

# Strategic 3<sup>rd</sup> Call

## Policy Learning Mechanisms in Support of Cluster Development

Bucharest  
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# Content

- Third Call - timelines
- Third Call - key points
- Terms of Reference - definitions & understanding
- Terms of Reference - content
- Delegate Questions posed
- Question & Answers
- Break
- Romanian Cluster Policy and Policy Learning
- Ideas



# The Third Call – Timeline

<b>05.05.2010</b>	<b>Decision on 3<sup>rd</sup> call at MC committee in Pula</b>		
<b>08.07.2010</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> strategic seminar in Dubrovnik</b>		
<b>22.09.2010</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> strategic seminar in Thessaloniki</b>		
<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Task</b>
<b>11.01.2011</b>	<b>25.02.11</b>	<b>2 months</b>	<b>WP for approving ToRs + Application Package</b>
<b>25.02.2011</b>	<b>08.04.11</b>	<b>1 month</b>	<b>Territorial marketing</b>
<b>08.04.2011</b>	<b>27.05.11</b>	<b>7 weeks</b>	<b>Call is open for Eols</b>
<b>01.06.11</b>	<b>08.07.11</b>	<b>6 weeks</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
<b>26.07.11</b>	<b>27.07.11</b>	<b>2 days</b>	<b>Proposal pre-selection by MC</b>
<b>01.08.11</b>	<b>30.09.11</b>		<b>Conditions clearing and revision</b>
<b>03.10.11</b>	<b>25.11.11</b>	<b>8 weeks</b>	<b>Call is open for AF</b>
<b>28.11.11</b>	<b>31.12.11</b>	<b>5 weeks</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
<b>January 2012</b>		<b>2 days</b>	<b>MC meeting: project approvals</b>

# Third Call: key points 1

1. Available budget - 30M€ ERDF (+ca 7M€ IPA+ ca 1M€ENPI)
2. IPA integration is under finalisation; ENPI funds are available
3. IPA & ENPI funds are subject to signature of the financing agreement between EC and the beneficiary countries
4. Project duration is 30 months max
5. Expression of interest with online submission on SEE website + (under invitation) developed application to 2<sup>nd</sup> step (High quality projects are needed)

## Third Call: Key points 2

### 6. SEE Programme Manual v.3.1 is being finalized:

#### Partners' eligibility:

- Maximum 3 financing partners per country and per project
- at least 8 Partner States ( both financing and ASP)
- 1 institution can be financing partner in max 2 (two) project proposals
- 1 institution can be Lead Applicant in max 1 (one) project proposal

### 7. ERDF & IPA co-funding rate is 85% of eligible costs; ENPI is 90%.

### 8. Statement on Pre-financing and Co-financing to be signed by all PPs



# The Terms of Reference:

## Policy Learning Mechanisms in Support of Cluster Development

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# Definitions/ understandings

1. Clusters
2. Cluster Policy
3. Evidence/fact based cluster policy
4. Policy Learning



# 1.Cluster definition

## Michael Porter 1998:

- geographical concentrations
- of interconnected companies, specialised suppliers, service providers, firms in related industries and associated institutions
- in a particular field
- that compete but also co-operate





## 2.Cluster policy

Cluster policy refers to the range of actions aimed at improving cluster performance

- Facilitation policies
- Traditional framework policies
- Development policies



# Cluster policy

According to the EU's report of January 2008 on *Cluster Policy in Europe* "Two thirds of the countries in Europe have published policy papers in which the cluster approach is part of their national innovation policy...(and) all European countries have cluster programmes on a national and/or regional level."



# Cluster policy

Few countries claim to have national cluster policies. Instead, countries use different names for cluster-based approaches, including ‘Centres of Expertise’; ‘Poles of competitiveness’; ‘Priority Industries’





# 3.Evidence/fact based cluster policy



Policy is said to be evidence/fact-based when it is derived – in part – based on concrete and measurable information or data



## 4. Policy learning

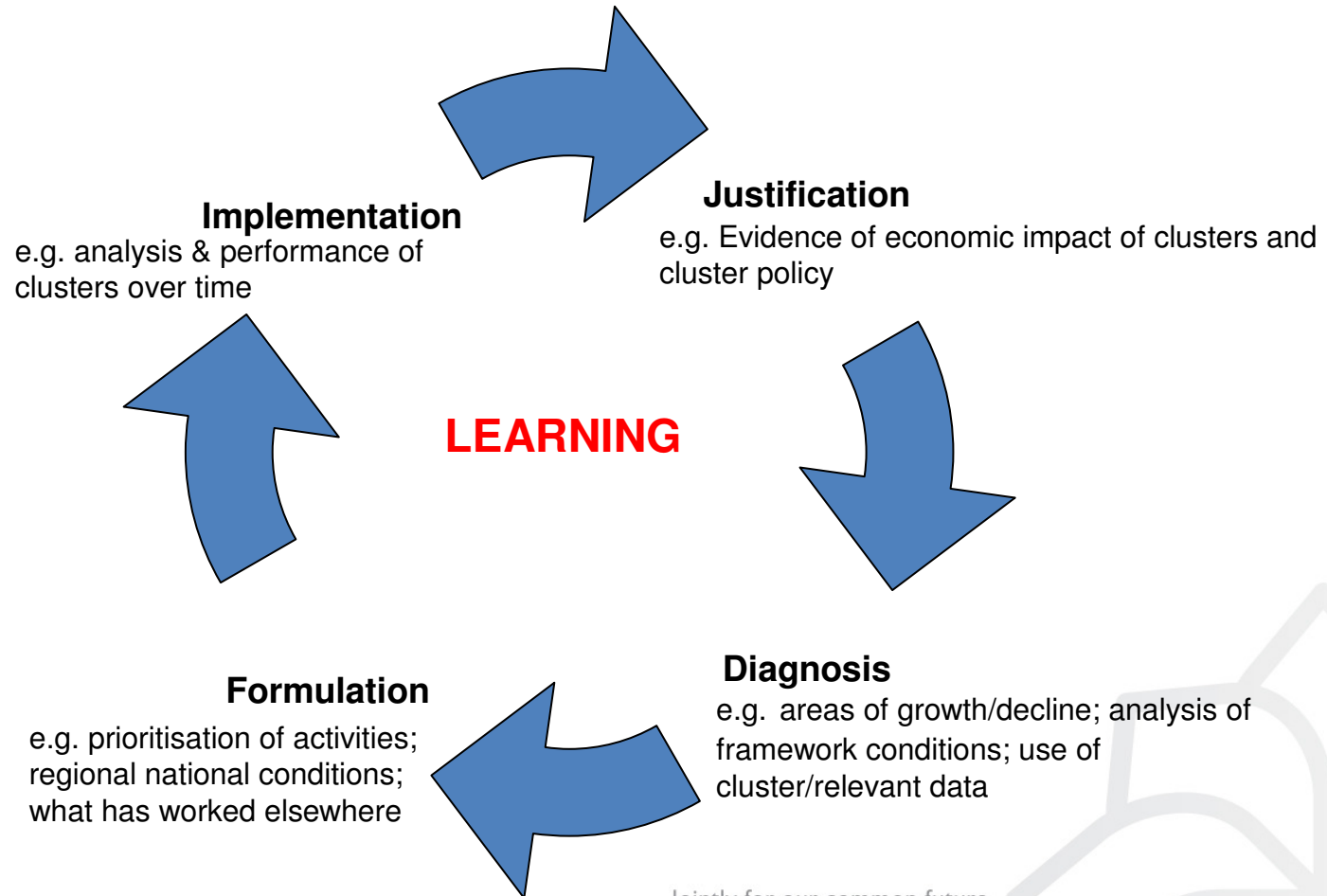
Policy learning refers to a change in thinking; a structured, conscious change in thinking about a specific policy issue

Inputs:

- Consideration of past actions
- Visions of the future
- Current Context
- Parallel Context



# Policy cycle & learning



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# Terms of Reference

## -Content-

- Overall objective
- Specific objectives
- Compulsory activities
- Indicative activities
- Outputs
- Beneficiaries





# Terms of Reference

## Overall objective



The improved regional public administrative ability and capacity to enhance, develop and implement effective regional cluster policy

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# Terms of Reference

## Specific objectives 1

- to develop mutual policy learning at a transnational level, consolidated with a SEE mutual policy learning platform(s)
- to promote the development of evidence based regional cluster policies and initiatives
- to develop, test by pilot initiatives and as appropriate implement policy learning mechanisms to support regional administrations in specific areas of cluster development
- to develop cross department, multiple policy level understanding and coordination through policy learning

# Terms of Reference

## Specific objectives 2

- to improve the understanding and usability of existing data and information related to clusters and cluster development
- to improve the framework conditions supporting cluster development
- to integrate with and contribute to the work of existing European cluster policy support bodies and initiatives



# Terms of Reference

## Compulsory activities 1

- Development an ongoing operation of a SEE Cluster Policy Learning Platform(s)
- Intelligent benchmarking of regional cluster policies (must have a specific policy focus and take account of available methodologies and data)
- Minimum of 3 expert working groups considering new policy learning mechanisms. Each working group must include regional policy makers, complemented by relevant expertise. One learning mechanism should be focused on developing cross department, multiple policy level understanding and coordination

# Terms of Reference

## Compulsory activities 2

- Coherence and synergy activities. To include ongoing consultation with specialist cluster EU development initiatives
- Project evaluation (formative element to be included with evaluation during implementation)
- Pilot initiatives to test the mechanisms and operational activity of the SEE policy learning platform(s) in specific fields of common interest



# Terms of Reference

## Indicative activities

- Developing & implementing Instruments and methods to practice mutual learning between regions (E.G. Peer review exercises in which policy makers from different countries visit a select number of other countries to exchange experiences)
- Activities to close information gaps to allow for the development of learning mechanisms
- Complementary activities e.g. knowledge management capacity building



# Terms of Reference

## Outputs 1

- Ongoing operation of a SEE Cluster Policy Learning Platform(s)
- Intelligent benchmarking methodology for specific cluster policy- developed or adopted, and tested through pilot
- Three new policy learning mechanisms developed and piloted
- Synergy protocol developed



# Terms of Reference

## Outputs 2

- Interim project evaluation summaries and final evaluation report
- Mutual learning outputs e.g. peer review recommendations
- Information gap data; analysis reports as necessary
- Staff training and development



# Terms of Reference

## Beneficiaries 1

- As a priority Regional public institutions responsible for cluster policy development and implementation (associated policy too)
- National public institutions responsible for cluster promotion and regional economic development
- Academic and research departments involved in cluster studies; R&D transfer and innovation promotion
- Cluster associations, confederations of clusters and networks; special interest groups
- **Note: Given the nature of the topic it is anticipated that the Lead Partner will be from the Public Sector**





# Terms of Reference

## Beneficiaries 2

- The ideal partnership will consist of between 10-20 partners
- Non EU member programme country partners are encouraged to engage with this initiative
- There must be a good, demonstrated balance between partners that have experience and expertise to share and partners that are primarily looking to gain capacity in this field



# EU Policy Reference



“Provide efficient platforms for  
policy learning and policy cooperation”

“Apply *evidence-based strategies* and implement  
more effective impact assessments based on a  
broad mix of relevant data sources”



European Cluster Policy Group – how  
better to support the development of  
more world class clusters in Europe  
(Final Recommendations)

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## Pro Inno Europe



Policy initiative intended to become the focal point of innovation policy analysis and development throughout Europe. 5 building blocks that provide an integrated policy approach to develop new and better innovation policies

Inno metrics; Inno policy trendchart; Inno Grips; Inno-nets; Inno actions

*e.g. projects – Tactics: development of better cluster policies and practical tools*



## European Cluster Alliance



The European Cluster Alliance is an open platform that was established to maintain a permanent policy dialogue at EU level among national and regional public authorities responsible for developing cluster policies and managing cluster programmes in their countries.

e.g. projects - BSR InnoNet; CEE ClusterNetwork; CIUNET; INNET



# Synergy 3



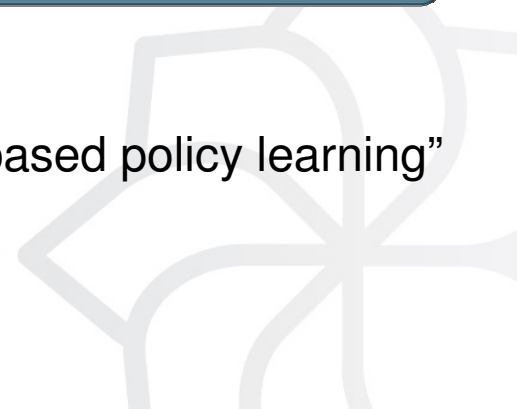
European Cluster Observatory



www.clusterobservatory.eu

- Cluster Mapping  
Clusters,  
Organisations, and  
Regional  
Competitiveness
- Cluster Library
- Cluster Wiki
- Cluster Calendar

“a user-driven tool box to facilitate analysis and support fact based policy learning”





# Synergy 4



## The European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP)

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# Synergy 5

- National & regional approaches
- Individual programme funded projects  
e.g. Interreg: Clusters & cities (CLUSNET); ETI  
Net; Innofire; Pooling4Clusters

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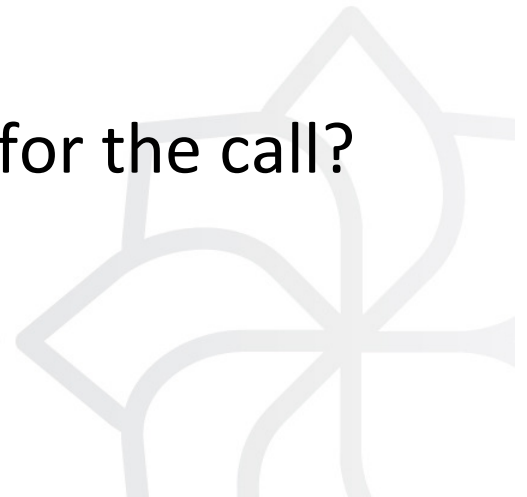
# Posed questions 1:

- What is the maximum funding?
- What type of institutions can participate?
- Are there Public Authorities looking for practical cluster experience?
- What are the experiences to consider from past projects (INTERREG/CADSES)?
- Is there a call info pack?
- What are the deadlines for submission?



## Posed questions 2:

- How can transnational development be effectively achieved?
- Is there interest in policy learning mechanisms in support of SEE clusters in the field of mechatronics?
- Could it be possible to support some model for cluster development?
- Why is this call approach so different?
- Why has the priority approach changed for the call?



# Q&A + Contact

## Questions and answers?

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