

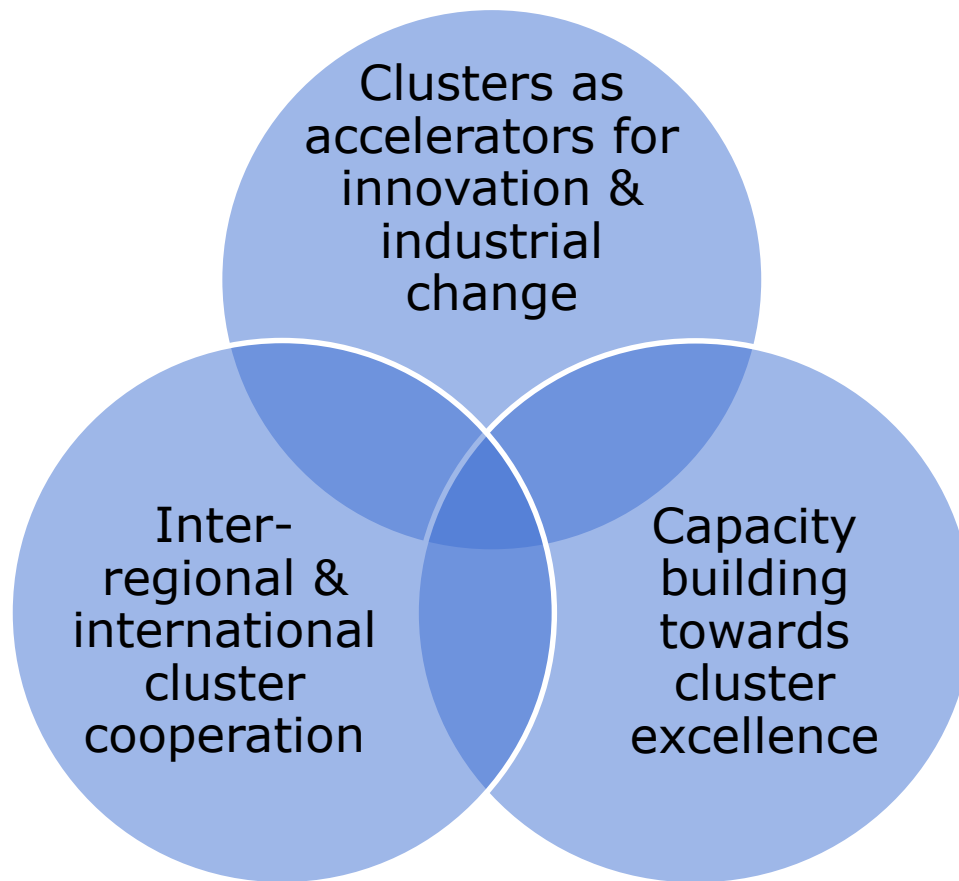
Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

European Cluster Policy updates

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Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform
Thematic workshop "Clusters as drivers of
regional innovation, SME competitiveness and
interregional cooperation"
Leuven, 20 June 2018

European cluster strategy for growth



Current EU Cluster initiatives

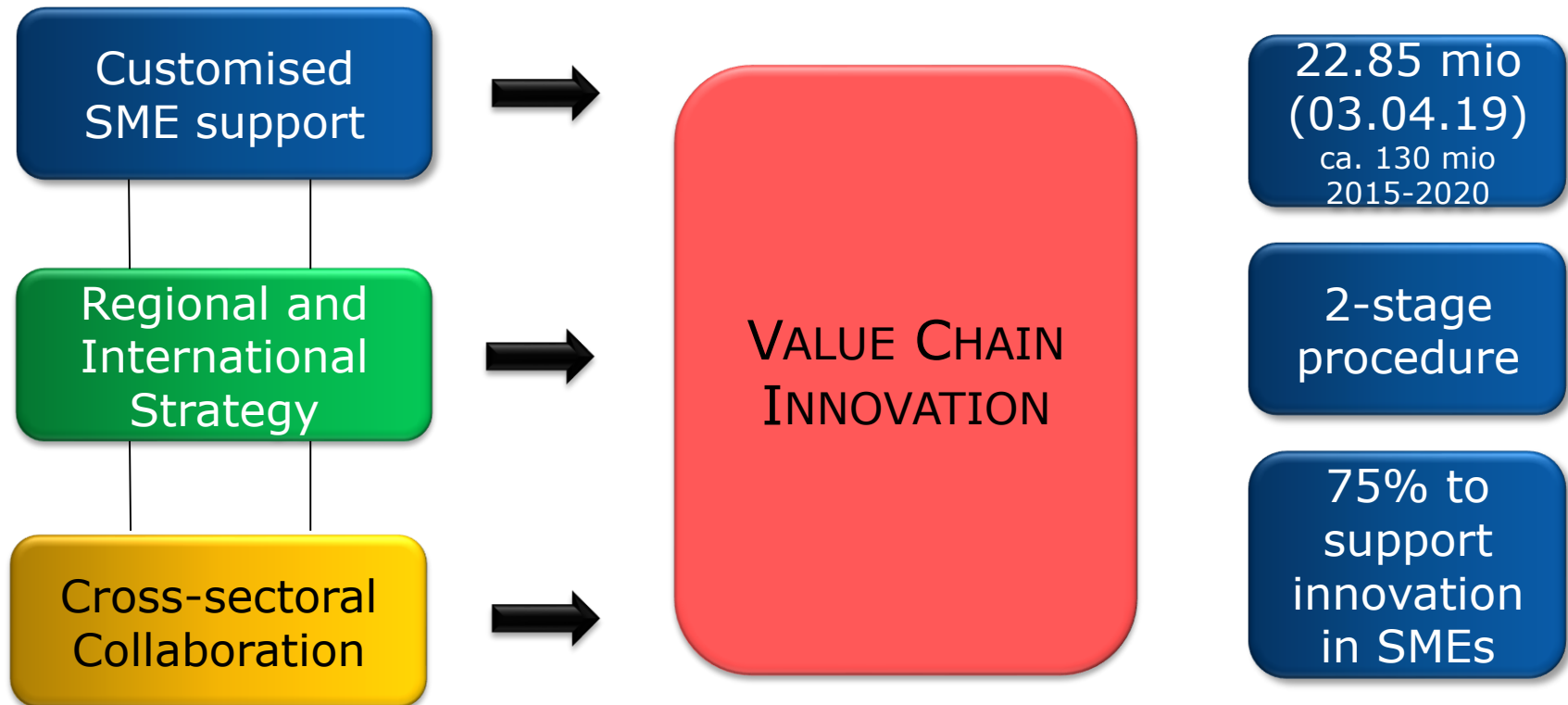


+ linkages with PPPs under Horizon2020, European Innovation Partnerships, Joint Technology Initiatives, Joint Programming Initiatives, Knowledge and Sector Skills Alliances, Enterprise Europe Network, etc.

Using clusters to facilitate value chain innovation and industrial transformation



Using cluster organisations to facilitate value chain innovation & industrial transformation



Impact monitoring

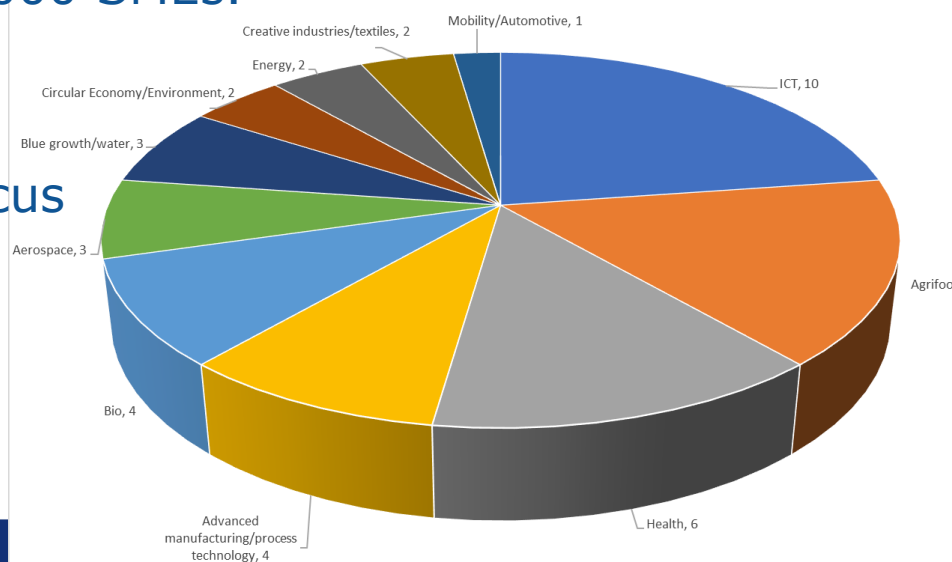


Six ongoing INNOSUP-2015 projects that started in 2016/2017:

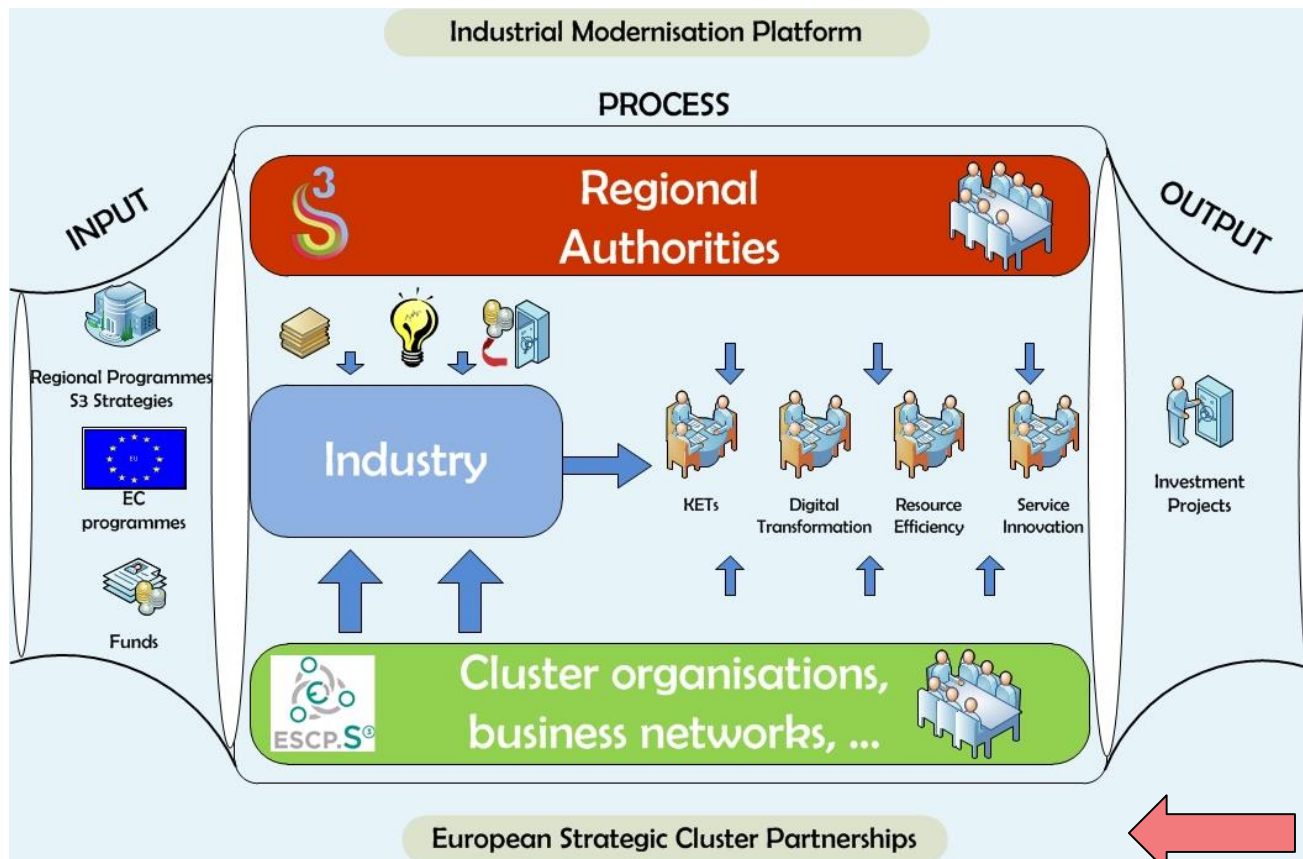
- **reached out to over 2800 SMEs** (e.g. through matchmaking events, call for ideas/collaboration projects etc.)
- are **supporting 449 SMEs directly** (e.g. through innovation support vouchers, already above 420 target at interim report)

=> 13 INNOSUP-2015-2017 projects plan to support 994 SMEs.
Overall, INNOSUP-1 may support 2000 SMEs.

=> Strong industrial transformation focus



Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Industrial Modernisation



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

**70 regions involved
in 15 thematic areas**



[GROW your REGION
background document](#)

European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for smart specialisation investments



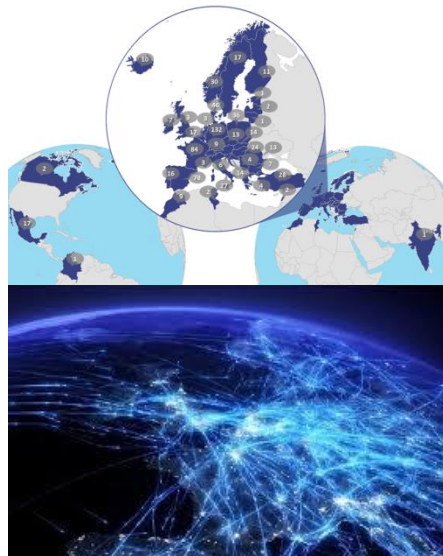
At least 8 projects to start around October 2018 (following COSME €2.8 million call for proposal)
to start the implementation of cluster partnerships to boost collaboration and investments linked to smart specialisation & industrial modernisation



Tasks:

1. Develop and implement a joint strategy and vision
2. Undertake preparatory actions
3. Implement joint activities to mobilise inter-regional collaboration & investments and provide growth support
4. Test joint activities to strengthen cluster cooperation, gather SME feed-back and to build linkage with others

Supporting SME internationalisation and cluster excellence



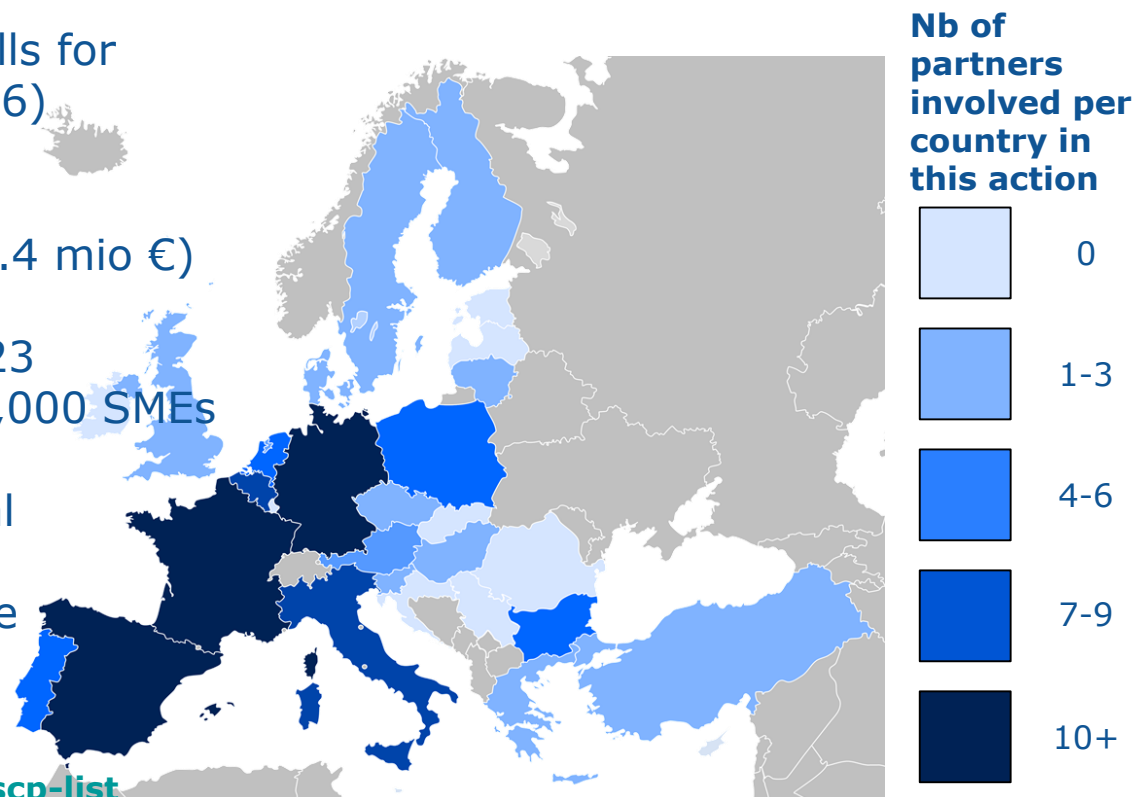
'Clusters Go International' action

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 **23+2 new projects** (6.84 +0.4 mio €)
- **123 cluster organisations** (23 projects) representing over 17,000 SMEs

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

<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/escp-list>



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

Results of first generation of 15 projects (2016-2017)

- Joint strategies to support SME internationalisation towards third countries implemented
- 2000 European SMEs have been involved generating **85 concrete business cooperation cases** with international partners
- 370 Cluster-to-Cluster events
- 3010 Business-to-Business events have been conducted
- 39 Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) and 45 collaboration projects implemented between EU clusters and international peer organisations

<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/eu-cluster-partnerships/escp-4i/first-generation/achievements>

EU 'Clusters Go International' Partnerships (2018-2019) Overview

Sectoral and Industrial Focus



DISCp
GCA
PIMAP

ICT, IoT & Micro-
electronics

Textile

EU-TEXTILE2030

Smart City,
Mobility and
Transport

ESCT GO GLOBAL
MOBIGOIN-ACTION
GIVE
PERES

SPACE2IDGO
IDEEO
SPACEWAVE

Space
applications

Energy and
environment
COSMENERG-4i
EC2i
ELBE
GEO-ENERGY EUROPE

ADPACK²

NF4

FOODNET

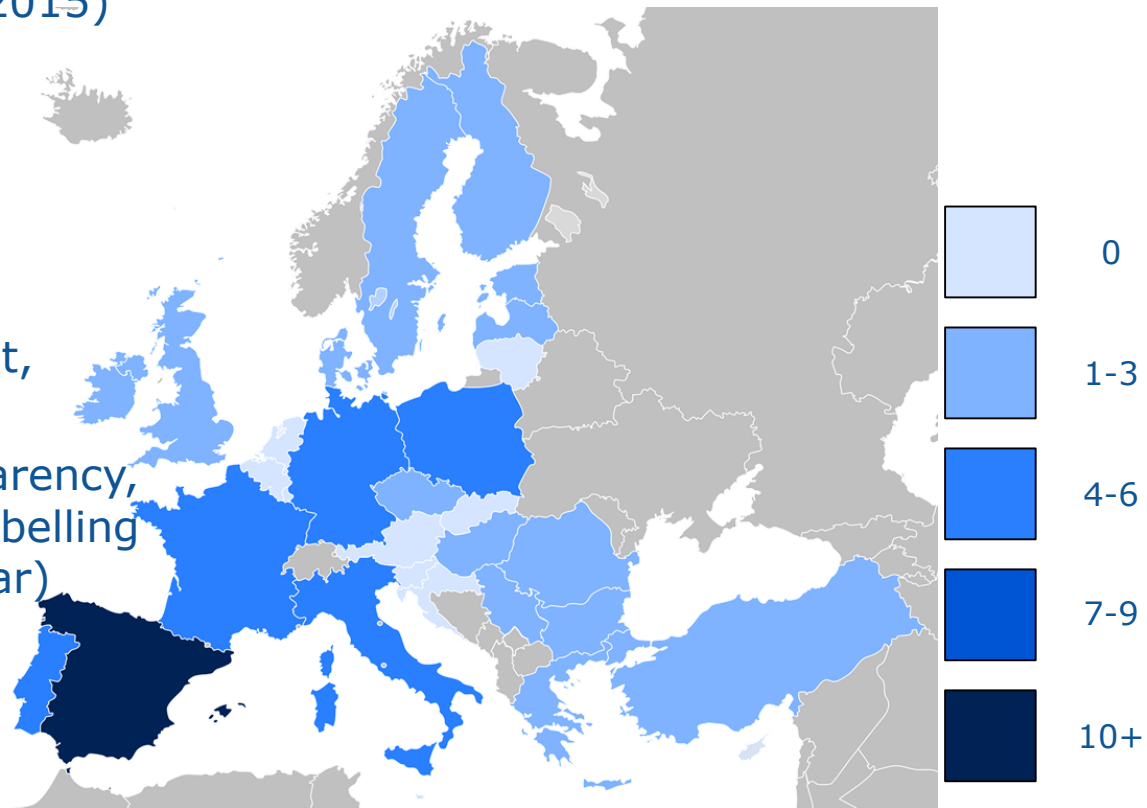
FOODPACKLAB

Agro-food and
packaging

Construction
SENTINEL

Health, Cosmetics
and Biotech

LASER-GO GLOBAL
COSMETICS4WELLBEING
MAGIA



Follow-up on co-creating the next generation of joint actions



...with 325
participants
from 25
countries



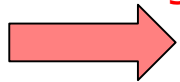
https://ec.europa.eu/growth/content/300-participants-co-create-inspiring-future-cluster-initiatives-grow-your-region-conference_en

<http://ec.europa.eu/grow-your-region>

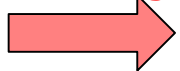


19 topics
proposed for
future
actions!

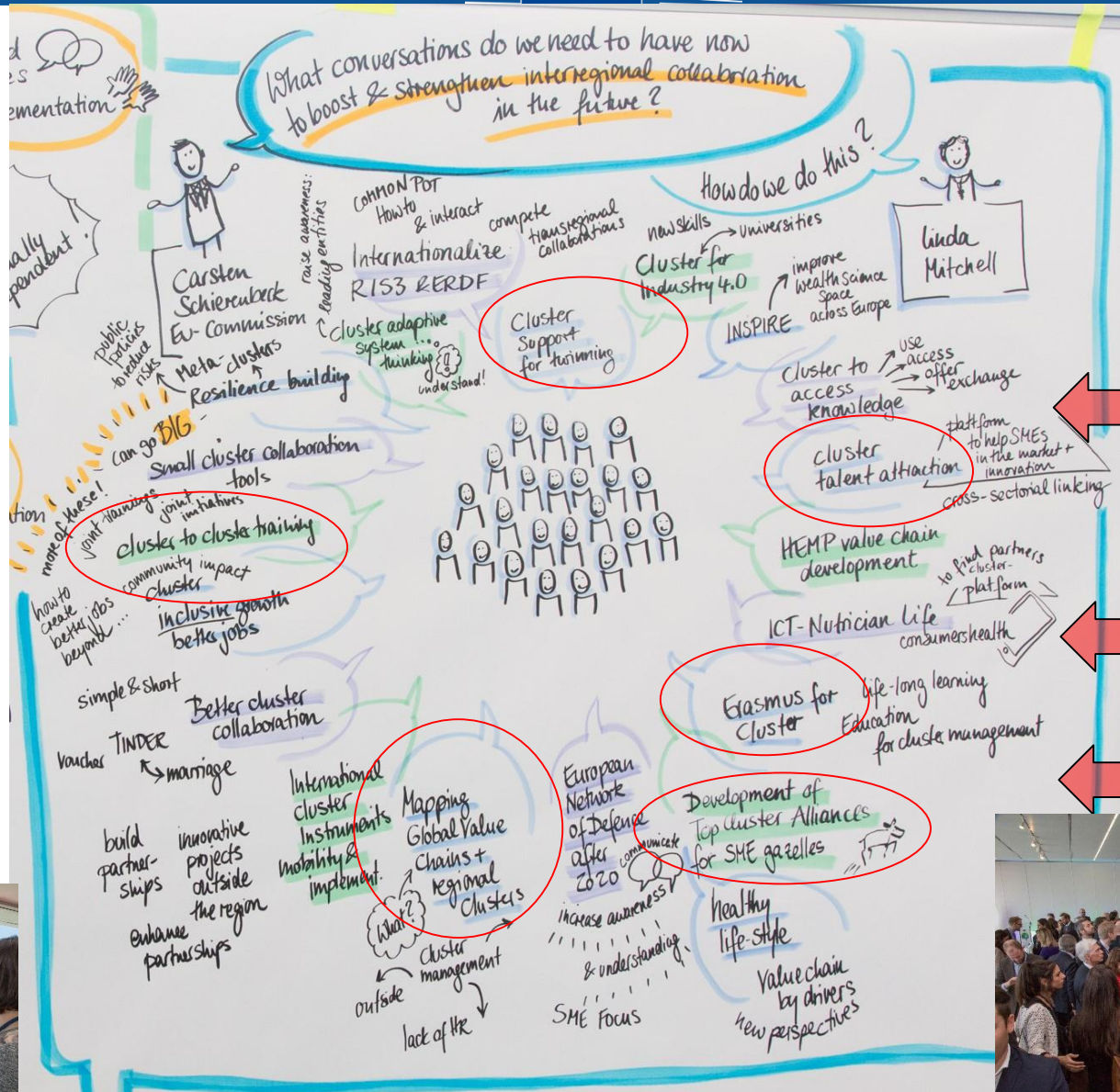
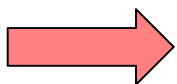
Twinning



Training



Mapping
value chains



Talent attraction



Mobility scheme



Cluster &
entrepreneurship/
gazelles



European Cluster Excellence Programme 2018

Strengthen cluster management excellence and strategic interregional partnering to foster cluster capacity building and SME competitiveness

Expected tasks:

- 1. Enhance cluster managers' skills** towards added-value SME support services
- 2. Support cluster strategy development** individually and for interregional European cluster partnership
- 3. Organise twinning, collaboration, networking and learning activities and cooperation projects** for cluster organisations, technology centres and SMEs
- 4. Implement Erasmus for Clusters pilot mobility scheme** (promotion, recruitment, matching and follow-up of short-term visits with lump sum payments) facilitated by support office of European Cluster Collaboration Platform

Cluster collaboration & intelligence tools

European Cluster Collaboration Platform

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

<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu>

- Mapping over **800 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



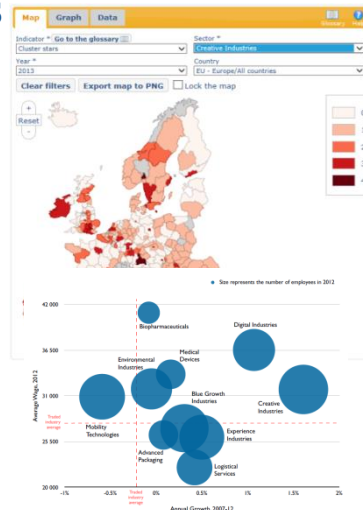
Complemented by the Smart Specialisation Platform, e.g. Eye@RIS tool (regional innovation policy priorities), <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/> and thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s3-thematic-platforms>

European Observatory for Clusters and Industrial Change

(former European Cluster Observatory)

*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 for modern cluster policy



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*

European Cluster Policy Forum



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

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

Cluster internationalisation – using cluster partnerships to help clusters and their members go international

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



Outlook for European Cluster Policy

High-Level Expert Group on Clusters to be set-up in 2018, building on dialogue of European Cluster Policy Forum

New European Cluster Excellence Programme call for proposals (3.6 million, 2nd half 2018)

Co-creating strategic interregional collaboration: partnerships, clusters & SMEs workshop (European Week of Regions and Cities, 9.10.2018)

European Cluster Weeks from November 2018 up to European Cluster Conference May 2019

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

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*
(business dev. & skills, advanced manufacturing and technologies, digital, resource-efficiency, internationalisation)

Building EU value chains,
industrial modernisation
& capacity building

Partnership activities of

- Cluster organisations
- Specialised technology centres
- Specialised incubators and accelerators

Channelling of direct
support to SMEs
(Scaling-up)

Skills upgrading,
talent attraction &
entrepreneurship
acceleration

Partnership activities of

- Cluster organisations
- Specialised Technology centres
- Specialised incubators and accelerators
- Vocational institutions

Channelling of direct
support to SMEs
(Scaling-up)

Boosting
internationalisation
& access to
global value chains

Partnership activities of

- Cluster organisations

Channelling of direct
support to SMEs
(Scaling-up)

Impact generation through clusters

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





European
Commission

For more see

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

<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 @Clusters_EU

EU Cluster Portal at <http://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/cluster>