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## Regional clusters can help drive growth

EFA MEPs met **Mikel Irujo**, Delegate of the Government of Navarra in Brussels, to discuss sub-state government networks in the European Union.

They looked at new initiatives backed by the European Commission which focus on the approach of clustering regions.



*EFA MEPs with Mikel Irujo (centre)*

Mr Irujo highlighted that a significant proportion of EU expenditure is actually delivered at a regional level and that the regions are therefore vital in ensuring the effectiveness and success of EU projects.

They discussed the '*Vanguard Initiative*' for new growth through smart specialisation which is founded on regional co-operation.

Its S3 platform provides professional advice to EU member states and regions to help them develop their research and innovation strategies.

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Press release

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