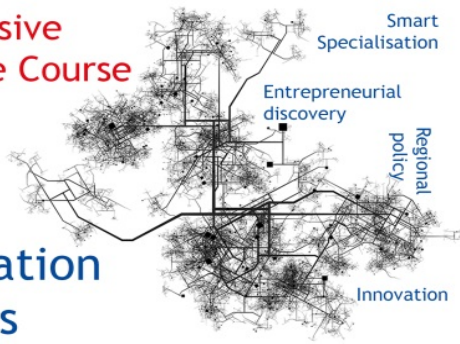


MOOC - Massive  
Open Online Course

Smart  
Specialisation  
Strategies



ΠΕΡΙΦΕΡΕΙΑ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ  
REGION OF CRETE



# *“Smart Specialisation challenges and opportunities in the region of Crete”*

*-2017-*



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## Crete at a glance

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- ✓ **Largest island of Greece**
- ✓ **Size: 8336 square km**
- ✓ **Population (2011) 623.065**
- ✓ **GDP per capita in PPS**
  - **2008: 21.400 EUR**
  - **2014: 17.300 EUR**
- ✓ **Unemployment**
  - **2010: 12%**
  - **2014: 24%**
- ✓ **Main economic sectors:**
  - **Primary sector, Agriculture, Tourism, Services**

# Strong local academic community

- ✓ Scientific excellence
- ✓ Innovative research
- ✓ Significant R&D infrastructures
- ✓ International recognition



# FORTH

FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY - HELLAS



# CIHEAM

MAI CHANIA

Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania



University of Crete



# Technical University of Crete



Hellenic Center of Marine Research



# praxi

help-forward network



# TEI of Crete

Technological Educational Institute of Crete

# Regional Innovation Policymaking: experience from the past

- ✓ **Strong performance in tailor-made regional innovation planning**
- ✓ **Place-based STI initiatives**
- ✓ **Tradition in bottom-up innovation actions**
  - ✓ *RITTS Crete Project (1997-2000)*
  - ✓ *CRETE INNOVATIVE REGION - CRINNO(2003-2005)*
  - ✓ *Regional Innovation Pole (2007-2008)*



# Smart Specialisation practices

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➔ **Starting point (2012)**

➔ **RIS3 working group**

➔ **Consultation Processes**

➔ **Entrepreneurial Process of Discovery**

➔ **Pilot actions (2016)**

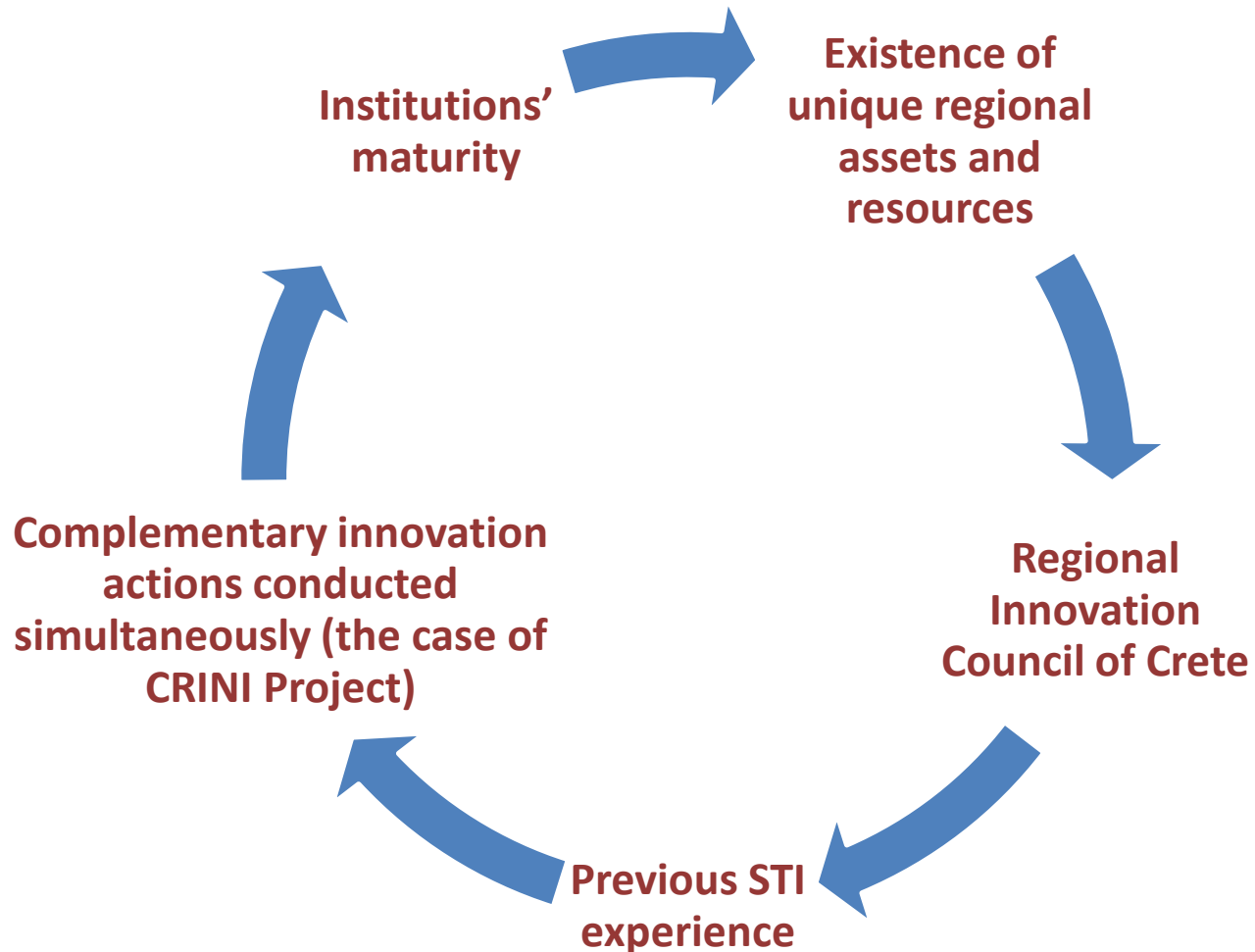


➔ **Innovation Platforms (2017)**

# RIS3 tools & infrastructures

## Critical Success Factors for Crete

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## RIS3 challenges for Crete (i)

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- ✓ Concentrating natural resources and linking them with RIS3 opportunities
- ✓ Limited critical mass in the private sector
- ✓ Tailor-made micro and meso-level capacity building
- ✓ Regional VS national governance
- ✓ National & EU regulations VS RIS3 implementation
- ✓ Massive mobilisation of key local actors, critical synergies

## RIS3 challenges for Crete (ii)

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- ✓ **Fiscal barriers and budget cuts**
- ✓ **Political setting challenges (e.g. political will of the national government to allow more regional STI action)**
- ✓ **Regional autonomy and paradigm shift (make better conditions for RIS3)**
- ✓ **Setting multilevel governance mechanisms (balancing top-down & bottom-up approaches)**
- ✓ **Monitoring and review system**



## RIS3 opportunities for Crete (i)

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### Smart specialisation could help Crete:

- ✓ **Make structural reforms and create new trajectories of growth**
- ✓ **Achieve improvements in the current developmental model of Crete**
- ✓ **Support quadruple helix linkages**
- ✓ **Change public administration pathogeneses**
- ✓ **Conduct a robust evidence-based analysis and make regional innovation planning in the long-run**

## RIS3 opportunities for Crete (ii)

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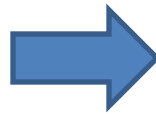
- ✓ Stimulate international exploitation of local economic assets (e.g. local cuisine, agro-food products) to achieve a breakthrough
  
- ✓ Consider RIS3 as significant source of innovation learning and strategic thinking (e.g. establishment of permanent learning mechanisms)
  - Do we still need 'business as usual' models in innovation policymaking?
  - One-size-fits-all VS Tailor-made design & planning
  
- ✓ RIS3 approach helps Crete move regional innovation planning forward
  - Improve STI practices at the regional level
  - Identify the right innovation policy mix

## RIS3 opportunities for Crete (iii)

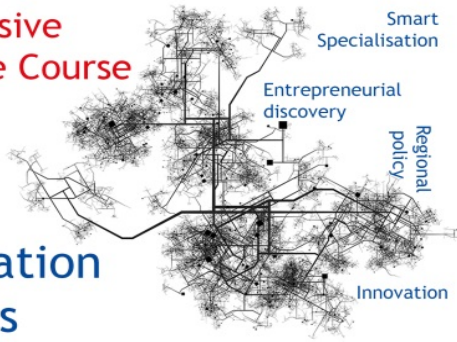
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If not now, when?

- ✓ Moving from 'business as usual' models to more sophisticated and tailor-made practices



**Moving Beyond  
Business as Usual**



## Interesting questions for further reflection

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- ✓ **What types of capabilities would be more relevant for Crete to develop successful RIS3 strategies?**
- ✓ **How could Crete overcome the serious problems that the financial crisis has brought in the spotlight to implement its RIS3 strategies?**