

Friends of Smart Specialisation (FoSS)

Five year celebration...

15th May 2024

3, rue du Luxembourg, 1000 Brussels

Smart specialisation – where from, where now, and where to...and why?

Draft Programme

15.45: Welcome coffee and registration

16.00: Welcome Oslo Region, Greater Birmingham and FoSS

- Gunnar Selvik, Oslo Region, Anett Ruszanov, West Midlands Europe Hub, Richard Tuffs FoSS

16.05: Why FoSS and background

- An introduction to FoSS and recent activities - Dimitri Corpakis, FoSS

16.15: The S3 Journey Continues (current ideas on S3) – experts from Brussels organisations ...

- Name (tbc) - DG REGIO
- Susana Elena-Pérez, Senior Researcher EFIS and S3 CoP secretariat - S3 CoP
- Marek Przeor - DG GROW
- Thomas Wobben - Committee of the Regions

17.00: FoSS position note – where next for S3

- Overview of FoSS Discussion Note April 2024: Jan Larosse - FoSS

17.10: Charting a future path for S3: discussion with audience and invited experts: Alasdair Reid, Vincent Dûchene , Pirta Lindholm, Florence Hennart, Valentina Pinna...)

Open discussion involving experts and audience - fishbowl methodology¹

Key questions:

- How to expand S3 from cohesion policy to a recognisable policy framework for place-based innovation and economic development policy, promoting resilience and technological sovereignty?
- What governance models are needed to integrate S3 strategies into a broader European strategic framework for sustainable and inclusive growth, combining top-down strategic directionality with bottom-up local challenges and initiatives?
- What is the role of innovation ecosystems to bring places into the heart of transformation policies and how they interact with existing clusters to foster prioritisation on future strengths?

17.55: Conclusions and next steps

- Summary by FoSS: Dimitri Corpakis and Jan Larosse - FoSS

18.00: Networking cocktail

¹ [The Fishbowl Method \(smp.org\)](http://TheFishbowlMethod.smp.org)