



European Commission
Directorate General for Internal Market,
Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

European challenges in a more resource efficient, circular economy

Eva Revilla

Policy officer for internationalisation of
clusters

Expert on resource efficiency, low carbon

**Unit for Advanced Technologies,
Clusters and Social Economy**

EREK workshop
Madrid, Spain
14 February 2019



European Commission

An inclusive circular economy: Taking care of all SMEs

www.resourceefficient.eu



Save resources | Eq

KICK-START YOUR RESOURCE EFFICIENCY JOURNEY

Learn how to save resources, reduce cost and increase your productivity



And your organisation?



Integration of European SMEs into circular value chains

By working together SMEs can be

- **more innovative,**
- **create more jobs,**
- **register more international trademarks and patents**
- **export more**

than they would alone.

→ *Clusters matter!*

Talking about clusters...

- In Europe **cluster organisations** bring together a number of **members in a network**, *research institutes, universities, large companies, small and medium enterprises (SMEs)...* in a certain **geographic territory** and working in a **specific field (economic sector)**
- **Main objectives:**
 - *bring stakeholders from the same territory and related sectors together for synergies*
 - *support their members' collaboration activity, notably research, development & innovation (RDI) and internationalisation activities*
- **Activities:**
 - *Networking events*
 - *Trainings*
 - *Study tours / visits*
 - *Collaborative projects*
 - *....*



European Cluster policy for growth



Clusters as accelerators for innovation & industrial change

Inter-regional & international cluster cooperation

Capacity-building



COSME
Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs
2014-2020

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Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs
2014-2020



European Cluster Partnerships

- *for Smart Specialisation Investments*
- *for value chain innovation*
- *for Cluster Excellence → Call is open!*

<https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/cosme/cos-cluster-2018-03-02-european-cluster-excellence-programme>

- *for Internationalisation*

Place-based approach: cluster projects



The economy at large to stir
a real transition

The circular economy
entails a value chain
approach → cannot be
induced by a single
company

One example on blue growth: EUR 4.1
Mio, 7 European countries, 12 partners
including 8 clusters, 75% budget to high
impact SMEs' projects



Objective: >100 SMEs for > 40
Blue Growth solutions

International dimension

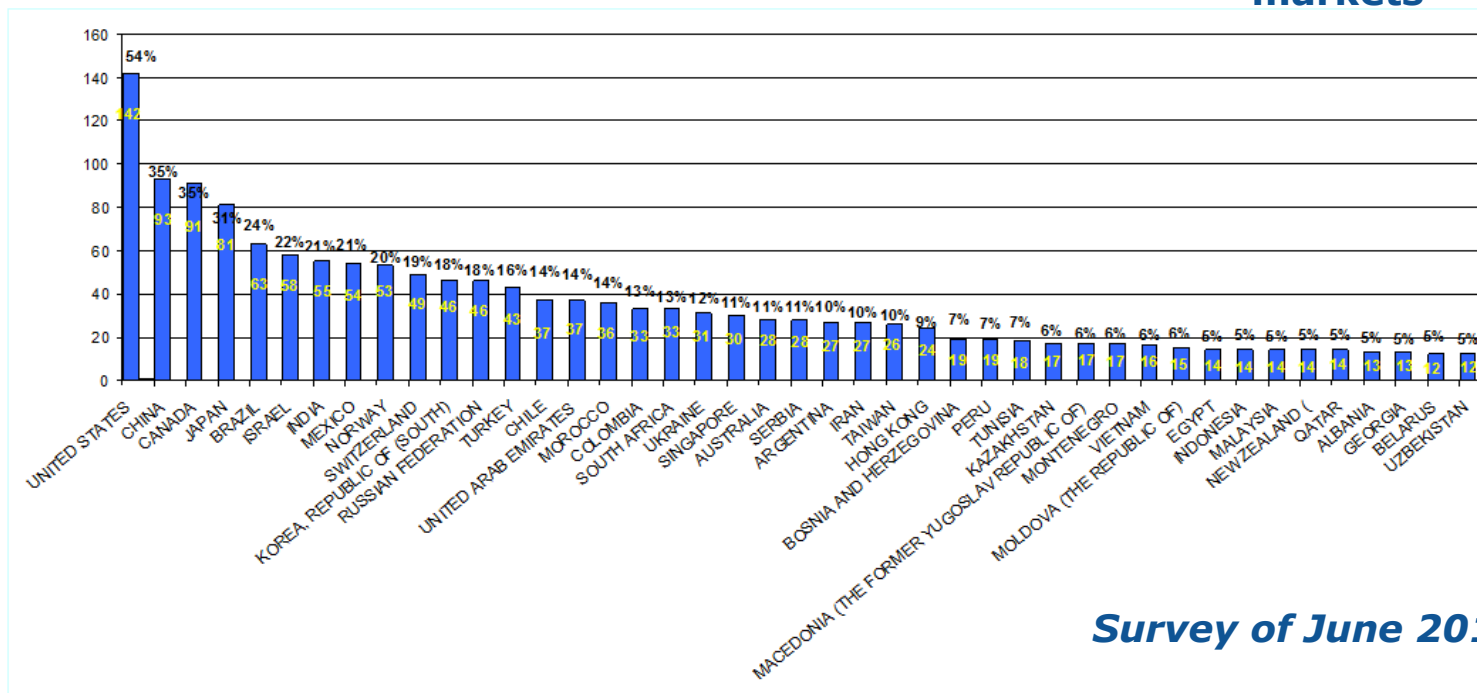
Priority Target Markets by European clusters



Q7 Question from the survey:

Which countries beyond Europe do you target for international cooperation?

87% of European clusters interested to support internationalisation of their SMEs in third markets



Survey of June 2017



Cluster Internationalisation Programme for SMEs (COSME, €19M)

Supporting SME access to global value chains through clusters

European Cluster Collaboration Platform



International cluster matchmaking events in third countries and Europe

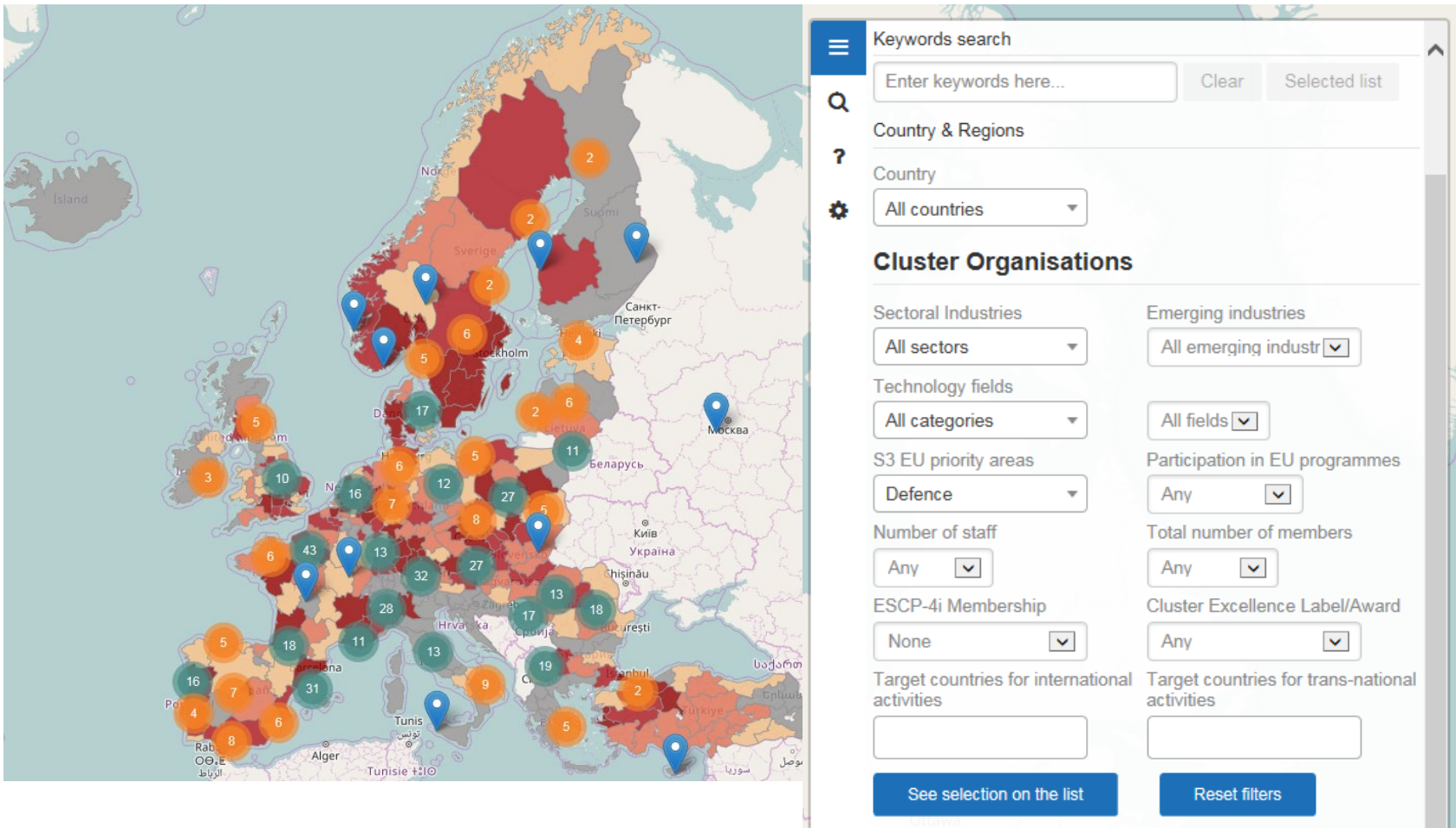


European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for internationalisation



The European Cluster Collaboration Platform -ECCP

The Platform Connecting over 940 Cluster Organisations



International cluster matchmaking events

10 Matchmaking events (2016-2017)

- **2180 bilateral meetings**
- 300 participants from Europe
- 140 participants from countries beyond Europe
- **416 cluster cooperation agreements/partnerships initiated or already established**
- 28 European countries were represented
- 6 non-European countries represented (including the USA, Taiwan, Brazil, Mexico, Iran and Thailand)



1st EU-Korea cluster seminar and matchmaking





European
Commission

Next international cluster matchmaking events



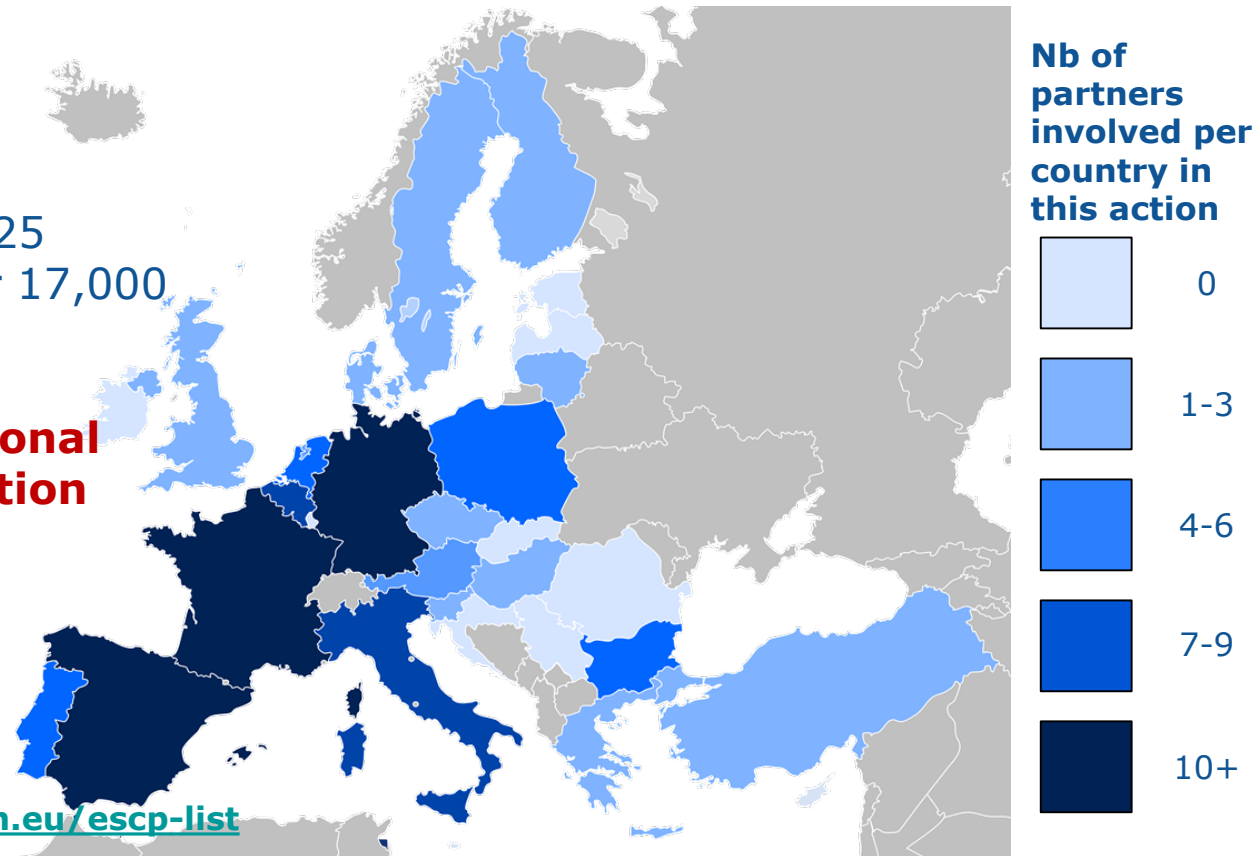
EU-CANADA

Beginning June 2019
In collaboration with the Canadian
Supercluster Initiative

European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for internationalisation

Promoting cluster cooperation for industrial leadership in global markets

- 25 European partnerships
- 123 cluster organisations (25 projects) representing over 17,000 SMEs
- Supporting **joint international strategies and collaboration with partners in third countries** for the benefit of SMEs





EU 'Clusters Go International' Partnerships (2018-2019) Overview



Overall, the 25 new ESCP-4i Partnerships involve

123 European cluster organisations

25 COSME participating countries, incl. 21 EU countries, 3 Western Balkans countries (RS, AL, MK) and Turkey

17,227 SMEs

Each Partnership include on average

5 partners

749 SMEs



EU 'Clusters Go International' Partnerships (2018-2019) Overview

Sectoral and Industrial Focus



DISCp
GCA
PIMAP

ICT, IoT & Micro-electronics

Textile **EU-TEXTILE2030**

Smart City, Mobility and Transport

ESCT GO GLOBAL
MOBIGOIN-ACTION
GIVE
PERES

SPACE2IDGO
IDEEO
SPACEWAVE

Space applications

Energy and environment
COSMENERG-4i
EC2i
ELBE
GEO-ENERGY EUROPE

Health, Cosmetics and Biotech

Construction
SENTINEL

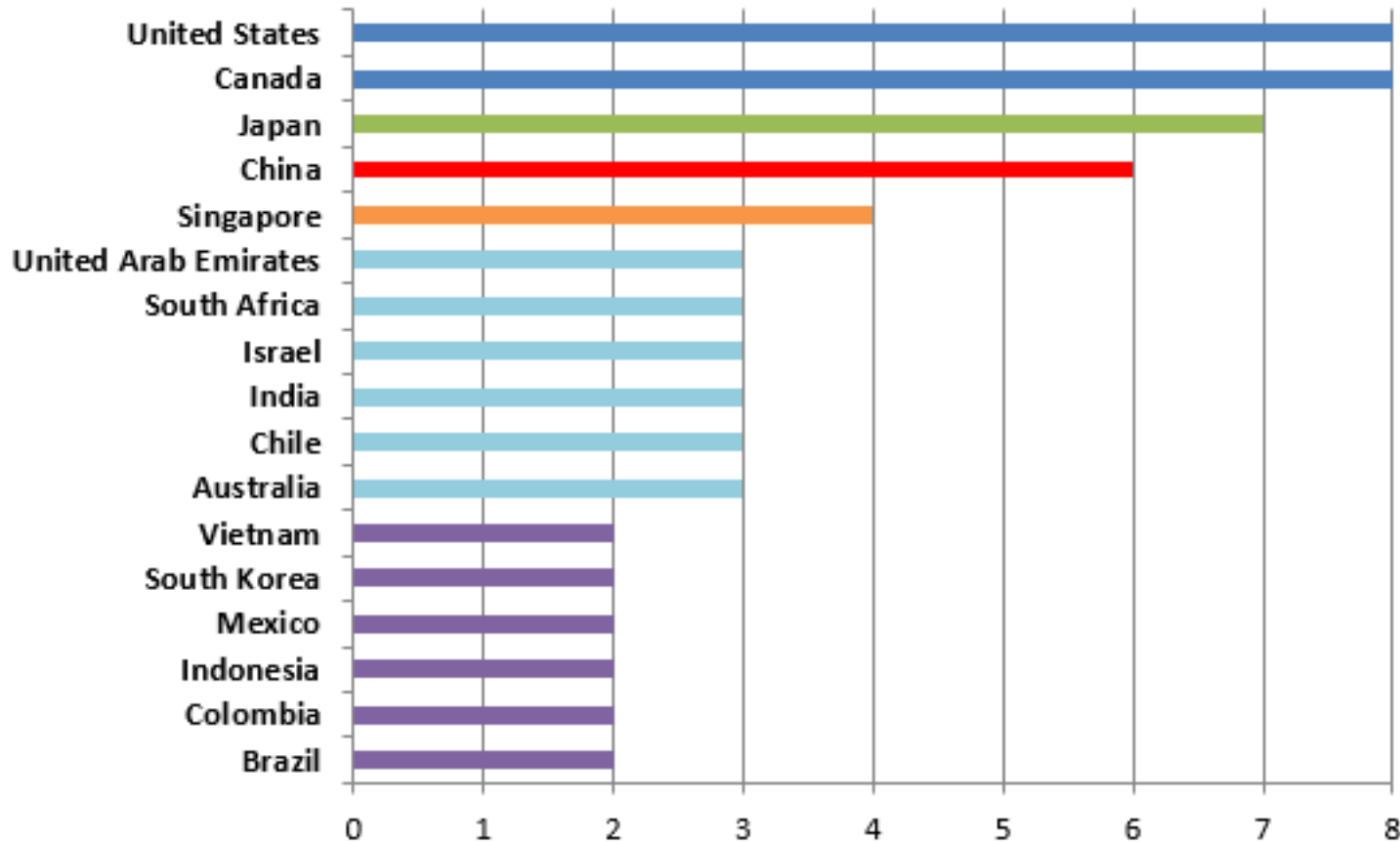
Agro-food and packaging

ADPACK²
NF4
FOODNET
FOODPACKLAB

LASER-GO GLOBAL
COSMETICS4WELLBEING
MAGIA

EU 'Clusters Go International' Partnerships (2018-2019) Overview

Main Target Countries



Other target countries by 1 Partnership:

Bolivia,
Costa Rica
Ecuador
Jordan
Kenya
Malaysia
Morocco
New Zealand
Peru
Philippines
Qatar
Taiwan
Thailand



European Strategic Cluster Partnerships – Going International (ESCP-4i)

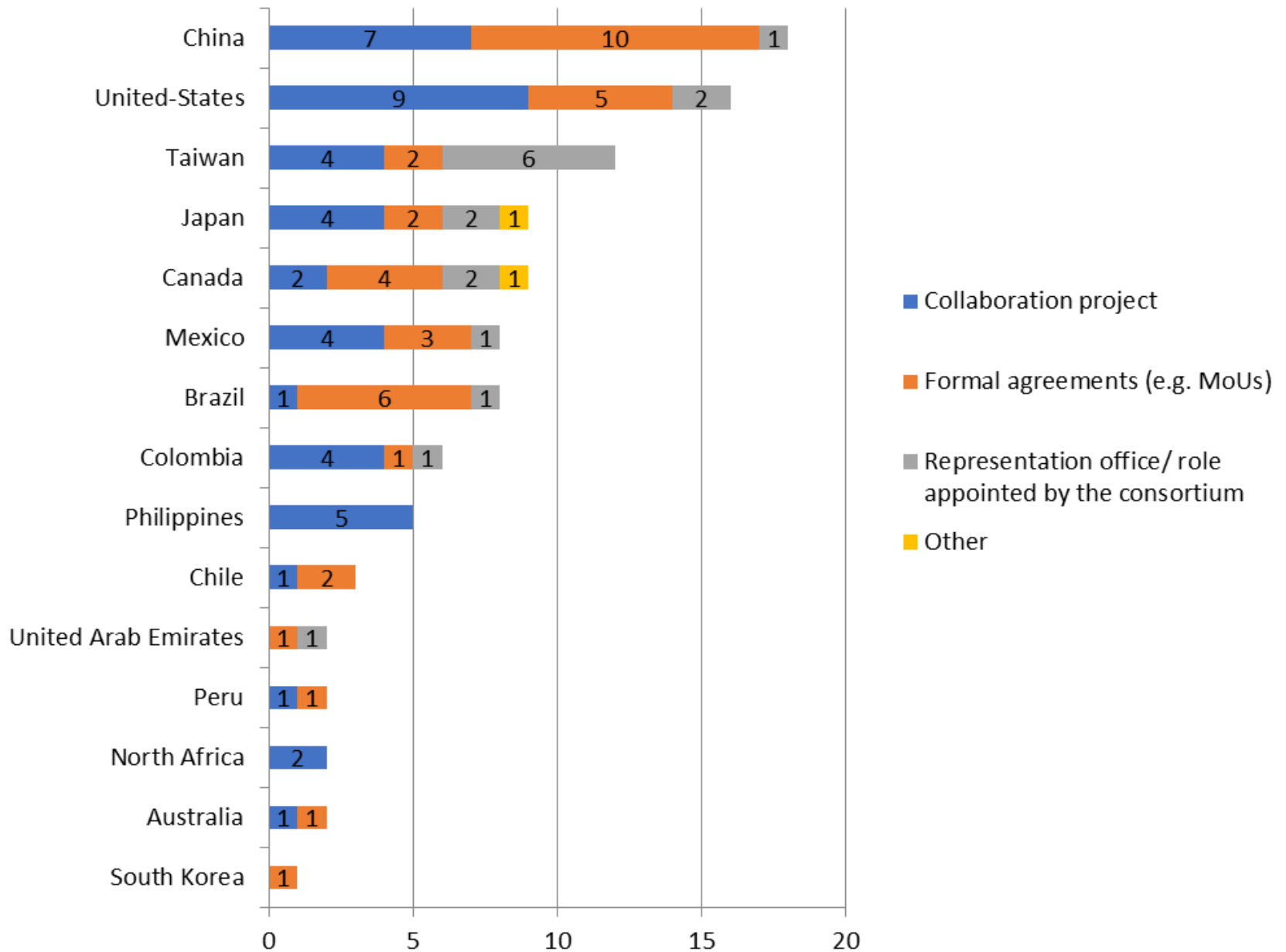
– results from First generation (2016-2017)



- **15** co-funded **European Strategic Cluster Partnerships** involving about **100** cluster organisations across **23** European countries have developed and implemented **joint strategies to support SME internationalisation** towards third countries (**2016-2017**)
- **2000** SMEs have been **involved in activities targeting international third-markets generating 85 concrete business cooperation cases with international partners**
- **370** Cluster-to-Cluster events
- **3010** Business-to-Business events have been conducted
- **39** Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) and **45** collaboration projects implemented between EU clusters and international peer organisations

<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/eu-cluster-partnerships/escp-4i/first-generation/achievements>

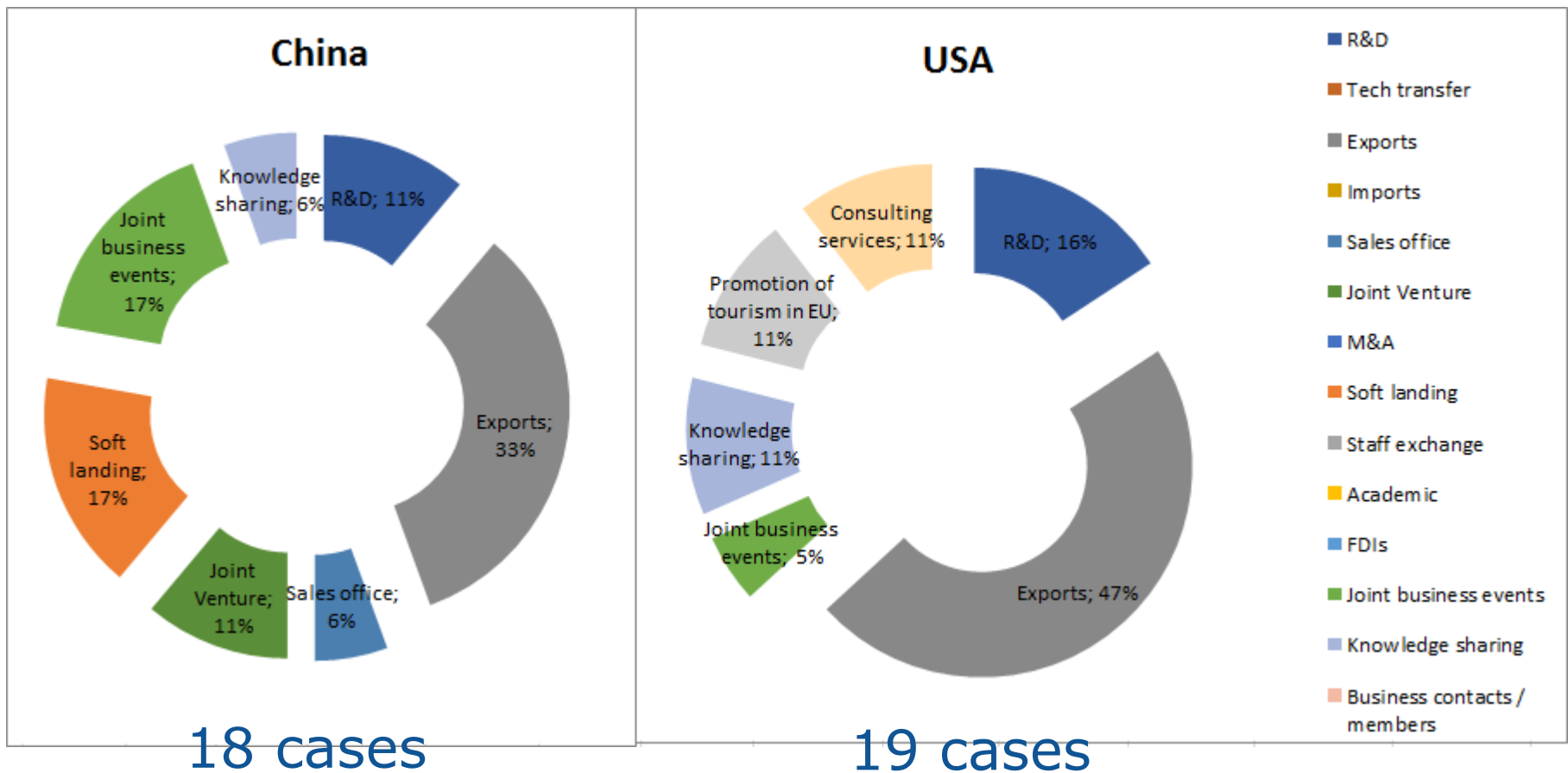
Cluster cooperation cases (phase 1 and phase 2)





European Commission

SME-led cooperation cases by objective (phase 2)





More information

EU Cluster Portal:

<http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/cluster/>

European Strategic Cluster Partnerships – Going International

<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/eu-cluster-partnerships>

European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP)

<http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/>

@Clusters_EU

Thank you for your attention

eva-maria.revilla-penaranda@ec.europa.eu