

## 10 cluster members of Silicon Europe Alliance join forces in a new project to strengthen the European electronics sector and foster self-sufficiency in the semiconductor industry

- Under the name 'Silicon Europe Eurocluster' the new project started this September and will end in February 2025 with the participation of 10 clusters from France, the Netherlands, Italy, Germany, Portugal, Austria, Sweden, Bulgaria and Spain.
- The ultimate goal is to contribute to maintain European sovereignty in the fields of microelectronics, components and systems, while contributing to a "greener, more digital and resilient future in Europe," according to the consortium members.

**29**<sup>th</sup> of September 2022.- 'Silicon Europe Alliance', a European partnership of business organizations that has been working together since 2012 and of which the (GAIA) Association of Knowledge and Applied Technologies is member, has started working on a project involving 10 European clusters. These organizations, which represent more than 2,000 entities in the European digital sector, will work together with the aim of strengthening the electronics sector in Europe and its self-sufficiency, especially in the semiconductor industry (the basis of all electronics).

The project, called 'Silicon Europe Eurocluster', will run until February 2025, and has a budget of more than 1.5 million euros with a funding of about 1.4 million coming from the European Union. 1.05 million will be addressed to financially support European Small and Medium Enterprises. It is intended that its implementation will help Europe **to maintain sovereignty in microelectronics, components, and systems** thanks, in part, to the alliance and the clusters involved in it.

"We are aiming to improve collaboration between companies in our regions. We want them to share their needs and be able to complete their offerings thanks to interregional collaboration. To this end, they will be able to use our alliance as a 'platform' to create these synergies. We are firmly convinced of the value of this collaboration between regions for the overall benefit of companies and the European electronics sector," emphasize the consortium, which includes organizations from France, the Netherlands, Italy, Germany, Portugal, Austria, Sweden, Bulgaria and Spain.

The participating entities, including the Basque cluster GAIA, have already started working on the first steps of the project, focused on the analysis of the European market and each of the regions; the preparation of a report on each of the existing electronics ecosystems, as well as the industries and sectors in which they are applied; and the creation and implementation of a 'community' platform to find electronics/microelectronics supplying companies.



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## **Expected results**

The expected results of the 'Silicon Europe Eurocluster' project include, among others, the following:

- Creation of a **at least 12 new technological products and services** to improve key supplies for electronics and microelectronics. The aim is to make Europe less dependent on other markets, Asian for example.
- Funding and development of **12** innovation projects to adopt processes and technologies to the green and digitalized economy.
- 300 companies benefited, at different levels, by the 'Silicon Europe Eurocluster' project.
- Promotion of business partnerships: signing of business agreements between 20 of the beneficiary companies.
- Training of people to attract talent.
- Support the internationalization of 15 companies.

## **Participant clusters:**



Silicon Europe Alliance Website: https://www.silicon-europe.eu/home/



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