EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM

An initiative of the European Union

EUCLUSTERS TALKS ★

From Research to Revenue:

Facilitating Technology Transfer through Clusters

23 April 2025

08:30-09:45 CET

Online

Agenda

1. News from the European Cluster Collaboration Platform
   Nina Hoppmann, *team member of the European Cluster Collaboration Platform*
2. Panel debate
   Angelica Ekholm, *CEO, Dalarna Science Park*
   Athanasios Konstandopoulos, *Chief Scientific Advisor, CHORUS*
   Fátima Carmona, *Director of R&D and Projects, OnTech Innovation*
   Paolo Vercesi, *Executive Director, AFIL*
3. Funding opportunities
   Nina Hoppmann, *team member of the European Cluster Collaboration Platform*

Housekeeping rules

Zivile Kropaite, presenter

- We will use **slido** to launch polls. Please scan the QR code to answer.
- Please use the **Zoom Q&A function to ask questions,** and the **chat function** to comment or share links.
- If you want to speak: Please **raise your hand** and we will give you the floor.
- Please note that the session is being **recorded** and that the recording will be **published** on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform.

NEWS FROM THE EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM

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Commission Expert Group on Cluster Policy

The Commission has launched the call for applications for the **selection of members** of **the expert group on clusters** to gather internationally recognised experts, practitioners, and organisations to advise the Commission on how clusters can better support EU industrial policy goals.

Who can apply?

- Public authorities from Member States
- Other public entities (EU/international bodies)
- Stakeholder organisations active in cluster policy
- Experts and practitioners representing a common interest
- Renowned researchers in clusters, competitiveness, and innovation

More information

Deadline: 30 April 2025, 12:00 (CEST)

Applications to: grow-cluster-expert-group@ec.europa.eu

Clusters Meet Regions Expression of Interest Open Call

The European Commission has launched a new call for expressions of interest to co-host future editions of the “Clusters Meet Regions” workshops in the **second half of 2025, preferably in October or November.**

Applications require a **letter of support from the regional authority** and will be assessed based on relevance, geographic balance, and alignment with EU policy priorities, including supply chain resilience and geopolitical challenges.

Deadline for submission: 30 May 2025 - 18:00 CET (Brussels time)

Proposals not selected for 2025 may still be considered for future editions.

Read the [Call for Expression of Interest]

Annex I: [Application Form]

Annex II: [White Book]

Register for C2Lab in Esbjerg, Denmark

In partnership with **Energy Cluster Denmark**, we are hosting the 'Cluster Collaboration Labs' event in Esbjerg, Denmark. The focus will be on the **energy transition**.

C2Lab is a **workshop-style event** where you will have the opportunity to meet new partners, discuss your project ideas, and initiate collaboration – for example, to apply together for a European call. Participants could either join with a concrete project proposal or offer their expertise and knowledge by joining others.

REGISTRATION OPEN

Register for EU – South MED Matchmaking Event

We will host the EU–South MED Matchmaking Event in **Cairo, Egypt, from 16 to 18 June 2025.**

This Matchmaking Event will bring together **cluster organisations and SMEs** from the European Union (EU), non-EU countries participating in the Single Market Programme/COSME Strand, and South MED countries: **Egypt, Morocco, Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Tunisia.**

Registration is open until 29 April.

[More info]

Save the date and register for the next ECCP events!

Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs (EYE) integrates UK, USA, Canada, and Singapore

The Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs (EYE) programme has expanded its reach beyond Europe, now including the United Kingdom, United States, Canada, and Singapore as official exchange destinations.

With over 13,000 exchanges completed and more than 26,000 entrepreneurs involved to date, EYE continues to empower Europe's next generation of business leaders on a global stage.

More information

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How involved is your organisation in technology transfer activities?

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What is the most critical barrier to successful commercialisation of research in your ecosystem?

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What's one action your organisation could take to support the commercialisation of research better?

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Panel debate

Angelica Ekholm, CEO, Dalarna Science Park

Athanasios Konstandopoulos, Chief Scientific Advisor, CHORUS (tbc)

Fátima Carmona, Director of R&D and Projects, OnTech Innovation

Paolo Vercesi, Executive Director, AFIL

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Sectoral digital skills academies: Digital Skills Academy in GenAI

- This call aims to equip students, professionals, and the public with the necessary skills to develop, deploy and apply **Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Generative AI (GenAI) technologies** across various sectors.
- The academy will operate as a **one-stop-shop for AI training**, with two key focus areas:
  - Skills aligned with **AI Factories and EuroHPC supercomputing infrastructure**.
  - Skills for adopting and **applying AI/GenAI** in sectors such as SMEs, public administration, and industry.
- The expected outcomes of the projects are:
  - **“Teach-the-teacher” training** for university, VET, and secondary education staff
  - **Public engagement activities** (career orientation, social media outreach, tech deep dives)
  - Strong **collaboration frameworks** between academia, industry (incl. SMEs), and research institutions
- Topic ID: DIGITAL-2025-SKILLS-08-VIRTUAL-WORLDS-ACADEMY-STEP
- Deadline: 02 September 2025
- Published on EU Funding & Tenders Portal

WE-RISE Open Call #1

- The objective of this call is to support 20 **women-led startups in GreenTech, AgriTech, and ClimateTech**, with a focus on those from emerging/moderate innovator countries, to grow, scale, and attract investment.
- This programme is divided in two phases:
- **Phase 1: Nurture (3 months):** 20 selected startups will:
    - Receive €5,000 for travel to key networking events
    - Join a 3-month intensive support programme focused on business strategy, market visibility, and ecosystem integration
    - Gain access to expert mentorship, investor readiness training, and peer learning sessions
- **Phase 2: Bloom (4 months):** Top 10 startups from Phase 1 will:
    - Advance to the acceleration phase with tailored support to implement their Strategic Action Plans (SAPs)
    - Be awarded €50,000 each for activities including product development, market expansion, and investor engagement
    - Participate in high-level investor matchmaking, pitch sessions, and international growth initiatives
- Topic ID: HORIZON-EIE-2024-CONNECT-01-02 - Startup Europe
- Deadline: 14 May 2025
- Published on EU Funding & Tenders Portal

Women Tech.EU initiative

- This initiative supports **early-stage women-led deep tech startups** to bridge the gender gap in the European innovation ecosystem. It provides financial and strategic support to help startups advance their technology and business models, grow sustainably, and prepare for **future EIC Accelerator opportunities**.
- The selected consortium will be responsible for:
  - Designing and managing the **Women TechEU programme,** ensuring continuity and operational excellence
  - Launching at least two calls per year to select and fund eligible women-led startups
  - Organising the evaluation and award process using EIC Accelerator-style criteria
  - Building a network of Women TechEU grantees through landmark events and ecosystem integration
- Topic ID: HORIZON-EIC-2025-WOMENTECH
- Deadline: 2 September 2025
- Published on EU Funding & Tenders Portal

Opportunities for SMEs: Calls from Euroclusters

- CircInWater Internationalisation 2nd round: Lump sum grants offer to individual SME providing water-smart solutions, especially for the agrifood & energy-intensive industries via internalization activities in **North America (Canada & USA);** deadline 30 April 2025.
- FRIEND CCI – Call for Providers: Seeking **experts** in digitalisation, green transition, and internationalisation services to support SMEs.; deadline 1 August 2025.
- INGENIOUS: **Training grants** to help SMEs improve their digital skills, green transition, resilience preparedness and reskilling and upskilling of the workforce; deadline 30 June 2025.

All calls here:
https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/funding?f%5B0%5D=status%3A1_open&f%5B1%5D=type%3A101189

Register for the next Talk

7 May

Clusters and SMEs in the EU's Simplification Agenda: Understanding the Omnibus Package

Continue the discussion

https://www.linkedin.com/groups/9503062/

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European Cluster Collaboration Platform

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