Registrations have opened for the **Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) Conference 2023**, which is the launch event for the **new S3 Community of Practice**. It will take place online on 30 March 2023. The S3 Conference 2023 is the first in a series of events that DG REGIO is organising for S3 stakeholders from across regions in EU Member States. It will be opened by the European Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, Elisa Ferreira.

**Building a community of practice for S3 implementation**

How to register:

Register [here](https://s3-conference.regio-events.eu/)!

**About the event**:

The Smart Specialisation Community of Practice (S3 CoP) is DG REGIO’s source of support and knowledge sharing on the implementation of Smart Specialisation Strategies. It builds upon the decade-long experience on S3 design, implementation and monitoring.

Conceived under the Cohesion Policy of the European Commission, the Smart Specialisation approach helps regions to target their support to research and innovation on carefully defined “priority areas” that reflect the strengths and assets of the regions. It allows them to focus research and innovation actions on areas where there is a clear perspective for positive economic development on the ground.

The S3 CoP is open to all S3 stakeholders across regions in EU Member States, including practitioners, policymakers, researchers, businesses, governmental body in charge of S3 implementation, industry associations, and civil society organisations. This is a very timely moment, as the operationalisation of the EU Cohesion Policy for the 2021-2027 period is still in the early stages and the emphasis now will be on putting smart specialisation strategies into practice and delivering the necessary investments.

The S3 CoP aims at providing a wide range of services based on the needs of the S3 stakeholders. These include:

* Targeted support to regions and Member States on S3 development and implementation on the ground
* Working groups to exchange experience and good practices on:
  + Innovation diffusion
  + Interregional cooperation
  + Industrial transition
* Support to Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms and Partnerships
* New website with relevant, up-to-date information on S3 developments
* Organisation of events for the S3 stakeholders
* Analytical studies on S3 and its implementation

The 1st S3 Conference on **30 March** is a full-day online event to be broadcast live from a Brussels-based studio. The audience will have the opportunity to ask questions using interactive tools.

**Further information:**

Registrations will close on **29 March at 19:00 CET**, so make sure you sign up as soon as possible.

If you have any questions on the logistics of the event or any issues filling in the registration form, please send an email to: [events@s3-cop.eu](mailto:events@s3-cop.eu) or [contact@s3-cop.eu](mailto:contact@s3-cop.eu)