

Cluster Booster Academy

Training Day 1

June 06, 2023





Agenda
Virtual
Training
(Day 1)

10.00 - 11.00	Welcome and introduction to the Cluster Booster Academy
	 Welcome speech by DG GROW Brief introduction by participants based on their pre-filled profile slide
11.00 – 11:30	Cluster Strategy Review: Introduction and review of cluster strategy elements
11.30 – 12:00	Keynote speech: Kristoffer Jansson, EnergyVaasa, Finland
12.00 – 13.00	 Challenges: Discussion on current challenges 5 Breakout rooms each discussing/brainstorming a specific challenge, its impact on cluster performance, potential solutions documented on a virtual whiteboard Presentation by each group on their ideas and findings
13.00 – 13.45	Lunch break
13.45 – 14.15	Action Plan Development: Introduction to action plans for structuring solutions to challenges
14.15 – 14.45	Keynote speech on private financing: Bianca Dragomir, AVAESEN, Spain
14.45 – 15.45	 Best practices (1/2) Scavenger hunt: Participants receive hints pointing to a best practice exemplary cluster and have to present their guesses Keynote speech: Best practice cluster manager i.a. Johan Halvarsson (SuperEcosystem, Finland) presenting their success factors
15.45 – 16.00	Coffee break
16.00 – 16.45	 Best Practices (2/2) Introduction of sources available on ECCP Discussion on how to apply best practice examples to own cluster
16.45 - 17.00	Wrap-up and Q&A



Break

Beginning/ Ending

Agenda	09.30 - 09.45	Short recap day 1 and welcome day 2
Virtual	09.45 - 10.00	Business Model: Business model canvas introduction and explanation
Training (Day 2)	10.00 – 11.30	Keynote speeches: Sandra Sundbäck (Paper Province, Sweden) and Thomas Meißner (Cluster Transport Mobility Logistics, Germany) talk about successful services, new initiatives, processes, etc. – what works, what doesn't
	11.30 – 12.30	Self-reflection business model of my cluster: Defining business model canvas for own cluster
	12.30 – 13.30	Lunch break
	13.30 – 14.15	Self-reflection recap business model of my cluster: Desired business model in 5 years
	14.15 – 16.00	 How to plan, structure and achieve your strategic goals Introduction to action plan template and tasks Self-reflection: Participants detail out the next steps to solving their challenges into an action plan Presentation of action plans and feedback
	16.00- 16.30	Next steps, Q&A, feedback and closing of the training

Beginning/ Ending

Break







Alejandro Utrera

Cluster Manager

Cluster joined in 2019



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An initiative of the European Union

FOODSERVICE CLUSTER Barcelona / SPAIN

Foodservice 2014 112 Cluster established Cluster members Active Ecosystems Your Cluster in 3 words Sustainability & Collaboration **Open Innovation** Digitalization Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster How do I attract members and impact in my sector value chain? Setting up a strategy for developing new services? ٠ What governance structures do I have to implement to retain members and human resources? ۰

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to engage with Cluster Managers from whole Europe and exchange experiences and learn from bests practices!







MARTA PERES

Degree in Marketing and Advertising Graduate in Business Management.

Cluster joined in

2009

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An initiative of the European Union

ASSOCIATION CLUSTER PORTUGAL MINERAL RESOURCES

2009 MINERAL RESOURCES 84

Cluster established Active Ecosystems Cluster members

Your Cluster in 3 words

Innovation

Competitiveness

Sustainability

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I guarantee long term sustainability of the cluster?
- What are new services that I can offer to the SMEs?
- What's the best governance model for the cluster?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to engage and learn with Cluster Managers from whole Europe!





Josep Nadal

Cluster Manager

Cluster joined in

2017



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An initiative of the European Union

CIAC Barcelona / Spain

2013 Automotive 150

Cluster established Active Ecosystems Cluster members

Your Cluster in 3 words

Digitalisation

Collaboration

Sustainability

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I attract and retain talented cluster members?
- How do I measure my growth / success?
- How to implement a cluster internationalization strategy?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to engage with Cluster Managers from whole Europe, to exchange best practices and to build partnerships!





Dimitris Silikas

Economist - Senior Project Manager Head of Entrepreneurship Department

Cluster joined in 2021



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An initiative of the European Union

CluBE – Cluster of Bioeconomy and Environment of Western Macedonia Kozani - Greece

2014 Business

Cluster established

Active Ecosystems

Cluster members

53

Your Cluster in 3 words

Synergies

Bioeconomy

Innovation

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I attract and retain talented cluster members?
- How do I increase member collaboration within the cluster?
- What are the best marketing structures for a cluster?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

to engage with Cluster Managers from whole Europe, exchange ideas, create synergies, learn from successful stories!

electric mobility south-west 🤐



Felicitas Behr

Cluster Manager, International Cooperation

Cluster joined in 2018



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An initiative of the European Union

Cluster Electric Mobility South-West Stuttgart / Germany

2007 Automotive >200

Cluster established

Active Ecosystems

Cluster members

Your Cluster in 3 words

Innovation: new mobility solutions

Collaboration: accelerating research & development Sustainability: change towards low-emission technologies

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How to adapt cluster services and address participation fatigue?
- How to measure the success of cluster services/activities?
- How can we support on the issue of skilled workforce?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to engage with Cluster Managers and to learn more about different cluster strategies, regional cluster policies and working cultures.







Stefanie Fuchs

CEO, Cluster Manager

Cluster joined in 2008



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An initiative of the European Union

Strategische Partnerschaft Sensorik/Cluster Sensorik Regensburg/ Germany









Jolanta Zubkauskienė

Head of development/ Cluster coordinator

Cluster joined in

2021 jolanta.zubkauskiene@manuvalley.tech



Cluster of Manufacturing innovators Vilnius / Lithuania

2020 Manufacturing 21

Cluster established Active Ecosystems Cluster members

Your Cluster in 3 words

Innovation

Digitalization

Manufacturing

🛞 Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I attract and retain talented cluster members?
- How do I sell successfully the benefits of the cluster?
- How can I engage my cluster members in all our EU activities and projects?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to build long term partnerships, to engage with Cluster Managers from whole Europe!



Wissenschaftsstadt Darmstadt

Nicole Pinto

M. Sc. in Business Administration

Cluster joined in 2012



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City of Science Clusters Darmstadt/ Germany

2012Science, Cybersecurity, IOT, AI,
SPACE, Startup, Sustainability,
Chemistry&Pharma, E-Mobility,
culture & creative Industries,
Active Ecosystems75Cluster establishedActive EcosystemsCluster members
(partners)Your Cluster in 3 wordsYour Cluster in 3 wordsScienceInnovationTransfer

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- Tools for daily business as a Cluster Manager
- How do I measure my growth / success?
- Create visibility / convince sponsors

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to engage with Cluster Managers from whole Europe!





Degree in Far Eastern Languages

Cluster joined in



irene@csm.toscana.it distrettointerniedesign@gmail.com



An initiative of the European Union

Distretto Interni e Design Tuscany / Italy



2011 Living Spaces 500

Cluster established Active Ecosystems

ms Cluster members

My Cluster in 3 words

Innovation & TT Internationalization Skills & Competences

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I develop more those services and business relationships (with core companies) that guarantee a regular monthly financial stability?
- How do I continuously develop new services for members growth? Diversify services entering in new areas (start-ups. Living labs..)?
- How do I measure cluster organization success and communicate it as a strength point?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to share with other Cluster Managers for personal and cluster growth and networking potential!

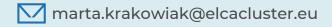
Elca

European Lighting Cluster Alliance

Marta Krakowiak

M. Sc. in Political Science M. Sc in Human Resource Management ELCA Project Manager

Cluster joined in 2018



ELCA European Lighting Cluster Alliance Italy

2016 Lighting

Cluster established

Active Ecosystems

Meta-Cluster members

Your Cluster in 3 words

Meta-cluster

International Collaboration Innovation & colearning

🛞 Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I attract new ELCA members?
- How to ensure long-term financial sustainability?
- How to encourage members to be more pro-active?

) My expectation of the CBA is ...

to learn from other cluster managers, exchange good & bad practices, expand our network and inspire new collaborations!







Irati Herrero Imaz

Deputy Director

Cluster joined in

2021



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An initiative of the European Union

Feeling Innovation by Stanpa Madrid / Spain

Cosmetics, perfumery, personal care 2020 80 Cluster established Active Ecosystems **Cluster members** Your Cluster in 3 words Innovation Digitalization Sustainability culture Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster How do I attract and retain talented cluster members? ٠ How to deal with members with different levels of maturity in terms of innovation • culture and digitalization How to motivate cluster members to engage in the services offered and to • encourage them to move from reactive engagement to proactive engagement. My expectation of the CBA is to share experiences and learn from other ECCP members, establish the ground

for peer collaboration, strength skills on cluster management with role models



Iulian STOLERIU

CLUSTER Manager

Cluster joined in

2021

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An initiative of the European Union

Green Technology CLUSTER (<u>www.gtc.green</u>) Bucharest / Romania







Cortex

Vesna Puric

Chief Operation Officer

Cluster joined in

2021



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An initiative of the European Union

ICT Cortex **Podgorica / Montenegro**

2021 ICT 40

Cluster established Active Ecosystems

Cluster members

Your Cluster in 3 words

Education

Internationalization

Innovation & Digital Transformation

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I improve cooperation and communication among and toward cluster members?
- How do I become more self-sustainable (income sources) and which additional services should I improve and offer to cluster members? •
- How do I help our members sell broadly and get access to other markets? ٠

My expectation of the CBA is

to work on networking with other cluster members, get valuable knowledge about the cluster operations, best practices and services and as a result become more efficient and sustainable. I expect to participate together with other cluster members on EU projects and help our members go internationally.







Antonella Venza

Cluster Manager

Cluster joined in 2016



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An initiative of the European Union

Rete di Imprese Luce in Veneto - Italy <u>www.luceinveneto.com</u>

2016 Business 50 Cluster established Active Ecosystems Cluster members

Your Cluster in 3 words

Internationalisation

Innovation

Training

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I guarantee long term sustainability of the cluster?
- What are new services that I can offer to the SMEs?
- What's the best governance model for the cluster?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

to improve my knowledge in the Cluster Management; to exchange experiences with other EU cluster managers and learn from successful stories!





Marcos Suárez

Industrial Engineer & MBA

Cluster joined in **2016**



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An initiative of the European Union

Basque Energy Cluster Basque Country / Spain

1996Energy206Cluster establishedActive EcosystemsCluster members

Your Cluster in 3 words

Team

Customer-focused

Commitment

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- Which new services would add value to my members?
- How do I engage members more?
- Which structure do we need to move to the next level?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to learn from my peers!



M4

Jose Ramón Natal

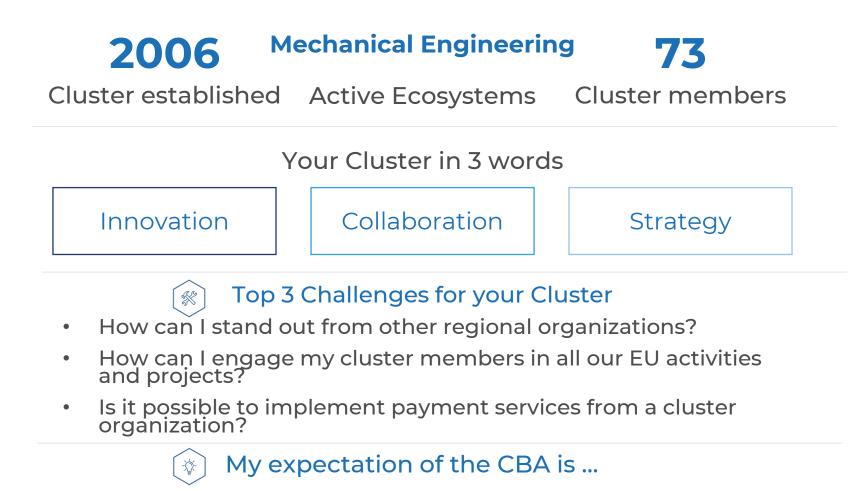
Cluster Manager

Cluster joined in 2006

jrnatal@metaindustry4.com



Metalndustry4 Gijón / Spain



... to exchange experiences (best and worst practices) and wide our network from whole Europe!





Tamas GYULAI

M. Sc. in Electrical Engineering

Cluster joined in **2012**



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An initiative of the European Union

Hungarian Open Innovation Cluster for Construction (in Hungarian: Magyar Innovatív Építőipari Nyílt Klaszter – MIÉNK) Kecskemét / Hungary

2011Construction52Cluster establishedActive EcosystemsCluster membersVour Cluster in 3 wordsVour Cluster in 3 wordsSustainable and
Smart BuildingsInternationalSustainable and
Smart BuildingsInternational
Cooperation

- Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster
- How can green and digital transformation of member companies be best supported?
- What governance structure can be most efficient in the national context?
- How can international cooperation contribute to the competitiveness of the member companies?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to learn about good practice from Cluster Managers around Europe!





Mònica Riera

M. in Digital Solutions Development & Innovation, Strategy and Entrepreneurship

Cluster joined in

2019



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An initiative of the European Union

Packaging Cluster Sabadell / Spain



Innovation & Digitalisation

Collaboration

Sustainability

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I engage cluster members in EU projects and activities?
- How do I introduce new cluster services?
- What governance structures do I have to implement?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to engage with other clusters from whole Europe, identify synergies and potential collaborations, and learn from them!



ast pro PLASTICS INNOVATION POLE

Susana Remotti

Cluster Manager

Cluster joined in 2016



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PROPLAST **Alessandria/Italy**

Plastics 2009 177

Cluster established

Active Ecosystems

Cluster members

Your Cluster in 3 words

Innovation

Collaboration

Sustainability

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How can I implement payment services to offer to cluster ۰ members?
- How can I engage cluster members in my activities and projects? ۰
- What governance structures do I have to implement?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to enlarge network, to exchange best practices and to learn more about new cluster methodologies!





Silvia Rossi

Architect – Innovation Manager

Cluster joined in **2019**



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An initiative of the European Union

Clust-ER BUILD Bologna / Italy

2018Build109Cluster establishedActive EcosystemsCluster members

Your Cluster in 3 words

Open Innovation

Collaboration

Digitalisation

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I attract and retain talented cluster members?
- How do I implement cluster internationalization strategy?
- What are the best marketing structures for a cluster?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to create new strong collaboration with Clusters from whole Europe!





Gabriela ILIN

Phd, Cluster Manager

Cluster joined in 2014

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An initiative of the European Union

ROVEST Cluster Timișoara / România



Your Cluster in 3 words

Innovation

Sustainability

Education

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I attract and retain cluster members?
- How do I access funds (direct, non-governmental) dedicated to cluster development?
- How to implement internationalisation?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to improve Cluster Management to be valid for the whole of Europe!







Sidika Arikan Project Manager

Cluster joined in

2020

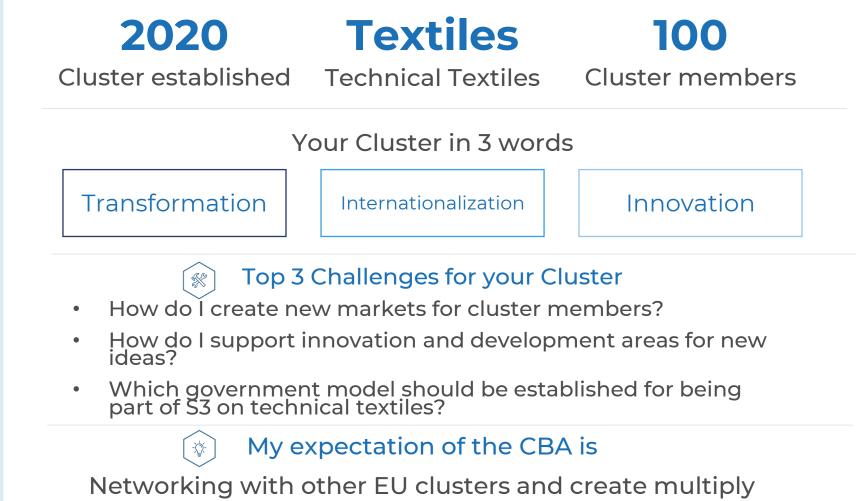


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An initiative of the European Union

Denizli Technical Textiles Cluster Denizli / Türkiye



effect for clusters in Turkey!





Martin Petrov

Marketing and Development Director

Cluster joined in 2023



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An initiative of the European Union

Sofia Knowledge City Cluster Sofia, Bulgaria

2017 Business

Cluster established Activ

Active Ecosystems Clus

Cluster members

60

Your Cluster in 3 words

Smart City

Building Bridges

Innovation

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I improve cross member collaboration?
- How do I sell successfully the benefits of the cluster?
- What are the best marketing strategies for a cluster?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to build long term partnerships, learn more about cluster governance and how to market it successfully as a product!

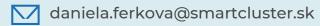




Daniela Ferková

Cluster Manager

Cluster joined in 2022



An initiative of the European Union

Slovak Smart City Cluster Poprad / Slovakia

2017Smart City20Cluster establishedActive EcosystemsCluster membersYour Cluster in 3 wordsEducationCollaboration

Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- How do I engage cluster members in our activities?
- Improve services for cluster members
- Be unique on the market

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to exchange practices and engage with Cluster Managers from whole Europe!





Marta Kurpašová

Cluster Manager

Cluster joined in 2017

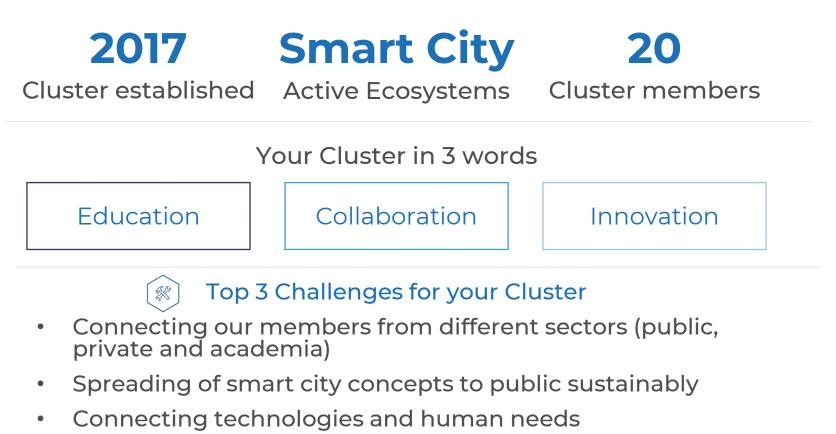


sscc@smartcluster.sk



An initiative of the European Union

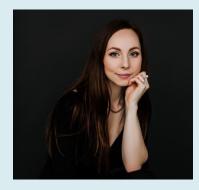
Slovak Smart City Cluster Poprad / Slovakia



My expectation of the CBA is ...

Get to know practices from other clusters in Europe







TARTU BIOTECHNOLOGY PARK

integrated expertise

Helen Tammo

Healthtech Manager

Cluster joined in 2019

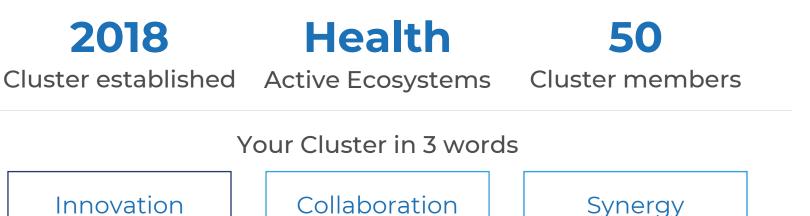


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An initiative of the European Union

Tartu Health Cluster Tartu / Estonia



Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster

- What should be the value proposition for members?
- How to attract new cluster members and grow the sector and community?
- How to integrate cluster member into international value chains?

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to engage with Cluster Managers from whole Europe and learn from others' experience!







Cristian Cristescu

Communication Manager

Cluster joined in **2016**



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An initiative of the European Union

DRIFMAT Cluster Romania

2016 Cluster established	New Materials and Technologies Active Ecosystems	20 Cluster members
Υ	our Cluster in 3 words	<u> </u>
Innovation	Collaboration	Sustainability
How do I attract and	Challenges for your Clu d retain talented cluster m	embers?
activity and sharing	n establishing consortia of our experiences. tructures do I have to imp	
	pectation of the CBA i	

... to engage with Cluster Managers from whole Europe!







Elisabetta Bracci

Cluster Manager Engineer, Innovation Manager

Cluster joined in

2022

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An initiative of the European Union

Clust-ER Innovate Emilia-Romagna Region / Italy

C

2018	Digital Transformation	98
luster established	Active Ecosystems	Cluster members
·	Your Cluster in 3 word	S
	Enabling	

- Top 3 Challenges for your Cluster
- How to reinforce cluster internationalization strategy?
- How to measure the success of cluster activities (KPIs)?
- How to engage and facilitate the cooperation between members with different levels of maturity in terms of innovation culture

My expectation of the CBA is ...

... to engage with Cluster Managers from whole Europe, creating collaboration ideas and learn from each others' experience

Your key learnings of this training...

Cluster
Strategy
ReviewÉxpl
comFind
serviGain
with
from

Learn how to analyze trends and define the most **important** ones for your cluster

Determine the **needs** within your cluster and among the members

Explore the **existing** and **desired competencies** within your cluster

Find inspiration for new services and service portfolio optimization

Learn from peer

experiences,

best practices

& through

interactive

sessions

0 0

Gain insights on how to **communicate** with members and towards the public from a cluster management perspective

Challenges



Discuss **current challenges** and work on **initial solutions** in preparation of the action plan

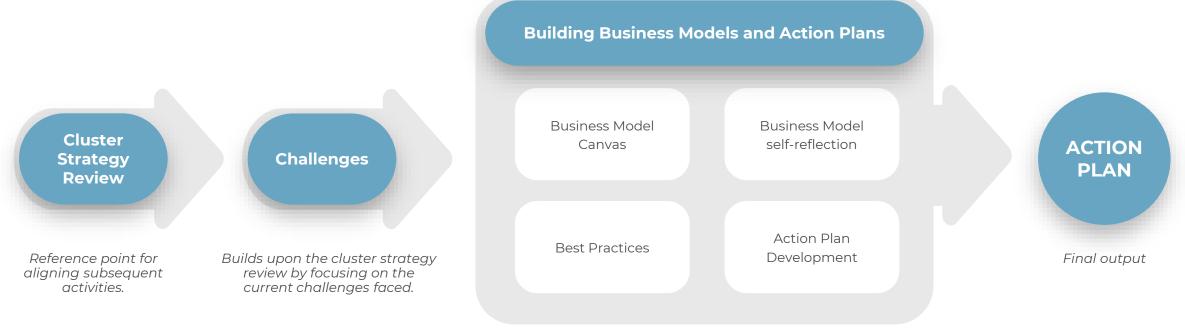
Business model & Action Plan



Develop an individual **action plan** to **advance and improve** your cluster's **business model**

*** * * ***

Strategic planning to tactical implementation: the training consists of a theory section followed by interactive application

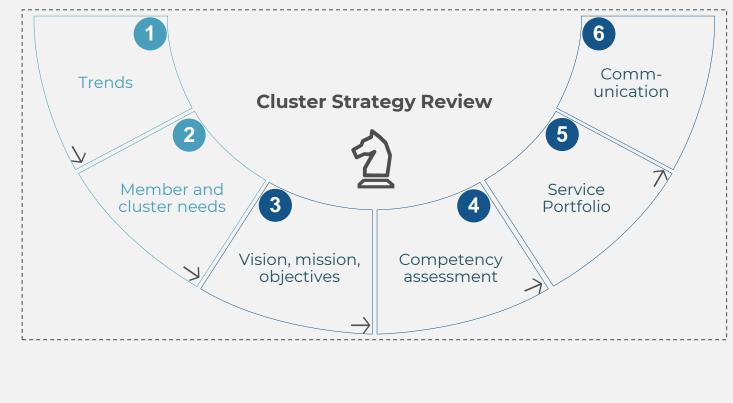


Action plans are developed based on the business plans, aligning with the strategic direction set by the cluster strategy review. The action plans ensure that the business plan is translated into actionable steps.



<u>Cluster Strategy</u> <u>Review</u>

Thorough Review of the Cluster Strategy: six interconnected elements



Cluster Strategy Review

Input factors

Output factors, facilitated as response to input factors

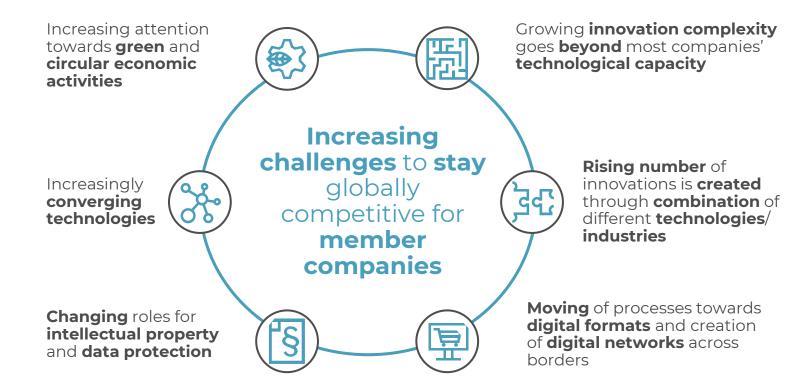




-Driving

Identifying trends and challenges consists of strategic foresight towards developments ...

Innovation initiation has altered over time



The complexity requires clusters to act via strategic foresight

Clusters are the partner for bridging competences and members capacity gaps

Strategic foresight tasks for clusters include being:

- Equipped with state-of-the-art knowledge on a regular base
- Aware about industry needs
- Familiar with trend and development scenarios for cluster-related technologies, value chains and needs

Knowledge generated from strategic foresight needs to be integrated into services



An initiative of the European Union

... and execution of an active change and innovation management

Strategic change and innovation management describes the ability and will to derive the future from the future and not from the past

When organizing an active change and innovation management, cluster managers should consider:

 Existence of differences among members such as size; especially with regard to operationalization, structure and standardization of innovation management On different levels, clusters can enforce and position themselves as active drivers of change and innovation management

Level	Cluster-related positioning
Innovation strategy	Road mapping, portfolio analysis, international determination of position, cluster strategy, framework of SME strategy
Internal conditions (innovation culture)	Advanced training options, connection of industry and research, working groups, innovation labs, open innovation arenas
Operative innovation management	Strengthen contacts with cooperation partners, innovation matchmaking, technology transfer
External conditions	Joint purchasing platforms, recruitment of qualified personnel, contact with public authorities and multipliers
Transfer of results	Common brands or processes, innovation packages



An initiative of the European Union

Source: GIZ Cluster Development Guide 2021, IMP³ROVE

Tool utilization: It is crucial to address relevant macroenvironmental factors in a structured Way

Understanding external influences (PESTEL analysis incl. examples)

Political	 Tax policy, labor law, environmental law, trade restrictions, tariffs, political stability Goods and services which the government wants (merit goods) and those that the government does not want to be provided (demerit goods) Influence on the health, education, and infrastructure of a nation
Economic	 Economic growth, interest rates, exchange rates, inflation rate
Social/ cultural	 Cultural aspects, health consciousness, population growth rate, age distribution, career attitudes and emphasis on safety
Technological	 Ecological and environmental aspects, such as R&D activity, automation, technology incentives and the rate of technological change
Environmental	– Weather, climate, and climate change
Legal	– Discrimination law, consumer law, antitrust law, employment law, health and safety law



Talking about trends (examples)

Online retail

Animal wellbeing



>60% of German consumers are looking at the animal welfare label when buying groceries (source: <u>BMEL</u>)

Automotive industry

(source: Kantar)



Self-driving vehicles will disrupt the business of at least onethird of industries in the developed world (source: <u>Gartner</u>)

Price, followed by promotion

and delivery at low/ no cost are

the top choices for consumers

to choose online FMCG retailers

Food industry



~15% of grocery products in Denmark are labeled as organic, making it the top market in Europe (source: <u>Statista</u>)



Step 2: Member and cluster needs

Identifying key cluster members and attributing attention to their demands assists in a "need relevance analysis"

1. Identifying key members and their needs

Not every member has the same relevance to the cluster. Hence, it is important to:

Identify key members

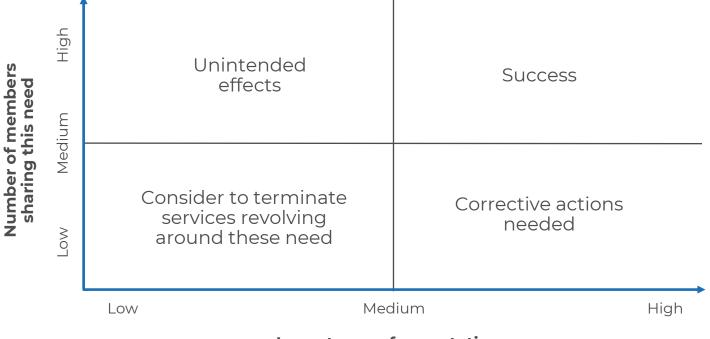
Identify needs of key members

3 Attribute higher relevance to key members' needs in analysis

Cluster understands needs of key members and can prioritize them in their work **leading to remaining commitment of members** over time and throughout cluster development processes



2. Prioritizing the members' needs



Importance of expectations



<u>Step 3:</u> Vision, mission, objectives

With set vision, mission and objectives the cluster can define what it stands for and where it wants to go

The development of cluster strategies requires:

Vision & **Mission**

Objective Setting

Definition & understanding where the cluster wants to go (vision) and what the it desires to stand for (mission)

Defined objectives which are precise, measurable and leave room for future transformations and evolvements in the cluster

Purpose

Internal

- Guide management's thinking on strategic issues
- Help define performance standards
- Guide employee decision making
- Help establish a framework for ethical behavior
- External – Create closer linkages and better **communication** with members
 - Promote **external support**

Success Factors

- Understood and shared by all employees and potentially members
- Broad enough to encompass a variety of perspectives
- Easy to communicate to a broad audience
- Inspiring and uplifting
- Concise and inclusive for clear understanding
- May be "action-oriented" or "outcomeoriented"



Step 4: Competency assessment

Developing or being aware of core core competences yields several advantages for clusters

Relevance of core competences

Core competences are...

- ... Giving clusters the opportunity to **better allocate resources**
- ... Helping in **developing a specific image/ brand** and **presence** among members or within the "cluster universe" (something the cluster is known for)
- ... Leading to **commitment** among cluster members key skills members can rely on

Fields of competence to develop...



2

3

Technical knowledge (e.g., sector/ industry/ market knowledge, tech. expertise)



Methodological skills (e.g., project mgmt. tools, communication/ PR)



Strategic management skills (e.g., consultancy know-how, strategy development, modeling, leadership)



Knowledge on cluster-related policies and funding programs (e.g., regional policies, subsidies)



Language skills (e.g., business English)



Process management & controlling skills (e.g., financial modelling, quality mgmt. tools)



<u>Step 5:</u> Service portfolio

TO D D D D C

Clusters can follow a structural five-step approach to map and assess the portfolio and update it according to member needs

Service portfolio update process

Status-quo analysis

- Listing services
- Identifying need-based fields among members

Systematic inventory

- Mapping of existing services (structural field allocation)
- Identifying of portfolio gaps based on members' needs

Profitability

- Evaluating profitability of existing services
- Comparing effort of services and expected recognition of cluster members (self-assessment)

Member feedback

- Setting up workshops with members
 - Capturing satisfaction with offered services and prioritizing member expectations
- Comparing self-assessment (step 3) with member feedback

5

Update services in portfolio

- Terminating or changing existing services (if necessary)
- Initiating new services (if necessary)
- Closing gaps according to profitability (step 3) and member feedback (step 4)

**** * * ***

Existing services can be mapped and categorized via a dashboard, giving the cluster a systematic overview

Status-quo service mapping (exemplary)

Ecosystem-oriented	Ecosystem & business- oriented	Business-oriented				
Regional development		, business models, innovative itions				
Service		Service				
Service	Service	Service				
Service		Service				
	Skills formation/	human resources				
	Service	Service				
	Service	Service				
Visibility/ marketing/ public relation						
Service	Service	Service				
	Networking/ experience exchange	Business development				
	Service	Service				
Regional developer/ community/ policy	Primarily intended for	r Members/ firms				

Step 1 and 2 of service portfolio update process



_ong-Term

Implementation

Short-Term

Three services

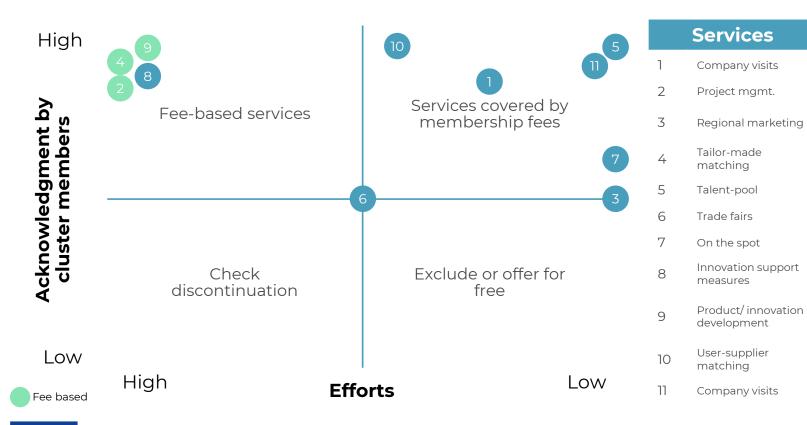
into fee-based

were turned

services

Case example: A profitability analysis assists in making the right service portfolio adaption choices

Profitability portfolio analysis – <u>example of an energy</u> <u>cluster in Germany in 2018</u>



Background – results of analysis

Cluster managers **mapped** and **reviewed services** into **profitability matrix**:

Several **services** causing **high efforts** were included in **membership fees**

Procedure

Expectation on service **effort** and **current satisfaction** level are **compared** in self- and member-assessment

 Enables final validation on service priority and adaption of portfolio on member needs



Best practice example: Developing new services (structured target setting) – Cluster Menara, Morocco

Objective

Needs-based vision

(立ち

Set-up an Innovation Technological Development Center for the agri-food and cosmetics sector for the Menara cluster (80 members) Creating a non-profit innovation center delivering high-quality and non-technical services relevant to businesses and being moderate regarding costs

- Offering paid as well as subsidized innovation services enhancing financial and operational sustainability of members
- Supporting product development, strengthening creation of new jobs within members and companies associated with value chain





- (SMEs) Creating innovative and competitive products through technology transfer and access
- Establishing links between cluster members and research/ academic community
- Preserving existing occupations inside members and shaping new jobs driven through product development/ technological access



Step 6: Communication strategy

The importance of communicating a brand: a cluster brand can yield several benefits for multiple stakeholders

Good branding creates longterm visibility

Developing a **brand** consists of **combining values and attributes** (e.g., USP, what to stand for, etc.)

 To foster member commitment and consistency, branding should be in line with members

Once brand is developed, communication objectives for target groups must be set to guide choice of tools and timing

Exemplary goals of branding:

- Strengthening commitment of members and attracting new ones
- Anchoring and establishing cluster **strategy**
- Increasing **visibility** beyond regional borders
- Fostering cross-cluster and border collaboration



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Best practice example: Prosecco Cluster Italy

Background:



The Italian cluster of prosecco in Veneto, Italy is a self-contained ecosystem. The **local wine production** caused the **evolvement of many connected activities**.

Heterogenous actors are involved in the system and in 2003, the **area was recognized as the first sparkling wine district of Italy.**

Cluster positioning:



The key focus of brand strategy is the region. Brand value focuses on:

- Quality of product due to long tradition and certified labelling
- Association of the sparkling wine with luxury, pleasure and well-being
- Regional link to heritage (noble castles, landscapes and century long tradition in prosecco production)

Key message:



- Relating to location is for (some) clusters reasonable to strengthen brand of members (further win situation for local government)
- Region-based branding can translate into strong commitment of numerous stakeholders (e.g., members, public administration, inhabitants)



The art of effective communication: crafting a winning strategy through 7 essential elements

What makes a (good) communication strategy?

"

Communication is the engine of a cluster

-	Objectives	Target groups	Messages	Budget	Execution	Monitoring/
"//					plan	Evaluation
analysis obj - External mu factors ach - Internal ^{ove}	ommunication ojectives ust support chievement of verall cluster ojectives	Distinguish between inward communication (members) vs. outward communication	Communication style should be tailored for the target groups and objectives (purposes), depending on their needs	Part of the cluster's funds/ resources must be allocated for communication	Corporate communication package: - Presentation - Texts - Roll-ups - Newsletter - Website 	KISS approach (i.e. keep it short and simple) - Activity - Date - Responsible - KPI - Measure



Source: Lucia Seel, International Consulting (2022)

Impulse speech

Kristoffer Jansson EnergyVaasa, Finland





Having reviewed the cluster strategy as our framework, our attention will now shift towards addressing present challenges



Action plans are developed based on the business plans, aligning with the strategic direction set by the cluster strategy review. The action plans ensure that the business plan is translated into actionable steps.



Drawing from your shared challenges, we have distilled these into **10 key** themes



Focus areas breakout sessions

Overview challenges





Breakout room and presentation (60 minutes)

Breakout room: Please discuss a specific challenge, its impact on cluster performance and potential solutions? (30 minutes)

> Main room: Each group please present their ideas and findings (30 minutes)



Lunch Break

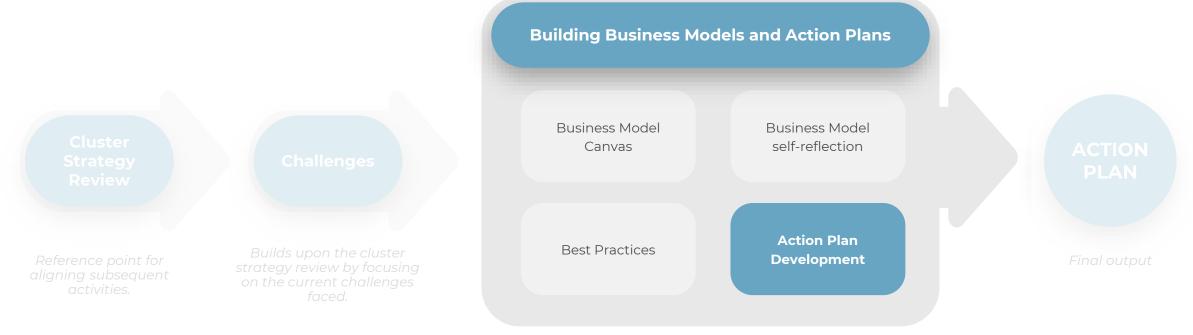




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Action Plan Development

In order to effectively implement potential solutions, it is vital to establish an action plan that provides a clear path forward



Action plans are developed based on the business plans, aligning with the strategic direction set by the cluster strategy review. The action plans ensure that the business plan is translated into actionable steps.



An action plan is a structured and detailed document that outlines the specific steps, tasks, & strategies and...

Goal-oriented Approach

... turns strategic goals into actionable steps, providing direction and focus. It ensures efforts and resources are targeted towards specific outcomes.

Systematic Problem-solving

... breaks down goals into tasks, helping cluster managers analyze challenges and find solutions. It promotes a structured and systematic problem-solving approach.

Resource Optimization

... optimizes resource allocation for managers, i.e. time, finances, and human capital, by identifying requirements, estimating budgets, and aligning resources with priorities.

Accountability / Monitoring

... defines roles, responsibilities, and timelines, fostering accountability. Managers can monitor progress / milestones and evaluate effectiveness. It cultivates a culture of responsibility and ensures alignment with goals.



Communication

... enables effective communication among managers, team, and stakeholders, fostering collaboration, coordination, and synergy through a shared understanding of goals, tasks, and timelines.

Adaptability / Flexibility

... is a dynamic tool that adapts to evolving circumstances. Cluster managers can adjust it to changing conditions, trends and challenges. Regular updates maintain relevance over time.

Performance Evaluation

... measures progress, outcomes, and assesses initiative impact. It tracks KPI ´s, analyzes data, and guides data-driven decisions for enhanced planning and strategy by cluster managers.



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By following a structured **3-step** approach we can derive a detailed action plan



1. Goal Definition

Clearly define the desired outcomes and objectives of the action plan.



2. Task Identification \rightarrow

Identify and list the specific tasks & activities required to achieve the defined goals.



3. Role Assignment

Assign roles & responsibilities to individuals or teams involved in the action plan.



Step 1: For setting goals and objectives, we can use the SMART framework



3 tips for SMART goals

Simple language

The purpose is not to showcase complex language. Your goal statement should be quickly scannable and easily understood.

Action words

Use action words when describing specific goals. The key is to emphasize that you're actively doing/achieving something.

Numbers

Use numbers as benchmarks. They make your goal measurable and can often encourage more accountability.



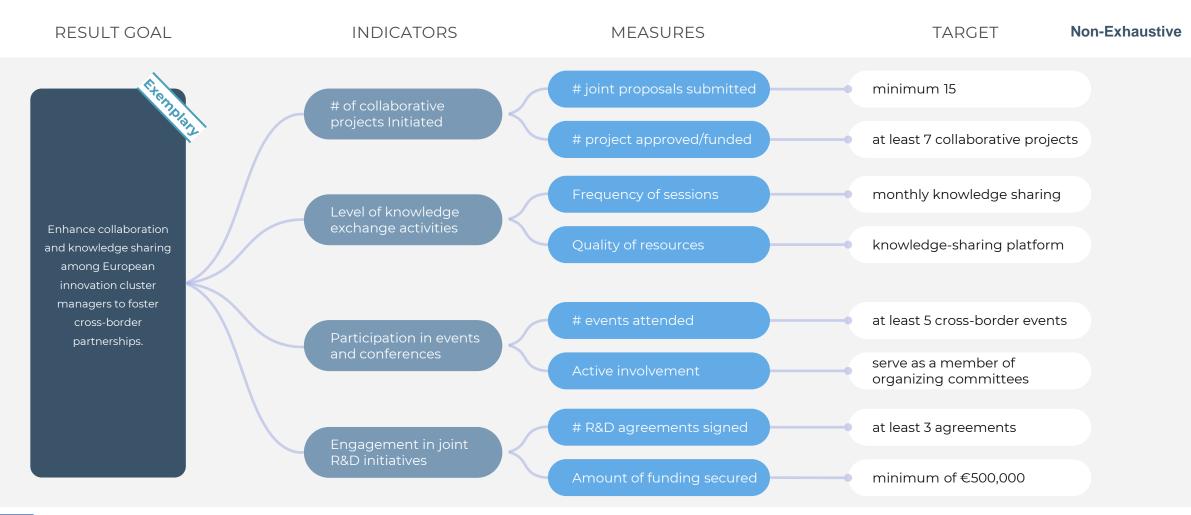
Source: IMP³ROVE

Step 1: Preparing Action Plans with Smart Goals Tree Diagrams: A Practical Approach





Step 1: Preparing Action Plans with Smart Goals Tree Diagrams: A Practical Approach





Step 2: Work **Breakdown** Structure (WBS) can be used to provide a detailed breakdown of project tasks and deliverables

Introduction: Task list & WBS

Utilizing this framework, you divide project deliverables into subordinate deliverables, enabling a clear visualization of the project and highlighting essential interdependencies.

- **Project Scope Definition**
 - organizes tasks & deliverables, ensuring comprehensive project coverage.

Task Definition & Sequencing

- identifies and sequences tasks. providing a visual execution order.

Resource Allocation

- aids in allocating and estimating **resources** for each task

Timelines & Dependencies

- establishes timelines and highlights task dependencies.

Monitoring & Control

 facilitates project monitoring, milestone tracking, and adjustments



Project goal/objective (SMART)

Tas	sk 1	Tas	ik 2	Tas	ik 3
Task 1.1	Task 1.2	Task 2.1	Task 2.2	Task 3.1	Task 3.2

Resource Allocation

- Resource identification: each task should be associated with resources needed
- Resource estimation: once identified, estimate quantity or effort required
- Resource assignment: based on identification and estimation, allocate specific resources
- **Resource leveling** process of adjusting the allocation to balance utilization and ovoid overallocation

Timeline & Dependencies

- Task duration: each task can be associated with duration or estimated effort required for completion
- **Milestones:** identify key milestones that mark significant points of completion or achievement
- Task dependencies: indicate relationships between different tasks in the project
- Critical path: sequence of tasks that determines minimum project duration



Step 2: With the action priority matrix, a categorization of |

High impact

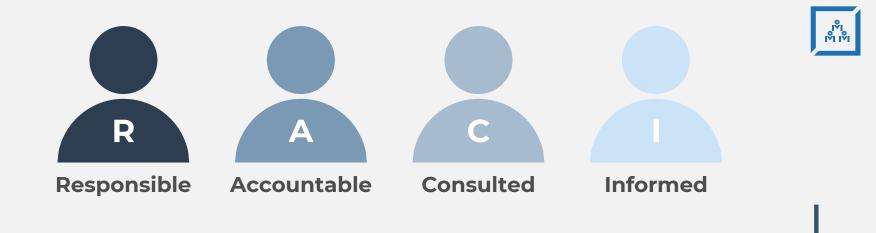
Low impact

Low effort	High effort
Quick wins	Major projects
Conduct customer surveys Analyze market data and trends 	Establish strategic partnerships Collaborate with universities on research project Identify and secure funding
Fill-ins	Thankless tasks
Fill-ins Monitoring and analyze KPIs	Thankless tasks
Monitoring and analyze KPIs	Implement CRM system
Monitoring and analyze KPIs	Implement CRM system

			E.		
Actions					
Description	Impact	Effort	Status		
Conduct customer surveys	High	Low	Not started		
Analyze market data and trends	High	Low	Done		
Monitor and analyze KPIs	Low	Low	Not started		
Update internal documentation	Low	Low	Done		
Establish strategic partnerships	High	High	ln progress		
Collaborate with university on research project	High	High	Done		
Identify and secure funding	High	High	ln progress		
Implement CRM system	Low	High	Done		
Conduct technology assessments	Low	High	Not started		



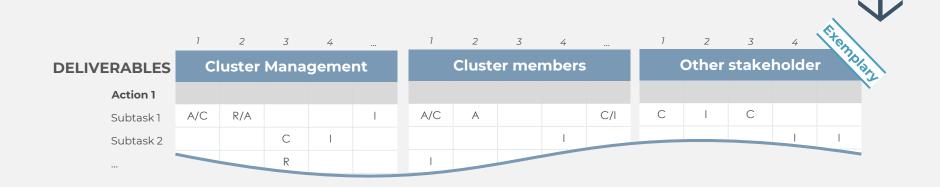
Step 3: Establishing clear roles and responsibilities with RACI Matrix is key for effective action planning



Clearly define the roles and responsibilities of individuals or teams involved in the action plan.

Use RACI matrix to clarify roles and decision-making authority

Consider the skills, expertise, and availability of each team member when assigning tasks.





Action plan: template for developing business model changes to advance and improve

	Who will do it?	Stakeholders Who are the stakeholders to involve for success?	What is required,	Expected outcome What kind of outcome do you expect within this step?	Deadline By when?
Step 1:					
Step 2:					



Source: IMP³ROVE

Private Financing

Impulse speech private financing

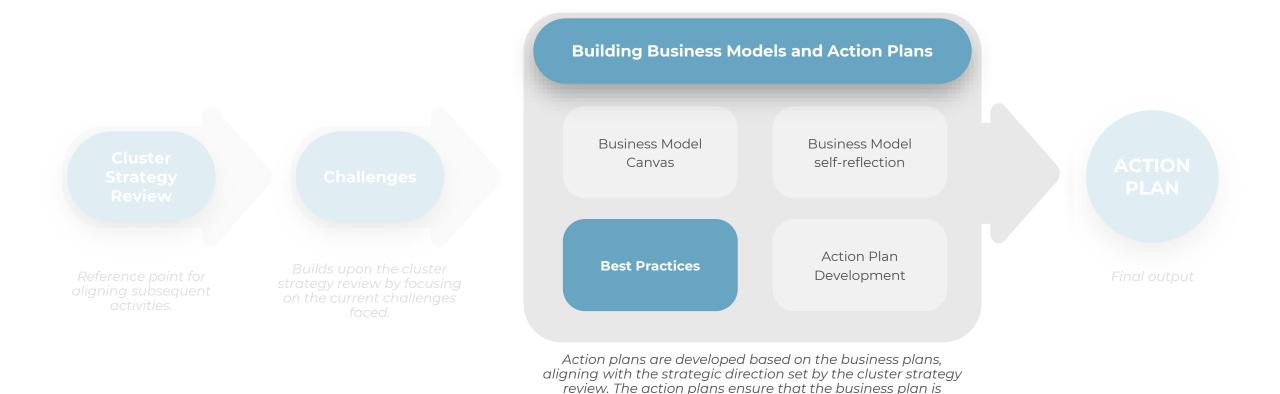
Bianca Dragomir AVAESEN, Spain



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Best Practices

Having deliberated upon significant challenges, let us now delve into success stories from other clusters to gain further insights



translated into actionable steps.

**** * * ***

Selfreflection & presentation (15 minutes)

Please evaluate the clues that suggest a best practice cluster and share your informed speculation (15 minutes)



Impulse speech

Best Practice Cluster



Impulse speech

Johan Halvarsson SuperEcosystem, Finland



Coffee Break





The ECCP Services empower you to connect, exchange and collaborate



Clusters meet Regions

Join clusters and policymakers in the local, regional, and national level and work on strengthening the industrial ecosystem of regions.

Clusters Talks

Your bi-weekly opportunity to exchange knowledge and discuss topics significant to the EU business community.



JCLUSTERS C TALK

Matchmaking Events

Team up with other cluster organizations from Europe and third countries and find new collaboration opportunities at dedicated matchmaking events.



ClusterXchange

ECCP supports short term exchanges to better connect Europe's industrial clusters and their ecosystems.



EU Clusters support Ukraine Forum

ECCP enhances the ability of European industry to contribute to the delivery of humanitarian aid for Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees.

On the ECCP website you are able to discover extensive reports and studies (1/2)

Policy support

Explore and compare cluster policies from EU Member States, COSME participating countries and third countries



European Expert Group on Clusters

The European expert group on clusters provides the Commission, EU countries and regions with recommendations, advice, and expertise on better use of clusters as strategic tools.





Policy Toolkit

Access the policy toolkit which provides a searchable database of policy initiatives from 53 countries to support clusters in fostering the twin transitions and building resilience

View more



Find out more about resilience

Read about the role of clusters in skills development and supply chain adjustments and check the newly developed toolkit for cluster policymakers.

View more



Cluster Solutions Library

Discover detailed case studies on how clusters have played an active role in the 14 industrial ecosystems and facilitate the twin transition in European regions.



On the ECCP website you are able to discover extensive reports and studies (2/2)

Publications

The latest reports and studies for insights from cluster practitioners and about the latest trends, policy measures and publications within the ECCP community.



European Cluster Panorama economy.



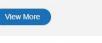
Cluster document library View additional resources from across the cluster community.



Cluster stories



View more





2019 Trends Reports and Priority Sectors Read the European cluster and industrial transformation trends reports.



Cluster Policy Country factsheets Learn more about cluster policies and programmes across Europe and third priority countries.





Advanced Technology Country factsheets

Learn on technological trends and data on advanced technologies by EU Member States.



View more

View more

Selfreflection & group discussion (30 minutes)

Discussion on how to apply best practice examples to own cluster.

What are the 3 key takeaways from each best practice presentation?

15 minutes individual work 15 minutes sharing of results in main room



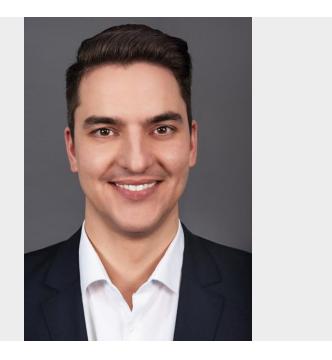
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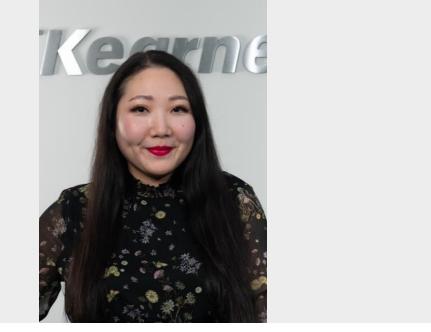
Final Q&A



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IMP³ROVE

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Cluster Booster Academy

Training Day 2

June 07, 2023





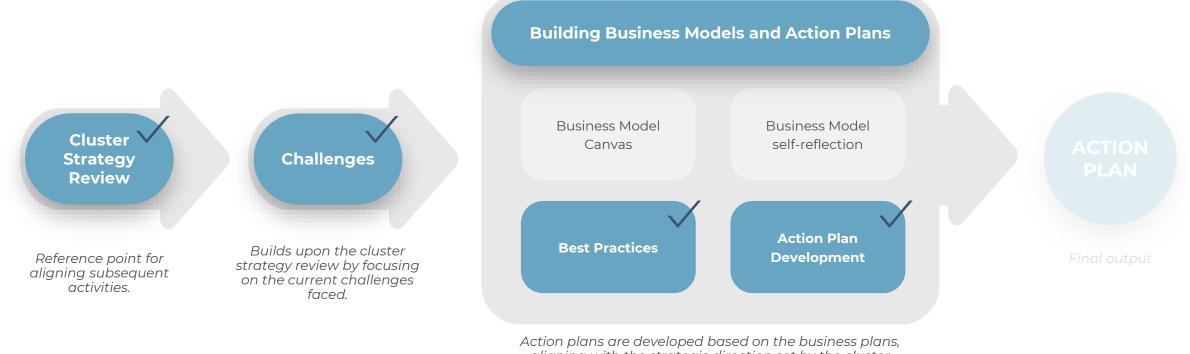
Agenda	09.30 - 09.45	Short recap day 1 and welcome day 2
Virtual	09.45 - 10.00	Business Model: Business model canvas introduction and explanation
Training (Day 2)	10.00 – 11.30	Keynote speeches: Sandra Sundbäck (Paper Province, Sweden) and Thomas Meißner (Cluster Transport Mobility Logistics, Germany) talk about successful services, new initiatives, processes, etc. – what works, what doesn't
	11.30 – 12.30	Self-reflection business model of my cluster: Defining business model canvas for own cluster
	12.30 – 13.30 Lunch break	Lunch break
	13.30 – 14.15	Self-reflection recap business model of my cluster: Desired business model in 5 years
	14.15 – 16.00	 How to plan, structure and achieve your strategic goals Introduction to action plan template and tasks Self-reflection: Participants detail out the next steps to solving their challenges into an action plan Presentation of action plans and feedback
	16.00- 16.30	Next steps, Q&A, feedback and closing of the training

Beginning/ Ending

Break



Strategic planning to tactical implementation: the training consists of a theory section followed by interactive application



Action plans are developed based on the business plans, aligning with the strategic direction set by the cluster strategy. The action plans ensure that the business plan is translated into actionable steps.





To create a successful action plan, we must thoroughly analyze the business plan and identify areas for improvement



Action plans are developed based on the business plans, aligning with the strategic direction set by the cluster strategy. The action plans ensure that the business plan is translated into actionable steps.



The Business Model Canvas enables a one-page view of a cluster's structure

Business Model Canvas cluster version

The Business Model Canvas offers managers the opportunity to structure and document their existing ones. The framework is widely regarded as the most famous one to display business models.

			Member	Cluster members
Key stakeholders & partners	Cluster activities	Cluster value	engagement	Potential cluster members
Key ecosystem & clusters	Cluster resources	proposition	Channels	Funding partners
Cost structure		Public funding	Private funding	Project funding

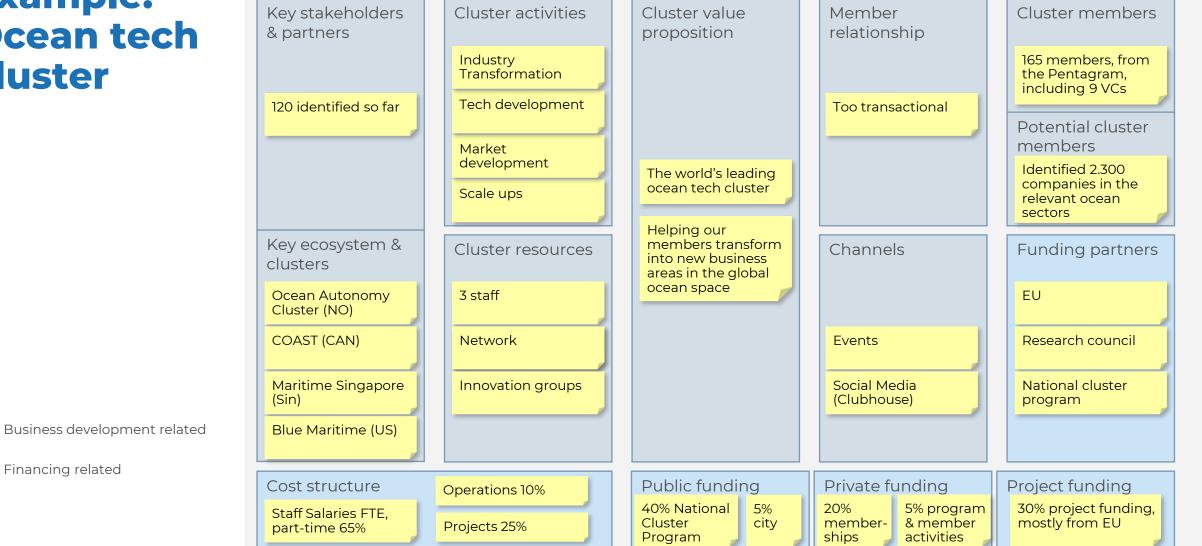


Business development related

Financing related

Source: GIZ Cluster Business Model Guide 2021, IMP³ROVE

Case example: **Ocean tech** cluster



Financing related



Source: GIZ Cluster Business Model Guide 2021, IMP³ROVE

Business Model Canvas applied

Impulse speeches

Sandra Sundbäck Paper Province, Sweden

Thomas Meißner Cluster Transport | Mobility | Logistics, Germany



Selfreflection: Business Model Canvas (60 minutes)

Please sketch the business model canvas for your cluster



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Source: IMP³ROVE

Selfreflection: Template

Business Model Canvas cluster version

Please use the template below to document the Business Model Canvas for your cluster organization.



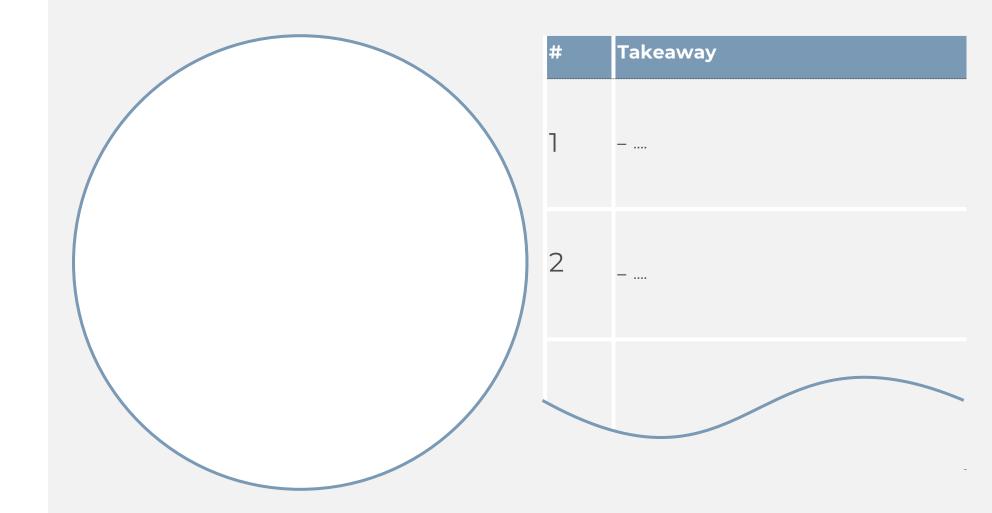


Business development related

Financing related

Source: GIZ Cluster Business Model Guide 2021, IMP³ROVE

Selfreflection: assisting diagram template financing business model Optional: Please sketch your proportional funding sources into a pie chart and state your key-takeaways





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Source: IMP³ROVE

Lunch Break





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Selfreflection: Business Model Canvas (45 minutes)

Please sketch your desired future business model canvas (5 years) (30 minutes)

Please reflect on the differences to your current business model (previous selfreflection) (15 minutes)



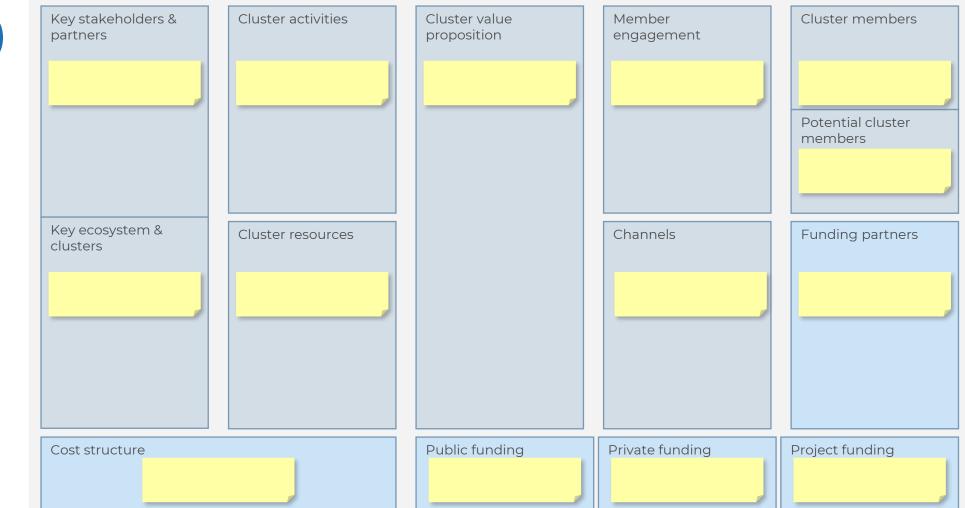
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ource: IMP³ROVE

Selfreflection: Template (30 minutes)



Please use the template below to document your **desired future business model (five years from today)** for your cluster organization



**** **** An initiative of the European Union

Business development related

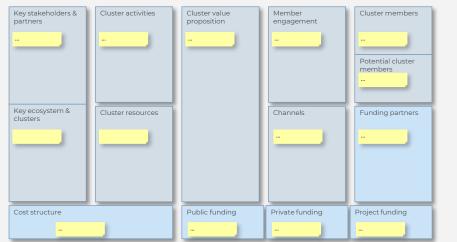
Financing related

Selfreflection: Template (15 minutes)

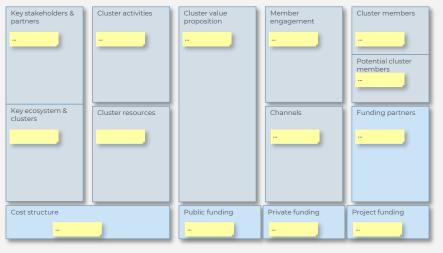
Business Model Canvas cluster version

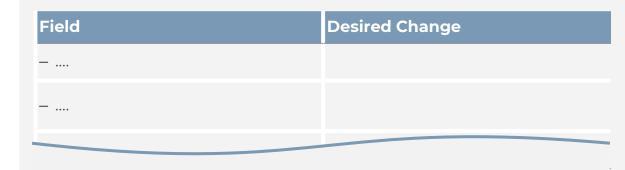
Please reflect on your current business model and the desired future business model

Current Business Model Canvas



Desired Future Business Model Canvas





Please use the template to the left to reflect and document the desired changes to your current business model.

The template serves as a starting 'point for your action plan.

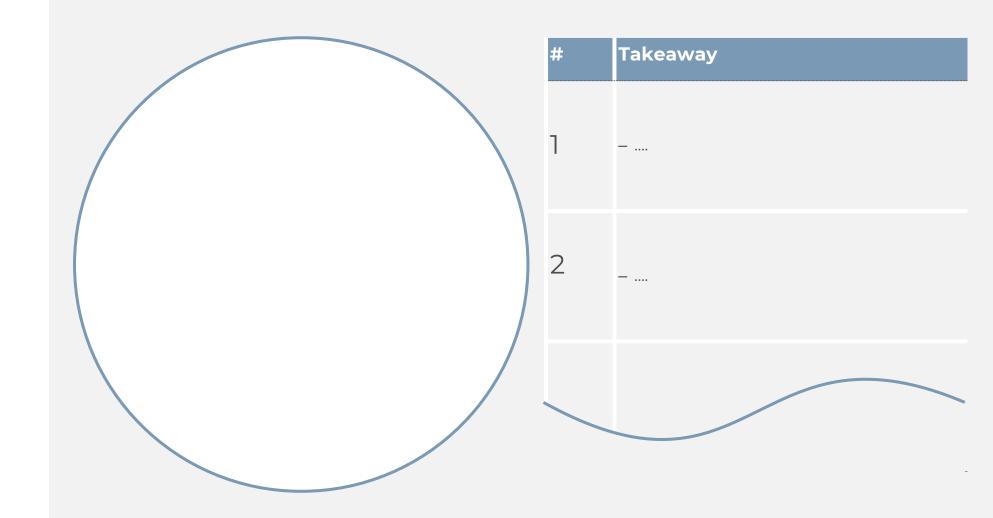
Business development related

Financing related



Source: GIZ Cluster Business Model Guide 2021, IMP³ROVE

Selfreflection: assisting diagram template financing business model Optional: Please sketch your desired proportional funding sources into a pie chart and state your key-takeaways





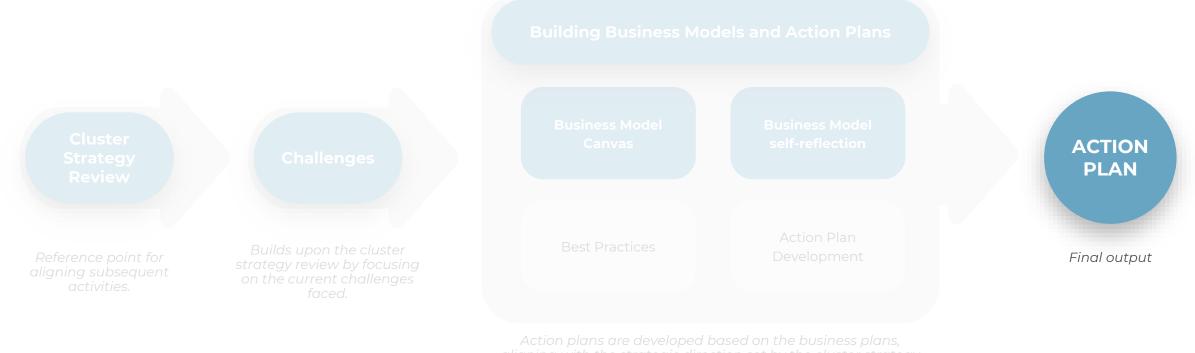
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Source: IMP³ROVE

Action plan development THE PARTY PERCENT STORE FOR STORE AND A ST

90'9111

Leveraging the insights gained from the session and incorporating best practices, we are poised to draft a comprehensive action plan



Action plans are developed based on the business plans, aligning with the strategic direction set by the cluster strategy review. The action plans ensure that the business plan is translated into actionable steps.



Selfreflection & breakout session: developing an action plan (1/2)

Develop an action plan to advance and improve your current business model



Selfreflection & breakout session: developing an action plan (2/2)

Conduct a deep individual brainstorming session on the desired changes identified in the previous self-reflection and define how to advance and improve your cluster's business model (what could be immediate starting points?) (30 minutes)

Pitch your ideas to other participants in a breakout session and receive ad-hoc feedback (active discussion on everyone's ideas) (30 minutes)

15 minutes coffee break

3

Iterate your ideas and form an action plan to achieve the objectives set; further feedback by trainers on request (45 minutes)

Prioritize your defined action steps based on its expected effort and impact (optional)



Self- reflection: brainstorm	Please reflect on the content presented yesterday	Cluster Strategy Review Challenges Challenges
on business model changes to advance and	and the content presented and created today	Best Practices Business Model Image: Control of the sector of the sec
improve	Long-list desired business model cha to advance	anges Prioritize: The 3 most promising business model changes to advance



Long-list desired business model changes to advance	Prioritize: The 3 most promising business model changes to advance
	_
	Prioritize at least one short-term idea (implementable in 3-6 months)



Breakout session: template feedback session

Content from step 1

Content to work on in this session

2

Please use this template to incorporate your peer feedback

sired business ges to advance	Prioritize: The 3 most promising business model changes to advance	Notes on peer feedback
	—	



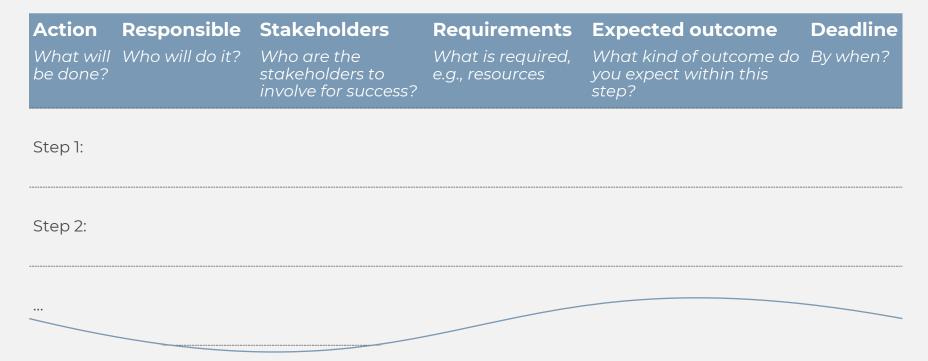
Action plan: template for developing business model changes to advance and improve





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Source: IMP³ROVE



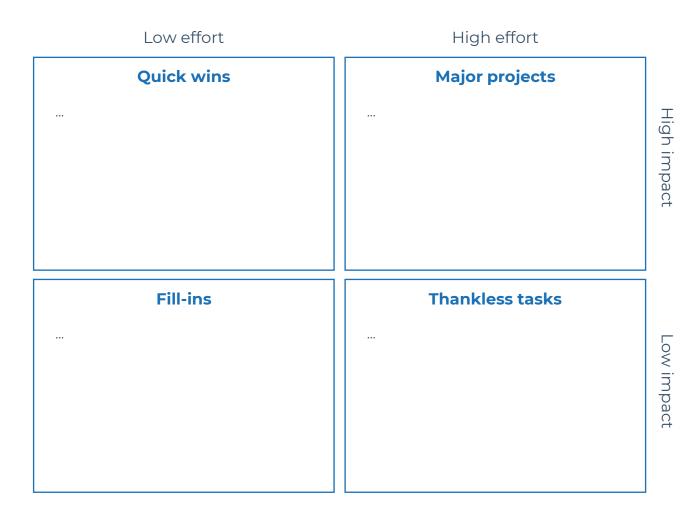
How to use the template?

First: Identify business model changes to advance and improve (e.g., change in member fee structure – fee discrimination by size or change in service structure)

Second: Fill in the action plan template

- Action: What are the individual steps to achieve this goal?
- **Responsible:** Who should be the responsible person for each step?
- **Stakeholders:** Who within the cluster must be involved in that specific step?
- Requirements: What are the requirements for each step (e.g., needed resources, legal requirements clarified, etc.)
- **Expected outcome:** What do you expect as an outcome from this step?
- **Deadline:** How many days should it take to finish this step?

With the action priority matrix, a categorization of actions through effort and impact is possible



Act	ions	
Description/Step	Impact	Effort



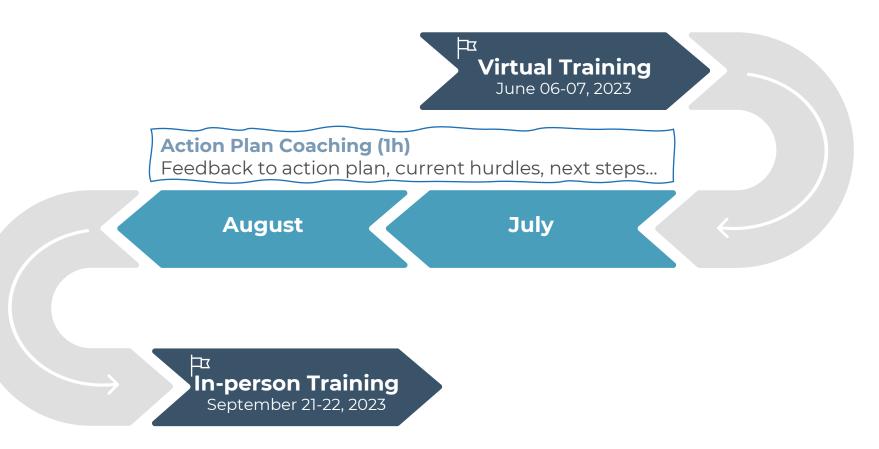
Next steps and Q&A

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90'91115

We plan at least one individual virtual meeting, aiming to assist you in executing your action plan and other strategic aspects

Following our productive discussions within the CBA, we understand that running a successful cluster comes with its unique set of challenges, and **we** are committed to supporting you further in achieving your goals.



Templates for all sessions will be provided!



During the session we aim at detailing out your action plan, feedbacking on the status-quo and finalizing your questionnaire

Action Plan Coaching (virtual)

Organization



Timing: flexible, between virtual and physical training (July-August)

Procedure: Select meeting time in appointment excel sent after virtual training

Length: 1 hour

Action Plan Coaching



During meeting: We will provide feedback to your developed action plan and talk about potential progress already made, hurdles, etc...

To do <u>for cluster</u> prior to meeting: Please send us your developed version of the action plan at least 3 days before your meeting slot.

After meeting: You will have an iterated version of your action plan – please progress with the determined action plan steps

Questionnaire Feedback



During meeting: We will provide feedback to your <u>cluster specific</u> member questionnaire

To do <u>for cluster</u> prior to meeting: Please send us your developed version of your questionnaire at least 3 days before your meeting slot. Further, please use this session to ask questions on the analysis of the questionnaire.

After meeting: You will have an iterated version of your questionnaire – please progress and ask your members to fill it out by 20th of January (please send out a reminder to your members on 10th of January)

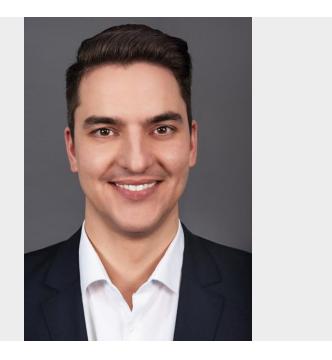


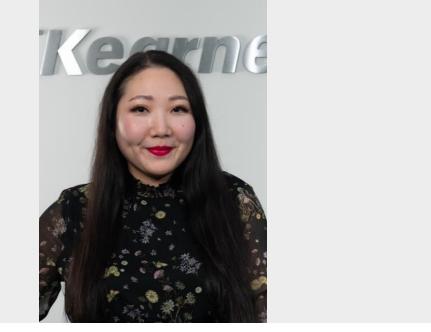
Final Q&A



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