

Setting the scene: Market access information session

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Economic profile of India

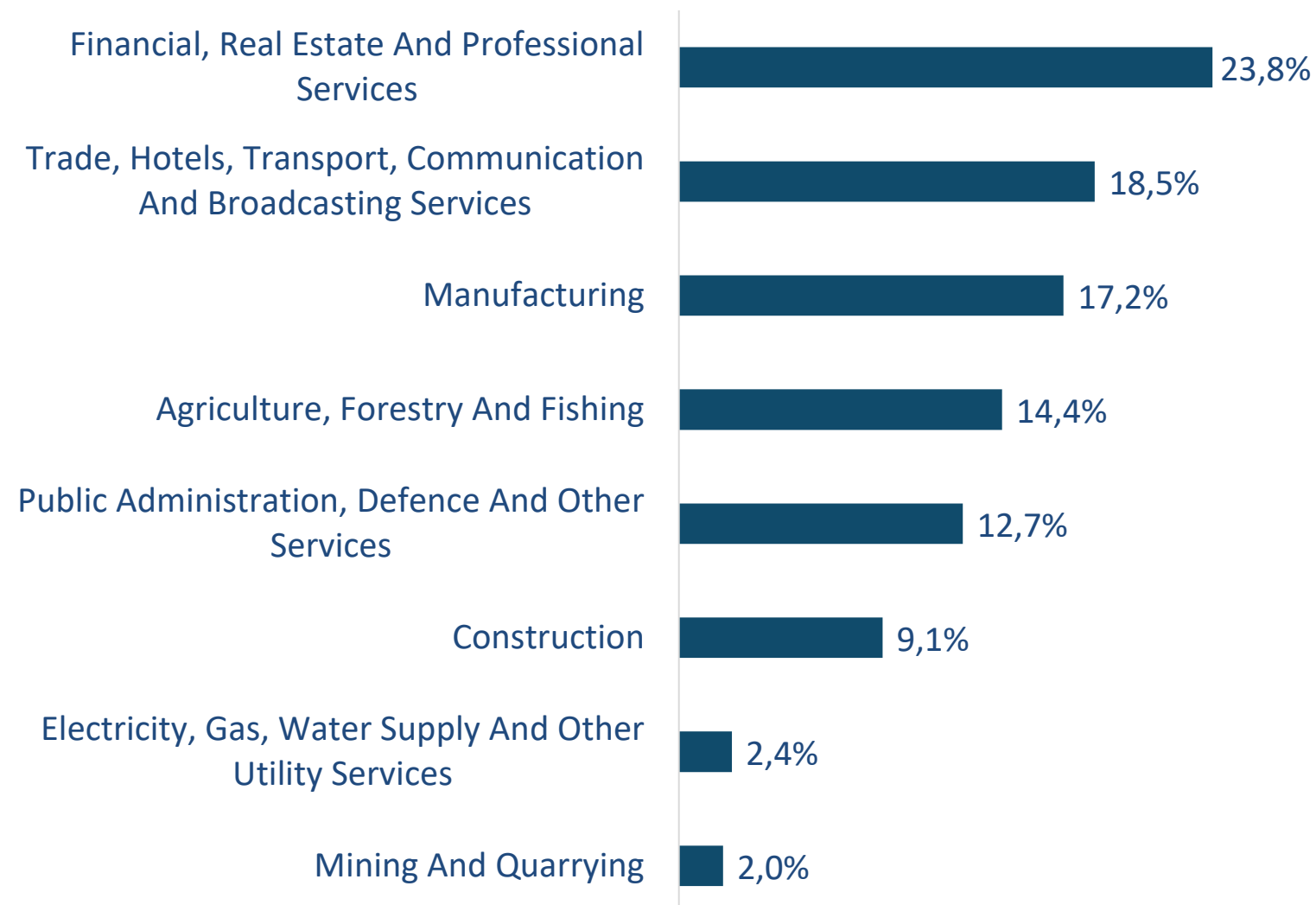
General characteristics of the economy:

- Over the last 30 years, **India's GDP** grew from EUR 537 billion to EUR 3,134 billion (constant 2015 EUR) in 2024 – an average annual growth rate of 6%
- One of the **fastest-growing economies** in recent years
- India is the world's **4th biggest economy**

Predominant sectors:

- Strong services, with **IT as the driving force behind the growth** of the Indian service sector
- **ICT alone accounts for 30% of Indian exports**
- Services account for 57.4% of Indian GVA
- Manufacturing as well as agriculture represent relevant shares of the Indian economy

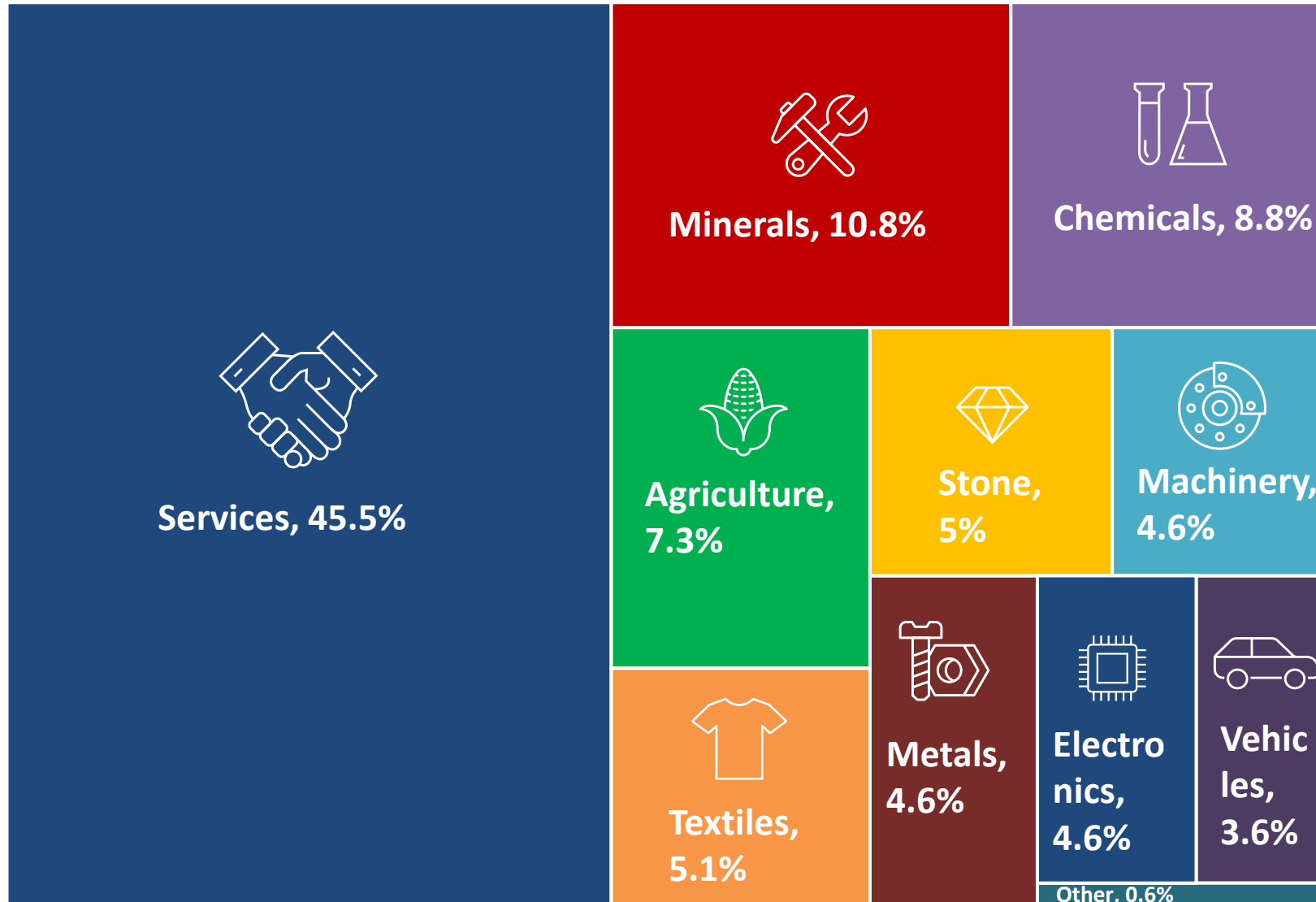
GVA share by sector, 2024



Source: ECCP (2025), own calculation based on data from the Government of India.

Economic profile of India

Export structure of India, 2023



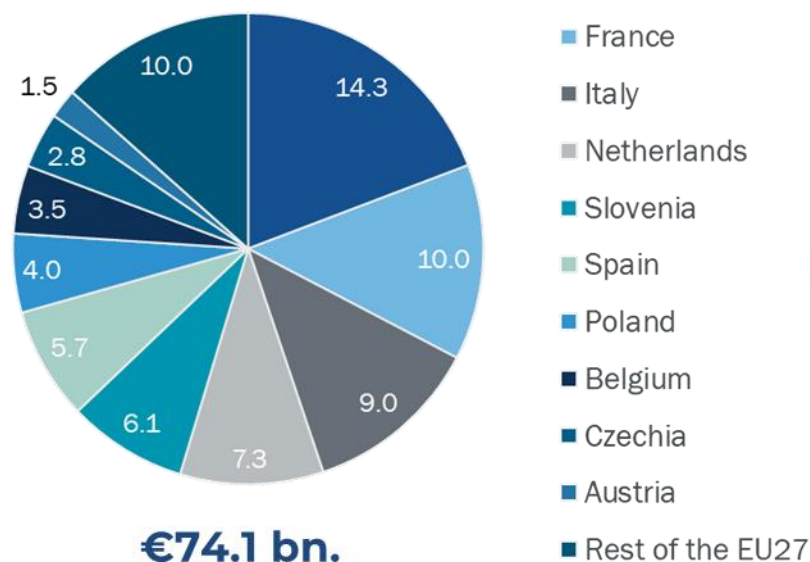
- **Services account** for 46% of total exports, with most of them (35% of total exports) being business services
- **Minerals** rank second, mostly in the form of petroleum
- **Industrial products** like machinery, metals, vehicles, electronics and textiles show a significant share of exports

Source: ECCP (2025), own calculation based on the Atlas of Economic Complexity.

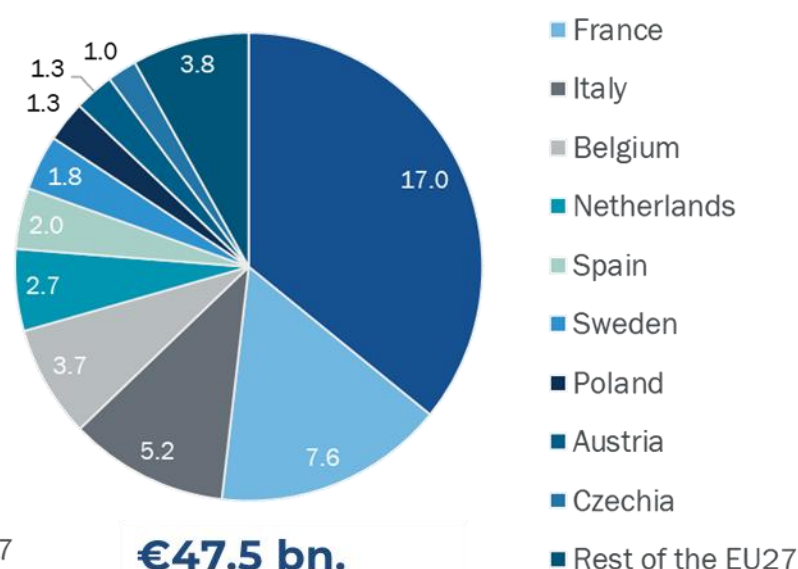
EU27 and India: Analysis of business & value chains

Top 10 most important EU27 trading partners of India for traded goods, 2024

Import of EU27 from India



Exports from EU27 to India



- **Trade concentration:** Germany, France, Italy, and the Netherlands dominate in EU imports, making up 55% of EU imports, while Germany and France alone account for 52% of EU exports to India
- **Import structure:** Machinery and transport (25%), chemicals (23%), and manufactured articles (20%); top imports: telephone sets, medicaments, diamonds, motor vehicle parts
- **Export structure:** Machinery & transport (51%), chemicals (16%), manufactured articles (14%); top exports: airplanes, diamonds, machinery, motor vehicles

Trade in Services: Beyond traded goods, the EU imported €31 billion in services from India, primarily in business and ICT services (82%), while exporting €21 billion in services to India, mainly in transport, business services, and ICT (77%).

Source: ECCP (2025), own calculation based on UN Comtrade Database.

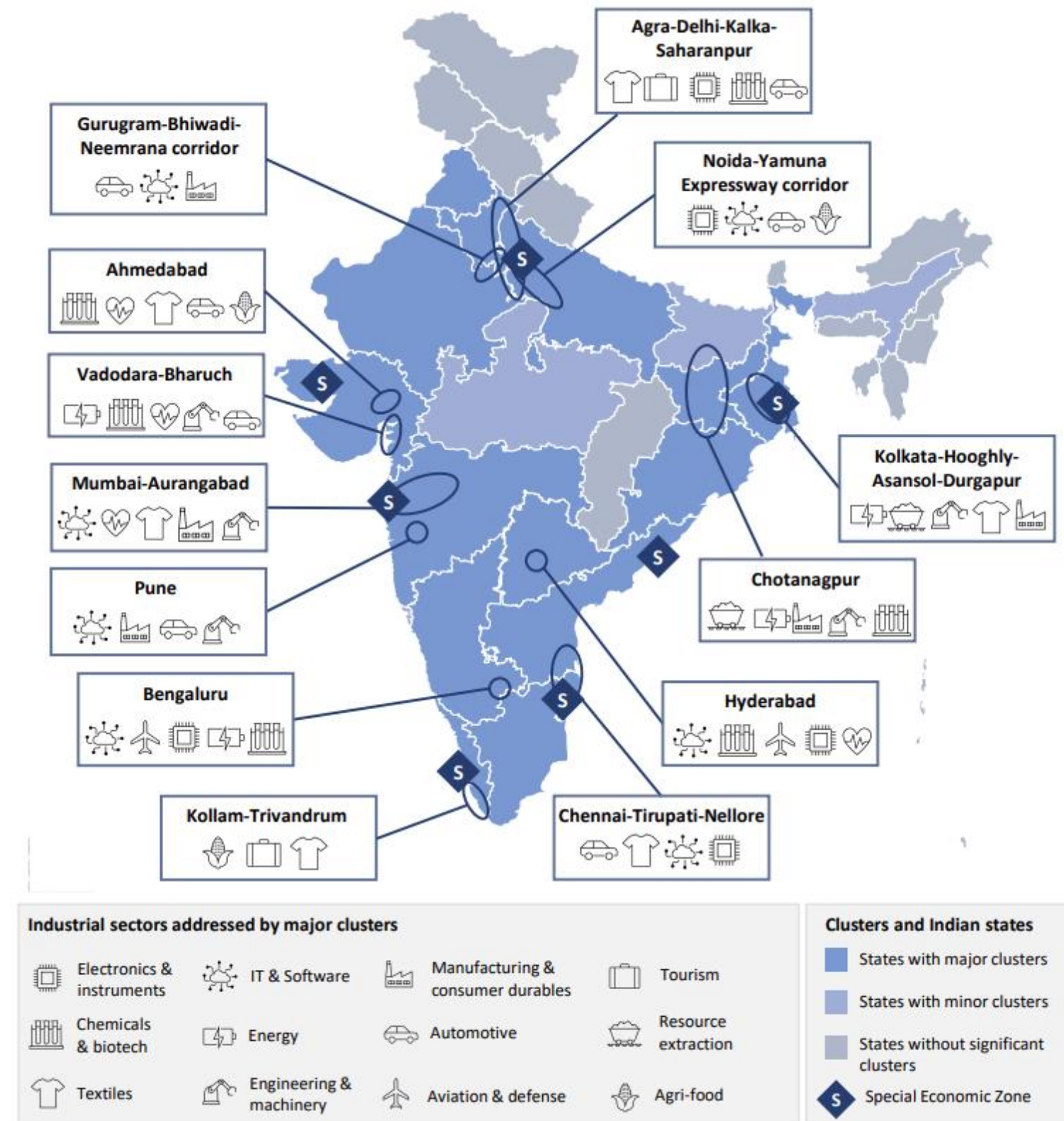
The Indian cluster landscape

Cluster structures

- 13 major industrial clusters
- **Over 5,000 minor and micro clusters** exist across India
- **Traditionally** focused on chemicals & petrochemicals, automobile & components, drugs & pharmaceuticals, consumer appliances
- **Growing presence** in ICT, engineering and business services

Special Economic Zones

- Special Economic Zones (SEZ) underlie the **2005 Special Economic Zones Act**
- **370 notified SEZs** (as of June 2025), out of which there are **seven Central Govt. and ten State Govt. SEZs**

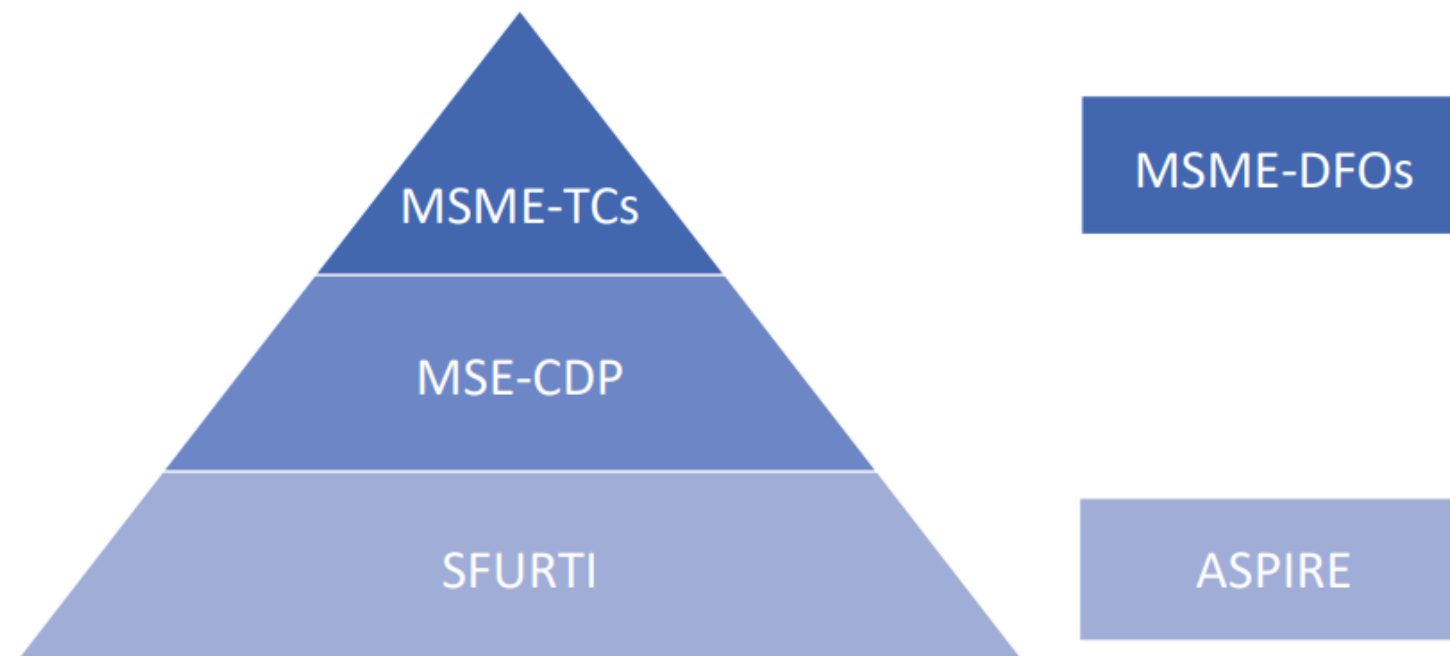


Source: ECCP (2024), own elaboration based on Global Business Inroads (2024)

India cluster policy

India's cluster policy portfolio

- Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) operates a **set of cluster support programmes**
- Its core programme is the **Micro and Small Enterprises-Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP)**



Source: ECCP (2024), own elaboration based on Ministry of MSME (2022) and National Productivity Council (2021)

EU-India linkages

Institutions

- European Business & Technology Centre (EBTC), part of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), with three EBTC clusters:
 - Transport cluster
 - Aviation cluster
 - Sports cluster
- Europe India Chamber of Commerce (EICC)

Strategic programmes

- EU-India Connectivity Partnership
- SWITCH Asia

Euroclusters targeting India



European Leaders of Blue Energy (ELBE)

- Support SMEs in the **Energy-Renewables Industrial ecosystem**, blue economy, maritime technologies, etc.
- **Aim:** Implementing EC Industrial Strategy for Europe, SME strategy for a sustainable and digital Europe, EC Offshore Renewable Energy strategy
- The Project "ELBE Plus - European Leaders of Blue Energy" has identified India as a **potential new partner** for developing Fixed Bottom Offshore Wind (FBOW) projects



Polymer Recycling (POLREC)

- SMEs support across **various industrial ecosystems**
- **Aim:** Reducing the environmental impact of the **polymer industry** & boost raw materials European strategic autonomy
- India has been **identified as a target market** of the Eurocluster and was highlighted in the POLREC international dialogue in July 2025

Concluding remarks



India's strong growth and EU ties position it as a hub for cluster collaboration in ICT and manufacturing

- **Strong economic growth:** With the strong growth performance over the last decades, India was one of the fastest-growing economies, mostly driven by the service sector, especially ICT services.
- **Deepening EU-India ties:** Trade is concentrated in Germany, France and Italy, with the EU being India's most important trading partner. The trade is dominated by machinery & transport equipment, chemicals, manufactured goods, as well as business and ICT services.
- **Services:** India's strong position in knowledge-intensive services, particularly ICT, makes India an especially attractive partner for EU clusters in the digital ecosystem.
- **Cluster landscape:** India's cluster and SEZ framework, supported by the MSE-CDP and EU-India collaborations, enhances its role as a hub for investment, talent, and technology across traditional and emerging sectors.
- **Euroclusters:** By bridging the gap between the EU and the Indian market, Euroclusters can foster collaboration and further strengthen EU-India ties.