



The Role of Cluster for Recovery: Green and Digital Transition Fostering Resilience

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Background on Recovery

EU budget powering recovery

Investing in a green, digital and resilient Europe

Supporting Member States to recover



- Recovery and Resilience Facility
- Recovery Assistance for Cohesion and the Territories of Europe - REACT-EU
- Reinforced rural development programmes
- Reinforced Just Transition Mechanism

Within European Semester framework

- Supporting investments and reforms
- Supporting a just transition

Kick-starting the economy and helping private investment



- Solvency Support Instrument
- Strategic Investment Facility
- Strengthened InvestEU programme

- Supporting key sectors and technologies
- Investing in key value chains
- Solvency support for viable companies

Learning the lessons from the crisis



- New Health programme
- Reinforced rescEU
- Reinforced programmes for research, innovation and external action

- Supporting key programmes for future crises
- Supporting global partners

RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE FACILITY

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR NATIONAL RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLANS



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RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE FACILITY

FLAGSHIP AREAS FOR INVESTMENTS AND REFORMS

POWER UP

CLEAN TECHNOLOGIES AND RENEWABLES

RENOVATE

ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF BUILDINGS

RECHARGE AND REFUEL

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT AND CHARGING STATIONS

CONNECT

ROLL-OUT OF RAPID BROADBAND SERVICES

MODERNISE

DIGITALISATION OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

SCALE-UP

DATA CLOUD CAPACITIES AND SUSTAINABLE PROCESSORS

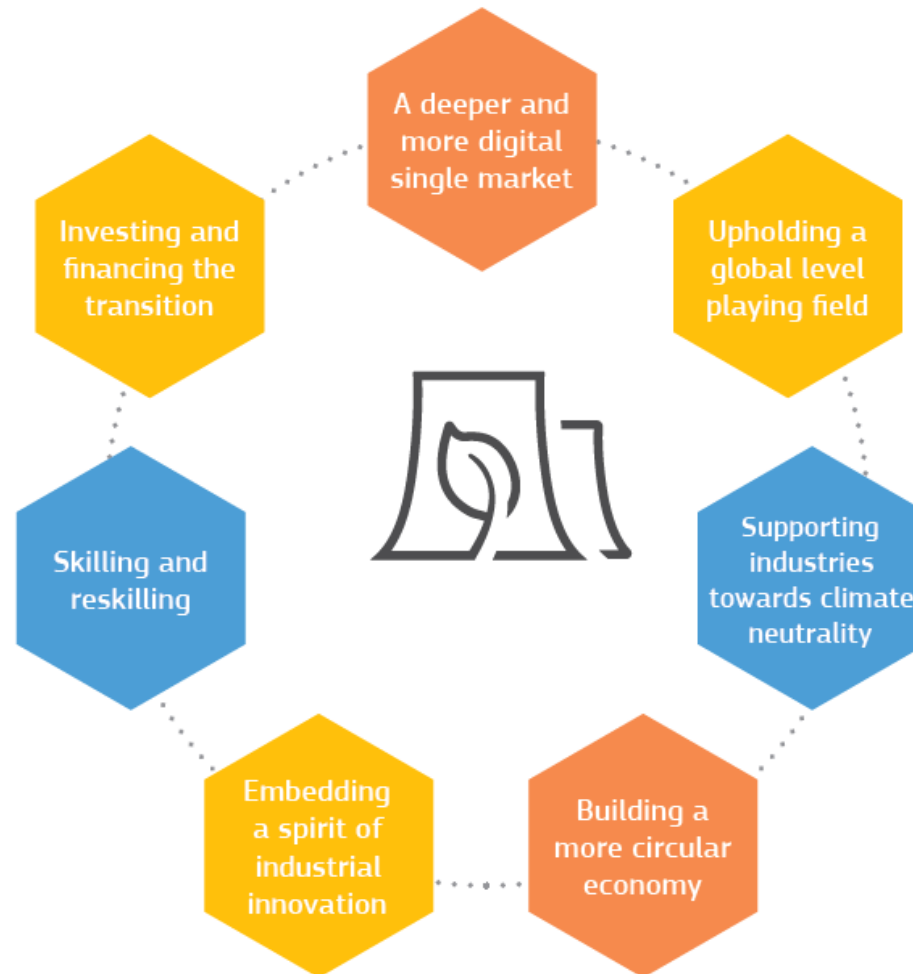
RESKILL AND UPSKILL

EDUCATION AND TRAINING TO SUPPORT DIGITAL SKILLS

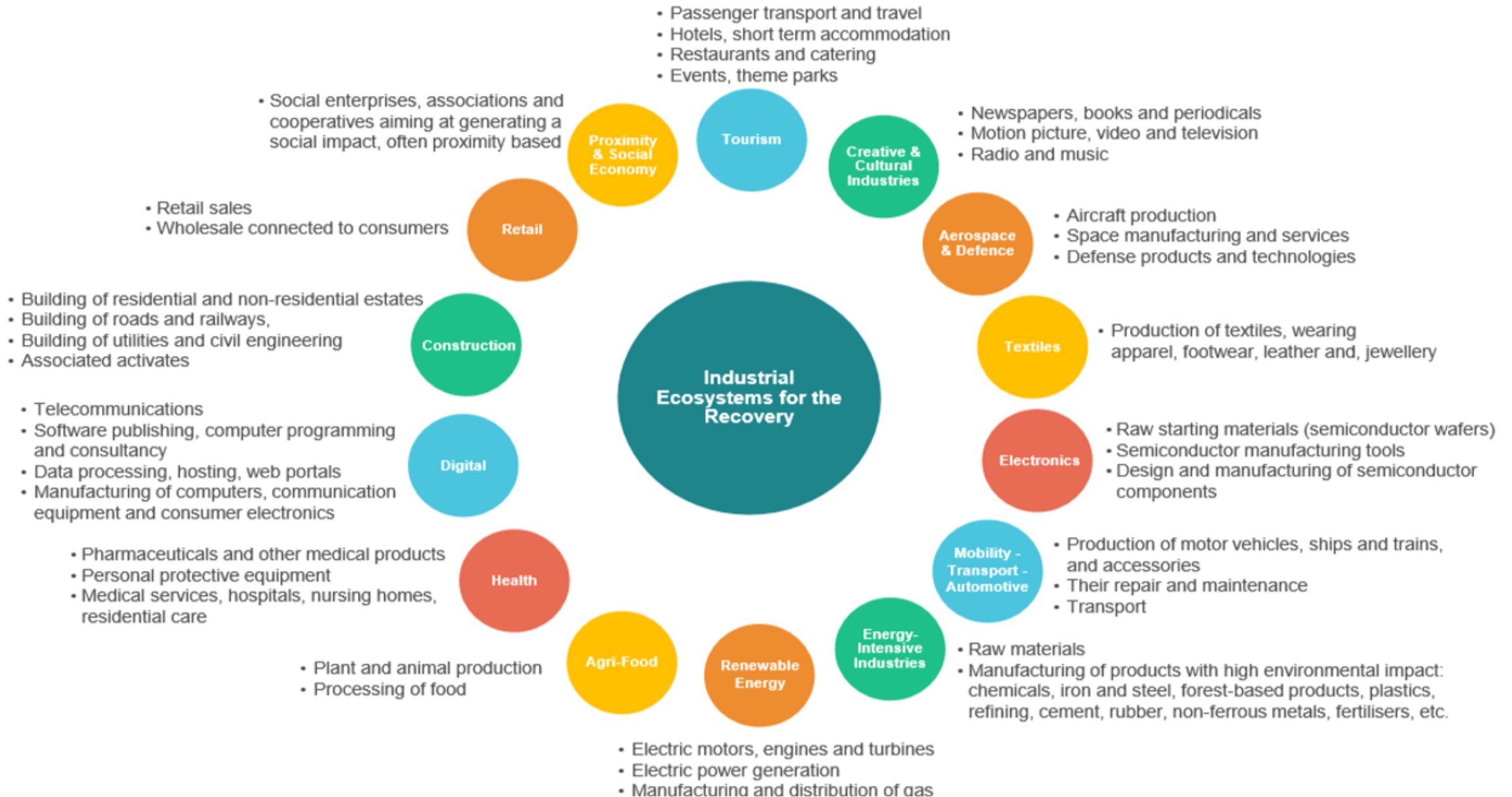
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Industrial Policy

Industrial Strategy for a globally competitive, green and digital Europe



Industrial ecosystems in Europe: overview



Focus on Clusters in Recovery

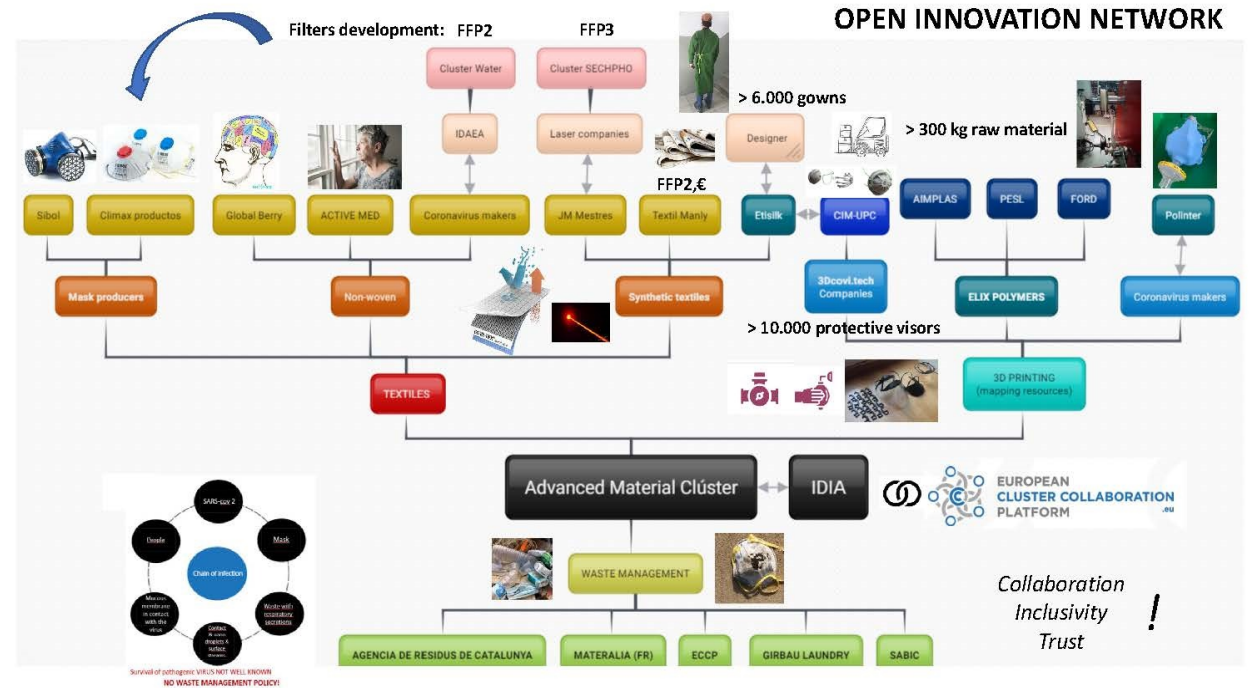
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Proven strong and resilient partners

During the COVID-19 crisis, clusters have quickly adapted their activities, demonstrating

- their agility
- quick reaction capacity to drive change
- crucial role in making European value chains across the 14 industrial ecosystems more resilient

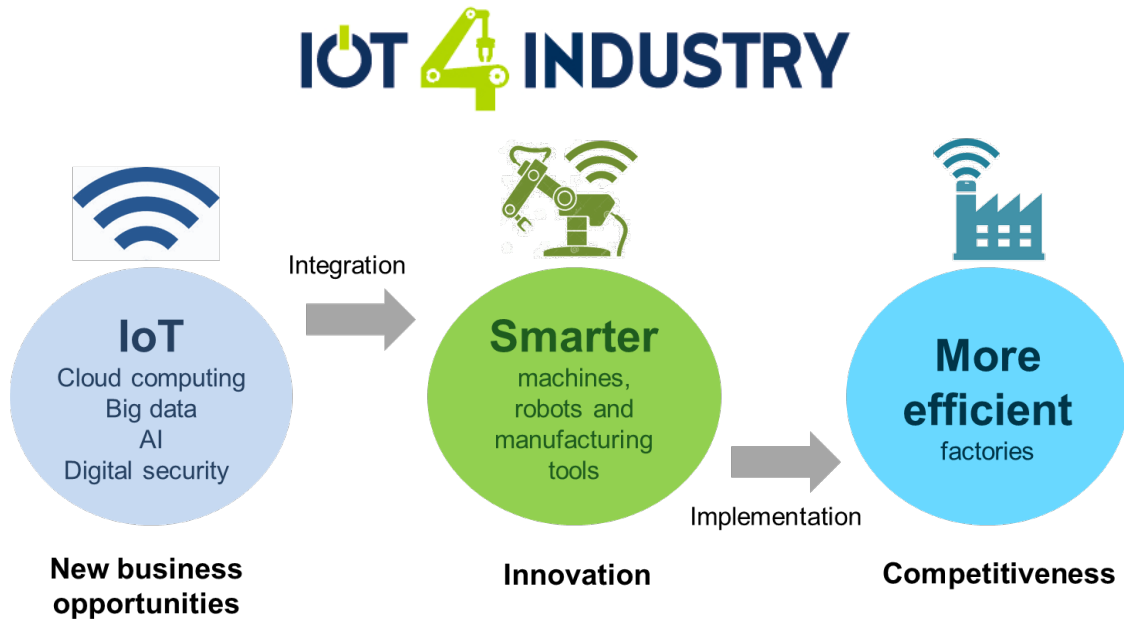
- ❖ Creation of new networks to increase the production of FFP2 and FFP3 masks and link 3D printings capacities between manufacturers, material suppliers and civic makers community
- ❖ **EU Rapid Alert Function:** European Clusters Alliance (ECA) detected and analysed 84 disruptions in European value and supply chains
- ❖ Mobilising clusters members across EU in daily interactive meetings to provide solutions for identified issues and bottlenecks caused by the COVID-19



2 Key tool for innovation projects

Clusters bridge SMEs, large companies and research for the development and execution of innovation projects

- ➔ strategic partner to deliver flagship areas such as *Power up* or *Scale-up*
- ➔ integrate business, research, public administration, civil society/users in the ecosystem
- ➔ well positioned to effectively accelerate an uptake of advanced technologies



With **5** million € and **2** open calls,
7 clusters managed to fund
40 projects in **20** industrial sectors,
involving **112** organisations, incl. **84** SMEs



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Ideal partner to channel funding for sustainable growth

Clusters are already operational in all Member States and across all industrial ecosystems

- hold real-time information on economic, technological development of companies and their needs
- can help saving resources and sharing knowledge, expertise to make investments in the recovery sustainable
- have experience in cascade funding from Horizon 2020 implementation
- direct relay in various industrial sectors to ensure fast and direct communication towards thousands of large firms, SMEs, research centres and public services supporting recovery



Galician automotive cluster

- Full sectorial recovery plan proposed to Regional Government of Galicia for relevant investments in skilling digital transformation and cooperation between companies
- Sectorial guide of preventive measures to finance protection of workers and adaptation to COVID-19



Romanian innovation cluster

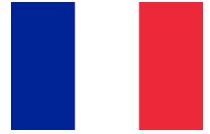
- Help designing programme for Romanian hospitals to address COVID-19 pandemic
- Fund development for urgently needed protection supplies and disinfection tunnels
- Start-up from IMAGO-MOL cluster to produce medical face shields

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Committed actors in national recovery & resilience plans

Clusters are excellent facilitators connecting bottom-up requests and top-down initiatives

- help adapting policy instruments to the needs and opportunities of the European industry
- can accelerate job creation, economic and social resilience by mobilizing their members
- can foster synergies between different sectors



Recommendations from 7 clusters were considered by the French Government for the national recovery plan, focusing on concrete actions for materials processing industries, to help SMEs launching innovations projects and to rethink industrial value chains in view of improving self-sufficiency



Clusters have been providing suggestions for the recovery plans through the economic advisory expert group connecting more in regional transformation priorities, increase their role in international R&D&I on sustainability and to be more active on business internationalisation

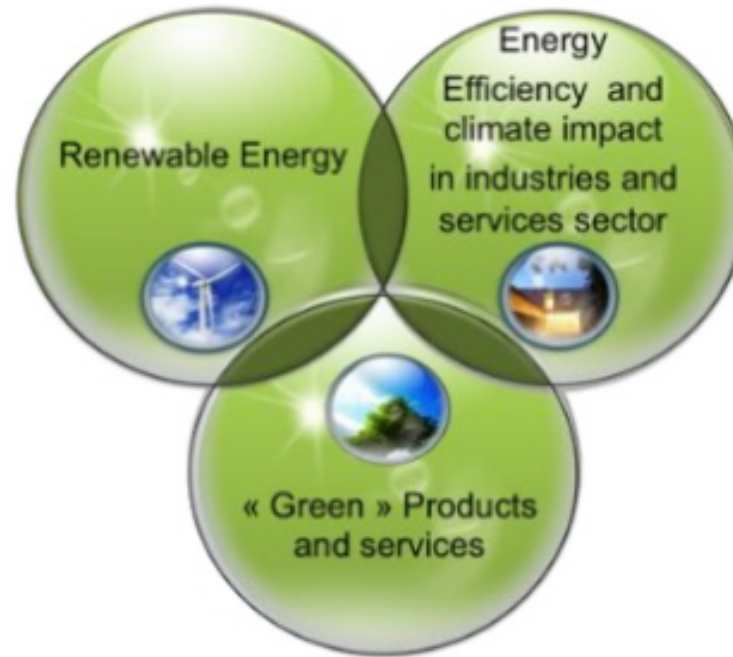
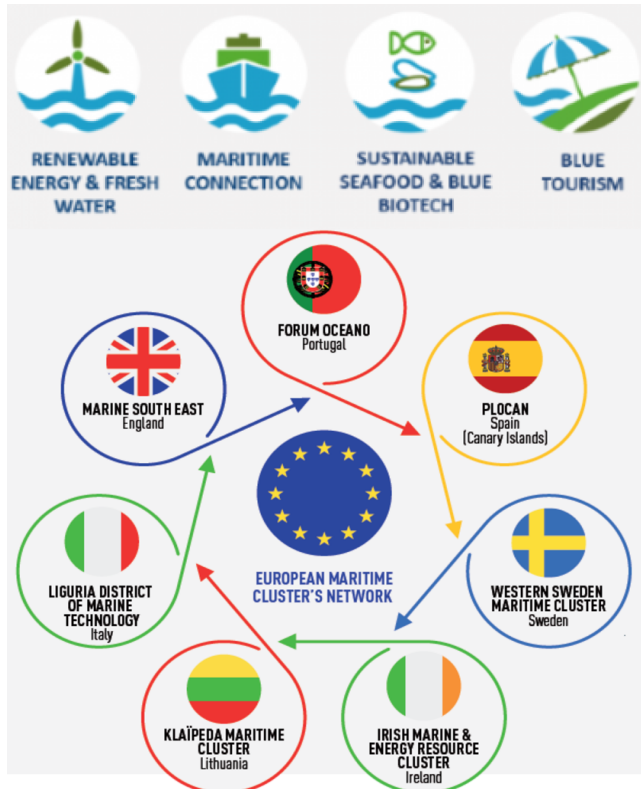


5 key clusters of the Spanish innovation system have been working together with different ministries and regions to suggest funding schemes and projects for the economic recovery

5 Drivers for Green transition

Clusters engaged in the transformation of European economy towards sustainability

- ➔ 250 green clusters registered on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform
- ➔ have the network and contacts to unleash sizeable sustainable transformation
- ➔ can act as catalysts by bringing together various actors from different ecosystems & Member States



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Drivers for Digital transition

Clusters engaged in the transformation of European economy towards digitalisation

- ➔ 400 digital clusters registered on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform
- ➔ foster the uptake of technologies
- ➔ cooperation between Digital Innovation Hubs and clusters to accelerate digital transition

Our projects



DIH2

Its objective is the digital transformation of manufacturing SMEs through robotics



Digital Innovative Transilvania 2.0

It aims to bring a competitive advantage to regional SMEs with the help of tech and soft trainings



REFLOW

It aims to transform the urban metabolism by co-designing the circular economy of cities



The Digitalization Strategy of Cluj-Napoca

It envelops an analysis of the digital transformation capabilities of the institution and suggest a digital transformation model for 2020- 2027



AGRIFOOD
DIGITAL INNOVATION HUB



European
Commission



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Having demonstrated how agile, flexible and creative they can be since the beginning of the pandemic, Clusters are in an ideal position to lead the European green and digital transitions and help to develop essential industrial and economic resilience as Europe recovers from the impact of COVID-19

”

Thierry Breton, Commissioner for Internal Market at the European Cluster Conference 2020 (10/11/2020)

EUROPEAN CLUSTER CONFERENCE 2020

PANEL DISCUSSION



Clusters assets

- ❖ Already set-up and running in every Member State and across ecosystems
- ❖ Gathering different actors but working for a common goal
- ❖ Foster to make full sense of benefit of the Single Market
- ❖ Can address the Green and Digital transitions while increasing resilience
- ❖ Connect the whole value chain and have insight about future

Latest EU calls for proposals open to Clusters



€7.5 M AVAILABLE

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

CLUSTERS GO INTERNATIONAL

APPLY BY 02 DECEMBER!

#COSME_EU

Support common actions among clusters strengthening European SMEs access to specific third markets and initiating a long-term cooperation agenda with strategic partners in third countries

- 6.6 M€ for all sectors except defence & security (12 partnerships)
- 0.9 M€ for defence & security sector (2 partnerships)



€5 M AVAILABLE

Call for proposals

Strategic alliances for the uptake of advanced technologies by SMEs on the economic recovery

Apply by 02 February 2021!

#COSME_EU

Support actions among clusters in order to boost collaboration opportunities between tech-savvy SMEs and traditional SMEs. Increase the adoption of advanced technologies in traditional SMEs and help EU tech-savvy SMEs to expand their market potential in the EU. Funding of 2 cluster partnerships



€6 M AVAILABLE

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

European Cluster Excellence Programme with ClusterXchange scheme connecting ecosystems and cities

Apply by 02 February 2021!

#COSME_EU

Strengthen cluster management excellence & facilitate strategic connections fostering cluster capacity building & SME competitiveness, including through ClusterXchange mobility scheme, by funding up to 12 partnerships

For further information:

<https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/open-calls>

Keep in touch



European Commission – DG GROW

https://ec.europa.eu/info/departments/internal-market-industry-entrepreneurship-and-smes_en



European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP)

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



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<https://www.linkedin.com/company/european-cluster-collaboration-platform-eccp/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/resource-efficient/>

Thank you



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