S3-MANAGER CONSULTATION

1.1.3: PP12 ARR SA - Meeting minutes
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Version 1

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	-
Date of meeting	February 18th, 2021
Location	Online formula on zoom platform

Beginning of the meeting	09:00
End of the meeting	10.30

Aim of the S3 consultation

To discover the linkages between the S3 and the Transfarm 4.0 project, to:

- support a so-called bottom-up implementation of smart specialization strategies (RIS3) in key industrial sectors that are technology priority areas in central Europe (among them, the industrial applications for precision agriculture).

- inspire specific PF-supporting schemes as part of the regional policies for innovation.

- address alternatives in some key-productive sectors (that are part of S3 strategy) to stimulate a high-degree of replication.

The discussion starts with the short introduction of the S3 in national level and man priorities:

When analysing smart specialisations in the agricultural sector, it should be emphasised that a new group of them is emerging, namely agribusiness management. At present, activities in this field concern mainly marketing of food products and logistics, but attention is also paid to food production and quality management systems, risk management in agribusiness, reduction of production losses and food storage, etc. Undertaking such activities is appropriate because there is a lot to be done in this respect in Poland. Therefore, they should be continued, starting from farm management and production and ending with the sale of agricultural products.

In national and regional smart specialisations attention is paid to changing technologies and production techniques in the agricultural sector, while their production is not taken into account to a large extent. Therefore, one may wonder whether it will be possible to introduce them, whether the lack of machines and equipment for agricultural production and food processing will not be a barrier, etc. It seems that this could be the case, so we should think about a new smart specialisation, which would be the production of machinery and equipment for the agricultural sector.

Making linkages between National Smart Specialisations and specialisations on the regional level

What are the regional / national authorities doing to support the regional industry operating in Precision Farming?

National and regional smart specialisations in the agricultural sector in Poland are fully in line with the EU requirements, especially regarding sustainable economy and quality of life. In two voivodeships (Pomorskie and Śląskie) there is no RIS3 in the agricultural sector, but other strategies indirectly include the food aspect. For example, in Śląskie these are activities in the field of biotechnology and environmental technologies, and the same in Pomorskie. It should be emphasised that in all the voivodeships, RIS3 which do not refer directly to the agricultural sector include indirect measures related to this sector (e.g. with regard to quality of life, health tourism or agritourism).

Although RIS3 in Poland was prepared independently from KIS, they are very similar. This is due to the fact that in their selection they were guided primarily by the EU assumptions. Consequently, these strategies are not very original and the question arises as to whether they are also intelligent. It seems that not fully, which may be evidenced by a high similarity of RIS3 in the voivodeships and a very detailed presentation of them.

Most often, smart specialisations in the agricultural sector refer directly to agricultural production and processing of agricultural products. These issues are included in national and regional smart specialisations in most voivodeships. An example can be the Podlaskie Voivodeship, where RIS3 indicates the need to develop efficient and precise agriculture and food industry, especially related to the production and processing of milk.

What is the vision for the future (programming period of 2021-2027)?

Conclusions

1) Smart specialisation is an instrument aimed at change and development by exploiting the potential of individual regions, based on knowledge and innovation, as well as public support and community involvement

(2) The scope of smart specialisation covers various areas, most often concerning the economic sphere, but also the environmental and social spheres, especially if they are interrelated, such as the agricultural sector.

(3) In most voivodeships there are smart specialisations concerning the agricultural sector, but most often they concern bioeconomy (especially in relation to agriculture and food processing), innovative technologies and safe food.

4) Smart specialisations concerning management in the agricultural sector are of little importance, although they are focused on introducing changes which should be consciously managed.

5. there is a lack of smart specialisation in the production of machinery and equipment for agriculture and the food industry, while at the same time the structural changes in agribusiness are based on new technologies and their application.