



An initiative of the European Union

CLUSTERS MEET REGIONS

CHARLEROI
BELGIUM

27 · 28
NOVEMBER 2024

DRIVING THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC REVIVAL IN EUROPE:
AGORADA+ DISCUSSES INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS IN LIFE SCIENCES,
CLEANTECH AND ADVANCED MANUFACTURING FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PARTICIPANTS BOOKLET

#ClustersMeetRegions

X @Clusters_EU

in European Cluster Collaboration Platform

f European Cluster Collaboration Platform - ECCP



AGORADA+ 2024
EURADA event



BACKGROUND

This is the 19th workshop of the successful “Clusters Meet Regions” series. Organised since 2022 in different EU regions, these events bring together clusters and policymakers of the EU, at national, regional, and local levels to learn from each other how to better use clusters to strengthen industrial ecosystems, serve national/regional economic development and liaise with other regions facing similar transition challenges.

The European Cluster Collaboration Platform, on behalf of the European Commission, and in partnership with Igretec, Charleroi Métropole and Eurada will be jointly organising the next 'Clusters Meet Regions' event in Charleroi, Belgium, on 27 and 28 November 2024.

By focusing on Life sciences, Cleantech and Advanced manufacturing, this CmR session will highlight Charleroi Metropole's capacity to improve and transform its economy and its industrial strategy with the help of regional and European funds (total of +/- 500 million €). Participants will have a unique chance to understand the key role of clusters and the related ecosystem actors to improve the competitiveness of companies and thus the territory.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The event is taking place on 27 and 28 November 2024, at the IGRETEC building (“Cube” space, 7th floor), Boulevard Pierre Mayence, 6000, Charleroi, Belgium.

The event is scheduled to start at 09:15 AM CET.

We kindly ask all participants to arrive at IGRTEC’s building by 08:45 AM to ensure that everyone has enough time to register and take their seats in the meeting room.

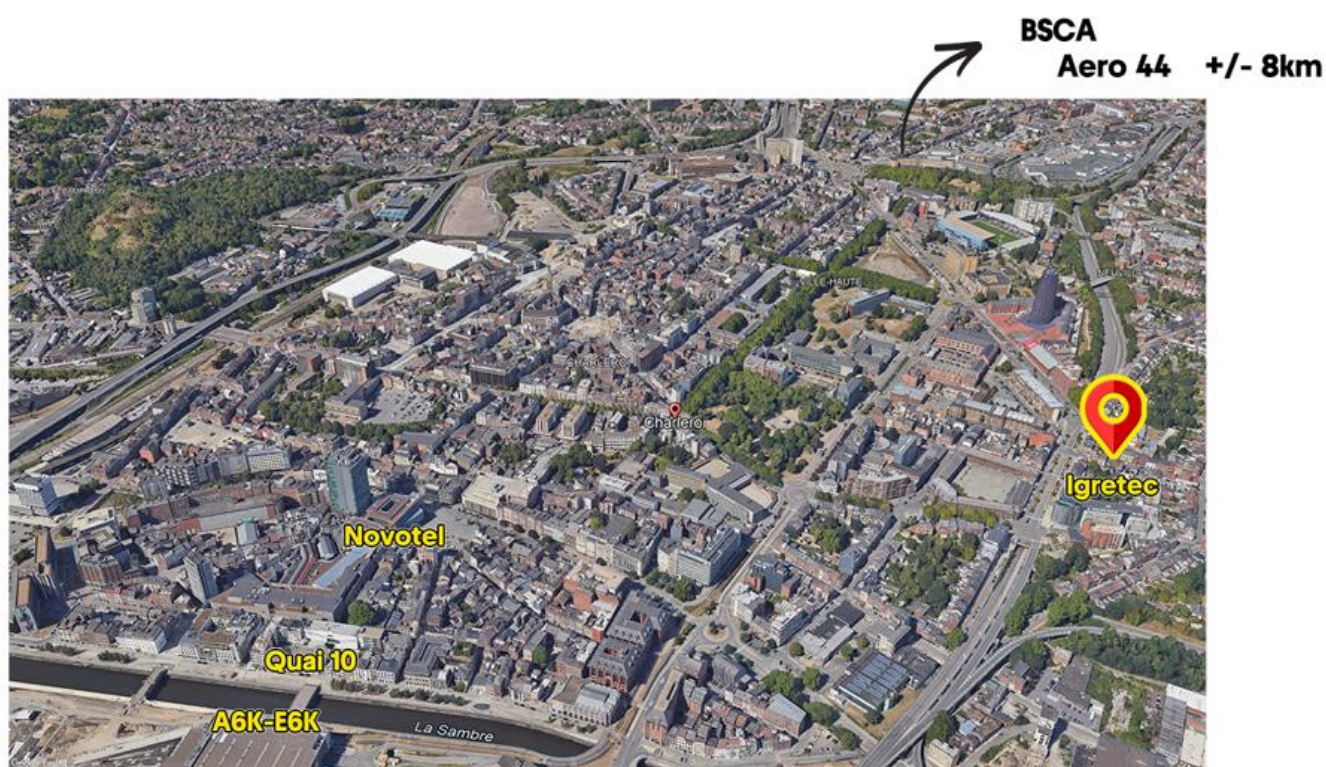
Please follow the link to register and participate in the event. The latest agenda of the event is available [here](#).

The programme will include high-level plenary sessions, discussions, pitching sessions, and networking events.

Please note that study tours will be available at the end of the second day. These tours will be both interesting and highly relevant to the event’s subject matter and participants’ interests. You can find the event agenda available here for your reference. Pre-registration to the study tours is mandatory and can be completed through the general registration link, which you can access here.

Transfers will be organised by Charleroi Métropole.

HOW TO REACH THE VENUE?



Travelling by plane

If you plan to travel by air, the main airport serving Charleroi is **Brussels South Charleroi Airport (CRL)**.

From Brussels South Charleroi Airport (MXP)

- **Taxi:** Taxis are available at the airport. The journey to Igretec takes approximately 20 min. Price average (+/- 30,00€). Credit card or cash accepted.
- **Shuttle Service:** Some hotels offer shuttle services from the airport. We kindly invite you to check this with your hotel at the time of booking.
- **Public Transportation:** Take the an Express line bus to Charleroi Central Station.

From Charleroi Central Station, you can either

- Use the metro (Line M1 direction Anderlues or Line M4 direction Soleilmont) – Ticket price: 2,50€ (cash or credit card payment)
- Take a taxi (5-10 minutes duration depending on traffic) Average price: 10,00€. Please note that UBER is not active in Charleroi.
- Walk for approximately 15 minutes.

Travelling by train

You will arrive at Charleroi Central Station. See options for the IGRETEC building above.

Travelling by car

- The city is well-connected by roads and (international) motorways.
- Our onsite secured parking (follow “Cube,” -2 level) will be available.
- An elevator will bring you directly to the meeting room (“Cube”) on the 7th floor.

Other main venues

- 27/11/24, 19H15: Quai 10 restaurant: Quai Arthur Rimbaut – B 6000 Charleroi
- 28/11/24, 12H30: A6K: Square des Martyrs, 1 - B 6000 Charleroi (Central Station plain)

ACCOMMODATION

Hotels located nearby and recommended (preferential rates):

NOVOTEL Charleroi Centre

Novotel Charleroi Centre is located in the heart of Charleroi.

- A 5-minute walk from Charleroi Central Station
- A 10-minute walk from Igrétec Premises
- A 3-minute walk from “Quai 10” (reception & networking event of 27th November)
- Easily accessible from Charleroi Airport BSCA (by public transportation or taxis)

Special Rates for Attendees:

Preferred rates are available for members who reserve their rooms by October 26th.

- Superior Room (Single Occupancy): €113.00/night
- Extra Double Occupancy: €15.00/night

Breakfast buffet (cold and hot) is included.

Booking Information:

To take advantage of these rates, please use the promo code: **NOVCMR** when booking.

Reservation Links:

- [French Site](#)
- [English Site](#)

AERO44 (Ibis style)

AERO 44 (recently fully renovated) is located, in a quiet area, in the “Aeropole”, 5 minutes near BSCA. Free shuttles are available (upon reservation).

- 15 minutes by taxi to Charleroi Centre and IGRETEC premises.
- Free shuttles (2X/hour, in the morning /afternoon/night) will be provided, for “Clusters meet Regions” main activities (Igretec Premises, Quai 10 & A6K)

Special Rates for Attendees:

- Single Room: €98.00/night
- Appart’Hotels: €125.00/night
- Junior Suite: €140.00/night
- Deluxe Suite: €160.00/night

Breakfast buffet (cold and hot) is included.

Booking Information:

- Client Code: **SCP4390956**
- Access Code: **CL583BE121**

Reservation Links:

- [French Site](#)
- [English Site](#)

DISCOVER THE CHARLEROI METROPOLITAN AREA

The Charleroi Metropolitan area is a vast territory of almost 600,000 inhabitants, representing 16% of the Walloon population, and gathering 30 municipalities. Ideally located at the heart of Europe and easily accessible, it stretches 80 km from north to south, from the French border to the Brussels suburbs, covering more than 2000 km².

Both an employment and training area, with coherent residential dynamics and social, economic, and cultural interactions, the Metropolitan area is confirmed as a relevant territory for the development of an ambitious shared dynamic.

An agricultural and forested territory with a strong rural character, the Metropolitan area is also a land of economic development, creativity, innovation, and learning. It is distinguished by its outstanding built and natural heritage. Once the fertile ground of the Industrial Revolution, the city of Charleroi, the most populous in Wallonia, is the major attraction of this multi-faceted territory. Charleroi Metropolitan area is a place of excellence, today home to many innovative projects.

The region offers its inhabitants a varied living environment, both urban and rural. The north of the region has a dense urban and economic fabric, as well as a "ring" of dynamic towns and villages. The south of the region, on the other hand, offers a rural, agricultural and forestry character that is conducive to tourism, unique economic specialities, a wealth of crafts, folklore and heritage, and particularly active small towns.

A land to live in, a place to study, a region to invest in, and places to (re)discover Charleroi Metropolitan area offers several assets that are well worth a visit!

Input MT Charleroi: TBC

More info and suggestions on: www.cm-tourisme.be/en

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THE EVENT IS ORGANISED BY:



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IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH:

