



EUROPEAN CLUSTER
COLLABORATION PLATFORM

Clusters meet Regions Lithuania Participants booklet

Baltic region clusters: eliminating risks, creating resilience,
and strengthening local and European value chains in the
face of geopolitical challenges

26th – 27th April

An initiative of the European Union





Important information for next edition of the ECCP series of Conferences “Clusters meet Regions”

Dear Attendee,

The Clusters meet Regions in Vilnius is just a few days away now. Here is all the information you will need to attend the event. In this document we try to answer some of the frequently asked questions you may have. If you have any questions that are not covered here, please, send an email to clustersmeetregions@clustercollaboration.eu

Also, you can find more information about the conference at the [ECCP](#) webpage.

INDEX

1	REGISTRATION	4
1.1	I have completed the registration form. Do I have to do anything else? Do I need further registration?	4
1.2	I have filled the form, am I already registered?	4
2	EVENT INFORMATION	5
2.1	Where/When is the event taking place?	5
2.2	Do I have to pay a fee to participate either in the Clusters meet Regions or the Matchmaking event?	5
2.3	Is there a conference programme?	6
2.4	The time indicated in the timetable corresponds to the local time in Lithuania?	6
3	PITCHING SESSION	7
3.1	I want to present my entity/project at the pitching session, what do I have to do?	7
4	MATCHMAKING EVENT	8
4.1	I want to participate physically both days, do I need to register in B2Match?	8
5	OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION	9
5.1	I am looking for accommodation to stay during the event. Do you have any recommendations?	9
5.2	How can I get to the event if I am coming directly from the airport?	11
5.3	What about COVID-19 measures?	12
5.3.1	Entry measures	12
5.3.2	National current recommendations during your stay	13

1 REGISTRATION

1.1 I have completed the registration form. Do I have to do anything else? Do I need further registration?

Once you have submitted the registration form, you will receive an email confirming your successful registration.

In case you have registered to participate in the event online, you will receive a zoom link to register on this platform in the days following your registration.

In case you want to participate in the **Matchmaking Event** (either in person or online) you will have to register on the B2Match platform via this link: [The Supply Chain Resilience \(SCR\) platform - Live Sessions \(Vilnius 04-27\) \(b2match.io\)](https://b2match.io)

1.2 I have filled the form, am I already registered?

Once you complete the questionnaire, your answers are recorded and reviewed by our team to confirm that they are correct. You will receive a confirmation email as soon as possible.

2 EVENT INFORMATION

2.1 Where/When is the event taking place?

The event will take place in two venues that are only a couple of minutes' walk apart:

26th April – Clusters meet Regions

Vilnius Town Hall

Town Hall Square, Vilnius 01128

+370 5 261 8007

info@vilniausrotuse.lt

Find out more in the following link,

[Town Hall of Vilnius | Go Vilnius](#)

27th April – Matchmaking Event

Hotel Pacai

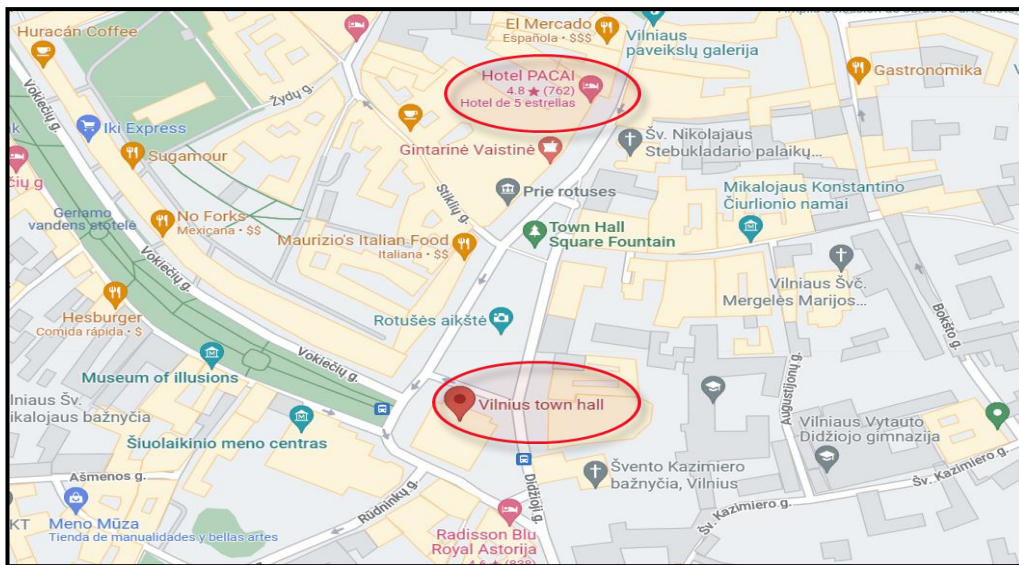
Didžioji g. 7, Vilnius 01128

+370 5 2770000

reservations@hotelpacai.com

Find out more in the following link,

[Hotel PACAI | Luxury 5* hotel in Vilnius, Lithuania](#)



2.2 Do I have to pay a fee to participate either in the Clusters meet Regions or the Matchmaking event?

Clusters meets Regions conference and Matchmaking event are free of charge.

2.3 Is there a conference programme?

Yes, at the end of the document you can find the conference programme, which includes all the sessions and activities related to Clusters meet Regions and the Matchmaking Event.

2.4 The time indicated in the timetable corresponds to the local time in Lithuania?

The time indicated in the agenda is according to Central European Summer Time (CEST, GMT+2). Lithuania follows the East Europe Summer Time (EEST, GMT+3), so for those attending the event in person, each session starts one hour later than indicated in the agenda.

3 PITCHING SESSION

3.1 I want to present my entity/project at the pitching session, what do I have to do?

In order to present your organization/project at the pitching session, please ensure you say so in the registration form, together with a brief description of the project. There is no fee to participate in this activity as a speaker.

The Clusters meets Regions' organization will provide you with a power point template. Please complete it with the information of your entity/project. .

Please note the Pitching Session will take place on 27 April. It will be followed by the Matchmaking Sessions, as indicated in the latest agenda at the bottom of [this page](#). If you are not able to present your proposal onsite, you may send your pre-recorded pitch and it will be broadcasted during the session.

If you need anything else for the pitching session, do not hesitate to write to: clustersmeetregions@clustercollaboration.eu

I want to present my organization/project at the pitching session, but I have not indicated it in the registration form, what do I have to do?

If you want to present your entity/project but you did not indicate it in the registration form, please send us an email to this address and we will try to help you: clustersmeetregions@clustercollaboration.eu

4 MATCHMAKING EVENT



4.1 I want to participate physically both days, do I need to register in B2Match?

Yes, if you are participating in the **Matchmaking Event** (either in person or online) you will have to register on the B2Match platform via this link: [The Supply Chain Resilience \(SCR\) platform - Live Sessions \(Vilnius 04-27\) \(b2match.io\)](https://b2match.io) and arrange meetings either on-site and/or online.

For those attending onsite, there will be a special room at the Venue with all the technical needs to celebrate the arranged meetings.

You can find more information about the Matchmaking in the following [site](#).

How does B2Match Works? Are there instructions?

[B2Match](#) is a platform designed to connect people at events with efficient and goal-oriented networking. It enables you to book other participants for 1:1 meetings and provides you with your personal agenda, including all your meetings, sessions, workshops, etc.

However, in order to make the most of your B2Match profiling, The ECCP will host a **Technical Webinar on April 21st at 10:00-11:00 CET**. The live webinar will be done through ZOOM, and you can easily book your spot through this link: [Technical Webinar Registration Form](#)

The purpose of the webinar is to help participants to make the most of their profiling in B2Match and the procedures to optimise the booking of meetings. It is suitable for on-site and online attendees since both need to use B2Match Platform in order to schedule the meetings.

8

5 OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

5.1 I am looking for accommodation to stay during the event. Do you have any recommendations?

There are many hotels/apartments to accommodate in Vilnius. Below you will find some recommendations.

Hotel Pacai

Didžioji g. 7, Vilnius 01128

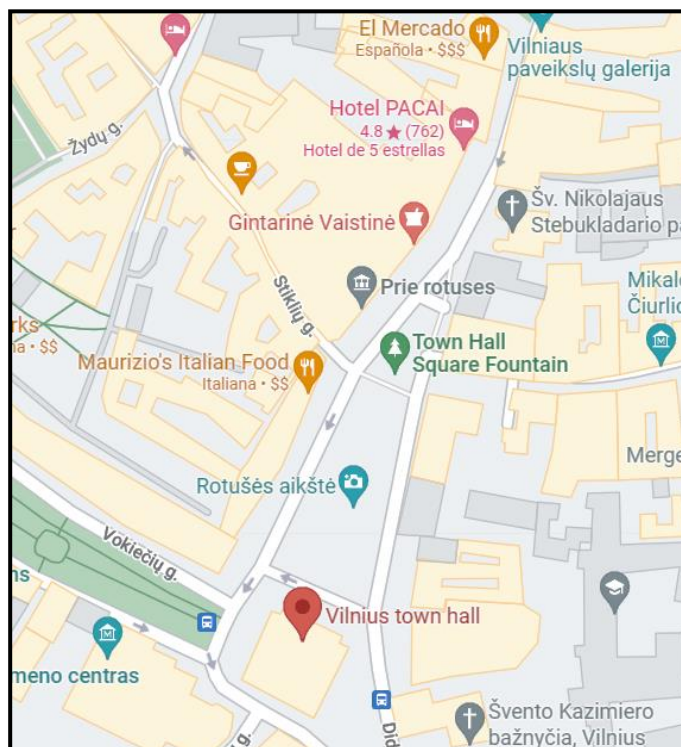
Reservations center:

+370 5 2770000

reservations@hotelpacai.com

Commuting to the Town Hall:

- Walk: 3 minutes
- Taxi: 12 minutes



The organization has reached an agreement with the hotel to offer accommodation at a reduced price for those who have registered for the event.

Special booking code created for the event:

Cluster Collaboration 2022

For booking please, **contact reservations center.**

Radisson Blu Royal Astorja Hotel, Vilnius

Didžioji 35/2, Vilnius, LT 01128, Lithuania

Reservations center:

+370 5 212 0110

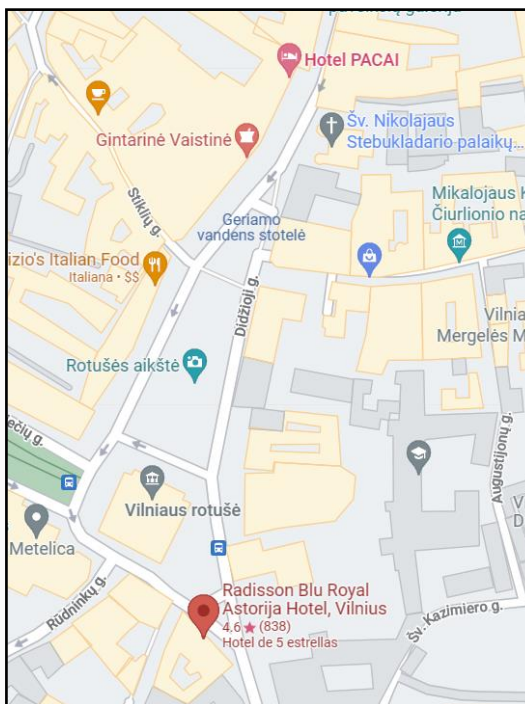
sales.vilnius@radissonblu.com

Commuting to the Town Hall:

- Walk: 1 minute
- Taxi: 1 minutes

Commuting to Hotel Pacai:

- Walk: 3 minutes
- Taxi: 14 minutes



Artagonist Hotel

Pilies str. 34, Vilnius

Reservations center:

+370 5 243 0000

hotel@artagonist.lt

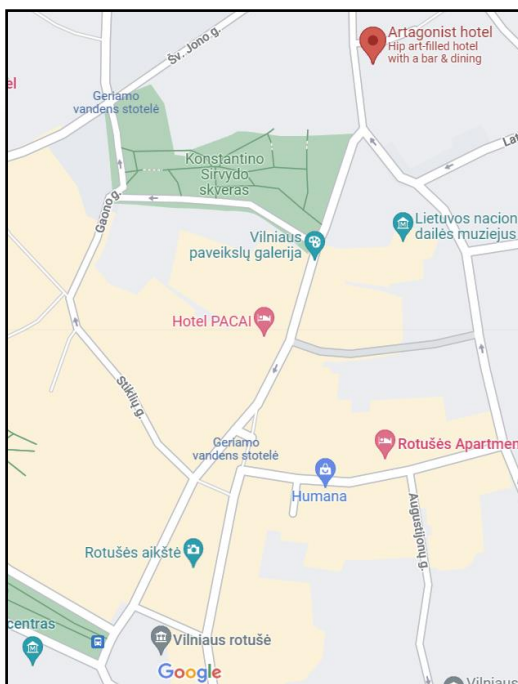
sales@artagonist.lt

Commuting to the Town Hall:

- Walk: 6 minutes
- Taxi: 13 minutes

Commuting to Hotel Pacai:

- Walk: 4 minutes
- Taxi: 1 minute



5.2 How can I get to the event if I am coming directly from the airport?

Airport Taxi

Vilnius Airport approved taxi rank can be found just in front of the arrivals terminal. All taxi cabs accept cash and credit cards. Always ask for a printed receipt at the end of the trip.

Before using taxi services, please make sure you are boarding a vehicle from Vilnius Airport's official taxi rank. Official taxi cabs have information signs regarding tariffs inside the vehicles.

If you paid more than it is set by the rate limits, you can send to the airport management a scanned copy of the receipt by this [form](#). If you need further information, click [here](#):

The distance to the venue is 20 minutes by taxi.

Vilniaus oro uosto taksi linijos vežėjai privalo taikyti ne didesnius vežimo tarifus, negu:
Vilnius Airport taxi rank carriers must apply rates not exceeding the following:

1,50 EUR	Vienkartinis mokestis už įsėdimą Initial fare
1,20 EUR	1 km dieną (nuo 6 val. iki 22 val.) 1 km (daytime trip, from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.)
1,35 EUR	1 km naktį (nuo 22 val. iki 6 val.), savaitgaliais bei šventinėmis nedarbo dienomis 1 km nighttime trip (from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.), on weekends and on public holidays
0,30 EUR	1 min. prastova laukiant keleivio arba jį aptarnaujant 1 min. of downtime while waiting for or serving a passenger
~14 EUR	Apytikslė kaina iki Senamiesčio (Katedros aikštės) Approx. price to Old Town (Cathedral Square)
~10 EUR	Apytikslė kaina iki autobusų stoties Approx. price to Bus station

← Daugiau informacijos rasite čia / More information here

ATSISKAITYMAS UŽ PASLAUGAS – tik pagal taksometro rodmenis.
 Sumokėję už kelionę visada reikalaukite kvito.
PAYMENT FOR SERVICES – only according to readings of a taximeter.
 Having paid for your trip, always require a receipt.

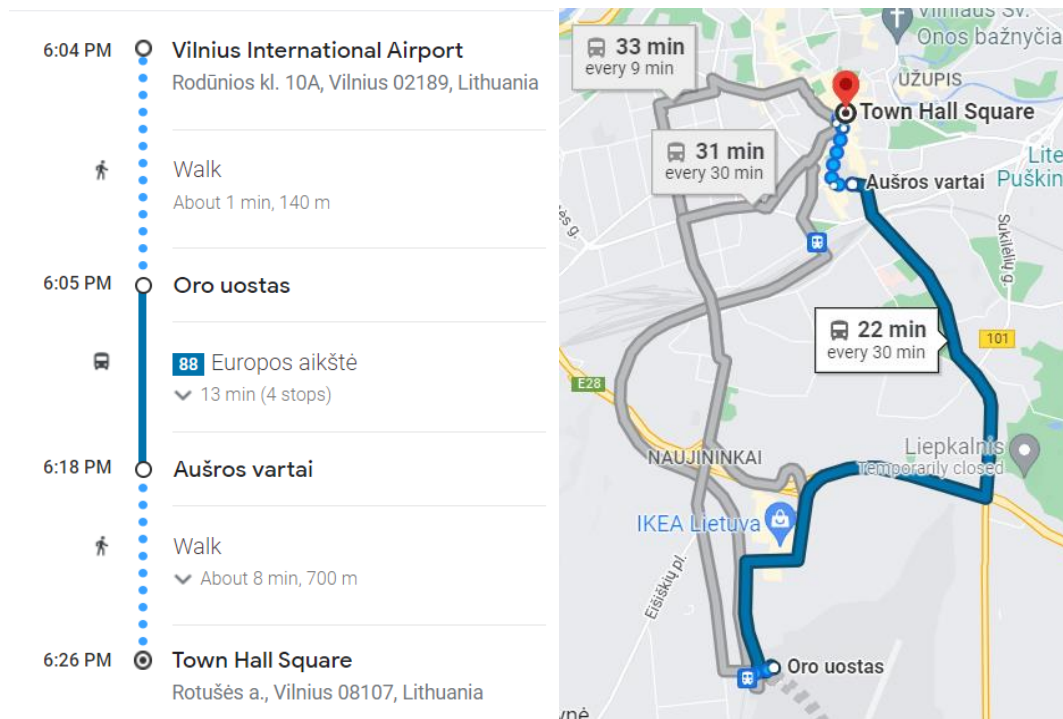
Vilniaus oro uostas

LIETUVOS ORO UOSTAI

TAXI

Bus from the airport

You can also get to the venue by bus, taking bus number 88. Please see the image below. It takes 20-30 minutes to get to the venue.



5.3 What about COVID-19 measures?

5.3.1 Entry measures

Registration of travelers to Lithuania: from 31 March 2022, persons arriving in Lithuania from any country are not required to complete the passenger questionnaire.

No travel-related restrictions on COVID-19 disease management apply to the travelers from European Economic Area (EEA) countries (EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway), the Swiss Confederation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Principality of Andorra, the Principality of Monaco, the Republic of San Marino and the Holy See (Vatican City State).

This means that travelers **from these countries are not required:**

- to have a negative test for covid-19, even if the person has not been vaccinated or recovered from covid-19 disease.
- to self-isolate after arrival in lithuania.

Persons arriving from the **third countries are required:**

- to have a negative PCR test result (if the person does not meet the disease / vaccination criteria) on arrival by carrier transport (a PCR test for COVID-19 must be taken within 72 hours before entry to Lithuania); on arrival by non-carrier transport – to have a negative test on arrival or within 24 hours from arrival to register for the paid test (PCR or antigen) at a medical facility or laboratory of their own choice*;
- to complete the Registration Form does not apply;
- self-isolation does not apply;

It is recommended to take a paid PCR test or an antigen test, on the 3rd day of arrival in Lithuania at the latest, at a medical facility or laboratory of their own choice.

To find out what are the current requirements for travelers from other countries - please click the link [REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAVELERS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES \(with effect from 31 March\) | National Public Health Center under the Ministry of Health \(lrv.lt\)](#)

Information about testing exemptions: [TESTING EXEMPTIONS | National Public Health Center under the Ministry of Health \(lrv.lt\)](#)

5.3.2 National current recommendations during your stay

- Masks. Face masks will no longer be compulsory in most indoor public spaces from April 4, and will only be compulsory in medical and care facilities, and public transport
- Meeting people. No restrictions for the number of people in outdoor gatherings
- Public transport. Public transport, taxis and trains operate as usual, with extra efforts to ensure hygienic norms



CLUSTERS MEET REGIONS



EUROPEAN CLUSTER
COLLABORATION PLATFORM

VILNIUS | 26 27
LITHUANIA | APRIL

BALTIC REGION CLUSTERS: ELIMINATING RISKS, CREATING RESILIENCE,
AND STRENGTHENING LOCAL AND EUROPEAN VALUE CHAINS IN THE FACE
OF GEOPOLITICAL CHALLENGES

NEXT
GEN
EU

CLUSTERS MEET REGIONS 26~27 APRIL 2022

VILNIUS / LITHUANIA

Note: all hours indicated in the concept note are in Brussels time CET – time in Vilnius is EET

The EU companies are currently facing challenges as a result of COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical situation. In this situation, such companies often need to reshape existing value chains or construct new ones. In addition, further integration of EU companies into the Single Market will help overcome and mitigate issues related to loss of markets and disruption of supply chains.

The European Commission, in collaboration with the Lithuanian Ministry of Economy and Innovation, the European Cluster Collaboration Platform, AgriFood Lithuania DIH, Smart Food Cluster and the Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (MITA), organises this workshop in Vilnius/Lithuania followed by a virtual matchmaking event.

OBJECTIVES

- Discuss responses to the economic challenges, such as the supply chain disruptions and loss of markets and inputs
- Enable EU companies interact with each other and develop business cooperation and investments.

TARGET GROUPS

EU companies, cluster organisations, EEN, other business support organisations and EU national/regional public authorities principally from the Baltic Sea regions, but also from all EU Member States/regions interested in cooperation.

WHEN, WHERE, WHAT?

26 April

9:00-18:00 CET – onsite and web streamed

The **workshop** will include interventions and panel discussions on:

- Role of business collaboration in reshaping and strengthening the value/supply chains for regional development and its resilience,
- Measures to mitigate supply chain disruptions in the EU Single Market,
- Implementation of the industrial policy objectives: green and digital transition,
- Design and implementation of the smart specialization strategy within the Baltic Sea regions

27 April

8:30-9:30 CET – EU Clusters Talks

9:30-11:30 CET – pitching and testimonials

12:30-16:30 CET – matchmaking online

The **virtual matchmaking** on the B2Match Platform will include pre-scheduled one-to-one meetings (20 min. each). The targeted participants come from the following key areas of activity: Agri-food, Automotive, Chemicals (mainly plastics), Engineering (mainly lasers and photonics), Health technologies (mainly biotechnologies), Industrial Information and Communication Technologies, Wood (incl. furniture).



Go Vilnius

AgriFood
Lithuania



KlasterLT

art21

AGENDA

26 APRIL 2022

CLUSTERS MEET REGIONS

OPENING

09:00 – 09:15 CLUSTERS AS KEY DRIVERS OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH: REPAIR AND PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE

- Address by Thierry Breton, European Commissioner for the Internal Market
- Address by Aušrinė Armonaitė, Minister of the Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania

The opening of the workshop: *Clusters meet Regions* will demonstrate the need for the involvement of clusters and business networks in regional and European economic governance, in policy design and implementation, in particular in time of supply chain disruptions.

09:15 – 10:00 OPENING HIGH LEVEL DISCUSSION

Moderator: Antonio Novo, European Clusters Alliance President

- **Jovita Neliupšienė** – Vice Minister of the Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania
- **Maive Rute** – Deputy Director General of DG GROW, European Commission

10:00 – 10:30 SETTING THE SCENE

Moderator: Eva Revilla, DG GROW, European Commission

- **Giedrius Bagušinskas** – Lithuania Clusters Network President, European Clusters Alliance Board member, Smart Food Cluster coordinator
- **Clusters' Ecosystem in Lithuania**
Ričardas Valančiauskas – Director of the Innovation and Industry department, Ministry of the Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania
- **Input paper for the Lithuanian workshop**
Dr. Jan-Philipp Kramer, Head of EU-Services, Prognos

10:30 – 10:50 COFFEE BREAK

10:50 – 12:20 CLUSTERS IMPACT ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE REGION

Moderator: Mantas Vilys, Director, Lithuanian Innovation Center, EEN in Lithuania

- **Jakub Boratynski** – Director Network & Governance, DG GROW
- **Kristina Šermukšnytė-Alešiūnienė** – Lithuania Cluster Network Director, AgriFood Lithuania DIH Director

Panel discussion: (60 min)

- **Jakub Boratynski** – Director Network & Governance, DG GROW
- **Jovita Neliupšienė** – Vice Minister of Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania
- **Stanislaw Szultka** – Director, Economic Development Department, Pomorskie Region, Poland
- **Kristina Ananičienė** – Cluster manager Laser & Engineering Technologies Cluster, LITEK, Lithuania
- **Triinu Varblane** – International Business Developer at Technology Centre MERINOVA/Energy Vaasa Cluster, Finland
- **Ola Svedin** – CEO Mobile Heights, Chairman of the Board Clusters of Sweden

12:20 – 14:00 NETWORKING LUNCH

14:00 - 15:30

CLUSTER DRIVEN INTERREGIONAL COLLABORATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PRIORITIES OF LITHUANIA

Moderator: Teodora Jilkova

Linkages and cooperation with clusters from other regions require identification of partners and building common ground for collaboration. Experiences from other regions will be shared, as well as information on value chains and clusters partnerships, and guidance on searching for collaboration areas.

Presentations: (30 min)

- **Slawomir Tokarski** – Director European Territorial Cooperation, Macro-regions, Interreg and Programme Implementation I, DG REGIO
- **Anders Bergström** – Policy Area Coordinator, EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)

Panel discussion: (60 min)

- **Slawomir Tokarski** – Director European Territorial Cooperation, Macro-regions, Interreg and Programme Implementation I, DG REGIO
- **Eglė Markevičiūtė** – Vice Minister of Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania
- **Giedrius Bagušinskas** – Lithuania Clusters Network President, European Clusters Alliance Board member, Smart Food Cluster coordinator
- **Skirmantė Baležentienė** – Cluster coordinator at Photovoltaics Technology Cluster FETEK
- **Susanne Baden Jørgensen** – Senior International Manager at Food & Bio Cluster Denmark, member of the cluster group at the Enterprise Europe Network
- **Anders Bergström** – Policy Area Coordinator, EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)

15:30 – 15:40

COFFEE BREAK

15:40 – 16:40

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND FINANCIAL SCHEMES FOR THE CLUSTERS

Moderator: Kristina Šermukšnytė-Alešiūnienė Lithuania Cluster Network director, AgriFood Lithuania DIH Director

European level overview

- **Marco Francini** – Head of Regional EIB Group Office for the Baltic States

Panel discussion:

- **Marco Francini** – Head of Regional EIB Group Office for the Baltic States
- **Gerda Sakalauskaitė** – Managing Director at Lithuanian Private Equity and Venture Capital Association
- **Armands Lejas** – Krumins, Cluster manager at Food Products Quality Cluster Latvia, Chairman of Latvian Clusters Network
- **Johan Wasberg** – Development Director at Merinova OY
- **Daniel Acs** – CEO at Pronunion and President of the Union of Slovak clusters

16:40 – 17:40 LITHUANIA ROUND TABLE

DISCUSSION ON CLUSTERS POLICY DEVELOPMENT IN LITHUANIA

Moderator: Marek Przeor, Team Leader Cluster Policy, DG GROW, European Commission

Round table discussion on cluster development strategy implementation in Lithuania:

- **Ričardas Valančiauskas** – Director, Innovation and Industry Department, Ministry of Economy and Innovation, Lithuania
- **Augustas Alešiūnas** – CEO ART 21, Business angel in AgriFood Tech
- **Andrius Rakickas** – Director at Lithuanian Automotive Export Association LAUGEA)
- **Darius Sakalauskas** – Baltic Film & Creative Tech Cluster partner
- **Jolita Razumienė** – Inolink Project Manager, Lithuanian gency for Science, Innovation and Technology
- **Diana Vertelkienė** – Health technology iVita cluster manager
- **Giedrius Bagušinskas** – Lithuania Clusters Network President, European Clusters Alliance Board member, Smart Food Cluster coordinator
- **Arūnas Junevičius** – Cluster coordinator at Lithuanian prefabricated wooden house cluster – PrefabLT

17:40 – 18:00

CLUSTERS MEET REGIONS: CONCLUSIONS AND TAKEAWAYS

Moderator: Kristina Šermukšnytė-Alešiūnienė, Lithuania Cluster Network director, AgriFood Lithuania DIH Director

AGENDA

27 APRIL 2022



08:30 – 09:30 EU CLUSTERS TALKS

Moderator: Antonio Novo, European Clusters Alliance President.

09:30 – 10:30 OPENING AND PITCHING SESSION COOPERATION PROPOSALS FORUM

Moderator: Teodora Jilkova

The *Clusters meet Regions* organisation provides a space for the clusters and regions to present themselves, their collaboration proposals and expand their network partners. Participation as a panellist in this part of the conference is open to any event delegate and by previous registration as a panellist to pitch.

10:30 – 11:30 MATCHMAKING EVENTS AS BOOSTERS OF BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Moderator Agnė Jaraitė, Head of International Relations and Protocol Department, Kaunas Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Crafts, EEN in Lithuania

Testimonials, inspirational practical cases, and previous experiences in Matchmaking Events with Baltic/Lithuanian organisations.

11:30 – 12:30 NETWORKING LUNCH

12:30 – 14:00 MATCHMAKING MEETINGS

14:00 – 14:30 COFFEE BREAK

14:30 – 16:00 MATCHMAKING MEETINGS

16:00 – 16:30 DEBRIEFING SESSION / ONLINE SURVEY

Moderator: Agnė Jaraitė, Head of International Relations and Protocol Department, Kaunas Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Crafts, EEN in Lithuania

CONTEXT

The war in Ukraine is causing negative effects on economic growth in the Baltic Sea region, and across the whole of Europe.

Growing price pressures, especially higher energy prices, disruptions in supply chains, general uncertainty over the impact and outcome of the war, as well as, sanctions imposed on Russia and Belarus, will inevitably weaken consumer confidence, affect investment decisions, and create supply and demand shocks.

EU regions need to stay resilient in the face of pandemic, geopolitical or any other crisis. They need to be able to compete with other more advanced and emerging economies in a dynamic economic and social environment.

Location matters, particularly for clusters. They develop more easily in urban and regional ecosystems with a favorable administrative and regulatory environment and access to skilled labor, markets, financial and business support services.

INTEGRATION OF CLUSTERS IN ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE, POLICY DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL IS ESSENTIAL

Regional authorities need to know their clusters and understand how they can shape, improve and effectively help in the design and the implementation of regional development policies.

Cluster organisations and their members should take actions and implement projects that are relevant for the economic development of their local communities. They should engage in collaboration with other European clusters in the same or related economic activities and thus complement regional assets and reinforce capacities to lead green transition, accelerate digital transition and build resilience.

This event is one of the **15 “Clusters meet Regions” regional workshops** that are being organised in EU regions in 2022-2023. Organisations around the EU are invited to express their interest in hosting these events. The workshops will bring together clusters and policymakers of the EU, national, regional and local level to learn from each other how to better use clusters to strengthen industrial ecosystems, serve national/regional economic development and liaise with other regions with similar transition challenges. Further workshops in this series can continue to focus on supply disruptions caused by the war.