



European Strategic Cluster Partnerships – Going International (ESCP-4i) Charter

We, the undersigned, have agreed to establish a **European Strategic Cluster Partnership – Going International (ESCP-4i)** called ELBE, Europe Leading Blue Energy, upon the invitation of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROWTH).

We, hereby, commit to work on a joint cooperation agenda with the aim to support the internationalisation of our SME members towards third countries beyond Europe and thereby, to contribute to the European Commission's objectives to boost growth, jobs and investment in Europe.

As partners of a **European Strategic Cluster Partnership – Going International (ESCP-4i)**, we confirm that we subscribe to the following partnership's principles:

Being **European**, meaning

- *composed of partners, all established in EU Member States or countries participating in the COSME programme under Article 6 of the COSME Regulation and in minimum three different countries;*

Being **Strategic**, meaning by

- *developing and implementing a joint 'European' strategy with common goals and fostering complementarities between partners;*
- *promoting cooperation across related industries and sectoral boundaries in support of industrial modernisation / emerging industries;*

Representing **Cluster(s)** through

- *innovation cluster organisations or equivalent business network organisations that have an own legal entity, are registered on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP) with a new complete profile and will post regularly information on the Partnership activities on the ECCP platform;*

Forming a **Partnership** with the aim

- *to set-up a partnership agreement engaging the partners to develop common actions and setting out the modalities of cooperation between them;*
- *to develop a roadmap for implementation with a long-term cooperation agenda to foster the sustainability of the partnership;*
- *to provide information upon European Commission's request on the partnership activities and achievements;*

Working towards **Going International** by

- *developing and implementing a joint 'European' strategy for going international beyond Europe; and*
- *striving to successfully support the internationalisation of our SME members towards specific third countries, and/or attracting strategic foreign direct investment and cooperation partners and/or securing critical imports, knowledge and technologies with a view to support growth, jobs and investment in Europe.*

Other provisions

This ESCP-4i Charter is not intended to be binding or create any legal rights or financial obligations under EU or national law.

This ESCP-4i Charter may be modified at any time by the Partners in writing and upon acceptance by DG GROWTH. Partners may wish to withdraw from or discontinue the Partnership, endeavouring if doing so to provide prior written notice of 60 days to the other Partners and DG GROWTH.

The ESCP-4i Label, to be awarded upon reception of this signed Charter, will be valid until its possible renewal following the outcome of the next COSME call "Cluster Go International" and/or upon reception of information at DG GROWTH's request to decide upon its prolongation.

Each Partner intends to bear its own costs and expenditures that might be incurred in the course of implementing this ESCP-4i Charter, besides possible funding made available under the COSME "Cluster Go International" action.

Signatures

Date: 16th of January of 2017

ESCP-4i Coordinator

Organisation name: Cluster de Energía

Signature:

Organisation acronym: BEC

Country: Spain

Representative name: José Ignacio Hormaeche

Representative title: Managing Director



ESCP-4i Partner 1

Organisation name: Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group LTD Signature:

Organisation acronym: AREG

Country: United Kingdom

Representative name: Morag McCorkindale

Representative title: Chief Operating Officer



ESCP-4i Partner 2

Organisation name: RISE Research Institutes of Sweden AB Signature:

Organisation acronym: RISE

Country: Sweden

Representative name: Tommy Hertzberg

Representative title: Vice president/Safety & Transport



ESCP-4i Partner 3

Organisation name: *Flanders Maritime Cluster*

Signature:

Organisation acronym: *FMC*

Country: *Belgium*

Representative name: *Ann Overmeire*

Representative title: *Cluster coordinator*



ESCP-4i Partner 4

Organisation name: *Fonden Offshore Center Danmark*

Signature:

Organisation acronym: *OEDK*

Country: *Denmark*

Representative name: *Mikkel Juul*

Representative title: *Head of internationalization*

