



Boosting innovation: a cluster approach

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Seminars on clusters

- Clusters in Europe (Smith, Pezzi)
- Today: Boosting innovation: a cluster approach
- Clusters since we are interested in discussing about territorial competitiveness
- Boosting Innovation will remind you OECD Conference in Paris
- A cluster approach to innovation is the focus of our discussion

Background: institutional (top down)

- Regional clusters in Europe (Observatory of European SMEs, 2002)
- Final report of the Expert Group on Enterprise Clusters and Networks (DG Enterprise and Industry, 2003)
- “Putting knowledge into practice: a broad based innovation strategy for EU”, EC document, 2006
- “Towards world class clusters in EU: implementing the broad-based innovation strategy”, EC Communication COM(2008), 17 Oct 2008

Background: from networks of cluster initiatives (bottom up)

- Europe Innova and ProInno Europe (VI and VII FP)
- European Cluster Observatory (Europe Innova)
- High Level Group on Clusters (Europe Innova VI FP)
- European Cluster Alliance (BSR InnoNet, CEE-ClusterNetwork, CLUNET, INNETH, ProInnoEurope)
- European Presidency Conference on Innovation and Clusters (Europe Innova and ProInno Europe), January 2008
- European Cluster Memorandum
- European Cluster Policy Group (October 2008)
- Main aims: mapping, best practices, benchmarking, networking among EU clusters

Why this seminar?

Policy orientation and transnational cooperation

The seminar is aimed to focus on different research issues:

1. Which is the best approach for cluster policy making?
What is happening in Europe?
2. Is transnational cooperation supporting European clusters a viable policy? Do we really need to connect EU clusters?
3. Will the new EU industrial policy be focused really on clusters?
4. Are clusters and firms ready to afford these changes?
5. Are we in front of a new (the last?) challenge to sustain the EU industries in the current globalising context?

Why here in Piacenza?

- MUMAT is a master programme in Territorial Marketing focused on territorial competitiveness and territorial policy enhancing competitiveness
- DISES is our Department in Social and Economic Sciences particularly involved in applied research on local industrial systems and we have research centres (LEL, Laboratory for Local Economy) specialized in industrial districts analysis
- MUSP and Innovation MUSP is a Lab based on a regional policy aimed to enforce research and innovation in Emilia Romagna that is becoming a Technopole specialized in Machine Tools and Production Systems (Prof. Monno is the director)

Why with you?

Four cases in Europe

Fiona Whitehurst, Regional economist at Newcastle University Business School
"Regional Leadership: The Emergence of Subsea NE and the Subsea Technology Cluster in North East England"

Thomas Stahlecker, Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research (ISI),
Germany

"Recent experiences with German cluster policies : The Leading Edge Cluster competition and the Bavarian Cluster Campaign as examples"

Pavla Břusková, Regional Development Agency Ostrava, Czech Republic

"The Czech cluster policy – achievements and challenges, leading clusters in Moravia-Silesia. The Czech National Cluster Association and the Czech Machinery Cluster."

Seppo Tikkanen, Finnish Metals and Engineering Competence Cluster, Tampere, Finland

"Creating innovations and breakthroughs together"

Our discussants

- Prof. Vendramini, Catholic University of Piacenza, expert in International Strategies and Clusters
- Prof. Monno, Director of MUSP
- Dott.ssa Ginelli, Director Reindustria Crema
- Ing. Salmon, Musp Innovation

Future cooperation

- Circulation of ideas and experiences
- Book on clusters in Europe
- Networking among our organisations in order to collaborate for future projects

Let me thank also

- Luciana Rezoagli, DISES secretary
- Sabrina Anselmi, MUSP secretary
- Serena Costa and Lisa Concari, Innovation
MUSP Research fellows
- Ilaria Dioli, MUMAT coordinator
- Ilaria Massari, Reindustria