

Press Release

Cluster cooperation between EU and India to gain momentum

A new alliance to promote business, research and technological cooperation between European and Indian clusters was launched on 1 December 2010. The European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC), headquartered in New Delhi, India, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Clusterland Oberösterreich GmbH, representing the European Cluster Collaboration Platform. The ECCP is developed and managed by the consortium formed by Clusterland Oberösterreich GmbH (Austria) and ZENIT GmbH (Germany) under the leadership of Clusterland.

This MoU represents a shared commitment to further enhance collaboration opportunities between European and Indian clusters and pledges strengthened cooperation between both organizations in knowledge sharing, promotion and networking activities. Main beneficiaries of this MoU will be cluster organisations and cluster firms located in Europe and India willing to develop strategic business alliances and joint research projects, and interested in sourcing cutting-edge technologies and related competences which are not available in their locality.

Speaking at the signing ceremony during the 'EU-India Dialogue on Global Outreach of European and Indian Innovation Clusters' in New Delhi, Poul V. Jensen, Director, EBTC, said: 'As a platform for advancing the private sector and research cooperation between the EU and India, EBTC stands ready with pragmatic initiatives to contribute to a closer interaction between Indian and European clusters.'

Speaking about this collaborative effort, Werner Pamminger, Managing Director, Clusterland Upper Austria, said: 'The European Cluster Collaboration Platform is a very useful instrument to enable cluster organizations to play a role on the international cluster arena and to cooperate with clusters worldwide.'

About the European Cluster Collaboration Platform

The European Cluster Collaboration Platform has been established under the European Cluster Excellence initiative, an EU project co-funded under the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme. The aim of this platform is to facilitate cooperation between cluster organisations and cluster firms across Europe in order to further strengthen cluster excellence and develop more competitive clusters in Europe.

About the EBTC

The EBTC, an initiative co-funded by the European Union, assists the Business, Science and Research Community – in Europe and India – to work together towards generating new business opportunities in clean technology transfer. As a first entry point to India, EBTC supports EU cleantech companies and researchers on their market entry to India and offers hands-on support in the early stages of expansion. The Centre aims to further stimulate the 'brain circulation' between the EU and India through promoting joint industry-oriented research and enhancing outward mobility of researchers from the EU Member States towards India. EBTC's efforts focus on 4 key sectors – Biotech, Energy, Environment and Transport – all offering enormous scope for closer EU-India collaboration.