

# P Preparatory Action for Eastern Macedonia & Thrace

"Actual and desired state of the economic potential in regions  
outside the Greek capital Athens"



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*Entrepreneurial Discovery Focus Group  
on tourism for REMTh*

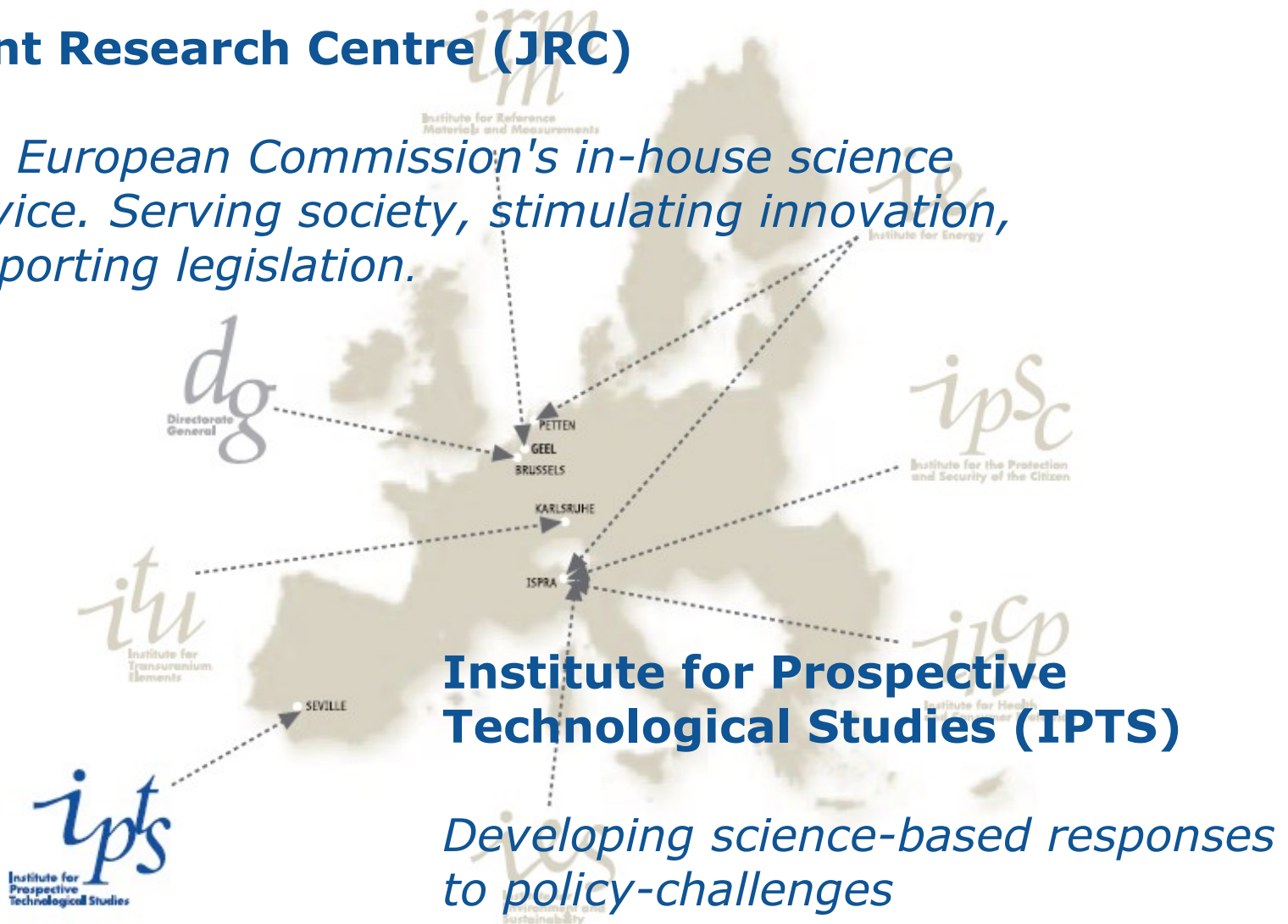
*Alexandroupolis*

11 February 2015



## Joint Research Centre (JRC)

*The European Commission's in-house science service. Serving society, stimulating innovation, supporting legislation.*





European Commission

### JRC-IPTS: 6 Units

Economics of Climate Change, Energy and Transport

**Knowledge for Growth**

Information Society

Agriculture and Life Sciences in the Economy

Sustainable Production and Consumption

Innovation systems analysis



# S3 Platform:



## supporting preparation & implementation of RIS3



**Eye@RIS3**

**7. Research agenda**

**1. The RIS3 methodological Guide**



**6. Interactive tools, S3 Newsletter and Website**

**2. Peer Review workshops & transnational learning**

**5. Thematic workshops & working groups**

**3. IPTS Country- & Macro-region events**

**4. RIS3 assessment and support to REGIO desks**



# Overview

## *European Parliament Preparatory Action aims:*

- facilitate the refinement & implementation of RIS3 strategy in REMTh
- serve as a model for other convergence regions in Greece and Europe

## *Implementation:*

- September 2014 – November 2015
- Carried out by EC-JRC-IPTS through administrative agreement with DG REGIO, in close cooperation with the Managing Authority of REMTh, the Regional Council for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and with the support of experts, including "critical friends"

# Implementation: Five Core Activities

1. *Stocktaking and assessment;*
3. *Testing and optimising entrepreneurial discovery process and broader RIS3;*
5. *Supporting outward looking industry in seeking technological solutions with R&D&I bodies;*
7. *Designing, testing and optimising measures to enhance human resources;*
9. *Cooperation, communication and replicability.*

## 2. Testing & optimising entrepreneurial discovery process

- Mobilisation of stakeholders: public authorities, business, university, research and technical institutes, users and citizens
- Examination of opportunities, gaps and barriers
- Entrepreneurial Discovery Focus Groups (Nov 2014, Jan, Feb 2015)
- In-depth peer review event focused on REMTh (Feb. 2015)
  - *Discussion of common issues with peers from other regions*
  - *Builds on format of S3P peer reviews, where regions and countries review each other's work on RIS3*
- Recommendations and support for RIS3
  - *interactions between actors and structure*
  - *follow-up: second round of workshops, evaluation & monitoring*

# In depth Peer Review - 12-13 Feb 2015

- ~20 S3P peer reviews have brought together regions and countries for mutual learning and exploration of ways in which their RIS3 can be developed
- In-depth peer review of REMTh centres on detailed examination of key aspects of the region's RIS3:
  - Moving from strategy to action plan
  - Synergies between funding sources
  - Monitoring and Evaluation
  - Mobility of human capital
  - Governance of the RIS3
  - ERDF and State Aid regulations

### 3. Supporting outward looking industry in seeking technological solutions

- Participatory events – EDP implementation – "project development labs" (Spring 2015)
- Strengthening links between industry and research
- On-line stakeholder guide to RDI funding sources and application processes
- Selection and implementation plan for pilot proposals
  - *Launch of calls*
  - *Monitoring and evaluation*

## 4. Measures to enhance human resources and address 'brain drain'

- Working groups on governance and mobility
- Mobility research training
  - *Good practices across EU & fora for interaction*
- Exploitation of technological facilities in REMTh
  - *match capacities with business needs and opportunities*
  - *complementary human resource strategies*
- Maximise export potential and attract FDI
  - *Assess capacities and identify tools*
  - *Align with RDI guide*
- Policy Infrastructure support for MA
- Cooperation with peers

## 5. Cooperation, communication & replicability

- Mobilisation of stakeholders
  - *board of critical friends*
  - *encourage cooperation and exchange of good practices*
  - Identify elements for replication
- Dissemination
  - *Ongoing communication: web-based (and translated)*
  - *Complementary Activities- S3P events*
- Final events
- Evaluation study

## Board of Critical Friends

- Selected experts facing similar challenges and/or developing good practices
- European Policy makers, academics, consultants experienced in various aspects of RDTI and RIS3
- Mandate:
  - *To actively participate in selected project events*
  - *To provide guidance and feedback on project activities*
  - *To share relevant experiences with REMTh*

## Expected outcomes: priorities & processes

- Effective entrepreneurial discovery process and governance structure for smart specialisation;
- Refinement of priorities;
- New/enhanced measures to support and monitor (and further refine) RIS3 implementation;
- Effective cooperation between SMEs and RDI;
- Visible/ effective cooperation with other regions;
- Identify & establish good practices to be exchanged and replicated (beyond REMTh and Greece);
- Information & guidance for local R&D & business actors;
- Identification of the legal and administrative barriers;
- Improved absorptive capacity for structural/other funds.

## Next Steps: 2015

- In-depth REMTh peer review
  - *12-13 February 2015*
- Entrepreneurial Discovery Focus Groups
  - 1. Tourism , February 2015*
  - 2. Marble and Zeolite*
- Project Development Labs
  - *2 workshops Spring 2015*
- Governance and Mobility Working Groups
- On-line stakeholder funding guide
- Supporting analysis

# Project news and updates

- <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/remth>



# Overview of the workshop – day 1

## 11:00 – 15:00 Plenary sessions

- Welcome and scene-setting
- RIS3 in REMTh
- Lunch (13:00)
- Perspectives on research and innovation in tourism

## 15:30 – 17:00 Parallel sessions

- Generating and developing ideas for research and innovation in tourism

## 17:00 – 17:30 Plenary feedback and conclusions

# Overview of the workshop –day 2

## 09:00-10:30 Plenary session

- International case studies on tourism: Bulgaria and Spain

## 11:00-16:00 Parallel sessions

- Refining ideas for research and innovation in tourism

## 12:30–13:00 Plenary session

- Feedback from parallel working groups
- Concluding remarks

## 14.00 – Peer Review

# Thank you!

