



Newsletter March 2014

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Message from the President

Dear TCI friends,

Welcome to spring and welcome to another installment of our monthly TCI newsletter. As usual, you will find a rich *smörgåsbord* of information about upcoming events, interviews and articles from our broader network, and – importantly – a welcome to three new organizational members.

One of the features that makes the TCI Network unique is its global reach. Experiences and lessons about what works best vary depending on the economic and institutional context; that is true for cluster-based economic development as for many other policy areas. But while this makes simple copying of approaches unlikely to work, it also creates a huge set of different approaches to gain learnings and inspiration from.

Asian organizations and participants or often less frequent participants in our event, so I was particularly happy to have a chance to learn more about this part of the world during a visit in early March. In the **Philippines**, I had the opportunity to participate at an **Asia Development Bank** (ADB) event on regional integration. We talked about the opportunities of leveraging clusters in this context, a role that we have seen cluster play in other parts of the world. A complex task that needs to be cognizant of the differences in political motivations across Asian countries; most initiatives are only likely to work if they create direct win-win benefits for all participants. But it is also a complex task because many Asian countries have opened only their export-oriented sectors to international competition while keeping much of the local economies sheltered behind trade barriers. The result, as TCI-founder Michael Enright reminded the audience, is generally low productivity. Cluster efforts are most likely to have an impact if they are integrated into a broader strategy of market opening and business environment upgrading.

In **Korea**, I visited **Daegu**, the city in which now mighty Samsung was at some point founded as a modest rice trading house, and **KICOX**, **our organizational member**. I was particularly struck by the discussions about the changes in Korea's approach to economic development. In the past, the focus had been on the provision of infrastructure and specific support for exports and technology upgrading, in KICOXs case for companies operating outside of the industrial sites directly linked to the Chaebols. But since about a decade ago, the role of government has started to shift from top-down provision of sites to bottom up facilitation of collaboration within networks of companies and research institutions. A difficult learning process, both for the agencies like KICOX running the programs but also for the companies that need to find a new, more active role in their relation to others. And one that is of relevance to many other emerging countries that are moving beyond a heavily government-driven development model.

In this newsletter, you find **further stories from the diverse world of cluster-based economic development**. Have, for example, a look at the [interview with Nigel Gwynne-Evans](#), a former colleague on the TCI Board who is sharing his views on the role of **clusters in an African context**. You find the conversation with him on our [TCI YouTube-channel](#), where you have access to a range of interviews and other materials. These and our other [Social Media activities](#) have become an increasingly important part of communication; let us know if there are materials or stories you would like to see there.

You also see a number of updates on **upcoming TCI conferences and events**. Following regional and topical events in **Australia, Switzerland, and Northern Ireland** we are at the TCI secretariat fully focused on working with our colleagues in **Mexico** to prepare for the **2014 TCI conference in Monterrey**. The first participants have registered, and we are in the process of finalizing our keynote speakers. Think about what you can share and contribute at the event – TCI conferences are always highly participatory and a platform for joint learning. Check the website at www.tci2014.org to register and submit your presentations.

Finally, it is my pleasure to introduce to you **three new organizational members** that have joined our network: [Enterprise Connect](#) from Australia, [Neoma Business School](#) from France and [Consulting Cluster](#), Switzerland. I would like to welcome them. We are grateful for your support, and happy to have you engaged with the TCI Network.

Best wishes from Stockholm,
Christian Ketels, TCI President

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TCI Monterrey 2014: Early bird registration & Call for presentations open

TCI has opened registrations for its global conference to be held in Monterrey, Mexico, on 10-13 November 2014 and launched a Call for presentations both from a practitioners' and from an academic point of view. Themes include: Creating shared value through clusters for a sustainable future; Clusters as a tool for reindustrialization; Differences between clusters in America and the rest of the world

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EARLY BIRD ENDS 31 MARCH! TCI Australasian Cluster Conference, Sydney, 30 May

The TCI Network Oceania Chapter organizes a one-day cluster conference in collaboration with Regional Development Australia, Brisbane. The event will be held in Sydney on 30 May 2014 on the theme of "How clusters can reinvigorate Australian regions & industry". Cluster practitioners, economic developers, government economic and industry policy makers are invited to share their knowledge and experiences. Registrations are now open. TCI members enjoy a reduced fee.

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REGISTER NOW! TCI Conference High Tech & Clusters, Bern, 25-27 June 2014

The TCI Conference on High Tech and Clusters will be held in Bern, Switzerland, on 25-27 June 2014. Hosted by tcbe.ch ICT Cluster Bern, Switzerland, the event will focus on matchmaking between companies working in the field of high tech. Register now and benefit from an early bird fee!

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Call for papers - Special Issue of the Competitiveness Review

CALL FOR PAPERS. Special Issue of the Competitiveness Review - Clusters and MNEs innovation strategies - Editors: Philippe Gugler and Christian Ketels - Submission deadline: August 30th 2014

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Economic development beyond GDP - Join the discussion!

Chrisitan Ketels' article about Economic Development beyond GDP, published in our February 2014 Newsletter, triggered many positive reactions. TCI member Tracy Scott-Rimington from Regional Development Australia (RDA) Brisbane, has been working on this topic from some time and is looking for other members of our cluster community to join a working group on the theme.

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Voices from the TCI Network: Nigel Gwynne-Evans about clusters in Africa

In this interview, Nighel Gwynne-Evans, Chief Director, Trade and Sector Development, Cape Town Department of Economic Development and former member of the TCI Board of Directors, talks about cluster based economic development in Africa in general and in South Africa in particular.

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New TCI organizational members from Australia, France and Switzerland

This month, we are pleased to welcome three new organizational members: Enterprise Connect from Australia, Neoma Business School from France and Consulting Cluster from Switzerland. We look forward to working with them in the framework of our activities!

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Survey: What are the best innovative activities implemented in cluster initiatives nowadays?

Oxford Research has launched a survey to get a comprehensive and categorized picture of new approaches undertaken in cluster initiatives. TCI member Harald Furre invites the cluster community to participate in this survey.

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Possibilities for cluster development in the Balkan countries in transition

In this article, TCI members Danko Milojkovic and Goran Zlatkovic from the Cluster House in Nis, Serbia, reflect on the concept of cluster development in the Balkan countries.

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Nanotechnology in Mexico: the Monterrey Nano Cluster

The next TCI Global Conference will be held in Monterrey, Mexico, on 10-13 November 2014. We are pleased to give you more information on clusters in Monterrey starting with the MNC-9, the Monterrey Nano Cluster.

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European Cluster Observatory II

A European Consortium has been charged with the development of the second generation of the European Cluster Observatory (ECO II). The majority of project partners are TCI members.

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Logo_indian_c_of_c**Creation of the India Council on Competitiveness**

TCI member The Institute for Competitiveness, India establishes the Indian Council on Competitiveness in India in collaboration with the U.S. Council on Competitiveness. Amit Kapoor, who has been named the India Council's President and CEO summarises the main objectives of the initiative.

[Top of page](#)**Academic articles on clusters - 9**

The TCI Network seeks to develop tighter bridges between the practitioners in our network and the academic community working on clusters. As a first step, we will regularly post listings of new academic articles on clusters and competitiveness on our website. A further selection is available here.

[Top of page](#)**Training_programs****Cluster training: a selection of courses**

There is an increasing demand for professionals who possess the special qualifications needed for the competent management of clusters. In order to cover this need, various courses are offered around the world. TCI is pleased to present a selection of it.

[Top of page](#)**Agenda_2014****Cluster agenda for 2014**

We are pleased to list cluster related conferences we have identified at a global level. Let us know about the cluster related events in your regions and countries - we will be happy to share them among the global TCI community.

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ACC10-Catalan Government	Orkestra-Basque Institute of Competitiveness	Oregon Business Development Department	Medellin & Antioquia Cluster Community	MFG Innovation Agency for ICT and Media	ZAB - Brandenburg Economic Development Board	BioRN Cluster Management GMBH	ESCA - European Secretariat for Cluster Analysis
NIRO - Network of Industry RuhrOst	Economic Development Dept.- City of Karlsruhe	Steinbeis-Europa-Zentrum der Steinbeis Innovation GmbH	Software-Cluster	ICT Cluster Bern-tcbe.ch	Consulting Cluster	Clusterland Upper Austria	Oost NV - Development Agency East Netherlands
Brainport Development NV	RegX-Danish Cluster Academy	Triangle Region	Region of Southern Denmark	Innonet Lifestyle - Interior & Clothing	Transport Innovation Network	Innovation Norway	VINNOVA
JAMK University of Applied Sciences	PARP - Polish Agency for Enterprise Development	Invest Northern Ireland	Technopolis Group	Public Service of Wallonia	Invest in Lyon - ADERLY	TACTICS Project - OSEO Coordination	Neoma Business School
Basque Government - Ministry for Economic Development and Competitiveness	SPI - Portuguese Innovation Society	FILAS Società Finanziaria Laziale di Sviluppo SpA	İzmir Development Agency	INNOSKART Business Development Non-profit Ltd.	Astrakhan State University	Perm State National Research University	Detroit Regional Chamber
Optimal Solutions Group, LLC	Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development Ltd	New Zealand Trade & Enterprise	Desert Knowledge Australia	Enterprise Connect		Institute for Competitiveness, India	Foundation for MSME Clusters
Secretariat of Economic Development Nuevo Leon	UPAEP - Sintonia	CAF Development Bank of Latin America	SEBRAE-Brazilian Service of Support for Micro and Small Enterprises	Barranquilla Chamber of Commerce	Colombian Private Council on Competitiveness	Bogotá Chamber of Commerce	Innovation Systems & Cluster Programme Uganda
Raw Materials Research and Development Council	PAPES - Platform of support for small companies of Senegal	Egyptian National Competitiveness Council					

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