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Seminar on Smart Specialisation

19 April 2012, Lisbon

Purpose: The purpose of this seminar is to present the views of the European Commission and experts on the smart specialisation concept to decision makers at national and regional levels and to SF managing authorities. The future Cohesion Policy will need to be based on concentration of resources, clear identification of priorities, monitoring and evaluation of results and outcomes.

To recover from recession the EU needs smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Smart specialisation means identifying the unique characteristics and assets of each country and region, their competitive advantages to create an excellence-driven vision of their future. To catalyse this process the policy debate conducted across levels of several areas of policy and private stakeholders (lateral) at national and regional level (vertical) is crucial.

Organizers: European Commission/DG REGIO, in collaboration with Observatório do QREN

Participants: national and regional decision makers, EU fund managing authorities, strategy developers, representatives of ministries representatives of business (associations) and Universities

Venue: Representation of the European Commission in Portugal, Largo Jean Monnet 1, Lisbon

April 19, 2012		
	Registration and coffee	9:00– 9:30
Welcoming address	Luis Sá Pessoa, Acting Head of the European Commission Representation in Lisbon	9:30– 9:35
I session	Scene Setting The proposals of the Commission for the future cohesion policy and smart specialization, Normunds POPENS, Deputy Director-General, Convergence, Competitiveness and Cross-border programmes /DG Regional Policy The challenges for the Portuguese NSRF, António Almeida Henriques, State Secretary of Economy and Regional Development	9:35– 10.15

II session	<p>Smart Specialisation to boost National and Regional economies in the long term</p> <p>Chair: Vasco Cal, member of BEPA (President Barroso Bureau of Policy Advisers)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The economic fundamentals of smart specialisation - Philippe McCann Chair of Economic Geography University of Groningen, Adviser of Commissioner Hahn and member of the Mirror Group of the Platform S3 - Finland – Smart Specialisation based on cross-cutting competencies and foresight lead markets – Raine Hermans, Director, Tekes Agency <p>Q&A session</p>	10.15– 11.00
Coffee Break		11.00– 11.30
III session	<p>Innovation strategies for smart specialisation</p> <p>Chair: Paulo Areosa Feio, Observatório do QREN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Smart Specialisation: the guide and steps: Xabier Goenaga, JRC, IPTS - Smart specialisation in practice case studies on EU regions – Raquel Ortega Argiles, University of Groningen - A regional perspective on innovation policy in Portugal - Norberto Pires, President of the CCDR Centro and Manager of the Regional OP Centro <p>Q&A session</p>	11.30– 13.00-
Lunch Break		13.00– 14.30
IV session	<p>New opportunities: KETs, clusters and technopoles</p> <p>Chair: Armando Cardoso, DG Regio/Unit G2 - Portugal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key Enabling Technologies – Gabriel Crean, Vice-President CEA Technologies, Chair of the Sherpa Group of the High-Level Expert Group on KET and member of the Mirror Group of the Platform S3 - Lower Austria: a smart strategy and performing techno poles - Irma Friedl, State Government of Noe, Department of Economics, Tourism and Technology - Innovation and cluster policy in Portugal and the structural funds - Franquelim Alves, Managing Authority of OP Compete <p>Q&A session</p>	14.30– 16.00
Panel debate	<p>Chair: Mikel Landabaso, Head of Unit DG REGIO- D2 Thematic coordination and innovation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daniel Bessa, Director-General of COTEC - Leonor Parreira, State Secretary for Science - Carlos Nuno Oliveira, State Secretary for Entrepreneurship, Competitiveness and Innovation 	16.00– 17.15
Concluding remarks		17.15– 17.30