

Regional Construction Clustering in Action

Interregional event
Zamudio, Spain, 20th of October 2009





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1. How the workshop will benefit you

The workshop offers a great opportunity to learn more about the opportunities offered by clustering to innovate and to better face the downturn situation in which Europe is immersed in. Particular clustering experiences in the construction sector across Europe will be shared there and special attention will be paid to industrialisation of the construction sector, the topic chosen by the local cluster initiative.

The workshop is addressed to any construction sector player that is eager to network, collaborate and innovate in order to get ready for the new demands and conditions that might come up once the current downturn period is over, as well as to policy makers who are in charge of launching or implementing cluster policies in their regions.

2. General Information

Venue: Parque Tecnológico de Bizkaia, Edificio 100 (Technology Park Headquarters), 48170 Zamudio (Spain)

Language: Spanish and English. Simultaneous translation will be offered into both languages.

Fee: The seminar is free of charge. The project is financially supported by the European Commission under the Seventh European Commission Framework Programme, Capacities Specific Programme, Regions of Knowledge Initiative.

Hotel Reservations: We recommend you to stay in the Hotel HUSA Jardines de Albia. Rooms have been pre-booked.

Booking code: LABEIN Seminar.

Individual room rate: 78 + VAT (breakfast included)

Make your reservation until the 18th of September by e-mail jardinesalbia@husa.es or by phone to +34 94 435 41 40.

Registration: Submit your registration form (last page) to ceberio@labein.es or +34 94 607 33 49 (fax) before the 13th of October.



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3. Draft agenda

8:30-9:00 Registration

9:00-9:15 Welcome and presentation of the agenda

María Paz Larrumbide, Vice-counsellor of Housing, Basque Government (to be confirmed)

Fernando Espiga, General Manager, LABEIN Tecnalia

9:15-9:30 Clusters: European Commission Perspective

Ciaran Dearle, DG Research (to be confirmed)

9:30-9:50 REGCON: R&D based clustering

Agnieszka Kowalska, ASM – Market Reserach and Analysis Centre Ltd. (REGCON coordinator)

9:50-10:30 – Session 1: Basque Country, a dynamic reality

Construction Cluster initiative in the Basque Country, a good opportunity for SMEs to face the crisis.

Mercedes Fernández, Basque Government

Basque Country economic development and clustering policy.

Juan Manuel Esteban, Basque Government

10:30-12:00 – Session 2: Clustering, a tool to support SMEs competitiveness through the creation, transfer and management of know-how and technology

Clustering: Where is the value?

Juan Manuel Esteban, TCI Network, President

The REGCON approach to clustering in Greece

Nikos Sakkas (APINTECH), Dr. Eng & Sofia Ifanti (APINTECH), Dipl. Eng, MSc.

Construction Sector Cluster of Extremadura, Spain

Octavio Pérez

12:00-12:45 Networking appetizer & Poster session

Participants will have the opportunity to know more about the five clusters involved in REGCON through the posters displayed in the hall where the appetizer will be served

12:45-13:30 – Session 3: National and international networking and collaboration: Inter-cluster collaboration, National and European Technology Platforms

European Construction Technology Platform

Isabel Rodríguez-Maribona, LABEIN Tecnalia

PRESTO – Identification of priority research topics for SMEs Associations in the Construction Sector

Elena Usobiaga, LABEIN-Tecnalia

13:30-14:15 – Session 4: Industrialisation of the construction sector:

How to promote sustainable and safe construction, improved performance and cost benefit.

Francisco Javier Bonilla – ACCIONA Infraestructuras

R&D on Industrialisation to promote excellence in construction

José Antonio Chica – LABEIN Tecnalia

14:15-15:45 Networking Lunch & Poster Session (continuation)

15:45 Closure of the interregional event