



EUROPEAN CLUSTER
COLLABORATION PLATFORM

Country factsheet

Colombia

An initiative of the European Union





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Introduction



This document presents an overview of the cluster policy in Colombia. Given its importance to contextualise the cluster policies (and related) analysed in the factsheets, a comprehensive outlook of the country in socioeconomic terms can be consulted in the [OECD Economic Survey: Colombia 2019](#). The “Economic Surveys” present the major challenges faced by the country, evaluates the short-term outlook, and makes specific policy recommendations

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused an unprecedented economic shock to the Colombian and global economy. The **Economic Recovery Plan of Colombia**¹ sets out a new phase of supports, investment and policies for a new stage of economic recovery and renewal, with new measures for businesses and affected sectors, and details for existing emergency pandemic financial supports. **Colombian clusters are mentioned** in the plan as key productive elements within the extractive industry that facilitate the execution of projects.

¹ National Recovery Plan: Colombia.

<https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Econ%C3%B3micos/4023.pdf>

01

National cluster policy, programmes and initiatives



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1. National cluster policy, programmes and initiatives

Policy type:	Broad policy	Regional cluster policy
Policy name:	<u>Productive Development Policy</u> <i>Industrial policy</i>	<u>Smart Specialization Strategy Bogota</u>
<p>POLICY OBJECTIVES</p> 	<p>Strengthening cooperation between companies or industry and RTDI actors</p> <p>Increasing competitiveness and boosting scale up of SMEs</p> <p>Supporting internationalisation activities</p> <p>Enhancing the visibility of clusters</p> <p>Fostering R&D activities, technology development and implementation</p> <p>Supporting cluster excellence and professionalisation of cluster management</p> <p>Supporting the creation of new cluster organisations</p> <p>Promoting social and sustainable economy and other solidarity-based initiatives</p> <p>Promoting employment and upgrading skills and competences</p> <p>Strengthening the network of cluster organisations/cross-clustering</p> <p>Connect to global supply chains</p>	<p>Increasing competitiveness and boosting scale up of SMEs</p> <p>Fostering R&D activities, technology development and implementation</p> <p>Fostering innovation and strengthening innovation ecosystems</p> <p>Supporting cluster excellence and professionalisation of cluster management</p> <p>Supporting the consolidation of existing cluster organisations</p> <p>Promoting social and sustainable economy and other solidarity-based initiatives</p> <p>Promoting employment and upgrading skills and competences</p> <p>Strengthening the network of cluster organisations/cross-clustering</p>
	<p>The Productive Development Policy (PDP) for Colombia promotes transformation towards more productive activities and greater diversification of goods production and exports. It allows the</p>	<p>The Strategic Specialization Strategy Bogotá is a dynamic strategy that was created as a means to enhance regional capabilities and international trends. The Strategic Specialization</p>




	national government to work with regional governments to jointly decide on the priorities for production development and has enabled more coordination across government departments to create a business ecosystem that is conducive for firm growth and greater levels of competitiveness.	Strategy aims to develop “governance, confidence, cooperation, efficiency and collaborative dialog for the strategic management of a region’s development.” The Strategic Specialization Strategy creates specialization areas that combines differentiation, innovation and technology. The Strategy is not just focused on Bogotá but covers the entire Cundinamarca department (region) and is part of the PDP.
<p>POLICY FOCUS</p> 	<p>Sectoral</p> <p>The Productive Development Policy outlines 90 actions across 7 areas: transfer of knowledge and technology, innovation and entrepreneurship, human capital, financing, supply chains, quality, foreign trade.</p> <p>There are 18 sectors that are prioritized by the PDP: cocoa and its derivatives, speciality coffee and coffee derivatives, pisciculture, bovine meat, dairy products, fruits and their derivatives, processed foods, transportation, construction, fashion, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, basic chemistry, plastics and paint, outsourced services, software and IT, wellness tourism, and nature tourism.</p>	<p>Cross-Sectoral</p> <p>There are five main areas that were prioritised, all of which consist of a series of productive activities. The areas are a mixture of consolidated areas and emerging areas some areas. They include Bogotá Creative Region, Bio-Pole, Enterprise Services, Advanced Knowledge Hub and Sustainable City Region.</p>
	<p>In charge of drafting</p> <p>Both drafting and implementation</p> <p>Provides funding</p> <p>Oversees the implementation</p> <p>The Colombia Ministry of Commerce and the National Council for Economic and Social Policy are responsible for administering the program.</p>	<p>In charge of drafting</p> <p>Provides funding</p> <p>Oversees the implementation</p> <p>The main responsible authorities are the Chamber of Commerce of Bogotá (CCB) and Connect Bogotá Region, but citizens, entrepreneurs, researchers, academics, the public and private sectors, have all participated in the development and construction of the strategy.</p>
<p>RESPONSIBLE</p>  <p>AUTHORITIES</p>	<p>SMEs</p>	<p>Research organizations</p>






<p>BENEFICIARIES</p> 		<p>Cluster Organizations</p> <p>Business associations</p> <p>Large firms</p> <p>NGOs</p> <p>Technology centres</p> <p>General population</p> <p>Policy Makers</p>	<p>Academic institutions</p> <p>Business associations</p> <p>Large firms</p> <p>Technology centres</p> <p>General population</p> <p>Policy makers</p>
<p>The PDP for Colombia focuses on formulating public policies within a framework of public-private partnerships, involving the government, companies, unions and other organizations in society. These public-private partnerships contribute to increasing the level of economic stability and wealth for the Colombian population.</p>		<p>The Chamber of Commerce of Bogotá, Connect Bogotá Región, Invest in Bogota, ProBogotá, the Private Competitiveness Council, the Mayorship of Bogotá, the Cundinamarca Regional Government, the Office of the President of Colombia, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, Fenalco, Confecámaras, Asomuña, the two Bogota Presidents' Forums, Red Vertice, Federesa, the Facatativá and Girardot Chambers of Commerce, Universidad Central and Universidad de San Buenaventura (chosen by the universities that make up Connect Bogotá) and the Bogota, Cundinamarca and Boyaca offices of ANDI</p>	
<p>INSTRUMENTS</p> 	<p>Financial</p>	<p>Funding collaboration initiatives</p> <p>Support to R&D projects, SMEs becoming cluster members, etc.</p> <p>Financing networking events</p> <p>Financing start-ups</p>	<p>Support to R&D projects, SMEs becoming cluster members, etc.</p> <p>Application to labelling schemes and similar initiatives</p> <p>Financing networking events</p>
	<p>Technical assistance</p>	<p>Support for hard skill development: knowledge transfer, intellectual property, entrepreneurship, export advice, market intelligence</p> <p>Support for soft skills development: coaching, management training, upskilling/reskilling</p>	<p>Support for hard skill development: knowledge transfer, intellectual property, entrepreneurship, export advice, market intelligence</p> <p>Support for soft skills development: coaching, management training, upskilling/reskilling</p>



		Support for networking and partnership building (at national and/or international level) Marketing activities: advertising, communication, events, fairs, and so on	Support for networking and partnership building (at national and/or international level) Marketing activities: advertising, communication, events, fairs, and so on
	Explanation	The PDP aims to develop and maintain business plans that work to increase economic growth and generate skilled jobs to increase productivity in the 18 sectors. There is also a focus on spurring entrepreneurship and growth of new sectors and firms.	The main responsible authorities are the Chamber of Commerce of Bogotá (CCB) and Connect Bogotá Region and with 8 other organisations make up the Directive Committee. There is also an Advisory Group with more than 500 participants, a Business Forum that guide the strategy, and tables of specialisation made up of public sector, the academy, scientific community, research centres, and civil society.
HISTORY 	Period	Limited period	Limited Period
	Ending year <i>(for policies with limited period)</i>	2025	2025
	Starting year	2016	2013
	Explanation	The PDP has outlined goals through 2025.	The Policy began in 2013 and has a projected end date of 2025.
	Overall	Data unavailable.	Data unavailable
	Annual	Data unavailable.	Data unavailable



<p>BUDGET</p> 	<p>Source of funding</p>	<p>Funding for the policy comes from national government ministries, the Chambers of Commerce and National Council for Economic and Social Policy (CONPES) of Colombia.</p>	<p>Funding for the policy comes from: Chambers of Commerce and Connect Bogotá Región, Invest in Bogotá, ProBogotá, the Private Competitiveness Council, the Mayorship of Bogotá, and the Cundinamarca Regional Government.</p>
<p>POLICY</p>  <p>EVALUATION</p>	<p>Availability</p>	<p>No Policy Evaluation</p>	<p>No Policy Evaluation</p>
	<p>Results</p>	<p>As the policy is ongoing there are not definite results or evaluation.</p>	<p>No evaluation for this policy has been identified.</p>
<p>POLICY ALIGNMENT WITH THE EU PRIORITIES</p> 	<p>Green Economy Digitalisation Social inclusion</p>	<p>Digitalisation</p>	

02

State of play of cluster policy



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2. State of play of cluster policy

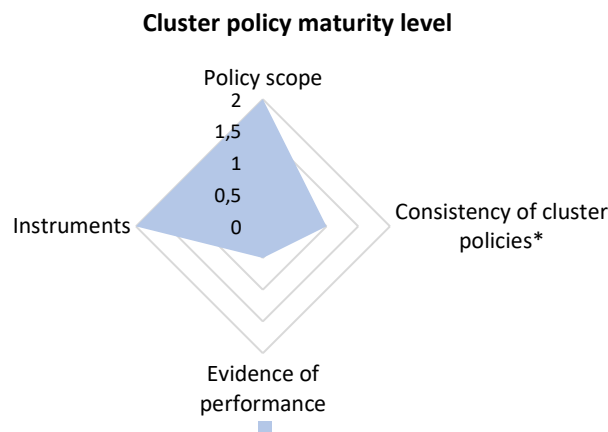
The data below illustrates how the country ranks in terms of maturity of cluster policy. The maturity index is based on a combination of factors presented in Chapter 1 and which are scored based on their existence:

- **Policy scope:** whether the country has a dedicated cluster policy, or cluster creation and/or development is targeted through broader policies (existence of broader policies = 1 point; existence of targeted cluster policies = 2 points)
- **Consistency of cluster policies:** assessment of the duration and experience of the country in doing cluster policies. This dimension assesses only existing cluster policies and not broader policies (no cluster policies available = 0 points; < 10 years of experience or > 10 years (but interrupted) = 1 point; > 10 years (but with clear continuity) = 2 points)
- **Evidence of performance:** the existence of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms determines the degree of policy development in the country (no evaluations = 0 points; existence of evaluations of past policies or in-itinere = 0.5 points; existence of ex-ante and/or ex-post evaluations = 0.5 points)
- **Instruments:** whether the policies provide any instruments to support the policy implementation, being these financial and/or technical assistance (1 point for each type of instrument available)

It is important to note that the maturity does not reflect the performance of a country, but only the degree of development of their cluster policy at the moment when the data was collected (2020 and 2021). The maturity index illustrates how the country scores for each of these four dimensions (policy scope, consistency of cluster policies, evidence of performance and instruments) compared to the maximum score that they can reach.

	Colombia	Maximum score
Policy scope	2	2
Consistency of cluster policies*	1	2
Evidence of performance	0,5	1
Instruments	2	2

** This dimension is scored solely if the country has a dedicated cluster policy and it assesses only cluster policies*





State of play of cluster policy in the country	
Policy evaluation (for terminated policies)	<p>No Policy Evaluation</p> <p>No other terminated cluster policies have been identified in Colombia.</p>
Policy approach in the country	<p>Policy support for the activities of cluster organisations</p> <p>Cluster approach used directly by national/regional development agencies</p> <p>Broad-based framework policies to support cooperation effectiveness</p>
Continuity	<p>There are no specific cluster policies at the national or regional levels in Colombia. The Productive Development Policy (which includes Smart Specialization Strategy Bogotá) is an attempt to enhance the competitiveness agenda that was announced in 2012 and to ensure consistent economic growth in Colombia while recognizing regional differences. The PDP has funded many cluster initiatives.</p>
Consistency	<p>< 10 years</p> <p>Despite Colombia's young cluster community, where majority of clusters began around 2011, it has recently increased at a rapid rate and is now labelled as an important cluster community globally. Colombia currently has approximately 80 Clusters registered in the Colombia Cluster Network, which represents approximately 21,000 companies. The clusters and companies fall under 6 main categories: agriculture and agroindustry, energy, manufacturing, health, ICT and tourism. Colombia originally worked alongside iNNpulsa to create "Rutas Competitivas" a National cluster policy, unfortunately Rutas Competitivas was short lived as it was unable to create continuous cluster initiatives. All cluster initiatives under Ruta Competitivas were terminated. The Productive Development Policy was created to ensure all regions have the stability and guidance to maintain cluster initiatives. The PDP is still ongoing with positive results, as cluster initiatives are continuous. "Smart Specialization Strategy Bogotá," is a regional cluster programme that was created out of the PDP aimed to create innovative and sustainable development in the Bogotá region.</p>

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