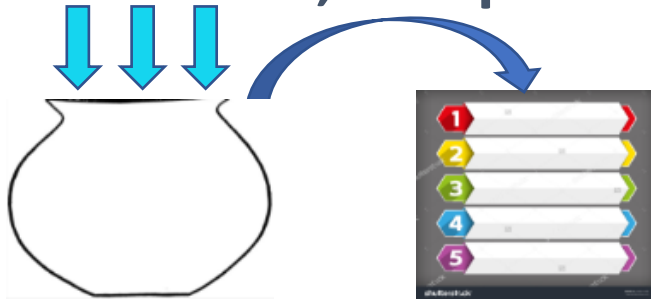


## Main Idea for the future programme: “Common Pot”

Each participating region puts, on a voluntary basis, a certain amount of money, coming from structural funds, in a specific “pot”.



The pot is used in Horizon Europe for those proposals well ranked but not financed:

- 1) Proposals with an evaluation score over the financing threshold
- 2) Proposals' partners should belong to those regions that filled-in the pot or provide for their self-financing
- 3) Money put by each region will be used to finance its regional partners only



### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

for a synergic use of regional and European funds targeted to circular economy projects

THE SIGNATOIRES OF THIS DOCUMENT,

Having regard to the EU action plan for the Circular Economy<sup>1</sup>

Whereas:

- (1) The transition to a more circular economy is an essential contribution to develop a sustainable and competitive economy, as well as an opportunity to generate new and sustainable competitive advantages for the European Regions.
- (2) Regional authorities have a key role to play in the transition towards Circular Economy and greater synergies; nevertheless, fragmentation of resources and implementation difficulties obstruct progress towards achieving common objectives.
- (3) The European Commission publication “*EU Funds working together for jobs & growth*”<sup>2</sup> shows how some funds synergies are possible and encourages their implementation
- (4) At the level of a comprehensive program, synergies between the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) and H2020 is possible and visible, even if not yet completely tested in real cases.
- (5) Specific actions already initiated by some regions are good examples of best practices and could also be implemented at European level.
- (6) Article 70 of the ESIF regulation allow operations implemented outside the programme area, but within the EU, up to 15% of the allocated funds; however, there is no evidence of its actual application.

**Result of a series of discussions within the Policy Lab**

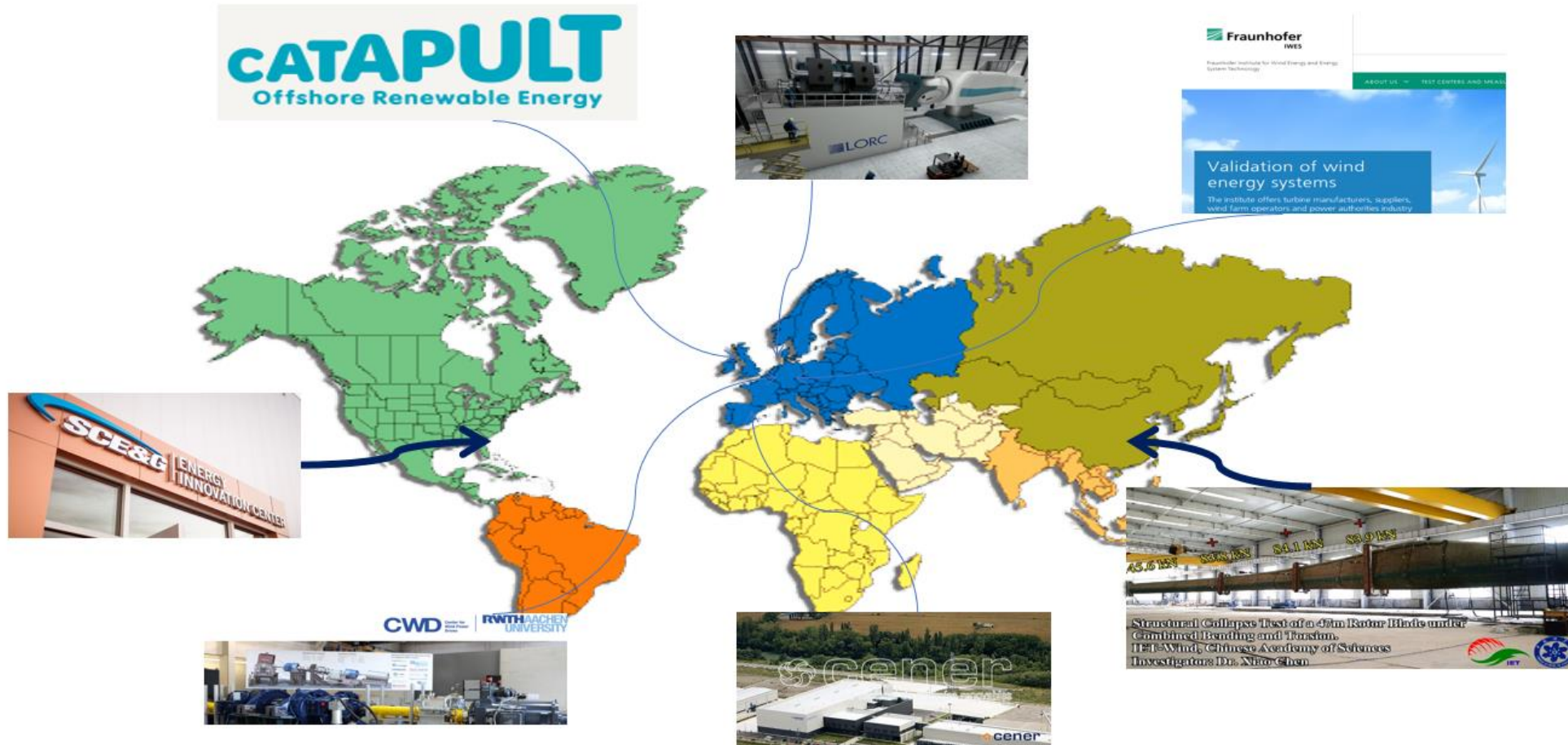
**Based on the ESIF article 70**

**Designed to be a “*Multi-partner Seal of Excellence*” allowing actual financing”**

**Open to all EU regions**

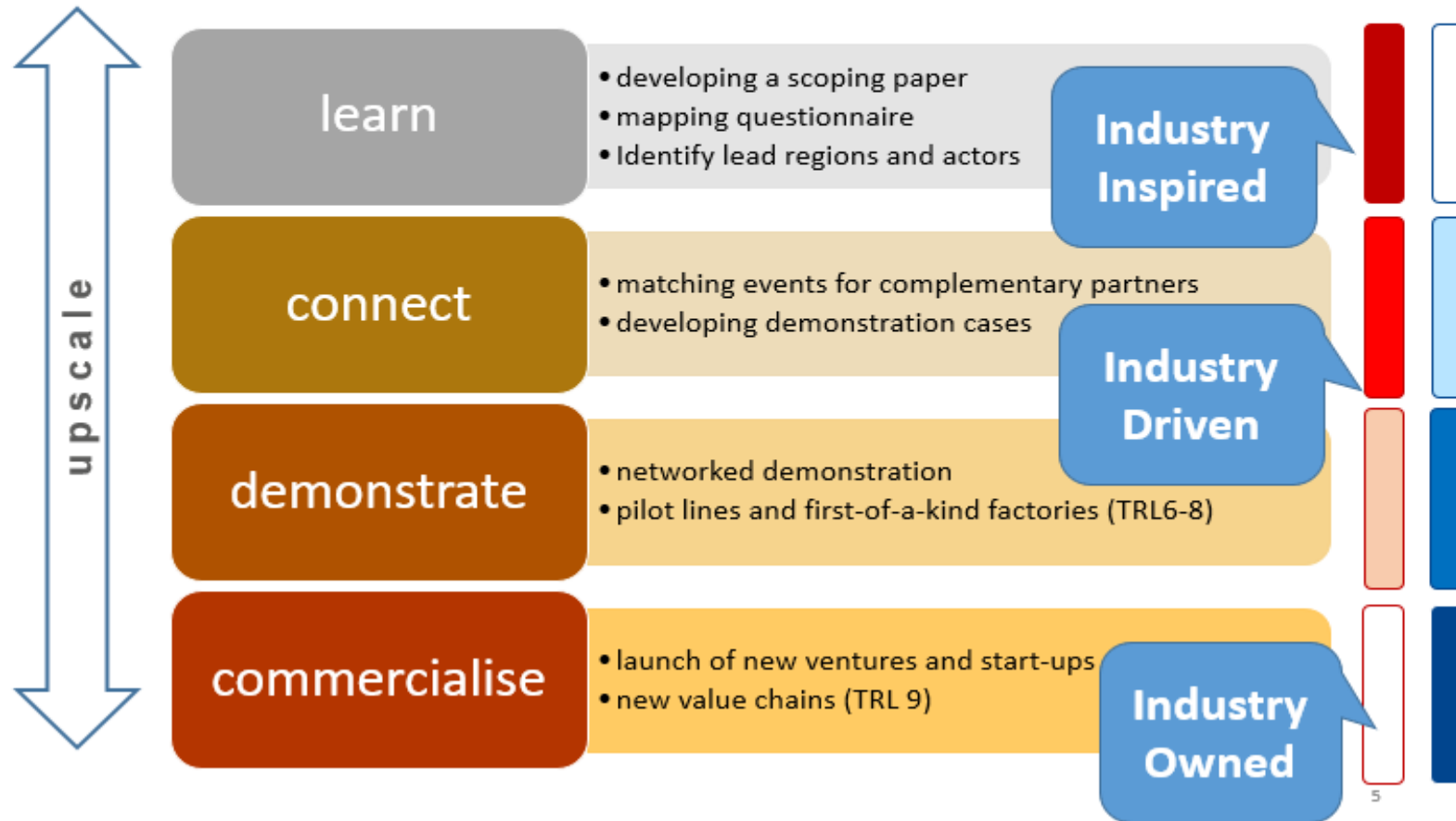
**Text, explanatory notes and already signed documents available at: <http://www.screen-lab.eu/Step3.html>**

## Rationale of interregional common investments





## VI Methodology – 4 step approach



# S3 Thematic Platforms



Advanced manufacturing for energy applications



3D Printing



Innovative use of non-food biomass



Efficient & Sustainable Manufacturing



Nano-Enabled Products



Cyber security



Industry 4.0



Textile Innovation



Medical Technology



Sports Innovation



Photonics



Digitalisation and Safety for Tourism

## Proposal for a Regulation on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund (COM(2018) 372 final)

- These issues are addressed in the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund Regulation which (...) continues to focus on tackling regional disparities and the challenges facing regions across Europe. Continues and enhances thematic concentration on smart growth via smart specialisation strategies and on the low-carbon and circular economy. Maintains support for inter-regional cooperation, extending this to smart specialisation.
- In order to ensure that, in a context of budget reduction, there is still a critical mass of investment, the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund Regulation maintains requirements for **thematic concentration**. The majority (65% to 85%) of resources will be concentrated on contributing to the policy objectives which evaluation evidence and the impact assessment suggest have the highest added value, as well as the greatest contribution to EU priorities:
  - PO1: "a smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation";**
    - enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies;
    - reaping the benefits of digitisation for citizens, companies and governments;
    - enhancing growth and competitiveness of SMEs;
    - **developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship;**
  - PO2: "a greener, low-carbon Europe by promoting clean and fair energy transition, green and blue investment, the **circular economy**, climate adaptation and risk prevention and management";**
    - (...) promoting the transition to a circular economy;

## Proposal for a on specific provisions for the European territorial cooperation goal (Interreg) supported by the European Regional Development Fund and external financing instruments (COM(2018) 374 final)



### INTERREG: REMOVING CROSS BORDER OBSTACLES AND SUPPORTING INTERREGIONAL INNOVATION PROJECTS

Interregional and cross-border cooperation will be facilitated by the new possibility for a region to use parts of its own allocation to fund projects anywhere in Europe jointly with other regions.

The new generation of interregional and cross-border cooperation (“**Interreg**”) programmes will help Member States overcome **cross-border obstacles** and develop **joint services**. The Commission proposes a new instrument for border regions and Member States eager to harmonise their legal frameworks, the **European Cross-Border Mechanism**.

Building on a successful pilot action from 2014-2020, the Commission proposes to create the **Interregional Innovative Investments**. Regions with matching ‘smart specialisation’ assets will be given more support to build **pan-European clusters** in priority sectors such as big data, circular economy, advanced manufacturing or cybersecurity.

- (a) 52.7 % (i.e., a total of EUR 4 440 000 000) for cross-border cooperation (component 1);
- (b) 31.4 % (i.e., a total of EUR 2 649 900 000) for transnational cooperation and maritime cooperation (component 2);
- (c) 3.2 % (i.e., a total of EUR 270 100 000) for outermost regions' cooperation (component 3);
- (d) 1.2 % (i.e., a total of EUR 100 000 000) for interregional cooperation (component 4);
- (e) 11.5 % (i.e., a total of EUR 970 000 000) for interregional innovation investments (component 5).**

## Financial level (1)

- **NEW: Voluntary transfer of cohesion policy allocations:** MS may request transfer of up to 5 % of their programme resources to any other EU Fund or instrument under shared, direct or indirect management (Art. 21 CPR) + 5% or more of the Fund's allocation to InvestEU, if duly justified (Art.10 CPR):
  - ✓ Rules of the receiving fund or instrument apply
  - ✓ Investments have to be for the benefit of the transferring Member State
  - ✓ Commission may object to a request for transfer if achievement of OP objectives would be undermined
  - ✓ Financing plan of OP has to specify transfer (Art. 17(3) f (i) CPR)
- **Combined funding** from different Union instruments in the same operation, as long as double financing is avoided (Art. 57(9) CPR):
  - ✓ rules of each contributing Union programme apply to its respective contribution
  - ✓ cumulative financing shall not exceed the total eligible costs
  - ✓ support from different Union programmes may be calculated on a pro-rata basis
  - ✓ document setting out for the beneficiary the conditions for support



## Concept for complementarities regarding the "smarter Europe" policy objective (1)

- **ERDF** focus on regional relevance, economic transformation, diffusion of existing knowledge & technology to places that need it, based on smart specialisation strategies; new interregional innovation investment support developing European value chains by helping partnerships cooperate in investments in shared S3 priority areas (€226.3bn with minimum thematic concentration of 35% to 60% on innovation, digitisation, SMEs)
- **Horizon Europe** focus on European research and innovation excellence, the generation and exploitation of new knowledge and disruptive, market-creating innovations (€100 bn)
- **InvestEU** focus on market-based instruments, for strategic investments (€38bn (incl. €23 for R&I and SMEs) mobilising €650bn (incl. €415 for R&I, digitisation and SMEs)
- **Digital Europe** focus on digital transformation via AI, cyber-security, high performance computing, advanced digital skills, interoperability, deployment of digital solutions in business and administrations, incl. networking of Digital Innovation Hubs (€9.2 bn)
- **Single Market Programme** focus on improving the functioning of the internal market, SMEs' access to markets, favourable business environment, competitiveness of sectors, the modernisation of industry and the promotion of entrepreneurship (€6 bn, of which €3bn for SMEs)

## Call for applications for the Strategic Forum for Important Projects of Common European Interest

Published on: 31/01/2018 Last update: 08/02/2018

Based on the preferences of the majority of members, the Strategic Forum agreed on the following combinations of strategic value chains:

- A strategic value chain combining “low-carbon steel making” and “low-carbon industrial processes”
- A strategic value chain combining *Connected and autonomous mobility for vehicles and Electric mobility for vehicles – propulsion, wireless energy transmission and smart charging*
- A strategic value chain combining *Personalised medicine, health data and analytics and Personal and clinical medical devices / diagnostics.*

### The Strategic Forum for Important Projects of Common European Interest

The Forum’s tasks are:

- advising the Commission on key value chains in Europe that require joint, well-coordinated actions and investments by public authorities and industries from several EU countries
- helping the Commission build a common European vision for these value chains
- advising the Commission on IPCEIs needed in these value chains
- helping the Commission cooperate and coordinate between public authorities and stakeholders from several EU countries
- helping the Commission monitor progress, reporting on IPCEI-related bottlenecks and obstacles, and proposing solutions to overcome these obstacles
- advising the Commission on any accompanying measures necessary for the successful implementation of new IPCEIs
- advising the Commission on alternative solutions for promoting joint, well-coordinated investments in key value chains when an IPCEI is not feasible

<http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=3583&NewSearch=1&NewSearch=1>