



# 13

Interregional  
Innovation  
Investment  
**Instrument**

Convocatoria FEDER  
**Interregional Innovation Investments (I3)  
Instrument**

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Smart and Sustainable Growth



# New European Innovation Agenda



Accelerating and strengthening innovation in European Innovation Ecosystems across the EU and addressing the innovation divide



**Fostering connected regional deep-tech innovation valleys across the EU**



REGIONAL INNOVATION VALLEYS CALLS

Interregional Innovation Investments  
(I3) Instrument

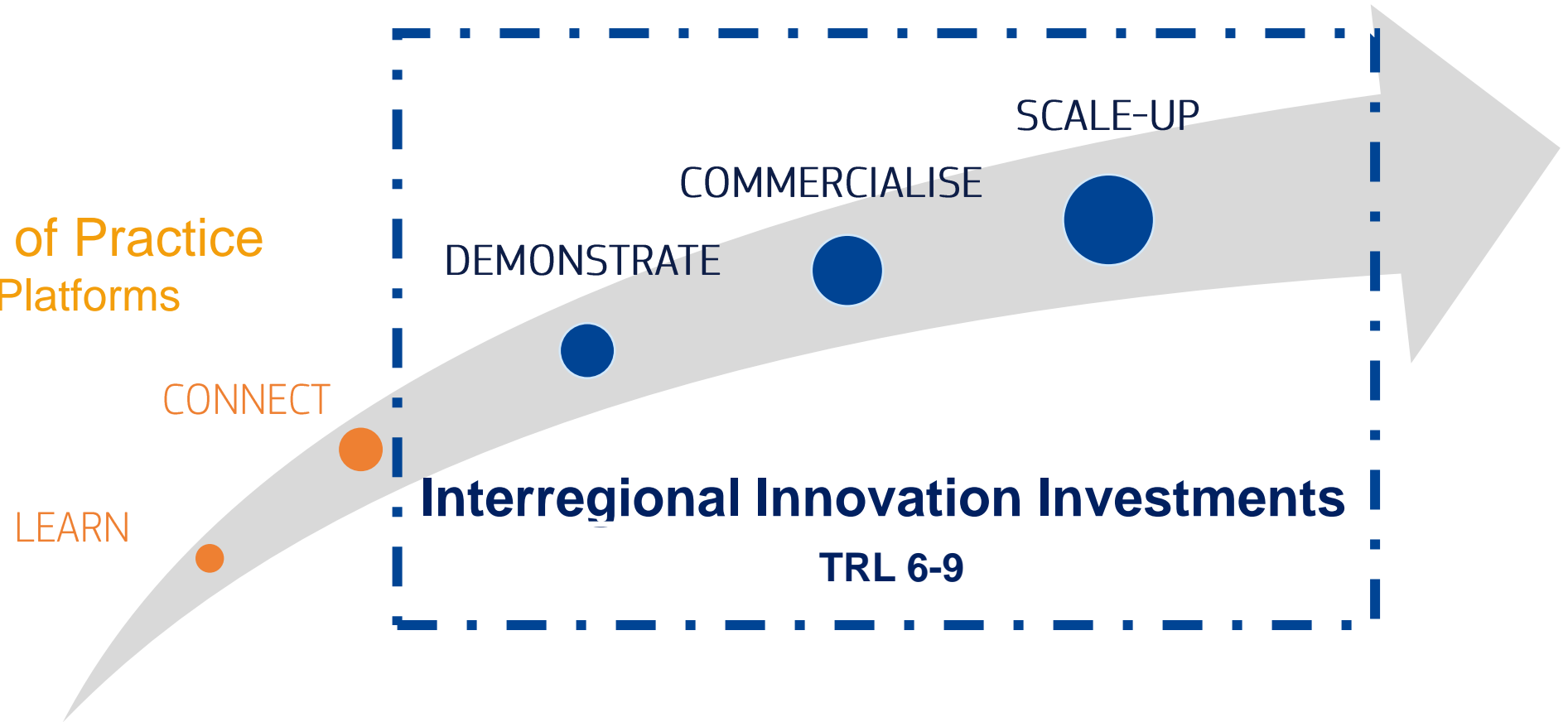
Horizon Europe - European Innovation  
Ecosystems

# Cohesion Policy and the I3 Instrument

- Development policy with addressing the **innovation divide** at its heart
- 34.5 Bn EUR innovation related funding of which 85% in **less developed and transition** regions
- I3 Instrument included in 2021 ERDF regulation to support **interregional innovation projects** and **develop EU value chains** with 570 M EUR for 2021-2027
- I3 as new cohesion policy tool to support and bring together stakeholders to address the innovation divide

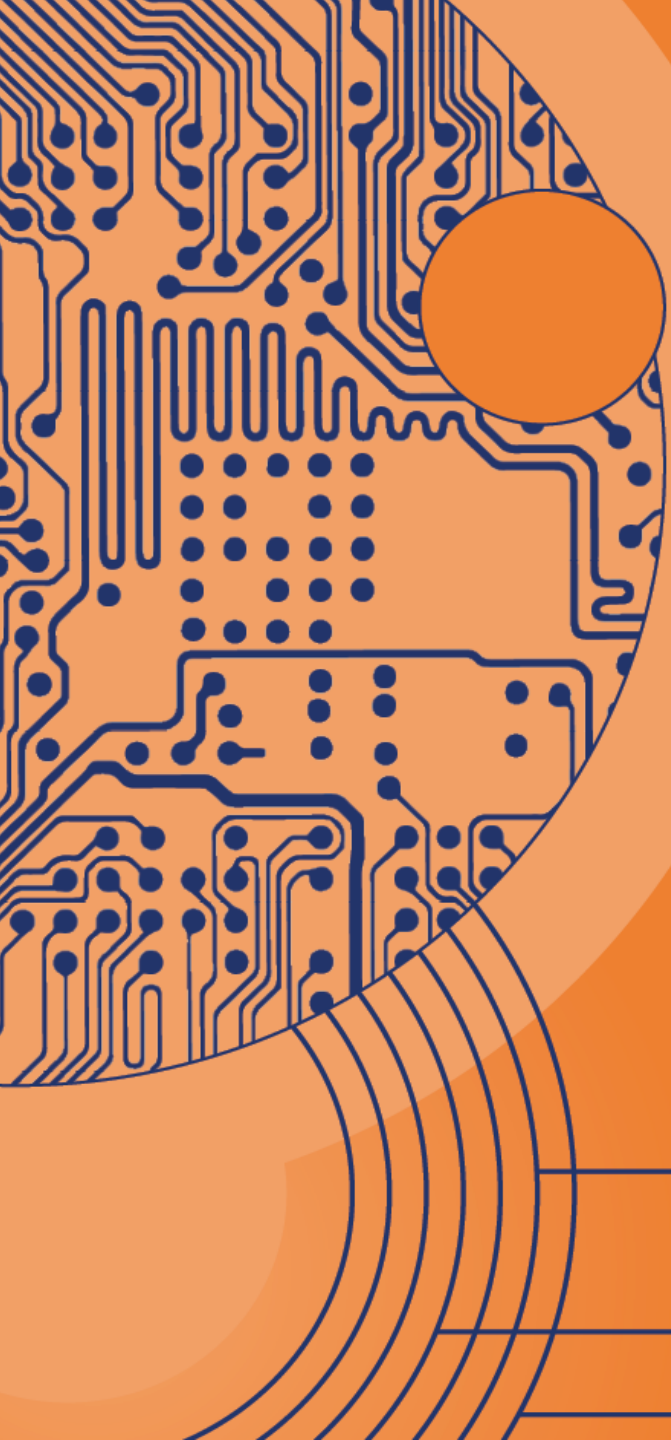
# Upscaling from interregional cooperation to co-investments

S3 Community of Practice  
Thematic S3 Platforms



# Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument

- **REGIO** policy development in multiannual Work-programmes
- **Direct management** by EISMEA
- **Main funding scope:** mobilize investments on ground for mature innovations
- **Target beneficiaries:** companies, especially SMEs, and other 4-helix partners (e.g. universities, R&I organisations, public authorities, end-users)
- Providing support to projects collaborations based on **shared or complementary S3 strategies**



## **Strand 1 & 2a Calls launched on 17 May 2023**

Financial and advisory support for investments in interregional innovation projects around shared or complementary S3

# I3 Strands for support

**Strand 1** | Investment and advisory support on the base of shared S3, typically to strengthen the competitiveness of existing EU value chains

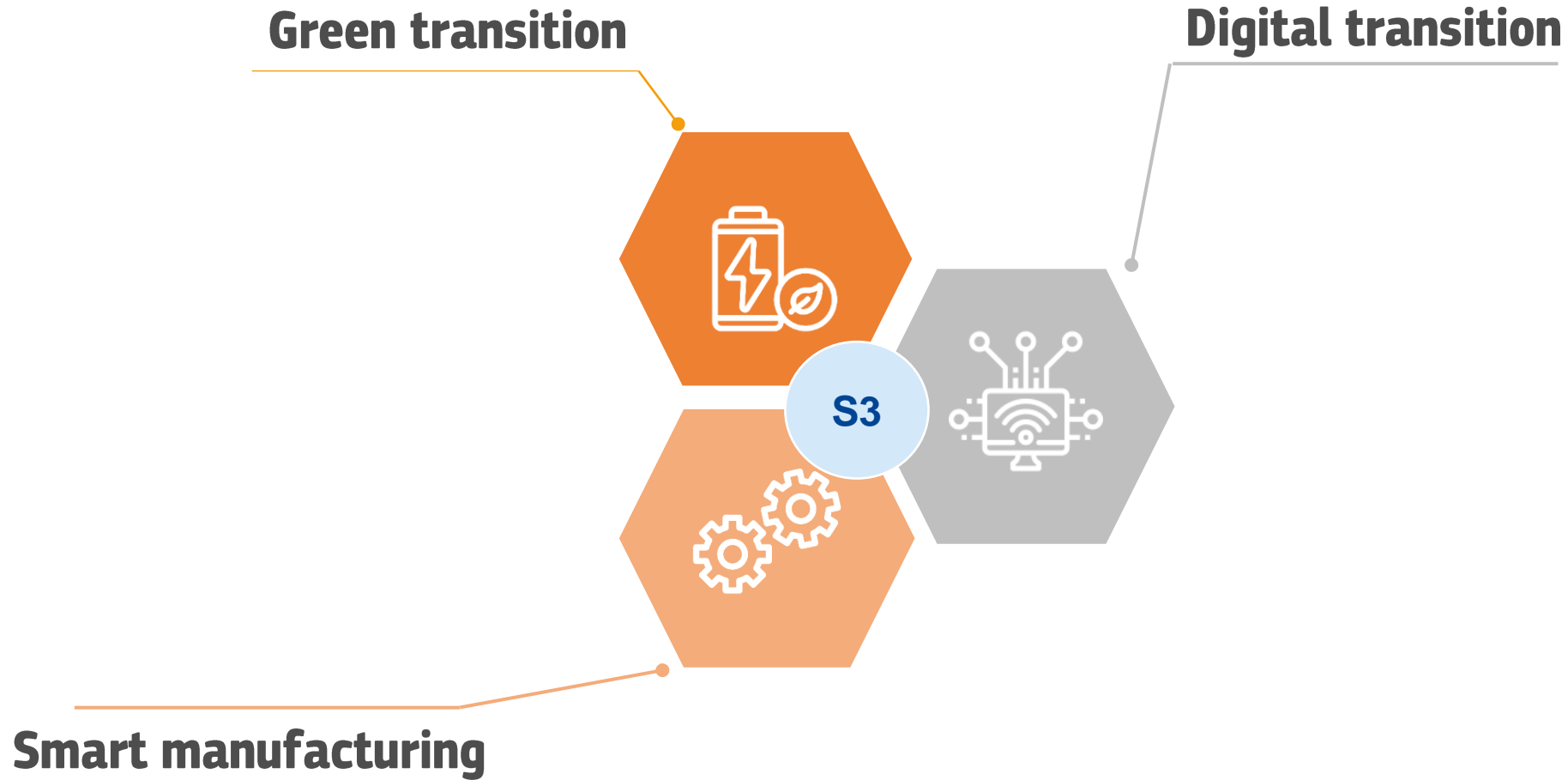
**Strand 2a** | Investment and advisory support on the base of shared S3 for the development of value chains in less developed regions

**Strand 2b** | Capacity building for the development of value chains in less developed regions

Technical assistance & experimentation

**€ 570 million  
(2021-2027)**

# Thematic priorities - strands 1 and 2a calls





# Burning challenges – New European Innovation Agenda



# Investments coverage

## VALUE CHAIN INVESTMENT PORTFOLIOS

Implementation of Investments  
“new to Europe” or “new to the application sector”.

**Commercialisation**  
activities bringing  
**innovative ideas & products**  
**to the market** (new to Europe, new to the sector)

**COLLABORATIVE JOINT INNOVATION ACTIVITIES**  
in shared **S3 areas**

**Test beds & post prototyping activities**

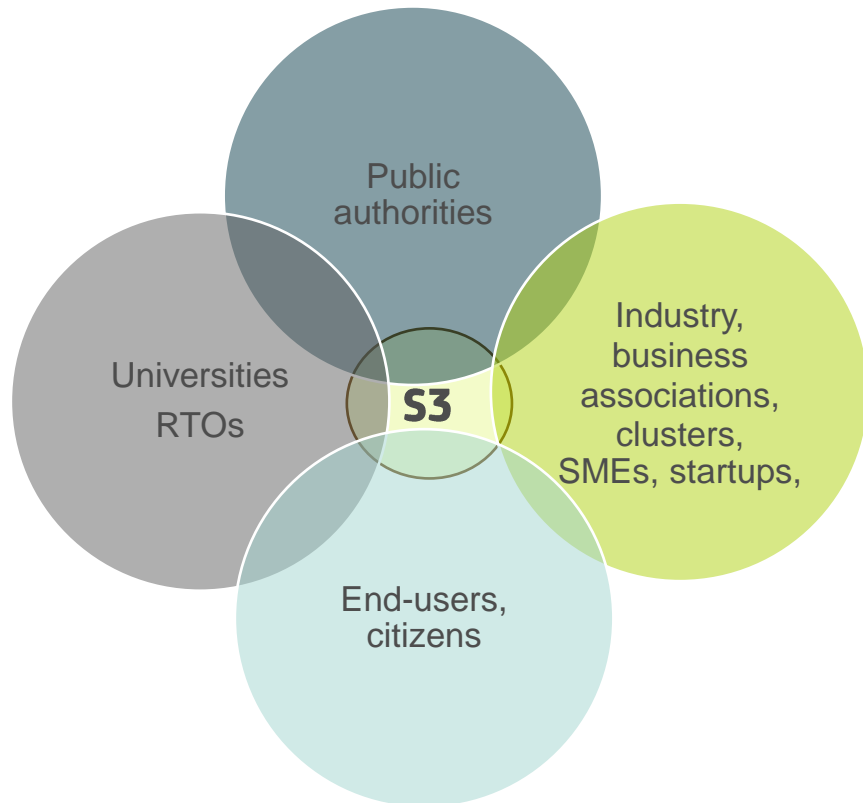
**Validation & testing in real environment**  
(demonstration, innovation activities developed with end users)

**instrumental to bring innovative ideas and new products to the market**

# Interregional Dimension

## Q-helix partnerships

on behalf of a regional / national ecosystems



**Endorsed by competent bodies for Smart Specialisation**

**Different types of regions at the appropriate NUTS level**

**Minimum conditions in terms of ecosystems involved**

(different for strand 1 and 2a)

# Project budget and duration, funding rate

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Project size

€ 2 – 10 million

Duration

18 – 36 months

Funding rate

70% for all cost categories & beneficiaries **EXCEPT**  
**100% for costs of FSTP**

€ 31  
million/  
strand  
2023

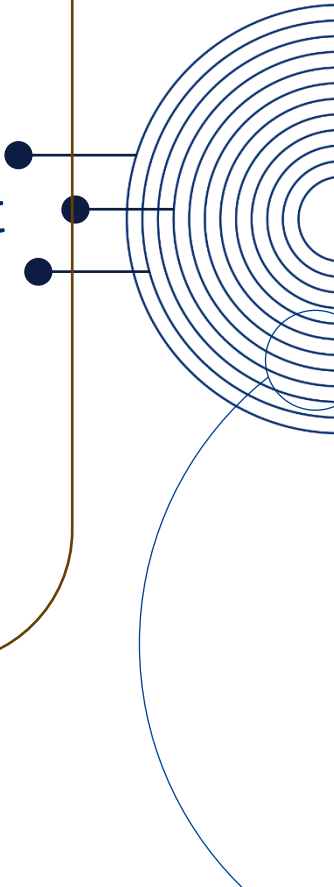
# The letter of endorsement/support

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- **Submitted by the project coordinator**
- Should be from the competent regional or national institution or body, responsible for the management of S3
- Compulsory for the coordinator and optional for the partners\*
- Must be submitted before the call deadline

\*Regional Innovation Valleys recognition:

- Sign letter of endorsement
- Tick the RIV box
- Sign Grant Agreement

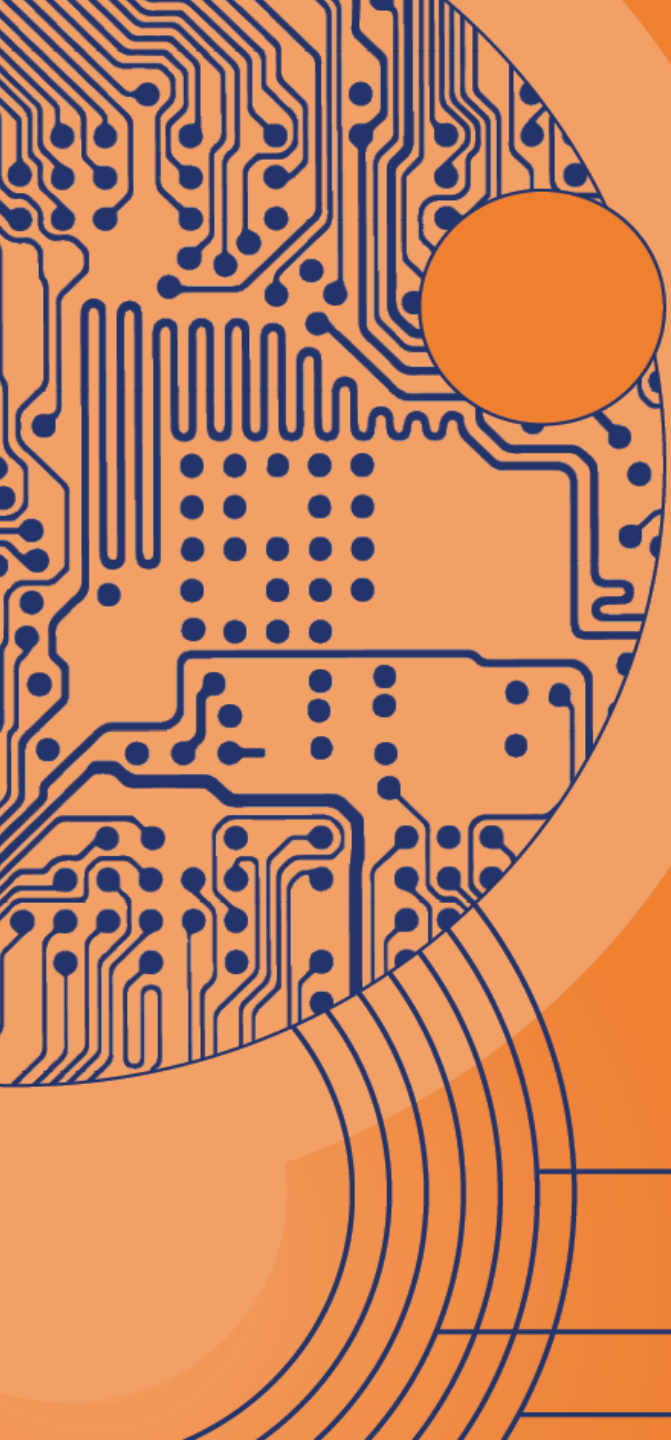


# Consortium composition

Strand 1	Strand 2a
<p>The <b><i>consortium coordinator</i></b> must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><i>Non-profit organisation</i></b> including research bodies and innovation intermediate organisation (i.e. a cluster organisation, an innovation agency etc.) or</li><li>• Member State Organisation acting under indirect management or</li><li>• Public authority</li></ul>	
<p>– <u>at least <b><i>2 legal entities</i></b> must come from <b><i>less developed regions</i></b></u></p>	<p>– the consortium should represent <i>at least 1 more developed region</i> and must have a <b><u>strong involvement of less developed regions and focus on their needs</u></b></p>

# Indicative timeline for Strand 1 and 2a calls





**¿Alguna pregunta?**