



The Concept

The mission of the CLINES partnership is to develop a sustainable, well-organized European key technology intercluster, where the outcome of the partnership will increase the coordination of trans regional innovation investments in key enabling technologies and ensure an efficient development, exploitation and dissemination of the ICT applications, models, methods, and solutions across the regions.

CLINES project results will lead to growth perspectives and increased European excellence within key enabling technologies and foster pertinent regional digital agendas. It will furthermore provide a framework for cluster cooperation to internationalize and unlock novel business opportunities on global markets beyond Europe.

By the end of the project period, CLINES will be established as a full-blown Research Driven Cluster partnership based on the following elements:

- A strategic research agenda for the involved institutions including both selected research challenges as well as selected, potential application areas. In the beginning of the project lifetime, the Smart Cities complex will serve as the joint focus area. A strategy for knowledge transfer between the triple helix elements on multiple levels including both the business management level and the technical level – assuring a coherent strategy.
- A strategy for both public and private funding which includes pre-competitive innovation and which is coordinated with the strategic research agenda.
- A strategy for innovation activities involving relevant partners and based on a smart specialization strategy.
- A strategy for internationalization, to boost competitiveness in a worldwide environment.
- A dissemination strategy for attracting companies and investors which is using a variety of media and which is based on selected showroom demonstrators illustrating research and innovation results.

When being in operation, CLINES will also include strong links to other clusters – both at European and international levels. The aim of these links is to achieve synergy with relevant additional funding and research strategies.

The ambition of the CLINES project is to build the ecosystem in such a way, that it becomes self-sustainable by the end of the project period. The key idea is to create funding opportunities through strong links to selected application areas in close collaboration between the triple helix partners, and to exploit and maintain the strong research environments and the regional, smart specialization competences.

Operational Objectives

To reach the strategic objectives set out for CLINES, the project will focus on the following operative objectives:

- Identification of key competences among participating clusters – formulated as a roadmap document and realized through joint workshops and researcher mobility activities. The roadmap will identify competences within the embedded systems area and also competences within selected applications areas – focusing on the complex of Smart Cities.
- Joint innovation workshops bringing together a variety of stakeholders from regional and international levels and both focusing on innovation of embedded systems technology and also on innovative applications within selected areas.
- Establishment of joint showrooms which both will be used for dissemination of new results and opportunities and also for hosting prototype demonstrators which illustrate new potential applications of embedded systems technology.
- Formulation of a Joint Action Plan (JAP) following the outline of the Regions of Knowledge Workplan. This will be based on the results of the mapping and analysis work and also on the results from the innovation workshops.
- Formulation of an Internationalization Strategy, to boost competitiveness and to unlock new business opportunities, based on a complementarity analysis of other European and worldwide clusters.

The Objectives

The partners of CLINES will develop an ecosystem for innovation within the focused area of Embedded Systems technology and its application within selected areas that match the cluster profiles. As the first application area, CLINES will focus on the concept Smart Cities with particular emphasis on their environmental sustainability.

This will be realized through the development of a Joint Action Plan (JAP), which lays the foundation of the creation of an innovative knowledge region based on very promising research areas. The JAPs will among others contribute to the objectives of:

- Unlocking new finance sources in a synergic manner.
- Boosting innovative eco-design approaches.
- Bringing SMEs to play the role as innovation actors at an international level and boosting their international competitiveness.
- Contributing to the development of adequate smart specialization strategies for the involved regions based on the Joint Action Plans.
- Dissemination in order to promote awareness of innovation potentials through focused events and showrooms.

CLINES AT A GLANCE

Start: 01/09/2013 | **Duration:** 36 months

Budget: 2.311.613 €

Participant Countries: Belgium, Germany, Denmark and Spain



The CLINES partnership builds on the cooperation and experience of four European research driven regional clusters with proven track records.