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International Conference

Small-Business Industrial Clusters in China and Italy

Experiences and Lessons for Developing and Advanced Economies

<http://chinaconference.unich.it/>

Call for Papers

May 28-29 2010
Chieti and Pescara, Italy

The Faculty of Economics of the Gabriele D'Annunzio University (Chieti and Pescara, Italy) invites submissions of papers for a conference on small-and-medium business clusters in developing and advanced economies, with a special focus on the Chinese and Italian experiences. The conference is organized in cooperation with the Fondazione Gabriele D'Annunzio with sponsorship from the Italian Ministry of University, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and the Centre d'études français sur la Chine contemporaine (CEFC).

Invited keynote speakers are Jean-François Huchet, Barry Naughton, and Scott Rozelle.

We invite papers that examine the roles of clustered small and medium enterprises in sustainable economic growth and development, broadly conceived to include environmental and social issues connected with the organization of industry. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Evolution of clusters and industrialization (both recent and in history)
- Economic geography and clusters
- Spatial econometric analysis of industrial clusters
- Industrial clusters, industrial ecology and environmentally sustainable development
- Policy implications for economic development
- Managerial and technological dynamics and spillovers
- The role of local government and business associations
- Sources of finance and financial contracts within clusters
- Contracts, legal issues, and transactions costs

Authors of accepted papers will be invited to submit their manuscripts for publication in a special issue of *China Economic Review*, *Comparative Economic Studies*, or *L'Industria*. The procedure for submitting to the symposia will be specified in due course.

How to submit

Extended abstracts of 400-600 words, or (preferably) full paper drafts, should be sent to chinaconference@unich.it before December 31, 2009.

Important dates

- December 31, 2009: deadline for the submission of the drafts or extended abstracts.
- January 15, 2010: notification of the acceptance of the submitted works.
- April 1, 2010: deadline for the submission of the full papers and for the registration.

The registration fee is €100 (€50 for students), and includes the participation to the conference dinner on May 28. Further information on the conference website <http://chinaconference.unich.it/>.