

**2nd ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**EU-JAPAN REGIONAL CLUSTER FORUM**

**2-3 DECEMBER 2008**

**YOKOHAMA, JAPAN**

The **EU-Japan Regional Cluster Forum** aims at fostering cooperation between European and Japanese research & innovation clusters. It will provide European Clusters with the opportunity to:

- Meet face-to-face with Japanese clusters of their choice as well as in response to requests from Japanese clusters for meeting them
- Opportunity to present your cluster to an audience of interested people present at the "Cluster Japan 2008" Fair
- Get inspiration and ideas from examples of already existing cooperation between European and Japanese clusters
- Receive information on the Japanese and European cluster policies
- Network informally with Japanese and European cluster stakeholders
- Visit more than 100 booths present at the "Cluster Japan 2008" Fair
- Meet European researchers working in Japan, including within Japanese clusters

The detailed programme below highlights the various events associated to the Forum and the benefits EU Clusters can derive by participating.

- **1. Information on Japanese clusters**

A brief description of clusters in Japan is provided through 3 documents corresponding to the main cluster programmes in Japan, from MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) and from METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry). A 2-page description of each cluster in Japan is available at:

METI "Industrial Clusters": [http://www.cluster.gr.jp/relation/data/brochure\\_e.html](http://www.cluster.gr.jp/relation/data/brochure_e.html)

MEXT "Knowledge Clusters":  
[http://www.mext.go.jp/a\\_menu/kagaku/chiiki/cluster/h20\\_pamphlet\\_e.htm](http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/kagaku/chiiki/cluster/h20_pamphlet_e.htm)

MEXT "City Area Programme":  
[http://www.mext.go.jp/a\\_menu/kagaku/chiiki/city\\_area/city\\_area\\_h19\\_pamphlet\\_e.htm](http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/kagaku/chiiki/city_area/city_area_h19_pamphlet_e.htm)

- **2. "Cluster Japan 2008" Fair**

Cluster Japan is the main annual fair bringing together all the major Japanese clusters. It will take place at the same time and venue as the EU-Japan Regional Cluster Forum, therefore enabling European clusters to contact Japanese clusters which will be presenting their activities in more than 100 booths.

- **3. Face-to-Face meetings**

Based on mutual information to be provided (see point 9 below), face-to-face meetings between clusters will be organised according to a time schedule which will be established in advance. The face-to-face meetings (about 1 hour each) will take place on 2 December (all day) and 3 December (morning) at a dedicated area within the "Cluster Japan 2008" exhibition hall. Interpretation EN/JP will be available for each meeting.

In addition, a small lecture room will be available near the main Fair Hall for European clusters interested in presenting their activities to an audience of interested persons from among the exhibitors and visitors of the "Cluster Japan 2008" event. This room will be available all day on 2 December and in the morning of 3 December.

- **4. Seminar of the EU-Japan Regional Cluster Forum**

The seminar will take place on 3 December afternoon (simultaneous EN/JP interpretation will be available). See the attached programme focusing on (i) cluster policies and (ii) internationalisation of clusters. Names of speakers will be added in the near future.

- **5. Additional events complementary to the EU-Japan Regional Cluster Forum**

For the interested European clusters and other European Forum participants, two complementary events will be organised the day before (1 December) and the day after (4 December) the EU-Regional Cluster Forum.

- On 1 December afternoon the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation in Tokyo will organise a dedicated briefing on the economic and research situation in Japan and other issues of specific interest to research and industrial clusters.
- On 4 December (all day), a site visit of a Japanese cluster (possibly the Kobe Biomedical cluster (<http://www.ibri-kobe.org/english/index.html>) – about 3 hours by train from Tokyo) will be organised. This site visit will be of particular interest only to the European clusters involved in the biotech / life sciences area. Please note that you will be asked to pay for the travel expenses for the trip.

- **6. Informal networking**

Informal networking is foreseen in particular through two receptions. The first one will take place on 1 December evening in Tokyo after the briefing given by the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation. It will bring together all European participants. The second reception will take place at the EU-Japan Regional Cluster Forum on 2 December evening. It will bring together Japanese and European clusters and stakeholders.

- **7. European Researchers in Japan**

The network of European researchers in Japan which has been recently launched (<http://cordis.europa.eu/euraxess-links/index.cfm>) will be informed about the EU-Japan Regional Cluster Forum and invited to participate as well as in the Cluster Japan Fair. Some of them actually work within Japanese clusters and their experience and knowledge might be of interest to European Clusters. In addition, some European

Researchers in Japan might be interested in contacting European clusters to discuss possible career and funding opportunities. Interested European researchers working in Japan will also be invited to the informal networking events mentioned above.

- **8. Practical information**

Venue of the EU-Japan Regional Cluster Forum: <http://www.pacifico.co.jp/english/>

Hotels nearby: <http://www.pacifico.co.jp/english/accomodations.html>

EU-Japan Centre for industrial cooperation: <http://www.eujapan.com/europe/centre.html>

Transport from central Tokyo to Yokohama: about 30-45 minutes by train, depending on the departure station.

- **9. Requested information from European Clusters**

If you are interested in participating in the EU-Japan Regional Cluster Forum, **please fill the attached Information Request Form**. It is in Word format, and can be expanded as necessary.

- Based on the information on Japanese clusters provided above, could you please indicate in box 3 of the form which Japanese clusters you would like to meet face-to face.
- In order to enable Japanese clusters to consider meeting with your cluster, could you please give a brief overview (2 pages maximum) of your cluster activities (box 2 of the form). This overview should include in particular a web site presenting your cluster, a contact person, and a description of your interest for international cooperation.

**In order to be able to guarantee the setting up of the face-to-face meetings of your choice and your participation to the various events mentioned above, please send the filled *Information Request Form* as soon as possible to:**

**Dr. Philippe de Taxis du Poët**

Head of Science & Technology Section

European Union - Delegation of the European Commission to Japan

Europa House, 9-15 Sanbancho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0075

[Delegation-Japan-st@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Delegation-Japan-st@ec.europa.eu)

- **10. Attachments**

- **Programme of the EU-Japan Regional Cluster Forum**

- **Information Request Form**



Programme  
EU-Japan Cluster For



Information Request  
Form.doc