

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

**The European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC)**

and

**The European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP)**

Building upon the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cluster cooperation signed by the European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC) and Clusterland Upper Austria representing the European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP) on 1 December 2010 in New Delhi, both partners hereby agree to extend the Memorandum of Understanding

The European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP) is an initiative supported by Directorate General of Enterprise and Industry of the European Commission under the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme. The ECCP aims to facilitate cooperation between cluster organisations and cluster firms across Europe and beyond with a view to intensify SME internationalisation through clusters and develop more competitive clusters in Europe.

The European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC) is a programme co-funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by EUROCHAMBRES, the Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry. EBTC is promoting EU clean technologies in India by enhancing existing networks, initiatives, partners, and institutions - both in Europe and India - to become the default conduit for EU-India business and research cooperation, particularly for SMEs.

### **A. PURPOSE**

The new Memorandum of Understanding has the objective to extend the formal cooperation initiative between EBTC and ECCP, with the view to strengthen business, research and technological cooperation and promote SME internationalisation by encouraging Clusters from India and Europe to collaborate.



## **B. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL BENEFITS AND INTERESTS:**

The main beneficiaries of this agreement should be SMEs cooperating in clusters and supported by their cluster organisations located in India and Europe. The extension of cooperation should facilitate the development of strategic business alliances and joint innovation projects in fields of strategic mutual interest.

## **C. ECCP SHALL:**

1. Actively promote EBTC in Europe at different conferences, local events and meetings with local authorities, cluster managers and cluster firms as an instrument for initiating contacts and identifying opportunities for cooperation with Indian cluster partners;
2. Closely liaise with EBTC to include information on Indian cluster organisations and activities in the ECCP website on the basis of information provided by EBTC, link the EBTC website to ECCP website and regularly update relevant information about cluster development in India as collected and provided by EBTC, with a specific section publishing expressions of interest for cooperation;
3. Support European cluster organisations and cluster firms in their efforts to contact Indian partners identified through ECCP and inform them of different EU funding programmes that support international cluster cooperation activities;
4. Encourage and facilitate the partnering between cluster organisations and cluster firms, in particular SMEs, from India and Europe, through the provision of information, facilitation of contacts and/or the organization of international cluster missions (outgoing and incoming missions) offering matchmaking opportunities in strategic areas of mutual interest.

## **D. EBTC SHALL:**

1. Actively promote the European Cluster Collaboration Platform in India at different conferences, local events and meetings with local authorities, cluster managers and cluster firms as an instrument for initiating contacts and identifying opportunities for cooperation with European cluster partners;
2. Closely liaise with ECCP to include information on European cluster organisations and activities in the EBTC operated website on the basis of

information provided by ECCP, link ECCP website to the EBTC operated website and regularly update relevant information about cluster development in Europe as collected and provided by ECCP with a specific section publishing expressions of interest for cooperation;

3. Support Indian cluster firms to use ECCP to publish specific announcements for cooperation or identify opportunities for cooperation proposed by European partners and advise them how such activities can be supported by Indian programmes;
4. Encourage and facilitate the partnering between cluster organisations and cluster firms, in particular SMEs, from India and Europe, through the provision of information, facilitation of contacts and/or the organization of international cluster missions (outgoing and incoming missions) offering matchmaking opportunities in strategic areas of mutual interest.

**E. IT IS MUTUALLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT:**

1. **ESTABLISHMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY:** EBTC will carry out this work as part of its usual work promoting Indian-EU business cooperation. ECCP coordinators will handle the activities covered by this agreement as part of its current work within the European Cluster Collaboration Platform initiative. Therefore, neither EBTC nor ECCP will ask for extra funding to carry out any of the activities covered by this agreement;
2. **COMMENCEMENT/EXPIRATION/TERMINATION:** this MoU takes effect upon the signature of EBTC and ECCP and will remain in effect until 31 August 2014. This MoU may be extended or amended upon written request of either EBTC or ECCP and following mutual understanding. Either EBTC or ECCP may terminate this MoU with a prior written notice of 60 days to the other participant;
3. **PRINCIPAL FOCAL POINTS OF CONTACTS:**

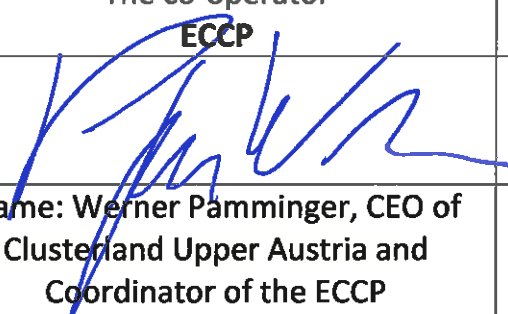

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#### 4. AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES

By signature below, the co-operator certifies that the individuals listed in this document as representatives of the co-operator are authorised to act in their respective areas for matters related to this agreement.

The co-operator ECCP	The co-operator EBTC
	
Name: Werner Pamminger, CEO of Clusterland Upper Austria and Coordinator of the ECCP	Name: Poul Jensen, Director, The European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC)
Date: 16/5/2013	Date: 16/5/2013