

21st

European Week of Regions and Cities

Thriving Regions, Stronger Europe

Clusters meet Regions:

An #EUClustersTalk on clusters as
drivers of regional economic transition

12 October 2023, 11:30 - 13:00 CET



9-12
October
2023



#EURegionsWeek



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Our speakers:

Wolfgang Münch

Deputy Head of Unit, DG REGIO, European Commission

Marek Przeor

Team Leader Cluster Policy, DG GROW, European
Commission

Riikka Tanskanen

Project Manager, Regional Council of Lapland

Kristina Šermukšnytė-Alešiūnienė

Managing Director, AgriFood Lithuania

Presented by Jennifer Baker

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Video introduction “Clusters meet Regions”

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What kind of entity do you represent?

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Have you been involved in designing or implementing regional policies?

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Wolfgang Münch

Deputy Head of Unit, DG REGIO, European Commission

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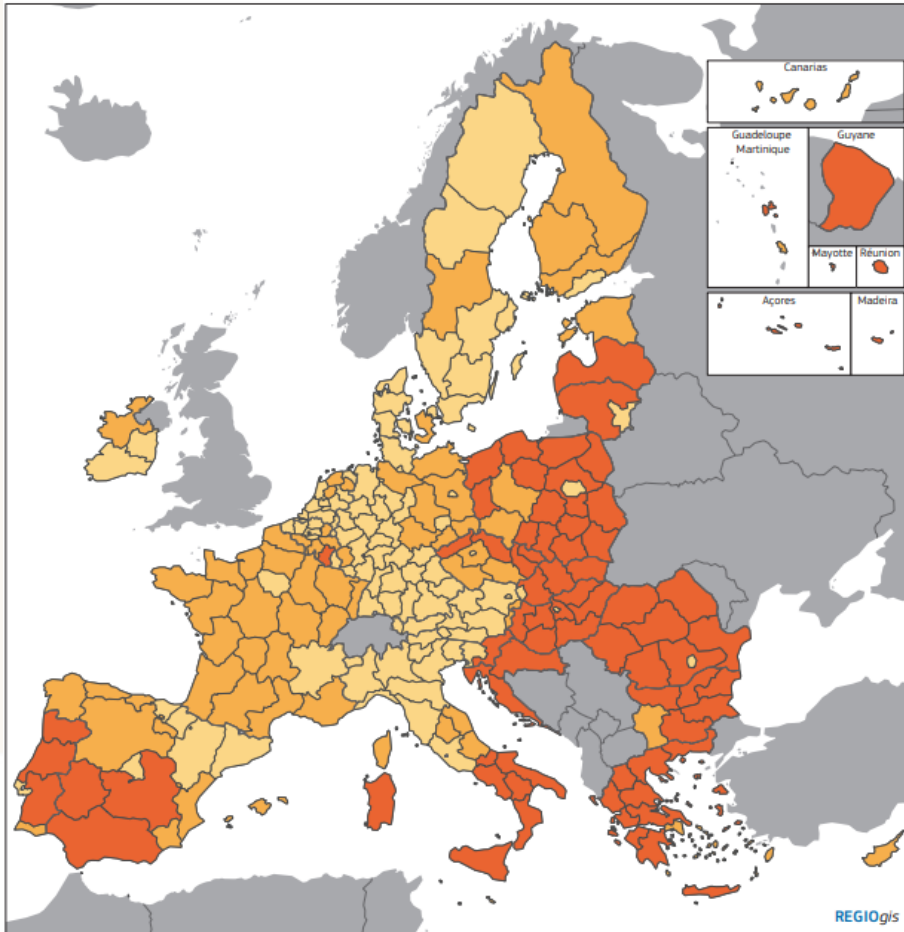


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Smart Specialisation: unlocking the innovation potential across EU regions



Support to RD&I (2021-2027)




Total **EUR 34.5 bn**

Less developed regions EUR 20.4 bn

Transition regions EUR 8.5 bn

More developed regions EUR 5.4 bn

Category of regions for cohesion policy (ERDF and ESF+), 2021-2027

-  Less developed regions (GDP per head (PPS) less than 75% of the EU-27 average)
-  Transition regions (GDP per head (PPS) between 75% and 100% of the EU-27 average)
-  More developed regions (GDP per head (PPS) above 100% of the EU-27 average)



New S3-based Cohesion Policy Tools for Research and Innovation



- **The I3 Instrument** is a new tool to support interregional innovation.
- focuses on innovation closer to the market, specifically the "**demonstrate, commercialize, and scale-up**" phase;



S3 Community of Practice Services



Policy advice

S3 Expert Group

Working Groups

Support

Thematic Platform and Partnerships

Targeted support to regions

Community engagement

S3 CoP Website

S3 CoP events

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Marek Przeor

Team Leader Cluster Policy, DG GROW, European Commission

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Cluster Community in the EU: Over 1500 cluster organisations



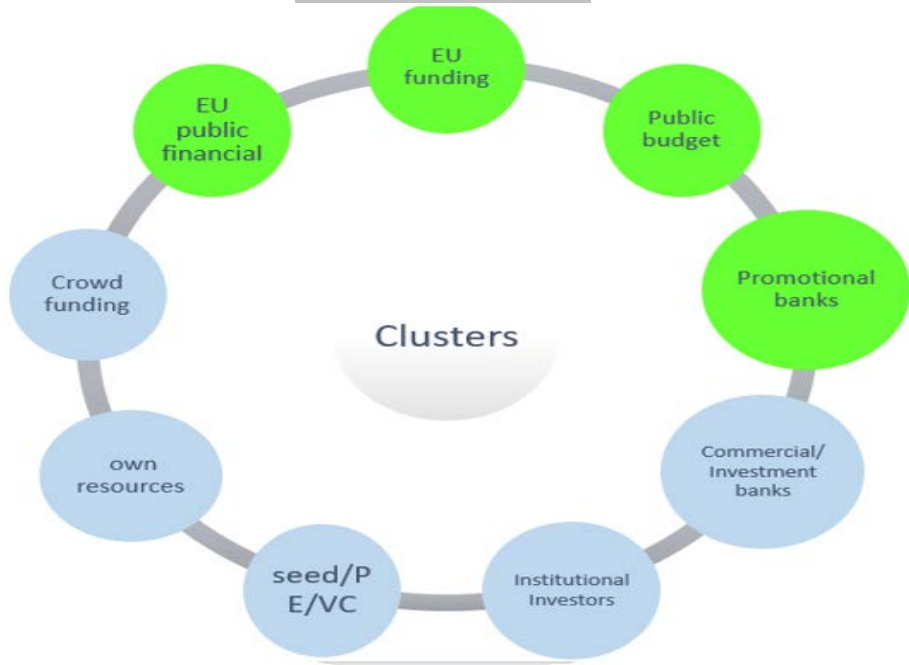
- Leading the green transition
- Accelerating the digital transition
- Building resilience

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Funding and Regulatory incentives for green, digital and resilient EU

FUNDING



REGULATORY

Permitting

Sustainability

Investment

Markets

Skills

Governance

International Partnerships

30 Euroclusters



CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS ACT
NET ZERO INDUSTRY ACT

EUROPEAN
CHIPS ACT

www.clustercollaboration.eu

Collaboration



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Knowledge



Services



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Your Questions

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In one word, what do you associate with clusters?

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In your opinion, how can clusters drive regional competitiveness and the green and digital transition?

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Riikka Tanskanen

Project Manager, Regional Council of Lapland

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East & North
FINLAND

Leverage from
the EU
2014–2020



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Clusters in East and North Finland Smart Specialisation

Project Manager Riikka Tanskanen

Regional Council of Lapland

ERDF project Smart Specialisation in

East and North Finland 2022–2027 (ELMO II)

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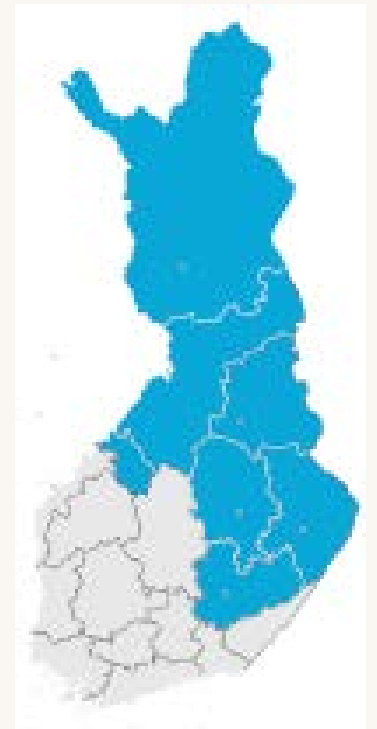
East & North
FINLAND

Leverage from
the EU
2014–2020



About East and North Finland

- East and North Finland consists of seven regions: South Savo, North Savo, North Karelia, Kainuu, Central Ostrobothnia, Northern Ostrobothnia and Lapland
- Clusters have been in the core of our RIS3 since 2019
- First joined Smart Specialisation Strategy for 2019 – 2023 was created during European Commission's "Regions in Industrial Transition" pilot



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East & North
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European Union
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Clusters in regional development

- East and North Finland has around 45 clusters
- Our clusters have a significant role in the joined Smart Specialisation Strategy (2024-).
- Our strengths are in high level of expertise combined with sustainable use of significant natural resources. Therefore, our clusters are strong actors in green and digital transition.



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Kristina Šermukšnytė-Alešiūnienė

Managing Director, AgriFood Lithuania

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Agrifood Lithuania ECOSYSTEM

Incubators
Government
Investors
Others
Industry, associations



Science institutions
Startups
SMEs
Large Enterprise



Big Data



Artificial intelligence



High Performance Computing



Cyber Security



Robotics & Drone Systems



Blockchain



Cluster/ DIH/ HUB Manager
Kristina
Šermukšnytė-Alešiūnienė
kristina@agrifood.lt
www.agrifood.lt

MAIN ACTIVITIES



Climate decision-making



Regenerative agriculture



Young people



Empowering women



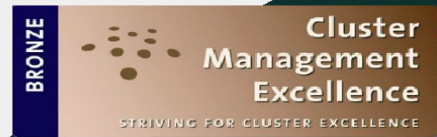
Alternative proteins



Environmental labeling



Transforming food systems



The role of Smart specialization strategies

INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

R&D capacity building and the application of advanced technologies

Digitization for citizens, businesses and public authorities

Smart specialization strategies

S3, developing industrial transition and entrepreneurial skills

SME's growth and competitiveness

European Startup Village Alliance - network of networks

7 February 2023, Vilnius Startup Village Networking Event



Members:

AgriFood ^{DIH}
Lithuania



AgriFood ^{CLUSTER}
Lithuania



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EUROPEAN
CLUSTERS ALLIANCE

DIHs Network of Networks



Lietuvos
pramonininkų
konfederacija



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What is the **role of clusters** in the **green and digital transition** of Europe's regions?

And how do they **collaborate with regional governments** to strengthen the regional economy and build resilience?

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European Cluster Collaboration Platform

#ECCP #EUClustersTalks