

LifeScience Krakow cluster – questions about future of innovative ecosystems

Kazimierz Murzyn

Director of the Krakow LifeScience Cluster, Poland

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Abstract

The phenomena of “natural cluster” and “innovative ecosystem” are synonyms. The LifeScience Krakow cluster initiative has been established with the single goal to pave ways for collaborative effort that would eventually contribute to regional economic growth through life science innovations. There are specific conditions necessary to achieve collective impact that are recognized and widely discussed, yet due to the complexity of issues involved in each ecosystem the task is not trivial.

The most important factor for economic development at each level, starting from a single organization to the whole region, is the competitive advantage. There are several possible ways to support members of life science community to achieve competitive advantage and one is that related to knowledge as a key driver for innovations. Since the beginning of XXI century we now understand that access to knowledge has very much different meaning that it used to have in previous years, but I would not bet on our (average) understanding what it will mean in next decade. Usually when we talk about the future, it rather means more decades than months or years. But actually, in case of development of knowledge it's necessary to think shorter term and exponentially increasing volume.

LifeScience Krakow cluster will develop as the knowledge driven initiative and this means continuous drift towards data as key production factor. Cluster initiative (or generally whole innovation ecosystem) will be both: the supplier and consumer of big data. Specific examples will be provided.