

ChemClust
Improving Innovation Capacity in
European Chemical Clusters

Tees Valley
unlimited



Cheshire West
and Chester

Results from the Pilot Projects

Skills Foresight

ChemClust Dissemination Conference
“Chemical Clusters – Cores for Future Innovation“
22nd November 2012 – Brussels, Committee of Regions



Project Partners

- **North East England**
Tees Valley Unlimited
- **North West England**
Cheshire West and Chester Council
- **Mazovia**
Voivodship Mazovia
- **Novara**
Province Novara



Objectives

- Improvement of innovation capacity of chemical companies
- Exchange of experience about best-practice solutions
- Matching future skills needs
- Support of initiation and implementation of concrete activities
- Development of recommendations for the shaping of regional economic promotion and innovation policy



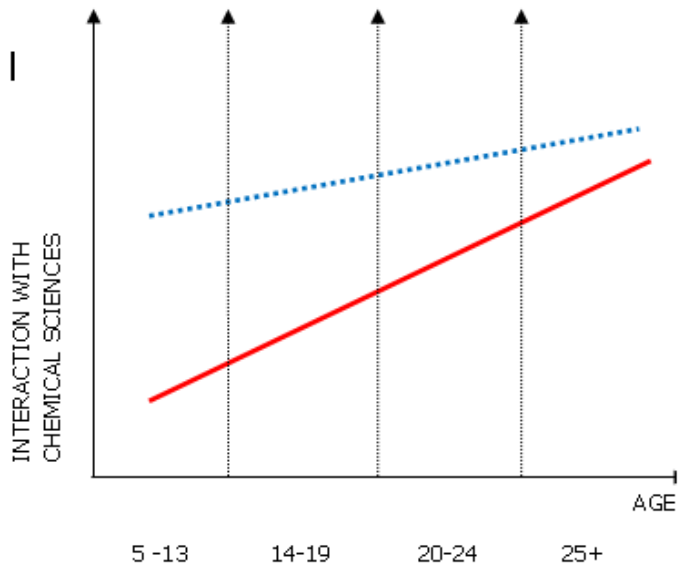
Overview of activities

2011	
Jan Feb	Agreement on methodology and thematic priorities within the ChemClust Working Group
March	Presentation of methodology and thematic priorities during ChemClust Workshop in Novara, Italy 2-3 March 2011 Start of pilot projects
July	Teleconference: All partners involved – discussions regarding the kick off workshop arrangements and partner updates
Sep	Pilot Project Kick Off Workshop held in Tees Valley, 26 Sept 2011
Nov	Presentation of activities during ChemClust Dissemination Conference and ChemClust Workshop in NRW on 14 November 2011 in Leverkusen. Skills Foresight Pilot Action Group meeting
2012	
Feb	Pilot Project Workshop held in Warsaw, 14 th February 2012
March	Presentation of Results during ChemClust Workshop on 8 March in Warsaw
July	Finalisation of activities and development of recommendations



Achievements in the Tees Valley

- Engaging with Universities and Colleges
- Progressive chain of interaction – discussed
- Children Challenging Industry (CCI) Best Practice shared with partners
- Involving local school students



Recommendations from Tees Valley

- Children Challenging Industry (CCI)
- Tees Valley Sector Skills Action Plan Developed
- Closer collaboration with NEPIC and Cogent
- Results promoted amongst schools, colleges and Universities



Achievements for Skills Foresight in Cheshire West and Chester Council

- COGENT Gold Standard promoted
- Sharing of Information
- Engaging with Local school student, Universities and Colleges
- Progressive Chain of Interaction



Recommendations in Cheshire West and Chester Council

- COGENT Gold Standard will be promoted
- LEP will be asked to promote Technical Apprentice Service (TAS) in the sub-region
- Promote results amongst primary/secondary and tertiary level education centres



Achievements for Skills Foresight in Province of Novara

- Co-ordination with local stakeholders to share pilot action outcomes
- Using the local chemical industry base, a questionnaire was used to develop data on skills
- Using the data gathered , a new course on Chemical Formulation was set up with the Omar Institute with input from the Italian Ministry for Education.



Recommendations for Province of Novara

- Simplify public funding support for companies hiring chemical graduates
- Work towards a common regional and national standard for the training interface between higher education providers and the skill needs of the companies
- Creating new and innovative funding paths at European level to support both entry to the industry and also current in-house needs.



Achievements for Skills Foresight in Mazovia



- Good practices were identified by a mix of desk research, interviews and expert panels
- Using the CCI model, 5 schools in Masovia were used as a pilot model to improve perception among children and teachers



Recommendations for Mazovia

- Chemistry teaching requires improvement by using CCI models as additional resources
- Promotion of education co-operation projects within Clusters
- Monitoring of all levels of skills need in the labour market to be implemented, along with more employer input into the design of the education offer.



Outlook in the Future

- Develop stronger links between educators and the chemical /industry in order to improve the current offer.
- Better engagement & communication between schools, colleges, and universities and industry, as well as HR departments.
- Any solutions must be led by employer demand. And need to be specific to the chemical industry providing young people and adults with the relevant skills and qualifications needed.
- a range of solutions that encourage engagement with the chemical industry across all ages.
- To reduce the gaps- high quality careers information and advice and guidance must be made available; increasing the opportunities to experience the workplace; and raising interest in and changing the perceptions of the chemical sector for parents



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