

Update on Water Technology Innovation Clusters

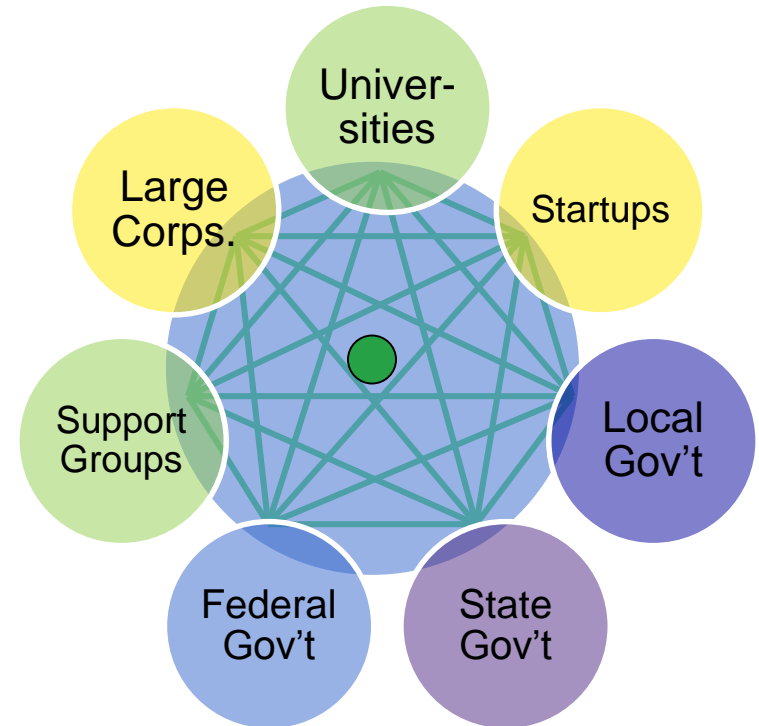


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The Cluster Concept

Clusters are **dense, regional networks** of companies and other groups in the same industry.

- **Clusters contribute to the growth of *existing* industries**
 - Industries participating in a strong cluster register higher growth of wages and innovation (as well as higher employment growth)
- **Clusters contribute to the creation of *new* industries**
 - New industries are more likely to emerge if they can integrate into an existing cluster, or if related or neighboring clusters are strong
- **Strong clusters contribute to the *overall growth* of the region**
 - Strong traded clusters in a region contribute to the employment growth of other traded and local activities in that region





EPA Clusters Program

Goal:

-Solve water problems and create economic opportunity at the same time

-Rely on communities to lead





EPA AND WATER CLUSTERS



- 2008 – First interest in cluster concept
- 2010 – Charge to EPA Cincinnati to catalyze community interest in water cluster
- 2011 – “Confluence” launched
- 2012 – EPA establishes “Clusters Program”
- 2013 – EPA publishes “Building a Successful Technology Cluster”
- 2014 – EPA begins to convene water cluster leaders



Success Factors of US Water Clusters

- Strong community support and attention
- Monetary investments
- Diversity of participants across the 7 sectors
- Long-term view but built over time
- Strong leadership
- Strong social capital
- Commitment to innovation
- Knowledge of water problems and needs

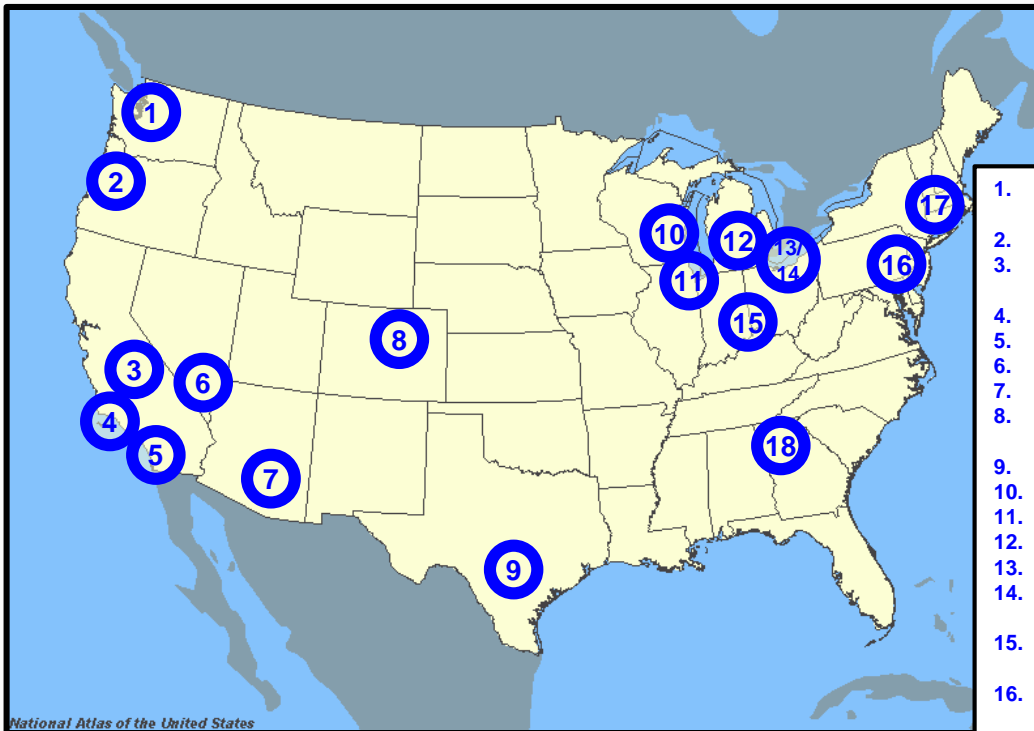


Emphasis in Support of Water Clusters

- Definition of water clusters
- Sharing of best practices and cluster-to-cluster collaboration
- Financing to insure longevity of cluster organizations
- Aligning Federal programs



Locations of U.S. Water Clusters and Technology Initiatives



1. **Clean Urban Water Technology Zone** (Tacoma, WA)
2. **Oregon Water Tech Innovators**
3. **The BlueTechValley** (Central and San Joaquin Valleys, CA)
4. **Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator**
5. **The Maritime Alliance** (San Diego, CA)
6. **WaterStart** (Nevada)
7. **H2Ostream** (Tucson, Arizona)
8. **Colorado Water Innovation Cluster** (Fort Collins, CO)
9. **AccelerateH2O** (San Antonio, TX)
10. **The Water Council** (Milwaukee, MI)
11. **Current** (Chicago, IL)
12. **Michigan Water Technology Initiative**
13. **Cleveland Water Alliance** (NE Ohio)
14. **Akron Global Water Alliance** (Akron, OH)
15. **Confluence WTIC** (SW Ohio/N Kentucky/SE Indiana)
16. **Water Technology Innovation Ecosystem** (Philadelphia, PA)
17. **New England Water Innovation Network** (Massachusetts)
18. **H2OTECH** (Atlanta, GA)

Full map available at www2.epa.gov/clusters-program/clusters-map.

This map is not intended to be comprehensive, and may not include some emerging water clusters.



Presentations

- Blue Tech Valley, Fresno, California, USA
 - Helle Petersen, General Manager, Water, Energy Technology Center
- Confluence (Ohio River Valley Region), USA
 - Melinda Kruyer, Executive Director, Confluence
- The Water Alliance - The Netherlands
 - Hein Molenkamp, Managing Director
- Pôle EAU - French Water cluster
 - Jean-Loic CARRÉ, General Manager