Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

European Cluster Policy – using clusters to support European SMEs

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Investing in a smart, innovative & sustainable Industry: A renewed EU Industrial Policy Strategy

Strengthening Innovation in Europe's Regions: Strategies for resilient, inclusive & sustainable growth

Europe's next leaders: The Start-up & Scale-up Initiative

EU Policy Framework for Clusters
Cluster policies at centre of regional, national & international industrial policies

- **31 national cluster programmes**
in 20 European countries with different extent of support

- **High importance for regions with 2.320 billion € of envisaged ESIF investments (2014-2020)**

- Many **non-European countries too use clusters to promote growth**, e.g. Canada's industrial supercluster

=> crucial instrument for economic development
European Cluster Policy Forum

Synergies between cluster initiatives and industrial, innovation and regional policies, especially in relation to smart specialisation, SMEs scaling-up and cross-sectoral collaboration.

Using clusters in supporting entrepreneurship and the scaling-up of SMEs.

Using cluster partnerships to help clusters & their members go international.

Cluster capacity-building & professionalisation of cluster management (Erasmus for cluster managers).

Dialogue among all EU Member States, European Commission & experts about modern cluster policies.

watch here: https://youtu.be/hoAtGU1casQ
EU cluster initiatives
Building bridges across Europe's ecosystems

Clusters as accelerators for innovation & industrial change

Inter-regional & international cluster cooperation

Capacity-building

DIGI
EIT
Climate-KIC
INNOSUP-1
HORIZON 2020
Interreg
ESCP.S3
ESCP.4i Partnership
COSME
Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs 2014-2020

Cluster Excellence Programme
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Towards Joint Cluster Initiatives

- Industry-focused actions guided by joint strategies of **specialised SME intermediaries**

- Thematically targeted, with **cross-regional and cross-sectoral outreach to SMEs**

- Channelling scale-up support to groups of SMEs to boost **industrial transformation**

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**Building EU value chains, industrial modernisation & capacity building**

**Skills upgrading, talent attraction & entrepreneurship acceleration**

**Boosting internationalisation & access to global value chains**
Joint Cluster Initiatives creating linkages with other policies

- **Sustainable partnering** with continuation funding allowing long-term planning and engagement of industry and public authorities

- **Strategic tool for the acceleration and implementation of other policies**, notably for
  - smart specialisation strategies and Cohesion Policy investments,
  - (digital) innovation hubs,
  - Horizon Europe with the European Innovation Council etc.,
  - Erasmus,
  - *Cities and Regions*,
  - and others...

- **Scalable potential** to use SME intermediaries of Joint Cluster Initiatives and Enterprise Europe Network to implement further scaling-up support to SMEs

Recital 28 of the proposal for a Regulation establishing the Programme for single market, competitiveness of enterprises, including SMEs, and European statistics: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/single-market-programme-legal-texts-and-factsheets_en
Scope for more?

EU Superclusters

➔ focusing on EU Strategic value chains
➔ moving towards a value-based economy
➔ creating more shared-value
➔ born European acting globally

Commission expert group on Clusters

Composed of representatives of the Member States (nominated) and individual experts (selected through a call for the expression of interest)
Thank you

https://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/cluster
http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/

@Clusters_EU

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High Level Conference

Digital Cities Challenge:
A strategy for EU cities in the 21st Century

05 June 2019
Social economy in clusters

• Locally anchored and resilient
• Reinvest profit in social impact
• Create social impact by doing business

• Main drivers for Social innovation
• Source of skilled and motivated staff

➔ Shared value principle

➔ Co-creators of competitive and sustainable values