



Agenda 22 June

Time (EEST)	Agenda point	Room
10:00 – 12:30	 Opening in the Conference plenary session Ulla Engelmann, European Commission: Welcome Antonio Novo, European Clusters Alliance: Disruptions in European supply chains and possible solutions Sustainable business performance: case studies 	Plenary session
13:30 – 13:45	Introduction to the C2Lab activities	C2Lab room
13:45 – 14:45	 Securing investments and exploring funding opportunities Ramojus Reimeris, JRC, European Commission Oana Buzatu, Cluj Napoca City Hall, Partnership for Regional Innovation Tomislav Pinter, DG REGIO, European Commission Stephen Halligan, Danube Transnational Programme MA/JS Iva Maric, DG REGIO, European Commission Ramona Ivan, Romanian Bank Association 	C2Lab room
14:45 – 15:45	"Pitches": Presentation and finding project partners	C2Lab room
16:00 – 17:30	Working groups with moderators	C2Lab room
19:00	Invitation to the #10YearsTransilvanianFurnitureCluster - Celebration event & dinner	





Agenda 23 June

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10:00 – 12:30	 Working groups with moderators The expert moderation team: Antonio Novo, European Clusters Alliance Daniel Cosnita, Romanian Cluster Association CLUSTERO Flaviu Iorgulescu, Romanian Cluster Association CLUSTERO Athanasios Konstandopoulos, CHORUS cluster Panos Saragiotis, CHORUS cluster Daniel Acs, Union of Slovak Clusters 	C2Lab room
13:30 – 14:00	Working groups with moderators	C2Lab room
14:00 – 15:00	Presentation of 3 example roadmaps and discussion with the participants	C2Lab room
15:15 – 15:45	Definition of next steps within working groups	C2Lab room
15:45 – 16:00	Recap and closing remarks	C2Lab room







SECURING INVESTMENTS AND EXPLORING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



Securing investments and exploring funding opportunities

- Ramojus Reimeris, JRC, European Commission Partnerships for Regional Innovation
- Oana Buzatu, Cluj-Napoca City Hall Partnership for Regional Innovation, Example Cluj
- **Tomislav Pinter,** DG REGIO, European Commission Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument
- **Stephen Halligan**, Danube Transnational Programme MA/JS Danube Region Programme 2021-2027
- Iva Maric, DG REGIO, European Commission Funding possibilities in Romanian regional programmes (2021-2027)
- Ramona Ivan, Romanian Bank Association Private Investments







Ramojus Reimeris

Joint Research Council, European Commission





Partnerships for Regional Innovation: Innovation: Initiative, Playbook, Pilot

Cluster Collaboration Lab, 22 June 2022

Ramojus Reimeris Knowledge for Finance, Innovation and Growth (JRC.B.7)









The right moment

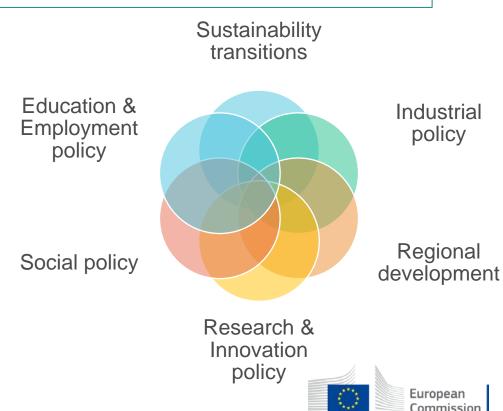
- Urgency to address climate change while leaving no one behind
- Secure Europe's position in the economy of the future
- Confluence of maturing trends:
 - Deep global transformations in socio-technical systems;
 - Return of industrial policy: EU competitiveness through sustainability;
 - New scientific paradigm of innovation: system-level innovation and transformative innovation policy (Frame 3);
 - JRC experience with Smart Specialisation (regions) and RRF (countries).



PRI initiative

A new strategic approach to innovation-driven territorial transformation, linking **EU priorities** with national plans and **place-based** opportunities and challenges

- Partnerships with impact for sustainability transitions that create economic, social & environmental value
- Broad and inclusive, participatory governance framework in support of forward-looking policy
- New way of working across government departments and levels focused on solving territorial challenges



Timeline

Seville Forum, Apr 7, 2022

High-level discussion on EU policy challenges and Partnerships for Regional "Place-based innovation for sustainability" **Innovation**

End of PRI Pilot, June, 2023

Updated Playbook, policy framework, projects...

Will depend on the results of the pilot

Various thinking and working streams

Phillip McCann and Luc Soete

7 July 2020

PRI Pilot Launch, May 17, 2022

Launch Event for the Pilot Action on Partnerships for Regional Innovation

Regularly updated information here: https://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/pri



PRI Playbook

Purpose & Scope

- Document leading thinking and practice on innovation
- Initial guidance for JRC-CoR Pilot (not prescriptive)
- Facilitate exploration, experimentation, learning & co-creation
- Unconventional, structured around highly-visual 68 tools (on concepts, principles, practices, methodologies etc.)
- Pluralistic yet eclectic drawing from state-of-the-art
- Inputs and support from JRC units (B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6, B7, H1, I2) and Scientific Committee
- Future online version of Playbook



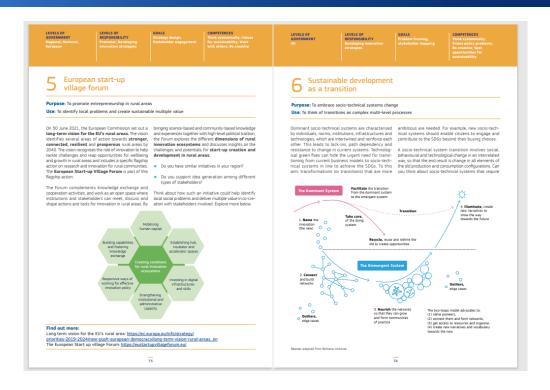
A NEW PLAYBOOK IS OUT NOW!

A TOOLKIT TO
LEVEL UP YOUR REGION
with innovation partnerships

Partnerships for Regional Innovaton







Playbook: Three building blocks

Open Discovery Process ODP allows for engagement and path co-creation with variable sets of stakeholders working backwards from Strategic desired societal outcomes Policy Framework The discovery process and the Lays the foundation for action in actions are closely connected the ODP and Policy and Action Mix' and allows broader and Policy and **Action Mix** Includes the possibility to mobilise additional instruments to publicly-funded projects, as necessary for the desired outcomes, including private sector co-investments

Territorial strategy that aligns or influences multiple policies and funds

Three building blocks

 Based on JRC experience with S3, literature on innovation, practitioner expertise

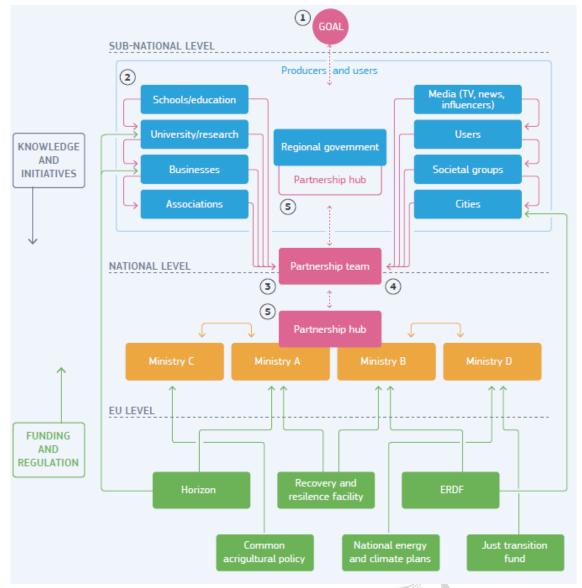
Design specifications

- Unites multiple funds/policy domains for the twintransition
- Suitable for various levels of governance (not just regions)
- Deploys various instruments (not just projects)
- Allows linking with European missions and partnerships (through partnership hubs)



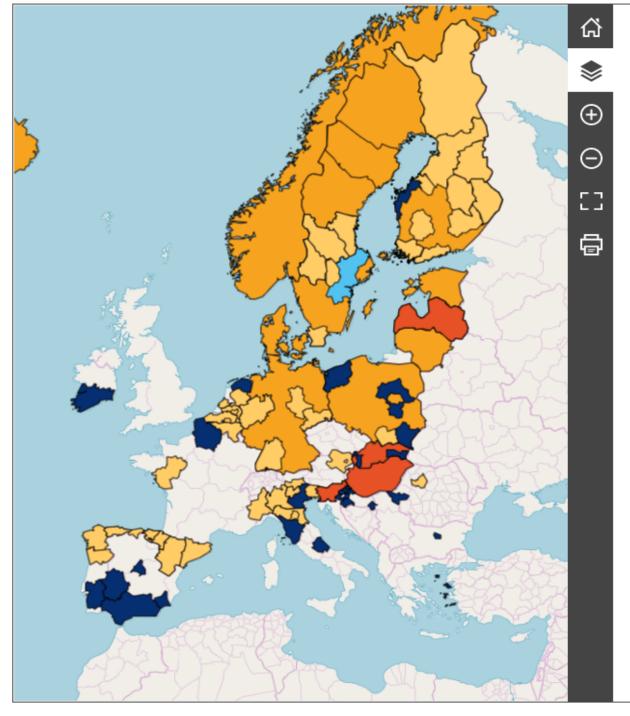
Challenge-Oriented Partnerships: A possible prototype.

- 1. Goal defines the framing/partners
- 2. Partners include users, can change over time
- 3. Partnership teams of stakeholders: a deliberation and decision space, propose a tailored policy mix for government to consider
- **4. Open agendas**: co-developed, include additional stakeholder actions for the goal (beyond commitments to publicly co-funded projects)
- 5. Partnership hubs: interfaces with (different parts of) government





PRI Pilot





- 74 territories: 4 Member
 States, 63 regions (28 single applications, 35 networks), 7
 cities, 6 networks of regions
- Carried out by the Joint Research Centre and the Committee of the Regions

https://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/primap

Thank you

The 'Playbook' and the 'Concepts and Rationale' documents can be found here: https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC129327











Tomislav Pinter

DG REGIO, European Commission





Interregional Innovation Investment Instrument

Tomislav Pinter
DG Regional and Urban Policy,
Unit G1, Smart and sustainable growth



13 Instrument - Policy background

- ➤ The 2017 EC Communication Strengthening Innovation in Europe's Regions;
- Learning phase Pilots & Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms;
- 2021 2027 Programming period Market orientation of research and innovation activities;
- Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument Responds to the need to create linkages between regions;
- ➤ INTERREG link (Art. 13 ERDF Regulation): « 13.7. When implementing this instrument, the Commission shall ensure coordination and synergy with other Union funding programmes and instruments and in particular with strand 'Interreg C (...)».





EC support to Member States and regions – the role of the Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms

- **EC** initiative, starting in 2015;
- > 4 platforms connecting regional ecosystems:
 - Industrial Modernisation
 - > Agri-food
 - > Energy
 - Sustainable blue economy (starting in 2022)
- > 37 partnerships 208 regions 19 Member States 7 non-EU countries;
- ➤ Alignment of regional S3 → Creation of European value chains → Common investment project for the I3 Instrument



DG REGIO - Support to the management of the Smart specialization S3 Community of Practice





13 Instrument in a nutshell

WHAT

Commercialisation and scaling up of innovation projects for the development of European value chains

FOR WHOM

Interregional Q-Helix
ecosystems: researchers,
businesses, civil society and
public administrations involved
in smart specialisation
strategies established at
national or regional levels



HOW

Implemented under direct management.



DG REGIO
supported
by European
Innovation Council
and SMEs Executive
Agency (EISMEA)

HOW MUCH

ERDF (Art. 13) EUR 570 Million (current prices)













13 – wider picture

Learn phase

Facilitated by Interreg or by appointed experts (for partnerships working on EC strategic priorities)

Connect phase

Facilitated by Interreg, EEN & European Cluster Collaboration Platfom







Demonstration Phase

Facilitated by TAF
experts (mature
investment
projects),
supported by ERDF
(I3, mainstream
programmes) &
Horizon Europe (IA)
and Innovation
ecosystems



Commercialisation & scale-up phase

Supported by I3 and
Horizon Europe (EIC),
InvestEU Fund (ESIF and
financial instruments),
InvestEU Advisory Hub
(technical advise on
investment projects) &
InvestEU Portal
(database matching
projects with potential
investors worldwide)



13 Instrument – Key features

- > Type of Investment: Interregional Innovation Investments in companies (TRL 6-9) to accelerate the market uptake/commercialisation in S3 priority areas;
- > Type of expenditure: Productive investments / demonstration / piloting in companies;
- Implementation: Cascade funding, applicants signing the grant agreement redistribute the grant to final beneficiaries (SMEs), composing the investment portfolio;
- Final beneficiaries: Companies, in particular SMEs;
- > 13 Instrument position:
 - Complementing Horizon Europe and other mainstream programmes;
 - With the focus on projects that are close to market deployment;
 - > Tailored for the Cohesion specific context.





13: Total budget per Strand 2021 - 2022

THEMATIC AREAS:









STRANDS:

Strand 1: Focus on developed regionsEUR 39,8 M in 2021 and 36,7 M in 2022. Average project size EUR 4–10 M;

Strand 2a: Focus on less developed regionsEUR 36 M in 2021 and 32,9 M in 2022
Project size up to EUR 3 M;

Strand 2b: Capacity building for less developed regions, EUR 28,5 M total budget (for the 7y period), publication of the firs call in 04 2022;

Technical assistance & experimentation EUR 11,4 M total budget (for the 7y period)



EUR 570 M

(7 years)



New info day: Calls for Strands 1 and 2a



 The European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA) organises online information day

23 June 2022, 14:30 - 17:30 CEST



Registration link, and more details about infoday, on the **EISMEA** website.

Lessons learned

What has been noticed, and what needs to be worked on:

Lower interest from less developed regions

- Work on collaboration potential (in particular for SMEs)
- Access to information role of Managing Authorities (MA)

Endorsing the S3 priorities

 Are the projects in line with the implementation of national / regional S3? Liaison of applicants and MA;

Composition of consortia

- More flexibility in composition of the consortia;
- Who should be the Lead region for proposal;
- Modalities of SMEs participation;

Towards the new Work programme

- Thematic areas, Size of grants, Capacity building;
- Complementarities with other EU initiatives.

1st cut-off: I3 – proposal topics – Strand 1& 2a



Digital transition

Women led and women owned IT driven SMEs.

Social economy building

5G: edge computing, distributed learning, digital twins, robotics, unmanned aerial vehicles, cyber-physical systems/IoT in ehealth, smart cities/buildings, tourism, and safety

European global value chain for smart & digital technology innovation investments in sports and active healthy lifestyle.

Digital transformation of healthcare organisations by improving the delivery of valuable, user-friendly and cost-effective services to patients and citizens.'

1st cut-off: I3 – proposal topics – Strand 1& 2a



Green transition

Regenerative mussel production, nutrient removal, improved water quality and increased biodiversity

Solar panel plant for ports for 100% renewable energy

Ethyl lactate production, 100% biobased fuel

Circular innovations in mining and for strategic raw materials

Textile industry & Circular Economy & Recycling

Transformation of **post-mining facilities** in climate neutral facilities

Plant protection via the use of unmanned aerial vehicles

Waste heat recovery from the SME industry

Living Labs in the area of sustainable energy

Green hydrogen value chain

Electrothermal systems for refrigeration

1st cut-off: I3 – proposal topics – Strand 1& 2a



Smart manufacturing

Optimisation of production through Additive Manufacturing

Technology implementation by SMEs:
robotics, 3D and 4D
printing, AI, HPC for modelling for the
decrease of waste, pollution

Cost-effective reuse of post-use composite materials and components in new high-added value products

Innovative digital solutions to concrete challenges of the food processing companies and thus contributing to the Farm to Fork strategy



Capacity building/Strand 2b - Call outline

- EUR 28,5 M (estimated) total budget (for the seven years);
- Publication of the first call in 04 2022;
- 2021 -2022 Work programme;
- Around EUR 8 million to finance around 16 projects;
- Maximum grant amount is expected to range up to EUR 500.000;
- Single-step application and evaluation process;
- Estimated duration of projects is 12 to 24 months.





Useful links

- ➤ Call documentation Strand 1, Call documentation Strand 2a
- ➤ EISMEA 13 Instrument web page
- > DG REGIO 13 Instrument web page



Investments into interregional innovation through 13 funding, Panorama April 2022





Thank you



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Stephen Halligan

Danube Transnational Programme MA/JS





Danube Region Programme 2021-2027

Cluster Collaboration Labs Cluj-Napoca Wednesday, 22 June 2022

Stephen Halligan
MA/JS, DanubeTransnational Programme

Danube Region Programme



Interreg: a history of cluster support



















Danube Region Programme



DRP Priorities

INTERREG DANUBE
Priorities and Specific Objectives
2021 - 2027



PRIORITY 1:

A smarter Danube Region



PRIORITY 2:

A greener, low-carbon Danube Region



PRIORITY 3:

A more social Danube Region



PRIORITY 4:

A better cooperation governance in the Danube Region







2021-2027 Funding

Priority	EU funds (with TA)	EU funds (without TA)	
P1	40 489 751,07	37 490 510,25	
P2	74 586 383,55	69 061 466,25	
P3	55 407 027,78	51 302 803,50	
P4	42 620 790,60	39 463 695,00	
Total	213,103,953.00	197,318,475.00	

^{*} Possible additional funding for NDICI



Priority 1: A Smarter Danube Region

SO 1.1 - Enhancing innovation and technology transfer in the Danube region

Danube Region Programme



SO_{1.1} Focus

Focus 1- DRI related transnational policies and processes for closing innovation gaps and towards the uptake of innovation and advanced technologies

Focus 2- Transnational RDI related activities for capacity building along thematic value chains

transfer and
technology uptake
towards and from
SMEs and improved
access to quadruple
transnational research
and innovation
infrastructures with
macro-regional
significance

Focus 4- Circular economy policies and processes in specific related domains

Focus 5- Developing smart, sustainable and green transport technologies and networks, as well as e-mobility solutions

Focus 6- Integration of smart cities and smart regions solutions in the planning, management and development of DR regions and cities



Priority 1: A Smarter Danube Region

SO 1.2 - Developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship

SO_{1.2} Focus

Focus 1- Skills development for and of joint advancement of smart specialisation strategies and policies including a special focus on less advanced regions

Focus 2- Skills development and cross sectorial collaborations between smart industries and traditional type of industries for industrial transformation and transition towards industry 4.0, robotisation, mechatronics, digital technologies

Focus 3- Skills
development for
delivering products and
services with
transnational impact

Danube Region Programme



DRP First Call

- 2-step procedure
- Launch of the first step: September 2022
- Submission of 1st step: October/November 2022
- Info webinars : May/June 2022
- Documents available late June 2022 e.g. applicants guide
- Consultations
- Partner search platform
- National Info Days starting soon
- LP Seminar
- Kick off
- Launch of 2nd step- spring 2023
- Final approval- autumn 2023
- Project start- November 2023





Contact



stephen.halligan@interreg-danube.eu
https://www.interreg-danube.eu/about-dtp/new-funding-2021-2027

<u>Priority 1 Project Officer: Katalin Kovács-Kasza</u> katalin.kovacs-kasza@interreg-danube.eu



Iva Maric

DG REGIO, European Commission



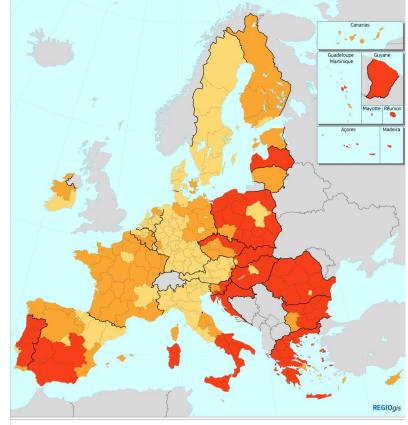


Funding possibilities in Romanian regional programmes (2021-2027)

DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

Iva Marić, Unit E.2 Romania

Cluster Collaboration Lab, Cluj-Napoca, June 2022



EU Cohesion Policy contributes to strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion in the European Union. It aims to correct imbalances between countries and regions. It delivers on the Union's political priorities, especially the green and digital transition.

New regional eligibility map 2021-2027

GDP/head (PPS) by NUTS2 region, average 2014-2015-2016
Index, EU-27 = 100
< 75% (less developed regions)
75% - 100% (transition regions)

	GDP per capita in PPS (EU27=100)											
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Romania	52	52	52	54	55	56	56	60	64	66	69	72



2021-2027 allocation

Cohesion policy +36% compared to 2014-2020

Fund	Allocation (billion EUR, current prices)
Cohesion Fund	3.54
ERDF	17.07
ESF+	8.24
JTF	2.14
ETC	0.36
Total - Cohesion Policy	31.35
CEF	1.09
REACT-EU	1.54
RRF	29.20
Total - others	31.83
TOTAL	63.18



What's new since 2014-2020? The programming architecture.

2014-2020

#	Programme title	Fund(s)
1	Regional Operational Programme (ROP)	ERDF
2	Large Infrastructure Operational Programme (LIOP)	ERDF, CF
3	Competitiveness Operational Programme (COP)	ERDF
4	Technical Assistance Operational Programme (TAOP)	ERDF
5	Human Capital Operational Programme (HCOP)	ESF
6	Administrative Capacity Operational Programme (ACOP)	ESF

2021-2027

#	Programme title	Fund(s)
1	North-East Regional Operational Programme (ROP NE)	ERDF
2	West Regional Operational Programme (ROP V)	ERDF
3	Centre Regional Operational Programme (ROP Centre)	ERDF
4	South East Operational Regional Programme (ROP SE)	ERDF
5	South Muntenia Operational Regional Programme (ROP SM)	ERDF
6	North West Operational Regional Programme (ROP NV)	ERDF
7	South West Oltenia Operational Regional Programme (ROP SV)	ERDF
8	Bucharest-Ilfov Operational Regional Programme (ROP BI)	ERDF
9	Transport Operational Programme	ERDF, CF
10	Sustainable Development Operational Programme	ERDF, CF
11	Smart Growth, Digitalisation and Financial Instruments Programme	ERDF
12	Technical Assistance Programme	ERDF, ESF
13	Health Operational Programme	ERDF, ESF
14	Social Inclusion and Dignity Operational Programme	ERDF, ESF
15	Education and Employment Operational Programme	ESF
16	Just Transition Operational Programme	JTF



Cohesion policy 2021-2027 - Policy objectives

5 simplified and consolidated objectives

- A smarter Europe (innovative & smart economic transformation, ICT connectivity)
- 2. A greener, low-carbon Europe (including energy transition, the circular economy, climate adaptation and risk management, urban mobility)
- 3. A more connected Europe (mobility and ICT connectivity)
- 4. A more social Europe (the European Pillar of Social Rights)
- 5. A Europe closer to citizens (sustainable development of urban, rural and coastal areas and local initiatives)



PO1: A smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation

Enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies

Reaping the benefits of digitisation for citizens, companies and governments;

Enhancing digital connectivity

Developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship

Enhancing growth and competitiveness of SMEs





Policy objective 1 – Smarter Europe

- focus on investments in research and innovation, digitalisation, SME competitiveness, skills and digital connectivity towards achieving a more competitive and smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation.
- Member States and regions should develop their intervention logic based on their smart specialisation strategies and on other relevant strategies for economic transformation (i.e. Industry 4.0 or other relevant national/regional documents)



Policy objective 1 – Smarter Europe

- Develop and enhance research and innovation capacities,
- introduce product innovation or business process innovation,
- stimulate uptake of new advanced and sustainable technologies,
- develop new products and services in particular in relation to green transition and circular economy,
- increase number of new and use of existing digital products, services and applications,
- modernise public administrations through their digital transformation at local/regional levels;
- create jobs related to high value added economic activities,
- upgrade and develop new skills for smart specialisation and industrial transition,

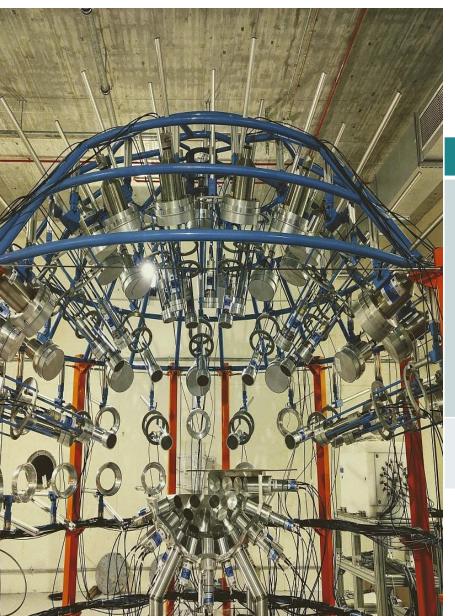
Regional Operational Programmes (8)



РО	PO1-PO5
Priorities	 Innovation, digitalization and dynamic businesses Smart cities and a digitalized administration Environmentally friendly cities Sustainable urban mobility Accessible region (national, regional and local mobility, improving access to TEN-T and cross-border mobility) Educated and attractive region (infrastructure, online education and training; culture and sustainable tourism) A region for citizens (culture, natural heritage, sustainable tourism and security in urban areas Fostering integrated and inclusive social, economic and environmental development, as well as culture, natural heritage, sustainable tourism and security outside urban areas Technical Assistance
Budget (ERDF)	Total budget: EUR 9 bn ERDF + EUR 2.3bn NC=EUR 11.3 bn



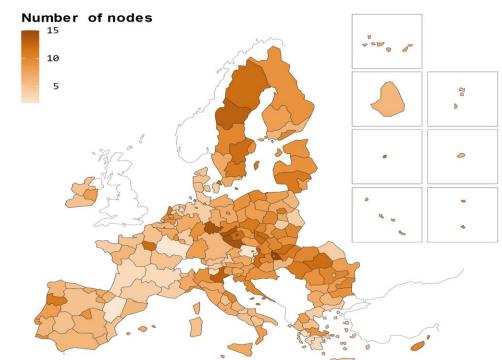
Smart Growth & Digitalisation



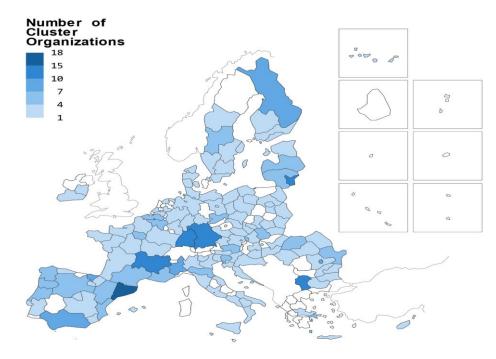
РО	PO1
Priorities	 Support for attractive and competitive RDI ecosystem, including for technology transfer and internationalization Skills development for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship Digitalization in central public administration, education, culture and business environment SMEs support through FI
Budget (ERDF)	EUR 2.201 M (EU contribution: EUR 1.650 M)



Clustering is a key feature of the European economy



- There are 1501 region-relevant specialisation nodes across 201 EU-27 regions (Calculated using Location Quotients based on NACE 2-digit data on employment)
- These regional nodes of specialisation account for 24.4% of EU-27 employment



Source:
ECCP
interactive
cluster
mapping
tool

European

Commission

- There are 1036 EU-27 cluster organisations registered on the ECCP
- Their average membership composition is 70% SMEs, 10% large firms, 8% research organisations and 12% others e.g.NGOs



Source:

Eurostat

national

statistics offices.

on

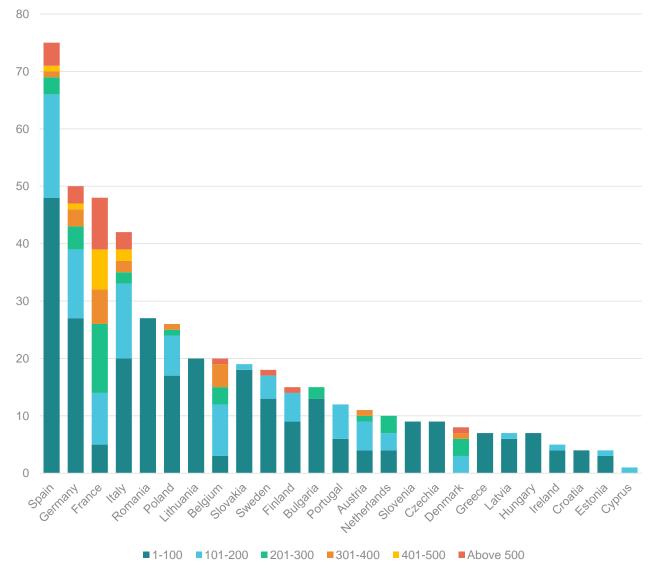
from

Based

data

and

Cluster organisations are present across EU but are diverse

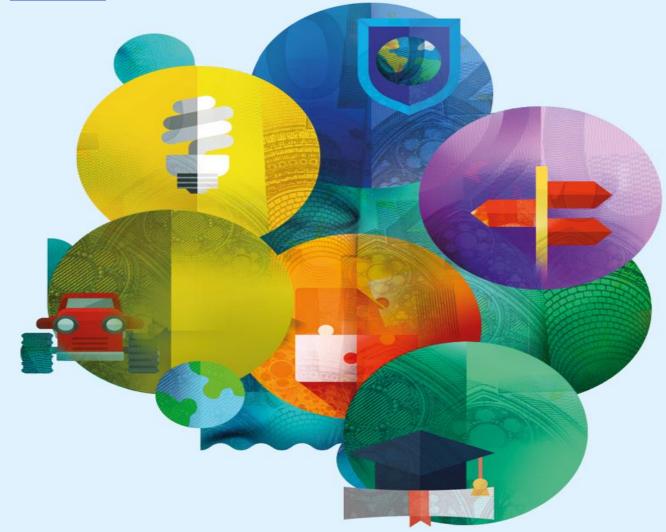


- Spain has the highest number of cluster organisations registered at ECCP, 12 countries – <10 clusters
- 60% of EU cluster organisations have less than 100 members, 7% have more than 400 members.
 France has many big clusters
- SMEs range from 40% of cluster organisation members in Finland to over 80% in Italy and Sweden
- large firms prevalent in Czech (20%) and least in Italian cluster organisations (5%)

European



Thank you for your attention



#CohesionPolicy #EUinmyRegion



Ramona Ivan

Romanian Bank Association







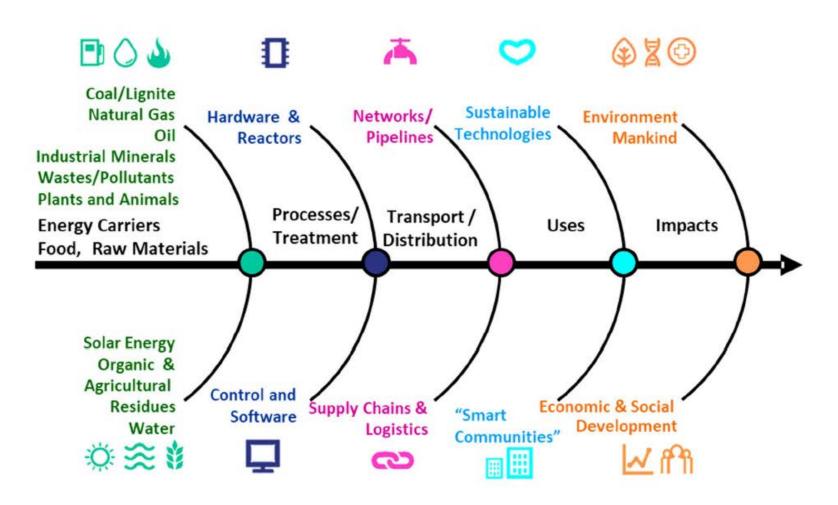
Elements for Cluster Lab Workshop: Moderator Questions to Participants

- Business and Technological Mission [past, present, future]
- Operational Structure [platforms, competence centers,...]
- Regional Actors and their Topology [proximity, interactions,...]
- Operational Goals [targets, proposals ...]
- Manufacturing/Production Infrastructures [regional, transregional]
- "Soft" Infrastructures [networks, value chains,...]
- Economic and Financial Aspects [gaps, needs, opportunities...]





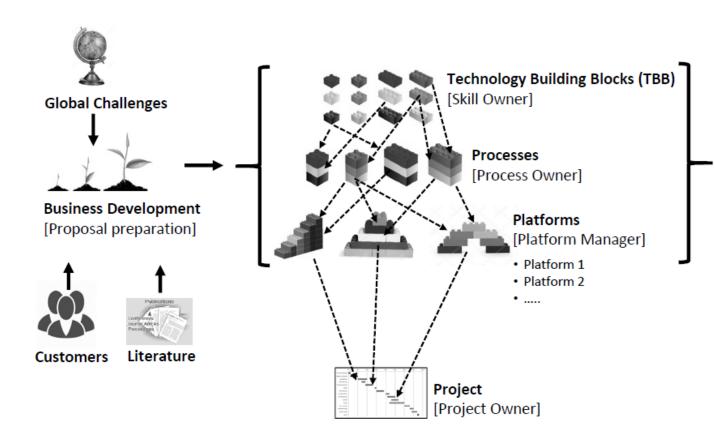
Elements for Cluster Lab Workshop: Mapping Each Participant on the Resource NEXUS







Elements for Cluster Lab Workshop: Roles, Resources, Relations between Actors and Project Creation Methodology



Support Operations [SOp]

- Procurement
- Employment
- Metrics, analytics, control

Facilities Management [FOp]

- Labs/Workshops
- Large Infrastructures, DIH, Competence Centers, Clusters







COFFEE BREAK





Interactive discussion on

- Business and Technological Mission
- Operational Structure
- Regional Actors and their Topology
- Operational Goals
- Manufacturing/Production
- Infrastructures
- "Soft" Infrastructures
- Economic and Financial Aspects

Mapping the members of the working group according to Nexus approach

- Resources
- Processes
- Supply chains and networks
- Technologies and uses
- Economic and social impacts

Roles, resources and relations between partners and project creation

- Points of convergence
- Synergies
- Hierarchy of skills, processes, and platforms as common assets
- Structure of project







CELEBRATION EVENT & DINNER #10YEARSTFC

19:00





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LET'S HEAR YOUR ROADMAPS!







