



## TWIN TRANSITION THROUGH INNOVATION - THE ROLE OF CLUSTERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS A CLIMATE-NEUTRAL AND DIGITAL INDUSTRIAL REGION

8-9 November 2023, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany

### DRAFT AGENDA

#### Day 1 – Wednesday, 08 November 2023 (CET)

10:00	<b>Registration of participants and welcome coffee</b>
10:30 – 11:00	<p><b>Setting the scene: Transformation through innovation - the role of clusters in the development towards a climate-neutral and digital industrial region</b>  <b>Master of Ceremony: Teodora Jilkova, ECCP team member</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Welcoming and introduction by the representative of the host by Dr Moritz Breul</b>, Co-head of Unit – “Innovation Policy, Transformation of the Economy”, Ministry of Economy, Industry, Climate Protection and Energy of North Rhine-Westphalia</li> <li>• <b>Keynote speech – Cluster organisations as drivers of the green transition in European regions</b> by <b>Jakub Boratynski</b>, Director Networks &amp; Governance, DG GROW, European Commission</li> </ul>
11:00 – 11:15	<p><b>Introduction to the regional cluster ecosystem of North Rhine-Westphalia – Presentation of the ECCP input paper on North Rhine-Westphalia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Jan-Philipp Kramer</b>, Team Leader ‘Data &amp; Policy’, ECCP</li> </ul>
11:15– 12:00	<p><b>Panel discussion I – Strategic approaches – The role of regional clusters in developing twin transition solutions</b>  <i>The focus of the discussion will be on strategic and theoretic approaches discussing how cluster organisations can be enabled to support twin transition processes within regional innovation ecosystems. The objective of the panel discussion is to gain insights into how policy makers and regional authorities can enable cluster organisations in becoming facilitators for change.</i></p> <p><b>Moderator: Antonio Novo, European Clusters Alliance President</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Marek Przeor</b>, Team Leader, Industrial Forum, Alliances, Clusters (GROW.D.2), DG GROW, European Commission</li> <li>• <b>Dr-Ing. Harald Cremer</b>, CEO of the regional cluster NanoMikroWerkstoffePhotonik (NMWP.NRW). The cluster aims at strengthening NRW's position in nanotechnology, microtechnology, new materials and optical technologies</li> <li>• <b>Dr Reimar Molitor</b>, CEO of Region Cologne/Bonn e.V., part of Regionen.NRW, which is the association of the regional development and marketing organisations of the nine regions of North Rhine-</li> </ul>

	<p>Westphalia. Among other, it organises regional development processes &amp; projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Professor Dr Matthias Kiese</b>, Institute of Geography of the Ruhr University Bochum, Expert on regional economics &amp; clusters</li> <li>● <b>Dr Jan-Philipp Kramer</b>, Team Leader 'Data &amp; Policy', ECCP</li> </ul>
12:00 – 13:00	<p><b>Pitching session – Interregional cooperation as driver of twin transition processes</b>  <b>Moderator: Teodora Jilkova, ECCP Team Member</b></p> <p><b>Order of pitches:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. QT.NMWP.NRW</li> <li>2. Business Metropole Ruhr GmbH</li> <li>3. H2UB</li> <li>4. Pole Mecatech</li> <li>5. Steinbeis Europa Zentrum</li> <li>6. Hydrogen Clusters4Future</li> </ol>
13:00 – 14:00	<p><b>Networking lunch</b></p>
14:00 – 16:00	<p><b>Matchmaking sessions with regional cluster organisations for collaborative opportunities (20 min. per round)</b>  <b>Facilitator: Daniel Cosnita, InPulse Partners, ECCP Team Member</b></p>
16:00 – 16:15	<p><b>Coffee break*</b></p>
16:15 – 17:30	<p><b>Panel discussion II – Insights from regional practitioners – Good practices on how to put into practice the Green Deal Industrial Plan and the EU's digital strategy through cluster collaboration.</b></p> <p><i>The focus of the second discussion will be on the practitioner's view by inviting cluster managers from regional and international cluster organisations. The objective of the panel discussion is to gain practical and specific insights into how regional cluster organisations act as regional enablers for structural change. More specifically, the panel will showcase the potential of North Rhine-Westphalia for the transition (from a market and technology perspective), outline how interregional collaboration within the EU can contribute to that and invite for future collaboration opportunities among cluster organisations.</i></p> <p><b>Moderator: Marek Przeor, Team Leader, Industrial Forum, Alliances, Clusters (GROW.D.2), DG GROW, European Commission</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Andreas Mucke</b>, Managing Director of the Circular Valley initiative. The organisation works across sectors &amp; technologies to close material cycles along existing value chains, develop policy recommendations &amp; sustainably inform the public about the topic of circular economy.</li> <li>● <b>Norbert Reichl</b>, CEO of the regional cluster Food-Processing Initiative, which aims at increasing the competitiveness of companies in the food value chain in North Rhine-Westphalia</li> <li>● <b>Luc Hulsman</b>, RIS3 Manager at the Northern Netherlands Alliance (SNN), responsible for Smart Specialisation of the Northern Netherlands</li> <li>● <b>Fabrizio Guarrasi</b>, Innovation Manager at Lombardy Energy Cleantech Cluster. The organisation focuses on the areas of smart energy systems, sustainable manufacturing, green building, water energy, clean air &amp; circular economy.</li> </ul>
17:30 – 18:30	<p><b>High-level policy discussion –Enabling regional innovation clusters to foster the economies of the future: The role of policy makers</b></p> <p><i>This high-level debate aims to integrate the concepts explored in the previous theoretical and practical panel discussions, providing a platform for <b>policymakers from regional, federal, and EU levels</b>. The objective of the proceeding is to expand on the important topics covered in the initial two</i></p>

	<p>sessions by highlighting the areas where the European Commission, Federal Government, and State Government interact to address the points raised by the other panellists</p> <p><b>Moderator: Nils Dülfer, Manager at NRW.innovativ</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Tobias Traupel</b>, Head of Department "Europe, Law and Foreign Trade", Ministry of Economy, Industry, Climate Protection and Energy of North Rhine-Westphalia</li> <li>• <b>Dr Ole Janssen</b>, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Head of Department, "Innovation &amp; Technology Policy", Lead of "go cluster" initiative.</li> <li>• <b>Jakub Boratynski</b>, Director Networks &amp; Governance, DG GROW, European Commission</li> </ul>
from 18:30 onwards	<b>Get together</b>

## Day 2 – Thursday, 9 November 2023 (CET)

### Site visit

08:30 – 09:30	<p><b>Bus Transfer from Düsseldorf to thyssenkrupp Steel Europe AG in Duisburg</b></p> <p><b>Pick-up:</b> Bus will depart at 08:30 near the Düsseldorf Central Station from the "<a href="#">Düsseldorf - ZOB für Fernbusse</a>". We kindly ask you to be there at least 10 minutes earlier (so at 08:20) to ensure a timely departure.</p>
09:30 – 12:00	<p><b>Guided Tour at the thyssenkrupp steel plant</b> (focus: decarbonising of steel production processes and acceleration of the uptake of renewable hydrogen plus the role of clusters in the transformation)</p> <p>The "Steel in Transition" tour includes a drive past the blast furnaces and port area as well as a visit to the steelworks and hot strip mill units, thereby focusing on the transformative activities.</p> <p><b>Meeting point</b> at the Visitor Centre: thyssenkrupp Steel Europe AG, Kaiser-Wilhelm-Straße 100, 47166 Duisburg</p>
12:00	<b>Snack</b>
after 12:00	<p><b>Transfer back to Düsseldorf</b></p> <p><b>Drop-off:</b> Near the Düsseldorf Central Station at the "<a href="#">Düsseldorf - ZOB für Fernbusse</a>".</p>