

Smart Specialisation and NSPA

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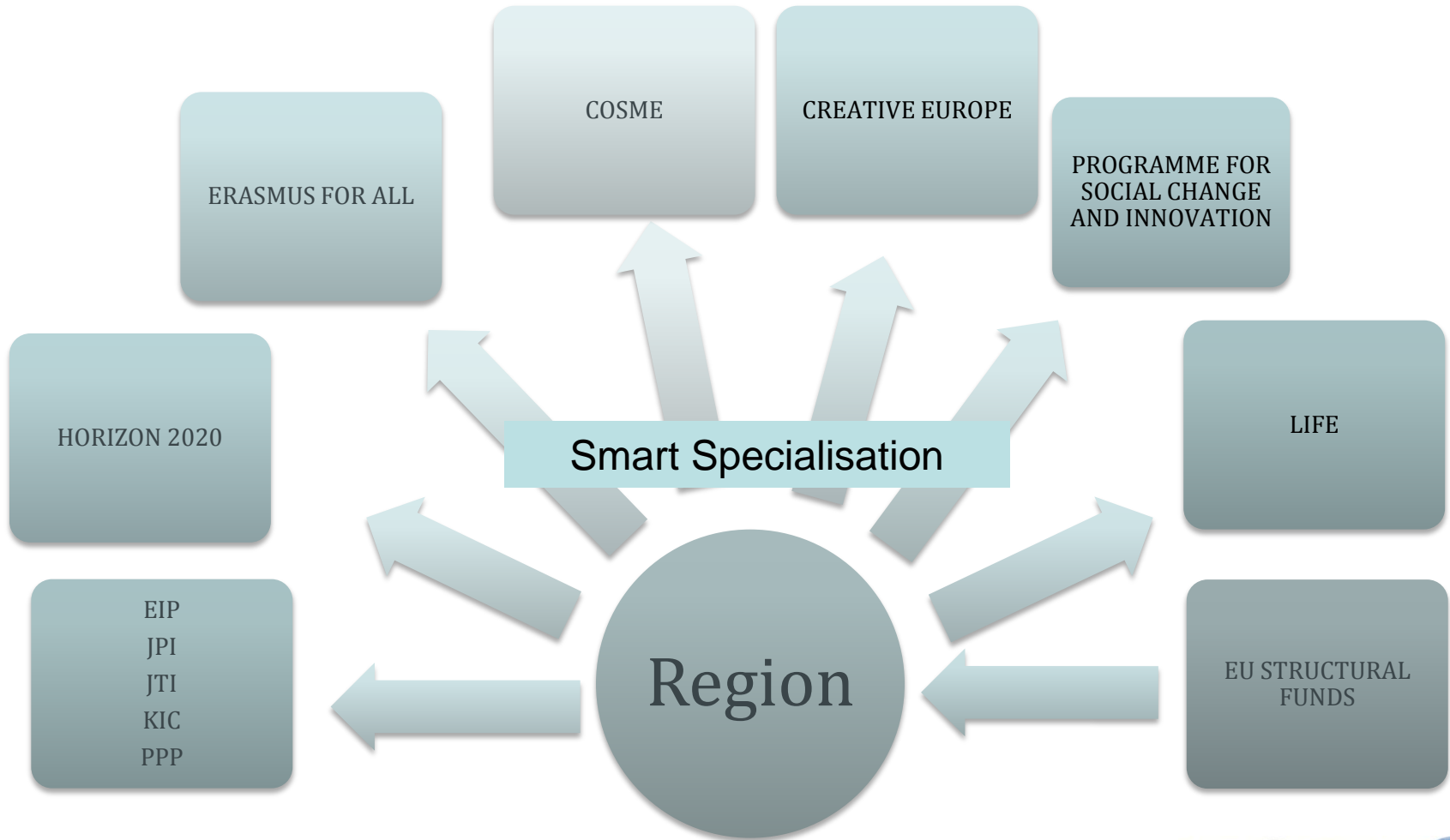
Smart Specialisation – the concept

- Current economical situation creates a growing need for understanding global value chains and specialising and positioning within them
- Smart specialisation encourages regions to find their strategic priorities and utilise and focus the resources available on them i.e. to build “a stairway to excellence” to become globally competitive

Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation

- National/Regional Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation: a pre-condition for using ERDF in 2014-2020
 1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation (the R&I target); and
 2. Enhancing access to and use of quality of ICT (the ICT target)
- Aim:
 - to increase effectiveness of EU's structural fund as well as public and private research and innovation investments
 - to improve synergies between EU, national and regional level operations

S3 is not just an ex-ante conditionality



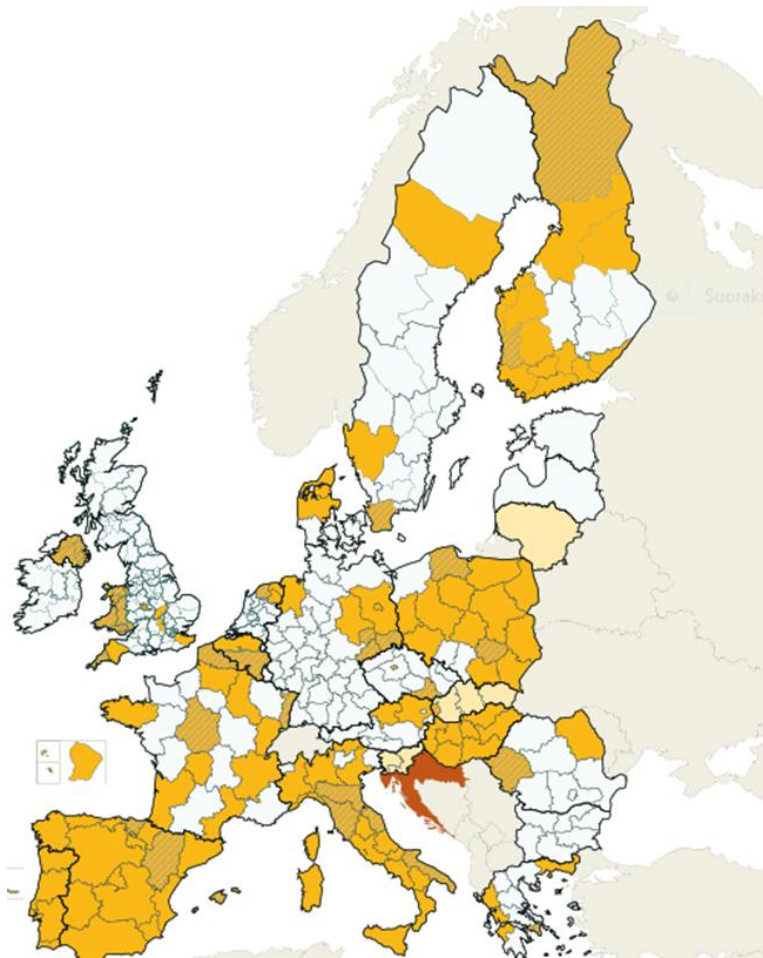
Outward looking positioning of the region

- Inclusive bottom-up process to identify the knowledge specialisations that best fit the region's innovation potential
 - should not build on trend themes nor only scientific excellence
- Smart specialisation strategy should be considered as an instrument for international cooperation
 - positioning the regional innovation ecosystem in a global framework

Possibilities for NSPA cooperation

- Common specific challenges and characteristics: similarities in existing dominant industries and regional skills base
 - Potential for diversification and knowledge spill-overs within related sectors → complementarities
- Specific knowledge sectors: common branding to obtain visibility and attract international investment
- Building critical mass via cooperation of which the NSPA regions already have a long tradition

Existing platform for wider networking



Smart Specialisation Platform

- 121 registered regions
- 6 EU countries
- 2 non-EU regions
- 1 non-EU country