



This project is co-funded by the European Union and the Republic of Türkiye.



Capacity Enhancement for Development and Implementation of Smart Specialisation Strategies in Türkiye's Regions (CEDIS3)



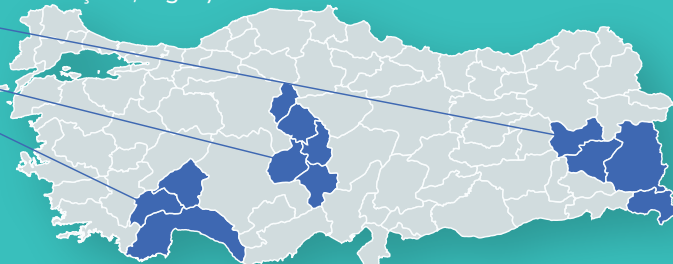
Smart Specialisation is now more than ever a tool for international cooperation and complementarity between regions and their activities.

Our Objectives

The CEDIS3 project, co-financed by the European Union (EU) and the Republic of Türkiye and supported under the Competitive Sectors Programme, implemented by the Ministry of Industry and Technology, aims to enhance the capacity of all related stakeholders to design and implement effective Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) in Türkiye, at both national and regional levels. This endeavour encompasses the enhancement of the capacity for developing and implementing smart specialisation strategies. Additionally, it seeks to facilitate the establishment of vital networking and governance mechanisms spanning all levels, with the aim of fostering increased participation of regional actors in international and interregional cooperation. This will be achieved through practical capacity building activities and pilot implementations aimed at cultivating robust networks.

The main beneficiary of the project is the Directorate General for Development Agencies of the Ministry of Industry and Technology. Smart specialisation strategies will be collaboratively developed with the relevant development agencies in the three pilot regions indicated below. Subsequently, it will be disseminated to all regions.

- BAKA West Mediterranean Development Agency - TR61 (Antalya, Burdur, Isparta)
- DAKA Eastern Anatolia Development Agency - TRB2 (Van, Bitlis, Hakkari, Muş)
- AHİKA Ahiler Development Agency - TR71 (Aksaray, Kırıkkale, Kırşehir, Nevşehir, Niğde)



Focus of the Project

The project will specifically focus on building the capacity of Directorate General for Development Agencies of the Ministry of Industry and Technology, development agencies and other relevant stakeholders in the regional innovation ecosystem to develop and implement smart specialisation strategies. With this purpose, activities will be carried out under three main components.

Component 1

A **National S3 Roadmap** will be developed with the Directorate General for Development Agencies of the Ministry of Industry and Technology to define the long-term policy and implementation path. Development agencies will receive guidance through an **S3 Development Manual** for the formulation of regional S3s.

Capacity-building activities such as workshops, training programmes, study visits and internships will be provided to Directorate General for Development Agencies of the Ministry of Industry and Technology and representatives of other relevant stakeholders. These activities will facilitate the implementation of the Roadmap and Manual.

A dedicated Working Group will be established to provide support for the development of the S3 Development Manual and National S3 Roadmap, as well as the delivery of comprehensive training programmes. This Working Group will be supported by an Advisory Board comprised of recognised international experts within the scope of S3.

Component 2

This component will focus on **establishing Regional S3 Platforms in three pilot regions**. The success of pilot implementations hinges on the relationships these platforms forge with stakeholders both within the region and beyond.

Concurrently, the Directorate General for Development Agencies of the Ministry of Industry and Technology and other relevant stakeholders will benefit from additional capacity-building interventions, with an emphasis on enhancing their capacity to form **intra-regional partnerships**. In addition to this activities, trainings will be organised on **stakeholder analysis, governance mechanisms and international partnerships**.

These trainings will also target participants from earthquake-affected regions. Within this component, an **international conference on Smart Specialisation** will be organised to raise awareness of smart specialisation in Türkiye, generate a long-term impact and provide a platform for stakeholders to network.

Furthermore, a help desk will be established to assist development agencies throughout the application process for smart specialisation platforms.

Component 3

In this crucial phase, the tools and skills developed in Component 1 and 2 will be applied. The primary objective is to provide support for the **development of S3s in three pilot regions**, following the S3 Development Manual.

Our ambitious goal is, upon completion of the S3s in Türkiye, to be recognised by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) and Joint Research Centre (JRC).

While the actual development of the smart specialisation strategies will take place in the three pilot regions, we will establish structured processes to involve other development agencies. They will have the opportunity to observe the development process and gain valuable insights and knowledge.

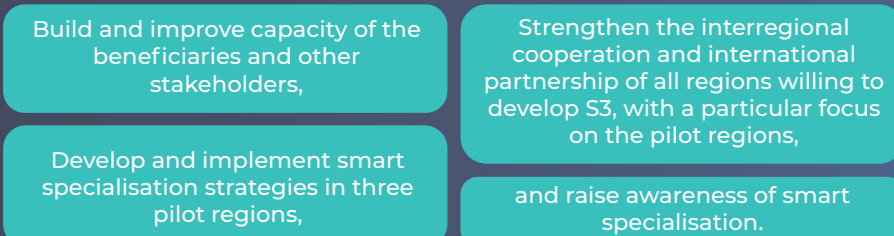
As the smart specialisation policy goes beyond sectoral boundaries, its success necessitates the engagement of various ministries, central institutions, regional stakeholders and key actors. It will entail the following stakeholders:



In addition, several institutions spanning the European Union, in particular the European Commission's Joint Research Center (JRC), the Smart Specialisation Platform (S3P), Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) and other relevant Directorates General will play crucial roles in the whole process. Moreover, the relevant institutions, initiatives and platforms of the EU Member States will be important stakeholders.

The activities implemented under this project will be meticulously aligned with EU methodologies while being customised to fit institutional characteristics of Türkiye.

The project will:



The CEDIS3 project will be a new milestone in the innovation-based sustainable growth journey of Türkiye and its regions.

This publication has been produced with the financial support of the European Union and the Republic of Türkiye. Only the consortium led by DAI Global Belgium SRL is responsible for the content of the publication and in no way can it be interpreted as reflecting the views of the European Union and the Republic of Türkiye.

