2020 Regulation and Article 37 of the Horizon 2020 rules for participation encourage synergies between Horizon 2020 and other European Union funds, such as ESIF. To achieve this, it is crucial to align strategies and implementation modalities and complement existing and future roadmaps.

The Clean Sky 2 Joint Undertaking (Clean Sky) is called by its founding Council Regulation no. 558/2014 of 6 May 2014 to develop closer interaction with European Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) and to underpin smart specialisation efforts in the field of activities covered by the Clean Sky.

The implementation of synergies should deliver additional gains in terms of competitiveness in Horizon 2020 calls and innovation results that could contribute to closing the innovation gap in Europe and therefore promote economic growth, and should lead to a more efficient use of public funding.

A high number of Regions and Member States (more than fifty-five) have indicated aeronautics, aviation, aerospace and correlated areas among their RIS3 priorities, which creates an opportunity for fostering synergies with the EU’s largest ever aeronautics programme, the Clean Sky 2 Joint Undertaking, under H2020, which is developing a set of bilateral cooperation on synergies with an increasing number of aeronautics-focused European Regions.

Synergies between ESIF and Clean Sky could maximise the impact and the specific added value of Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) investments, such as the capacity to effectively support aeronautics capacity building and the exploitation of research results in raising the overall socio-economic impact of the European aeronautics sector.

Thus, the Clean Sky encourages synergies with ESIF by allowing complementary activities to be proposed by applicants to the calls launched by Clean Sky. Synergies with Clean Sky Programme and its technology roadmap can be achieved by broadening the scope, adding parallel activities or continuing Clean Sky co-funded projects/activities through ESIF support. The Clean Sky also encourages the use of ESIF to build and enhance local capabilities and skills in fields related to the programme, in order to enhance the level of European competitiveness of stakeholders in this area.

By June 2017, **13 Memoranda of Understanding (MoU)** have been put in place with Member States/Regions, **58 Member States/Regions** have been identified to include aeronautics or areas which correlate to the Clean Sky 2 Programme as thematic areas/priorities for ESIF funding within their RIS3, several **pilot projects** are supported by ESIF and **“Clean Sky Synergy Labels”** have been awarded to complementary activities. The Clean Sky has currently developed a pilot phase with a number of Member States/Regions, in view of launching pilot projects and identifying best practices for further MS and Regions.

## THE CLEAN SKY ACTION PLAN

At a strategic level, the Clean Sky has developed a coherent and comprehensive policy strategy and an action plan on synergies for Member States and Regions which are interested in investing ESIF within the aeronautics R&I area and other related technologies. In this regard, the Clean Sky is developing closer interaction with interested Member States (MS) and Regions in Europe by discussing strategies and possible cooperation via a tailor-made approach as well designing modalities of cooperation, depending on the level of interest, the regional stakeholders base, and the commitment which a Member State/Region may decide to engage with.

The aim of such cooperation has four potential benefits:

- To strengthen R&I investments and innovation capacity;
- To enhance the European dimension of the Regions in aeronautics;
- To identify areas of technical cooperation which could complement the Programme and support its overall objectives;
- To achieve a global leverage effect from synergies between ESIF, Clean Sky funding, and other national /regional funding.

While keeping the funding processes and rules of each competent funding authority separate, the purpose is to identify and apply mechanisms for ensuring synergies through ESIF in pertinent research and innovation projects from a specific Member State or Region, with a view to maximising its impact via the JTI framework of Clean Sky projects.

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH CLEAN SKY

To enhance the cooperation with Member States and Regions, as well as to facilitate the synergies with ESIF, the Clean Sky makes available an annotated model MoU, to set the framework of cooperation with a Member State or Region. This can be adapted with no restrictions limitation for any MS/Region specificity or policy. The Clean Sky encourages the use of the MoU by the competent MS/Regional Authority in charge of ESIF and other public funding. The Clean Sky promotes bilateral meetings with Regions or Member

States (ESIF Managing Authorities) in order to exchange views about regional capabilities and RIS3, and explore synergies and ways to complement and leverage Clean Sky technical content with further/parallel actions co-funded by ESIF at national/regional level. The ESIF Managing Authorities can also play a crucial role in creating the necessary “incentive effect” and encouraging in their funding instruments the stakeholders to propose activities linking to Clean Sky.

The MoU contains notes and indications for the MS/Region – it is a simple and effective tool to agree on cooperation and to proceed at once. A summary of the MoU content is as follows:

- Commitment to work together, to explore and identify synergies via respective programmes and mechanisms;
- Indicate the MS/Region policy framework to support R&I or aeronautics in particular. It is not necessary that the RIS3 mentions aeronautics as priority: a link could also be made with a number of correlated areas (R&I, transport, mobility, materials, CO<sub>2</sub> reduction etc.);
- Indicate the ESIF instruments/funding schemes under the Operational Programme (OP) which may be devoted to stimulating synergies. It can be a general R&I call with implementation modalities to stimulate synergies, a specific call in aeronautics, or a call with thematic areas. Some MS/Regions have also envisaged a specific action devoted to supporting projects in synergies with H2020 or specifically with JTIs;
- Involve the Clean Sky in regional working groups on RIS3 and any activities specifically related to R&I/aeronautics, in order to exchange information on regional capabilities and policy priorities;
- Agree to enter a pilot phase to stimulate synergies. The imminent target is to achieve concrete pilots and show results;
- Establish a working group composed by the Region, Clean Sky representatives and stakeholders’ representatives as appropriate, to implement the tasks under the MoU and agree implementation modalities at the level of regional calls;
- Exchange information for some communication activities regarding Aeronautics synergies and the cooperation under the MoU;
- Participation in events organised by the two organisations.

The signing of a MoU with these MS/Regions aims to set the scene and agree the general framework of cooperation without trying to get into details. The signature of a MoU does not constitute an essential condition for developing synergies with Clean Sky. It does not also confer any sort of competitive advantage in the calls launched by the Clean Sky to any regional stakeholder.

## SYNERGIES SCENARIOS

**Five scenarios** have been identified which outline the appropriate and possible mechanisms for cooperation. These scenarios should be considered and adapted according to the regional funding schemes envisaged under the OPs, rules and processes while keeping the CS programme/calls in line with its own rules:

### 1. Upstream support

ESIF support for developing capabilities/skills/infrastructures with in support of local stakeholders, in view of enhancing the regional capabilities in R&I Aeronautics and planned participation in Clean Sky.

### 2. Parallel funding

An applicant to Clean Sky calls proposes in parallel a separate set of “complementary activities” (ESIF Work Package), which will be separately evaluated and may be granted a “synergy label”. Applicable to Clean Sky Calls for Proposals.

### 3. Sequential funding/downstream support

Clean Sky beneficiaries proposing a continuation/spin-off/amplification of their projects with ESIF support.

### 4. Thematic approach

ESIF support to complement the Clean Sky Programme through appropriate R&I thematic calls. The themes/topics are agreed with Clean Sky, they are consistent with RIS3 priorities and contribute to the overall objectives of Clean Sky but are not specifically addressed in Clean Sky.

### 5. “Seal of Excellence” – “Clean Sky synergy label”

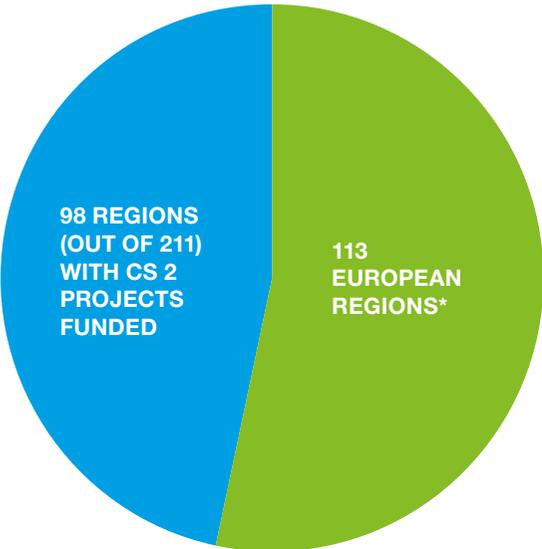
If technically appropriate, top-ranked proposals in a Clean Sky call (highly scored but not retained for funding) could be supported by Clean Sky with a synergy label for ESIF funding.

A common feature in scenarios 2, 3 and 5 is the **“Clean Sky label”**. This quality label may be given to the complementary activities proposed by either a successful applicant in a Clean Sky call or proposed by a Clean Sky beneficiary, over the course of implementation, via an independent evaluation process. The “Clean Sky label” can provide an incentive effect and a guarantee of success for MS/Regions to invest in the projects, support actions, local capabilities and infrastructures of national and/or regional importance. This label may or may not be considered by the relevant Region for instance through extra points awarded to a CS-label bearer or through the direct funding of the proposed project, if the rules allow one to do so.

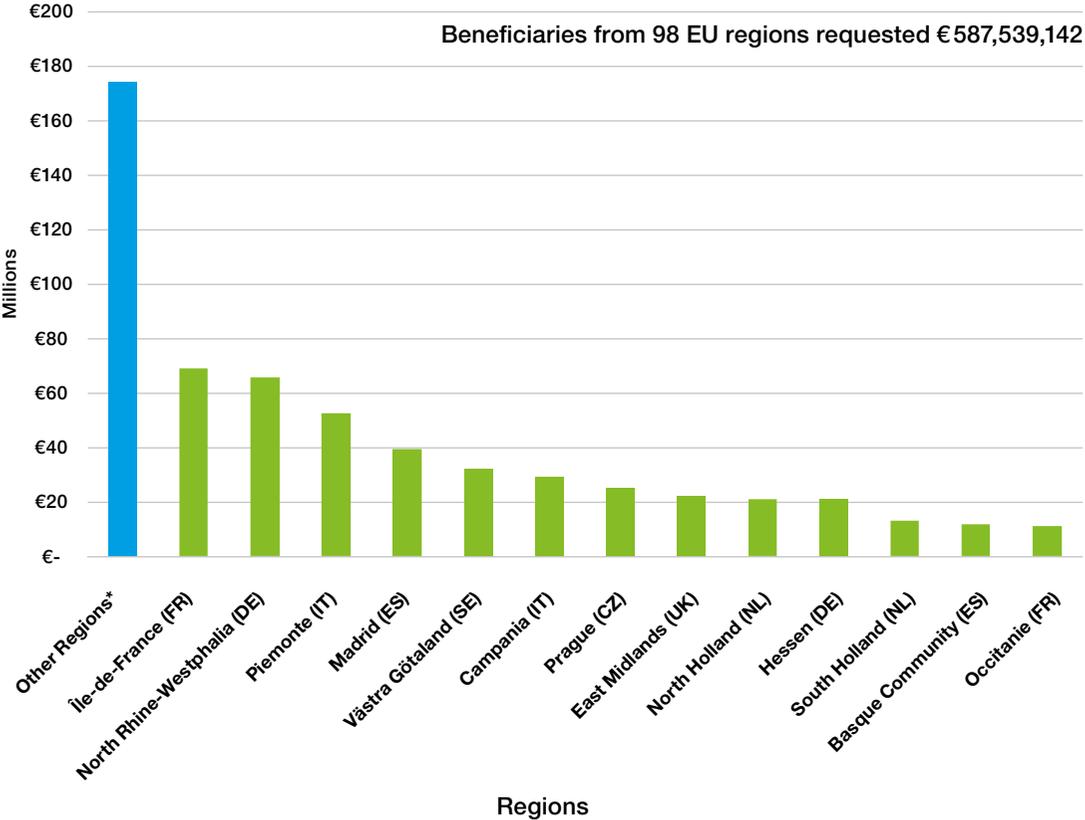


# Statistics

REGIONAL PARTICIPATION IN CLEAN SKY 2 PROJECTS



REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDING IN CS 2 CALLS TO DATE



\* Regions at NUTS 2 and NUTS 1 (DE,UK) level  
NUTs: the classification of territorial units for statistics

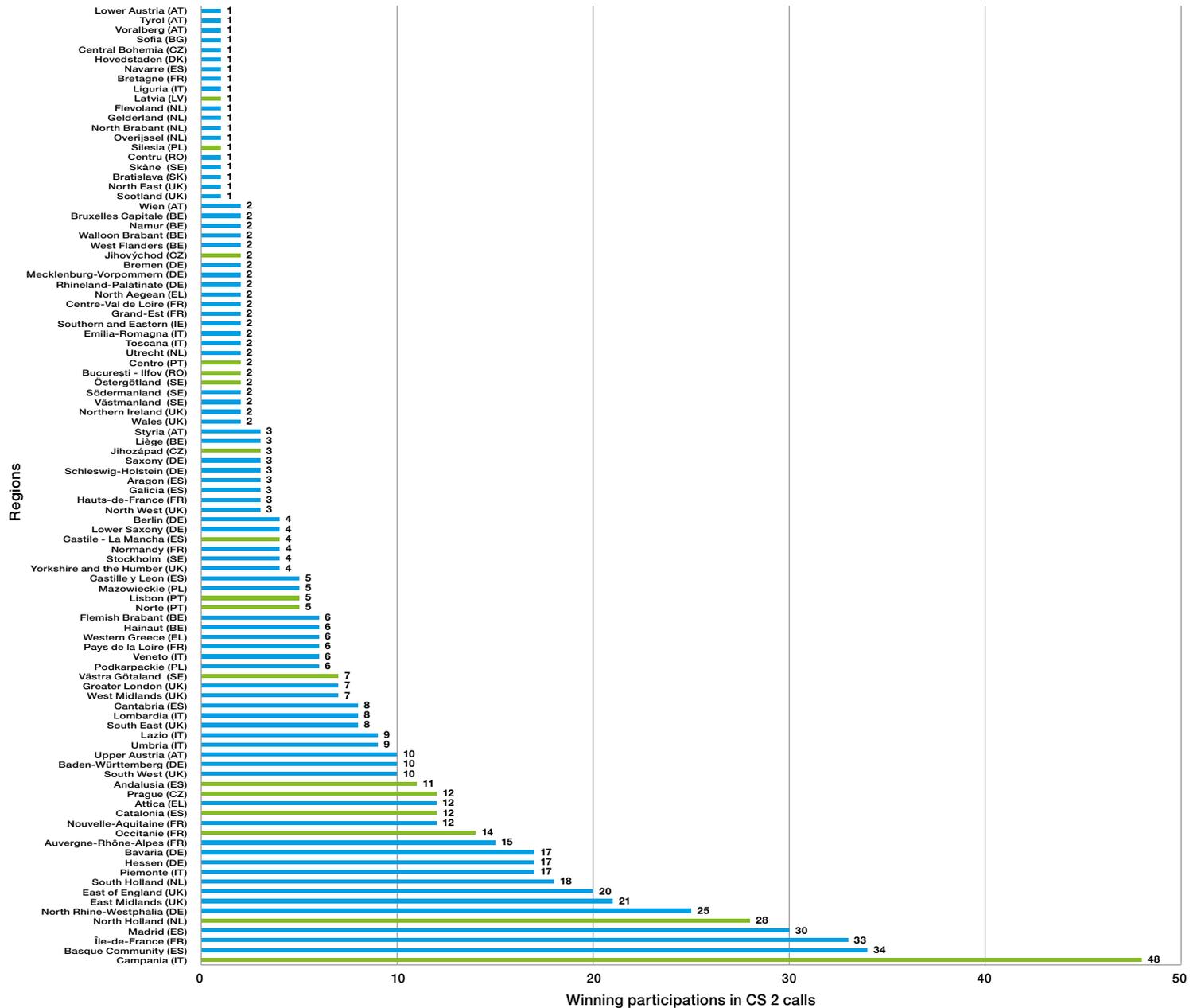
\* All other regions with funding up to € 10M

**PARTICIPATIONS PER REGIONS IN SUCCESFUL PROPOSALS IN CS 2 CALLS\***

**78** Regions out of **97** with at least **2** winning participation

**24%** of the these Regions have a MoU in place with CSJU

■ Regions with a MoU in place



\* Data related to calls for core partners and call for proposals until February 2017

## CLEAN SKY 2 JU - RIS3 REGIONAL MAPPING

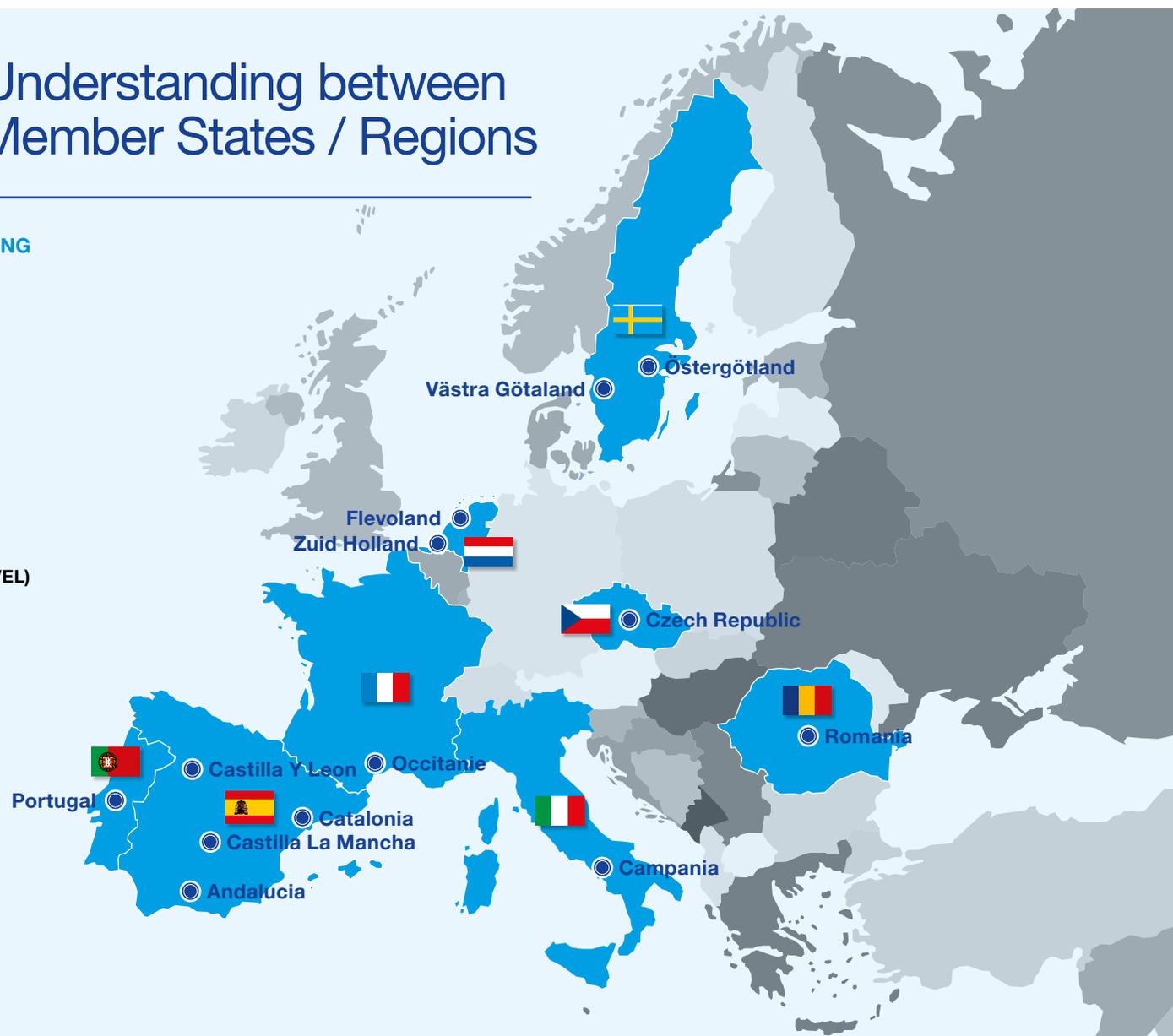
COUNTRY	REGION	RIS3 with priority in aeronautics*	RIS3 with priorities in aeronautics correlated areas**	MoU in place	COUNTRY	REGION	RIS3 with priority in aeronautics*	RIS3 with priorities in aeronautics correlated areas**	MoU in place
Belgium	Wallonie	Aeronautics & Space			Malta	Malta	Aviation and Aerospace		
Czech Republic	National level	Aerospace		✓	Poland	Opolskie		Advanced manufacturing systems	
Czech Republic	Praha	Aerospace - Aeronautics & Space	Eco-innovations (Manufacturing)		Poland	Pomorskie		Electrical engineering	
Czech Republic	South Moravia	Technologies for aerospace industries, Aerospace			Poland	Slaskie		Microelectronics, Advanced manufacturing systems	
Czech Republic	Central Moravia	Aerospace	Manufacturing		Poland	National Level (NCRB)		Advanced manufacturing systems	
France	Normandy	Aeronautics & Space	Advanced materials		Poland	Podkarpacie	Aviation - Aeronautics & Space		
France	Occitanie	Aeronautics & Space	Systems and materials	✓	Poland	Lublin		Mechatronics, possible RIS3 evolution toward aeronautics, Microelectronics	
France	Nouvelle-Aquitaine		Photonics, Electronics		Portugal	Lisboa	Production and repair for aeronautic industries		
France	Bretagne		Photonics and materials for optics, microelectronics		Portugal	Norte		Mobility and Environmental Industries	
France	Guyane		Remote technology & sensing		Portugal	Alentejo		Critical technologies, energy and smart mobility	
France	Île de France	Aeronautics	Optics, photonics, robotics, complex systems engineering and software		Portugal	National level	Aeronautics & Space		✓
France	Pays de la Loire		Electronics and computing, advanced materials and manufacturing systems, electronic & optical components		Romania	National level	Development of innovative space and security applications / Aeronautics & Space		✓
Germany	Baden-Württemberg	Aerospace - Aeronautics & Space	Photonics		Slovakia	Bratislavský kraj		Navigation systems	
Germany	Bremen	Aeronautics & Space			Spain	Cantabria	Satellite communication - Aeronautics & Space		
Germany	Berlin	Aerospace	Optics, Photonics, Advanced materials, Advanced manufacturing systems		Spain	Castilla-La Mancha	Aeronautics		✓
Germany	Brandenburg		Optics, Photonics, Advanced materials		Spain	Andalucía	Advanced transport systems - Aeronautics & Space		✓
Germany	Lower Saxony		Smart green & integrated transport systems, Advanced materials		Spain	Catalunya		Materials	✓
Germany	Hamburg	Aeronautics			Spain	Madrid	Navigation systems, Advanced manufacturing systems		
Germany	Saxony		Photonics and microelectronics, Advanced materials		Spain	Castilla y León	Productive efficiency in Aeronautics, making materials and components the keys to leadership and sustainability	Advanced materials, ICT, advanced manufacturing and processing, sustainability, security & mobility.	✓
Greece	Attica	Aerospace			Spain	Basque Community		Advanced manufacturing systems	
Greece	Dytiki Ellada	Microelectronics			Sweden	National Level	Innovair - Aeronautics & Space		
Greece	Kentriki Makedonia		Electronics, electrical appliances and ICT.		Sweden	Västra Götaland (Western)	Aeronautics		✓
Italy	Piemonte	Aerospace - Aeronautics & Space			Sweden	Östergötlands län (Eastern)	Aeronautics	Advanced materials	✓
Italy	Lombardy	Aeronautics & Space & Environment			The Netherlands	Flevoland (East)	Aeronautics		✓
Italy	Campania	Aerospace - Aeronautics & Space		✓	The Netherlands	Zuid Hollandse (West)	Aeronautics		✓
Italy	Apulia	Aerospace - Aeronautics & Space			United Kingdom	England	Aeronautics & Space		
Italy	Sardinia	Aerospace - Aeronautics & Space			United Kingdom	Wales		Advanced materials, Photonics	
Italy	Umbria	Aerospace - Aeronautics & Space							
Italy	Lazio	Aerospace - Aeronautics & Space							
Italy	Toscana		Photonics, Advanced manufacturing systems						
Italy	Aosta Valley		Sensor technologies, implementation of monitoring networks.						

\*Preliminary mapping based on data from RIS3 platform, analysis in AIRTn CSA project deliverables and bilateral contacts/exchanges by the CSJU  
 \*\* technologies related to aeronautics such as advanced materials, microelectronics, sensing, advance manufacturing

# Memoranda of Understanding between Clean Sky and Member States / Regions

## 13 MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING AT NATIONAL OR REGIONAL LEVEL

-  OCCITANIE (FR)
-  CATALONIA (ES)
-  CASTILLA LA MANCHA (ES)
-  VÄSTRA GÖTALAND (SE)
-  ÖSTERGÖTLAND (SE)
-  ROMANIA (NATIONAL LEVEL)
-  ANDALUCÍA (ES)
-  CAMPANIA (IT)
-  CZECH REPUBLIC (NATIONAL LEVEL)
-  ZUID-HOLLANDE (NL)
-  FLEVOLAND (NL)
-  PORTUGAL (NATIONAL LEVEL)
-  CASTILLA Y LEON (ES)



-  MoU in Place
-  Countries/Regions



# Examples of pilot projects running

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## An ESIF project awarded the quality certification of “Clean Sky Synergy Label” as complementary to ARGOS Clean Sky project

### CZECH PROJECT

**ARGOS-ESIF Project (Weight-saving design of aerospace composite propellers useful for piston engines):** aims at hydromechanical single acting and electromechanical dual acting propellers with the reverse-thrust and feather position of blades functionality, useful for piston engines with and without gearboxes. It's a complementary project in the area of Engine Integrated Technology Demonstrator (ITD).

**Project objective:** the development of reliable composite/metal joints of the propeller blade retention section; the combined fatigue life testing and residual strength measurement of the proposed joints; evaluation of the dependence of their residual strength versus number of operation cycles and the applications on piston engines with and without the gearbox.

Linked to **ARGOS Clean Sky project**. Topic Manager: **SAFRAN**

Submitted as complementary ESIF WP under a Clean Sky call for proposals and have been awarded a “Synergy Label”

Approved in the APLIKACE Czech national call within the Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovations for Competitiveness (OP EIC) and funded by the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic.

Total Budget 598.000 €, **ESIF contribution 398.341 €**

Clean Sky synergies scenario **2: Parallel funding**

Coordinator: Woodcomp Propellers s.r.o.

Participants: Jihostroj a.s. & VZLU a.s.



## Two ESIF projects, SHEAREN and DRYFORMING, funded by the Catalan Innovation Agency

### CATALUÑA PILOT PROJECT (I)

A joint follow-up by Clean Sky and the Cataluña Region, with two projects “labelled” as complementary to Clean Sky in **Airframe** and **Engine ITD**.

**SHEAREN:** aims at supporting additional process qualification steps towards its use in critical parts manufacturing for engine.

**Project objective:** to process a superalloy and produce deeper process characterisation in terms of mechanical and microstructural capabilities using geometry similar to that of the SAGEZ CROP.

Linked to **GREENBARELS** Clean Sky project in SAGE 2: **SAFRAN** as Clean Sky Topic Manager

- Approved in the regional call “NUCLI 2015” and funded by the Catalan Innovation Agency
- Total Budget 361.150 € and **ESIF contribution 100.000 €**

Clean Sky synergies scenario **3: sequential funding**

Participants: DENN, EURECAT



## CATALUÑA PILOT PROJECTS (II)

**DRYFORMING:** is building and amplifying the Clean Sky funded project “Cofrare” in Airframes ITD on developing composite fuselage, and possibly usage of this component for a Regional aircraft.

**Project objective:** to develop dry preforming technology for higher through output which is more cost effective

Linked to **COFRARE: ALENIA AERMACCHI** (now LEONARDO AIRCRAFT) as Clean Sky Topic Manager

- Approved in the regional call “NUCLI 2015” and funded by the Catalan Innovation Agency
- Total Budget 189.010 € and **ESIF contribution 47.213 €**

Clean Sky synergies scenario **2: Parallel funding**

Participants: APPLUS Laboratories, EURECAT



## An ESIF project, FLIP2, funded under the Midi-Pyrénées (now Occitanie) regional call “Easynov 2015”

### OCCITANIE PILOT PROJECT

**FLIP2:** a follow-up to FLIP project in Clean Sky Systems for Green Operations ITD

**Project objective:** Refinement and extension of features of the FLIP tool, developed in Clean Sky, on in-flight weather forecast which could be continued for further improvement to reach a higher TRL (inclusion of meteo data, data transmission to FMS, definition of risk area, etc.)

**THALES** was Clean Sky Leader in FLIP project

- Approved in the frame of the regional “Easynov” call 2015. This call had a dedicated part to aeronautics and listed a series of thematic objectives agreed with Clean Sky. Clean Sky JU contributed to the evaluation of the call.
- Total Budget 278.000 € and **ESIF contribution 163.000 €**

Clean Sky synergies scenario **4: Thematic approach**

Participants: ORME, ATMOSPHERE

## Additive Manufacturing Lab, in the area of 3D printing, approved under the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth

### SWEDISH PILOT PROJECT (I)

This project approved under the national call issued by the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth and supported as a result of the MoU objectives between Clean Sky and the Region **Västra Götaland**

**Additive Manufacturing Lab:** University West was granted regional funding to set up a lab for additive manufacturing at the manufacturing technology centre Innovatum in Trollhättan, Sweden (Region Västra Götaland).

**Project objective:** The 3D printing in metal that will contribute to reducing aviation emissions, strengthen the Swedish aviation research and the West Swedish industry. This equipment will be used in the development of GKN's (Clean Sky member) lightweight structural engine parts for the engine demonstrators in Clean Sky 2.

- Budget: **1.7 M€** total public funding + **50%** from industry in-kind contribution.

Clean Sky synergies scenario **1&2: Capacity building and parallel funding within a thematic approach.**



## FIA in the area of automation approved within a specific R&I call that gave priority to projects linked to CS2

### SWEDISH PILOT PROJECT (II)

**Demonstrator Environment for Flexible and Innovative Automation (FIA):** University West was granted regional funding to set up an experimental flexible automation cell at the manufacturing technology centre Innovatum in Trollhättan, Sweden.

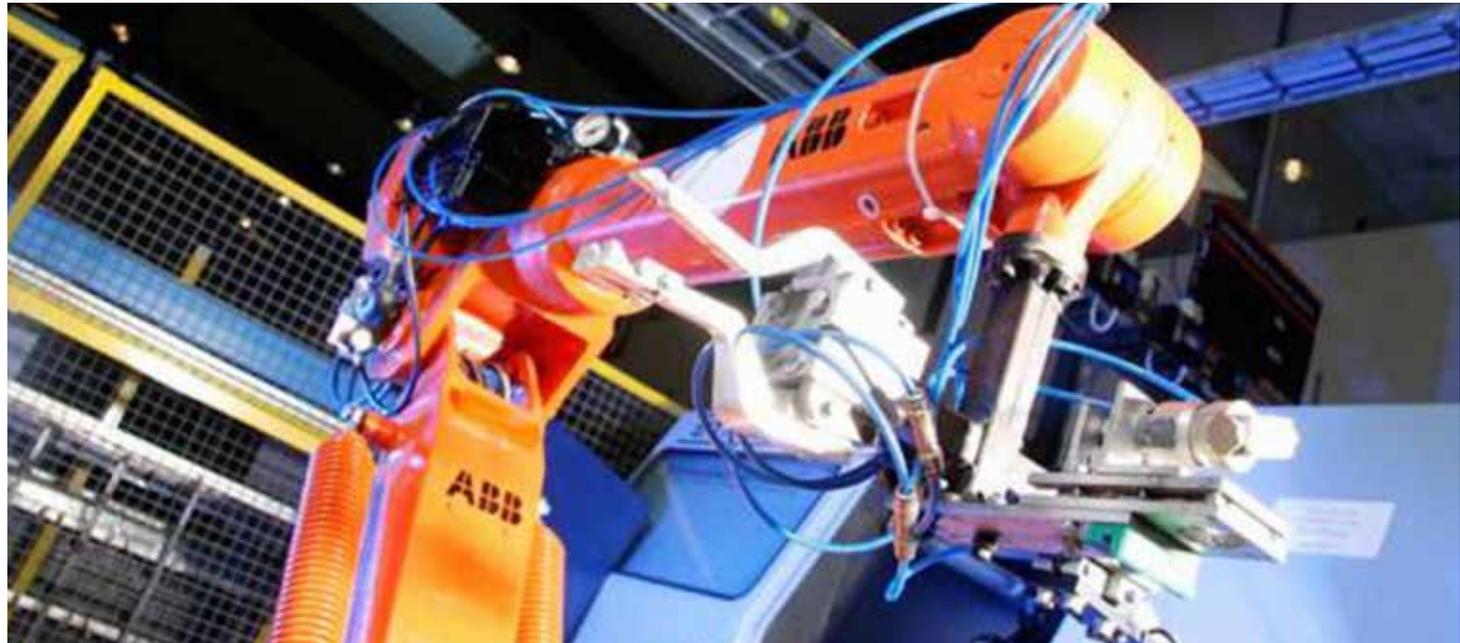
**Project objective:** aims to establish a national resource for innovative and flexible automation and enhance the competitiveness for GKN and SMEs in the Västra Götaland Region. It will be used for the manufacturing of GKN's lightweight structural engine parts for the engine demonstrators in Clean Sky 2 and will be not only a demonstrator engine part but also a high TRL manufacturing system demonstration.

**FIA** was approved within a specific national R&I call that gave priority under a specific axis to projects linking to CS 2 and that CSJU delivered a synergy assessment.

Budget: **400.000 €**

Clean Sky synergies scenario **1&2: Capacity building and parallel funding within a thematic approach**

Participants: University West, Innovatum AB, Swerea IVF, GKN  
Aerospace



## SVIFFT approved by the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth

### SWEDISH PILOT PROJECT (III)

**Evolving Sweden's Future Aerospace Industry through collaboration (SVIFFT):** Aerospace Cluster Sweden was granted regional funding with the aim to establish a national aerospace cluster through a joint effort between the Eastern and Western Regions.

**Project objective:** to establish a national collaboration platform in order to form a strong supply chain for Aerospace companies. The project will also expand one of the production arenas for composites by establishing a SME Automation Lab, thus supporting and increasing the number of Swedish companies participating in national and European large demonstration programmes such as Clean Sky.

**SVIFFT** receives ESIF funding through the European Regional Development Fund, approved by the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth.

Budget: **1.3 M€**; 50% through ESIF, 40% in cash by Eastern and Western Regions and 10% in cash by aerospace industry companies.

Clean Sky synergies Scenario **1&2: Capacity building and parallel funding within a thematic approach**

Participants: Aerospace Cluster Sweden, Swerea SICOMP, Eastern Region, Innovatum AB, Swerea IVF, Western Region

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## MULTIDRILL project “labelled” as complementary to Clean Sky

### CASTILLA LA MANCHA PILOT PROJECT

The project **MULTIDRILL** led by AERONOVA (Clean Sky member) targets a new multi-material drilling condition (feed and r.p.m), drilling tools materials and cutting geometries more adequate to use in conjunction with new drilling machines. It was presented to Castilla La Mancha ESIF in a regional call set with extra points to Clean Sky evaluated projects.

The project have been awarded a “Synergy Label”, following an independent evaluation of this ESIF WPs proposal.

**Objectives:** to reduce the time needed to drill the multi-material aerospace structures (composite, metallic aluminium, titanium and hybridations); to improve the final quality of the holes; and to reduce handwork in this operation

Linked to Airframe (Leaders: **Airbus Helicopters and Airbus D&S**) and Large Passenger Aircraft ITD (Leader: **Airbus** for Aernnova leaded consortium as Core Partner).

This **winglet** will be manufactured in composite, being defined the different interfaces and the joint concepts with a combination of materials CFRP, AL, Ti, etc.

Total Budget 335.000 € and **ESIF contribution 105.000 €**

Cleansky Synergies Scenario **2: Parallel funding**

Participants: Internacional de Composites S.A. (ICSA) and Aernnova Composites Illescas S.A.

# How to foster synergies with Clean Sky

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To facilitate synergies with ESIF, the MoU is an important and effective instrument. It provides a strategic approach and the opportunity to discuss in advance with MS and regional authorities ways to stimulate synergies. The MoU follows the regional strategy/RIS3 and the applicable ESIF regional funding instruments which can identify thematic objectives or align the regional funding instruments to support possible pilot projects. Of course the signature of a MoU is not a pre-condition for developing synergies with the Clean Sky, nor does it confer any sort of competitive advantage to regional stakeholders in the Clean Sky calls.

In order to facilitate the synergies with ESIF, the Clean Sky provides a “Guidance note” on how to include in the Calls for Proposal complementary activities which may be supported by European Structural and Investment Funds. National and regional authorities in charge of ESIF planning and the ESIF managing authorities are encouraged to consult the guidance available in this section, which provides a general overview on synergies. They are also encouraged to consult the “Guidance for policy makers and implementing bodies” provided by the European Commission.

## PROPOSING COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

- Core Partners and/or Partners to Clean Sky are encouraged to introduce complementary activities that are in synergy/complementarity with the JU topic area and/or contribute to the objectives of the Clean Sky 2 Programme. It can be done either during the submission of the proposal, or during the implementation of the project for amplification of scope/additional technical activities required.
- In both cases, these activities shall be presented under a separate Work Package (ESIF WP) linking to the proposal or to the Clean Sky selected project. This WP should clearly indicate the ESIF and the relevant national/regional funding scheme/call or ESIF Operational Programme as the possible source of public funding.

- The Clean Sky will assess any proposed complementary activities in the ESIF WP via a dedicated evaluation of the “Clean Sky Synergy Label” with experts and based on H2020 criteria of excellence, impact and implementation.
- The Clean Sky will ask, when is appropriate, for feedback from its Leaders on the activity proposed and its “capacity” regarding synergies and complementarities with the main proposal and/or topic area and/or Clean Sky objectives. Additionally they will be asked if the company is interested in following up the outcomes of the proposal.

The Clean Sky’s approach is intended to be kept as simple possible and it is based on the complementarity of projects, rather than on the combination of funding in the same project.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Clean Sky can provide additional information related to the synergies with ESIF and the implementation of a MoU. You can directly contact:

- Clean Sky’s Legal and Strategic Adviser, **Bruno Mastantuono:** [bruno.mastantuono@cleansky.eu](mailto:bruno.mastantuono@cleansky.eu)
- Policy and Synergies with ESIF, **Christos Vasilakos:** [christos.vasilakos@cleansky.eu](mailto:christos.vasilakos@cleansky.eu)

You can also visit the **dedicated section for Regional Cooperation and Synergies with ESIF on the Clean Sky website:** [www.cleansky.eu/structural-funds-and-regions](http://www.cleansky.eu/structural-funds-and-regions)

### Other useful links:

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/spreading-excellence-and-widening-participation>

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/policy/what/investment-policy/](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/what/investment-policy/)

<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s3-platform-registered-regions>

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/policy/themes/research-innovation/](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/themes/research-innovation/)

