Hungarian National Analysis of the cooperation opportunities of the V4 cluster organisations

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1. Current projects and existing cooperation of the V4 cluster organisations

a) Assessment of the most important projects

Total number of cluster organisations in the national V4 database: 27
Total number of responses (question No. 10 of the V4 questionnaire): 27

I.	Assessment of the most important projects			
	Sector of project	**Type of activity**	**No. of clusters**	**No. of projects**
1.	Energy	R&D	1	1
		Laboratory and testing	1	1
		Training	1	1
2.	Automotive	R&D	3	4
		Training	3	2
3.	Machinery and equipment	R&D	2	2
		Manufacturing	3	3
		Promotion	3	3
4.	Engineering	Promotion	4	4
		Laboratory and testing	3	3
5.	Health Industry	R&D	1	1
		Promotion	2	1
		Training	2	1
6.	Construction	R&D	3	2
		Internationalization	3	1
		Training	1	1
7.	Information Technology	R&D	7	5
		Internationalization	5	3
		Training	5	3
8.	Environmental Industry	R&D	2	1
		Manufacturing	2	1
		Training	0	0
9.	Plastic Industry, packaging solutions	R&D	1	0
		Manufacturing	1	0
		Training	0	0
10.	Wood and Furniture	R&D	1	1
		Promotion	1	1
		Training	1	1

Comments on the most important projects:

In energy industry typical projects are: solar energy utilization, geothermal energy utilization, biomass utilization. Prefabricated and passive houses. Building industry, engineering.
Application writing in the NETECOWAT - Network to Overcome Common Issues with Regard to the Management of Water Quality in the Cross-border and AreaKASSETTS - Knowledge-enabled Access of Central Europe SMEs to Efficient Transnational Transport Solutions projects.

In engineering typical project of the leading cluster of the industry was to establish the Accredited Innovation Cluster: South West Hungarian Engineering Cluster, managed by Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Pécs-Baranya. It was awarded the title of Accredited Innovation Cluster based on the two-year-long successful work. The application was compiled by the chamber, the title can be used until 21 February 2016.
Vocational Award for the Cluster: The South Transdanubian Engineering Industry Cluster was awarded with the Vocational Award, in the category "Innovation" at the 2013 competition founded by the German-Hungarian Chamber of Industry and Commerce. The prize is established in three categories: innovation, motivation, co-operation.

In construction industry main activities foreseen were:

- The expansion of the business relationship in the construction Industry. Building partnerships, organizing partner-meetings.
- Managing the development of the product/service, education, training, research activities along the value-chain.
- Expansion of the solvent area, explore the export opportunities.
- Establish benchmarking activities, establishment an operation of benchmarking club, exchanging of good practices.
- Implementation of Research+Development+Innovation programs and trainings with higher educational and research institutions.
- Common equipment acquisitions, support of organizing services, common development infrastructure.
- Operating web portal to facilitate internal and external communication.
- Common communication of the innovative results.
- Preparing PR and commercial materials about the members' common activities
- Establishing a common construction industrial competence database.

b) Assessment of the existing cooperation within V4

Total number of cluster organisations in the national V4 database: 27
Total number of responses (question No. 11 of the V4 questionnaire): 27

II.	Assessment of the existing cooperation within V4					
	No. of clusters	No. of responses	CZ	HU	PL	SK
Contacts with organisations within V4	27	14 contacts	3	-	5	6
Existing projects within V4	15	16 projects	6	-	5	5

Comments on the existing cooperation within V4:

There is an existing SME base for the given industries in the V4C region, furthermore there is an existing cluster network an historically proven industry (meeting the requirement for supporting entrepreneurship and start-ups) and also a clusters in Hungary. Furthermore, the industry is strong and has its economic actor counterparts in the larger region as well.

2. Assessment of areas of possible cooperation within V4 in the future

Total number of cluster organisations in the national V4 database: 27
Total number of responses (question No. 12 of the V4 questionnaire): 27

III.	Assessment of areas of possible cooperation within V4 in the future			
	Sector of possible cooperation	Type of activity	No. of clusters	No. of topics
1.	Energy	R&D	1	2
		Laboratory and testing	1	2
		Training	0	0
2.	Automotive	R&D	3	1
		Training	1	1
3.	Machinery and equipment	R&D	2	2
		Manufacturing	2	3
		Promotion	1	4
4.	Engineering	Promotion	4	2
		Laboratory and testing	1	2
5.	Health Industry	R&D	1	1
		Promotion	2	1
		Training	0	0
6.	Construction	R&D	3	2
		Internationalization	3	1
		Training	0	0

7.	Information Technology	R&D	2	3
		Internationalization	3	2
		Training	5	1
8.	Environmental Industry	R&D	2	1
		Manufacturing	2	1
		Training	0	0
9.	Plastic Industry, packaging solutions	R&D	1	0
		Manufacturing	1	0
		Training	0	0
10.	Wood and Furniture	R&D	1	1
		Promotion	1	1
		Training	1	1

Comments on areas of possible cooperation:

We would highlight the IT industry as a classic example of V4 cooperation.
Our research shows that important elements of cooperation within V4 are: Competitiveness enhancement through cluster management support: The purpose of this activity is, as a cluster management organization it needs to create an innovation chain in the ICT sector of the South Transdanubian Region of Hungary through enhancing cooperation between business enterprises and joint research and development projects with educational institutes.
Members of the cluster have an interest in marketing of IT applications to be co-developed thus increasing the business activity of the region and the competitiveness of member companies.
Main field of activities are:

- Software production, related trade, adaptation and operation
- Hardware production, related trade, adaptation and operation
- The producing, installing, adaptation and operation of service infrastructure for IT purposes (as well)
- Other economic and commercial activity related to IT in any way

In the past two-three years, these clusters have joined several international R&D projects either as contributing partner or as coordinator and project manager.

Conclusions:

These sectors involves input from cross-sector fertilisation and spill-overs from design (existing centre of excellence school with design expert supply), from media/marketing (existing cluster networks with local SMEs), from logistics (existing logistical capacities, existing main trade routes via road, rail and water, existing logistics cluster) and from ICT (ICT solutions in innovation in the production process, ICT in marketing/trade).
In selected cases it has already been proven that the industry has the potential for international and oversees exports (positioning in the global value chain), nevertheless this should be taken to a larger scale. The industry also has the potential for internationalisation of local SMEs.