



Directorate General for Internal
Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship
and SMEs

Cluster policy developments and exchange of good practices - Introduction

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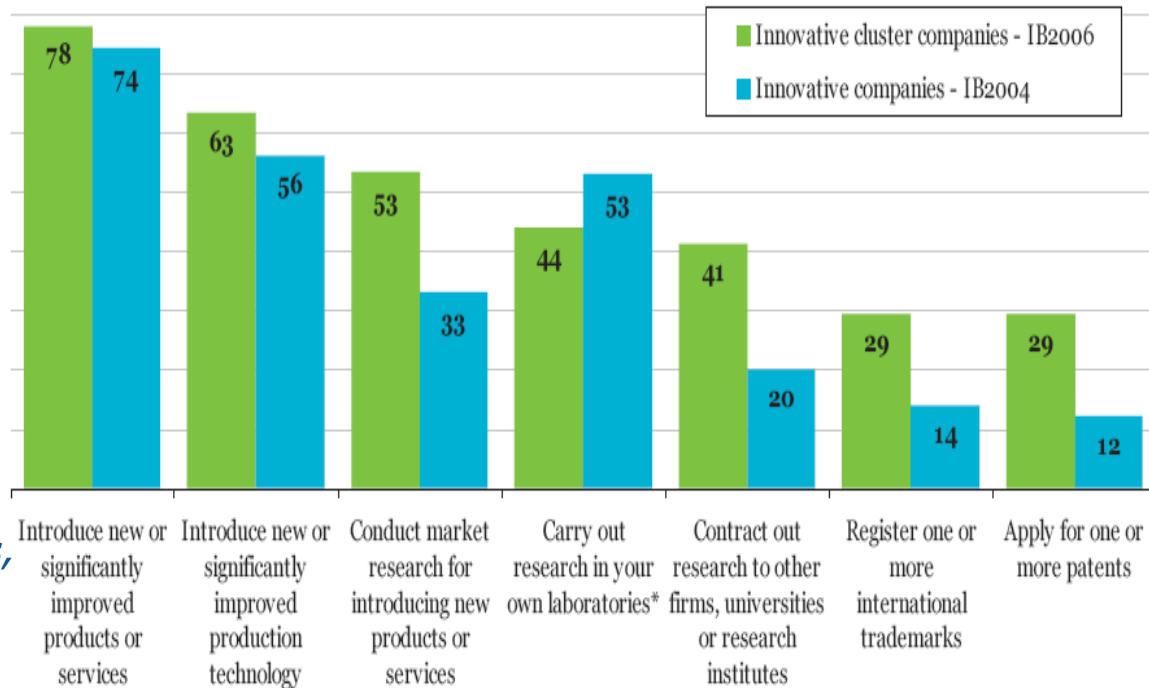
**Unit GROW.F2 – Advanced
Technologies, Clusters and Social
Economy**

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Policy Learning and Matchmaking Event, Zagreb



Clusters matter for growth and jobs! SMEs are more innovative!

Innovation is higher in clusters than elsewhere (a comparison with IB 2004)



Cluster firms...

- **cooperate** more,
- **innovate** more than non-cluster firms,
- register more **trademarks** and apply for more **patents**,
- **produce more (added value)** and secure **better jobs**,
- achieve greater **sales and exports**,
- generate **higher rates of growth** !

Source: European Commission 2006 Innobarometer on clusters' role in facilitating innovation in Europe and 2008 Staff Working Document on the concept of clusters and cluster policies and their role for competitiveness and innovation: Main statistical results and lessons learned. See <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/clusters>

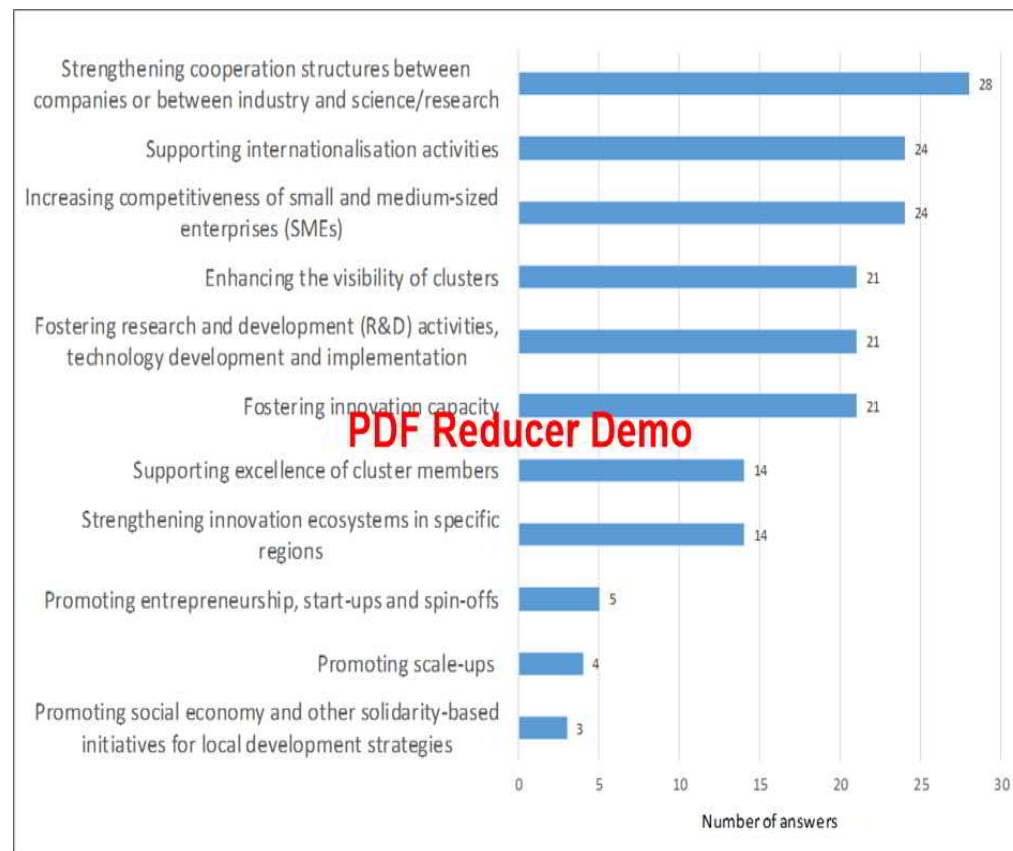


EU Cluster Programmes in the EU – Recent survey results

- In many Member States, clusters are supported through **stand-alone, dedicated programmes**
- **Cluster support programmes exist in 20 EU Member States** (according to a recent survey from the European Observatory for Clusters and Industrial Change on cluster support in the EU)
- In most analysed countries, **cluster programmes** are conceived on the **national level**
 - National and **regional** levels of interventions can also take place (eg. FR, DK)
 - National, regional and **interregional levels** (eg. DE, PL)
- Cluster support can also be **integrated** into broader programmes within:
 - Operational Programmes of the **Structural Funds**
 - **Industrial sectoral programmes**
 - **Smart Specialisation Strategies**
 - **Business development programmes**, including support for SMEs and scale-up

Cluster Programmes in the EU: Main Objectives (1)

- **Cooperation** among companies and between industry and science/research
- **Internationalisation** activities
- SMEs **competitiveness**
- Selective importance of **entrepreneurship/ start-ups/ spin-offs / scale-ups** support e.g., **Germany, France** (scale-ups); **Poland, Romania, Hungary**



Cluster Strategic Objectives in the EU (2)

A large number of cluster programmes pursues between

- **five and nine objectives**, but others
- **a limited number of objectives**,

e.g., **Germany** and **Poland** with different programmes (innovation vs. internationalisation).

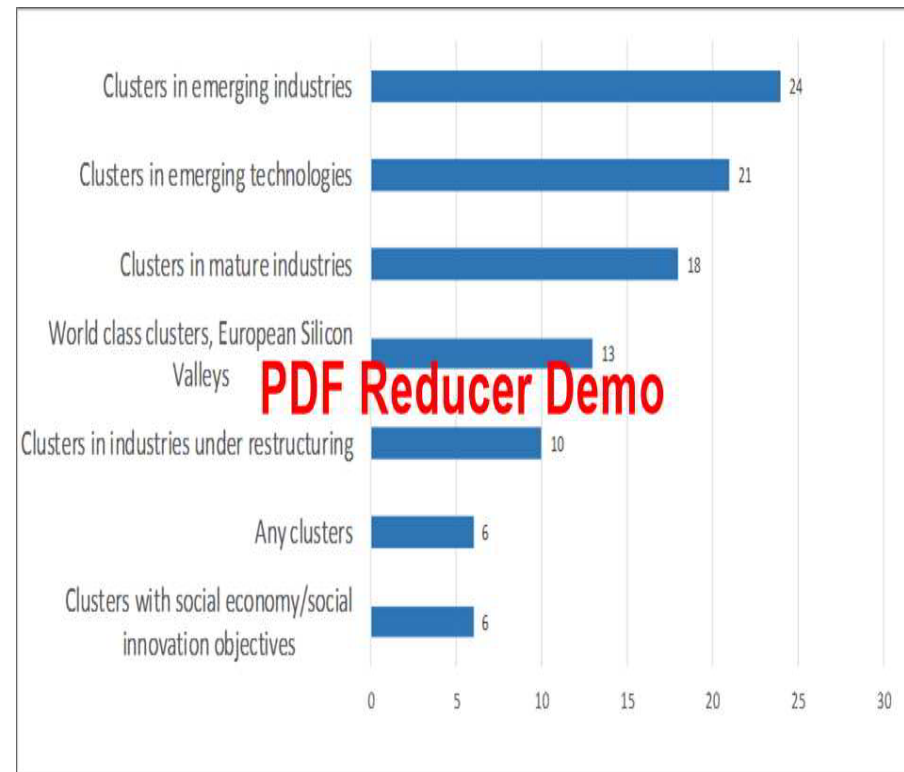
Cluster programmes **target emerging industries** and/ or **emerging technologies** (24 programmes).

But clusters in **mature industries** or in **industries under restructuring** also receive considerable attention.

Many countries have **mix of mature & emerging**: AT; CZ, DK, EE, ES, FR, DE, GR, HU, PL, PT, RO, SL, SW

World-class clusters (*'Silicon Valleys'*) also a fairly popular strategy, e.g., A, CZ, FR, DE, HU, PO, RO, SW

Support with **social economy / social innovation** objectives an emerging strategy, e.g., AT, GR, LT

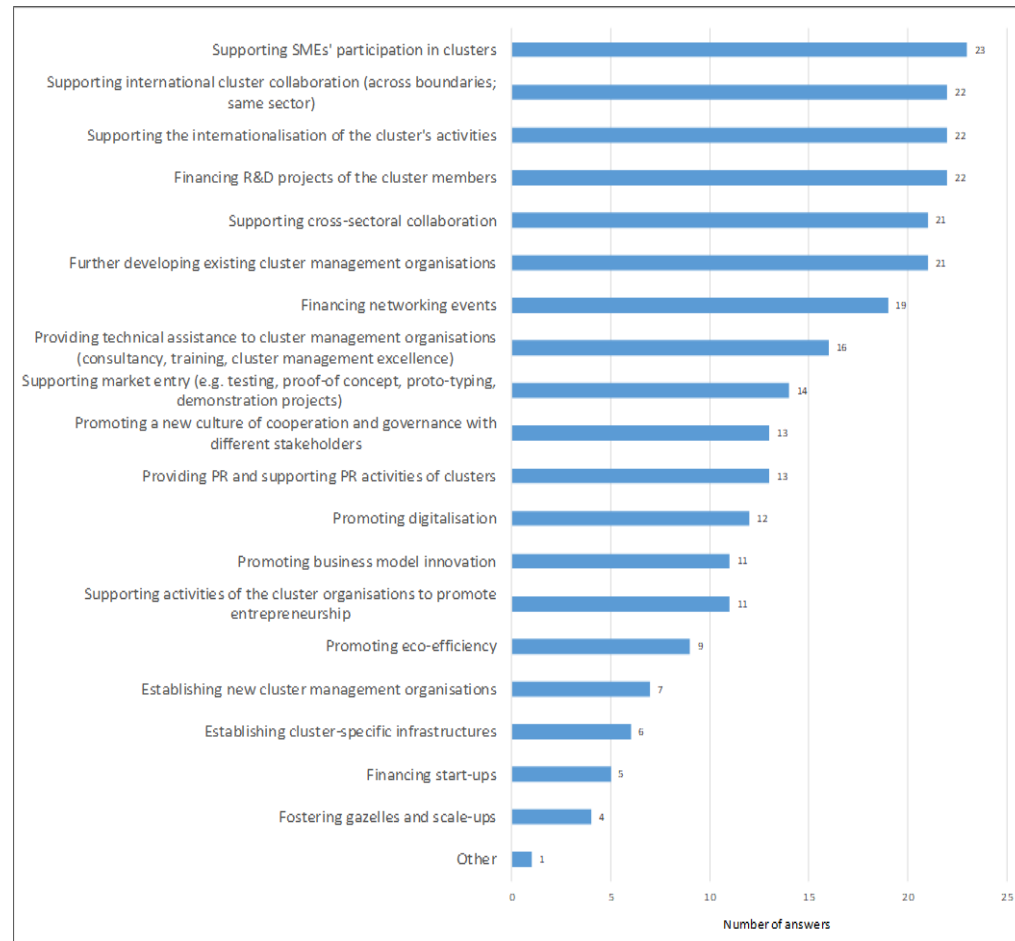


Clusters programmes Support Measures

The most important measures to support clusters are related to fostering:

- **SME engagement** in clusters,
- **research and development** activities,
- **internationalisation**

But a wide array of measures in place!



How Clusters get their funding across the EU

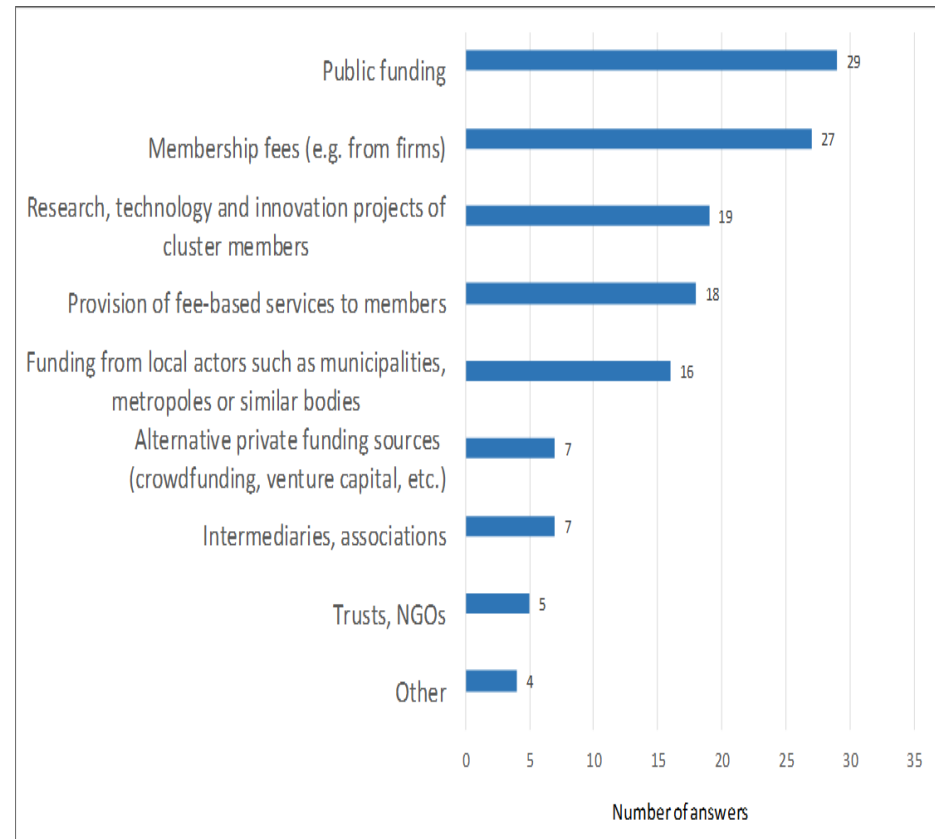
Government funding is very important, and **regional**, local as well

Membership fees (SMEs)

Fee-based services such as

- R&D projects facilitation; other

Other private funding sources, e.g., venture capital





Favourable momentum!

- All participants in the survey stated that cluster programmes will:
 - ◆ **be maintained** or
 - ◆ **increase** their importance in the coming years. Examples:

Estonia	Estonia successively operates a cluster programme (https://www.eas.ee/teenus/development-of-clusters/?lang=en)
France	Cluster competitiveness policy ; new phase starting 2019 with European objectives http://competitivite.gouv.fr/
Malta	There are plans to develop a cluster programme in the future. Clusters are supported in maritime industries, aviation, digital industries and design.
Germany	Currently more than 4 programmes in place (eg. Go cluster programme, Internationalisation of leading-Edge Clusters, Innovation For a SMEs, etc.)
Poland	Currently several programmes in place. The most important ones are: Internationalization of the Key National Cluster Programme http://poir.parp.gov.pl/poir233/poddzialanie-2-3-3-umiedzynarodowienie-krajowych-klastrow-kluczowych
Portugal	Competitiveness Cluster - www.iapmei.pt / Clusters de Competitividade



More information

EU Cluster Portal:

<http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/cluster/>

European Strategic Cluster Partnerships

<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/eu-cluster-partnerships>

European Cluster Collaboration Platform

<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/>

COSME calls

<https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/cosme>

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Thank you for your attention!