Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

European Cluster Policy & the Role of Science/Technology Parks

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Workshop "The role of Science/Technology Parks & Incubators in Innovation Ecosystems"
23-24 May 2017, Thessaloniki
European cluster policy

- Clusters accelerators for innovation & industrial change
- International cluster cooperation
- Cluster excellence

SMEs
Clusters as accelerators for innovation and industrial change

- 3043 strong clusters account for more than 54 million jobs
- Gazelles in strong clusters employ 35 staff compared to 24 elsewhere
- Wages in strong clusters are 3% higher than elsewhere
- 40% of activity in emerging industries concentrated in 20% of regions

http://ec.europa.eu/DocsRoom/documents/20381
Using clusters to facilitate value chain innovation & industrial transformation

Customised SME support

Regional and International Strategy

Cross-sectoral Collaboration

VALUE CHAIN INNOVATION

18.5 mio € (04.04.17)

2-stage procedure

75% to support innovation in SMEs

Examples of SME support tools to facilitate cross-sectoral collaboration & innovation

- Innovation and technical assistance voucher schemes
- Knowledge transfer and technological integration support
- IP and innovation management support
- Mentoring, coaching, training and mobility activities
- Incubation and accelerator support
- Connecting SMEs with research and innovation actors
- Brokerage and matchmaking support
- Innovation and creativity competitions
Clusters as boosters of interregional collaboration & investment
European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for Smart Specialisation Investments

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

Implementation Phase
- Matchmaking
- Joint activities, demonstration projects, pilots
- Preparation of bankable proposals

Investment Phase
- Additional private/public financing
- Acceleration support
- Showcasing results

COSME Budget € 2,8 million
8 partnerships
Call: end June 2017

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

EP Pilot Projects "Towards Regional Economic Convergence"

Pilot ESCP-S3 for Collaboration between clusters & technology centres

**Cluster Partnership in New Materials**
(3 clusters + 2 TC's)

*joint RIS3 strategies & investments cluster networks & technology parks to realize projects cross-regional value chains by joint RIS3 strategies.*

**Value Chain Accelerator**
European Innovation Valley

Partners: Chemie-Cluster Bavaria, DE; Chemelot, NL; TIS – Technoinnovation South Tyrol, I

**Cluster Partnership in Advanced Manufacturing**
(4 clusters + 4 TC's)

*support to SMEs in innovation & transference in Efficient & Sustainable Manufacturing*

**ESM Joint Actions & related investment plan**

Partners: Fundacion EURECAT, ES; CNR, I; Associazione Fabbrica Intelligente, I; TNO, NL; Brainport, NL; Fundació CEQUIP, ES; Matikem, F. IFMAS, F

EP Budget €250,000/per project – 1 year

Investment Plans to upgrade regional growth, industrial innovation & competitiveness
Regional strength (sectoral and cross-sectoral cluster mapping)

Regional priorities (research and innovation policy priorities)

Regional partners (cluster organisations, European Partnerships)

European Cluster Observatory

Smart Specialisation Platform

European Cluster Collaboration Platform


Eye@RIS tool, http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/

http://www.clustercolaboration.eu
A couple of concepts,

Eight Do’s and Don’ts, and

Plenty good practice examples ...

of how to make better use of clusters for promoting regional industrial modernisation, supporting the growth of SMEs and encouraging smart specialisation.

Available at http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=8838
Thank you

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