

# The European Commission's science and knowledge service

Joint Research Centre



# Asturias Innovation Camp

## What is it about?

**Gabriel Rissola, Senior Scientist, JRC**

Covadonga, 28 March 2019

# Overview

1. Smart Specialisation

2. Innovation Camps

## INNOVATION CAMPS



A tool for regions to identify and tackle societal challenges locally

# Smart Specialisation: political rationale

- Smart Specialisation should foster economic growth, in the region and in the Union.
- Smart Specialisation is about value for money, smart R&D investment in a context of scarce public resources.
- The European Commission has proposed the existence of a Regional Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation (RIS3) as an ex ante condition for the disbursement of R&D- (and ICT-)related funds for the period 2014-2020.

# Smart Specialization Strategies (S3)

Programming 2014-2020 – *Ex ante conditionality*

*Identification of R&D investment priorities with focus on competitiveness and market potential*

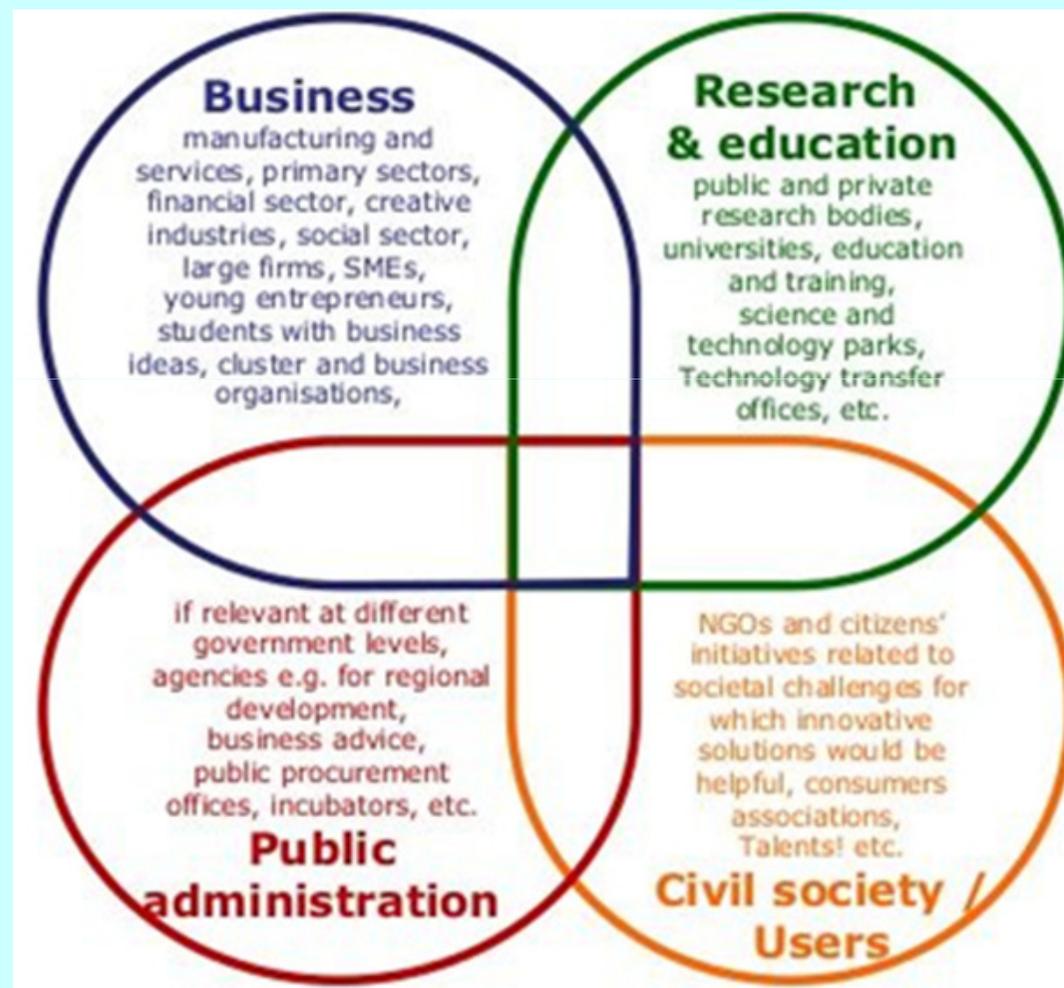
*Place-based and bottom-up approach*

*Participation: engagement of triple (or quadruple) helix*

*Research and Innovation as a catalyst of development.....  
Sourcing knowledge rather than re-inventing the wheel!*

# Implementing S3: a handbook

- ❖ **The Entrepreneurial Discovery Process (EDP) cycle:** from priority selection to strategy implementation
- ❖ Good governance: principles and challenges
- ❖ From priorities to projects: selection criteria and selection process
- ❖ Transnational cooperation and value chains
- ❖ Monitoring



# Messages for today

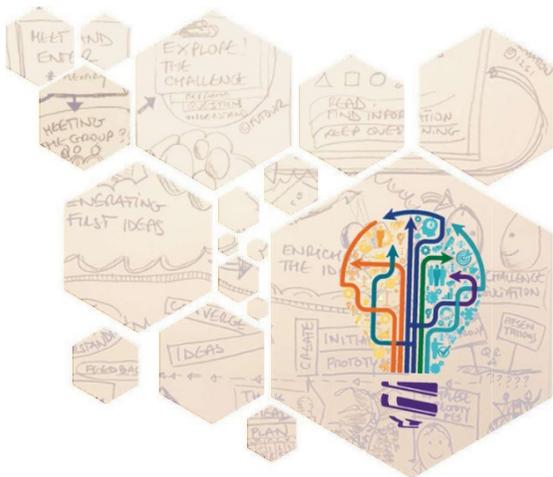
- *Smart, Inclusive and Sustainable* Innovation and Growth (an EC priority)
  - Smart: RIS3
  - Inclusive: quadruple helix collaboration in Entrepreneurial Discovery Process & RIS3 Governance
  - Sustainable: Circular Economy
- Science meets regions – Regions meet science
  - Science at the service of territorial development & solutions to local societal challenges
  - Regions setting up R+D+I regional priorities in consultation with academia,

# Why an Innovation Camp?

- The **local and regional level** is critical for effective governance
- Regions concentrate on **a few focus areas** which have a special value for that region
- **Innovation Camps** address societal and economic challenges concerning local societies
- Innovation Camps stimulate and enhance a **culture of innovation on the ground**
- Culture **towards entrepreneurship and risk taking** are needed to turn Europe a more **innovative, dynamic and competitive economy** in a globalised world.
- **Quadruple helix model**: **governments, business and academia, but also civil society**
- **Bottom-up approach**, relies on self-organising principles  
→ needs political endorsement and a certain **level of institutional governance**

## INNOVATION CAMP REALISING THE POTENTIAL OF THE ENTREPRENEURIAL DISCOVERY PROCESS METHODOLOGY FOR TERRITORIAL INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT HANDBOOK

Gabriel Rissola, Hank Kune, Paolo Martinez



EUR 28542 EN



European  
Commission

# Multiple-stakeholder collaboration & co-creation

**Different stakeholders** might be interested to embrace the practice of Innovation Camps:

- **Policy makers:** to mobilise self-organising capacities of cities and regions to address local societal challenges
- **Business/entrepreneurs:** to match/join interests, capacities and forces locally to compete innovatively in a globalised market
- **Academia:** to identify locally-meaningful research & innovation capacities to be developed in the long run in cooperation with business and government
- **Civil society:** to empower citizens to gain ownership and conceive innovative solutions to societal issues of their concern



# A tool for the Entrepreneurial Discovery Process (EDP)

**Entrepreneurial knowledge** combines science, technology and engineering with knowledge of market growth potential, potential competitors as well as the whole set of inputs and services required for launching a new activity

- **Entrepreneurs** must be understood in a broad sense
  - firms, higher education institutions, public research institutes, independent inventors and innovators, citizens
- and include **whoever** can contribute to discover the domains of R&D and innovation in which a region or city is likely to excel, given its existing capabilities and productive assets
- **EDP** unites **the set of people** that together hold this knowledge in a joint discovery process
- **Innovation camps** enable true multiple-stakeholder collaboration & co-creation, needed for EDP



# Guiding principles and values

## Goals:

- Mind-set change to stimulate a culture of innovation
- Engage a wide diversity of stakeholders
- Build shared understanding on societal issues
- Leverage collective/distributed intelligence to tackle common issues



## Challenge focus:

- Holistic and systemic approach
- Decomposed into realistic challenges, each based on a specific perspective
- The challenge is societal in nature
- The challenge is open (it does not simply test an already existing idea) and open-ended (multiple approaches/solutions to be further developed)
- There is real (executive) commitment to take the results of the Camp further in real-world prototyping and improvement after the Camp.



# Distinctive features

- It's not a workshop, seminar or training!
- Self-organising work process, within a facilitated framework
- Learning-by-doing, co-creation, experimentation
- Prototyping promising ideas (not just talking)
- Simple, easy, accessible, enjoyable
- Community building, engagement, involving networks of networks
- Thinking in output, outcome, and impact
- Effective and affordable
- Agility, going faster than you think is possible

