



September 2019

Invitation to participate in the Final Conference of the CLUSTERS3 Interreg Europe Project "Leveraging Cluster Policies for successful implementation of RIS3" October 9, 2019 at 14.30h Venue: FMCCA | Elisabeth Center, Koningin Astridplein 20, Antwerp, Flanders BE

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the organizing committee and the partners of the CLUSTERS3 project, we would like to cordially invite you to participate in the Final Conference of the CLUSTERS3 Interreg Europe Project "Leveraging Cluster Policies for successful implementation of RIS3".

The **CLUSTERS3** Interreg Europe (https://www.interregeurope.eu/clusters3/) was launched in 2016 to provide answers to challenges of implementing cluster policies in coordination with other competitiveness policies. After nearly 4 years of peer learning, the 7 partner regions Basque Country (ES), Hadjú-Bihar (HU), Highlands and Islands (UK), Latvia (LV), Lubelskie (PL), Northern Ireland (UK) and Piedmont (IT) with the support of TCI Network as advisory partner, will share in Antwerp the key learnings of the project around the design and implementation of cluster policies, the cluster organisation ecosystem, the monitoring and evaluation of clusters, and the link between clusters and regional smart specialisation strategies. There will also be a session with a specific focus to discuss on the key challenges in the future for cluster policies and S3 in Europe.

This special final event of the project will be held during the TCI Global Conference, the biggest global clusters event in the year. From 8 to 10 October 2019, Flanders – Belgium's northern region – will be the place to be for government, business and academic players who believe in the innovative power of collaboration and industry clusters. Co-hosted by government agencies Flanders Investment & Trade (FIT) and Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship (VLAIO), the conference will dive into the theme "Strategic Clusters for Sustainable Growth", exploring new trends and new practices for clusters in a shifting environment and connecting 400+ leading experts from around the world.

We look forward to your participation in the Final Conference of CLUSTERS3. Please send an email to <u>ezekiela.arrizabalaga@tecnalia.com</u> to register as participant. Registration to the CLUSTERS3 Final Conference is free of charge.

For more information about the extended TCI Global Conference you can visit <u>www.tci2019antwerp.org</u> and make use of the special discount for the CLUSTERS3 partners in the general conference fee.

Best regards,

Merete D. Nielsen President, TCI Network MUII Damed Nielsn

Juan Domingo Olabarri SPRI, Leading Partner 1