
Preface

This *Handbook of Research on Innovation and Clusters* is intended to provide a comprehensive information source for scientists, students, policy makers and cluster managers keen to have an up-to-date overview of clustering in high-tech industries, cluster case studies and cluster policies. A parallel *Handbook of Research on Innovation and Clusters: Cases and Policies* will present a similar up-to-date overview of agglomeration and cluster theory, cluster research methods, clustering in different spatial contexts, and clustering in service industries. A rich empirical material in both Handbooks makes it possible to learn lessons from cluster experiences in many different industries and countries in Europe and North America.

In organizing the two Handbooks, I have benefited from contributions afforded me by a large number of leading scientists in the field, who not only have written well-balanced and content-rich chapters but also have actively participated as referees of each other's chapters. I thank them all for their contributions. I have also been effectively assisted by the staff at Edward Elgar. I thank them all. In particular, I have benefited from the support of licentiate Ulla Forslund-Johansson, who has been responsible for most of the direct contacts with the authors and with the staff at Edward Elgar as well as for the referee process. She has also gone through every chapter to check that all references are correct. Thank you, Ulla! During the work, I have benefited from financial support from the joint Centre of Excellence of Science and Innovation Studies (CESIS) at The Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm and at Jönköping International Business School, Jönköping. I thank the board of CESIS for this support.

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September 2007