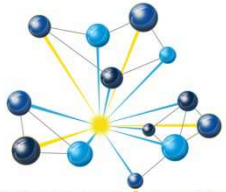


VANGUARD INITIATIVE

New growth through smart specialisation

VANGUARD INITIATIVE POLICY EXPERTS WORKSHOP ON CLUSTER POLICY

Brussels, 20 October 2014



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AGENDA

10.30 – 10.45 **Welcome and Introduction**

10.45 – 11.30 Taking stock of existing policies / missing links

11.30 – 12.30 The way forward – Key messages

12.30 – 13.00 Adoption of the VI ‘statement’ and
agreement on follow-up actions

13.00 14.00 *Sandwich lunch and networking*



Taking stock of existing policies / missing links

- How does **existing** EU cluster policy support inter-cluster and trans-regional collaboration ?
- Which are the **main barriers** to trans-regional collaboration and cluster collaboration ? What are **the missing links** in the EU policy to allow the development of world-class clusters and cross-EU industrial and innovation value chains in Europe ?
- Which specific difficulties are facing clusters **in accessing the different EU programmes?**



The way forward

What are the key priorities for a renewed EU Cluster Policy?

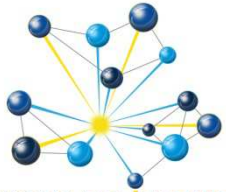
- Which new tools are required ?
- How to enhance efficiency of existing tools and to develop a more result-oriented policy ?
- How can we move towards a more investment- and projects-driven interclustering approach, with a view to enhancing its impact on the market?
- What are your expectations for the Smart Specialisation Platforms for Industrial Policy ?



Final Statement

- Amendements / adoption
- Communication to VI political leaders ⇒ Milan Political meeting (13 November 2014)
- Diffusion to the European Commission / Cluster Conference

 **Participatory session (21/10)**



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Key messages (1 / 4)

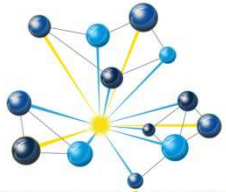
- A renewed EU Cluster policy is key for re-industrialisation and in supporting **EU growth, global competitiveness and answering societal challenges**. It is closely driven by the **smart specialisation agenda**, and must be full part of EU industrial and innovation policies. It should be a key aspect of the Europe 2020 strategy review.
- The support to the generation of world-class clusters linking regional cluster nodes should foster the emergence of **new EU, global and cross-sectoral innovative value chains**.



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Key messages (2/4)

- We need a more **result-oriented approach to cluster policy**, stressing how clusters will mobilise resources and incentivise interaction within and across regions, **mobilising a critical mass of entrepreneurial and innovation potential**, bridging the gap to markets and fostering a more user- and demand driven approaches.
- ⇒ **Impact on business competitiveness, growth, economic transformation through internationalisation, investment and innovation at EU level should be the main objectives.**



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Key messages (3 / 4)

- Policy action should enable **developing and upscaling interregional and cross-cluster networks** to support capacity in developing and **implementing roadmaps for co-investment in European priority areas.**
- ⇒ Financial instruments, more dedicated and cluster-friendly calls, synergies between EU policies and multi-level governance aligning top-down and bottom-up processes.



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Key messages (4/4)

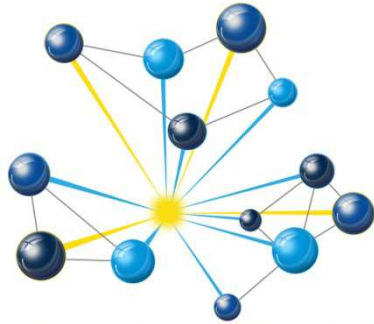
- Cluster platforms should be supported as strong leverage for fostering **SME's participation** in EU collaborative projects and internationalisation activities. Promoting new ways of involving business through bottom-up driven cluster networks and co-creation platforms should be at the heart of the new EU Cluster Policy.
- ⇒ New approach tested with Pilot Smart Specialisation Platform on advanced manufacturing



Next steps

Further involvement of VI in supporting the development of a new European Cluster Strategy for Growth

- European Cluster Conference 2014 (20/21 October)
- Consultation on the future European Cluster Strategy for Growth
- New meeting of Vanguard Initiative Regions Policy Experts
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**THANKS FOR YOUR
PARTICIPATION !**

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