



Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Analyses and reflections on needs for cluster policy actions

Annalisa Tessarolo
GROW F.2
Emerging industries
team

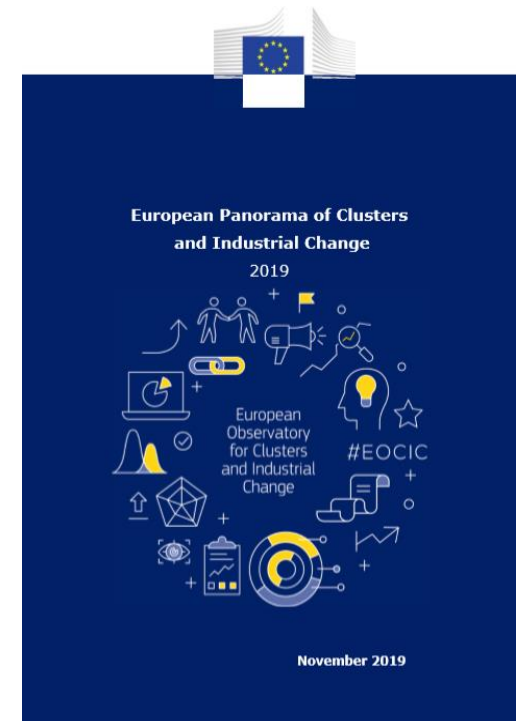
Gold-label clusters event
Brussels, 4 December 2019

The European dimension

To be published by the end of 2019

- Cluster strengths and development trends across 51 traded sectoral industries & 10 emerging industries
- Linkages between clusters & industrial change, entrepreneurship, growth, innovation, internationalisation and economic development

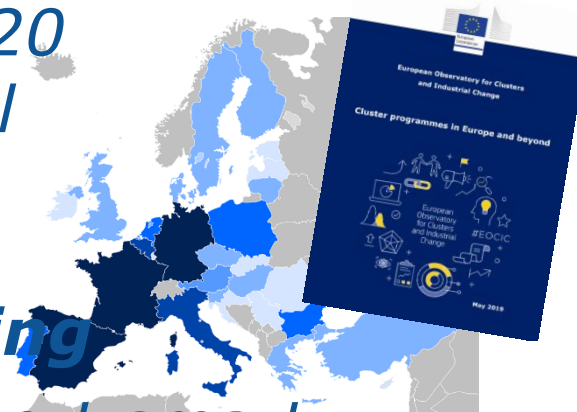
Clusters matter



The national dimension

<https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/news/report-cluster-programmes-europe-and-beyond>

- **31 national cluster programmes** in 20 European countries: supporting industrial transformation and scaling-up of SMEs
- **High importance for regions investing €2.32 billion** (ESIF) in clusters to support smart specialisation strategies
- **Used internationally as a tool to promote growth**, e.g. Canada's industrial Supercluster
- **Discussed at Expert Group on Clusters**





European Commission

The regional dimension

<https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/news/summary-report-cluster-policy-regions>

Develop a comprehensive strategy for 10 regions in industrial transition to foster regional economic transformation, identify collaboration, funding connect with others

Many of the challenges addressed in the Policy Briefing Reports are common to several pilot regions, although the responses to these challenges are tailored to the region's profile

JOINT CHALLENGES



Lack of access, opportunities and awareness of research & innovation infrastructure hampers SME participation



Insufficient collaboration and cooperation between different actors in the regional ecosystem



Need to improve productivity by moving to higher added value networks and value chains



Need to increase cluster management capabilities and capacities



Need to reinvigorate the entrepreneurial dynamic (e.g. financing, entrepreneurial discovery, internationalisation, skills gaps)

WHERE?

East & North Finland
North Middle Sweden
Hauts-de-France
Wallonia
Centre-Val de Loire

East & North Finland
North Middle Sweden
Lithuania
Piemonte
Cantabria
Wallonia
Saxony

East & North Finland
Slovenia
Lithuania

Cantabria
Slovenia
Lithuania
North Middle Sweden
Piemonte

East & North Finland
North Middle Sweden
Piemonte
Wallonia
Centre-Val de Loire



Summary Report on Lessons learnt from fostering modern Cluster Policy in regions in industrial transition

The entrepreneurship dimension

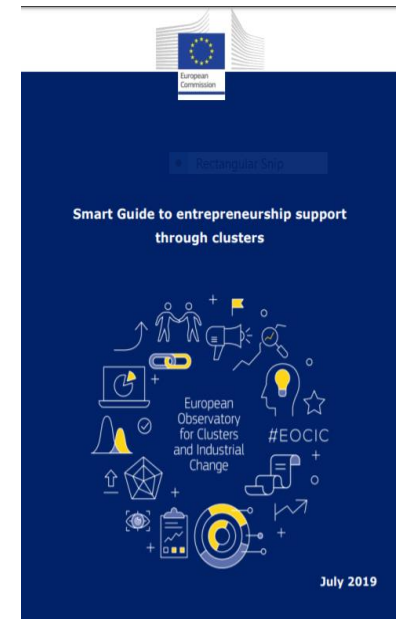
<https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/news/eocic-smart-guide-entrepreneurship-support-through-clusters>

DO's

- Gather a diverse group of **stakeholders**
- Analyse **local entrepreneurial conditions**
- **Co-design/co-implement** entrepreneurship programmes with cluster members
- **Differentiate** among needs
- Identify, engage & **use cluster initiatives**
- Facilitate creation of **networks of start-ups and scale-ups**
- **Break out** of existing policy silo patterns

DON'Ts

- One organisation **on their own**
- Stand-alone and **fragmented** actions
- New/changed entrepreneurship programme **without consulting**
- **No one-size-fits** all approach
- Don't just increase the number of **start-ups**
- Don't just launch a business plan **competition**
- Don't focus only on **one policy**



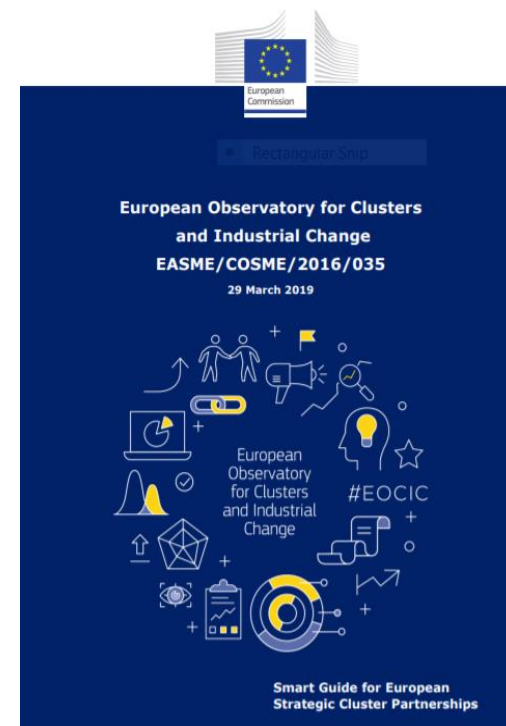
- **12 good-practice** examples
- **Linkages** between clusters, industrial change, entrepreneurship growth, innovation, Internationalisation, economic development.

The partnering dimension

<https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/news/smart-guide-european-strategic-cluster-partnerships-escp>

Guidance to existing/future European Cluster Partnerships on how to develop a sound partnership strategy, a list of shared actions & an implementation roadmap to achieve joint projects & investments

- Recommendations + overview of good practices
- Importance of analysis of the **partners' competences, complementarities & synergy potential**
- Importance of **value chain analysis** to understand the value that each member can add to implement the defined strategy.





A few takeaways

- **Clusters *matter***
- **Wide *variety* of initiatives** to support clusters across Europe
- **Clusters are a *catalyst*** for industrial transition
- Clusters play a **key role in *fostering entrepreneurship***



Thank you

<https://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/cluster>
<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/>

[@Clusters_EU](https://twitter.com/Clusters_EU)



Advanced Technologies, Clusters and Social Economy unit (GROW.F2)
Innovation and Advanced Manufacturing Directorate

European Commission's Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
GROW-CLUSTERS@EC.EUROPA.EU