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Cluster Alliance fOr the Transition
to green and digital fashIon

About ClusterXchange

ClusterXchange is a new pilot scheme to support short-term exchanges to better connect Europe's industrial ecosystems.

It facilitates transnational cooperation, peer learning, networking and innovation uptake between actors of different industrial clusters. It is implemented with support from cluster organisations that have teamed up in European Cluster Partnerships | Excellence.

What is an exchange?

An exchange constitutes a stay abroad performed by a visiting organisation from an eligible country at a host organisation in another eligible country.

Exchanges can be used to:

- Learn from actors in another cluster
- Explore growth opportunities in new markets
- Adopt new technologies, digitalisation and green low-carbon solutions
- Invest in strategic interregional collaboration

ClusterXchange specifics:

- **Contribution Funding:** lump sums available for visitors for travel and accommodation expenses
- **Period of stay:** exchanges can last from three working days up to one month
- **How to apply:** Register through the **ClusterXchange IT Tool**

<https://clusterxchange.clustercollaboration.eu/>

The European Cluster Partnerships | Excellence

The **European Cluster Partnerships | Excellence** aims to increase the competitiveness of SMEs by **strengthening cluster management excellence, facilitating strategic**



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exchanges and partnering between clusters and specialised industrial ecosystems across Europe. These transnational cluster partnerships have been selected under the European Cluster Excellence Programme of the European Commission. The Partnerships are supported by funding from the COSME programme to facilitate **crosscluster networking and learning**, aiming at the professionalisation of specialised and customized business support services to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

For cluster members who want to...

Acquire new skills

Improve their services

Create innovative ideas

Find new partners

Internationalise

And more

How will visitors benefit from ClusterXchange?

A stay abroad with a selected host in another participating country will allow you to:

- Broaden your sector- and non-sector specific skills and knowledge through capacity building
- Gain insights into the operation and techniques used by your host organisation
- Expand your network of contacts and develop new cross-border partnerships
- Find innovative solutions to upgrade your business, products and services
- Create new business opportunities and get involved in new innovative projects
- Gain knowledge on foreign markets and cultures
- Benefit from financial assistance for your exchange

Financial assistance

The VOP (Partnership of the visiting organisation) undertakes to pay to the VO (visiting organisation) the financial assistance as a lump sum in one payment within 10 days after the



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completion of the exchange upon the submission of the relevant closing report of the exchange by the VO and its respective validation by the VOP, and the receipt of relevant evidence from the VO that the exchange has taken place (e.g., boarding passes, travel and accommodation invoices).



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