Visegrad Fund

Cluster Policy Report

V4 CLUSTER POLICIES
AND THEIR INFLUENCE
ON THE VIABILITY OF CLUSTER ORGANISATIONS

CLUSTER POLICY IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC



Cluster programmes in the Czech Republic



- CzechMachineryCluster
- ➤ Initiated by the public sector
- ➤ Lead role of large company

Simultaneously with the National Cluster Strategy (2005-2008), the attention of the Operational Programme Industry and Enterprise (OPIE) for the years 2004-2006 has been focused on the issue of clusters within the CLUSTERS Programme

2005

2007-2013 EU budgetary period made a long-term consistent cluster policy possible - rapid development of clusters has been observed in relation to announcement of the subsidy programme Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation (OPEI) within the programme COOPERATION

Start of '14-'20 programming period Grants for clusters available in the Operational Programme Enterprise & Innovation for Competitiveness 2014-2020 (OPEIC) within the programme COOPERATION-CLUSTERS

The very first activities started in 2001 – "Feasibilty study to identify industry groupings in North Moravia" (EU project)

2000

As a result of the cluster support programmes 25 clusters or cluster initiatives existed in the Czech Republic by 2007

The National Cluster
Association (NCA) was founded as a long-term and competent platform for cluster development in the country

2010

First call available for clusters under the current financial period

2015

As a result of the cluster support programmes approx. 50 clusters or cluster iorganisations existed in the Czech Republic by 2016

Relevant strategies, programmes and calls for COs in Czechia (2007-2020)

Cluster related policies/strategies

Other cluster related strategies/methodologies

Cluster related calls/funding programmes

Period 2007-2013

- National Cluster Strategy 2005-2008
- National Strategic Reference Framework of CR
- National Innovation Strategy 2005-2010
- National Innovation Policy 2005-2010
- SMEs Support Strategy
- Regional Innovation Strategies
- National cluster policy certified methodology
- Regional cluster policy certified methodology
- Innovation potential for clusters in CR –
 specialized map
- Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation:
 - * COOPERATION Clusters I., y2008
 - * COOPERATION Clusters II., y2010
 - * COOPERATION -Clusters II.prolongation, y2012
- Regional Operational Programmes

Period 2014-2020

- National Innovation Strategy 2012-2020
- International Competitiveness Strategy 2012-2020
- SMEs Support Strategy
- Regional Innovation Strategies

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- Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation for Competitiveness:
 - * COOPERATION Clusters internation., cluster development, y2015
 - * COOPERATION Clusters collective research, y2016
- Regional Operational Programmes

Czech Republic - documents - national level (comparison in time)



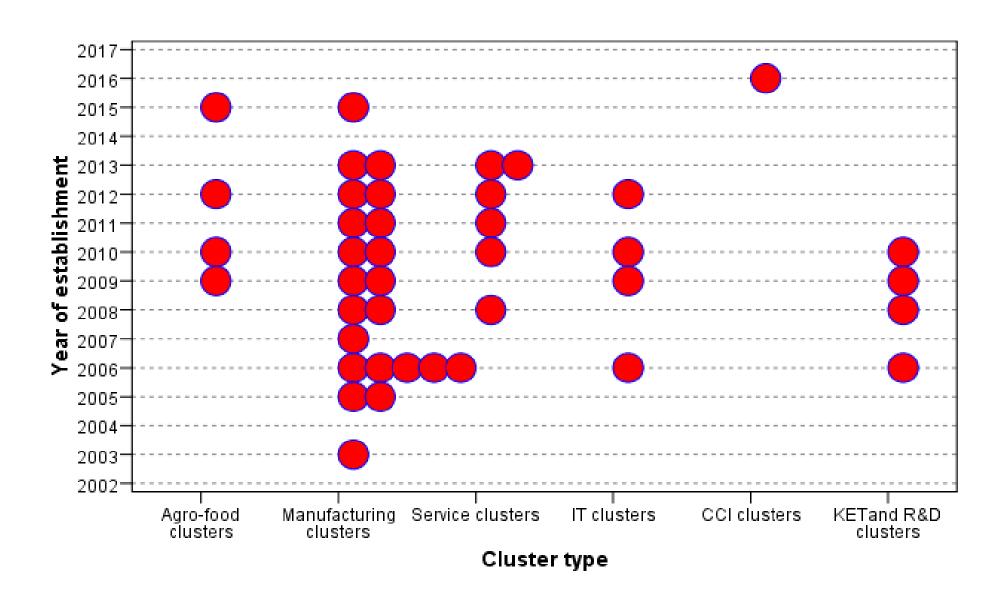


Czech Republic - programmes - national level (comparison in time)

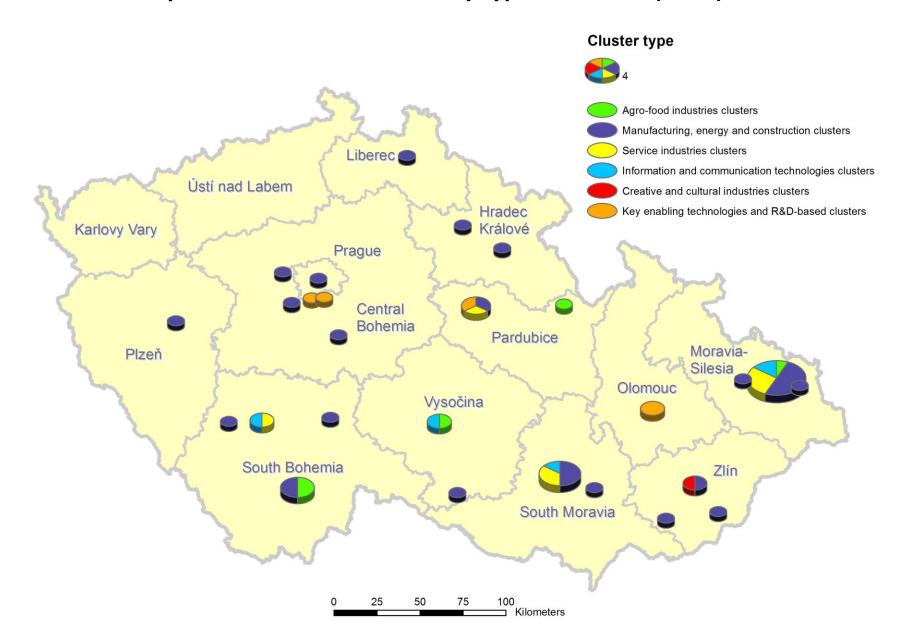
2007-2013 -2014-2020



Years of COs establishment by type in Czechia (2003-2016)



Spatial distribution of COs by type in Czechia (2016)



BEST PRACTICE - The National Cluster Strategy (2005 - 2008)

Main lessons learned

Cross-sectoral awareness and cooperation between national and regional level

Respecting the Triple Helix concept

Concerning on innovation and emerging industries (?) of SMEs respecting smart specialisation

Enhancing cost and knowledge sharing – RIS3

Evaluation monitoring of clusters

Relation to the Structural Funds

BEST PRACTICE – Continual programme support of COs development

Main lessons learned

Financial support system as a significant incentive of COs development

Financial support respects different stages of COs development

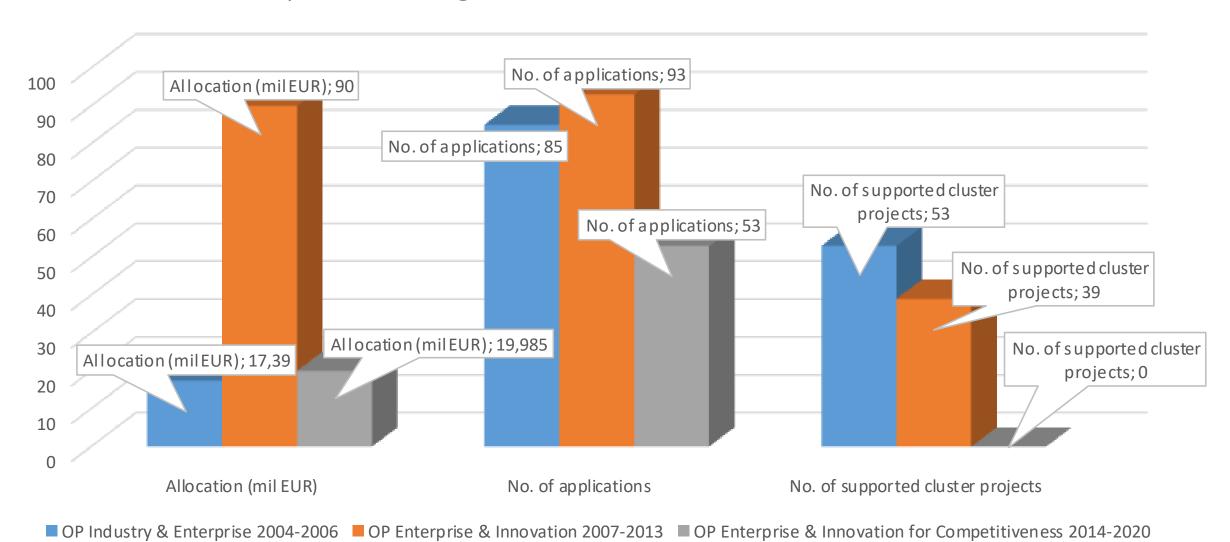
Evaluation of potential to be successful in spending programme money effectively

Testing for fulfilment of evaluation COs' criteria before launching the proposal

Clearly defined indicators of success as a motivation for COs development

Support of innovation projects, cooperation with R&D institutions and internationalisation with positive impact on SMEs

Operational Programmes Related to Clusters in Czechia



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF CZECH CLUSTER POLICY

Smart Cluster Policy Model	Where are we in the Czech Republic?	What is necessary to improve in the Czech cluster policy?	How can it be improved?
Cluster can appear in any industry within competitive advantage of the given territory Inclusion of all government sectors and industries in the cluster support scheme	Support of COs is limited only to traditional industries.	The public funding for all industry sectors within COs Cluster policy should set goals to be achieved in terms of increasing competitiveness and innovations in all industry sectors	Involvement of other ministries in the implementation of cluster policy Establishment of a national managing authority for clusters development. Establishment of a national cluster competence centre as a result of a new national cluster policy

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF CZECH CLUSTER POLICY

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Smart	Where are we in the Czech	What is necessary to	How can it be improved?	
Cluster	Republic?	improve in the Czech		
Policy		cluster policy?		
Model				
All development stages of clusters have to be taken into account	In earlier periods, the funding was focused on mapping and support of cluster initiatives and organizations, networking, HR development, export, joint projects in R&D&I and internationalization. Nowadays, there is no national support for cluster mapping and analysis and CI development from the national level (support is just for excellent and developed COs, not for immature COs). The support from regional governments for mapping and analysis, CI development and COs incubation is limited. Low or not existing cluster governance on regional level (no funding for the "incubation" of the CO) and little care of the cluster managers' position consolidation both financially and	There is no systematic support to all stages of the clusters development. The support of the developed and excellent COs on national level lacks systematic monitoring and evaluation of their performance so that the cluster policy and funding could be revised according to findings. The deficit of regional cluster policy causes that the first phases of cluster initiatives at the regional level are not implemented.	Implementation of holistic strategy of cluster development: - at the regional level by regional government: i) identification and analysis of specific attributes of the region and its priorities ii) mapping and analysis of potential of cluster initiatives iii) definition of relevant competent supporting institutions iv) institutionalisation of successful cluster institutions (CO) and their incubation v) financial and training support for cluster management of COs vi) monitoring and evaluation of COs - after developing the COs – support at the national level: i) education and training of cluster management ii) internationalization iii) R&D&I projects	

professionally

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF CZECH CLUSTER POLICY

Smart Cluster Policy Model	Where are we in the Czech Republic?	What is necessary to improve in the Czech cluster policy?	How can it be improved?
The training schemes for cluster stakeholders, including the availability of experienced lecturers and trainers efficiently operates.	Lacking the system and tools of public support for education of cluster managers and other cluster stakeholders from both national and regional level National Cluster Association offers some training and education courses for cluster managers and for government authorities	The training scheme for different target groups of cluster stakeholders are not available as a part of the cluster policy.	To establish the system of support for education of cluster stakeholders, facilitators and managers to be delivered by a concentrated expert body To run accredited certification centre (MIT or other governmental body), obtained certificate for CO management as condition for project applications (funding).

Training and Educational Needs of Czech COs (2012 and 2016)

Field of training and education	2012	2016
Project management	26,2 %	46,3 %
Cluster management	34,4 %	65,9 %
Monitoring	29,5 %	65,9 %
Internationalisation	36,1 %	68,3 %

Thank you for your attention!