An initiative of the European Union

EUCLUSTERS TALKS ★

Crossing Borders:
Instruments of Interregional Collaboration

22 March 2023
08:30-09:45 CET

online

#SingleMarket30

EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM

Agenda

1. News from the European Cluster Collaboration Platform

2. Perspectives from the European Commission:
    Industrial Forum: Enhancing cross-border and cross-ecosystem investments
    Benoit Esmanne, *Policy Officer, DG GROW, European Commission*
    INTERREG
    Estelle Roger, *Programme Manager, DG REGIO, European Commission*
    Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument
    Milena Stoyanova, *Project Adviser, EISMEA, European Commission*

3. Panel debate
    Aitor Mintegui, *EU Affairs Officer, Basque Country Delegation to the EU*
    Mervi Karikorpi, *Head of EU Innovation & Industrial Policy, Technology Industries of Finland*
    Marielle Campanella, *Head of European Projects, Pôle SCS*

4. Open round with the audience

5. Funding opportunities

Housekeeping rules

Jennifer Baker, presenter

- Please use the **Q&A function to ask questions,** and the **chat function** to comment or share links

- We invite you to **join the debate**: Please **raise your hand** and we will give you the floor.

- Please **unmute yourself** and **activate your camera** when you take the floor.

- Please note that the session is being **recorded**.

EUCLUSTERS TALKS ★   #EUClustersTalks

EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM

NEWS FROM THE
EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM

Successful first Cluster Booster Academy

- First ever Cluster Booster Academy was successfully concluded with the two in-person training days in Strasbourg, France, on 2-3 March 2023

- 27 cluster managers from more than 20 European countries

- Application to the second CBA will open in April

Register now: Clusters meet Regions & Matchmaking in Finland

- Dedicated to a sustainable approach to **raw materials**, focusing on circular economy and digitalisation

- Aim is to bring together **clusters and policymakers** from a range of levels to learn from each other how to strengthen industrial ecosystems and support economic development

- Visit to the Kittilä Gold Mine for 50 mining sector professionals

Upcoming: Matchmaking in Morocco

- Physical matchmaking event will be held in the context of **GITEX Africa**, the continent's largest tech event, in Marrakech, Morocco
- Save the date: 31 May – 2 June

Upcoming: Matchmaking in Taiwan

- Physical matchmaking event will be held in the context of **COMPUTEX 2023** in Taipei, Taiwan

- The event will be dedicated to **AI, Robotics, Semiconductors, 6G and Circular Economy**.

- Save the date: 30 May – 2 June

Training session: Environmental, social, and corporate governance; company reporting and financial providers' approach to sustainable investments

- Training provided by the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)

- 27 March 2023 in hybrid format

- [Register](#) by 23 March

- Agenda:
  - The EU and international policy framework for sustainable investments
  - The financial providers approach and sustainability criteria applied in the evaluation of SMEs' candidatures
  - Assessment tools: some examples
  - The impact on SMEs – key aspects to be considered when advising a company

Interreg 2021-2027

"Crossing Borders: Instruments of Interregional Collaboration"

Estelle Roger DG REGIO

EU Clusters Talk - 22 March 2023

Interreg

EUROPEAN UNION

86 programmes EUR 10 billion 4 strands

64
cross-border, including 15 external (10 IPA & 5 NEXT) and PEACE+
€6,7 bn

13
transnational, incl. 2 external
€2,3 bn

4
interregional
€0,56 bn

5
Outermost regions
€0,33 bn

European Commission

- One of the **two goals of EU cohesion policy**

- Stronger strategic focus on green and digital **transition**

- **Cooperation framework** between national, regional and local actors from different Member States

- Less budget available EU wide

- Thematic approach: the 5 CPR objectives + 2 Interreg-specific objectives

- Cooperation helps regions to improve their innovation and R&D policies & programmes (Cluster policies especially under Policy objective 1)

Key questions for potential beneficiaries:

- Who do **I** want to cooperate with ?

- Where are we all located ?

- What theme do we want to cooperate on ?

> = defines the most suitable programme for you
>
> then: www.interreg.eu
>
> Check calls and contacts to see if there is a match

Keep project database
Browse the largest database of cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation programmes in the EU.
Search the Keep.eu database

Key questions for potential beneficiaries:

Potential calls and projects supporting cluster policies and collaboration across borders (examples):

Policy objective 1

Specific objective on Research and innovation capacities: Actions strengthening regional and transnational structures (e.g. clusters, innovation networks), cooperation of companies in interregional partnerships encouraged, support to action plans linking economic clusters and innovation players

Cluster organizations as target groups: crossborder, transnational and interregional programmes

Interregional cooperation: **6 cooperation projects addressing** cluster policies

Interreg Europe — Co-funded by the European Union

- **57** partners from **19** Member States

- **EUR 12,7** Million ERDF Interreg Europe programme funding

Results:

- **544** people with increased professional capacity

- **61** policy instruments improved

- **52** Million EUR mobilised
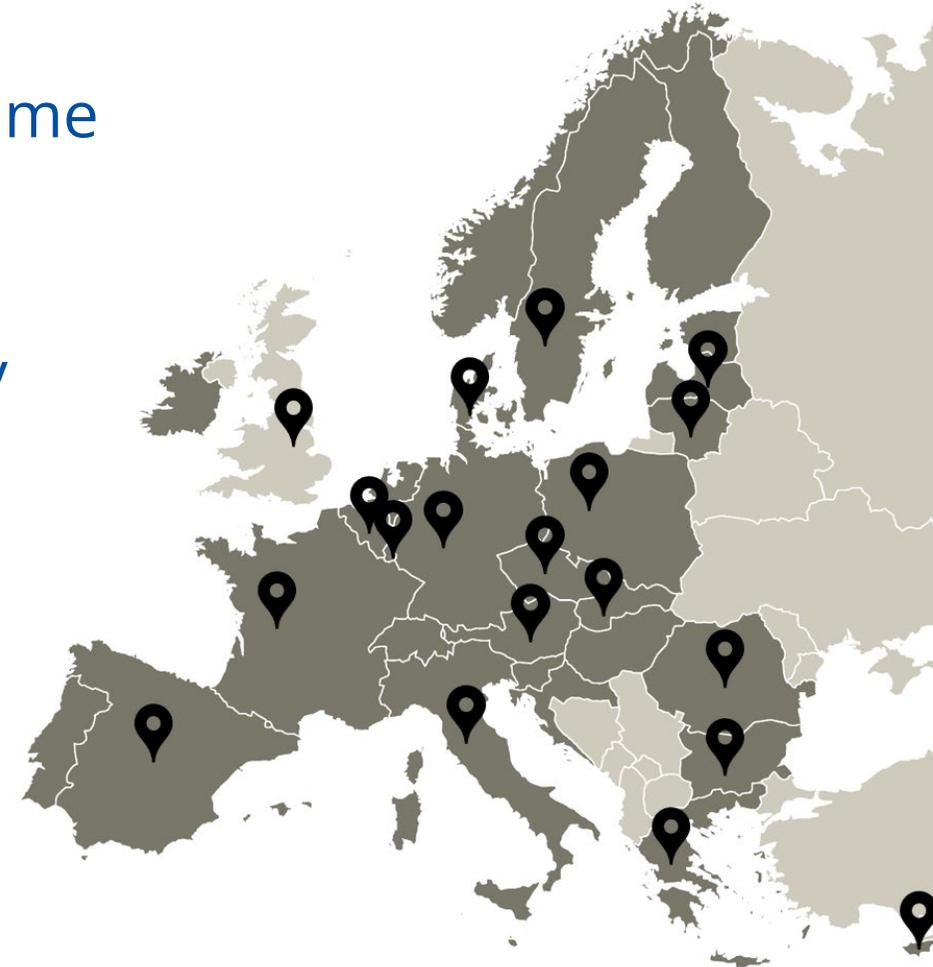
ELISE
Interreg Europe

RUMORE
Interreg Europe

STRING
Interreg Europe

ClusterFY
Interreg Europe

CLUSTERS3
Interreg Europe

CLUSTERIX 2.0
Interreg Europe

Policy Learning Platform & clusters

Policy briefs, articles

CLUSTERS Driving the Green and Digital Twin Transitions — A Policy Brief from the Policy Learning Platform on Research and innovation — October 2021

SMART SPECIALISATION STRATEGY (S3) — A Policy Brief from the Policy Learning Platform on Research and innovation — JULY 2020

The role of staff exchange and mobility schemes in accelerating innovation policy transfer and uptake of good practices — A Policy Brief from the Policy Learning Platform on Research and innovation — November 2018

The ins and outs of the Vanguard Initiative — A policy brief from the Policy Learning Platform on research and innovation — October 2017

Clusters: an established innovation policy for regional specialisation

STORY
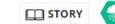
02 June 2020 | By Platform

Events

Clusters driving the twin transitions: key learnings

WORKSHOP

14 December 2021 | By Platform

Webinar recording: Cross-sector inter-cluster cooperation

WEBINAR
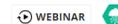
20 January 2021 | By Platform

Clusters as drivers for regional innovation

WORKSHOP

20 June 2018 | By Platform

Good practice database

81 results(s) for "clusters"

Good practices
Explore inspiring and tested policy solutions identified by our cooperation projects and beyond.

See more (35)

The International Connected Autonomous Vehicle Cluster (ICAV)
Connected Autonomous Vehicle (CAV) cluster connects partners to accelerate growth.

Baltic Automotive Components Cluster
BACC is an automotive components cluster, with a purpose to increase competitiveness, human resources,

Food Forum and Food Team: Regional Food Innovation Cluster Networks in South Ostrobothnia
Food Forum and Food Team are regional networks that form the core

Clust-ER GREENTECH
The Clust-ER GREENTECH is an association of public and private bodies that share skills, ideas and resources to support the sector competitiveness.

All resources on our website: www.interregeurope.eu/policy-solutions?keywords=clusters

First call for project proposals

Call open: 5 April to 31 May 2022

Results:
- 134 project proposals submitted
- 72 projects approved starting March 1, 2023

**Two projects addressing the topic of clusters:**

DEBUTING - Developing Business Through Inclusiveness and Gender Awareness - New Cluster Competences

AccelerateGDT - Realign Cluster Policies to Accelerate the Twin Green and Digital Transitions

Projects recommended for approval

3; 4%
5; 7%
1; 1%
22; 31%
12; 17%
29; 40%

GOVERNANCE
CITIZENS
CONNECTED
SMART
SOCIAL
GREEN
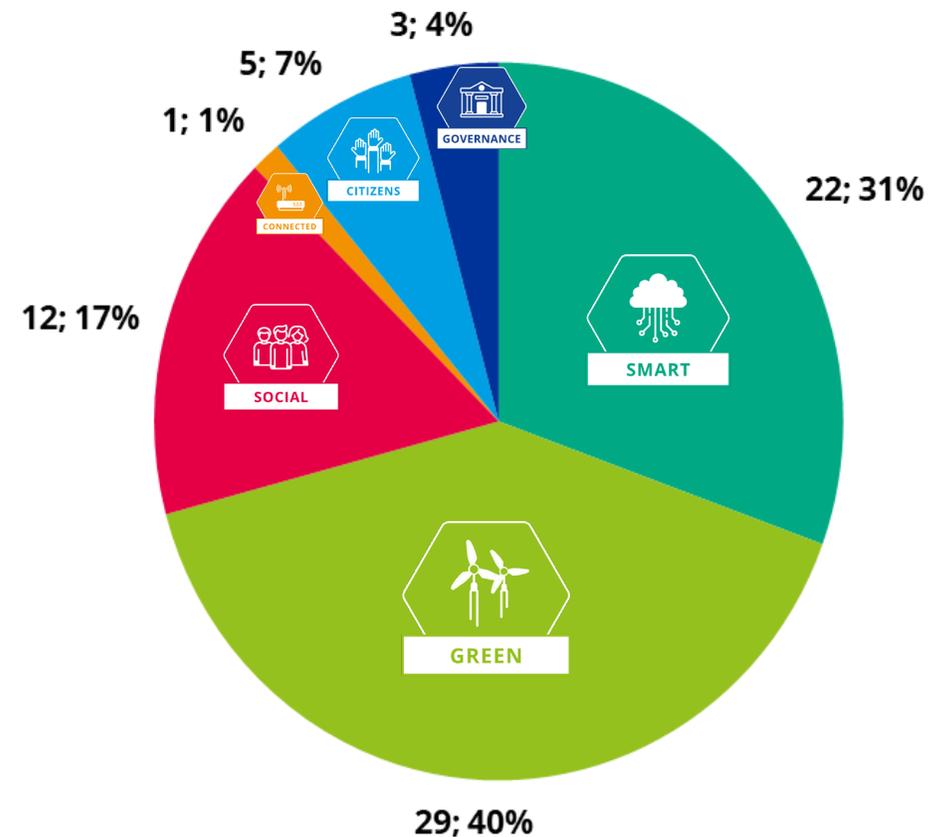
Second call for project proposals

1. When? **15 MAR – 9 JUN 2023, 12 noon** (CEST Paris time)

2. How much? Up to **EUR 130 Million**

3. About what? All **topics** open
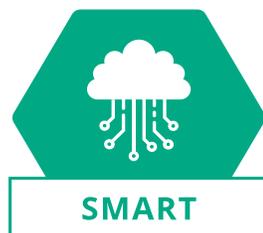
SMART

GREEN

CONNECTED

SOCIAL

CITIZENS

GOVERNANCE

Thank you

European Commission

Milena Stoyanova

Project Adviser, EISMEA

European Commission

European Commission

I3

Interregional
Innovation
Investment
Instrument

Milena Stoyanova
EISMEA, I. 01

EU and place-based Innovation Ecosystems

Interregional Innovation Investments Instrument

What	For whom	How	How much
Commercialisation and scaling up of **innovation projects** for the development of **European value chains**	**Interregional Q-Helix ecosystems:** • Researchers • Businesses • Civic society & public administrations	Implemented under **direct management**. DG REGIO supported by EISMEA	**Cohesion Policy** **ERDF** (Art. 13) **€ 570 million** (current prices)

I3 General policy objective

Increase the competitiveness and resilience of EU value chains to achieve **cohesion goals**

Specific objectives

- **Interconnecting regional innovation ecosystems along S3 priorities**

- **Combining bottom-up S3 priorities with EU strategic priorities**

- **Supporting demonstration, commercialization and scale-up of interregional investments**

- **Create synergies and complementarities with other EU Programmes**

I3 thematic areas and strands

THEMATIC AREAS

STRANDS

DIGITAL TRANSITION

GREEN TRANSITION

SMART MANU-FACTURING

Strand 1 | support for investments in interregional innovation projects in shared smart specialisation areas

Strand 2a | support for investments in interregional innovation projects for the development of value chains in less developed regions

Next call : May/June '23

Strand 2b | Capacity building for the development of value chains in less developed regions

Next call : Autumn '23 (Oct)

Technical assistance & experimentation (Call for tender)

Next call : Coming soon

Strand 1 vs Strand 2a

	Strand 1	Strand 2a
Objective	Development of EU globally competitive value chains	Develop value chains in LDR
Eligible activities	New to Europe" or "new to the application sector Demand side activities	Innovation diffusion and multiple market applications, Capacity building, demand and supply side activities
Consortium	Minimum 5 partners, 5 regions, 3 countries, coordinator non-profit from MDR	Minimum 3 partners, 3 regions, 2 countries, coordinator non-profit from LDR, TR or Outermost
Indicative project size	€ 4 – 10 M	€ 2 – 3 M

Strand 2b - Consortium composition & budget

Innovation Actors & Q-helix partnerships on behalf of a regional / national ecosystems

The coordinator must be:

- established in an EU Member State from a "less developed region"
- a public body, private non-profit organisation or international organisation."

Minimum 2 independent legal entities representing 2 different regional ecosystems from 2 different EU Member States.

At least 1 "more developed region" of an EU Member State.

Project budgets (maximum grant amount) are expected to be around EUR 500 000 – EUR 1 500 00 per project.

S3 SMART SPECIALISATION PLATFORM

What are your thoughts?

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Interreg Europe: Call for proposals for interregional cooperation projects

- These projects gather policy-relevant organisations from different countries in Europe working together on a common regional development issue.

- Any topics of shared relevance in line with their regional needs, as long as this falls within the scope of **cohesion policy**

- The first three years of the projects ('core phase') are dedicated to **exchange and transfer of experience** among the participating partners in order to **improve the policy instruments** addressed by the project.

- In the fourth and last year ('follow-up phase'), the regions mainly focus on monitoring the results and impact of the cooperation.

- Deadline: 9 June 2023

- Published on Interreg Europe website

All open Interreg calls   https://interreg.eu/call-for-project/

	Call for Projects	Continuously open call	Czech Republic, Germany	
	Call for small project fund management	Continuously open call	Czech Republic, Germany	
	Continuous call system for small-scale projects	Continuously open call	Finland, Norway, Sweden	
	Open invitation to submit proposals for Targeted Analyses	Continuously open call		
	TOURISM	Continuously open call	Czech Republic, Poland	
	Cooperation of institutions and residents	Continuously open call	Czech Republic, Poland	
	Second call for regular projects Interreg Aurora	Deadline 28th March 2023	Finland, Norway, Sweden	
	URBACT call for Action Planning Networks	Deadline 31st March 2023		
	Call 1	Deadline 14th April 2023	Belgium, Germany, Nederlands	
	INTEGRATED RESCUE SYSTEM AND ENVIRONMENT	Deadline 3rd May 2023	Czech Republic, Poland	

LOAD MORE

Support to Ukrainian companies to integrate into the Single Market

- Select a consortium of various business support organisations that will select up to 1,500 growth- and sustainability-oriented Ukrainian SMEs that will benefit from **direct financial support** of up to EUR 2,500 and to facilitate their access to the EU Single Market.

- The type of business support services which can be covered by financial support to the selected Ukrainian SMEs, can be: Market research; Legal, organisational, or financial advice; Participation in trade fairs; Adaptations of products to EU market; Patenting and licensing costs

- Applicants must be current or former EEN member, ECCP member ("national cluster associations" or "metaclusters and cluster networks"), Ukrainian Cluster Alliance member, or Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs (EYE) Intermediary Organisations

- Deadline: 27 April 2023

- **Info Day on 3 April**

- Single Market Programme; TOPIC ID: SMP-COSME-2023-SMEUA-01

- Published on Funding and Tenders Portal

Support to Ukrainian entrepreneurs - Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs

- The projects cover activities such as:
  - giving training on doing business in the Single Market
  - developing other relevant skills and boost their entrepreneurship capacities, and supporting them with contacts and building networks
  - matching them with experienced European entrepreneurs and support them for participation in Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs business exchanges.
- The selected projects will help both Ukrainian entrepreneurs who are based in their home country and displaced Ukrainian entrepreneurs who are based in the participating countries.
- Deadline: 11 May 2023
- **Info Day on 27 March**
- Single Market Programme; TOPIC ID: SMP-COSME-2023-EYEUA-01
- Published on Funding and Tenders Portal

European Clusters Integrating Ukrainian clusters and companies into the EU value chains

- Unique opportunity to **build EU-Ukrainian business relations**, and to find partners to trade and invest

- **High-level officials** from the European Commission, Slovakia, and Ukraine

- Panel discussions, pitching sessions from clusters and enterprises, hybrid business-to-business matchmaking and site visits relevant to the EU-UA cooperation in building autonomy and resilience, such as utilities, health, agri-food, textiles, industry 4.0, defence and ICT

Funding instruments for innovation: Explained in C2Lab input paper!

- Read about key European support programmes, e.g., I3 Instrument, Innovation Fund, LIFE, European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE), Single Market Programme, ...

- Examples of "intergovernmental" funding schemes

- Dip into private funds for innovative business

- Published on European Cluster Collaboration Platform

EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM

**Cluster Collaboration Lab (C2LAB)
Lund, 21-22 March 2023**

C2Lab: Build the business case for your innovative idea!

An initiative of the European Union

Input paper

Continue the dialogue...

https://www.linkedin.com/groups/9274710/

Register for the next Talks

5 April 2023 Raw Materials and Circular Economy

19 April 2023 Private financing

3 May 2023 Transition Pathway on Construction

Register on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform!

https://clustercollaboration.eu/

Strengthening the European economy through collaboration

The European online hub for industry clusters

Strengthening the European economy through collaboration
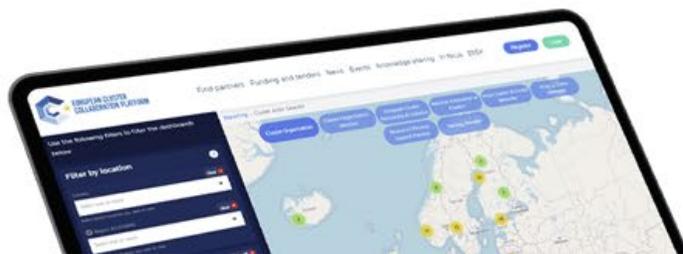
Find partners per country, region, sector or industrial ecosystem