

STRING accelerates agrifood clusters in Europe

The provision of smart, healthy and safe food is a top priority in Europe. Seven European regions renowned of their strong and vibrant agrifood clusters accumulated their powers in project STRING.



The regions share the persuasion that agrifood clusters are challenging drivers for regional innovation and growth. During a final event in Brasov (Romania) they shared some wise lessons. There is no silver bullet to success. All regions stress the importance of this engine for success: facilitate and fund integral services for shared activities between small and medium sized agrifood enterprises and other industries.

www.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1558532105.pdf

The making of... STRING

All STRING-regions have been renowned for their food production traditions, and for their innovation potentials. They all are engaged in food innovation and production in different roles. The overall objective of the partners - independent from their development level and the strength of cohesion in their regional food sectors – is to improve the performance and implementation efficiency of development policies and programmes related to food R&D&I and clusterization to promote innovation value chains for the sector.





Final brochure and map

STRING improves the performance of regional development instruments and programmes in building strong agrifood innovation systems across Europe. STRING promotes intensive interregional learning, knowledge exchange and everlasting intercluster cooperation. As the result of STRING, the performance and implementation of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) financed policy instruments related to agri-food innovation and to the vertical, triple helix clusterisation both supported by enhanced SME participation – are improved. Find the key figures per agrifood region on the map below.

Read our final project brochure!

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Province of North Brabant

- ent of the national income and employment of the Netherlands. The sector also accounts for 25 per cent of the country's exports and more than 50 per cent of its trade surplus. The Netherlands is the second-largest exporter of food in the world. Every year the sector generates €50 billion of added value and accounts fo over €80 billion of exports.

 Noord-Brabant is the biggest agri-food region in
- the Netherlands and accountable for 20,6% of all Dutch agri-food production. When we look at the total Dutch Agrifood export, Noord-Brabant is accountable for 17.5% of total Dutch export. Agrifood employs more than 100 000 people in Noord-Brahant. Over 13 000 companies participate in this sector. They represent an

Excellent and extremely favourable environment for

Quality and know-how Sector structured around

Strong prospects to major export (China, Japan, USA

High concern in energy saving and recycling of waste

Variety of productions and regional specialties

recognised and appreciated (market niche).

Presence of 'champions' across the world

Few productions require offshoring.

Important innovation culture

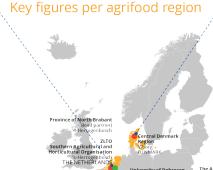
implantation and development of new activities (large

nool of consumers, ease of logistics, natural resources water plentiful and easily accessible).

a strong ARIA (Regional Agency for Agri-Food industries

Aria Alsace France

The future of food



Central Denmark Region

- With a total population of 1.2 million, inhabitants CDR is the second largest of the 5 regions in Denmark.
- CDR accounts for 61% of Danish food exports and 55% of the tota Danish turnover. The total exports from CDR is €10.000 million. The level of employment directly related to farming and the percentage
- of farming related to the total GDP is relatively low 3.5% and 1.7% respectively. If you include related industries (secondary and tertiary industries such as food processing, service, ingredients, machinery etc but excluding retail) the employment level rises to 7.1%
- CDR counts for 9400 agri-food companies with >34.000 employees and a total volume turnover of €18.6 million.
- CDR is renowned as a R&D hub where both SMEs and large companies as ARLA. DuPont and Danish Crown have located their R&D activities. primarily in and around Aarhus, the main city of CDR.
- A lot of small innovative food companies, that cater to the thriving gastro scene in and around the main cities of Denmark is also present here.
- The closest to having a PDO in CDR is the native "Limfjords oysters" that is cultivated in and around the northern and western part of the Denmark as such has 10 different products under PGI
- Main agricultural production: pig meat, dairy and cereals.



Covasna County Romania

- The Central Region is situated in the central area of Romania, within the great curves of the Carpathian Mountains, on the upper and middle courses of Mures and Olt. Natural resources are divers and include important reserves of natural gas, salt, nonferrous metals, building materials (basalt, andesite, marble, travertine), small coal deposits and many mineral water springs.
- The agricultural area of the Center Region is 1909 thousand hectares representing 55.5% of the total area of the region and 13% of the agricultural area of Romania
- Total number of agri-food firms in this region: 2775 with >21.000 employees and a total production volume of 3,2 million. Main agricultural products: dairy and meat



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Project EU

Castilla v Léon Spain

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- Castilla y León is one of the largest region in Europe with a territory of 94,225 km².
- opulation of Castilla y León rep of country population with 2 415 900 people
- The Agrifood sector is the main economic sector, representing more than 13% of the regional GPD. Agri-food industry is the main branch of the industrial sector in the Region. It represents 27,5% of the industrial turnover and 29,4% of the industria
- employment. Approximately 3,100 companies (mainly micro-SMEs) operate in this industry in the Region, employing more than 35,000 people its weight in regional GDP (2014) is 7,2%%, with turnover of 9.37 billion euros
- Castilla v León: ranks number three in the country representing 11% of the national agri-food GPD.
- ligh quality of the raw materials produced, and the high specialization of industries are some of the main strengths of the sector.



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Instituto para

de Castilla y León (IC

Emilia Romagna Region Italy

For Agriculture, Hunt and Fisheries

- Two research organisations focused on agriculture: CRPA (animal production) and CRPV (plant production) The High Technological Network, which includes the
- agri-food platform, coordinated by ASTER: The Technopoles, Infrastructures of research and technological transfer located near the main cities in
- The regional training system, specifically the polytechnic network of tertiary specialist training, centred on Higher Technical Institutes, and the regional system of

the whole regional territory; agricultural and forestry education

Northern Great Plain Hungary

- The GDP by the Hungarian national economy is €11.145.9 per capital The share of Hungarian agriculture was 3.5% of the total GDP. GDP per person employed is 18.9 thousand euros in agriculture, 14.8 thousand euros per person in food production, and 26 thousand euros per person at national level.
- At regional level, there are 6303 enterprises in agriculture. There are 203.2 thousand employees in agriculture, and 140.3 thousand in food production, while 4210.5 thousand people work in total in the country.
- The production volume turnover of agriculture is € 2489.8 million, the production of food is \in 9133.6.
- In the Northern Great Plain food production turnover is € 2.67 billion, produced by 10000 food industry workers, which is 1.7% of total regional employment
- Main agricultural production; sweet corn, poultry and apple.









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