



Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Update on EU cluster initiatives Meeting Gold-label clusters

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Brussels

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Commission Expert Group on Clusters

- Announced in the **renewed EU Industrial Policy Strategy** "*to provide recommendation on how to better use clusters as a strategic tool of industrial policy*" as part of facilitating dialogue on cluster policy excellence
- Responds to Council Conclusions of March 2018 & May 2019 that called for "further development of European cluster policy" & highlighted that "clusters are key for the implementation of the EU industrial policy strategy".
- **Follow-up** to discussions of **European Cluster Policy Forum**, and liaise and build upon other relevant Commission expert groups
- Composed of representatives of **28 Member States** (nominated) and **10 individual experts**

Tasks of the Group

- *better use of clusters as strategic tool for industrial policy*
- *preparation and implementation of next generation of EU cluster initiatives*
- *recommendations on how to shape European cluster policies that are fit for the future*
- *how to remove existing barriers to transnational and international cluster cooperation*
- *analyse complementarities, identify opportunities for improving synergies*
- *better linking European policies and instruments with national and regional ones*

Working Group on **Skills**: meeting on 24/01/2020



European
Commission

Feed-back from 450 participants European Cluster Conference (14-16 May 2019)

European cluster conference with 450
participants 'connecting ecosystems'

Published on: 20/05/2019

The 6th edition of the European cluster conference took place during 14-16 May 2019 in the palace of Parliament in Bucharest, hosted by the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU. The event theme was 'Connecting ecosystems: bridge. inspire. change.'

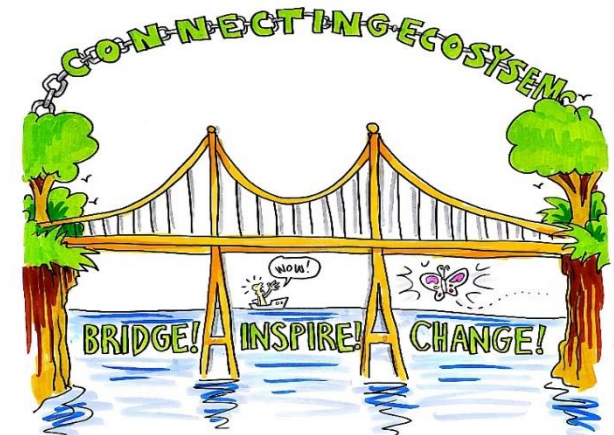


The conference was organised by the European Commission's Directorate General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs in cooperation with the Romanian Ministry of Economy. It gathered 450 national and regional cluster policy-makers and practitioners from industry, research and academia.

Conference site: <https://www.eucluster2019.eu/en>

See the documents & picture section for video, graphic harvest, slides, poll results, student blog, pictures...

#EUCLUSTER2019



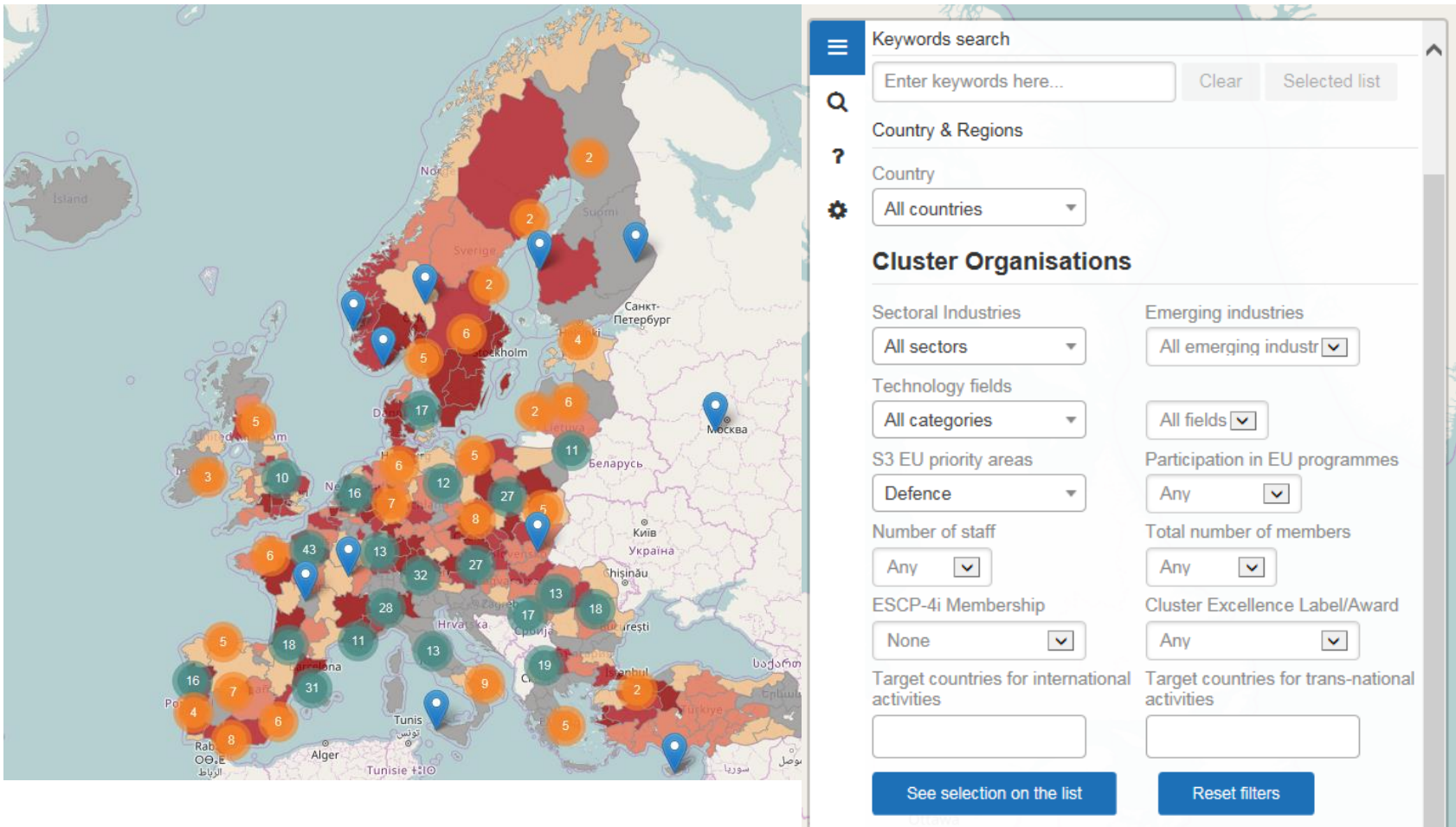


Next European Cluster Conference

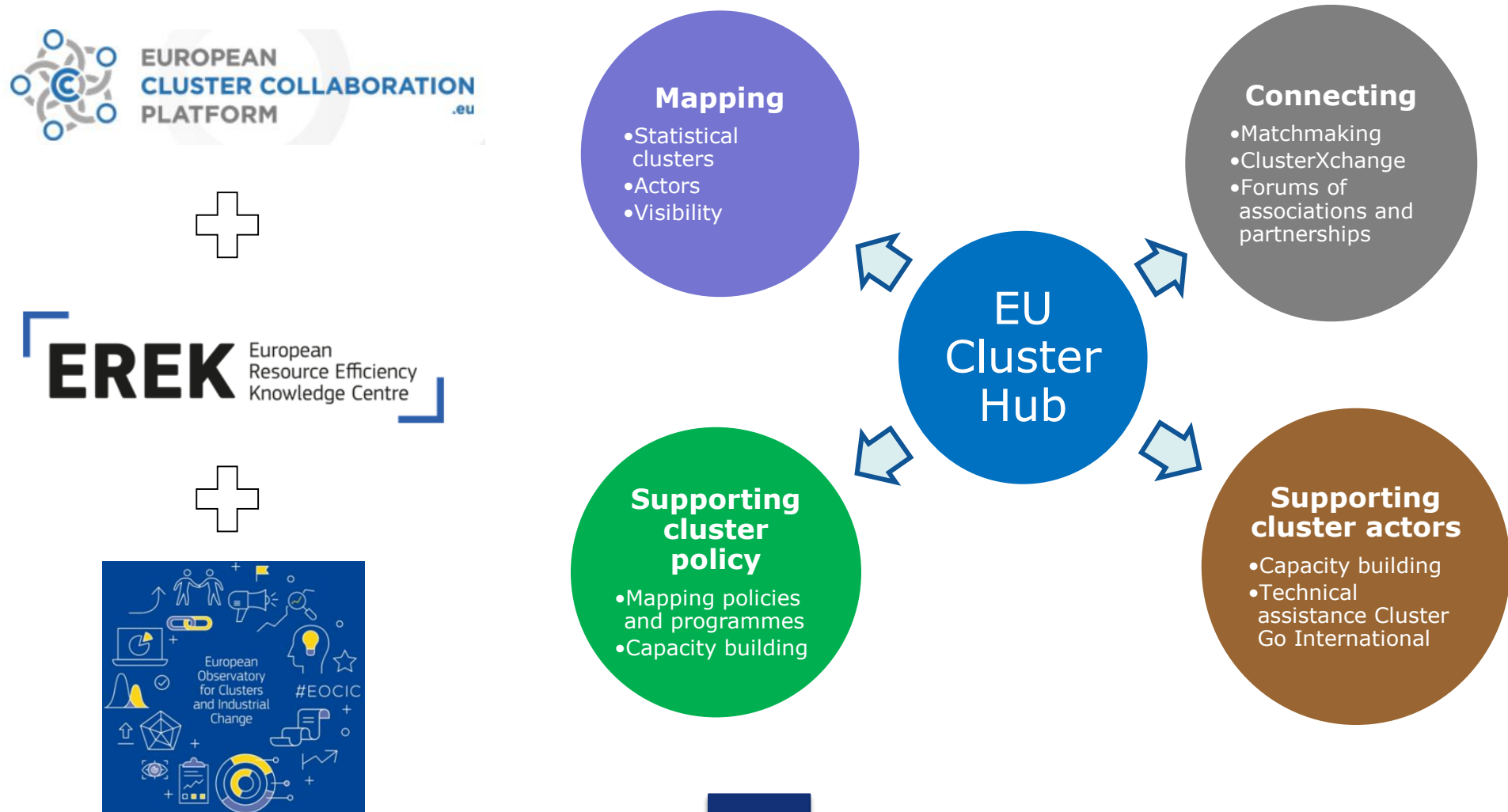
Berlin, 10-11 November 2020

The European Cluster Collaboration Platform-ECCP

Connecting over 1000 Cluster Organisations



2020: A renovated European Cluster Collaboration Platform



Cluster collaboration & intelligence tools



*Finding partners/cluster organisations
(partner search, matchmaking etc)*

- Mapping over 1000 cluster organisations
- 3689 bilateral meetings, 529 European participants
- 12000 monthly visitors to the website
- 3700+ subscription to newsletters and 4000+ weekly digests
- 2800+ news items published
- 1300+ events promoted



*Comparing
regional strength
(sectoral & cross-sectoral
cluster mapping)*



- Regional Ecosystem Scoreboard
- 12 pilot regions in industrial transition
- Trends, emerging industries, priority sector reports
- Cluster policies in Member States
- Smart guides including on cluster partnerships and entrepreneurship support

Ongoing European Cluster Initiatives



COSME
Programme for the
Competitiveness of
Enterprises and SMEs
2014-2020



**Clusters as
accelerators
for innovation
& industrial
change**



**Inter-
regional &
international
cluster
cooperation**

**Capacity-
building**

*Cluster
Excellence
Programme*

Cluster Internationalisation Programme for SMEs (COSME, €19M)

Supporting SME access to global value chains through clusters

- **Policy cooperation with third countries: Canada, Korea, Taiwan, USA**
- **International cluster matchmaking events in third countries and Europe**
- **European Strategic Cluster Partnerships - Going International (ESCP-4i)**
 - **"Clusters Go International"** action





Cluster matchmaking events 2020

Interested?

Watch out for our calls of expression of interest @Clusters_EU

Japan – 27-29 April, Strasbourg, France

Korea – 27-29 May, Seoul

Taiwan – 1-3 June, Taipei

Canada – 2nd semester, poss. Blue growth (in EU)

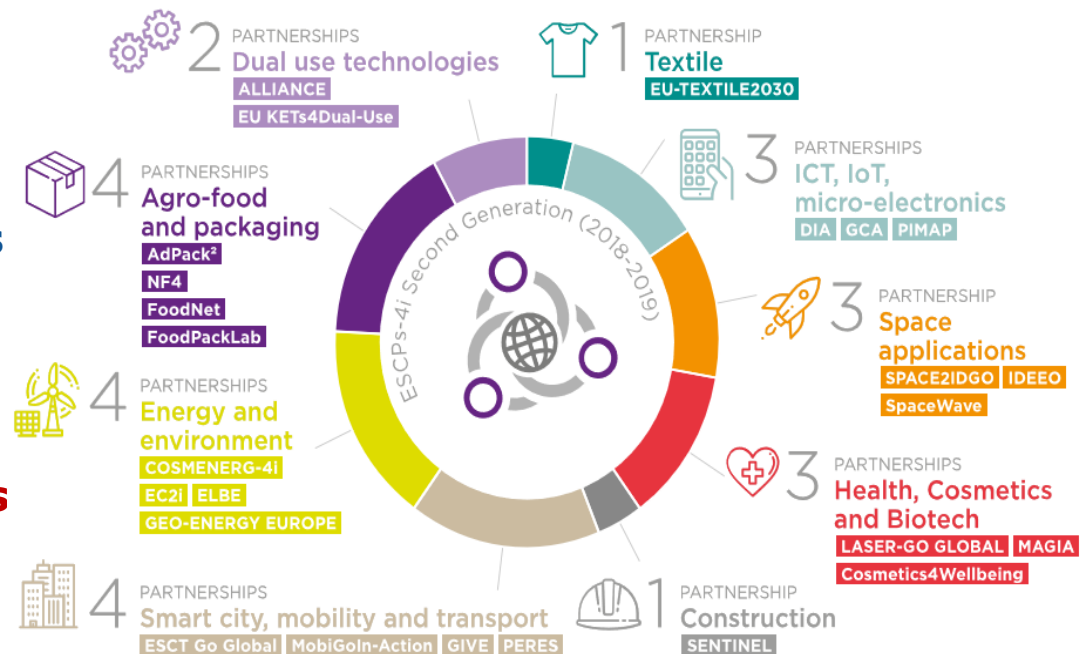
South MED – poss. October (in EU)

With other European clusters – 11 Nov, Berlin, Germany, European Cluster Conference

EU 'Clusters Go International' action

European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for Going International (ESCP-4i) Promoting cluster cooperation for industrial leadership in global markets

- **25 Cluster Partnerships Going international** (2018-2019, Budget: 7,24 mio €)
- **134 cluster organisations representing over 19,000 SMEs**
- Supporting **joint international strategies and SME collaboration with partners in third countries**
- **Recent Call published Q2 2019** (8,3 Mio€ - 24 partnerships)
- **Next Call in 2020 (TBC)**



Low Carbon Business Action in the Americas

2015-2019 pilot in Mexico and Brazil generating cooperation and business agreements between European and Mexican/Brazilian companies in low carbon sectors.

Results: 700 business agreements; 132 projects with the highest business potential received technical assistance **to become commercially viable projects.**

Enlarged Low Carbon Business Action (2020-2023) to expand to Brazil, Mexico, Canada, Chile, Argentina and Colombia.



Fostering new value chains: Cluster projects for new industrial value chains



key focus

€5 mln per project



SMEs (75 % of the budget)

Using clusters to support innovation in SMEs

Linking with smart specialisation strategies

Cross regional + cross-sectoral cooperation

new industrial value chains

variety of support innovation tools





Ongoing final call for Innosup-1 proposals

Call open since 07/11/2019

EUR 25.15 Mio (EUR 4 to 5 Mio per project)

Deadline (1st stage): 2nd April 2020

Deadline (2nd stage): 8 September 2020

Number of projects to be funded: 5-6

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/innosup-01-2018-2020>

[ECCP https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/eu-initiative/innosup-calls](https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/eu-initiative/innosup-calls)

Horizon 2020 Innosup data hub <https://innosup.easme-web.eu/>

Implementing smart specialisation and industrial modernisation: Partnerships for Smart Specialisation Investments





European
Commission

21 thematic areas under S3 for Industrial Modernisation

<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/thematic-areas>



Advanced
manufacturing



3D Printing



Non-food
biomass



Sport



Nano-Enabled
Products



Hydrogen
Valleys



Digitalisation
& Safety for
Tourism



Personalised
medicine



Social
Economy



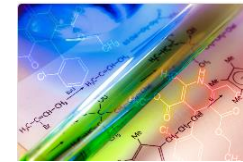
Mining
Industry



European
Cyber Valleys



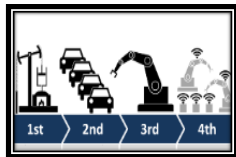
Artificial
intelligence &
Human
machine



Chemicals



Advanced
materials on
bateries



SMEs to
Industry 4.0



Textile
Innovation



Water
Smart
Technologies



Medical
Technology



Efficient &
Sustainable
Manufacturing



Photonics



Safe &
sustainable
mobility



Strengthen cluster management capacities : Partnerships for excellence



European Cluster Excellence Programme

Strengthen cluster management excellence & strategic interregional partnering to foster cluster capacity building & SME competitiveness

- **11 completed projects** (2.47 million, COSME 2014 and 2015 calls for proposals) gathered 57 cluster organisations representing 11,000 SMEs
- **10-12 new cluster partnerships to start around February 2020** (3.6 mio EUR, COSME 2018 call for proposals)

1. Enhance cluster managers' **skills** (benchmarking, training, coaching and mentoring) 
2. Support **cluster strategy** development (at cluster & partnership levels)
3. Organise twinning, collaboration, networking/learning activities & joint **cooperation** projects
4. Implement a **new „ClusterXchange"** pilot scheme (supporting short-term growth exploration visits with lump sums of up to 1100 EUR to third party cluster members) 

ClusterXchange to **start mid-2020**



European Cluster Excellence Programme

Potential **new** call for proposals

(COSME 2020, TBC)

Towards Joint Cluster Initiatives

- Industry-focused actions guided by joint strategies of clusters and other associated **specialised SME support actors**
- **Thematically targeted** for 10-20 industrial specialisations, **with cross-regional and cross-sectoral outreach to SMEs**
- Creating business opportunities and accelerating growth by channelling **direct scaling-up support** to groups of SMEs for:



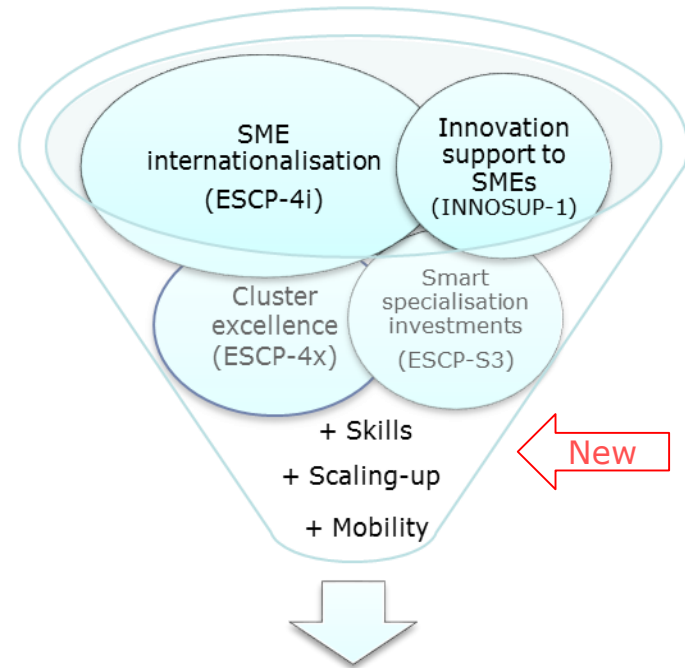
Shaping European strategic value chains
through connecting specialised ecosystems



Boosting internationalisation and access
to global value chains



Facilitating industrial transformation
towards uptake of advanced technologies
and services, digitalisation, new business
models, resource-efficient solutions towards
decarbonisation and the Circular Economy,
creativity and design, upskilling, talent
attraction and entrepreneurship acceleration



Joint Cluster Initiatives

Thank You

More information

EU Cluster Portal:

<http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/cluster/>

European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP)

<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/>

European Cluster Initiatives

<https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/eu-initiatives>

COSME calls

<https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/cosme>

@Clusters_EU