

Ifor Ffowcs-Williams

CEO, Cluster Navigators Ltd, New Zealand

Since establishing Cluster Navigators in 1997, Ifor's focus has been on the practicalities of cluster development. He leads strategy workshops around the world with economic development agencies, cluster groups and support organisations. Ifor is a frequent conference speaker on competitiveness, clusters and innovation.

Participants from fifty countries have attended training workshops on the Twelve Step cluster development process he has developed. Clients include The World Bank, UNDP, international aid agencies and national & regional economic development agencies on five continents. He has been described as 'one of the most influential cluster practitioners in the world'.

Ifor is a Founder, Past President and Member of the Board of Advisors of **The Competitiveness Institute**, Barcelona. TCI is the leading global network for practitioners, policy makers, researchers and business leaders working towards improving competitiveness in regions. He is on the Advisory Boards of the Danish Cluster Academy, the European Cluster Observatory, the Indian Institute for Competitiveness and the Pan African Competitiveness Council. At home base in New

Zealand, Ifor is a Trustee of the Nelson Regional Economic Development Agency.

Ifor is the author of 'Cluster Development: The Go-To Handbook', a step-by-step guide to implementing a cluster development approach.

Prior to establishing Cluster Navigators, Ifor was with New Zealand's export development agency, encouraging businesses to cooperate-to-compete through networking and clustering.

Ifor is originally Welsh and lived in Canada before making New Zealand home. He spends over half of each year travelling, with 4-5 round-the-world trips a year.





<u>E4@clusternavigators.com</u> <u>www.clusternavigators.com</u>

Blog: <u>www.e4oncompetitiveness.com</u> www.linkedin.com/in/clusterdevelopment