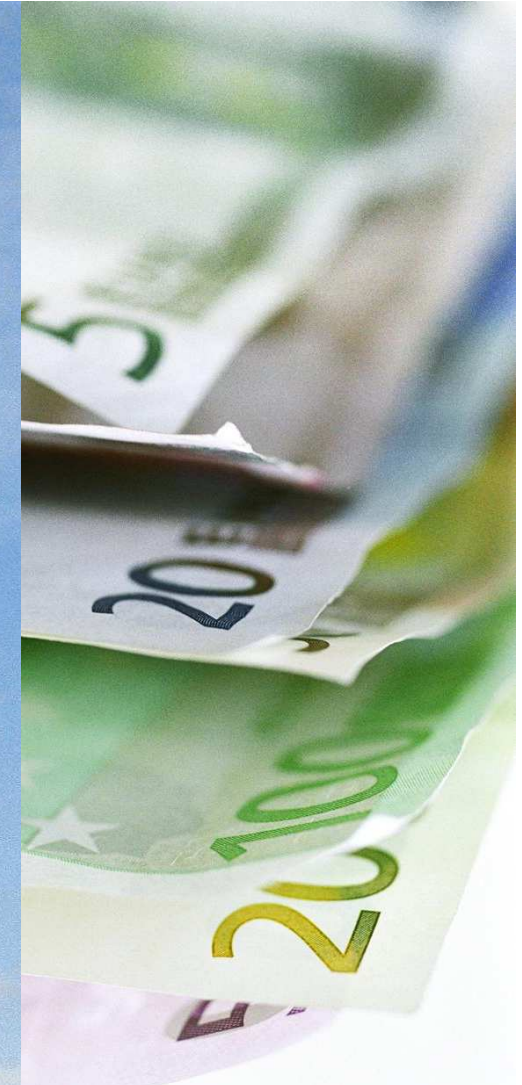


The best practises of clusters in the Czech Republic

Lenka Peterková



What are the Clusters ?



Regionally located set of mutually connected companies, associated institutions and organizations that compete with each other but also cooperate, and whose bonds have the potential to strengthen and increase their competitiveness.





CZECHINVEST

Cluster benefits

For companies:

- ✓ Identification of common needs and its improvement
- ✓ Mutual development projects
- ✓ Cost sharing
- ✓ HR development
- ✓ Increase innovations
- ✓ Business climate improvements
- ✓ Access to new markets

For universities:

- ✓ Knowledge of industry needs
- ✓ Tailor-made education
- ✓ Applied research
- ✓ Profit from R&D
- ✓ Technology transfer
- ✓ Access to funds

For public sphere:

- ✓ Targeted support
- ✓ Support of competitive industry
- ✓ Region specializations
- ✓ FDI attraction
- ✓ Improved competitiveness

Improved communication, common needs identification
Realisation of mutual projects

Building Cluster Initiatives in the Czech Republic



ANALYSIS & AWARENESS BUILDING

- Feasibility study to identify industrial groupings in North Moravia for targeted state aid
- Training regional authorities, universities and firms
- Certification of cluster facilitators and managers
- Promotion of the concept at different levels (conferences, PR)

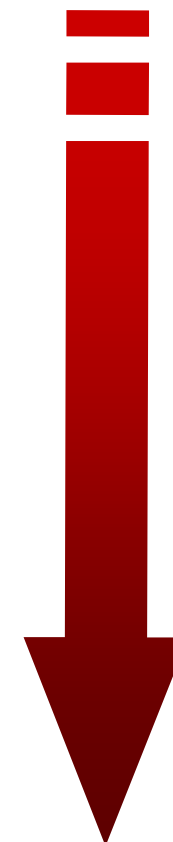
STRATEGY & IMPLEMENTATION

- International co-operation
- National Cluster Strategy – adopted by the Government 06/2005
- National Cluster Study
- Establishment and development of clusters

FUNDING

- Adapting programme to company needs (eligible costs)
- Launching Operational Programme Co-operation – Clusters
- Monitoring and evaluation fo the projects
- Launching New Operational Programme Co-operation - Clusters

2002



2009

Cluster Support Programme



Stage 1 – Mapping

- Subsidy for regional authorities, universities, R&D institutions and entrusted organisations
- 75 % of eligible costs (6 500 € – 33 000 €)
- **Eligible costs:** surveys, questionnaires, feasibility study, seminars, workshops, promotion

Stage 2 - Cluster Development Support

- Subsidy for new **CLUSTERS** (manufacturing, construction, R&D, IT sector)
- max. 1,5 mil €
- **Eligible costs:** joint projects and promotion, R&D facilities, costs of lease and equipment of offices, salaries of cluster managers and staff, consulting services, market analyses, etc.

Stage 3 – Cluster Development Support – 2nd phase

- Subsidy for old and new **CLUSTERS**
- 120 000 € – 3,2 mil €
- **Eligible costs:** Same as Stage 2 + real estate

Summary of the Cluster Programme 2004 – 2008

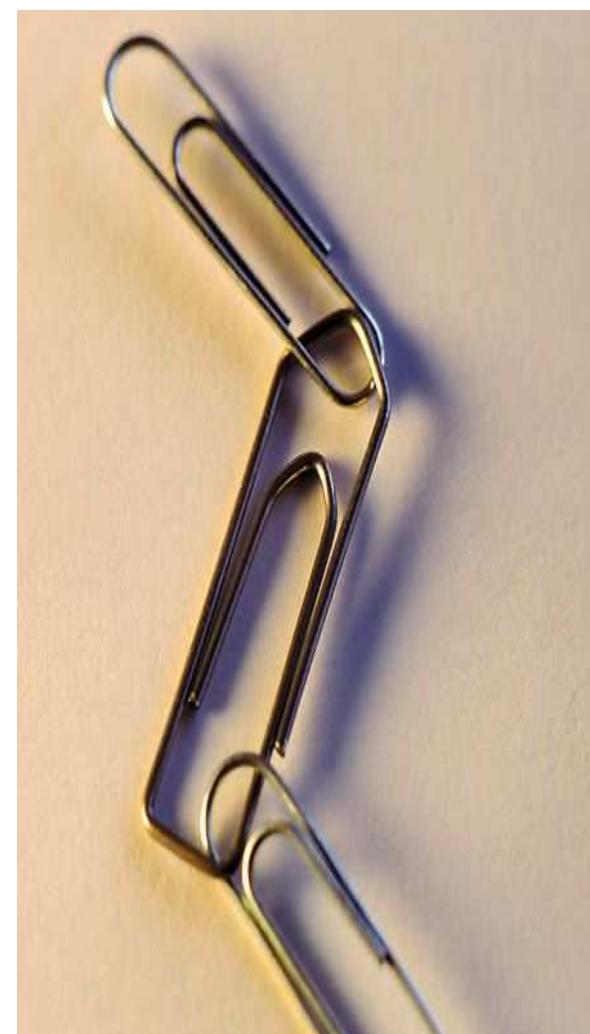


1.4V – Cluster Mapping

- Total Applications : 67
- Approved Applications: 42
- Total Amount of Support: 1,3 mil €
- Used Support: 1,1 mil €

1.4Z – Cluster Development

- Total Applications: 18
- Approved Applications: 14
- Supported Clusters: 12
- Total Amount of Support : 9,9 mil €
- Used Support: 8 mil €



Showcase of Czech Clusters



Machinery clusters

Czech Machinery Cluster
Moravian-Silesian Automotive Cluster

Biotechnology

Nanomedic, CzechBio, MedChemBio

Wood + Furniture

Moravian Silesian Wood Cluster
Cluster of Czech Cabinet Makers

New materials

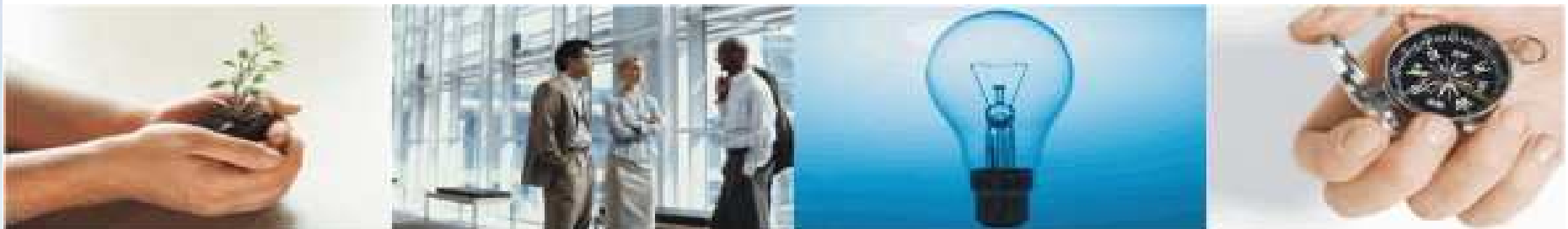
Omnipack, Cluster for Plastic Materials, Czech Stone Cluster, Construction Cluster

Information technologies

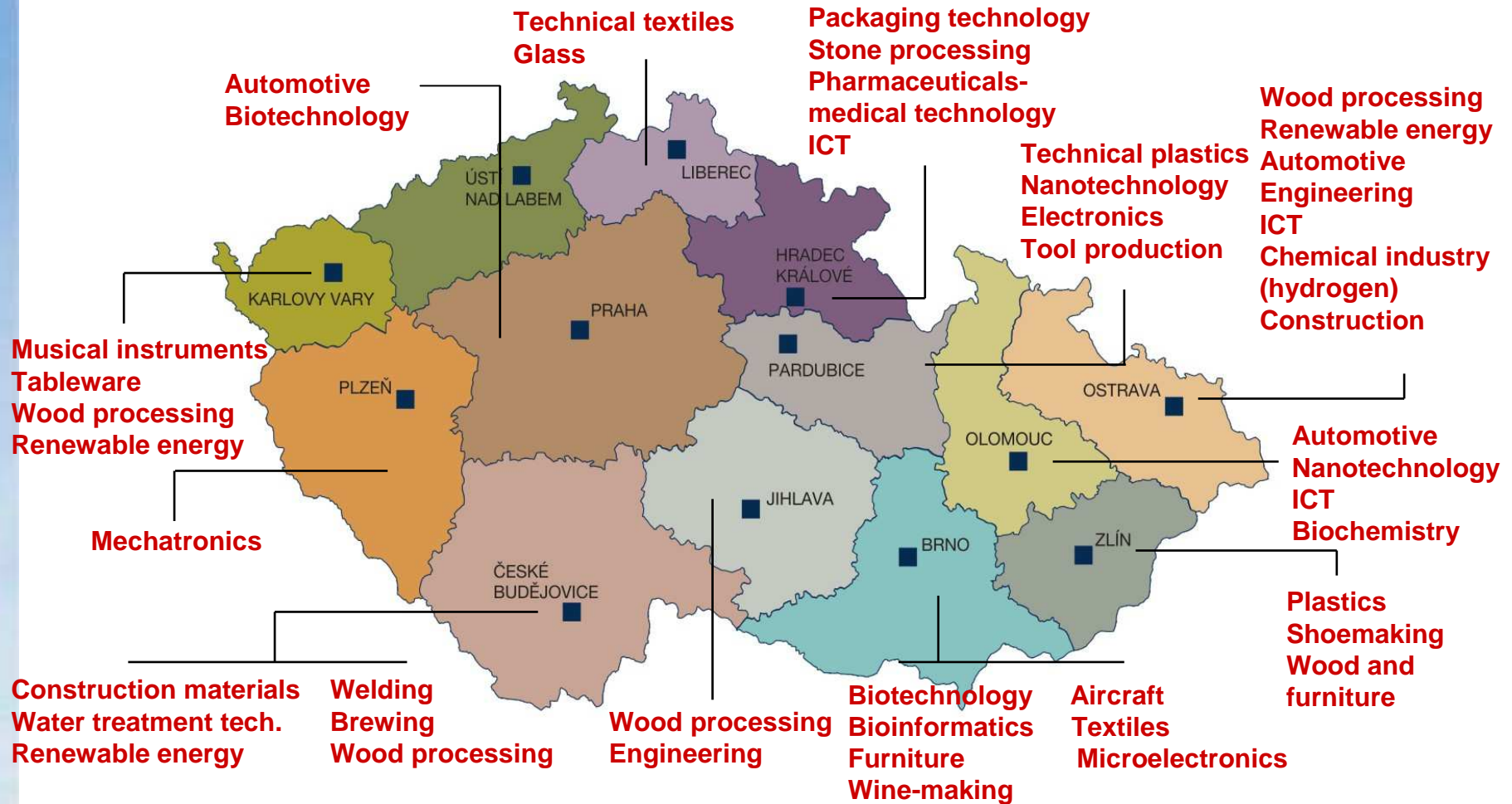
4 IT clusters on local level

Renewable energy

Enwiwa, Envicrack



Cluster initiatives in the Czech Republic



Eligible costs



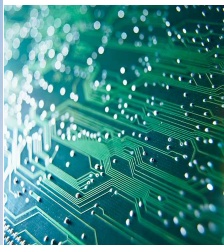
Web pages



Research and Development



Salaries for cluster's employees (administrative and R&D)



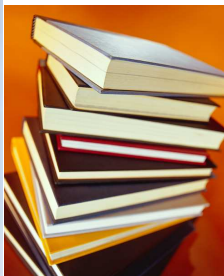
Software and hardware



Properties



Consultants, seminars, workshops, conferences



Studies, information and databases



Rental costs



Marketing



Travel costs



Office equipment



Exhibitions

Common cluster's projects



1) Information and communication platforms

Suppliers databases, sharing of information

2) Training

Different types of activities aiming to increase a number of students in specific fields, common training of employees

3) R&D Cooperation

R&D laboratories, testing and research equipment

4) Marketing and public relation

Trade fair and exhibitions, promotion, strengthening image of cluster and its members



Showcases of Marketing

Joint Promotion = low-hanging fruit

- Foreign and home fairs
- Joint catalogue of cluster members – *Clusters of Cabinet Makers, Nanomedic*
- Promo-campaign for wood constructions The WoodRoadShow - *Wood Cluster*
- Websites, workshops, conferences – *basically all clusters*



Showcase of R&D Cooperation



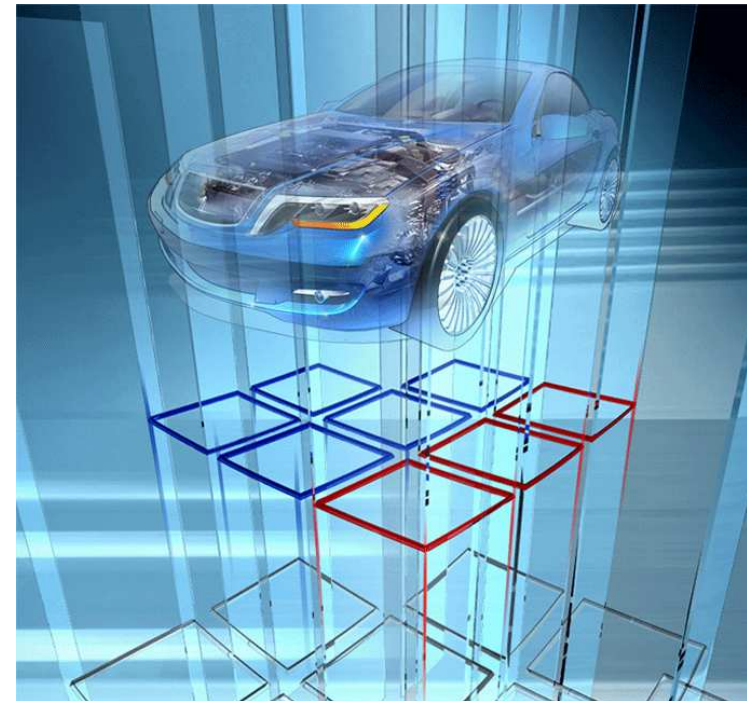
- **Testing facilities for technical textiles - *Cluster CLUTEX***
- **Project of Free field room - *Automotive Cluster***
- **Certification authority for furniture testing laboratory - *Cluster of Cabinet Makers***
- **Laboratories for medical research - *Cluster Nanomedic***



Moravian-Silesian Automotive Cluster



- Founded in September 2006 after successful mapping phase supported from Structural Funds
- Moravian-Silesian region
- Legal form: Civic Association
- 43 members including the most significant companies for automotive components in the region (Cromodora Wheels, Siemens, Visteon Autopal)
- VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava + other educational institutions
- Cluster members production: motor vehicles manufacturing, production of components for automotive industry and supporting services
- Support and development of automotive industry



CLUTEX – Technical textile Cluster



- Founded in May 2006 after successful mapping phase supported from Structural Funds
- North-East Bohemia region
- Legal form: Civic Association
- 22 Companies
- Technical University of Liberec
- Financing: subsidy (€ 0.88 million) + self-financing
- Promoting it's members and textile industry, R&D in technical textiles



Cluster OMNIPACK



- Support and development of packaging industry
- Promotion of the region as a packaging centre of excellence
- 53 founding firms + 2 universities
- Cluster members production: 44 % plastic, 21 % paper, 21 % wooden, 14 % metal packaging



Cluster ENVICRACK



- Founded in November 2005 after successful mapping phase supported from Structural Funds
- Moravian-Silesian region
- Legal form: Cooperative
- 19 Companies
- VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava
- Financing: subsidy (€ 0.46 million) + self-financing
- Focused on R&D in the field of renewable resources of energy
(Pyrolysis processing of waste)



The Cluster of Czech Furniture Manufacturers



- Founded in July 2006 after successful mapping phase supported from Structural Funds
- South Moravia region
- Legal form: Cooperative
- 32 Companies
- Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry in Brno
- Financing: subsidy (€ 0.86 million) + self-financing



Thank you for your attention.

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CzechInvest, the Investment and Business Development Agency, is an organisation of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic