



An initiative of the European Union

# CLUSTERS MEET REGIONS

# KATOWICE | 07 · 08

POLAND | NOVEMBER 22

TOWARDS A GREEN TRANSITION:  
CHALLENGES, RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR POLISH REGIONS AND CLUSTERS

in the framework of  
**8 KONGRES**  
KLASTRÓW POLSKICH



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## TOWARDS A GREEN TRANSITION: CHALLENGES, RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR POLISH REGIONS AND CLUSTERS

**7-8 November 2022**

MCK International Congress, Slawik i Antall Square 1, 40-163 Katowice, Silesia, Poland

### CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES

**EU regions need to be able to compete with other more advanced and emerging economies in a fast-changing economic and social environment, in particular in the post-Covid-19 period and Russian invasion on Ukraine. Location matters particularly for clusters. They develop more easily in urban and regional ecosystems with a favourable administrative and regulatory environment and access to skilled labour, markets, financial and business support services.**

**What really matters is the involvement of clusters in regional economic governance, in policy design and implementation at regional level.**

Regional authorities need to know their clusters and understand how they can shape, improve and effectively help in the design and implementation of regional development policies. On the other hand, cluster organisations and their members should take actions and implement projects that are relevant to the economic development of their local communities. They should engage in collaboration with other European clusters in the same or related economic activities and thus complement regional assets and reinforce capacities to lead the green transition, accelerate the digital transition and build resilience.

**15 regional workshops will be organised in the EU regions, which express their interest to host the events in 2022-23 as part of the “Clusters meet Regions” cycle.**

These workshops will bring together clusters and policymakers of the EU, national, regional and local level to learn from each other on how to better use clusters to strengthen industrial ecosystems, serve national/regional economic development and liaise with other regions with similar transition challenges.

**The “Clusters meet Regions” in Katowice is the 3rd event of the series. It will focus on the priorities established by the region of Upper-Silesia - The Upper-Silesia region is an industrialized region with a high level of urbanization.**

Both industry and housing have been undergoing a continuous process of transformation for more last 30 years. Between 2021 and 2030, the demand for solutions enabling energy and material efficiencies in the industry, construction, renewable energy generation and the integration of electromobility infrastructure into building infrastructure will remain high. Due to the high degree of urbanization and industrialization, as well as high population density – the Upper Silesia is one of the regions with the greatest anthropopression - intensive industrial development has contributed to significant, often irreversible, environmental degradation.

Green innovation is a response to legislative requirements and changing awareness among end consumers. The strong industrial character of the Upper Silesian economy makes the region the right place to develop and implement new material solutions, related to the ease of recovery of materials at the end of the life cycle of the products in which they were used.



# AGENDA

## 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

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**09:45 – 10:30**

### REGISTRATION

**10:30 – 10:45**

LANGUAGE:  
POLISH-ENGLISH  
SIMULTANEOUS  
TRANSLATION

### CEREMONY OF OPENING THE FORUM

#### Welcoming address (together with the 8th Congress of Polish Clusters)

- *Grzegorz Puda, Minister of Funds and Regional Policy*
- *Wojciech Kaluza, Vicemarshal of the Silesian Voivodeship*
- *Jakub Boratyński, Director Networks & Governance, DG GROW European Commission*

*Krzysztof Krystowski, President of the Polish Clusters Association and Śląski Klaster Lotniczy, Vice President of the European Clusters Alliance (event host)*

The Polish Cluster Congress annually gathers about 300 participants in Poland, representatives of cluster environments, national and regional administration, business, who are interested in cluster topics. The subject of the 8th Polish Cluster Congress will be a discussion of cluster policies and initiatives enabling the implementation of green and digital transformation in European value chains and strengthening their resilience.

Clusters build both the innovativeness of companies, regions, but also have been recognized by the European Commission as implementers of the European Green Deal in EU small and medium-sized enterprises and play an important role in implementing practical Industry 4.0 issues, so the event aims to discuss the latest trends in cluster policies and stimulate high-level discussions on the challenges and needs to be addressed in the post-pandemic context, making better use of clusters.

**10:45 – 12:00**

LANGUAGE:  
POLISH-ENGLISH  
SIMULTANEOUS  
TRANSLATION

#### Green and digital transition and resilience building. What does it mean for regions and clusters? (session together with the 8th Congress of Polish Clusters)

Invited to the discussion:

- *Jakub Boratyński, Director Networks & Governance, DG GROW European Commission*
- *Wojciech Kaluza, Deputy Marshal of the Silesian Voivodeship*
- *Jaroslav Flakowski, Director of the Department of Development and Innovation of the Marsha's Office of the Lubuskie Voivodeship*
- *Ryszard Hordyński, Director of Strategy and Communications, Huawei*
- *Marcin Piątkowski, Senior Economist, World Bank (online)*

**Moderator: Krzysztof Krystowski, President of the Polish Clusters Association, Vice President of the European Clusters Alliance (event host)**

The opening in the workshop: Clusters meet Regions shows the involvement of clusters in regional economic governance, in policy design and implementation at regional level. To do so, the conference starts with presentations on EU cluster policies and priorities from Silesia.

# AGENDA

## 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

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**12:00 – 13:15**  
(EXHIBITION ROOM/  
LOBBY)

**Priority areas and industrial ecosystems in Upper Silesia (Mobility, Health, Energy, ICT) (session together with the 8th Congress of Polish Clusters)**

Invited to participate in the discussion:

- *Grzegorz Puda, Minister of Funds and Regional Policy*
- *Representative of Deputy Marshal of the Silesian Voivodship*
- *Janusz Michałek, President, Katowice Special Economic Zone S.A., coordinator of Silesia Automotive & Advanced Manufacturing Cluster*
- *Filip Grzegorzczak, Representative of AZOTY Group*
- *Bogdan Traczyk, President, Upper Silesian Accelerator for Commercial Enterprises Ltd*
- *Francisco Vigalondo, Management Board Member and Representative in Brussels of Aragon Region*

**Moderator: Prof. Wojciech Moczulski, Silesian University of Technology**

Cluster managers and regional experts from Silesia will discuss how to carry out green, digital transition and build resilience in their specific ecosystems. The session aims to highlight good practices of cluster engagement in regional economic development and identify areas where clusters can provide support. Silesian regional smart specializations.

**13:15 – 13:30**

**Polish and Spanish Cluster Congresses virtual bridge**

**13:30 – 14:30**

**LUNCH BREAK**

**14:30 – 15:45**

LANGUAGE:  
POLISH-ENGLISH  
SIMULTANEOUS  
TRANSLATION

**Cluster driven interregional cooperation in priority areas of Upper Silesia (session together with the 8th Congress of Polish Clusters)**

Invited to participate in the discussion:

- *Johan Magnusson, Team Leader for Danube and Baltic Sea Regions European Commission DG REGIO (online)*
- *Giedrius Bagusinskas, Vice President of the European Clusters Alliance*
- *Alexandre Yurchak, President of Ukrainian Cluster Alliance*
- *Prof. Uwe Meinberg, European Drones Cooperation, Chairman of the Board of CURPAS*
- *Montserrat Daban, PhD, Director of Science Policy and Internationalisation, BIOCAT and representative of two cluster partnerships in the Health ecosystem*

**Moderator: Katarzyna Walczyk-Matuszyk, Deputy Director, National Contact Point for Research Programmes of the European Union**

Linkages with clusters from other regions to cooperate require identification of partners and building common ground for collaboration. Experiences from other regions, search for collaboration area.

# AGENDA

## 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

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**15:45 – 17:00**  
(EXHIBITION ROOM/  
LOBBY)

### Polish clusters landscape Workshops

Presentation of the Input paper:

- *Dr. Jan-Philipp Kramer, Team Leader 'Data & Policy', ECCP (online)*
- *PhD.Dominika Kuberska, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn (online)*

Invited to participate in the discussion:

- *Agata Wancio, Deputy Director, Ministry of Development and Technology*
- *Włodzimierz Fleischer, representative of the Lubuski Metal Cluster*
- *Piotr Kryjom, Deputy Director at Future Industry Platform*
- *Marek Przeor, Team Leader, EU Cluster Policy (DG GROW.D2)*
- *Krzysztof Buczek, Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (tbc)*

**Moderator: Lukasz Gorecki, Katowice Special Economic Zone**

**19:00**  
(HOTEL VIENNA HOUSE  
EASY KATOWICE)

### GALA DINNER

The welcome reception and dinner are upon invitation only.

# AGENDA

## 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

**08:30 – 09:00**

### REGISTRATION

**09:00 – 09:30**

LANGUAGE:  
ENGLISH

### INTRODUCTION FOR THE PITCHING SESSION

Opening: Marek Przeor, Team Leader, EU Cluster Policy (DG GROW.D2), European Commission

Moderator: Teodora Jilkova, Cluster Veritas, ECCP Team member

The Cluster meets Regions organization provides a space for the clusters and regions to presents themselves, their collaboration proposals and increase their network partners. Participation as a panellist in this part of the conference is open to any assistant to the event by previous registration as a panellist to pitch.

**Pitching Round 1 (mix of sectors: health, mobility, energy, ICT)**

**09:30 – 11:00**

LANGUAGE:  
ENGLISH

Moderator: Representative from PL health cluster

**11:00 – 11:30**

### COFFEE BREAK

**11:30 – 12:50**

LANGUAGE:  
ENGLISH

**Pitching Round 2 (mix of sectors: health, mobility, energy, ICT)**

Moderator: Representative from PL health cluster

**12:50 – 13:00**

(EXHIBITION ROOM/  
LOBBY)

### CLOSING REMARKS

**13:30 – 14:30**

### NETWORKING LUNCH

**14:30 – 17:00**

LANGUAGE:  
ENGLISH

### SITE VISITS TO THE MAIN SILESIA CLUSTERS

Participants will have the opportunity to learn about local actors who play a leading role in the ecosystem. There will be visits to [Silesia Automotive & Manufacturing Cluster](#) and [Silesian Aviation Cluster](#).