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TCI NETWORK
**25th GLOBAL
CONFERENCE**
DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA
9-11 NOVEMBER 2022



SUSTAINABLE CLUSTERS FOR ALL.
BOOSTING COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR
INCLUSIVE IMPACT

Register: tci-network.org/tci2022



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09 NOVEMBER WEDNESDAY

- Welcome to Durban
- Clusters visits
- Welcome reception for TCI members (by invitation only)

10 NOVEMBER THURSDAY

- Sustainable clusters for all
 - Flying challenges
 - Solution room
- A vision for the future - Trend session
- Afternoon breakout sessions. Hot topics:
 - Transformation
 - Sustainability
 - Inclusiveness
- Capacity building sessions
- Closing session
- Conference dinner

11 NOVEMBER FRIDAY

- Clusters generating impact
- A vision for the future - Trend session
- Confession booth
- Cluster toolkit
- Clusters in Africa
- Boosting collaboration opportunities
- Closing and farewell

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9-11 NOVEMBER 2022**

NOVEMBER
WEDNESDAY

09

8:00 h

Registration

Venue: International Convention Centre (ICC)
45 Bram Fischer Rd, Durban Central, Durban

9:00 - 10:00 h
**Welcome to
Durban**

- Welcoming words. Introduction to eThekweni-Durban's economic strategy and role of clusters in boosting collaboration - Russell Curtis, Invest Durban
- What are we going to see today? How are the tours organised? - Septi Bukula, Conference Director

10:00 h

Cluster visits

13:00 - 14:00 h

Lunch time

19:00 h

**Welcome Reception for TCI members
@uShaka Marine World**

NOVEMBER
THURSDAY

10

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8:00 h

Registration

9:00 h

Opening session Welcome

- Merete Daniel Nielsen, President, TCI Network
- Mr. Mxolisi Kaunda, Executive Mayor eThekweni Municipality Councillor
- Mr. Siboniso Duma, MEC for Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs, Kwazulu-Natal Province
- Mr Lindokuhle Mkhumane, General Director, Department of Small Business Development

Ice-breaker, cultural show

9:40 - 11:00 h

Sustainable clusters for all

Plenary session

The future of growth must be sustainable and inclusive but getting there is challenging. How can these goals be met? Finding solutions requires new ways of collaboration and clusters can take a leading role in making it happen.

Inspiring keynote

- [Justin Barnes, BMA and Manufacturing Ambassador at TWIMS](#)

Inspiring clusters stories

- [The Craft and Design Institute, South Africa](#)

A live talk

A conversation with a focus on the 3 topics of the main theme #sustainable #clusters #forall

How are clusters proving to be drivers of transitions into a more sustainable and inclusive economic growth?

What are the challenges ahead?

- Steve Woodhall, Scott Bader, South Africa
- Michael Akurang Opoku, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Ghana Government
- Mirjana Prica, Food Innovation Australia and TCI Board of Directors, Australia
- Annie Renders, Flanders Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Belgium
- Xavier Amores, Catalan Water Partnership, Spain
- Facilitated by Rob Stewart, BMA, South Africa

Flying challenges

An interactive session

Share your cluster challenge and learn what hurdles other participants face.

- Facilitated by Patricia Valdenebro, CEO, TCI Network

11:00 - 11:30 h

Coffee/tea time

11:30 - 13:00 h

Solution room

An interactive session

Find actionable solutions to concrete challenges with your table peers.

- Facilitated by Patricia Valdenebro, CEO, TCI Network

Experts clinic

Our panel of experts will offer guidance and give tips to success

- Ásta Sigurjónsdóttir, Iceland Tourism Cluster, Iceland
- Werner Pamminer, Business Upper Austria, Austria
- Joan Martí, ACCIÓ-Catalonia Government, Spain

A vision for the future

Global cluster trends

Fly to the future agenda of clusters. Get the latest insights from the TCI Network and fast-moving examples and discover what's next in clusters.

- [Merete Daniel Nielsen, President, TCI Network](#)

Group picture

13:00 - 14:30 h

Lunch time

14:30 - 15:00 h

A vision for the future

The next generation of cluster policies

Fly to the future agenda of clusters. Explore how the new generation of cluster policies and programmes are being framed.

- [Clusters support: a European perspective, Benoit Esmanne, European Commission - DG GROW](#)
- [Role of cluster organisations in boosting transitions. David Fernández, SPRI-Basque Business Development Agency, Spain](#)

15:00 - 15:45 h

Afternoon breakout sessions

Hot topics

#Transformation

#Sustainability

#Inclusiveness

Session 1. Transformation. Connecting regional economy and societal challenges

- [Marieke Huis in 't Veld and Chantal Dietvorst, Brabant Development Agency, The Netherlands](#)
- [Gerhard Trosien, accadis University of Applied Sciences Bad Homburg, Germany](#)
- [Facilitated by Mirjana Prica, Food Innovation Australia Ltd, Australia and TCI Board of Directors](#)

Session 2. Sustainability. Reducing carbon emissions collaboratively

- [Brian Holst, Juneau Economic Development Council, USA](#)
- [Wesley Fallon, BMA, South Africa](#)
- [Facilitated by David Fernández, SPRI - Basque Business Development Agency, Spain and TCI Board of Directors](#)

Session 3. Inclusiveness. Clusters driving SME economic inclusion

- [Kyle Ballard, Durban Chemicals Cluster](#)
- [Vedat Kunt, Vego Consulting](#)
- [Facilitated by Peter Keller, Ministry of Finance, Hungary and TCI Board of Directors](#)

15:45 - 16:15 h

Coffee/tea time

16:15 - 17:15 h

Capacity building sessions for clusters (parallel)

Get practical advice and increase your knowledge on these concrete topics

Session 1. How to create a strong value proposition for cluster members?

- [Jamie Meehan, IDEAM Cluster, Ireland](#)
- [Erica Elk, The Craft and Design Institute, South Africa](#)
- [Courtney Barnes, Cape Clothing and Textile Cluster, South Africa](#)
- [Facilitated by Ásta Sigurjónsdóttir, Iceland Tourism Cluster, Iceland and TCI Board of Directors](#)

Session 2. How to support the cluster ecosystem through digital tools?

- [Meghan King, Durban Automotive Cluster, and Paige Sherriff, BMA, South Africa](#)
- [Vincent Dugré, Bivizio Inc., Canada](#)
- [Facilitated by Oliver Torres, Economic Development Council of Chihuahua, Mexico and TCI Board of Directors](#)

Session 3. How to raise resilient clusters over the cluster life-cycle?

- [Rocio Prado, Sintonia UPAEP, Mexico](#)
- [John Hobbs, Munster Technological University, Ireland](#)
- [Alberto Pezzi, ACCIÓ-Catalonia Government, Spain](#)
- [Facilitated by Emily Wise, Lund University, Sweden and TCI Board of Directors](#)

17:15 h

Closing session

19:00 - 23:00 h

Conference Dinner at ICC (main venue)

NOVEMBER
FRIDAY

11

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9:30 - 10:20 h

Clusters generating impact

Plenary session

Developing a growth strategy with clusters playing a significant impact is important, but it takes the right resources and circumstances to make it work. What are the main factors that can impact the success of a cluster strategy? How can we best monitor and evaluate the impact for learning?

Intro & new launch

- [Evaluating Clusters for Learning](#)
Emily Wise, Lund University, Sweden and TCI Cluster Evaluation Working Group

Keynote

- [Christian Ketels, Harvard Business School and TCI Advisory Board](#)

Cluster stories

- [Soul and Beauty by Faith, Ghana with UNIDO WACOMP support](#)

10:20 - 11:00 h

A vision for the future

The future of
clusters in Africa

Live talk with cluster representatives from Africa to the world. How can clusters in Africa create an impact? What kind of support is more efficient to boost cluster initiatives?

- Johnson Opoku-Boateng, AGI - Association of Ghana Industries, Ghana
- Hadija Kamayo, Private Sector Development, World Bank, Kenya
- Mzi Memani, Department of Small Business Development, South Africa
- Nomakhosi Mookodi, BITC Botswana
- Facilitated by Nigel Gwynne-Evans, Ecosystem Development for Small Enterprise, South Africa

11:00 - 11:30 h

Coffee/tea time

11:30 - 12:30 h

Confession booth

A failures open session. Come and share with the audience what didn't work when you tried to put in place a cluster initiative or collaborative strategy.

- Facilitated by Patricia Valdenebro, CEO, TCI Network

12:30 - 13:00 h

Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the TCI Network

Passing of the Torch to the TCI2023 organisers

13:00 - 14:15 h

Lunch time



14:15 - 15:15 h

Cluster toolkit

Explore new tools, solutions and action research, used by clusters around the world to upgrade their performance

- **Metaverse and clusters**
Oliver Torres, Economic Development Council of Chihuahua, Mexico
- **Productivity benchmarking**
Jake Morris, BMA, South Africa
- **Action guide. SMEs going sustainable**
Anna Lopez, KID's Cluster Catalonia, Spain
- **Supporting SMEs in Sustainability Reporting practices**
Eduardo Jiménez, Cluster HABIC, Basque Country, Spain
- **Impact of clusters on entrepreneurship**
Katrin Weittenhiller, IDEAM Cluster and Technological University Shannon, Ireland
- **Collaboration for the design of a new strategy/policy**
Katalin Barna, Ministry of Finance, Hungary
- **Facilitated by John Hobbs, Munster Technological University, Ireland and TCI Board of Directors**

14:15 - 15:15 h

Clusters in Africa

An empirical insight of their management and contribution to sustainability

- VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH and Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)
- Dana Krieger, GIZ
- Oliver Ziegler, VDI
- Case studies:
 - Ghana's Tema Export Processing Zone and Dawa Industrial Park, Richmond Frimpon
 - Ethiopia Aquiculture Cluster Initiative, Tewodros (Teddy) Zewdie and Samuel Mengiste

14:15 - 15:15 h

Connecting European Union and South African Clusters

Clusters' role in strengthening co-operation, trade and investment. Sharing policy learnings and best practice

- The Provincial Cluster Roadshow in SA, Mzi Memani, Department of Small Business Development, South Africa
- European Cluster Collaboration Platform and Global Gateway initiatives, Benoit Esmanne, European Commission - DG GROW
- Case studies:
Tourism Cluster Policy Dialogue, Septi Bukula
- Panel discussion facilitated by Nigel Gwynne-Evans, EDSE Programme

15:15 - 15:45 h

Coffee/tea time

15:45 - 17:00 h

Boosting collaboration opportunities

Meet your counterparts and explore synergies with potential project partners in these breakout sessions (parallel) around 3 Ecosystems

Session 1. Tourism ecosystem

- Iceland Tourism Cluster, Iceland, Ásta Sigurjónsdóttir
- Basquetour, Basque Tourism Government, Spain, Iñigo Uriarte
- Septi Bukula, Seeza Tourism Growth Network, South Africa, Facilitator

Session 2. Agrifood ecosystem

- Ghana's Agrifood Clusters (cassava, mango, pineapple), Ghana, Charles Sackey, UNIDO-Wacomp
- FIAL Food Innovation Australia, Mirjana Prica, Facilitator

Session 3. Industrial ecosystem

- Catalan Water Partnership, Spain, Xavier Amores
- Kid's Cluster, Spain, Anna Lopez
- HABIC Cluster Spain, Eduardo Jiménez
- Durban Clusters (tbc)
- IDEAM Cluster, Ireland, Jamie Meehan, Facilitator

17:00 h

Closing and Farewell

