



EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL AND SMES
EXECUTIVE AGENCY (EISMEA)
Department I – Innovation Ecosystems, SMP/Entrepreneurship and Consumers
EISMEA.I.02 – SMP/SME Pillar, Internal Market and Support to Standardisation

Data Protection Notice for the “Attica Clusters Meet Regions” event

Athens, 6-7 October 2026, Greece

Your personal data is processed in accordance with **Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725¹** on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data.

The **data controller** of the processing operation is the Head of Unit I.02 SMP/SME Pillar, Internal Market and Support to Standardisation of the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA) at EISMEA-SMP-COSME-ENQUIRIES@ec.europa.eu.

The following **entities process** your personal data on our behalf:

- 1) EY ECONOMIC AND POLICY ADVISORY SERVICES SRL, Kouterveldstraat 7B/1, Machelen, 1831, Belgium,
 - 2) LOW ASSOCIATES SRL, Rue de la Longue Haie 63, Boite 1, 1000 Brussels, Belgium,
- E-mail addresses: contact@clustercollaboration.eu; clustersmeetregions@clustercollaboration.eu

The **legal basis** for the processing activities is:

- Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 because processing is necessary for the performance of a **task carried out in the public interest** (or in the exercise of official authority vested in the Union institution or body)² laid down in Union law.
- Article 5(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 based on your **explicit prior consent** for your non-mandatory personal data indicated below.

The purposes of this processing are to:

- register and manage your application to the “Clusters meet Regions” event on 6-7 October 2026 and to the linked Matchmaking session;
- include you in the list of applicants/participants;

¹ Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L295/39 of 21.11.2018).

² Act of Establishment: COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2021/173 of 12 February 2021 establishing the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency, the European Health and Digital Executive Agency, the European Research Executive Agency, the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency, the European Research Council Executive Agency, and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency and repealing Implementing Decisions 2013/801/EU, 2013/771/EU, 2013/778/EU, 2013/779/EU, 2013/776/EU and 2013/770/EU.

- facilitate information about your application and use it to make the final selection;
- provide related follow-up activities such as satisfaction surveys, communication concerning the event, post-event communication, invitation to next editions, management of lists and mailing lists for contacts, presentations, live web streaming and/or audio and video recording of speakers and participants;
- include data in the participants' list, which will be shared with other participants of the event on the B2Match platform to allow online networking, and for internal statistical reporting.

The following **personal data** are collected for **event participants**: first name, last name, gender, organisation name, job position, , country, region, participation in previous *Clusters Meet Regions* events, preferences regarding participation in the pitching session, proposed pitch topic, interest in attending the site visits, IP address and personal data processing preferences. These data are **mandatory** for the purposes outlined above.

In addition, the following **non-mandatory personal data** may be provided voluntarily and, where required, processed based on your explicit consent: profile image, biography, email address, phone number, LinkedIn account. Such data will be processed only where relevant for networking, participant engagement and event-related communication purposes.

Please note that the event may be partly web-streamed and that photographs, audio recordings and video recordings may be taken during the event. These materials may be used for event communication and dissemination activities, including publication on websites, reports, newsletters and social media channels.

By registering for in-person participation, participants consent to the recording and use of their image and/or voice for the above-mentioned purposes. In the absence of such consent, access to selected sessions may be offered online, where applicable.

For any questions concerning the processing of personal data, please contact clustersmeetregions@clustercollaboration.eu

Upon registration, participants provide explicit consent to have their personal details included in the participants' list shared through the B2Match platform. The participants' list includes the participant's first name, last name, organisation, job title, country, profile image, biography and LinkedIn profile, where provided. The list will be made available only to other registered participants who have also been granted access to the event platform and will be used exclusively for networking and event-related purposes.

The recipients of your personal data will be: EISMEA (European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency) and the European Commission staff in charge of the ECCP matchmaking events and the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN). The collected personal data might also be communicated to bodies in charge of monitoring or inspection tasks in the application of Union or national law (e.g., internal audits, Court of Auditors, European Anti-fraud Office (OLAF), law enforcement bodies).

The participants list will be distributed through a dedicated web-based matchmaking tool and a dedicated event booklet to all the participants and will include the following information: first name, last name, and subject to the participant's explicit consent, additional profile information such as organisation, job title, country, professional email address, profile image, biography and LinkedIn profile

The following **third-party tools** will be used for the organisation of this event:

1. For the purpose of registration and facilitating the matchmaking event, **B2Match**, a third-party tool managed by **EY Economic and Policy Advisory Services SRL, Kouterveldstraat 7B/1, 1831 Machelen, Belgium**, collects the following personal data: first name, last name, gender, organisation name, job title, biography, country, region, participation in previous Clusters Meet Regions events, preferences regarding participation in the pitching session, proposed pitch topic, and interest in attending the site visits. In addition, the following non-mandatory data may be collected: profile image, photographs, videos, LinkedIn and/or X (formerly Twitter) account details, email address, and phone number. B2Match hosts the collected personal data on its servers. B2Match's privacy policy can be found here: <https://www.b2match.com/privacy-policy>
2. For the purpose of post-event feedback, **Qualtrics**, a third-party tool managed by **EY ECONOMIC AND POLICY ADVISORY SERVICES SRL, Kouterveldstraat 7B/1, Machelen, 1831, Belgium** collects the following personal data: First Name, Last Name, Job Title, Organisation/ company name, professional email address, Country, IP address. Moreover, it hosts the collected personal data on servers in the EU. For information on how Qualtrics uses cookies and how it processes personal data, please see Qualtrics' privacy policy at: <https://www.qualtrics.com/privacy-statement/>
3. For the purpose of streaming services provided online for public retransmission provided by **Youtube**. YouTube's privacy policy can be found here: [YouTube privacy settings to protect your data – how YouTube works](#)

The processing of your data will not include automated decision-making (such as profiling). The following technical and organisational security measures are in place to safeguard the processing of your personal data:

- All personal data in electronic format (e-mails, documents, databases, uploaded batches of data etc.) are stored on the servers of EISMEA, the European Commission (and of its contractors if contractors are engaged to assist the controller in the organisation and management of meeting(s) or event(s));
- All processing operations are carried out pursuant to Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2017/46 of 10 January 2017 on the security of communication and information systems in the European Commission;
- In order to protect your personal data, EISMEA and the Commission have put in place a number of technical and organisational measures. Technical measures include appropriate actions to address online security, risk of data loss, alteration of data or unauthorised access, taking into account consideration the risk presented by processing and the nature of the personal data being processed. Organisational measures include restricting access to the personal data solely to authorised persons with a legitimate need to know for the purposes of given processing operations.
- EISMEA and Commission contractors are bound by specific contractual clauses for any processing operations of your personal data on their behalf and by the confidentiality obligations deriving from

the General Data Protection Regulation ('GDPR' – Regulation (EU) 2016/679).

From the contractors' side, the following **technical and organisational security measures** are in place to safeguard the processing of your personal data.

- 1) EY ECONOMIC AND POLICY ADVISORY SERVICES SRL implements appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the security and confidentiality of personal data processed in the context of this event. These measures include restricting access to personal data to authorised personnel on a need-to-know basis, storing data on secure systems protected by appropriate access controls, applying internal procedures for the secure handling and retention of personal data, and ensuring that all personnel involved in the processing of personal data are subject to confidentiality obligations and applicable data protection requirements
- 2) LOW ASSOCIATES SRL, implements appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the security and confidentiality of personal data processed in the context of this event. Personal data is stored on secure, password-protected servers and cloud environments accessible only to authorised LOW Associates staff, with access granted solely to personnel who need the data to perform a specific task. Technical measures include access controls, encryption where appropriate, and safeguards against unauthorised access, loss or alteration of data. Organisational measures include internal data governance protocols in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679), confidentiality obligations binding all staff involved in the processing of personal data, regular reviews of stored data to ensure it remains accurate and necessary, and retention of personal data only for as long as necessary for the purposes for which it was collected.

Your personal data will be kept for a maximum period of 48 months after the event. Data will be manually deleted at the end of this period.

The personal data may be further processed for historical, statistical or scientific purposes. The further retention time for this purpose will be 10 years after the end of the Single Market Programme (SMP).

You have the right to access your personal data and to request your personal data to be rectified, if the data is inaccurate or incomplete; where applicable, you have the right to request restriction or to object to processing, to request a copy or erasure of your personal data held by the data controller. If processing is based on your consent, you have the right to withdraw your consent at any time, without affecting the lawfulness of the processing based on your consent before its withdrawal.

Your request to exercise one of the above rights will be dealt with without undue delay and within **one month**.

Your right to information, access, rectification, erasure, restriction or objection to processing, communication of a personal data breach or confidentiality of electronic communications may be restricted only under certain specific conditions as set out in the **applicable [Restriction Decision](#)** in accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

If you have **any queries** concerning the processing of your personal data, you may address them to EISMEA, acting as data controller, via EISMEA-SMP-COSME-ENQUIRIES@ec.europa.eu, and the contractor, acting as data processor, via contact@clustercollaboration.eu.

You shall have the right of recourse at any time to the EISMEA Data Protection Officer at EISMEA-DPO@ec.europa.eu and to the European Data Protection Supervisor at <https://edps.europa.eu>. The above terms of use are made publicly available through <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/terms-use>.

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