



## Agenda

7 & 8 December 2026

**Title of the event: Microelectronics and Beyond: Technological Sovereignty and Cross-Border Collaboration**

**Venue: [Sächsische Aufbaubank](#) (SAB), Pirnaische Str 9, 01069 Dresden/Germany**

**Day 1 – (7 December)**

| Time          | Session                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| 08:30 – 09:30 | Registration and Welcome Coffee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 09:30 – 10:00 | <b>Opening session – Welcoming remarks</b><br><b>Moderators:</b> Oliver Ziegler and Sabrina Werking, Cluster Experts, VDI/VDE-IT<br><br><b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heinrich Hünting</b>, Head of Division ‘Economy, Innovation and SMEs’, Saxon Ministry of Economic Affairs (SMWA)</li> <li>• <b>Jan Pratzka</b>, Mayor, City of Dresden</li> <li>• <b>An Baeyens</b>, Policy Officer ‘Industrial Forum, Alliances, Clusters’ European Commission, DG GROW</li> </ul> |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | <b>Setting the Scene: Silicon Saxony: A testament to Saxony’s strategic positioning and commitment to innovation</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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|                      | <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Katarina Bartz</b>, European Cluster Collaboration Platform</li> <li>• <b>Stefan Uhlig</b>, Deputy Director, Silicon Saxony</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>10:30 – 11:30</b> | <p><b>Panel Discussion I: Semiconductors and the new EU Value Chain Builder</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> <b>An Baeyens</b>, Policy Officer ‘Industrial Forum, Alliances, Clusters’ European Commission, DG GROW</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Stefan Uhlig</b>, Deputy Director, Silicon Saxony</li> <li>• <b>Stanislav Cerny</b>, President, Czech National Semiconductor Cluster (CNSC)</li> <li>• <b>Antonio Novo</b>, President, European Cluster Alliance (ECA)</li> <li>• <b>Wim de Kinderen</b>, Programme Director ‘European Affairs’, Brainport Eindhoven</li> </ul> |
| <b>11:30 – 11:40</b> | <p><b>Introduction to the Deep Dive Sessions</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <b>Sabrina Werking</b>, Cluster Expert, VDI/VDE-IT</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>11:40 – 13:00</b> | <p><b>Coffee-infused Deep Dives Session I</b></p> <p>Dive into Saxony's diverse cluster landscape with engaging discussions, networking opportunities and best practice insights to promote innovative and inter-regional partnerships.</p> <p><b>Deep Dive I - Hydrogen and Cleantech</b><br/> <b>Coordinator:</b> <a href="#">Innovation Cluster HZwo</a></p> <p><b>Deep Dive II - LifeScience and Bioeconomy</b><br/> <b>Coordinator:</b> <a href="#">Innovation Cluster Biosaxony</a></p> <p><b>Deep Dive III - Saxony's Thriving - Cluster Ecosystem I</b><br/> <b>Coordinator:</b> <a href="#">Saxon Economic Development Agency (WFS)</a></p>                 |
| <b>13:00 – 14:15</b> | Networking lunch                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>14:15 – 14:30</b> | <p><b>Key Takeaways from the Deep Dives Session I</b></p> <p><b>Speakers:</b> Moderators of the Deep Dive sessions</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>14:30 – 15:30</b> | <p><b>Panel Discussion II: Cluster Development in the Tri-Border Area CZ/DE/PL</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <b>Lukas Nögel</b>, Cluster Expert, VDI/VDE-IT</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Martin Kiefer</b>, Deputy Head of Unit ‘Technology’, Saxon Ministry of Economic Affairs (SMWA)</li> <li>• <b>Kateřina Podaná</b>, Member of the Board, National Cluster Association Czech Republic (NCA)</li> <li>• <b>Filip Dziedzic</b>, Head of ‘International Collaboration and Technology Transfer’, Lubuskie Metal Cluster</li> </ul>                                                                                       |

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| <b>15:30 – 17:15</b> | <b>Matchmaking session</b><br><b>Objective of the session:</b> The session aims to facilitate the development of new partnerships and cooperation opportunities among clusters, SMEs, research organisations, public authorities and other innovation ecosystem actors from Saxony and across Europe.<br><br>Through pre-arranged bilateral and small-group meetings, participants will be able to explore shared interests, discuss concrete collaboration ideas, exchange expertise, and identify potential pathways for future joint initiatives, projects and investment opportunities. Participation is based on meetings scheduled in advance through the event networking platform. |
| <b>17:15 – 19:30</b> | <b>Dresden Christmas Market</b> ( <i>Mulled Wine time on your own initiative</i> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Dresden Altmarkt</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Dresden Neumarkt</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>19:30 – 21:30</b> | <b>Dinner</b><br>Location: <a href="#">Pulver Turm</a> , An der Frauenkirche 12<br><i>Please note that participation is subject to availability and places will be allocated until capacity is reached.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

## Day 2 (8 December)

| Time                 | Session                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| <b>08:30 – 10:00</b> | <b>Site visits</b><br><br><b>Locations:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Robotics Kitchen</a> and <a href="#">Robotics Lab</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Future-proof agriculture (Feldschwarm@ EcoSystem &amp; ELWOBOT)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Integrated Center for Applied Physics and Photonic Materials (IAPP)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">University of Applied Sciences (HTWD) Research &amp; Innovation Programmes</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Elbe Flugzeugwerke</a></li> </ul> <i>Please note that this is an on-site meeting and participants are expected to travel by public transport.</i> |
| <b>10:45 – 11:10</b> | <b>Coffee and Welcome Day II</b><br><b>Moderator:</b> Laura Todaro, Platform Coordinator, European Cluster Collaboration Platform                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>11:10 – 11:30</b> | <b>Presentation: Inter-Regional Collaboration Through Thematic S3 Platforms and the I3 Instrument</b><br><b>Speaker:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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|                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jan-Philipp Kramer</b>, Platform Coordinator, S3 CoP and I3 Support Facility</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>11:30 – 12:15</b> | <b>Inter-regional Collaboration (through the Vanguard Initiative)</b><br><b>Moderator:</b> Oliver Ziegler, Cluster Expert, VDI/VDE-IT<br><br><b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Katharina Schoeps</b>, Project Manager, RKW Sachsen</li> <li>• <b>Jerzy Kopeć</b>, Director ‘Corporate Governance and Economy’, Marshall Office of the Malopolska Region</li> <li>• <b>Wim de Kinderen</b>, Programme Director ‘European Affairs’, Brainport Eindhoven</li> <li>• <b>Klaus Niederlander</b>, Managing Director, Vanguard Initiative</li> </ul>                                                                 |
| <b>12:15 – 13:15</b> | <b>Networking lunch</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>13:15 – 13:30</b> | <b>Introduction to the Deep Dives Session II</b><br><b>Moderator:</b> Sabrina Werking, Cluster Expert, VDI/VDE-IT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>13:30 – 15:00</b> | <b>Coffee-infused Deep Dives Session II</b><br>Dive into Saxony's diverse cluster landscape with engaging discussions, networking opportunities and best practice insights to promote innovative and inter-regional partnerships.<br><br><b>Deep Dive IV - Robotics and AI</b><br><b>Coordinator:</b> <a href="#">Innovation Cluster Robotics Saxony</a><br><br><b>Deep Dive V - Aerospace &amp; Defence</b><br><b>Coordinator:</b> <a href="#">Saxony/Thuringia Centre of Excellence for Aerospace Technology (LRT)</a><br><br><b>Deep Dive VI - Rail and Mobility</b><br><b>Coordinator:</b> <a href="#">Innovation Cluster Rail.S</a> |
| <b>15:00 – 15:15</b> | <b>Key Takeaways from the Deep Dives Session II</b><br><b>Speakers:</b> Moderators of the Deep Dive sessions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>15:15 – 15:30</b> | <b>Closing remarks</b><br><b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>An Baeyens</b>, Policy Officer ‘Industrial Forum, Alliances, Clusters’ European Commission, DG GROW</li> <li>• Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE) (<i>tbc</i>)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |