REGIONS AND CITIES AT THE HEART OF FP9 VISION

Christophe Clergeau

Member of Pays de la Loire Regional Council – France Member of the European Committee of the Regions



R&I: does anybody really care?

- 3% GDP ?
 - Overall approach of European budgetary effort
 - 3% of EU GDP in R&I: national and regional choices
 - Politicians commitment and public debate
- Who is it for ? Inclusive or exclusionary science ?
 - World class universities or world class innovative ecosystems?
 - Excellence of science in Europe or excellent innovative Europe ? (ranking or impacts ?)
 - Excellence divide and widening dream

Conciliating free and challenge-based R&I into one single political agenda, with key role for Regions & cities

- Two interdependant approaches
 - Free science autonomous process TO social and technical use of R&I
 - Challenge-based R&I open and inclusive process TO need for new scientific imputs
- Political guidelines for Regions and cities R&I policies
 - Local R&I ecosystems need support for excellent free science as well as problem-solving and business-oriented innovation
 - All kinds of innovations shall be supported (e.g. social, cultural, in public services, new business models...),
 - Need to rely on Innovation hubs and multi-player territorial ecosystems
 - Need for further stakeholder involvement and public debate

A new approach for smart specialisation strategies

- A overall agenda for Regional R&I policies
- Combining scientific excellence and territorial impacts
- A single political process involving citizens and stakeholders

5 key pillars :

- Holistic approach of research, innovation, education and local development
- Providing core ressources for innovation and training
- Providing strategic ressources to face transitions (climate change, digital, industry 4.0, demography,...)
- Focusing on priorities and comparative advantages
- Contribution to european excellence and « missions »

Science is rooted in Regions and cities: need for a place-based approach of R&I in the future FP

- Capacity building and excellence : same place-based strategic resources
 - Skills and talents
 - Research infrastructures
 - Support for emerging science, technologies and innovations
 - Innovation and entrepreneurship value chain
 - Housing, quality of life and connections
- A need for shared frameworks at European and national level
- But a key role for regions and cities at every level of governance
 - Networks and ecosystem governance
 - Regional smart specialisation
 - European and national R&I strategies

Synergies with ESIF funds: A matter of respect and cooperation

- A full political acceptance of 5 key points
 - Cohesion policy is a major tool for R&I policies: between EUR 43 and 110 Billion for 2014-2020 period
 - R&I are rooted in a local background
 - Regions and cities are full policy-makers and stakeholders in national and European R&I policies
 - RIS3 is and must remain a local and autonomous process
 - Synergies have to be negociated not only between DG RTD and DG REGI but also with regions

Synergies with ESIF funds: A matter of respect and cooperation

- 5 Cs to implement successful synergies
 - Recognition of local <u>collective</u> initiatives and ecosystems
 - Coherence of political objectives
 - Complementarity of public policies
 - Compatibility between financial instruments
 - Co-construction of policies if co-financing

Missions: how to maximize impacts

- A new concept for FP9 from P. Lamy report
- Achieving goals and maximizing impacts
- A new way to evaluate and finance projects
- A new way to set programs and involve stakeholders

- Region and cities shall be partners
 - To set missions
 - Involved in projects
 - To maximize local impacts of FP9 missions

Territorial connection: European excellence rooted in regions and cities

- Integrate regions consortia and their ecosystems in FP9 (universities, companies, NGO, associations)
- Create consortia (ecosystems of ecosystems) involving regions sharing their RIS3, based on excellence and capacity to achieve goals and maximize impacts
- Excellence based on ecosystems complementarity to promote new European champions and achieve european FP goals
- The consortia's projects will address low to high TRLs and be phased, based on their maturity level at T0
- European added value and stronger capacity to adress the whole innovation value chain from science to jobs

Territorial connection: which place in FP 9?

- A new set of actions besides IA, RIA, CSA / or new modus operandi for FP9 design
- TC to implement missions, societal challenges, industrial leadership, or emerging technologies
- Complementarity in TC consortia to tackle innovation divide
- TC framework
 - 3 7 ecosystems
 - 5-7 years duration
 - 15-20 M€ funding from FP9
 - Additional funding 1€ for 1€ on cohesion policy