

Educate to Innovate

A SusChem programme for building innovation skills capacity

A key source of competitive differentiation for the European chemical and industrial biotechnology sectors is the human capital. It is, therefore, critically important that academia and industry collaborate effectively in building the skills capacity needed to enhance innovation in these sectors going forward.

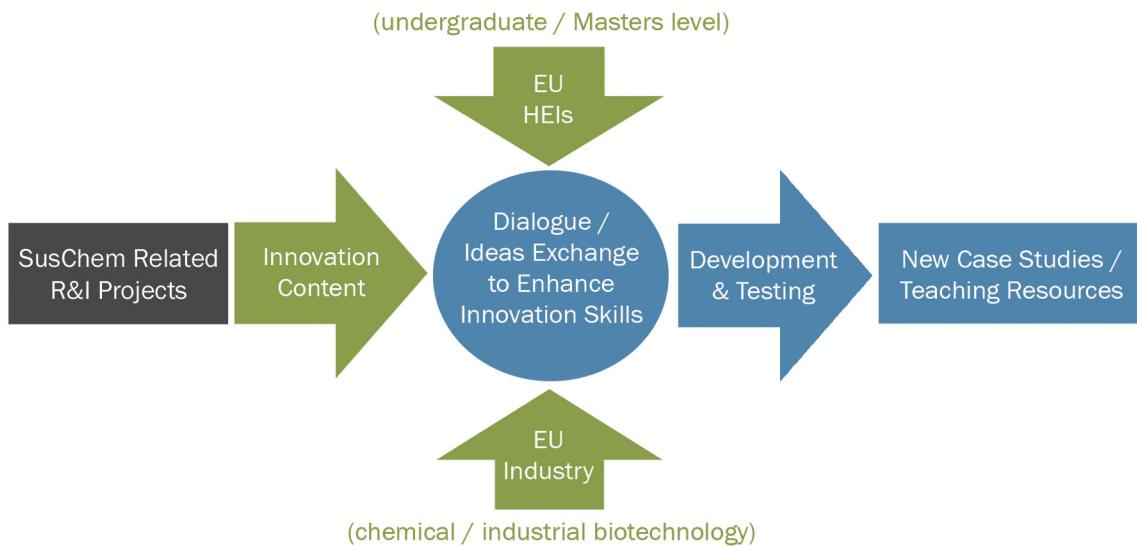
Educate to Innovate

The Educate to Innovate programme seeks to exploit innovation outputs from SusChem's Research and Innovation (R&I) projects in order to enhance the innovation skills of future generations of scientists and engineers through the effective engagement of industry and higher education institutions (HEIs).

The programme seeks to develop a **framework** that will:

- capture examples of innovation and innovative approaches emerging from SusChem related R&I projects that could be used as case studies for the development of educational resources
- engage with key stakeholders in European industry and academia - in particular:
 - higher education institutions (HEIs) that are actively using or developing leading edge innovative teaching methods
 - industrial organisations in the chemical and industrial biotechnology sectors with a proven track record of innovation and collaborative engagement with HEIs
- facilitate constructive dialogue and exchange of ideas between stakeholders on the best way to use the innovative approaches emerging from SusChem's R&I projects to enhance academic teaching
- design appropriate educational resources that can be used at undergraduate and Masters level to develop the skills needed to enhance innovation in the chemical and industrial biotechnology sectors.

Methodological Approach



The Pilot Project

F³Factory – a major European Framework 7 project that emerged from SusChem's Strategic Research Agenda – will be used as a pilot project for the Educate to Innovate programme.

Launched in June 2009, F³ Factory seeks to enhance Europe's competitive position through the development of faster, more flexible and efficient manufacturing methods. It is a 4-year, €30 million project involving 25 partners from nine EU member states. It is a large scale demonstrator project that seeks to combine the flexibility of batch manufacturing with efficiencies of large-scale continuous manufacturing to create a new paradigm in chemical production.

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European Chemical and Industrial Biotechnology Sectors

Innovation goes beyond pure research: it is about creating more sustainable products, processes and technologies that can be exploited commercially to deliver value to society.

One of the key challenges for industry - both large companies and SMEs - is the ability to attract and retain people with the right skills, knowledge and mindset to contribute effectively to leading edge innovation.

Through constructive dialogue and effective exchange of ideas, the Educate to Innovate programme seeks to create a framework that will ensure key innovation concepts and industrial challenges are effectively integrated with future academic teaching.

We are seeking input from organisations that:

- have a track record of engagement with academia for recruitment, mentoring, placements, research projects etc.
- are committed to addressing future industrial challenges through open innovation and collaboration with academia
- believe there are opportunities to enrich academic teaching of innovation by including case studies from leading edge European research and innovation programmes.

If you are interested in working with us, please contact:

Sue Fleet or Andrew Smalley at:
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European Higher Education Institutions

Attracting the best young talents for academic programmes in chemistry, industrial biotechnology and chemical engineering is a major challenge for HEIs across Europe.

Transforming those young talents through their educational training to contribute creatively to industrial innovation is an imperative objective.

Developing and extending good practice in chemistry, industrial biotechnology and chemical engineering education is, therefore, a key focus of the SusChem Educate to Innovate programme.

We're looking to facilitate constructive dialogue and an exchange of ideas between industry and HEIs on how to best deliver these objectives.

We are seeking input from HEIs that:

- have hands on experience and a proven track record of innovative teaching methods
- believe that there are opportunities to enrich current academic course materials by including case studies from leading edge European research and innovation programmes
- are interested in sharing experiences in order to help develop new ideas for teaching course material at undergraduate and Masters level.

If you are interested in working with us, please contact:

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For further information on the Educate to Innovate pilot programme, please contact Sophie Wilmet at the SusChem Secretariat.

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