



Call for Papers – Abstracts

Stylised Facts on Regional Cluster Policies in Germany

Matthias Kiese (Ruhr-Universität Bochum, matthias.kiese@rub.de)

Abstract

Over the past quarter of a century, the cluster concept has become firmly established in regional and innovation policy, as well as regional and local economic development at all spatial levels across Germany. This paper aims at drawing lessons from the experiences made with regional cluster policies in Germany. Informed by a public choice model of cluster policy and the practice of cluster development, it starts with an overview of cluster policies in Germany within a multilevel governance framework. Based on an interview survey of 134 practitioners, policy advisors and independent observers, it reviews the experiences made in three federal states and seven regions. The empirical findings are condensed into ten stylised facts, which allow for policy recommendations and the formulation of issues for further research.