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TCI-Network Oceania CHAIR'S NEWSLETTER

From Tracy Scott-Rimington

Welcome

Welcome to the first Chair's Newsletter from the TCI-Network's Oceania Chapter. Cluster newsletters will be forwarded biannually to the TCI-Network's Oceania membership base and anyone registering an interest in clusters for economic development in the Oceania region.

About the TCI-Network: www.tci-network.org.au

The TCI-Network is the global practitioners' network for competitiveness, clusters and innovation. TCI members have access to:

- Key information about clusters, competitiveness and innovation systems on a global level
- Latest trends in competitiveness strategies and cluster-based policies
- Best practices in cluster development and management
- News about cluster initiatives and competitive regions worldwide
- Expertise on methodologies for economic growth and regional development
- Assistance in global networking and internationalisation activities

Membership ranges from 200 euro for individuals, 500 euro for cluster organisations with up to five employees and developing country organisations, and 2000 euro for organisations. Go to www.tci-network.org/membership to join this unique global network.



In geopolitical terms Oceania includes all of Micronesia, Fiji, all of Polynesia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, part of the Philippine Islands, Australia, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and New Caledonia.

TCI-Network Oceania's 2017 Event: 3-4 Oct, Adelaide

Why Clusters and What Works?

Following the successful 2016 conference, *Driving Regional Competitiveness through Innovative Clusters to Bolster National Prosperity* held in Adelaide last June, this year's gathering will again be in Adelaide on 3 October due to the state's continuing support for a cluster-based program for economic development and some stand-out cluster success stories.

Last year the President of TCI-Network, Dr Christian Ketels, joined us in Adelaide and left with a clear message: *"As globalisation accelerates, clusters strengthen the collaboration required for increased innovation and connectivity, crucial for upgrading the competitiveness of companies, regions and nations."*

The Oceania Chapter aims to convene larger events with international speakers on a biennial basis. This year's event will be an opportunity to catch up and share cluster success stories and failures around the theme: *Why Clusters & What Works?* Details out shortly.

Click for 2016 Summit Presentations & Materials



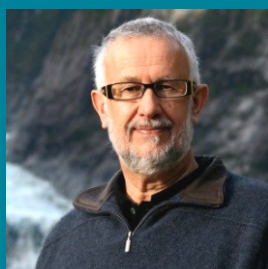
As a next step in engaging around WA's clusters, a sell-out Industry Cluster Summit was held in Perth on 17 May, organised by the WA Dept of Regional Development, National Energy Resources Australia (one of the six national Industry Growth Centres) and TCI Network Oceania. Keynotes included The Hon. Alannah MacTieman, WA's Minister for Regional Development, and from the TCI Oceania network, Ifor Ffowcs-Williams and Jacqueline Brinkman. While in Perth, Ifor led two cluster training workshops with 60 participants drawn from NERA's network and regional economic development agencies across WA.

TCI's cluster courses

There is an increasing demand for professionals who possess the special qualifications needed for the competent management of a cluster initiative or a program. In order to cover this need, various courses are offered around the world. [Click here](#) for the selection of courses.

Cluster Handbook Update

Ifor Ffowcs-Williams, long-term TCI and Oceania Chapter member known to many of us, revised his earlier cluster handbook late last year. It's a valuable asset for anyone setting out on the cluster development journey. [Order your copy here.](#)



Clustercollaboration.eu

If you haven't heard by now, there is a vibrant and valuable collaboration platform known as the ECCP (European Cluster Collaboration Platform) offered by the European Commission. The ECCP provides networking support for clusters (organisations and members) aiming to improve their performance and increase their competitiveness through the stimulation of trans-national and international cooperation.

This innovative new platform takes global collaboration and opportunity exploration to the next level. It's the Tinder of industrial compatibility for profitable partnerships. Take a look at www.clustercollaboration.eu and upload your cluster if internationalisation is part of your vision.

Australia's First Bronze Label Cluster

Our congratulations are extended to South Australia's Medical Devices cluster, Meddev SA, recently awarded a Bronze label benchmark by the European Cluster Excellence Initiative (ECEI). This is the first Oceania and Australian cluster to be benchmarked by the European Secretariat for Cluster Analysis. You can hear more about the rigorous process and the striving for cluster excellence pursued by Meddev from the cluster's CEO Richard Barrett in Adelaide this October.

TCI2017: Bogota, Columbia

The Future of Clusters through Cross-country and Cross-region Collaboration is the theme of this year's 20th anniversary annual TCI global conference to be held in Bogota, Colombia, 7-9 November.

Bogota has been working on cluster development agendas for the past five years, led by the Bogota Chamber of Commerce. Today, the city has 13 cluster initiatives in the following sectors: apparel; jewelry; footwear, leather and leather products; business and events-related tourism; gastronomy; music; creative and content-related industries; dairy; software and IT; energy; graphic communications; cosmetics; and health.

This year's conference will focus on collaboration and complementarity alliances between developed and developing countries for better policies, better business and better management practices, and identifying cluster emerging trends.

Join us in Bogota at the world's largest gathering of cluster practitioners and policy makers - invest in your professional development!

Find out more at: www.tci-network.org/tci2017



THE FUTURE OF CLUSTERS THROUGH
cross-country and cross-region collaboration

20TH TCI
GLOBAL
CONFERENCE

7-9 NOVEMBER 2017 • COLOMBIA



the global practitioners network for
competitiveness, clusters and innovation
OCEANIA CHAPTER

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