Agenda

1. News from the European Cluster Collaboration Platform
   Nina Hoppmann, *Team Member, European Cluster Collaboration Platform*

2. EU Industry Days
   Mariella Masselink, *Head of Unit, DG GROW, European Commission*

3. Panel debate
   Daniel Cosnita, *President, CLUSTERO*
   Daniel González-Bootello, *Director, Smart City Cluster*
   Jose Ramón Natal, *Cluster Manager, MetaIndustry4*
   Ola Svedin, *President, Clusters of Sweden*

4. Funding opportunities
   Nina Hoppmann, *Team Member, European Cluster Collaboration Platform*

Housekeeping rules

Zivile Kropaite, presenter

- We will use **slido** to launch polls. Please scan the QR code to answer.

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

- If you want to speak: Please **raise your hand** and we will give you the floor.

- Please note that the session is being **recorded** and that the recording will be **published** on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform.

NEWS FROM THE
EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM

Start for Eurocluster-funded projects!

After the first open calls published by the Euroclusters, **SMEs are starting their projects** for a green, digital, and resilient Europe.

Euroclusters are cross-sectoral, interdisciplinary and trans-European strategic initiatives of industry clusters and other economic actors such as research organisations, companies, etc. They provide financial support to SMEs for **innovation, adoption of technologies and processes, training, and internationalisation**.
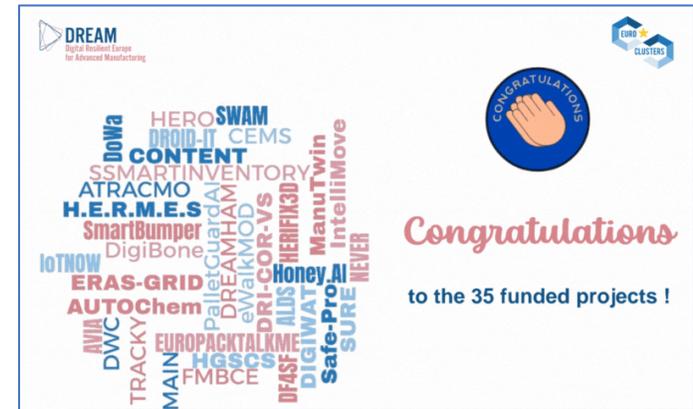
Join Clusters meet Regions!

The objective of the 'Clusters meet Regions' events is to facilitate the implementation of good practices where clusters play an active role in regional economies and are **drivers for economic transition**, and to create and promote **collaborations between clusters and regional stakeholders** for the industrial development of the regions.

All event will also have **matchmaking sessions**!

- **Prague, Czech Republic – 23-24 October 2023;** registration open
- **Düsseldorf, Germany – 8-9 November 2023;** registration open
- **Iași, Romania – 21-23 November 2023**
- **Kraków, Poland – 11-12 December 2023**

Report on Clusters meet Regions Burgas, Bulgaria

Themed "**Enhancing cross-sectorial and trans-regional cooperation**", the Clusters meet Regions event in Burgas took place on 13-15 September 2023.

It focused on the priorities established by the region, such as tourism, ICT and creative industries, but also represented an opportunity to get a detailed overview of the local cluster panorama.

Read the summary to find out more.

Financing Opportunities for EU-Japan Business Cooperation in Africa

The Delegation of the European Union to Japan, the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation and the EU-Japan Connectivity Partnership Program are jointly organising a hybrid event with the objective of providing information **on financing opportunities available to EU and Japanese companies for joint projects in Africa**, examining existing success stories and facilitating contact-making between companies and financing organisations.

Register to participate online.

EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation
一般財団法人 日欧産業協力センター

Financing Opportunities for EU-Japan Business Cooperation in Africa

Hybrid event: onsite in Tokyo and online
Thursday 19 October 2023, 16:00-18:00 Tokyo (9:00-11:00 Brussels)

Join the discussion!

ECCP General Discussion Group

Connect with the ECCP community **across all ecosystems and exchange best practices, ideas and find project partners.**

This general ECCP discussion group is designed for all the 14 industrial ecosystems covered by the ECCP. It is **open to everyone who is registered** the ECCP Platform.

Join now!

EU CLUSTERS SUPPORT UKRAINE

EU Clusters Support Ukraine Discscussion Group

Share information, collaborate and discuss ways which you can **offer assistance, propose collaborations and request assistance** in order to facilitate procurement and delivery of urgent humanitarian requirements.

This group is **open to everyone who is registered** on the ECCP Platform.

Join now!

Euroclusters Discussion Group

Share knowledge, network, discuss, and learn from peers how to overcome common challer faced by the Euroclusters' projects.

This group is **restricted to the Euroclusters** managers and communication corresponder

Join now!

C2 LAB
Cluster Collaboration Labs

C2Lab Community Discussion Group

Boost your collaboration with other clusters to **stimulate and scale-up inter-regional cooperation** in new cross-border value chains.

This group is **open to everyone who is registered on the ECCP platform and interested in C2Lab.**

Join now!
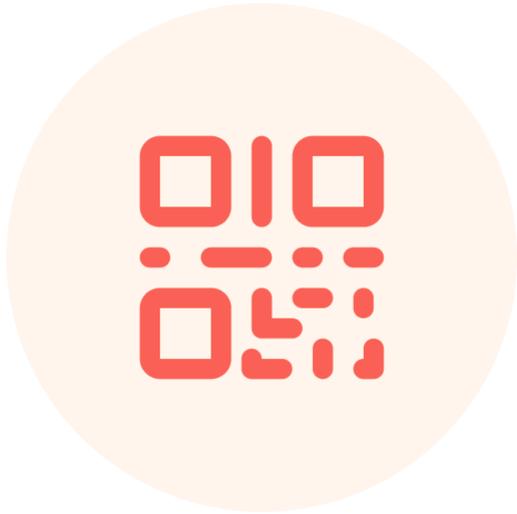
slido

Join at slido.com
#IndustryDays

ⓘ Start presenting to display the joining instructions on this slide.

slido

In your perspective, was it positive that the EU Industry Days were hosted in Spain, the country of the current presidency?

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

slido

In one word, what was your takeaway from the EU Industry Days?

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

Panel debate

Daniel Cosnita, President, CLUSTERO

Daniel González-Bootello, Director, Smart City Cluster

Jose Ramón Natal, Cluster Manager, MetaIndustry4

Ola Svedin, President, Clusters of Sweden

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Deadline approaching for I3 and IIE: 17 October 2023

In line with of the New European Innovation Agenda, the **Regional Innovation Valleys** (RIVs) aim to create connected regional innovation valleys across the European Union, involving regions with lower innovation performances, by building on strategic areas of regional strength and specialisation (defined in their smart specialisation strategies), in support of key EU priorities.

The calls are open for applications until 17 October 2023, 17:00 CET:

- **Interconnected Innovation Ecosystems** (2023.3) (HORIZON-EIE-2023-CONNECT-03-01)

- **Interregional Innovation Investments Strand 1** (I3-2023-INV1)

- **Interregional Innovation Investments Strand 2a** (I3-2023-INV2a)

REGIONAL INNOVATION VALLEYS

I3 INSTRUMENT & EU INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS CALLS ARE NOW OPEN!

APPLY NOW!

#EUInnovationAgenda

Industrial leadership in AI, Data and Robotics boosting competitiveness and the green transition (AI Data and Robotics Partnership)

- Projects should contribute toto one of the two following outcomes, exclusively:

  - The creation of systems to address **large scale challenges using combined robotics data and AI solutions** that have significant impact on the objectives of the green deal. For example, in improving domestic energy consumption or in the cleaning up of contaminated land and waterways or in accelerating the circular economy along the complete value chain through automated waste avoidance and waste processing or reuse of materials.

  - The creation of systems to address **large scale resource optimisation challenges using combined AI and Data solutions,** that have significant impact on the objectives of the green deal, such as optimisation of any kind of resources, from production to use along the complete value chain in order to minimise waste or foster the reuse of resources or in using AI and data solutions to maximize energy efficiency, ensuring energy security.

- Deadline: 19 March 2024

- HORIZON-IA HORIZON Innovation Actions
  Topic ID: HORIZON-CL4-2024-DIGITAL-EMERGING-01-04

- Published on [Funding & Tenders Portal](#)

European AgriFood Sustainability Cluster Partnerships

- The 'European Agrifood Sustainability Cluster Partnerships' will support the implementation by SMEs of the 'Agrifood Code of Conduct on Responsible Food Business and Marketing Practices' and boost the overall sustainability transition of the EU Agrifood ecosystem:

    - The partnerships will support the **development of new agrifood cluster organisations** in EU regions where none are registered on the European Cluster collaboration Platform.

    - The partnerships shall develop a **common strategic agenda and roadmap with KPIs** for the implementation of the EU Code of Conduct on Responsible Food Business and Marketing Practices.

    - The partnerships will **mobilise and support their SMEs** to engage into resource-efficiency and sustainability improvements.

    - The partnerships will share their **case studies and best practices** through the European Resource Efficiency Knowledge Centre, hosted on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP).

- Deadline: 7 November 2023

- SMP-GFS SMP Grants for Financial Support
  Topic ID: SMP-COSME-2023-AGRICLUSTER

- Published on Funding & Tenders Portal

Development of technical and business solutions to optimise the circularity, resilience, and sustainability of the European battery value chain (Batt4EU Partnership)

- Project results are expected contribute to all the following outcomes:
  - A European economic base which is stronger, more resilient, competitive and fit for the green and digital transitions, by reducing strategic dependencies for critical raw materials by **promoting a circular approach to manufacturing and resource efficiency**.
  - Advancing circular and sustainable design and **business practices** relating to advanced batteries and associated value chains.
  - Improving the **life cycle sustainability performance of batteries** produced in the EU.
  - Enhancing **European strategic independence** in terms of battery raw materials, the competitiveness of European industry, and maximising socio-economic benefits at the EU level and beyond.
  - Supporting the achievement of established EU **recycling efficiency targets** for 2030 and beyond.
- Deadline: 18 April 2024
- HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions
  Topic ID: HORIZON-CL5-2024-D2-01-03
- Published on [Funding & Tenders Portal](#)

Opportunities for SMEs: Calls from Euroclusters

- DESIRE: Innovation and internationalisation of **e-Health solutions**; deadline 13 November 2023

- E-Boost: Five calls to identify product innovations to reduce dependency on critical inputs and technologies in the E- BOOST value chains, to introduce new-to-firm products or services, and to engage actors from regions with different levels of economic development; targets are SMEs from the **mobility** ecosystem

- EPICENTRE: Support via mentoring, coaching and training for SMEs from **Digital and Fintech to Health and Agri-food** sectors; deadline 5 December 2023.

- EuroBoosTEX: Grant for **textile** SMEs to innovate through technologies and **adapt business processes** to enable the green and digital transition; deadline 8 November 2023

- FRIEND CCI: Call for **providers** offering solutions in **digitalisation, greening, and internationalisation** to collaborate with **Creative and Cultural** SMEs for the realization of funded projects; deadline 1 August 2025

- GEMSTONE: Financial support for **manufacturing, technology and solution providers SMEs**, and in particular industrial equipment and tool providers, for implementation of a new green technology, service, product or business production process in a real operational environment; deadline 31 October 2023

- GEMSTONE: Financial support for **training** related to **Green Manufacturing**; deadline 31 December 2024

- INGENIOUS: **Training** grants to help SMEs improve their digital skills, green transition, resilience preparedness and reskilling and upskilling of the workforce; deadline 14 February 2025

- METASTARS; Call for **innovation services** for green technology development, digitalisation, upskilling and reskilling, internationalisation, and information security systems for SMEs from the **aeronautics, space, defence and ICT sectors**; deadline 31 December 2023

- POLREC: Innovation open call aims to support SMEs by funding their **polymer recycling** projects; deadline 31 October 2023

- RESIST: **Networking and marketing** FSTP for SMEs from the **Automotive – Mobility – Transport** ecosystem; deadline 20 December 2024

- RESIST: **Internationalisation** FSTP for activities in target markets; deadline 20 December 2024

- RESIST: **Coaching and mentoring** for assessment and feasibility services; deadline 1 November 2024

- SUSTAIN: Financial support to SMEs for developing new products, services or methods addressing the **smart building construction** challenges; deadline 1 November 2023

- **All calls here: https://clustercollaboration.eu/open-calls**

Come to our C2Lab!

SMEs, clusters, research organisations, social and public entities are invited to join **an interactive workshop** to meet, network, exchange ideas, and initiative new project proposals. Guided by experts on project creation and management, you have the possibility to forge **new alliances and project consortia** for the topic of your interest. You can either join with a concrete project idea or offer your skills and knowledge in new areas.

25-26 October 2023: Ljubljana, Slovenia

14-15 November 2023: Vilnius, Lithuania

Register for the next Talks

18 October Cybersecurity

25 October Industrial Alliances

And more to come...

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European Cluster Collaboration Platform

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EUCLUSTERS TALKS ★