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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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