



Deliverable D1.8 - Local workshops with S3 managers

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Short Description	Local workshops organised by the EPIX partner clusters with their respective regional authorities responsible for RIS3 implementation to jointly discuss how to increase the role of clusters in S3 processes and how S3 can be used to foster innovation progress among clusters ecosystem. The workshop findings and recommendations of S3 managers will further enrich the clusters' strategies.		
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Introduction to RIS3 Workshops

EPIX partners conducted workshops, roundtables, and appropriate meetings alongside their local S3 managers and representatives from their cities. These exchange meetings are pivotal in networking and fostering partnerships among local representatives, SMEs, and EPIX stakeholders.

In particular, 5 local workshops are planned in the project course (1 workshop x target region), and its findings will be used to further update the cluster strategies and their roadmaps in order to better specialize in the part of the value chain that they are or can be best at.

Below is the main information on the S3 strategies (21-27), priorities and managing authorities for target region.

EPIX CLUSTER	NAME OF CLUSTER'S S3 REGION	NAME OF THE S3 STRATEGY AND INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE	S3 PRIORITIES
ELCA	Veneto Region	 Name of the Strategy: Smart Specialisation Strategy (S3) Veneto 2021 - 2027 Contact person: Davide Franchin (Veneto Region) davide.franchin@regione.veneto.it 	 ✓ Smart agrifood ✓ Smart manufacturing ✓ Smart health ✓ Smart destination ✓ Smart living and Energy ✓ Culture and creativity
RI LIV	Veneto Region	- Name of the Strategy: Smart Specialisation Strategy (S3) Veneto 2021 - 2027 - Contact person: Davide Franchin (Veneto Region) davide.franchin@regione.veneto.it	 ✓ Smart agrifood ✓ Smart manufacturing ✓ Smart health ✓ Smart destination ✓ Smart living and Energy ✓ Culture and creativity
CLUSTER HABIC	Basque Country	 Name of the Strategy: Science, Technology, and Innovation Plan Euskadi 2030 Contact person: Cristina Uriarte Toledo (Basque Government) c-uriartetoledo@euskadi.eus;cpena@euskadi.eus 	✓ Smart Industry ✓ Cleaner Energy ✓ Personalised medicine ✓ Healthy nutrition ✓ Eco-innovation ✓ Sustainable cities ✓ Creative Basque Country
DUTIREG	Dél-Alföld	- Name of the Strategy: National Smart Specialisation Strategy (S3) 2021-2027 - Contact person: Zoltán Ferenczi (National Research Development and Innovation Office) 3magyarorszag@nkfih.gov.hu	✓ Agriculture and food ✓ Health ✓ Digitalisation of the economy ✓ Creative industry ✓ Resource-efficient economy ✓ Energy, Climate ✓ Services ✓ Cutting-edge technologies ✓ Public sector innovation ✓ Training, education
MoWin.net	Hessen	- Name of the Strategy: Hessian Innovation Strategy 2021-2027: Sustainable – Digital – Connected	 ✓ Digital technologies and digital economy ✓ Healthcare and life sciences ✓ Mobility and logistics



EPIX CLUSTER	NAME OF CLUSTER'S S3 REGION	NAME OF THE S3 STRATEGY AND INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE	S3 PRIORITIES
SIC	Małopolskie	- Name of the Strategy: Regional Innovation Strategy of the Matopolska Region 2030 - Contact person: Agnieszka Bachórz (Marshal Office of Malopolska Region) agnieszka.bachorz@umwm.malopolska.pl	 ✓ Energy systems and efficiency ✓ Advanced manufacturing and materials ✓ Culture and creative industry ✓ Financial industry ✓ Life Science ✓ Sustainable energy ✓ Information and communication technologies ✓ Chemistry ✓ Production of metals, metal products and non-metallic mineral products ✓ Electrical engineering and machine industry ✓ Creative and leisure industries

In the first period, EPIX partners started liaising with their regional or national authorities responsible for the RIS3 strategies 2021-2027 definition and implementation. Task leader MoWIN.net is assessing with the support of partners the status of the development and implementation of the new RIS3 Strategies, and which role was given to cluster organisations in these processes.

Moreover, the interconnection and collaboration between EPIX clusters and local authorities carried out through the local workshops were further reinforced by establishing constant dialogues with the respective RIS3 managers and policy-makers addressing the Smart Cities topics. These dialogues are intended to serve as a platform for ongoing conversations, fostering increased networking activities among clusters, SMEs, stakeholders, and local authorities, other relevant RIS3 actors. The main goals of these activities included as following:

- ✓ **Knowledge Exchange:** The exchange meetings provide a platform for sharing knowledge, expertise, and best practices among the consortium partners. This helps in leveraging collective intelligence and fostering a culture of continuous learning.
- ✓ **Networking Opportunities:** Workshops, round tables, and meetings offer opportunities for networking among local representatives, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and EPIX stakeholders. Building strong networks can lead to synergies and collaborative opportunities.
- ✓ Partnership Expansion: These events serve to expand partnerships. By bringing together diverse stakeholders, there is a chance to identify new avenues for collaboration, joint projects, and mutually beneficial initiatives.
- ✓ **Alignment with Local Entities:** Involving local SMU, S3 managers, and representatives from the city and society ensures that the EPIX project aligns with the local context. It helps in understanding regional needs and tailoring strategies accordingly.
- ✓ **Stakeholder Engagement:** Engaging with stakeholders is crucial for the success of any project. Regular meetings allow for open communication channels, addressing concerns, and ensuring that all relevant parties are on the same page.



- ✓ **Problem-Solving and Decision-Making:** Face-to-face interactions provide a conducive environment for addressing challenges, solving problems, and making informed decisions collaboratively.
- ✓ **Visibility and Awareness:** The exchange meetings contribute to increasing visibility and awareness about the EPIX project within the local community. This can lead to greater support and understanding from stakeholders.



1. LIV & ELCA RIS3 workshops

1.1 LIV & ELCA RIS3 workshops with representatives of Veneto Region

EPIX partners Rete di Imprese Luce in Veneto and ELCA European Lighting Cluster Alliance had the opportunity to attend the RIS3-dedicated event organised by the Veneto Region and key stakeholders engaged in the definition of the new RIS3 strategy, held on 09.02.2023 in Padua, Italy.

Antonella Venza (RI LIV) and Alberto Sozza (ELCA) met regional Councillors and RIS3 responsible regional agencies like Veneto Innovazione to discuss the importance of cluster organisations in the S3 trajectories activation, in particular through the specific funding measures to be defined and launched in the framework of the new OP Regional ERDF and ESF funding.













1.2 LIV&ELCA local RIS3 workshop on 03.04.2023 with RIS3 actors

On Monday 3rd April 2023, LIV and ELCA presented to local stakeholders the importance of the EPIX project as an opportunity to facilitate collaboration between clusters and local cities for the development of smart city projects, on the occasion of the launch of the new Innovation Lab promoted by the cluster.

15 people attended the meeting, including representatives of:

- Veneto Region (2)
- Local Chambers of Commerce (3)
- Banks (3)
- Trade associations (3)
- IPA Camposampierese (1)

Participants:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Entity</u>	Role
SOZZA Alberto	Luce in Veneto	President
BETTETO Silvia	Luce in Veneto	Vice-president
VENZA Antonella	Luce in Vento	Cluster manager
STEFFANUTTO Rita	Regione Veneto	Cluster Department Director
BAESSO Ivan	Veneto Innovazione (Veneto Region)	Director
GALEOTA Andrea	Padova Chamber of Commerce	Special projects manager
SANTOLAMAZZA Roberto	Chamber of Commerce Treviso	Delegate
DAL POS Rino	Confindustria Trade Association	Officer
SANTOCONO Antonio	Chamber of Commerce Padua	President
D'ESTE Antonella	Banca Intesa San Paolo	Officer
VIGOLO Stefano	Banca Intesa San Paolo	Officer
SARO Roberto	Fondazione Cariparo Bank	Officer
FERRARIS Elene	Confapi Padova trade association	Officer
MARCATO Gianni	Confindustria Veneto Est	Officer
VALERIO Carlo	Confapi Padova trade association	Officer
PERON Fabio	University of Architecture Venezia	Professor
POLES Fabio	Unismart	Legal representative
GHIRARDELLI Anna Maria	IPA Camposampierese	Major









2. Cluster HABIC RIS3 workshops

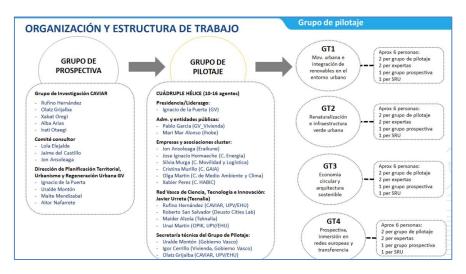
2.1 Cluster HABIC workshop with CAVIAR Research Group

Cluster HABIC organized a meeting on 17.03.2022 with RIS3 (Regional Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialization) managers from the CAVIAR Research Group who support the S3 activities related to the priority: Quality of Life in Architecture. During the meeting, HABIC introduced the EPIX project and its main goals and activities. Moreover, HABIC being actively engaged in the Basque RIS3 processes promoted the EPIX project also among the officers of the Internalisation Group and the Technology Group during periodic working meetings between March and July.



2.2 Cluster HABIC workshops with Basque Country RIS3 managers and UPV School of Architecture

Under the scheme of the RIS3 in the Basque Country, a Steering Group was established composed of representatives of different entities, including the Basque Government, Provincial Councils of Araba, Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa, Capital City Councils, Associations and Clusters, a representative of Innobasque and a GAIA representative.





Cluster HABIC is an organization representative of the Association and Clusters. The Steering Group meets every six months. HABIC participates on the Working Group "Sustainable Cities" and "Euskadi Creative" https://www.euskadi.eus/contenidos/informacion/modelo_gobernanza_pcti_2030/es_def/adjuntos/Grupo_s-de-Pilotaje.pdf

Ciudades Sostenibles

PARTICIPANTES	ORGANIZACIONES		
Administraciones y Entidades Públicas	Gobierno Vasco. Departamento de Planificación Territorial, Vivienda y Transportes (Viceconsejeria de Planificación Territorial y Agenda Urbana y Viceconsejería de Vivienda)		
	IHOBE – Sociedad Pública de Gestión Ambiental		
Empresas y Asociaciones Empresariales	ERAIKUNE- Cluster de la Construcción		
	COAVN – Colegio Oficial de Arquitectos VascoNavarro		
	CLUSTER ENERGÍA		
	MLC-ITS-Euskadi - Cluster de Movilidad y Logística		
	GAIA - Asociación de Industrias de Conocimiento y Tecnología		
	ACLIMA - Basque Environment Cluster		
	HABIC - Clúster del Equipamiento, Mobiliario y Diseño		
Agentes de la Red Vasca de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación	Universidad del País Vasco, UPV/EHU (Grupos de investigación CAVIAR y OPIK)		
	TECNALIA (BRTA)		
	Universidad de Deusto (Deusto Cities Lab)		

Euskadi Creativa

PARTICIPANTES	ORGANIZACIONES		
Administraciones y Entidades Públicas	Gobierno Vasco. Departamentos de Cultura y Política Lingüística (Viceconsejería de Cultura), Desarrollo Económico, Sostenibilidad y Medio Ambiente (Viceconsejería de Tecnología, Innovación y Transformación Digital), Educación (Viceconsejería de Universidades e Investigación)		
	Diputaciones Forales de Araba, Bizkaia y Gipuzkoa		
	Ayuntamientos de Bilbao, Donostia y Vitoria-Gasteiz		
Empresas y Asociaciones Empresariales	Industrias Culturales	Industrias Creativas	
	ЕНМВЕ	EIDE	
	ESKENA	HABIC	
	CÁMARA LIBRO	LANGUNE	
	EIKEN	BASQUEMODA	
	KARRASKAN	ARBASO	
		BASQUEGAME	
		COAVN	
		AGENCIAS DE PUBLICIDAD	
Agentes de la RVCTI	INNOBASQUE – Agencia Vasca de la Innovación		

In the second and third period of the EPIX project, Cluster HABIC had **4 meetings** in which the Basque Country RIS 3 managers, representatives of the Basque Government for territorial planning and representatives of the UPV School of Architecture, whose role is that of technical secretariat of RIS3, participated. The meetings took place on 10/03/2023, 22/03/2023, 29/06/2023, 21/07/2023.

3. DUTIREG RIS3 workshops

3.1 Local consultation regarding S3 strategy in Hungary

On the 08th November 2022 project partner STEPP/DUTIREG organised a **National strategies and regional implementation – consultation regarding S3 in Hungary**. The Regional Innovation Agency of South Great Plain (Dél-Alföld) region organised an online event with the cooperation of industrial clusters and other regional stakeholders on the experience of S3 implementation. Contributions were delivered by the National Office for Research, Innovation and Development.

3.2 Local workshop with South Great Plain Region representatives

On the 23rd of April 2023, the project partner organised a workshop with the topic: *Digital twin in smart cities, from Europe and oversees.* The event brought together the stakeholders in the South Great Plain (Dél-Alföld) region with highlights on the importance of S3 in the age of digitalisation and artificial intelligence by cooperation with the DIH-World project. Contribution were delivered by members of DIH-World partnership from Hungary.

3.3 Local workshop on National Cluster Strategy in Hungary

On 25th of January 2024 the partner also organised a workshop regarding the **National Cluster Strategy** – new instrument in S3 framework in Hungary. The Cluster Department of the Ministry for Regional Development organised in-person event for cluster managers where the new National Cluster Strategy was introduced as key instrument for S3 implementation in cooperation with industrial clusters in Hungary.









4. MoWiN.net RIS3 local workshop

MoWin.net participates in a **joint platform, The Future Mobility Shift**, between Regionalmanagement Nordhessen GmbH, ItF Institute Kassel and other regional stakeholders to establish further collaboration and synergies to support the vehicle industry in its transformation. In this way, regional companies and further stakeholders can work more closely together and strengthen the region through tailor-made offers.

The continuing education network offers a space in which companies and businesses can network with different players in the regional continuing education landscape. In this way, further training measures can be organized and carried out efficiently and beyond company boundaries. In addition, the exchange in the network offers the opportunity to promptly identify the needs and challenges of the transformation and to develop tailor-made solutions.

In particular, MoWinet attended the event on 07/06/23 "Network event on goals, added value and synergy effects" where representatives of the North Hesse continuing education sector took part. The topics and goals and possible synergies were summarized again and the results so far were compared with those of the 53 continuing education associations operating nationwide.





5. SIC RIS3 workshop

5.1 Local workshop with the Cracow Municipality

Irena Łobocka, SIC held a meeting with Cracow Municipality on 13th June 2023 with the Department of Entrepreneurship and Innovation to present the EPIX project and possible municipality support and cooperation in the smart city areas.

Municipality representatives declared their support and willingness to participate in project activities and present city strategies and achievements during Focus Group and Smart City Factory.

Another strategic cooperation to support the EPIX project was established by SIC with the director of the Department of Ownership Supervision and Economy of Marshall Office of the Malopolska Region and the Association Metropolia Krakowska – both offices declared their support for the EPIX project and engagement in project activities, in particular in the organisation of the Smart City Factory event.

5.2 Local workshop with the Malopolska Region during the ClustersMeetRegions

The ClustersMeetRegions event in Krakow, held in December 2023, provided a dynamic platform for SIC to present the project activities and met the representatives from the Malopolska Region to explore opportunities for the implementation of S3 priorities within the region. In particular, SIC activities are aligned with the S3 priorities as SIC is the representative of the priority "Sustainable Energy".









Conclusions

EPIX Clusters are key drivers of local and regional economic development. Their active participation in the smart specialisation policies ensures that RIS3 strategies are grounded in the regional economic context and address specific needs and strengths. During the meetings and dialogs with the S3 responsible managers and policy makers, EPIX partners underlined that by actively engaging industrial clusters in the RIS3 process, regions can harness their full potential for innovation, economic growth, and job creation, while ensuring that smart specialisation strategies are effectively implemented and tailored to regional strengths and challenges.

With particular reference to the EPIX main topic, project clusters can play a significant role in supporting the S3 implementation concerning smart city and community policies, in line with the specific regional and national trajectories. Clusters enable the exchange of knowledge and best practices among businesses and other stakeholders. This concretely accelerates learning and the adoption of smart city technologies and concepts, also thanks to multi-actor collaboration opportunities and networking initiatives.

The EPIX training and knowledge co-sharing activities in the frame of innovative, inclusive and sustainable solutions for the mobility, logistics, lighting, buildings and digitalisation built an important background for the future cooperations with the city and communities' managers and policy makers, who had the opportunity to learn what solutions and innovations companies present in their regions can offer to support the S3-reated "smart city" initiatives, and how clusters can support building the new public-private partnerships.