



International cooperation beyond EU

Over the past years, localised innovation policies inspired by EU regional innovation and smart specialisation approach have gained prominence beyond the EU, namely in Latin America and Asia.

The workshop will explore how smart specialisation engages with global value chains and production networks, and how firms, regions and cities can benefit from relationships across the borders.

A recent **EU-China joint study on regional innovation policies** explored good practices on both sides and identified potential cooperation for European regions and cities to cooperate with Chinese counterparts.

It will present as well final results and lessons learnt from two EU funded projects on regional innovation policies: **INNOVACT (promotion of cross-border value chains in Latin America)** and **INNOV-AL (promotion of decentralised innovation policies)** on the identification and implementation of decentralised, regional-level innovation and smart specialisation policies, including its cross-border dimension.

It will enable a large audience to know the experiences shared and main lessons learnt and attract the interest of EU regions to participate in follow up cooperation actions from 2021, namely the IUC programme (www.iuc.eu) that will promote cooperation between EU and Chinese regions or Latin American regions.

Social media coverage during the event will enable those who cannot attend to nonetheless learn from the experiences shared.

Speakers (10-15 minutes max. each)

Dr. Robert Hassink, Professor University of Kiel

Dr. Lun Liu, Professor University of Peking

Dr. Silke Haarich, INNOVACT Project Director, Spatial Foresight GmbH

Dr. Jaime del Castillo, INNOV-AL Project Director, INFYDE

Dr. Vitarque Coelho, Coordinator for Regional Development Strategy. Specialist in Public Policy and Government Management, Ministry of Regional Development, Brazil.

Robert Hassink is Professor of Economic Geography at Kiel University in Germany. He received his PhD in 1992 from the University of Utrecht, the Netherlands. Beyond his academic career, Robert has worked as researcher and consultant at several research institutes and universities in the Netherlands, Germany, Norway and South Korea. Over the years, he has carried out various research projects on regional innovation policies, industrial restructuring and regional economic development in Western Europe and East Asia, particularly South Korea. He is the co-author of the EU China Regional Policy Study currently under elaboration.

Liu Lun is an assistant professor and researcher at the School of Government and Management, Peking University, and a PhD in the Department of Land Economics, University of Cambridge. Her main research areas are urban governance, urban policy evaluation and simulation, urban big data analysis and artificial intelligence applications. She has completed 3 books, published more than 20 academic papers in Chinese and English, served as reviewer for more than 10 academic journals at home and abroad, and published articles listed as journals Most Downloaded Articles, Editor's Exclusive Choice, etc. She is the co-author of the EU China Regional Policy Study currently under elaboration.

Silke N. Haarich holds a PhD in economic sciences, from the University of the Basque Country (Spain) and a Master's Degree in spatial planning from the University of Dortmund (Germany). She works as policy advisor and analyst at Spatial Foresight, mainly in strategy design and evaluation of regional development strategies and programmes, especially in the field of cohesion policy, regional innovation policies and strategies, and territorial cooperation. She has work experience in several European and Latin American countries in the field of regional innovation strategies, territorial cooperation and evaluation. Silke is Project Coordinator of the EU-CELAC INNOVACT Platform (DG REGIO) structuring the knowledge transfer from EU regions to Latin America about 'Innovation to promote territorial cohesion'. INNOVACT is implemented by a consortium of several companies including Technopolis, Spatial Foresight, Tecnalía and the Association of European Border Regions.

Dr Jaime del Castillo an economist and holds a PhD from the University of the Basque Country (Spain). He is a well-known expert at national and international level in the fields of regional innovation and competitiveness. Through his own consultancy INFYDE, Jaime has implemented more than 30 regional innovation projects in Latin America, partly for the EU (DG REGIO) and partly for the local, regional and national governments in Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia and Mexico. He has participated as speaker in numerous European forums on smart specialisation and round tables of different nature. Through these activities, Jaime has a unique access to knowledge on regional innovation in Latin America and Europe.

Dr Vitarque L. P. Coelho holds a PhD in Economic Development from the State University of Campinas (Brazil). He makes part of the official career of Specialist in Government Management and Public Policies of the Ministry of Economy in Brazil, now under service in the Ministry of Regional Development. His academic and professional work focuses on Regional and Urban Economics, Social-Economic and Productive Development, Management of Public Policy Networks and Technology and Innovation.