



**Internal Market, Industry,
Entrepreneurship and SMEs**

EU Cluster Policies and challenges ahead

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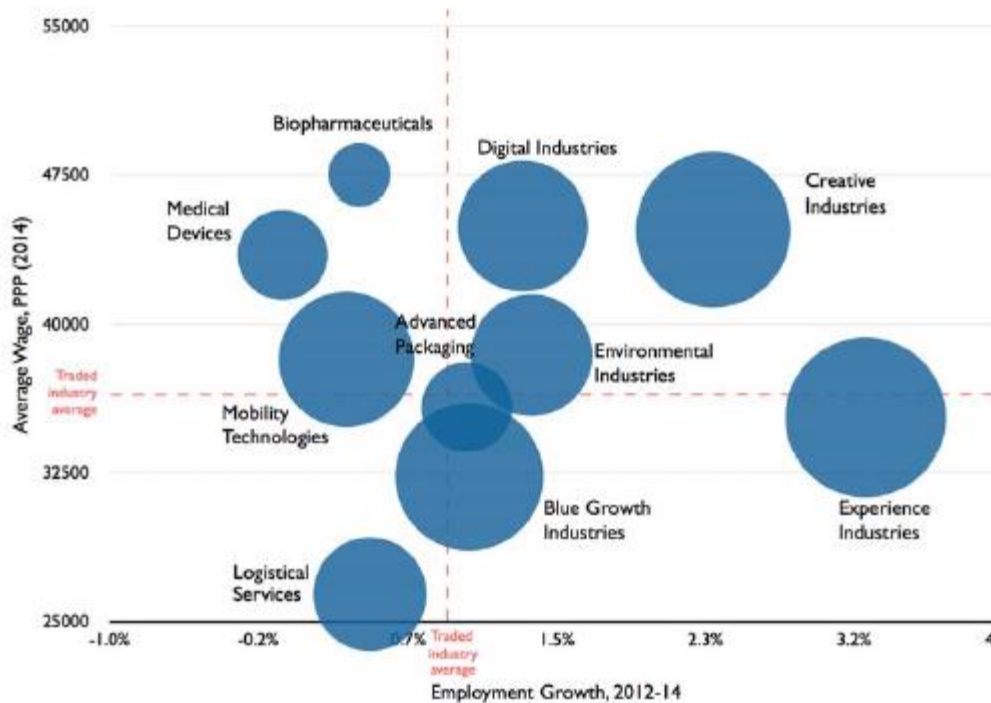
First European Cluster Policy Forum

22 February 2018, Brussels

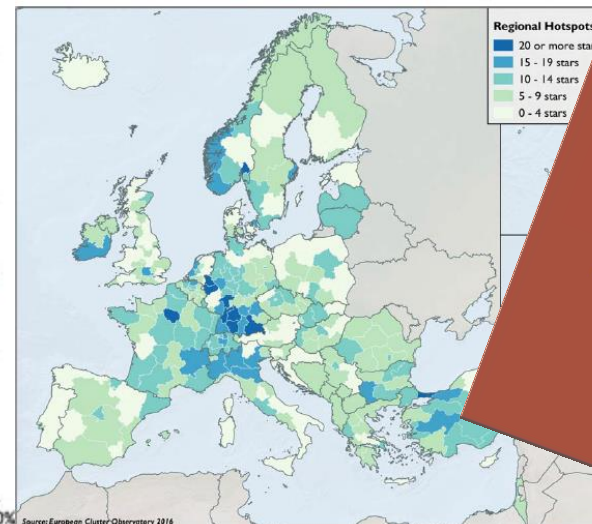
Clusters matter in Europe



- 3043 **strong clusters** account for more than 54 million jobs
- **Gazelles** in strong clusters employ 35 staff compared to 24 elsewhere
- **Wages** in strong clusters are 3% higher than elsewhere
- 40% of activity in **emerging industries** concentrated in 20% of regions



European Cluster Panorama 2016





European
Commission



*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*

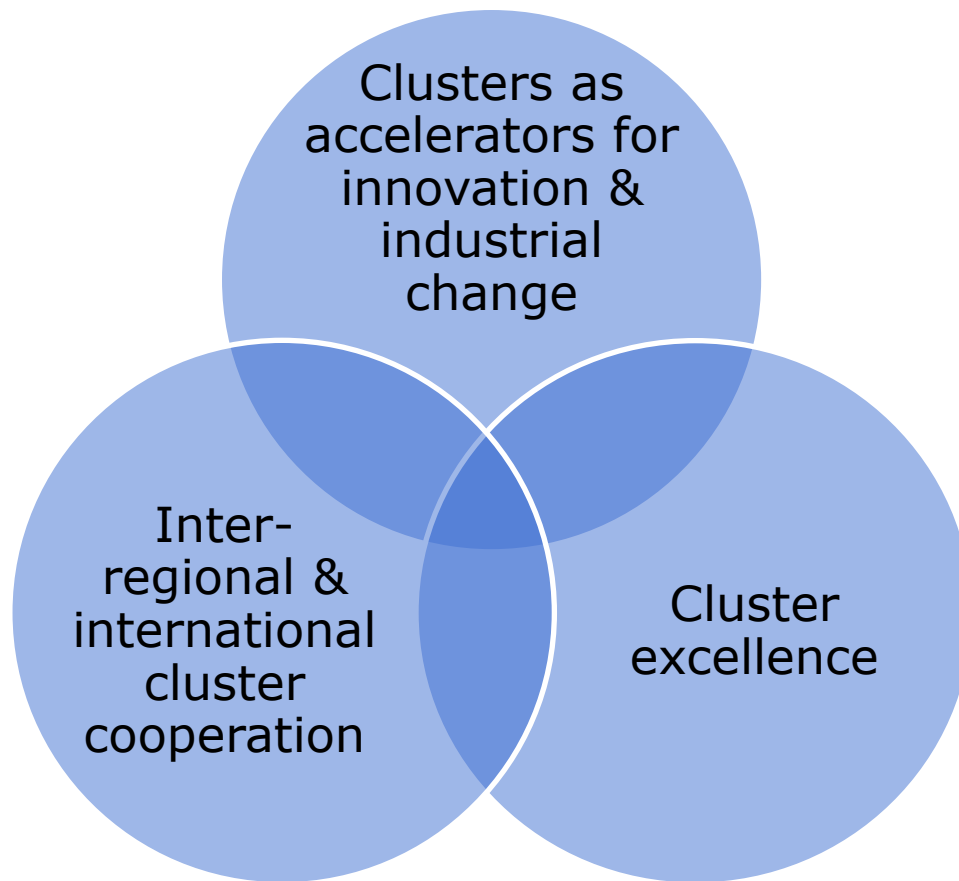


*Europe's next
leaders:*

*The Start-up & Scale-
up Initiative*

EU Policy Framework for Clusters

European cluster strategy for growth



EU Cluster initiatives

Invest in cluster
excellence



**Knowledge & Innovation Communities
(EIT)**



Cluster Excellence Programme (COSME)



European Cluster Collaboration Platform



**Cluster Internationalisation Programme,
Eur. Strategic Cluster Partnerships (COSME)**



Interreg (ESIF)



**European Observatory for Clusters &
Industrial Change**



S3 Platform for Industrial Modernisation



**Cluster facilitated projects for new industrial
value chains (Horizon2020)**

Promote cluster
collaboration

Cross-sectoral
value chains

Using clusters to facilitate value chain innovation & industrial transformation

Promoting collaboration and innovation across regional and sectoral silos & accelerating industrial change and smart specialisation synergies

- Cluster facilitated projects for new industrial value chains (Horizon2020 Innosup-1, ca. €130 million)
- European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for smart specialisation investments (COSME 2017, €2.8 million)
- Resource efficiency: Green Action Plan for SMEs (European Resource Efficiency Excellence Centre, Low Carbon Business Action with Mexico, Brazil & more)
- European Observatory for Clusters & Industrial Change (COSME 2016, €2.8 million)



Cluster facilitated projects for new industrial value chains **INNOSUP-1**



To develop new industrial value chains & foster emerging industries across the EU by supporting cross-sectoral & cross-regional innovation in SMEs through clusters

- 9 ongoing projects reaching out to over 3,000 SMEs & supporting nearly 500 SMEs directly, e.g. through innovation vouchers (€60,000)
- Max € 5 million per project with 75% of budget to support innovation in SMEs
- during 2015-2020, INNOSUP-1 aims to support 2,000 SMEs directly (€ 130 million)



Mapping cluster strengths

Analysing industrial
transformations

Identifying growth hotspots

Connecting regional ecosystems

Supporting modern cluster policy



Cluster Internationalisation Programme for SMEs (COSME, €19 million)

Supporting SME access to global value chains through clusters



European Cluster Collaboration Platform

- The hub connecting clusters across Europe and beyond
- Over **700 cluster organisations profiled** !!!



EUROPEAN
CLUSTER COLLABORATION
PLATFORM

International cluster matchmaking events in third countries and Europe

- European Cluster Matchmaking Event, Brussels, 22 Feb. 2018
- "Clusters Go international" Partnering Event, Brussels, 21 Feb. 2018
- EU-Ukraine Cluster Policy Learning and Matchmaking Event, Kiev, 27-28 March 2018 in the context of the EU-Ukraine High level Industrial Dialogue
- EU-US Cluster Cooperation and Matchmaking Event, Europe, End May/June 2018 (tbd)
- EU-Taiwan Cluster Cooperation and Matchmaking Event, Taipei, June 2018 (tbd)
- EU-Canada Cluster Cooperation and Matchmaking Event, Canada, 2nd half 2018 (tbd)
- EU-Western Balkan countries Policy Learning and Matchmaking Event (tbc)



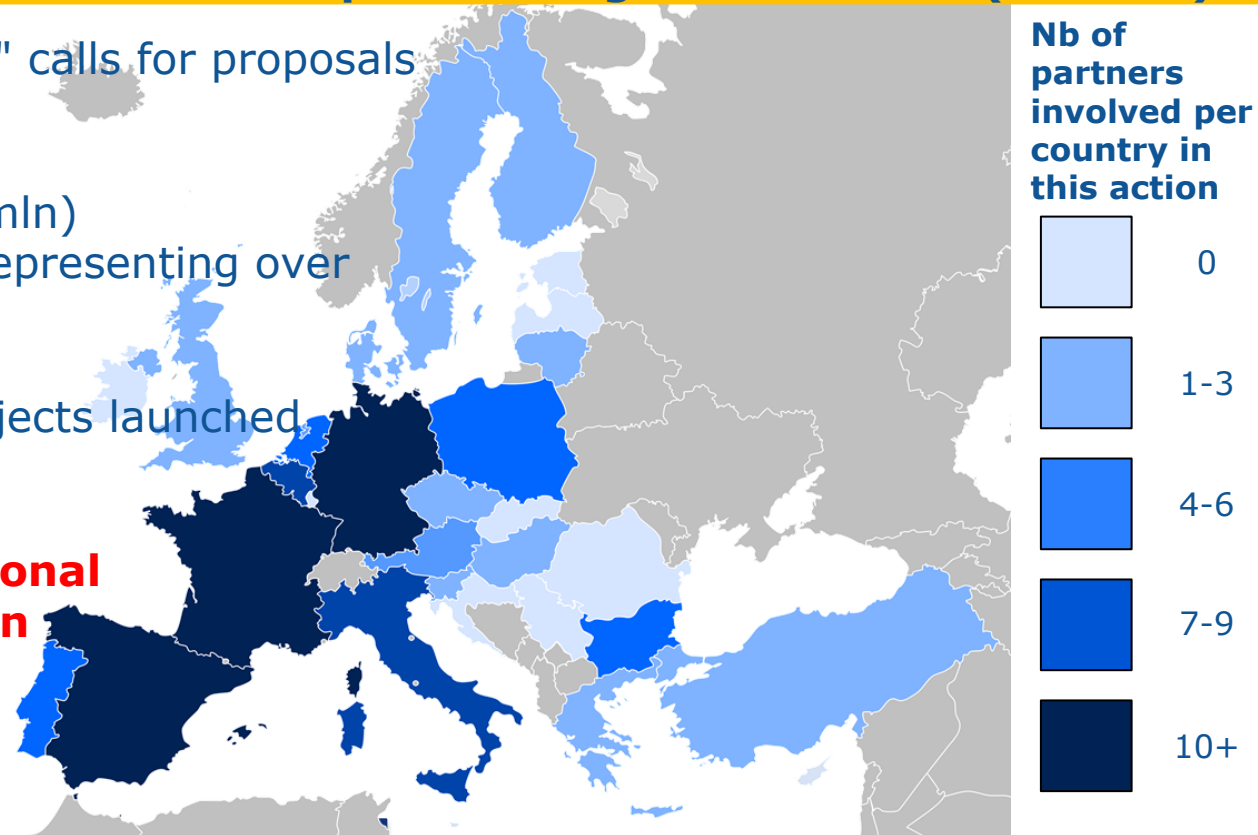
European Strategic Cluster Partnerships – Going International (ESCP-4i)

'Clusters Go International' action

Promoting cluster cooperation for industrial leadership in global markets through

European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for Going International (ESCP-4i)

- 2 "Cluster Go International" calls for proposals (2015 & 2017)
- so far 15 projects (€4.3 mln)
→ 98 cluster organisations representing over 10,000 SMEs
- 2018-2019 → 23 new projects launched (€5.8 mln)
- Supporting **joint international strategies & collaboration with partners in third countries** for the benefit of SMEs



Cluster Excellence programme

To raise innovation capacity & competitiveness of clusters by focusing on cluster management

- **COSME calls (€8.25m)**

- 11 projects with 57 clusters organizations & 83 cluster managers involved for the benefit of almost 11,000 SMEs

- **Cluster Excellence Initiative (2nd phase with €300,000 ad-hoc grant)**

- Review & improve the European cluster labelling system

- Set clear European Principles to increase transparency, accountability & efficiency

- Reinforce cluster management excellence expertise across the EU & worldwide

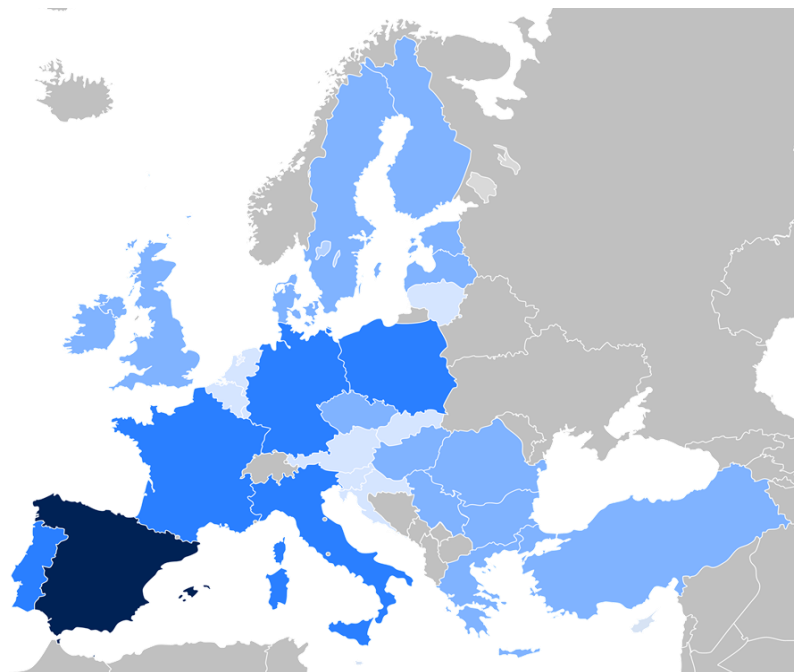
- Build-up an inclusive & sustainable management structure for the labelling process at EU level

Supporting cluster excellence

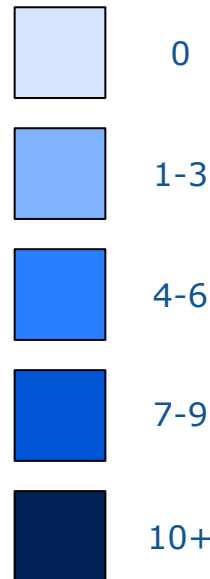
Supporting capacity building through benchmarking, training, twinning and labelling of cluster management

Cluster Excellence Programme for SMEs (COSME, €8.25 mln)

Next call 2018



Nb of partners
involved across 11
projects per
country



→ Contributed to
nearly 1,000 clusters
having been labelled
in 41 countries
60,000 SMEs involved

Outlook for European Cluster Policy

High-Level Expert Group on Clusters to be set-up in 2018

New European Cluster Policy Forum supported by the European Observatory for Clusters and Industrial Change

European Cluster Week 2018 or 2019

Stronger use of thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms

Moving towards Joint Cluster Initiatives (value chains, innovation, internationalisation, skills, entrepreneurship)

Moving towards Joint Cluster Initiatives

Connecting specialised eco-systems and clusters across Europe to boost industrial modernisation with a value chain focus

Dedicated support for more strategic and sustainable inter-regional collaboration related to specialisation priorities of regions

Using SME intermediaries to channel scale-up support to groups of SMEs

Focus on accelerating SME growth (covering business dev. & skills, advanced manufacturing and technologies, digital, resource-efficiency, internationalisation)

Linkages with the Enterprise Europe Network and mobility schemes

Joint investments across regional, sectoral and technological boundaries



INDUSTRY

clusters at
EU Industry Day
22-23 February 2018

#EUIndustryDay #InvestEU

Pre-events

European Resource Efficiency Knowledge Centre (EREK)

20/02, 13:30 - 15:00 session
Charlemagne building

- Competitive use of resources
- SME support

Cluster Go International Partnering Event*

21/02, 10:00 - 18:00
Thon Brussels City Centre Hotel

- Helping SMEs going international
 - Strategic interregional collaboration
 - EU Cluster Partnerships
- Followed by a networking event
co-hosted by the German state
Rhineland - Palatinate*



Industry Day 1

European Cluster Matchmaking Event

22/02, 10:00 - 17:45
Crowne Plaza Hotel

- Teaming up cluster organisations
- Finding strategic partners

First European Cluster Policy Forum*

22/02, 11:30 - 18:00
Crowne Plaza Hotel & Covent Garden

- Dialogue towards modern cluster policy
- Clusters driving industrial change and growth

Industry Day 2

Cluster and Partnerships for EU value chains

23/02, 13:30 - 15:00 session
Crowne Plaza Hotel or Covent Garden

- Making better use of clusters for industrial policy
- Strengthening EU value chains through clusters
- Connecting ecosystems via clusters



For more see

<http://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/clusters/>
<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu>



or the Smart Guide to Cluster Policy, available at
<http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/regional-policies/>

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