

Review and preparation of Joint Cluster Initiatives

8 June 2021

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EUROPEAN
CLUSTERS ALLIANCE

Announcement by Commissioner Breton

Commissioner Breton announced **the launch of Euroclusters under the new Joint Cluster Initiative in 2021** to help link ecosystems as innovation agents in cross-sectorial projects in his dialogue with the European Clusters Alliance.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cWi0rhzADcE&t=684s>

The Single Market Programme

*Programme for the Internal market,
Competitiveness of enterprises, including
SMEs, the area of plants, animals, food
and feed, and European Statistics*

MFF 2021-2027



REGULATION (EU) 2021/690 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 28 April 2021 establishing a programme for the internal market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, the area of plants, animals, food and feed, and European statistics (Single Market Programme) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 99/2013, (EU) No 1287/2013, (EU) No 254/2014 and (EU) No 652/2014

The Single Market - corner stone of the European Union

Is the first-ever financial programme to boost the Single Market:

- Strengthen and increase visibility of the Single Market,
- To reach its full potential as engine for growth, jobs and resilience
- Better value for money for EU citizens: improve synergies, coordinate actions, reduce administrative burden
- In a coherent, transparent and more flexible programme structure
- Focus on economic recovery of each industrial ecosystem

Budget of € 4.2 billion over 2021-2027

Pillar 2 Competitiveness and sustainability of SMEs

Activities under the Programme

- Support to businesses, in particular SMEs
- Facilitate access to markets
- Favourable business environment
- Facilitating the development and growth of businesses
- Competitiveness and sustainability of enterprises and whole sectors of economy (connecting ecosystems, clusters)
- Fostering an entrepreneurial business environment and entrepreneurial culture, including through mentoring and mobility schemes

examples

New Joint Cluster Initiative

Enterprise Europe Network to provide an integrated package of advice to SMEs on how to innovate and grow internationally



Support to SMEs

Make the most of business opportunities in Europe and beyond.

“Since clusters offer favourable and resilient business environments, they are a strategic tool for supporting the competitiveness and scaling-up of SMEs. They can facilitate the green and digital transition of industry, including services, and strengthen the economic development of regions through the creation of growth and jobs. It is important that **Joint Cluster Initiatives** achieve **critical mass** since this will accelerate the growth of SMEs.

By **connecting specialised industrial ecosystems**, clusters create new business opportunities for SMEs and integrate them better in Union and global strategic value chains.

Support should be provided for the **development of transnational and interregional partnership strategies** and the **implementation of joint activities**, supported by the **European Cluster Collaboration Platform and its European Resource-Efficiency Knowledge Centre**.

Support should also include **helping SMEs to team up with SMEs from third countries**. Sustainable partnering should be encouraged by providing **continuation funding** if performance and participation milestones are reached.”

“**Direct support to SMEs** should be channeled through cluster organisations for the following:

- promoting the uptake of advanced technologies,
- new business models,
- low-carbon and resource-efficient solutions,
- creativity and design,
- the upgrading of skills,
- the attraction of talent,
- the acceleration of entrepreneurship,
- and internationalisation.”

“**Other specialised SME support actors** should be associated with that direct support to SMEs in order to facilitate industrial transformation and the implementation of smart specialisation strategies.

The Programme should therefore contribute to and build links with the Union’s **innovation hubs**, in particular its **digital innovation hubs**, and investments made under **Cohesion Policy and Horizon Europe**.

Synergies with the **Erasmus+ programme** could also be explored.”

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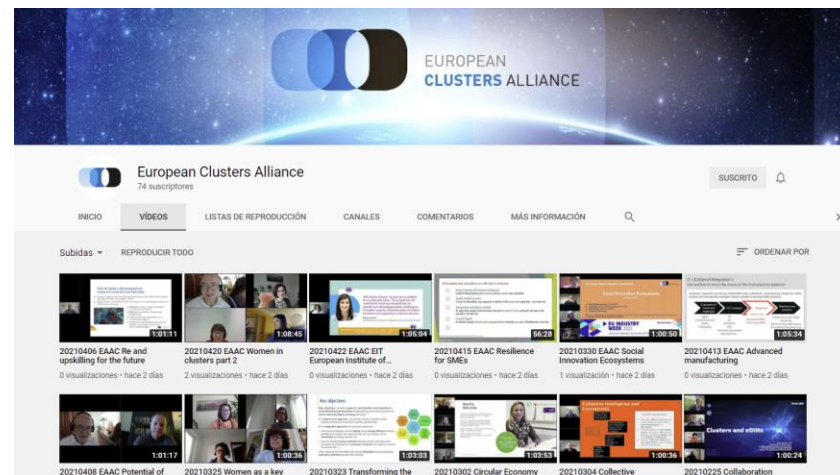
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Thank you!

▶ Next morning session:

Development of the Electronics ecosystem

10 June 2021 at 08:30 CEST

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