

An initiative of the European Union



**EUCLUSTERS**  **TALKS** ★

# From Policy to Practice:

The Clean Industrial Deal in Action

**12 March 2025**

08:30-09:45 CET

**Online**



*Business Support on Your Doorstep*

# Agenda

1. News from the European Cluster Collaboration Platform  
**Nina Hoppmann**, Team Member European Cluster Collaboration Platform
2. Clean Industrial Deal  
**Zuzana Gentner Vavrová**, Policy Officer, DG GROW, European Commission
3. Panel debate  
**Prof. Dr. Hannes Utikal**, Project Lead, Cluster Process4Sustainability, Proxadis School of International Management and Technology  
**Katia Ferrari**, Cluster Manager, Clust-ER Greentech  
**Oana Raita**, Executive Director, Transylvania Energy Cluster  
**Steffen Helledie**, International Business Consultant, North Denmark EU-Office, Enterprise Europe Network
4. Funding opportunities  
**Nina Hoppmann**, Team Member European Cluster Collaboration Platform

# Housekeeping rules

Jennifer Baker, 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

# A bolder, simpler, faster Union: the 2025 Commission work programme

The EC's [2025 work programme](#) is focused on competitiveness, security, and economic resilience.

Designed to make EU policies and laws work **better and faster**.

## [More info](#)



« Today, we are setting out a vision for an implementation and simplification agenda that will deliver fast and visible improvements for people and business. European businesses should spend less time and resources complying with red tape, so that they can instead focus on what really matters: developing innovative ideas, putting them into motion in Europe and creating high-quality jobs. Every hour saved on paperwork can be a win for all Europeans. We are determined to set the right conditions for more innovation, more business and better jobs in Europe. »

Valdis Dombrovskis, Commissioner for Economy and Productivity;  
Implementation and Simplification



« Citizens and businesses have called for a simpler and leaner European Union. This roadmap charts our course to a more competitive, resilient, and prosperous Europe. »

Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission

## [Key priorities:](#)

- Sustainable prosperity and [competitiveness](#)
- Defence and security
- Supporting people, strengthening our societies and our social model
- Sustaining our quality of life
- Protecting democracy and upholding values
- A global Europe: leveraging our power and partnerships
- Delivering together and preparing our Union for the future

# CONCORDi 2025: 10th European Conference on Corporate R&D and Innovation

CONCORDi 2025

Strategic Technologies and Industrial Policy  
for Competitiveness and Sustainability

10<sup>th</sup> European Conference on  
Corporate R&D and Innovation

24 - 26  
September 2025



Co-organised with



The next edition of the European Conference on Corporate R&D and Innovation (CONCORDi ) will take place from **24-26 September 2025 in Seville, Spain.**

This **science-for-policy forum** brings together academics, policymakers, and industry leaders to discuss **EU policy challenges** related to corporate R&D, innovation, and industrial dynamics. The 2025 edition will focus on strategic technologies, private investment, technological autonomy, and leveraging the Green Deal for business opportunities.

Conference registration **opens on 26 May 2025**, with no fees required.

[More info](#)

# Register for the EIC Summit: 2-3 April 2025

Innovation  
made in europe

**REGISTER  
NOW**

#EICSUMMIT25

EUROPEAN  
INNOVATION  
COUNCIL SUMMIT **25**

2 - 3 APRIL 2025

European  
Innovation  
Council

The EIC Summit 25 will take place at the Tour & Taxis site in **Brussels**.

The conference aims to connect key players shaping Europe's **deep-tech landscape**, explore groundbreaking EIC projects, and demonstrate how the EIC can support **innovations** on their path to market.

**Register here:**

<https://eu.eventscloud.com/ereg/newreg.php?eventid=200286263&>

# Save the date 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.

The banner features a background image of a woman with glasses smiling while looking at a tablet. The text is overlaid on this image. At the top right, it says 'An initiative of the European Union' with the EU flag. The main logo is 'C<sup>2</sup> LAB' with a star. Below it, 'CLUSTER COLLABORATION LABS' is written in large white letters. To the right, three stacked boxes contain 'Esbjerg, Denmark', '6-7 May 2025', and 'SAVE THE DATE'. At the bottom left, there are logos for 'EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM', 'European Commission', and 'energy CLUSTER DENMARK'. At the bottom right, there is a yellow triangle with 'NEXT GEN EU'.



# Save the date and register for the next ECCP events!



**EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM**

An initiative of the European Union

## ECCP Events 2025

-  **Online EU Clusters Talks**  
Biweekly: 12 March - 26 March at 8:30 CET
-  **Zaragoza, Spain**  
Cluster Collaboration Labs | 19-20 March
-  **Heilbronn, Germany**  
Clusters meet Regions | 9-10 April & ECCP Matchmaking
-  **Esbjerg, Denmark**  
Cluster Collaboration Labs | 6-7 May
-  **Cairo, Egypt**  
ECCP Matchmaking | 16-18 June
-  **Cluj, Romania**  
Clusters meet Regions | 1-2 July & ECCP Matchmaking
-  **Eindhoven, The Netherlands**  
Clusters meet Regions | 26-27 March & ECCP Matchmaking
-  **Rzeszów, Poland**  
Clusters meet Regions | 3-4 June
-  **Palma de Mallorca, Spain**  
Clusters meet Regions | 14-15 May & ECCP Matchmaking
-  **Foligno, Italy**  
ECCP Matchmaking | 16-18 June
-  **Ajdovščina, Slovenia**  
Clusters meet Regions | 10-11 September

 Clusters Meet Regions  ECCP Matchmaking International  C2Lab

Registration is open for Clusters Meet Regions in [Eindhoven, The Netherlands](#), and [Heilbronn, Germany](#).

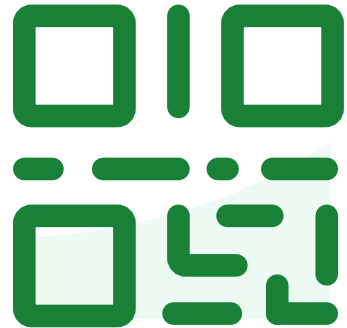
# Clean Industrial Deal

**Zuzana Gentner Vavrová**

Policy Officer, DG GROW, European Commission

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**Join at [slido.com](https://slido.com)**  
**#CID**

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

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**Which aspect of the Clean Industrial Deal do you find most relevant for your organisation?**

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

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**What is the biggest skills gap in your organisation related to the clean industrial transformation?**

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

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**What is the main financial barrier preventing your organisation/members from investing in clean tech?**

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

# Panel debate

**Prof. Dr. Hannes Utikal**, Project Lead, Cluster Process4Sustainability,  
Provadis School of International Management and Technology

**Katia Ferrari**, Cluster Manager, Clust-ER Greentech

**Oana Raita**, Executive Director, Transylvania Energy Cluster

**Steffen Helledie**, International Business Consultant, North Denmark EU-Office,  
Enterprise Europe Network

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



# Innovation Fund 2024 Net Zero Technologies – Clean-tech manufacturing

- This call supports the **construction and operation of manufacturing facilities** for clean-tech components that enhance renewable energy, energy storage, and hydrogen technologies.
- Applicants can develop **activities** in the project related to:
  - **Manufacturing of Clean-Tech components** for:
    - Renewable Energy: Solar panels, wind turbines, ocean energy, geothermal, and grid connection components.
    - Energy storage solutions: Batteries (excluding battery cell manufacturing for EVs) and long-duration storage
    - Heat pumps: Development and production of heat pumps.
  - **Innovation in manufacturing products:**
    - Lower costs, improved performance, efficiency, durability, and system integration.
    - Production Processes: Increased recycling, efficient material use, automation, and digitalisation.
  - **Recycling & circular economy:** funding for recycling or reusing critical materials used in clean-tech manufacturing.
- Topic ID: INNOVFUND-2024-NZT-CLEAN-TECH-MANUFACTURING
- Deadline: 24 April 2025
- Published on [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#)

# Innovation Fund 2024 Net Zero Technologies – General decarbonisation

- This call aims to fund **innovative low-carbon technologies and processes** that significantly reduce climate change impacts in industries.
- **Funding categories:** Large-Scale Projects; Medium-Scale Projects; Small-Scale Projects
- Applicants can develop **activities** in their proposals related to:
  - Innovation in Low-Carbon Technologies & Processes
  - Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS)
  - Innovative Renewable Energy & Energy Storage Technologies
  - Hydrogen for Industry
  - Decarbonisation in Maritime & Aviation
- Topic ID: INNOVFUND-2024-NZT-GENERAL-MSP
- Deadline: 24 April 2025
- Published on [EU Funding & Tenders Portal \(large-scale projects\)](#); [EU Funding & Tenders Portal \(medium-scale projects\)](#); [EU Funding & Tenders Portal \(small-scale projects\)](#)

# Demonstration of stationary fuel cells in renewable energy communities

- This call aims to demonstrate integrated **renewable energy systems** using stationary fuel cells in renewable energy communities. The focus is on showcasing **hydrogen-based energy generation** to improve energy efficiency, grid reliability, and community empowerment in the **clean energy transition**.
- Projects results are expected to contribute to, for example:
  - Support the industrialisation of European fuel **cell technology**
  - Demonstrate **hydrogen-based** combined heat and power (CHP) systems
  - **Reduce energy costs & emissions** through demand-side strategies
  - **Empower citizens** and support EU energy & climate policies
- **At least one partner must be a member of Hydrogen Europe or Hydrogen Europe Research**
- Topic ID: HORIZON-JU-CLEANH2-2025-04-01
- Deadline: 23 April 2025
- Published on [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#)

# Innovative hydrogen and solid carbon production from renewable gases/biogenic waste processes

- This call focuses on developing breakthrough technologies to **convert renewable gases** (biogas, biomethane), **biogenic solid waste, and advanced feedstocks into hydrogen** and high-value solid carbon. The goal is to enhance circularity, decarbonisation, and EU energy security while reducing dependency on fossil-based hydrogen and imported raw materials.
- Projects results are expected to contribute to, for example:
  - **Advanced low-emission technologies** for converting renewable sources into hydrogen & carbon
  - Strengthening the European technological capacity for **clean hydrogen and carbon** production
  - Sector coupling with chemicals, steel, and materials industries for **resource efficiency**
  - Enhanced **energy security** by promoting EU-based renewable hydrogen production
  - **Reducing geopolitical risks** relating to the development of clean technologies, including hydrogen technologies
- **Consortium must include a member of Hydrogen Europe or Hydrogen Europe Research**
- Topic ID: HORIZON-JU-CLEANH2-2025-01-06
- Deadline: 23 April 2025
- Published on [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#)

# Opportunities for SMEs: Calls from Euroclusters

- BLUEDOTS – Open Call for Proposals: Financial support for **Social Economy SMEs** and enabling organisations in the blue sector across Europe; deadline 21 March.
- CirclnWater 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.
- POLREC – 2nd Networking Open Call: Call for **Polymer Recycling Industries** to collaborate and innovate in recycling processes; deadline 14 March.

**All calls here:**

[https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/funding?f%5B0%5D=status%3A1\\_open&f%5B1%5D=type%3A101189](https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/funding?f%5B0%5D=status%3A1_open&f%5B1%5D=type%3A101189)

# Register for the next Talk

**26 March**

Clusters & SMEs in the EU's Simplification Agenda:  
Understanding the Omnibus Packages

# Continue the discussion



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

# Visit the ECCP website and follow us on social media



[www.clustercollaboration.eu](http://www.clustercollaboration.eu)



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THANK YOU

