

Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Towards Joint Cluster Initiatives

Carsten Schierenbeck
Team Leader
Clusters, Social Economy &
Entrepreneurship

Clusters in Europe IV Conference
Budapest, 30 November 2017



*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*



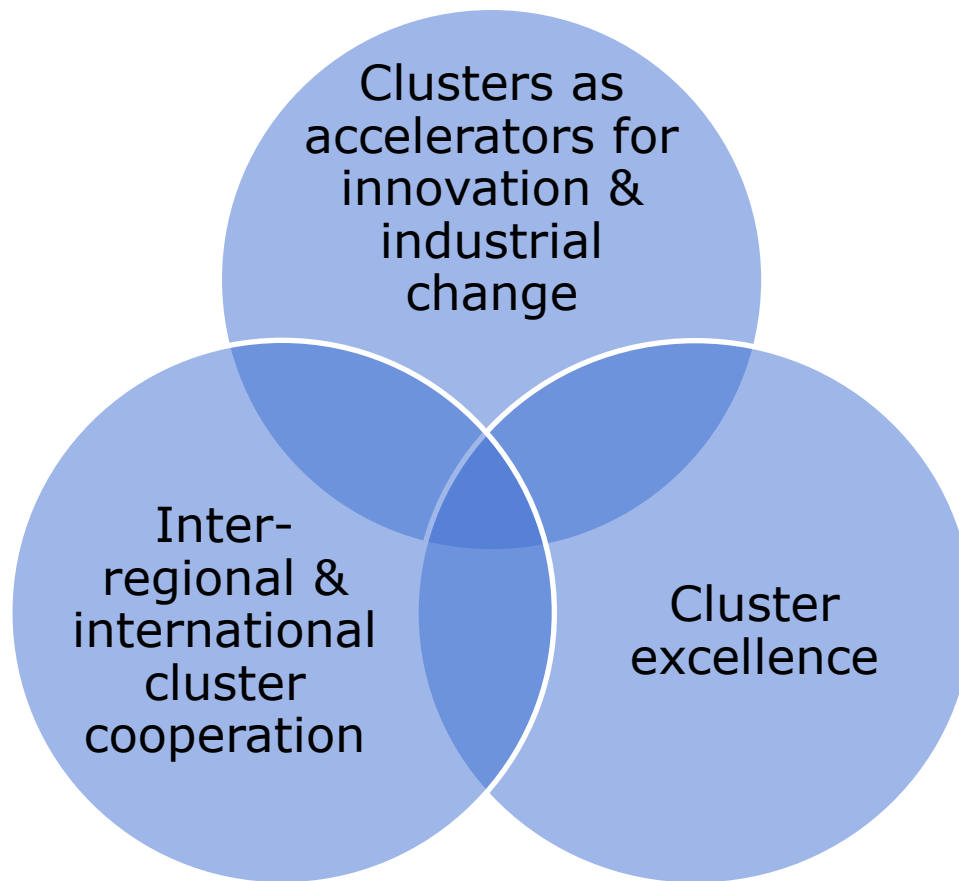
EU Policy Framework for Clusters

Current EU Cluster initiatives



+ linkages with PPPs under Horizon2020, European Innovation Partnerships, Joint Technology Initiatives, Joint Programming Initiatives, Knowledge and Sector Skills Alliances, Enterprise Europe Network, etc.

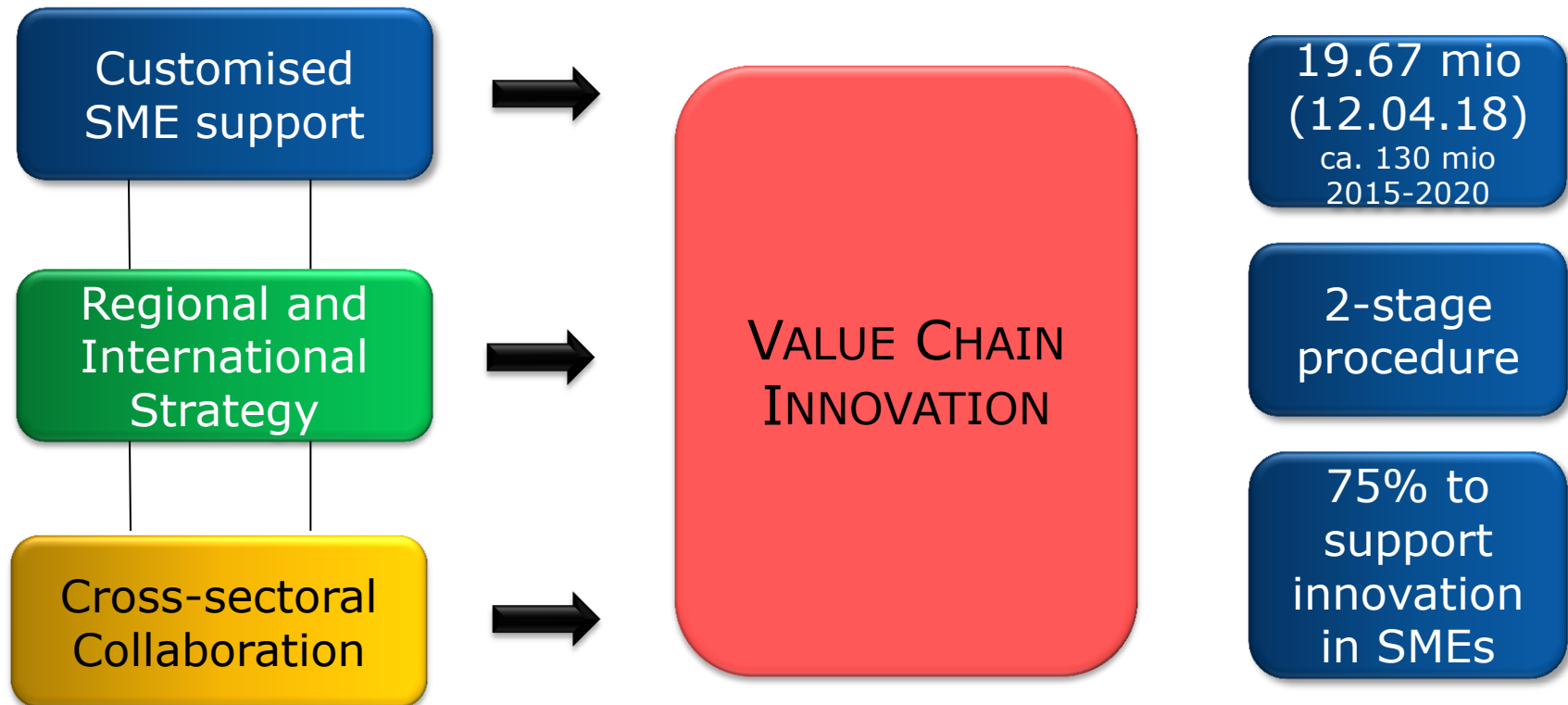
European cluster strategy for growth



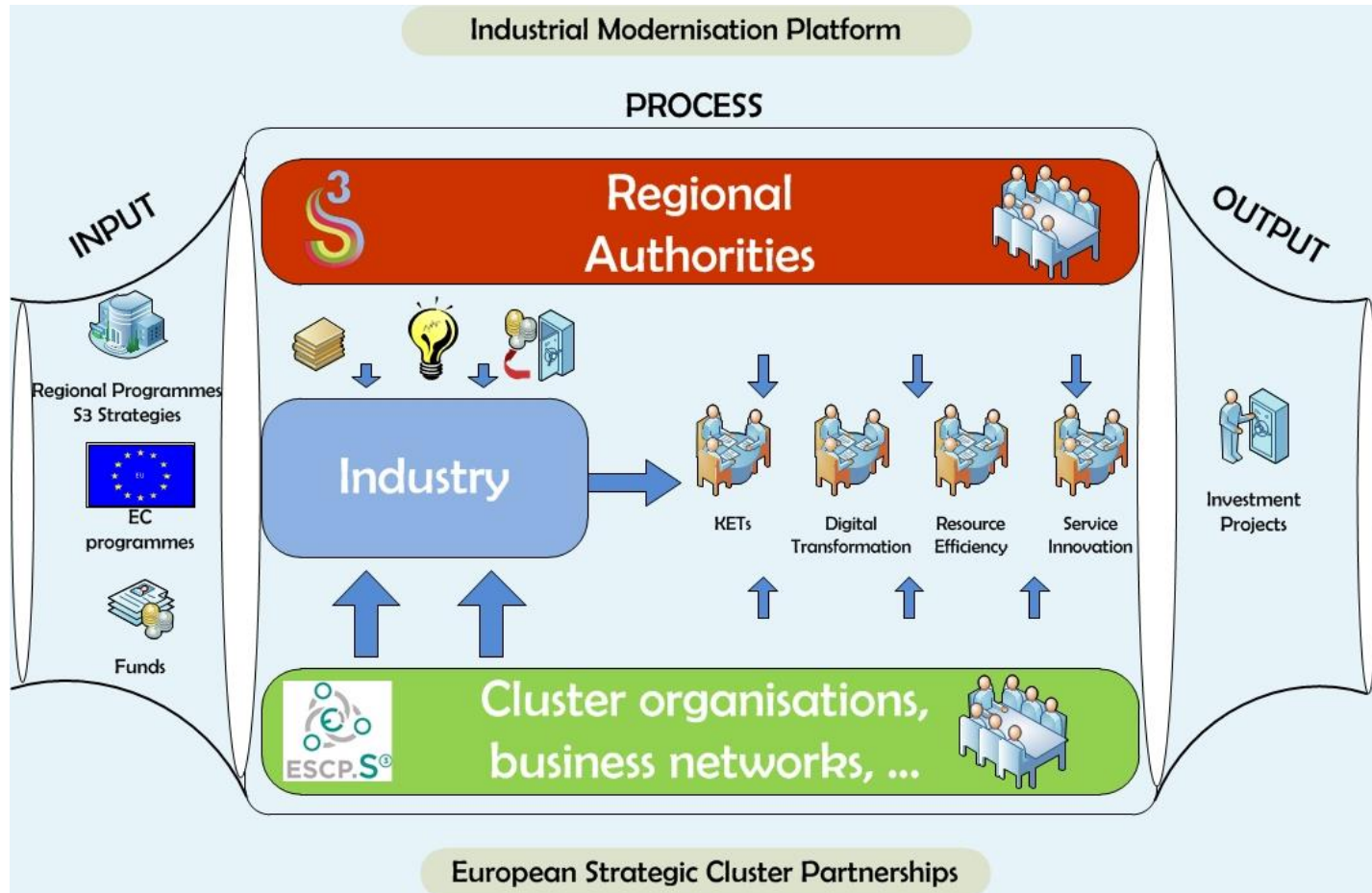
Using clusters to facilitate value chain innovation and industrial transformation



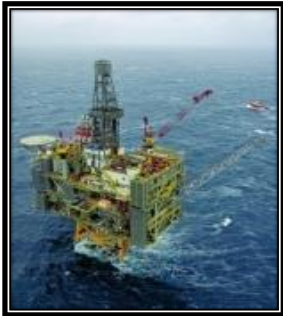
Using cluster organisations to facilitate value chain innovation & industrial transformation



Strategic cross-regional collaboration



60+ regions involved in 10 thematic areas under Smart Specialisation Platform for Industrial Modernisation



**Advanced
manufacturing
for energy
applications**



3D Printing



**Innovative
use of non-
food biomass**



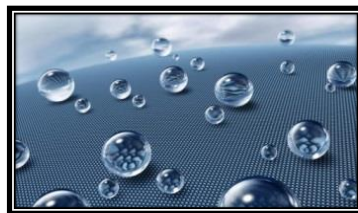
**Efficient &
Sustainable
Manufacturing**



**Nano-
Enabled
Products**



Industry 4.0



Textile Innovation



Medical Technology



Sports Innovation

European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for smart specialisation investments



Preparatory Phase

Implementation Phase

Investment Phase

Partnership building
Joint strategy formulation
Implementation roadmap
SME surveys
Value chain mapping

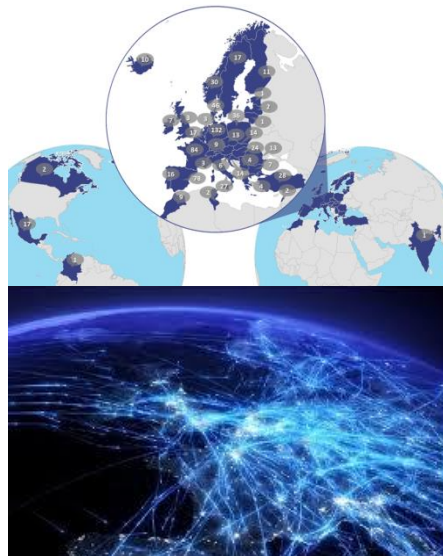
Matchmaking
Joint activities,
demonstration projects,
pilots, preparation of
bankable proposals

Additional private/public
financing
Acceleration support
Showcasing results

Joint activities to strengthen cluster cooperation across the partnership
Gathering feed-back from SMEs on their barriers to innovation, skills, cooperation and investment
Building linkages with other European, national and regional initiatives and networks

COSME call for proposal to be published in December 2017, €2.8 million for 8 Partnerships, partnering via
<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/news/call-expression-interest-towards-european-strategic-cluster-partnerships>

Supporting SME internationalisation and cluster excellence

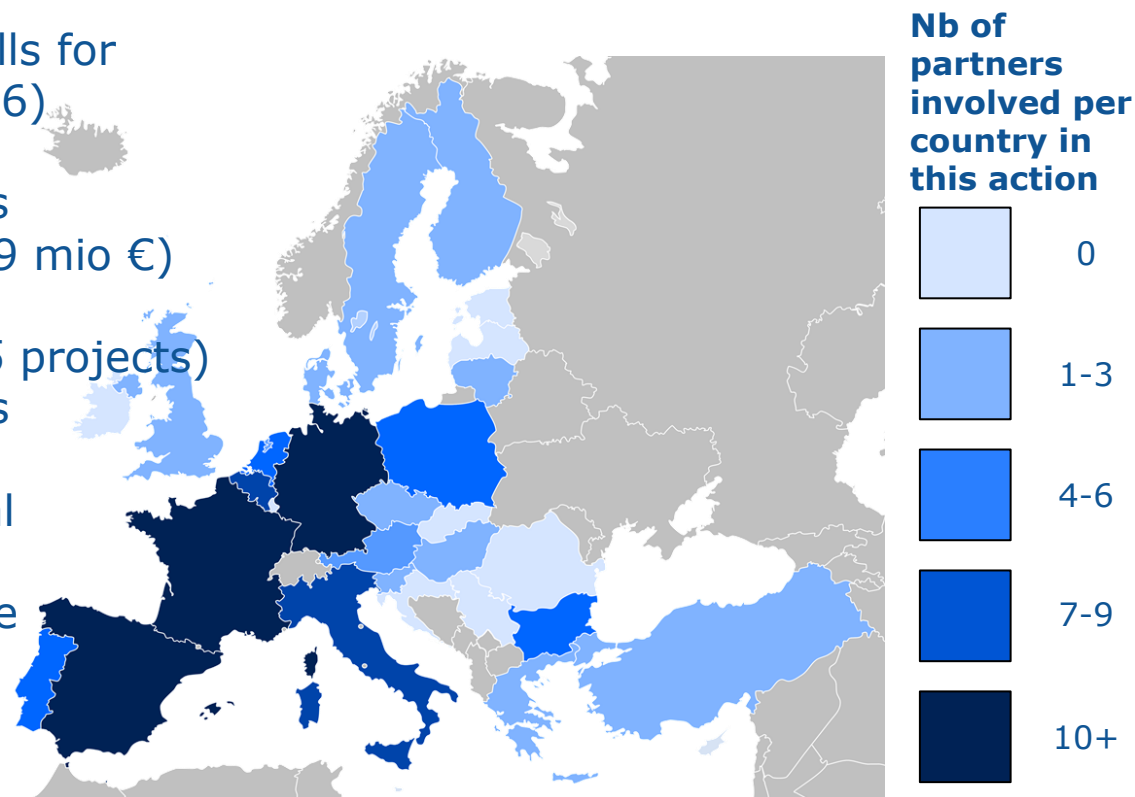


'Clusters Go International' action

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 (2014/2015 and 2016)
- **15 projects** (4.30 mio €) plus 17 expected new projects (5.79 mio €)
- **98 cluster organisations** (15 projects) representing over 10,000 SMEs

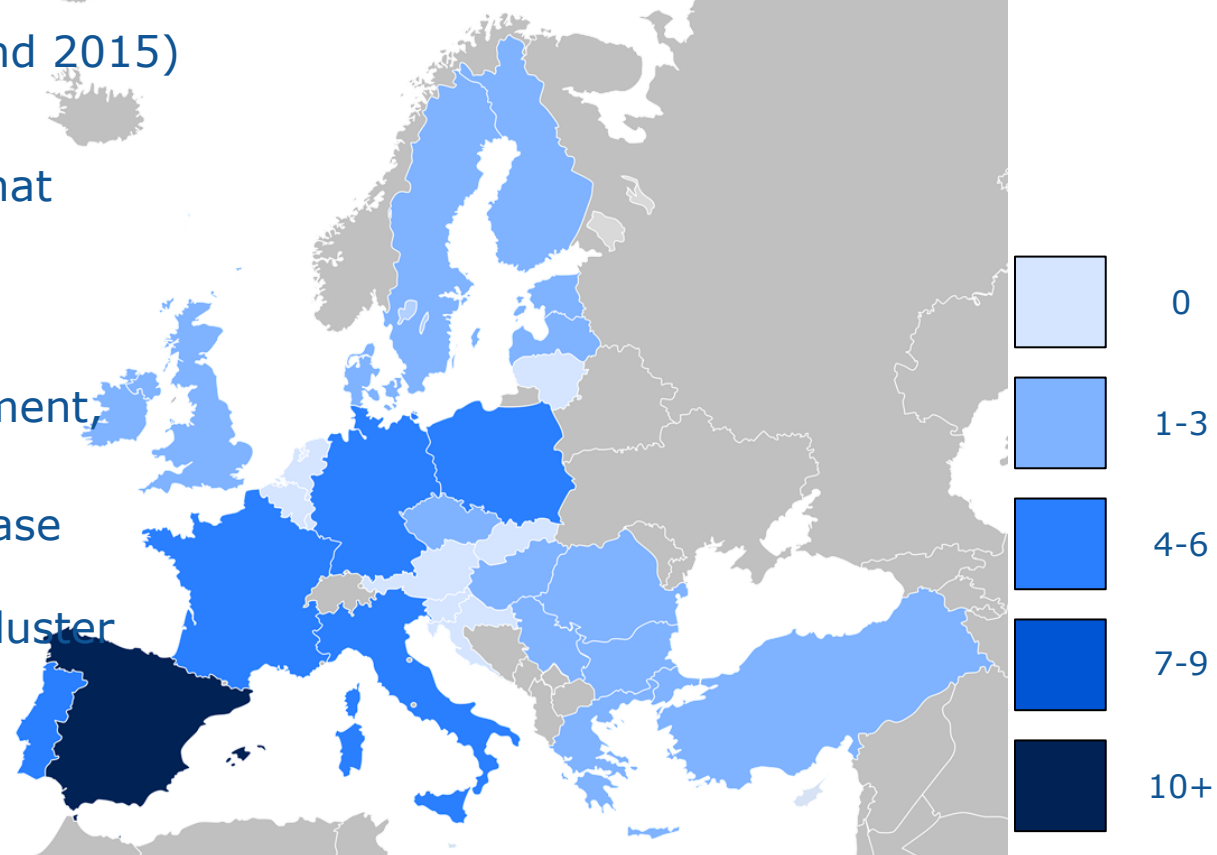
=> Supporting joint international strategies and collaboration with partners in third countries for the benefit of SMEs



Cluster excellence programme

Supporting capacity building in cluster management to raise innovation capacity and competitiveness of clusters

- 2 calls for proposals (2014 and 2015)
- **11 projects** (2.47 million)
- **57 cluster organisations** that represent over 11,000 SMEs
- Supporting benchmarking, training of cluster managers, mentoring, strategy development, cross-cluster learning
- New phase launched to increase transparency, efficiency and sustainability of labelling of cluster organisation (871 so far)
- New cluster excellence call in 2018



Cluster collaboration & intelligence tools

European Cluster Collaboration Platform

*Finding partners/cluster organisations
(partner search, matchmaking etc)*

<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu>

- Mapping over **650 cluster organisations**
- 320 clusters having 1400 meetings with internat. partners & 500 with EU partners
- International cluster matchmaking events
- The hub to connect clusters across Europe and beyond

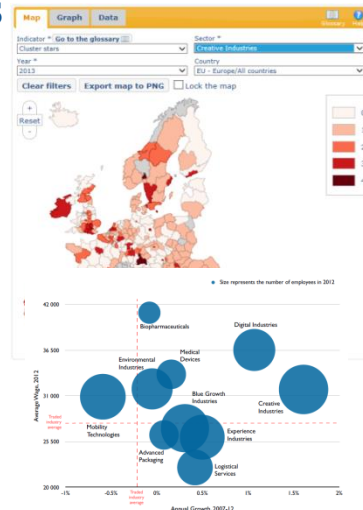


European Cluster Observatory

*becoming the European Observatory for
Clusters and Industrial Change*

*Comparing regional strength, ecosystems
(sectoral & cross-sectoral cluster mapping)*

http://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/clusters/observatory_en



- Clusters in 51 sectors & 10 emerging industries
- Regional Ecosystem Scoreboard (bottlenecks)
- Policy guidance



Complemented by the Smart Specialisation Platform, e.g. Eye@RIS tool (regional innovation policy priorities), <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/> and thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s3-thematic-platforms>

Reflections for the future

Ingredients

- 2 eggs
- 200 grams of flour
- 2 glasses of milk...



Lessons learned from cluster actions

- *Shift from supporting clusters to using clusters for creating growth opportunities for SMEs and investments*
- *Need to overcome sectoral and regional silos, e.g. by focussing on new value chains and emerging industries*
- *Need for more strategic connections across eco-systems and stronger link to smart specialisation*
 - Right mix of partners: policy-makers, intermediaries & SMEs
- *Missing funding pipeline to make strategic partnerships sustainable across specialised themes*
- *Co-creating new initiatives*



Outlook for European Cluster Policy

European Cluster Policy Forum at EU Industry Day supported by European Observatory for Clusters and Industrial Change

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

European Cluster Week 2018 or 2019

Stronger use of thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms

European Cluster Conference end of 2018/early 2019

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

Impact generation through clusters

1. Industrial transformation
2. Strategic and sustainable interregional collaboration
3. Growth acceleration of SMEs,
incl. internationalisation, entrepreneurship & upskilling





For more see

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

<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu>

<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/industrial-modernisation>



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

Clusters, Social Economy and Entrepreneurship unit (GROW.F2)

Innovation and Advanced Manufacturing Directorate

European Commission's Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

GROW-F2@ec.europa.eu

<http://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/cluster>

