

## REMIX\_Castilla y León – EU Cluster Matchmaking Event – 9.04.2019

The Institute for Business Competitiveness of Castilla y León (ICE), Castilla y León/Spain in coordination with GKZ Freiberg, Saxony/Germany and in collaboration with the Santa Bárbara Foundation, Spain in the framework of the REMIX project organized the Castilla y León – EU Cluster Matchmaking Event as part of the European Commission's EU Cluster week initiative. The event concerned about how is to strategically partner clusters and specialised eco-systems across Europe and show the best practices in such a collaboration in stimulating new partnerships.

We were proud that the Event was part of the first series of the EU cluster Weeks 2018-2019, which helps promote national, regional and local cluster events, and support SMEs (small and medium sized enterprises) growths, industrial transformation and regional economic development. This collaboration with the European Commission is a successful example of the EU's efforts to build strong interregional collaboration to help strengthen business environments for business owners across Europe.

The Castilla y León – EU Cluster Matchmaking Event has taken place on April 9th, 2019. The event was a great success with a good turnout of people. The importance and value of analyzing the eco-systems and networking potential of EU industrial clusters, in order to foster their industrial members' competitiveness in exploiting their innovation and, demonstrate their growth potential in key presentations according to a systemised structure, was one of the objectives of the event.

Many key players such as the European Commission, OECD, EIT RM HUB CENTRUM KOŠICE, Polish Stonemason's Cluster and several entities presented their way to do a sustainable interregional cooperation in the field of Raw materials. The event was an opportunity for attendees to meet peers from the same cluster topic and to broaden the knowledge, skills and business connections on an international, national, regional and local level.

The Castilla y León – EU Cluster Matchmaking Event was an opportunity to team up amongst EU countries (Poland, France, Germany, Spain, Finland etc) and their regions, encouraging European partnering, increasing awareness on the role of clusters and their achieved results and collecting feedback on common challenges and the ways they can be addressed in the future initiatives. This EU, national and regional partnerships demonstrate the importance and success of such collaborative endeavors in supporting SMEs in their expansion and growth efforts.

The event ended with a visit to the facilities of Santa Bárbara Foundation. The participants had the opportunity to visit the Foundation's unique facilities, such as the experimental tunnels, the open pit mine, the underground mine or the geothermal plant, among others. In addition, they could know the entity's activities in terms of professional and specialised training and research and development.

The presentations from the Castilla y León – EU Cluster Matchmaking Event session can be viewed [HERE](#).

The Castilla y León – EU Cluster Matchmaking Event draw several media representatives to attend as well followed by multiple articles covering the event. All of the articles published can be viewed (in Spanish only) on the [REMIX website](#).

## ARTICLES

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