

Agenda for the S3 Thematic Platforms Steering Committee meeting 2025

Title of the event:	Steering Committee of the S3 Thematic Platforms
Date of the event:	17 June 2025
Location of event	Pullman Hotel, Place Victor Horta 1, 1060 Brussels, Belgium

Introduction and context

The **Steering Committee meeting of the S3 Thematic Platforms** is organised by the Smart Specialisation Community of Practice secretariat (S3 CoP) with the support of DG REGIO and is dedicated towards the S3 Thematic Platforms on Agri-food, Energy, Industrial Modernisation and Sustainable blue economy, and the Thematic Smart Specialisation Partnerships (TSSPs) that operate thereunder. Key participants to the meeting are the lead and partner regions of the TSSPs.

The **S3 Thematic Platforms Steering Committee meeting** will take place on **17 June 2025** from 9:00 -17:00 CET at the Hotel Pullman Gare du Midi in Brussels, Belgium. This is the fifth Steering Committee meeting that will be organised by the S3 CoP Secretariat.

This meeting will focus on the lessons learnt and key insights related to services carried out in support of the partnership activities, featuring also networking opportunities and sharing of best practices. Please note that this will be a physical meeting with no live streaming and no recording. A detailed meeting report will be shared after the event.

The meeting will take place the day before the S3 Conference on 18 June 2025, which will be held at Maison du Bois in Brussels, Belgium. Please find more details on the S3 Conference here: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/policy/communities-and-networks/s3-community-of-practice/s3_event_20250618_en

Agenda

TIMING (in CET)	SESSIONS	SPEAKER
8:30 – 9:00	Registration and welcome coffee	
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome and introduction	Eva NUSSMUELLER, DG REGIO, European Commission
9:15 – 10:00	Presentation on S3 Thematic Platforms lessons learnt & key insights related to services	Els VAN DE VELDE, Daniela KRETZ, Coen DE GRAAF, S3 CoP Secretariat
10:00 – 10:30	Introduction of new partnerships	Rene WIJLENS, Health Resilience partnership Yuan CHAI, Biosolutions partnership
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break & networking	
11:00 – 12:30	Session per S3 Thematic Platform (see individual agenda's below): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agri-food • Industrial Modernisation & Energy • Sustainable Blue Economy 	See specific agenda per session below
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch & networking	

TIMING (in CET)	SESSIONS	SPEAKER
14:00 – 15:00	Breakout world café (first round) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying partnership strategies and roadmaps How to create active regions and participants in the partnership Developing a strong project concept 	S3 CoP Secretariat
15:00 – 16:00	Breakout world café (second round) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying partnership strategies and roadmaps How to create active regions and participants in the partnership Developing a strong project concept 	S3 CoP Secretariat
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee and networking	
16:30 – 17:00	Outlook on interregional collaboration through S3 Thematic Platforms & Closing	Els VAN DE VELDE, S3 CoP Secretariat Wolfgang MUNCH, DG REGIO, European Commission
17:00 – 19:00	Networking cocktail	

Dedicated Agenda for Agri-food Session 11:00-12:30

TIMING (in CET)	SESSIONS	SPEAKER
11:00 – 11:30	Welcome and policy scene setting	Wolfgang MUNCH, DG REGIO, European Commission Benjamin VAN DOORSLAER, DG AGRI, European Commission

TIMING (in CET)	SESSIONS	SPEAKER
		Jorge MOLINA VILLANUEVA, DG RTD, European Commission
11:30 – 11:35	Introduction and housekeeping of the interactive session	Els VAN DE VELDE, S3 CoP Secretariat
11:35 – 12:30	Interactive session fostering partnership exchange	Interactive session with tables for partnerships

Dedicated Agenda for Industrial Modernisation & Energy Session 11:00-12:30

TIMING (in CET)	SESSIONS	SPEAKER
11:00 – 11:20	Welcome and policy scene setting	Stan VAN OERLE, DG REGIO, European Commission Jitka VOCASKOVA, DG GROW, European Commission
11:20 – 11:30	Introduction and housekeeping of the interactive session	Coen DE GRAAF, S3 CoP Secretariat
11:30 – 12:30	Interactive session fostering partnership exchange	Interactive session with tables for partnerships

Dedicated Agenda for Sustainable Blue Economy Session 11:00–12:30

TIMING (in CET)		SESSIONS	SPEAKER
11:00 11:10	–	Welcome and policy scene setting	Christos ECONOMOU, DG MARE, European Commission Myriam BOVEDA, DG REGIO, European Commission
11:10 11:40	–	Updates from existing partnerships (5 minutes each)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alexandra NEYTS, Circular smart aquaculture 2. Valeria PATRUNO, Maritime sustainable blue bioeconomy 3. Mario DOGLIANI, Shipbuilding Alternative Fuels Propulsion Systems Alliance 4. Stefano VALENTINI, ADMA Energy 5. Ira LARDINOIS, BlueXChange
11:40 11:50	–	Preliminary results from the EMFAF call on S3	Karen MARTIN, CINEA, European Commission
11:50 12:20	–	Discussion and Q&A	Moderated by Daniela KRETZ, S3 CoP Secretariat
12:20 12:30	–	Next steps and closing	Myriam BOVEDA, DG REGIO, European Commission Irene VECCHIATO, DG MARE, European Commission Daniela KRETZ, S3 CoP Secretariat