



EUCLUSTERS TALKS ★

Empowering Clusters and Driving Innovation: ECCP 2024 Insights and Next Steps

15 January 2025

08:30-09:45 CET

Online

Agenda

1. European Cluster Collaboration Platform 2024

Recap video

2. Presentation of the European Cluster Collaboration Platform

Mariella Masselink, Head of Unit, DG GROW, European Commission

3. 2024 Insights and Next Steps

ECCP Team

- Teodora Jilkova, **Clusters meet Regions and EU Matchmaking Events**
- Ángela Negrete Benedí, **EU Clusters Talks**
- Antonio Novo, **C2Lab**
- Hanna Kim, **Cluster Booster Academy**
- Vera Wechner, **Green Transition Support**
- Jan-Philipp Kramer, **Trend Universe**

4. Funding opportunities

Ángela Negrete Benedí, Team Member European Cluster Collaboration Platform

Housekeeping rules

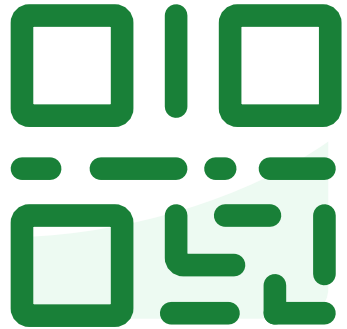
Andrew Lansley, presenter

- 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.

ECCP 2024 RECAP

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**Join at slido.com
#ECCP_Recap2024**

① Start presenting to display the joining instructions on this slide.

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**Which event/service of the ECCP
have you attended/used during
2024?**

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

Presentation

Mariella Masselink

Head of Unit, DG GROW, European Commission



Cluster meet Regions



EU Cluster Talks



EU Cluster Matchmaking events



C2Lab



Cluster Booster Academy



Green Transition Support



Trend Universe



Clusters Meet Regions

Teodora Jilkova
ECCP Team Member

Purpose and Context



- **Clusters Meet Regions** aims to strengthen the European economy by aligning cluster organisations and regional authorities for economic development, green and digital transitions, and resilience building
- Events align with EU industrial strategy and smart specialisation strategies, fostering interregional collaboration and improving cluster engagement in policy design and implementation.

CLUSTERS MEET REGIONS

2024

 = CmR + MME



Clusters Meet Regions in Numbers



**OVER 620
ATTENDEES**

**OVER 44
PITCHING
PRESENTATIONS**

Clusters Meet Regions Impact



- Aligns regional development strategies with EU industrial goals, fostering competitiveness and resilience.
- Facilitates deeper cooperation between clusters, policymakers, and industry stakeholders at local, national, and European levels.
- Supports the region's transition towards sustainability and digitalisation, aligning with EU climate and technological ambitions.
- Highlights best practices from other EU regions and fosters an exchange of ideas on integrating clusters into regional development.
- Encourages connections with other European regions and clusters, leading to joint initiatives and shared value chain development.
- Helps policymakers integrate clusters into smart specialisation strategies and EU industrial pathways.
- Promotes sustainable practices within the region and highlights local green initiatives.



An initiative of the European Union

CLUSTERS MEET REGIONS

2025



Portugal

Spain

The Netherlands

Germany

Poland

Estonia

Slovenia

Italy

Greece

Save the Dates



Clusters Meet

Regions workshops are an opportunity for the region and local actors to drive economic growth, build valuable relationships, and position themselves as forward-thinking and competitive players within the European landscape.



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What would you find most interesting in CMRs events?

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What prevented you from participating in the Clusters Meet Regions event(s) in 2024?

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What themes or topics would you like to see covered in future Clusters Meet Regions events?

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EU Matchmaking Events

Teodora Jilkova
ECCP Team Member

Purpose and Context

EUCLUSTERS



The **ECCP matchmaking events** aim to enhance collaboration among European clusters by providing real-time networking opportunities.

These events facilitate **knowledge exchange**, help identify potential **cooperation** areas and support the **development of joint action plans** through interactive activities and face-to-face meetings at both EU and international levels. As part of these initiatives, matchmaking events are organized within the "Clusters Meet Regions" series of workshops, international matchmaking events with partners outside Europe, and the European Cluster Conference.

2024 Matchmaking events in numbers

EUCLUSTERS



5 International Matchmaking Events



2 Matchmaking events as part of Clusters Meet Regions series of events



1 Matchmaking Event in the frame of European Cluster Conference 2024

524

Participants

2,356

Meetings

250+

Identified cooperation cases

86

EU Participants in the International MMEs

EU-Taiwan Matchmaking Event in Berlin, Germany 2024

In the Context of Taiwan Expo in Europe



64

Bilateral meetings



An initiative of the European Union

Strengthening the European economy through collaboration

EU-South Med Matchmaking event in Frankfurt, Germany 2024

In the framework of ACHEMA expo



74

Bilateral meetings



An initiative of the European Union

Strengthening the European economy through collaboration

23

EU-Canada Matchmaking Event in Montreal, Canada 2024

In the framework of ALL IN 2024



131

Bilateral meetings



An initiative of the European Union

Strengthening the European economy through collaboration

EU-Singapore Matchmaking Event 2024

In the framework of Singapore International Energy Week



107

Bilateral meetings

Strengthening the European economy through collaboration



An initiative of the European Union

EU-India Matchmaking Event in Bengaluru, India 2024

In the framework of Bengaluru Tech Summit 2024



133

Bilateral meetings

Strengthening the European economy through collaboration



An initiative of the European Union

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Which non-EU country or market are you most interested in exploring for international collaboration or expanding your cluster activities in 2025?

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What are the main challenges your organisation faces when expanding cluster activities outside the EU?

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What type of partnerships are you most interested in forming during ECCP matchmaking events?

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EU Clusters Talks

Ángela Negrete Benedí
ECCP Team Member



ENGAGE, LEARN, CONNECT: BE PART OF THE EU CLUSTERS TALKS EXPERIENCE!



Whether you're looking to network, learn, or lead, EU Clusters Talks is your **one-stop solution**.

Dive into **cutting-edge discussions**, explore transformative projects, and gain access to expert panels that keep you at the forefront of industrial innovation.

EU Clusters Talks is a **space to exchange knowledge** and discuss topics significant to the EU business community.

[Access to previous Clusters Talks!](https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/events/organised-by-eccp/clusters-talks) <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/events/organised-by-eccp/clusters-talks>

CLUSTERS TALKS FIGURES IN 2024

2,877

Registrations

1,554

Unique attendees

1,755

Minutes

118

Speakers

CLUSTERS TALKS FIGURES IN 2024

4,296
views

On average

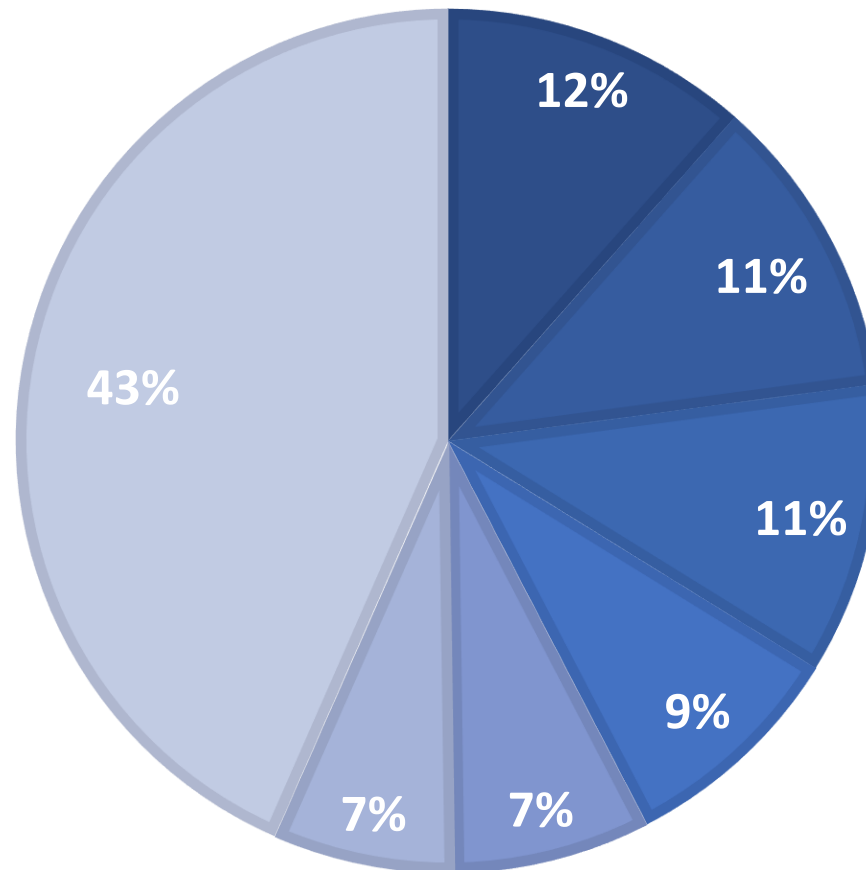
172
views

The screenshot shows the YouTube channel page for the European Cluster Collaboration Platform. At the top, there is a blue banner with the ECCP logo and the text "EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM". Below the banner, the channel name "European Cluster Collaboration Platform" is displayed, along with the handle "@europeanclustercollaborati5899", 488 subscribers, and 329 videos. A brief description follows: "The European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP) is a vibrant online community helping... more clustercollaboration.eu and 3 more links". A "Subscribed" button is visible. The navigation menu includes "Home", "Videos", "Shorts", and "Playlists". The "For You" section features four video thumbnails with titles like "The Future of European Competitiveness: Role of Clusters" (2 October 2024), "From Strategy to Action: Leveraging Clusters in Smart Specialisation..." (4 December 2024), "Industrial Alliances: Joint action for a green and digital Europe" (25 October 2023), and "Innovation through Integration: How to create and engage a meta-cluster" (24 April 2024). Below this, the "What's new on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform" section shows a "2024 HIGHLIGHTS" video and several "EU Clusters Talks" videos, including "State Aid: From Policy to Practice" (18 December 2024), "Accelerating Change: The Role of Clusters" (8 December 2024), "From Strategy to Action: Leveraging Clusters in Smart Specialisation..." (18 December 2024), "EU-India Matchmaking Event 2024: Highlights from..." (18 December 2024), and "Procurement Meets Innovation: How to create and engage a meta-cluster" (18 December 2024).

[Subscribe to the ECCP's Youtube channel! https://www.youtube.com/@europeanclustercollaborati5899](https://www.youtube.com/@europeanclustercollaborati5899)

Country distribution of attendees

- Spain
- Germany
- Belgium
- Italy
- France
- Ukraine
- Other countries (5% or less)



Join us for the next EU Clusters Talks!

29 January

[New collaboration opportunities in the Republic of Korea and Japan](#)

12 February

[From Lab to Market: The role of collaboration between technology centres and clusters](#)

Other dates and topics

19 Feb **Sustainability for SMEs**

26 Feb **Critical technologies development**

12 Mar **Clean Industrial Deal**

26 Mar **Transition Pathways Platform**



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What type of content in the EU Clusters Talks do you find most useful? (max 2 choices)

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**Please, share your suggestions
for topic ideas for 2025!**

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C2Lab

Antonio Novo
ECCP Team Member

C2Lab concept



The Cluster Collaboration Labs (C2Labs) are **1.5-day interactive workshops** for project creation



The overall objective of the C2Labs is **to generate new projects**

A team of **expert mentors** facilitate the project definition process



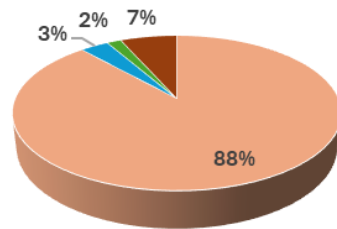
B2Match platform is fully available for C2Lab attendants prior and after the in-person event, allowing continuous communication and sharing of project proposals

Credits: Icon 1: Vectors Tank – Flaticon; Icon 2: juicy_fish – Flaticon; Icon 3: Vectors Tank - Flaticon

C2Lab in Strasbourg 25-26 September 2024

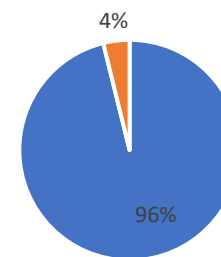


Type of organisation



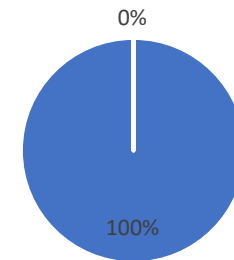
- Cluster, Network & Industry/Business Organisation
- Small company
- University & Research, Development and Innovation Organisation
- Other

96 % interested in participating in future C2Labs



■ yes ■ no

100 % Satisfied with the event



■ yes ■ no

Upcoming C2Labs 2025 – Zaragoza, Spain 19-20 March



Info session 16 January 09:30
[Register here!](#)

Special focus on **Artificial Intelligence**

[Register here for
C2Lab Zaragoza](#)

Topics:

- AI for **Net Zero** Technologies
- AI for **Industrial Transformation & Competitiveness**
- AI for **Dual Use** Technologies
- AI for **Smart Cities**
- Collaborative AI **Infrastructure**
- AI **Crisis Management**
- And any other topic idea of interest

Upcoming C2Labs 2025 – Esbjerg, Denmark 6-7 May



An initiative of the European Union 

C2LAB

CLUSTER
COLLABORATION LABS

Esbjerg, Denmark

6-7 May 2025

SAVE THE DATE

 EUROPEAN CLUSTER
COLLABORATION PLATFORM

 European
Commission

 NEXT
GEN
EU



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What aspect of C2Lab workshops would interest you the most?

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**Can you share your suggestions
for improving the C2Labs?**

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Cluster Booster Academy

Hanna Kim
ECCP Team Member

In the CBA we work on common challenges of a cluster and together develop a way forward

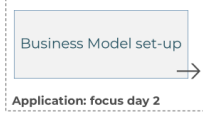
The training consists of a theory section followed by an interactive application part

Through insights gathered from cluster strategy review, business model advancements and expansions can be identified

- Externalities
- Internalities



Training – Theory Application



Identifying trends and challenges consists of foresight towards developments ...

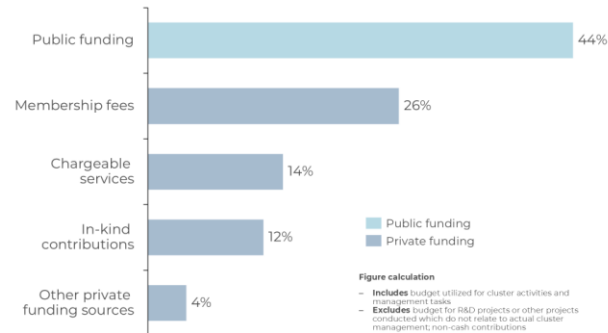
Innovation initiation has altered over time



An initiative of the European Union
Source: GIZ Cluster Development Guide 2020, IMPROVE

Developing a sustainable financing situation is frequently classified as an important internal objective by clusters

Financing share in cluster organizations (EU + Norway average)



An initiative of the European Union
Source: European Secretariat for Cluster Analysis 2018, IMPROVE

The co to act v
Clusters i compete
Strategic include t
- Equippe regular l
- Aware a
- Familiar for clust needs

Knowledge generated from strategic foresight needs to be integrated into services

Further Takeaways

- Public funding issue:**
A high fraction of clusters were established with substantial public support
- Public financing is:**
- Frequently **limited in time**
 - Not reliable** (potential reduction or cancellation with new governments/ new persons in office)



- Solution: Financing diversification**
Mix of multiple **income source** is best way to sustainable financing and a sustaining business model
- Substitution of public financing** requires excellent cluster management, inter alias via **selling useful chargeable services to members**

In 2024 we have hosted 2 CBAs...

... with 2 in-person days in Sofia, Bulgaria and 3 virtual days

We welcomed a total of 78 participants from all over Europe



In 2025 we will be in Warsaw, Poland!

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What kind of content would you like to see in the next CBA?

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**Most likely I would like to join
the next CBA for:**

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.



Green Transition Support

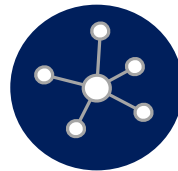
Vera Wechner
ECCP Team Member

Green Transition Support



A knowledge hub for

- Energy efficiency
- Resource efficiency
- Emission reduction



**Clusters
and their
members**



Tools



News



**Good
practices**

Activities in 2024



Promoting the Green Transition: A guide for clusters to take action

Step by step guide on what clusters can do to facilitate the green transition:

- Identify the sustainability needs and challenges of your cluster
- Integrate sustainability into your cluster strategy and keep an open dialogue with members
- Collaborate with other clusters to gain mutual benefits

Promoting the Green Transition

A guide for clusters to take action

Thanks to their connecting role, clusters are uniquely well positioned to facilitate knowledge exchange, sharing of good practices, and collaboration - both among their members and with external stakeholders. This puts them in a key position as agents of change in the transition toward a green, circular, and climate-neutral economy.

Clusters bring together various companies, non-profit organisations, research and knowledge institutions, financial service providers, and public bodies, creating essential networks at regional, cross-regional, national, and EU levels. There are over 1500 clusters in the EU, accounting for almost 25 % of EU employment [source: <https://clustercollaboration.eu/cluster-research>]

It is crucial that cluster managers understand the concerns and challenges, as well as the opportunities, that companies face as they advance toward making their business models and activities more sustainable, and that they do their best to support them.

This guide aims to provide inspiration for clusters on how they can promote the green transition and support local businesses in this endeavour. It includes several good practice examples from clusters across Europe that you can read more about in the [good practice collection](#) on the ECCP website. To do so, click on the links in the hexagons.

What clusters can do to facilitate the green transition

Help strengthen mutual learning and collaboration in green transition areas of common interest. Actions can include:

- Organizing networking actions and workshops.
- Connecting different stakeholders such as SMEs and larger companies, or companies and research organisations.

The green transition can seem overwhelming - focus on the benefits it can bring to your members (efficiency, cost savings, simplification, innovation, new business opportunities, etc.), and adjust your communication to reflect potential benefits such as competitive advantage.

Some sectors might have come quite far due to legislation or other drivers, but others will need help to better understand the possibilities offered by the green transition. Similarly, some companies will be more positive toward the green transition than others. For reluctant companies, it might be wise to initially mainly focus on awareness raising and on providing information.

Identify the sustainability needs and challenges of your cluster

It is important to **take your members' needs as a starting point** in the green transition. Reach out to your members via surveys and/or interviews and listen to any concerns and challenges they may have with becoming more sustainable - whether it concerns energy efficiency, developing environmentally friendly products, adopting circular economy solutions, or something else. Ask them what their competences and prospects are and how you as a cluster can help them.

Facilitate experience sharing and mutual learning

The green transition presents new challenges, requiring an exploratory approach to knowledge-gathering and exchange. Both peer learning among similar companies and mutual understanding among different players, such as businesses, start-ups, research institutes etc., are essential for success.

Clusters can contribute significantly to this by connecting different stakeholders and

Innovation challenge

FlucSO facilitates innovation challenges aimed at matching innovative ideas with real business needs. Large companies present specific problems in open calls that global solution providers present their solutions to. Read more facts.

Sustainability program for graduates

The Academy of Contributing Smaller Area Control lets young professionals receive training on sustainability, EU funding, and innovation topics before being placed in member companies, creating a win-win situation. Read more facts.

➤ <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/green/knowledge-base>

Activities in 2024

Sustainability in Action: Impactful Initiatives from Clusters

Good practice collection showcasing activities that clusters have implemented to support their members in advancing sustainability:

- Focus groups to enhance knowledge exchange and collaboration
- Innovation challenges to stimulate innovative business solutions
- Sustainability desk to assist businesses on creating a sustainability strategy



Sustainability in Action

- Cross-border cooperation
- Green Transformation Cards
- Hackathon
- Innovation challenge
- Online marketplace
- Sustainability Desk**

Sustainability Desk to help companies with their ESG strategies

In 2021, the cluster Confindustria Emilia Area Centro set up a Sustainability Desk to assist their members on their sustainability journeys. The aim was to help member companies capture the full range of opportunities that comes from taking a strategic approach to sustainability – going beyond mere regulatory compliance.

As a first step, the cluster offered sustainability assessments in the form of a gap analysis to help companies create a sustainability strategy. One year later, they expanded the Sustainability Desk to include a Sustainability Orientation Service – a training programme structured in 2 modules of 3 hours each, adaptable in content and duration. The programme is available to both SMEs and large companies and can be extended to connected companies and/or suppliers. It is provided directly by the cluster staff of Confindustria

- <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/sustainability-action-impactful-initiatives-clusters>

Activities in 2025

- Content enrichment of support materials based on clusters' needs
- Generate and disseminate knowledge in different formats
- Building on and developing existing formats



How to access the Green Transition Support:

<https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/green>

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Which areas/topics of the Green Transition are you most interested in (e.g. resource efficiency, Net-zero technologies, circular economy practices, etc.)?

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

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What types of support will be most valuable for your organisation to advance the Green Transition in the coming months? (2 choices max)

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Trend Universe

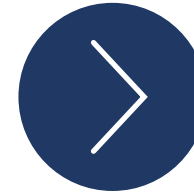
Jan-Philipp Kramer
ECCP Team Member



Trend Universe is expanding

- Trend Radar user number rose **from 80 to over 250** (2024)
- New dashboard offering **previews, direct access to main tools** and **support functions**
- New content area offering direct access to **11.000 innovation articles filterable by trend & ecosystem**
- New option to **create individual innovation collections** and store selected innovations

The Trend Universe offers all ECCP-registered cluster organisations in the EU free access to a sophisticated foresight tool & a unique database with new innovations



Dashboard Tools Content

Dashboard

Welcome to the Trend Universe!

Explore the Trend Universe Innovation Database

Disclaimer

Pinned tools

Tourism Textiles Retail Renewable Energy Proximity & Social Eco

Energy Intensive Industries - Innovations

+11,000 innovations!

Building from Cradle to Cradle: The brick of the future

Closed material cycle: Old buildings become new building blocks

Mould fungi as a key to green chemical production

Impact-resistant adhesive enables lightweight construction for cars and planes

Hydrogen storage under (almost) normal environmental conditions

UK start-up revolutionises fluorine-based chemical production



Core Functions of the Trend Radar

1 Assess the relevance of innovation trends

2 Benchmark your competences

3 Assess your competences in the trend matrix

Strategies and measures for the key trends

Here you will find final strategies and measures for the selected trend radar

MOST IMPORTANT MEGATRENDS

- GAME CHANGER COMPETENCIES**
 - Nutrition & Food
 - Energy, Climate Change & Sustainability
 - Future Working & Learning Zones
- SIGNIFICANT COMPETENCE GAP**
 - Innovative Technologies & Manufacturing
- SUCCESS-CRITICAL COMPETENCE GAP**
 - Data Technologies
 - Digitally Connected Products, Offers & Services
 - Mobility

DETAILS

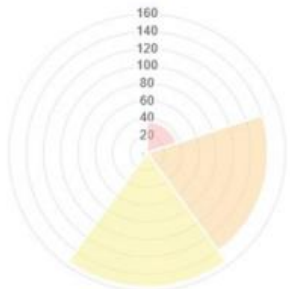
MOST SIGNIFICANT MACROTRENDS

- GAME CHANGER COMPETENCIES**
 - Sustainability and ethics in nutrition
 - Sustainable Products & Ethical Consumption
 - War for Talents
- SUCCESS-CRITICAL COMPETENCE GAP**
 - Plant based diet
 - Climate Change
 - New food raw materials
 - Pattern & Image Recognition
 - Zero Waste & Circular Economy
 - New Working Models & Forms

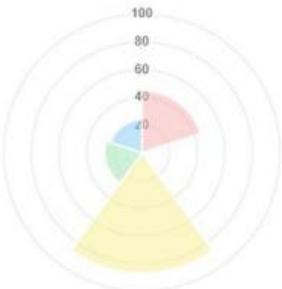
DETAILS

The industry data refer to Aeronautics & Space

OVERALL RELEVANCE



RELEVANCE TO INDUSTRY



News Funding Start-ups Research Patents

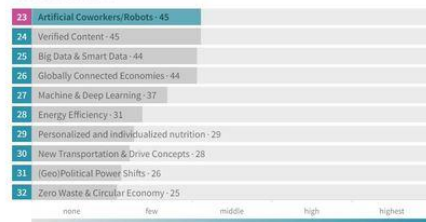
News Funding Start-ups Research Patents

NEWS	OVERALL	INDUSTRY
News	1.2m	1.1k
Relevance	36%	45%

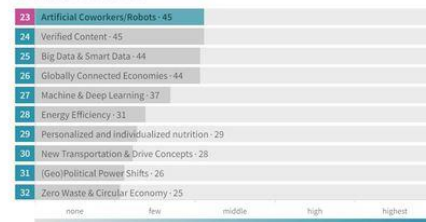
PUBLICATIONS	OVERALL	INDUSTRY
Publications	0.2m	17
Relevance	8%	27%

Results from Competen

OWN EVALUATION



IN-MANAS BENCHMARK

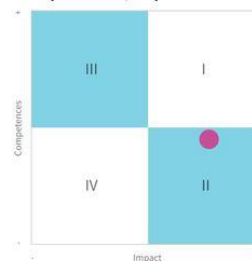


Artificial Coworkers/Robots

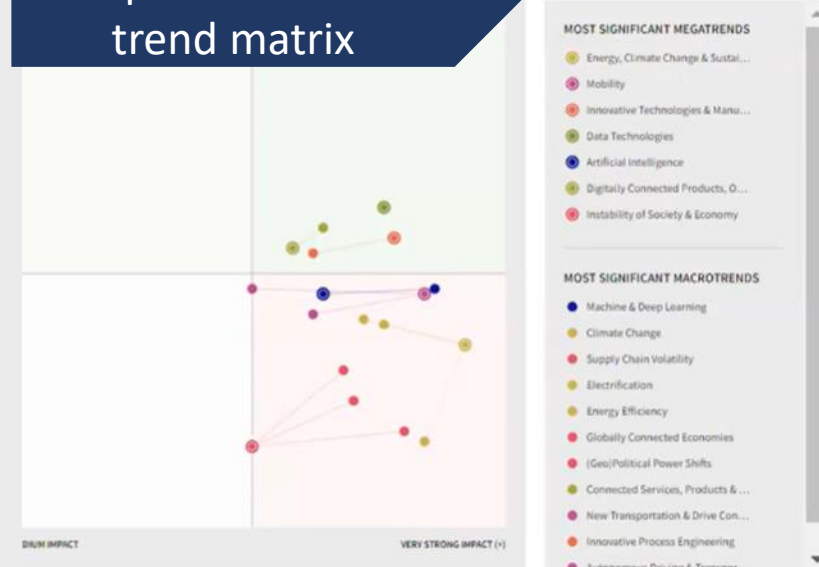
In the world of work, AI (in the form of intelligent assistants, smart tools and robots) can take on increasingly demanding tasks and massively facilitate or replace the need for human workers.

Related to
 @ ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Competences/Impact Matrix



This trend is in the second quadrant. The effects of this trend have a major impact on your business. Unfortunately, you don't seem to have the right skills today to deal with the effects of this trend. If you do not take the right steps, the consequences could become a risk to your business.





Benefits of the Trend Universe



- **Strategic guidance** for prioritising innovation programmes



- Provide **market intelligence** to members
- **Collaborative foresight** and scenario analysis with members & for your own strategic agenda



- **Track innovation** trends
- **Readiness assessment** for key trends

It is an interesting tool for cluster managers to help their companies in the anticipation of future trends.

Loïc Marin
GEMSTONE Eurocluster

We use the Trend Universe for the strategic guidance of the strategic programme in our innovation agency.

Fritz Fahringer
Standortagentur Tirol

Rewatch the Cluster Talk on the Trend Universe:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mpUp_xYG52c

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Which use cases do you see for the Trend Universe?

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How could the value of the Trend Universe be further increased for your (cluster) organisation?

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Market Uptake Measures of renewable energy systems

- This call focuses on the uptake, integration, and societal acceptance of **renewable energy systems (RES)** across various sectors—industrial, residential, and energy—while promoting sustainability and innovation.
- Key objectives:
 - **Wide uptake of renewable energy:** Encouraging the adoption of RES to increase the share of renewable energy in final energy consumption by 2030 and beyond.
 - **Policy and market support:** Developing open-source tools and methodologies to inform policy-making and enhance market frameworks for renewable energy integration.
 - **Social acceptability:** Addressing ecological, economic, and social concerns to improve the acceptance of RES installations.
 - **Collaboration and scalability:** Creating solutions with long-term viability that can be applied across regions and sectors, involving diverse stakeholders, and fostering international cooperation.
- The call underlines the importance of **multidisciplinary approaches**, especially incorporating social sciences and humanities (SSH), to tackle market barriers and societal challenges in the transition to sustainable energy systems
- Topic ID: HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02-10
- Deadline: 04 February 2025
- Published on [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#)

Support for SMEs developing Circular Economy and Sustainable solutions for the Agrifood sector in the Euroregion Pyrenees Mediterranean

- This initiative aims to **scale up technologies** and bring them closer to market, facilitating collaboration through CESAM's LinkedIn event platform for SME matchmaking.
- This call supports SMEs developing **innovative, market-ready solutions** (TRL 6-9) in the agri-food sector, focusing on:
 - Industrial water treatment and recycling.
 - Eco-friendly packaging (plastic-free, new materials, circular solutions).
 - Process optimisation (waste reduction, circular processes).
 - Valorisation of co-products/by-products.
- The **EGTC Euroregion Pyrenees-Mediterranean** (EPM) is the coordinator of both the project and this call for projects. Its objective is to foster cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation.
- Projects must help bring the technology or solution to a higher **TRL level** and closer to market, starting from minimum TRL6 to TRL9
- Topic ID: I3-2021-INV2a-GREEN
- Deadline: 19 February 2025
- Published on [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#)

Innovation Fund 2024 Net Zero Technologies – General decarbonisation – Medium-Scale Projects

- This call supports innovative projects advancing **decarbonisation and achieving climate neutrality** in line with the EU ETS Directive. It focuses on low-carbon technologies, energy efficiency, renewable energy, and carbon capture solutions across various scales:
 - **General decarbonisation** (Large, Medium, and Small-Scale Projects): Funding is available for projects improving low-carbon processes, carbon capture and storage (CCS), and renewable energy systems, prioritising industrial capacity and supply chain resilience.
 - **Clean-tech manufacturing:** Supports construction and operation of facilities producing components for renewable energy, hydrogen systems, energy storage, and heat pumps, with an emphasis on innovation, efficiency, and sustainability.
 - **Pilot projects:** Funds highly innovative and disruptive decarbonisation technologies for testing and validation, aiming for progression to large-scale or commercial applications.
- The projects must demonstrate innovation, align with climate neutrality objectives, and contribute to Europe’s strategic autonomy.
- Topic ID: INNOVFUND-2024-NZT-GENERAL-MSP
- Deadline: 24 April 2025
- Published on [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#)

Joint EUROCLUSTERS for Europe's recovery

- This call focuses on reinforcing innovation and adoption of new technologies for **strategic autonomy**. In particular, the emphasis is on **value chains** within or across one or more of the 14 industrial ecosystems identified in the European Industrial Strategy.
- The call is divided **into two strands**:
 - Strand 1 focuses on **net-zero technologies and critical raw materials**:
 - Strand 2 covers **value chains not covered in Strand 1**.
- Number of projects to be funded: **16** (with at least **8 projects for Strand 1**)
- Maximum project duration: **36 months**
- Budget: **42 million EUR**
- Topic ID: SMP-COSME-2024-CLUSTER-01
- Deadline: **05 February 2025**
- Functional Mailbox for applicants: EISMEA-SMP-COSME-ENQUIRIES@ec.europa.eu
- Published on [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#)

Opportunities for SMEs: Calls from Euroclusters

- FRIEND CCI: Call for **providers** in the areas of digitalization and/or green transition and/or services for internationalization; deadline 01 August 2025
- INGENIOUS: **Training** grants to help SMEs improve their digital skills, green transition, resilience preparedness and reskilling and upskilling of the workforce; deadline 14 February 2025.

All calls here: <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/open-calls/euroclusters>

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[New collaboration opportunities in the Republic of Korea and Japan](#)

12 February

[From Lab to Market: The role of collaboration between technology centres and clusters](#)

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