

Policy Learning Platform WEBINAR

“Increasing SME Competitiveness through Cross-sectoral Inter-cluster Cooperation”

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Rene Tõnnisson, Thematic Expert



**Interreg
Europe**



European Union | European Regional Development Fund



Rene Tõnnisson - Short Introduction

- Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform Thematic Expert on SME Competitiveness
- Member of Estonian Smart City Cluster Board
- Partner in more than 10 European Cluster Cooperation Projects
- Member of European Cluster Policy Expert Group advising European Commission on cluster policy 2009-2010
- Based in Tartu, Estonia



Why we organise PLP Webinar on Inter-cluster Cooperation (Theoretical Perspective):



- **Innovation rarely happens in isolation, as competences are spread across different sectors, value chains and geographical borders. These characteristics call for collaboration between, and integration of, different innovation actors (as for example clusters) across different sectors and regions.**
- **As innovation is likely to occur at the borderlines between different industries, facilitation and acceleration of new combinations along and across value chains represent a source for potential innovation and growth for the enterprises involved and supporting inter-cluster cooperation plays vital role in achieving this**
- **The presence of a strong cluster in a region is found to also enhance growth opportunities in other related industries and to give rise to the emergence of new regional industries. Clusters should therefore not be viewed in a narrow sectoral sense but as fertile regional business environments (ecosystems) for groups of closely related and complementary sectors and industries, whose potential should be better exploited.**

Why we organise PLP Webinar on Inter-cluster Cooperation (Interreg Europe Perspective):



- **There are big number of Interreg Europe Projects focusing on cluster development related topics**
- **The webinar allows to share good practices from Interreg Europe projects and exchange experiences how inter-cluster cooperation can be supported**
- **European Union is launching number of new programmes such as Horizon Europe for example where cluster cooperation will be of high importance**



Agenda of Webinar

- **Welcome and introduction – 10 minutes**
Elena Ferrario and Rene Tõnnisson, Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform
- **Inter-cluster cooperation between 6 regional clusters in Pays de la Loire, France - 15 minutes**
Agathe Fournier. Lead Partner of Interreg Europe CLIPPER project
- **Setting up Digital Innovation Hub for cross sectoral cooperation in Latvia, Interreg Europe SKILLS+ project – 15 minutes**
Aiga Irmeja, Manager of Latvia ICT Cluster
- **Why is European Commission supporting inter-cluster cooperation - 15 minutes**
Marek Przeor, European Commission, DG GROW
- **Panel discussion on how to stimulate and support inter-cluster cooperation - 25 minutes**
Presenters with additional participation of Marc Pattinson, IE Policy Learning Platform
- **Wrap up and conclusions - 5 minutes**
Elena Ferrario and Rene Tõnnisson, Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform