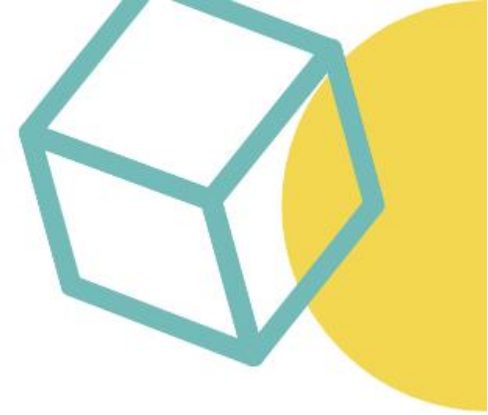


# Cross-border Smart Specialization Strategy Euroregion Galicia - Norte of Portugal (RIS3T): Framework and priorities

Vanguard Initiative Regional Conference  
Thursday, 25th March 2021

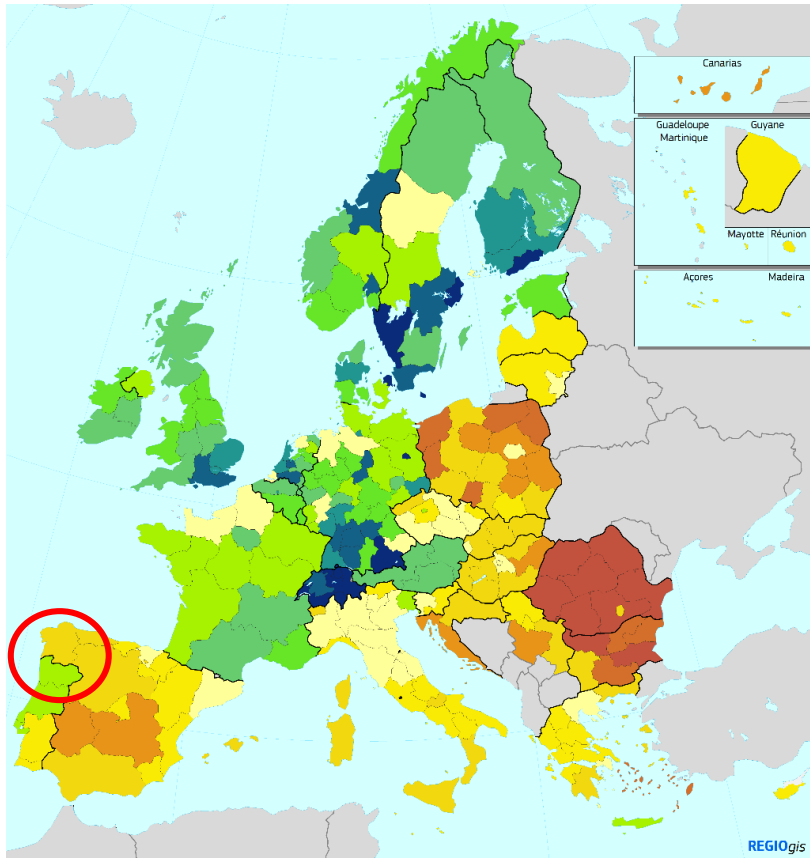
Paulo Santos  
Norte Regional Development and Coordination Commission





# 1. Euroregion: some facts and figures

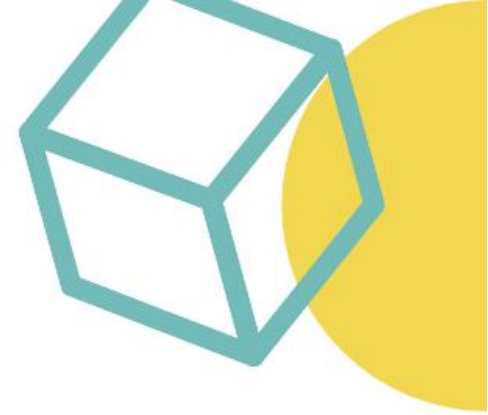
## Regional Innovation Scoreboard



Source: Regional Innovation Scoreboard 2019

## The Euroregion Galicia – Norte of Portugal

- Population of 6,5 million.
- Strong historical, economic, commercial, cultural and geographical proximity. Institutional cooperation since 1983.
- Galicia more specialized in services and Norte in industry. Strong export vocation.
- GDP per inhabitant below the EU-28 average (2017): Galicia (75%<90%) and Norte (<75%).
- Innovation performance has increased: Galicia “Moderate –” Innovator” and Norte “Strong –” Innovator.

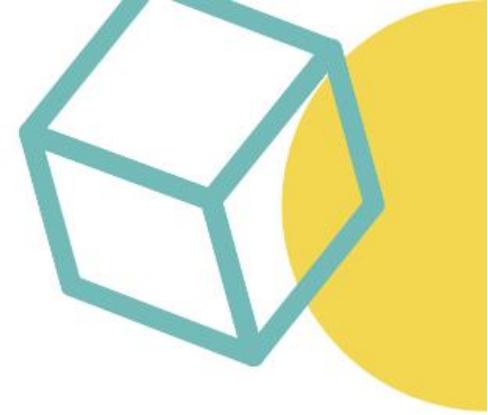


## 2. Framework and objectives of RIS3T



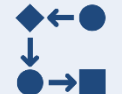



Based on the RIS3 of both regions, Galicia and Norte of Portugal adopted a joint **Smart Specialization Strategy** as a framework to promote cooperation and joint initiatives focused in areas of common interest.

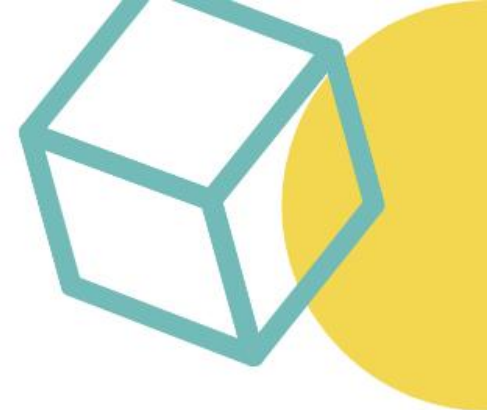
A **coordinated approach** in the context of smart specialization allows for **greater effectiveness and impact of innovation policies**, contributing to:

- **Higher critical mass levels** based on synergies and complementarities of innovation at the global value chain level, given the growing combination of knowledge and production capacities needed in innovative processes.
- **Better use of different sources of funding and reinforcement of their complementarity** by mobilizing more effectively the existing specific funds for interregional, transnational and cross-border cooperation.
- **Development of coordinated actions in order to raise funds** based on the competitive excellence of the Euroregion (e.g. H2020).

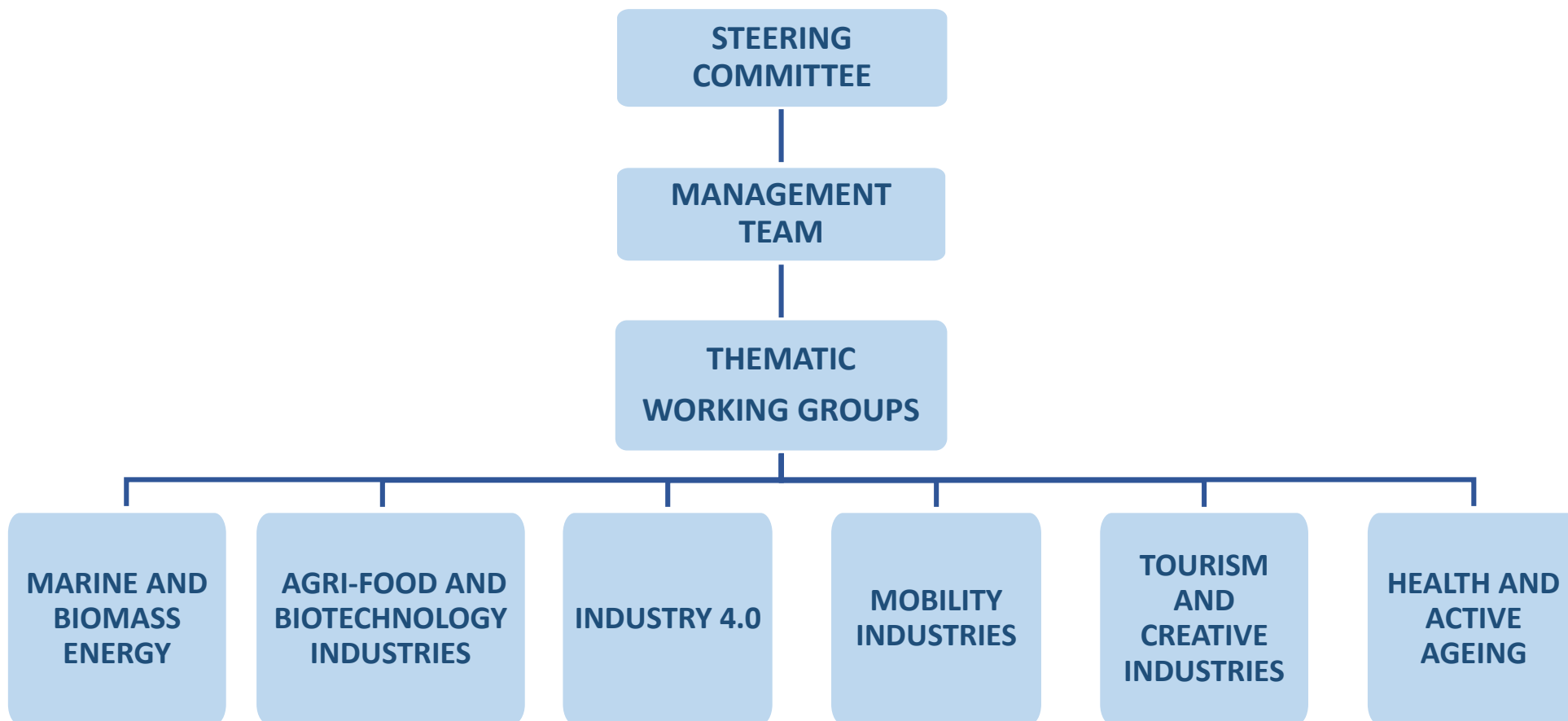


### 3. RIS3T strategic collaboration areas

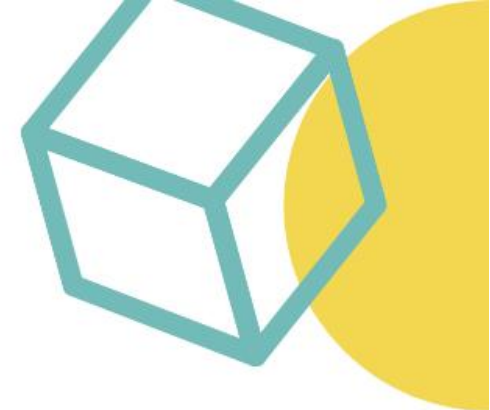
	<i>Marine and biomass energy</i>
	<i>Agri-food and biotechnology industries</i>
	<i>Industry 4.0</i>
	<i>Mobility industries</i>
	<i>Tourism and creative industries</i>
	<i>Health and active ageing</i>



## 4. RIS3T Governance model







## 5. Main implementation activities (IMPACT\_RIS3T)

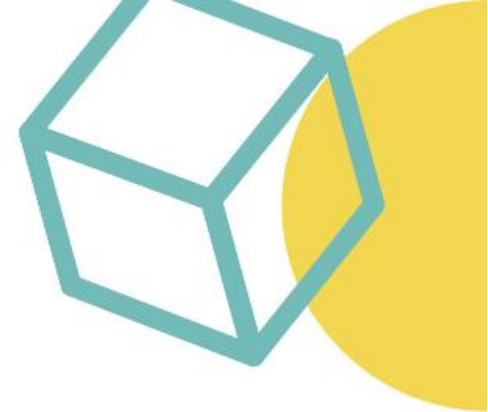
Main Activities	Examples of actions
1. RIS3T Implementation and Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Setting up the <b>RIS3T Governance structures</b>: Steering Committee, Management Team and Thematic Working Groups</li> <li><b>Thematic Working Groups main activities</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Diagnosis and prospective analyses, proposing and prioritizing lines of action and contribution for the strategy review for 2021-27 (surveys and meetings)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
2. Creation of a R&D&I observatory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Setting up the <b>R&amp;D&amp;I Observatory in the Euroregion</b> to monitor and evaluate the results obtained with the implementation of the Smart Cross-Border Specialization Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Monitoring the innovation projects (Cross-border Programme, Transnational Programme and Horizon 2020)</li> <li>✓ Mapping stakeholders and capabilities</li> <li>✓ Monitoring R&amp;D&amp;I Ecosystem indicators</li> <li>✓ Regional and international expert panels</li> <li>✓ Benchmarking evaluation study</li> </ul> </li> </ul>





## 5. Main implementation activities (IMPACT\_RIS3T)

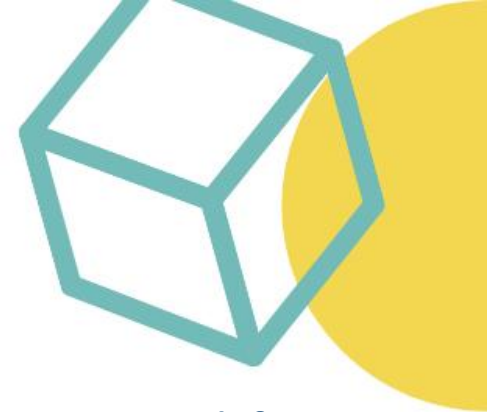
Main Activities	Examples of actions
3. RIS3T training, information & dissemination actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Enhancement of partners and stakeholders institutional capabilities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Vanguard Initiative workshop: ESM Pilot &amp; Democases</li> <li>✓ Vanguard Initiative Regional Conference: Pilot projects related to Industry 4.0</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Boosting the use of instruments supporting innovation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Horizon Europe</li> <li>✓ Cascade Funding</li> <li>✓ European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)</li> <li>✓ Interregional Innovation Investment (I3)</li> <li>✓ Digital Europe</li> <li>✓ Green Deal</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
4. Boosting the Euroregion innovation ecosystem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting initiatives and projects <b>fostering cross-border collaborative innovation among stakeholders</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ International Brokerage Event: Innovation and Manufacturing</li> <li>✓ International Brokerage Event: Horizon Europe</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Capacity development for preparing collaborative proposals</b></li> </ul>



## 6. Concluding remarks

- **Strategic Level:** New Joint Investment Plan Euroregion Galicia – Norte (2021-2027): Update the Cross-border Smart Specialization Strategy Euroregion Galicia - Norte of Portugal, based on the review of the regional RIS3, with an emphasis on the joint research capacities of the Euroregion to address the post-COVID situation.
- **Skills and capabilities:** Support the capacity enhancement of public authorities and stakeholders in designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluation of public policies related to smart specialization strategies, and also in the financial instruments to implement the cross-border strategy.
- **Internationalisation:** Promote synergies and complementarities at cross-border level to increase the density of international relations, both in terms of knowledge generation and of economic integration in interregional value chains (through the participation in collaborative projects and international networks).





## 6. Concluding remarks

- **Governance:** Ensure a continuous support to the governance structure that was created for the cross-border strategy and to the cross-border entrepreneurial discovery process with a stronger involvement of stakeholders in the implementation of the strategy (e.g. setting up other thematic groups);
- **Financial:** Improve the articulation between the implementation of the cross-border strategy and the financial programmes, e.g.:
  - ✓ Existence of a dedicated policy instrument for the cross-border RIS3, namely the cross-border Interreg programme, including, for example, a dedicated financial support, cross-border RIS3 as an evaluation criteria for projects, launching of thematic calls, etc.;
  - ✓ Develop an action plan for implementing the cross-border RIS3, involving interregional stakeholders and identifying projects for future applications;
  - ✓ Improve synergies across funding sources (ESIF programmes, Horizon Europe and other EU Programmes) based on smart specialization strategies.

Thank you for your attention!

Email: [geral@ccdr-n.pt](mailto:geral@ccdr-n.pt)  
Website: <http://www.ccdr-n.pt>

