

# CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT ONLINE PROGRAMME



## Course Objective

To introduce the relevance of economic development centered on clusters, a region's economic strengths. The logic and the practicalities in supporting cluster development as a centre-stage strategy will be addressed, drawing on examples from Europe, Canada and Australia.

## Course leader

Ifor Ffowcs-Williams, CEO, Cluster Navigators Ltd

**Ifor is acknowledged as one of the most influential cluster practitioners in the world, with hands-on experience in fifty countries.**



Over 5,000 people have participated at Ifor's cluster training workshops, including economic development professionals and representatives from support organisations.

Ifor has been an advisor to The World Bank, EU, OECD, aid agencies and national & regional economic development agencies on six continents.

Ifor is a Founder and Past President of TCI Network, the leading global network of organisations and practitioners with expertise in clusters and competitiveness. He has served on competitiveness and cluster advisory boards for the EU, Denmark, India, Africa and Mexico.

Ifor's cluster training courses are designed for those involved in economic development and for those in a support role. Strong clustering initiatives have close partnerships between regional business support organisations (economic development agencies, chambers, industry associations, incubators, universities) and national organisations.

## Course Participants

Effective cluster development requires close alignment. Participation is welcome from:

### Industry

Cluster Leaders, Cluster Managers, Network Managers, Trade Associations, Industry Associations, IBEC, Irish Exporters Assoc, Innovation Organisations, Tech Ireland, Chambers Ireland & Chambers Network

### Policy Makers & Public Agencies

DBEI, NI Government, IDA, InterTradeIreland, Enterprise Ireland, Invest Northern Ireland, Regional Assemblies, Local Government, Trade Associations, Industry Associations, Skillnet Ireland, Udarás na Gaeltachta, Western Development Commission

### Education, Research & Academia, Training

Institutes of Technology, Universities, Solas FET, Science Foundation Ireland, Irish Research Council, Regional Skills Forum

### Social Economy

Funders, Community, Non-profits, Social Enterprise, Leader Organisations, Voluntary Organisations, Urban & Rural Networks

\* This list is intended to be indicative to whom may be interested in attending



## Course structure

The webinar course will be delivered over the course of 4 weeks, starting on May 11th. Each session is 1 hour long and begins at 10am. The fourth module will be tailored to the collective needs of the group.

The programme fee includes a personal copy of Ifor's 240-page Cluster Development Handbook, which will be emailed in advance to all course participants. Chapters will be identified as prior reading during the week's programme. Each session will be interactive, with Q&A.



The Cluster Centre is an Irish SME, led by Clodagh Barry, focused on supplying services to Clusters, Policy makers and economic support organisations across "the island of Ireland". We are committed to building a systematic approach to cluster-based economic development.