

Annex 1: GEN.ERA's associated partner statement of interest

GEN.ERA's associated partner statement of interest

I undersigned Andrea Sartori.

as (position in the organisation, authorised to represent cluster, network organisation)

Executive director

of the (name of organisation) HUB INNOVAZIONE TRENINO FONDAZIONE

located in (legal address, country, website)

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confirm that we are acquainted with the aims and organisation of the GEN.ERA Partnership as European Strategic Cluster Partnership for internationalization (ESCP-4i) and demonstrate our strong interest to support the GEN.ERA as described below.

Short description of the organisation (enter explanation, legal form, fields of activities, especially related to genomic):

Hub Innovazione Trentino (HIT) is a Foundation whose core function is promoting innovation and technology transfer in Trentino. Our shareholders include the major local representatives from academy and research (University of Trento, Bruno Kessler Foundation and Edmund Mach Foundation) and a regional Development Agency (Trentino Sviluppo S.p.A.), therefore involving all the actors of the different domains within the Knowledge Triangle. HIT has also a specific mandate to represent these local innovation actors (entities with a legal link based on h2020 rules) within all relevant European and National networks and partnerships (such as KICs, Technology Platforms, Interregional Initiatives, National Tech-Clusters).

The Trentino Biotech ecosystem is growing fast in the last three years due to creation in 2008 of a new department of Biology and Biotechnology at the University of Trento that was able to spin out different startup companies and to attract private investors in key technologies in the genomics area.

Terms of our support (describe and be specific if possible - for example with expertise, support for communication and promotion, networking in third countries, policies support, consultancy and other services, and/or to collaborate within GEN.ERA activities and projects in particular thematic fields):

- Involvement of start-ups active in the genomics field in Trentino
- Participation to meetings, networking and communication support
- Tech transfer and innovation support of selected specialists

Article I. GEN.ERA associated partnership agreement

GEN.ERA associated partnership agreement is a convention between GEN.ERA Partnership members and other supporting organisations. Members are defined on two levels: partners and other associated organisations.

Article II. GEN.ERA - European Strategic Cluster Partnership (ESCP)

GEN.ERA is a voluntary, open alliance of complementary clusters and supporting organisations (meta cluster) interested in inter-cluster, cross boarder and cross sectoral collaboration for internationalization, growth and global competitiveness of European SME's in genomic.

The GEN.ERA alliance has been initiated within the "Digital Genomic Alliance to explore new markets for internationalisation", EU COSME supported project, Grant Agreement 951197 (short "GEN.ERA project").

Article III. GEN.ERA vision and mission

GEN.ERA vision is to intensify interregional and inter-clustering activities, support SME's internationalisation and enhance cross-sectorial cooperation over the whole value chains, thereby positioning European cluster organisations and equivalent network organisations and their members in the genomic sector and related industries as globally competitive actors in innovation, deployment and marketing European and global markets.

Thereby also to contribute to the European Commission's objectives to boost growth, jobs and investments in Europe. The GEN.ERA final goal is to develop and implement a joint internationalisation strategy.

Article IV. GEN.ERA associated partnership status

GEN.ERA is an open initiative, subject to certain rules and criteria, to the involvement of clusters (GEN.ERA partners), but also to other organisations which can apply for a status of GEN.ERA's associated partner.

GEN.ERA's **associated partners** are organisations and individuals such as clusters, technology transfer centres, training centres, universities and associated laboratories, institutional/public organisations, policy makers, experts... support the mission and objectives of the GEN.ERA partnership. Associated partners have no contractual obligation, do not receive any funding, nor they are required to pay any fees.

Organisations can apply for *GEN.ERA* associated partnership status *by signing the Statement of Interest (Annex 1)* in order to show they are familiar with aims and organisation of GEN.ERA and to demonstrate their interest to support the GEN.ERA with expertise, in terms of policies support, consultancy and other services, and/or to collaborate within GEN.ERA's activities and projects.

Article V. Eligibility

GEN.ERA has developed simple eligibility criteria for organisations to enroll in the associated partner network. For the criteria to be met, the potential associated partner should:

1. Be active in genomic related sectors;
2. Have access to SMEs in the above-mentioned sectors.

Article VI. Role

Associated Partners gain formal recognition as a partner of the network and as such are included in internal communication receiving information about new activities and developments. As a result, associated partners can identify opportunities for collaboration, gain knowledge and participate in GEN.ERA activities and events.

Grant agreement n° 951197



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GEN.ERA : diGital gENomic Alliance to Explore new maRket for Acceleration



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Date/place: Povo-Trento, 09-02-2021

Prot. HITF-10.02.2021-0000150-P

Stamp, Name, signature



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HUB INNOVAZIONE TRENINO - FONDAZIONE
Executive Manager
Andrea Sartori

