

Turin, 13/10/2022

The SMARTENERGY project and the role of clusters for the energy transition of local communities

Energy transition and digitalization are the two priorities the European Commission has set to achieve the goal of climate neutrality by 2050.

The SMARTENERGY project has brought together 6 European clusters engaged in promoting, through the European ClusterXChange program, collaboration and exchange between companies, research and technology transfer centers interested in the development of energy solutions based on the integration of digital technologies for application in different sectors: green building, energy communities, hydrogen supply chain technologies, smart grids. 32 SMEs, clusters and research institutions participated in visits and missions organized by project partners in Italy, France, Belgium and Hungary, identifying opportunities for collaborations for new innovation projects and access to new markets.

Among the results of the project, which can be seen in the "news and documents" section (<https://clustercollaboration.eu/content/grow-faster-energy-clusters-towards-energy-transition#section-8>), the participating clusters conducted a **cross-sectoral analysis** of the possible fields of application of digital and ICT technologies to current energy challenges, identifying areas around **which to build a new common strategy between clusters**. The strategy aims to foster the development and market access of innovative solutions for the rational use of energy from renewable sources, supporting companies in their respective territories.

SMARTENERGY is a project selected under the European Commission's European Cluster Excellence Program, included among the European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for Excellence (ESCP-4x). ESCP-4x are supported by funding from the COSME program to facilitate networking and learning among clusters, with the aim of providing specialized and customized support services to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

SMARTENERGY is one of 13 European Strategic Cluster Partnerships bringing together 69 cluster organizations in 21 European countries that also implement the ClusterXchange program, a new pilot program to support short-term exchanges to better connect European industrial ecosystems. The program aims to facilitate transnational cooperation, networking and innovation development among European cluster members.

For more information:

Luca Galeasso, Environment Park (coordinator): luca.galeasso@envipark.com

Web: <https://clustercollaboration.eu/content/grow-faster-energy-clusters-towards-energy-transition>

