



## European Cluster Policy Forum

22 February 2018

Crowne Plaza Hotel & Covent Garden Building, Place Rogier, 1210 Brussels

### Draft agenda

The first meeting of the European Cluster Policy Forum, organised as part of the EU Industry Day, will gather 35-50 representatives from national authorities, European Commission officials, invited experts and representatives of the European Observatory for Clusters and Industrial Change to discuss modern cluster policies. A particular focus will be placed on how to make better use of clusters for driving industrial change and growth. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the latest development of European cluster initiatives and to share good practices to promote mutual cluster policy learning. The discussions shall address orientations, impacts and difficulties of EU, national and regional cluster initiatives. Participants will be able to outline where they see needs for policy action, including at EU level, also in view of jointly setting the agenda for future meetings.

### 21 February 2018

**18:30- 21:00** EU Cluster networking hosted by the European Cluster Collaboration Platform together with the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate (Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre, Avenue du Boulevard 17, at Place Rogier)

### 22 February 2018

**08:00-09:00** Registration to EU Industry Day (open to the public):  
(Crowne Plaza Hotel, Rue Gineste 3 at Place Rogier)

**09:00-11.10** High-level Plenary Opening of [EU Industry Day](#) with keynote speeches

Welcome, Lowri Evans, Director-General for the Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship & SMEs

Opening Keynote: Towards a smart, innovative and sustainable industry, Jyrki Katainen, European Commission Vice-President for Jobs, Growth, Investment & Competitiveness

Report from informal Competitiveness Council

Future of work: automation or co-creation?

Inspirational Talk: The future of entrepreneurship (title tbc)

**11:15-11:30** *Coffee & networking*  
(Covent Garden, tbc, Place Rogier 16)

*Please allow sufficient time for accessing Covent Garden located opposite the Crown Plaza).*

**11:30-13:00** European Cluster Policy Forum (by invitation only) – morning session  
(Covent Garden, tbc, Place Rogier 16)

**11:30-11:40** **Opening** of the European Cluster Policy Forum by Antti Peltomaki, Deputy Director-General General for the Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission

**11:40-13:00** **Tour de Table:** representatives of Member States are invited to briefly introduce themselves, give a brief overview of their cluster policies and share good practices and obstacles

**13:00-14:10** *Lunch & networking*

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**14:10- 18:00 European Cluster Policy Forum - afternoon session  
(Covent Garden, tbc)**

- 14:10-14:30 **Overview of EU Cluster Policies and challenges ahead**, Ulla Engelmann, Head of Unit responsible for Clusters, Social Economy and Entrepreneurship, DG GROW, European Commission
- 14:30-14:40 **Outcomes of the GROWyourREGION conference** on Boosting interregional collaboration through clusters and lessons learned from interregional cluster projects for new industrial value chains, Carsten Schierenbeck, Team Leader, Clusters, Social Economy and Entrepreneurship unit, DG GROW, European Commission
- 14:40-14:50 **Regional perspective:** presentation of Wallonia, one of the pilot regions in industrial transition receiving support services to develop modern cluster policy under the European Observatory of Clusters and Industrial Change, Florence Hennart, Economic Policy Department, Public Service of Wallonia Region
- 14.50-15:20 **Questions & Answers**
- 15:20-16:10 **Jointly setting the agenda for future cluster policy discussions**, inspired by three impulse presentations:
- **Clusters, entrepreneurship and support for scaling-up of SMEs**, Prof dr Erik Stam, Utrecht University School of Economics and Utrecht Center for Entrepreneurship
  - **European cluster excellence labelling experience**, Thomas Lämmer-Gamp, VDI/VDE, European Secretariat for Cluster Analysis
  - **Fostering cluster internationalisation through European Strategic Cluster Partnerships - Overview of preliminary results**, Marc Pattinson, European Cluster Collaboration Platform
- 16:10-17:50 **Tour de Table:** representatives of Member States are invited to present their main views on EU cluster policy, its challenges and what topics should be discussed in the next three meetings
- 17:50-18:00 **Closing with conclusions and next steps**, Ulla Engelmann, Head of Unit, European Commission

**18:00- 20:00 Opening of exhibition showcasing EU initiatives supporting industrial modernisation & cocktail  
(Covent Garden)**

**Practical information**

Participants are kindly asked to register for the EU Industry Day in order to be able to access the lunch & networking part and join the High-level plenary opening, after which the European Cluster Policy Forum will be launched (by invitation only). Each participant will receive a separate email with a link for the registration. Participants that arrive already on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February are also invited to join an EU cluster networking reception, hosted by the European Cluster Collaboration Platform together with the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate. European cluster managers that are participating in the Clusters Go International partnering event and EU Cluster matchmaking event will also participate in this event. The outcomes of the European Cluster Policy Forum are foreseen to feed also into the discussions on the second day of the EU Industry Day on 23 February in the session from 13:30-15:00 on "Clusters and Partnerships for stronger EU value chains". More information at



EU Industry Day :[https://ec.europa.eu/growth/content/second-european-industry-day\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/growth/content/second-european-industry-day_en)

EU Cluster portal: [http://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/cluster\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/cluster_en)

**#EUIndustryDay @Clusters\_EU**