

Gliwice, 20 May 2014

## Cluster matchmaking event – “V4 Leading Clusters Formation”

After the opening event in Győr in November 2013 and the second meeting in Nitra in February 2014, the third cluster matchmaking event within the V4Clusters project will be organized by Polish partner – Upper Silesian Agency for Entrepreneurship and Development Ltd. (GAPR). It will take place in Gliwice, Poland on 28 May 2014 at the Hotel Silvia Gold.

The V4Clusters project consists of the following phases: i) identification, ii) networking, iii) informatisation of cluster organizations existing in Visegrad Group countries. **One of the main aims of the networking phase is to establish collaborative cluster networks represented by the V4 Leading Clusters prepared for the V4 globalisation.** The project is co-financed by the International Visegrad Fund and is implemented in the period of October 2013 to December 2014.

During the second third of the project activities partners identified clusters and its industries in each V4 country which are strong with high potential for internationalization. **The main objective of the Gliwice meeting will be to present and establish collaborative cluster networks represented by the V4 Leading Clusters in the industries such as ICT (Poland), Machinery (Czech Republic), Furniture (Hungary), Automotive/Plastics (Slovakia).**

Invited participants will have the opportunity to discuss the topics of their concern and to address the main challenges they are facing together. Cluster managers will jointly reveal the potential for cooperation and will thus contribute to the creation of four Action plans in each industry.

The early afternoon will be devoted to the short introduction of the V4Clusters project by Pavla Břusková, the President of the National Cluster Association in the Czech Republic. The session will continue with the presentations of V4 Leading Clusters: e-poludnie, ICT cluster from Poland; Pannon Wood and Furniture Cluster from Hungary and Czech Machinery Cluster from Czech Republic. The managers of the V4 Leading Clusters will focus on the possible opportunities for the future cooperation within Visegrad Group and presenting the Leading Clusters' formation.

The second session of the event will invite the representatives of all the clusters and sectors to introduce themselves for networking and matchmaking. The third session will continue with networking among the V4 Leading Clusters. Participants will follow leading cluster of their interest in groups, discuss possible Visegrad cooperation, common projects and cross-sectoral cooperation within Visegrad Group. Within the closing session the V4 Leading Cluster managers will present their remarks and invite all participants for networking.

During the whole event participants can raise questions to speakers and discuss their ideas and future cooperation opportunities.

### More information is available:

Karolina Piwowarska, Górnośląska Agencja Przedsiębiorczości i Rozwoju, [kpiwowarska@gapr.pl](mailto:kpiwowarska@gapr.pl), tel.: +48 32 3393143 or +48 784 964 377

Marek Koňarik, National Cluster Association – CZ, [konarik@nca.cz](mailto:konarik@nca.cz)