

The ClusterXchange scheme

ClusterXchange is a **programme to support short-term exchanges to better connect Europe's industrial ecosystems**. It aims to facilitate transnational cooperation, peer learning, networking and innovation uptake between actors member of a cluster within a similar or from different industrial ecosystems. It is implemented by the selected European Cluster Partnerships | Excellence (Partnerships).

Exchanges can be used to:

- Learn from actors in another cluster;
- Explore growth opportunities in new markets;
- Take up new technologies, digitalisation and green low-carbon solutions;
- Invest in strategic interregional collaboration.

Participants (visitors and hosts) of a transnational exchange can be representatives of **cluster organisations and similar business network organisations, scaling-up support organisations** (such as tech centres, research institutes, (digital) innovation hubs, fab labs, creative hubs, resource-efficiency service providers, incubators, accelerators) and SMEs that are cluster members from countries participating in the COSME programme.

ClusterXchange specifics:

- **Contribution Funding:** lump sums available for visitors for travel and accommodation expenses
- **Period of stay:** exchanges can last from three working days up to one month
- **How to apply:** Cluster members can express their interest or questions to the European Cluster Collaboration Platform, hosting the ClusterXchange IT Tool, and will be supported by specific Partnerships



Contact us at:

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Visit our portal:

www.clustercollaboration.eu and
clustercollaboration.eu/clusterxchange for
detailed information on the European Cluster
Collaboration Platform, the ClusterXchange
scheme and the Partnerships.



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European Cluster Partnerships | Excellence

The initiative strengthening strategic inter-regional cooperation, capacity building and networking between industrial ecosystems.

www.clustercollaboration.eu



The European Cluster Partnerships | Excellence

The European Cluster Partnerships | Excellence (Partnerships) aim to increase the competitiveness of SMEs by strengthening cluster management excellence, facilitating strategic exchanges and partnering between clusters and specialised industrial eco-systems across Europe.

These transnational cluster partnerships have been selected under the European Cluster Excellence Programme of the European Commission. The Partnerships are supported by funding from the COSME programme to facilitate cross-cluster networking and learning, aiming at the professionalisation of specialised and customised business support services to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

The Partnerships' core activities

- Cluster management skill development to boost excellence in delivering SME support
- Cluster strategy setting at individual and European partnership levels
- Twinning, networking, and joint collaboration activities to support SMEs
- Implementation of the new ClusterXchange scheme (see overleaf)

The Partnerships and applicants of the ClusterXchange scheme are supported by the ClusterXchange Support Office, part of the European Cluster Collaboration Platform, which can be contacted via email (clusterxchange@clustercollaboration.eu).

The European Cluster Collaboration Platform offers the possibility to interact, publish achievements and news, promote international events and receive access to networking tools. Access it here: www.clustercollaboration.eu.

Geographical and sectoral coverage of the Partnerships

15 Partnerships will implement the Excellence programme from February 2022 until January 2024, bringing together 78 cluster organisations from 23 different COSME participating countries across 9 different industrial ecosystems.

