Clusters meet Regions East and North Finland - A sustainable approach to raw materials

25 to 27 April 2023

Hotel Levi Panorama, in the Center Levi Summit, Kittilä, Lapland, Finland

25 April 2023

19:00-21:00  Welcome reception, Hotel Levi Panorama

26 April 2023

8:30 – 8:45  Introduction by the organisers, master of ceremony Teodora Jilkova, European Cluster Collaboration Platform

Welcome to East and North Finland Regions in their Industrial Transition, by the host Päivi Ekdahl, Development Director, Regional Council of Lapland and, Jakub Boratynski, Director Networks & Governance, DG GROW, European Commission

8:45 – 9:00  Keynote speech – Importance of raw materials for the economy in East and North Finland, Elsi Katainen, Member of the European Parliament

9:00 – 9:15  Setting the scene – ECCP input paper for East and North Finland, Jan-Philipp Kramer, Head of EU Services, Prognos

Session I: East and North Finland in industrial transition - Shaping the future together. The East and North Finland regions (ENF) have long cooperation traditions. Raw materials play a crucial role in trade and industry, whilst the sustainable refining of natural resources is one of the backbones of the ENF economy – both now and in the future. This session will demonstrate how the interregional cooperation of the ENF clusters supports the sustainable use of raw materials.

Facilitator: Antonio Novo, President of the European Clusters Alliance

9:15 – 10:05  Round Table I: Modern digital solutions and high technology. Digitalisation, innovative technologies and production processes are key factors in enhancing more resource-efficient use of raw materials. The focus is to showcase how innovative technologies and digital solutions enable the sustainable use of raw materials.

Caroline Amiot, Project Manager, Photonics Finland, [https://www.photonics.fi/](https://www.photonics.fi/)
Satu Väinämö, Director, PrintoCent, [https://www.printocent.net/](https://www.printocent.net/)
Paavo Niskala, SVP IMSE Technology, TactoTek [https://www.tactotek.com/](https://www.tactotek.com/)

10:05 – 10:30  Coffee break

10:30 – 11:20  Round Table II: Industrial Circular Economy in East and North Finland – The role of clusters in developing the regional industrial ecosystems. The industrial circular economy plays a special role in increasing resource efficiency in the refining industry. Utilising industrial side streams is a breeding ground for the emerging industrial service sector.
- **Tuomas Pussila**, Director, Circular Economy Centre
- **Johanna Hylkilä**, Executive Director, Kokkola Industrial Park, BioValley Finland,
- **Lasse Pulkkinen**, Research Director, Savonlinna’s Technology Park Noheva,

**11:20 – 11:50**  
**Arctic Water Excellence – showcasing interregional clusters collaboration** - Resolving technological challenges, supporting innovation development enabling sustainable water management in industries heavily relying on water, such as mining and pulp & paper sectors.
- **Eero Antikainen**, Cluster coordinator, Kuopio Water Cluster
  [https://kuopiowatercluster.com/](https://kuopiowatercluster.com/)
- **Jarkko Räty**, Research Manager, Kajaani University Consortium, University of Oulu

**11:50 – 12:00**  
**Reflections: Arianna Dellaca**, Project Adviser, EISMEA  
**Concluding remarks: Antonio Novo**, President of the European Clusters Alliance

**12:00 – 13:00**  
**Networking Lunch**

**Session II: Responsible Mineral Raw Material Production in Europe – The Importance of the Regional Ecosystems and Clusters.**
Facilitator: **Jukka Teräs**, CEO Norrum Oy

**13:00 – 13:20**  
**Keynote speech – Green Deal Industrial Plan for the Net-Zero Age: ensuring secure and sustainable supply chains for EU's green and digital future**, Jakub Boratynski, Director Networks & Governance, DG GROW, European Commission

**13:20 – 14:20**  
**Roundtable dialogue – putting the Green Deal Industrial Plan into practice in the regional context:**
- **Sari Tasa**, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, Finland
- **Luís Martins**, President of the Board, Cluster Portugal Mineral Resources, Portugal
- **Dessislava Chalamova**, Programme Director, Industrial Cluster Srednogorie, Bulgaria
- **Jakub Boratynski**, Director Networks & Governance, DG GROW, European Commission

**14:30 – 14:45**  
**Concluding remarks, Jukka Teräs**, CEO Norrum Oy

**14:45 – 17:00**  
**Matchmaking - Circular Economy and Digitalisation enabling resource-efficient exploration and refining of raw materials** - Clusters and SMEs meeting the leading companies in the mining industry (bilateral meetings).  
Facilitator: **Daniel Cosnita**, InPulse Partners, ECCP team member  
For more details, see additional information the registration site.

**15:00- 17:00**  
**The policymakers' roundtable** – regional and interregional collaboration to strengthen sustainable mining – With the lead of the S3P mining industry and global value chains, Roundtable leader **Mika Riihi**, County Governor of Lapland, Regional Council of Lapland, Leader, Mining Industry and Global Value Chains,

**Session III: Taste from East and North Finland**

**18.00 – 21.00**  
**Green Transition Gala 2023, BioCluster Finland** is awarding young green growth companies at the Green Transition Gala 2023.  
**Cocktails and finger food – Taste From East and North Finland**
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Session IV: Strengthening EU's critical raw materials capacities along all stages of the value chain: a coordinated effort

The European Commission supports the responsible use of raw materials. It will be essential to synergise regional, national and European policymaking, financing and implementation to overcome internal and external barriers in transforming the EU towards a climate-neutral economy.

Facilitator: Benoit ESMANNE, Policy Officer - Clusters and Industrial Forum at European Commission

9:00-9:50 European cases on:
How can the regions be inspired to develop regional innovation ecosystem(s) linked up with extended value chains and EU strategic policy initiatives?
How to create a more integrated approach to connecting upstream and downstream, making use of new socioeconomic challenges and opportunities?

Inspiration talks:
- Santiago Cuesta López, Executive Director, Iberian Sustainable Mining Cluster (ISMC)
- Ilkka Nykänen, Development manager, Business Joensuu - Outokumpu Mining Hub - intelligent waste rock and tailings management
- Tuomas Nousiainen, Horizon Results Platform

9:50-10:00 Questions

10:00-11:00 Debate - To synergise regional, national and European policymaking to support responsible raw-material utilisation in Europe – recommendations.
- Panagiotis Sevdalis, Policy Officer - Innovation Policy & Access to Finance, DG RTD, European Commission
- Carmen Sillero Illanes, Economic and policy analyst, Joint Research Centre, European Commission
- Eira Varis, Regional Development Director, North Karelia
- Santiago Cuesta López, Executive Director, ISCM Cluster
- Ilkka Nykänen, Development manager, Business Joensuu - Outokumpu Mining Hub

11:15 – 11:30 Conclusions and closing of the Clusters meet Regions East and North Finland
- Mika Riipi, County Governor of Lapland, Regional Council of Lapland and Jakub Boratynski, Director Networks & Governance, DG GROW, European Commission

11:30-13:00 Buffet lunch

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11.30–17.30 Site visit – Kittilä Gold mine https://agnicoeagle.fi/

Priority 50 participants – focus on mining sector professionals – MINE.THE-GAP and S3P mining industry and global value chain partners.
- Departure from the Hotel Levi Panorama at 11.40 sharp
- Lunch in the mine cafeteria
- Circular economy, digitalisation, regional & national collaboration and sustainability

Regional case on Mining and Tourism industry – collaboration
https://www.lapland.fi/business/mining-and-tourism-support-each-other-in-kittila/