



European Cluster Conference 2019

CONNECTING ECOSYSTEMS

Bridge. Inspire. Change.

Draft programme 1.1

Date: 14 – 16 May 2019

Venue: Palace of the Parliament, Strada Izvor Nr. 2-4, Bucharest, Romania

Participants: 400 European cluster policy-makers, practitioners and other stakeholders.

An event organised by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs in cooperation with the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU



Day One – Tuesday, 14 May 2019

09:00 – 13:00 Pre-conference EU Cluster Matchmaking event (prior registration needed)

13:00 – 14:00 Registration

14:00 – 15:30 *High-level opening session*

14:00 – 14:05 Welcome by moderator

14:05 – 14:20 Opening Speech, Jyrki Katainen, Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness (tbc)

14:20 – 14:35 Speech from Romanian Minister/s

14:35 – 15:30 High-Level Ministerial Roundtable

15:30 – 16:00 *Coffee break*

16:00 – 17:45 *Plenary session on the need for clusters of change*

16:00 – 16:45 Keynote speech, followed by an interactive plenary sessions

16:45 – 17:15 Presentations on results and feed-back gathered during the #EU Cluster Weeks

17:15 – 17:45 Panel discussion

17:45 – 19:00 *Cluster Award pitching & networking cocktail*

17:45 – 19:00 *Pitching, hard talk and voting for nominated "EU Cluster Manager of the Year" and European Strategic Cluster Partnerships followed by a networking cocktail*

19:30 – 21:30 *Conference dinner and cluster award ceremony*



Day Two – Wednesday, 15 May 2019

08:30 – 09:00 *Coffee and registration*

09:00 – 10:40 *Plenary session on the bridges between EU cluster-related initiatives*

09:00 – 09:05 Moderator welcome

09:05 – 09:25 Keynote speeches, including from the European Cluster Manager of the Year 2019

09:25– 09:40 Presentation from the Commission on future cluster policies and cluster excellence

09:40 – 10:25 Panel discussions with the participation of different Commission services

10:25 – 10:40 Interactive Question & Answer session

10:40 – 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 – 12:30 *Breakout sessions*

11:00 – 12:30 Parallel breakout sessions on challenges and opportunities for future cluster development and industrial transformation in three areas:

*Breakout session 1: **Digitalisation and skills gap***

- 2 impulse presentations
- Interactive group discussions
- Panel discussion

*Breakout session 2: **Circular Europe***

- 2 impulse presentations
- Interactive group discussions
- Panel discussion

*Breakout session 3: **Shared value and social impact***

- 2 impulse presentations
- Interactive group discussions
- Panel discussion

12:30 – 13:30 *Networking lunch*



Day Two – Wednesday, 15 May 2019 (continued)

13:30 – 14:15 Plenary session on addressing the key needs of clusters

13:30 – 13:40 Plenary debriefing on the results of the parallel breakout sessions

13:40 – 14:00 Inspiring presentations on trending topics identified by the cluster community through a "call for ideas" on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform

14:00 – 14:15 Joint agenda setting by participants to discuss their hot topics

14:15 – 15:00 *Break-out group discussions on emerging cluster topics*

15:00 – 16:00 *Closing plenary session*

15:00 – 15:15 Elevator debriefing from group discussions

15:15 – 15:45 Closing panel discussion

15:45 – 16:00 Closing remarks by the Commission followed by the conference video

16:00 – 16:30 *Networking coffee*

16:30 – 18:30 *MasterClass-TER training for cluster managers and policy-makers*

18:30 – 20:00 *Walking dinner and networking*

Day Three – Thursday, 16 May 2019

09:00 – 13:00 *Parallel side events*

Please note that the list of side and partnering events will be communicated at a later stage

#eucluster2019 #investEU @EU_Growth @Clusters_EU

Sli.do event password #eucluster2019

Registration opens mid/end February at www.eucluster2019.eu

More information on connecting clusters at www.clustercollaboration.eu