Session 1 – Regional Economic Development
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Lucian Jega (DG REGIO, EC)

- The role of clusters for regional economic development
- The strengthening of business and economic relations between Ukraine and the EU and integration of Ukrainian companies into the EU value chains
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The European Union’s response:

COVID-19 Public Health Crisis
- working capital for SMEs
- investments in products and services to increase response capacities in health services,
- increase of EU’s co-financing rate to 100%,
- possibility to re-allocate unused funds for these purposes.
- eligibility of operations addressing the migratory challenges
- energy costs for vulnerable households.

Energy crisis

Food crisis

Refugees crisis
- EU–Ukraine solidarity lanes (new logistics routes)
- Supply Chain Resilience platform and the EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes Business Matchmaking platform (to deal with disruptions in international supply chains)
- European transport corridors (MD, UA)
- Trade restrictions have been suspended
- Recognition of professional qualifications (for people fleeing Ukraine)
- Use in the EU Ukrainian driving licences and requirements (eased) for professional drivers
- MD & UA synchronised with the continental European electricity grid
- Affordable or free calls and internet use to refugees by EU and UA operators.

Support to Ukrainian businesses & people to benefit from the EU Single Market:
- EU–Ukraine solidarity lanes (new logistics routes)
- Supply Chain Resilience platform and the EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes Business Matchmaking platform (to deal with disruptions in international supply chains)
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• The support for regional economic development
• The role of clusters and other business support organisations in developing regional economies
• The development of the cluster community in the EU and its role in the EU economic growth
• The current level of development of the cluster community in Ukraine
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Thank you!