



# **ChemSkills** project

## Enabling the green and digital transformation of the chemical industry



**Co-funded by** the European Union

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## ChemSkills

Enabling the green and digital skills transformation of the chemical industry.



#### 05 June 2025 – SkiLMeeT online webinar **Chiara Foglio**





# WHO ARE WE?

### The European Chemical Employers Group (ECEG):



industries







### represents the European chemical, pharmaceutical, rubber and plastics

### is the recognised sectoral social partner and a consultative body for the European Institutions and other stakeholders.



#### Through ECEG's membership, the association represents:





More than **88.000** enterprises

3.3 million direct employees





#### a turnover of **1.2 trillion** in the EU27

Eurostat, 2020



## WHAT DO WE DO?







**Working Groups** 

**Social Affairs** 

**Social Dialogue** 







#### EU projects





Programme: Erasmus+ **Duration:** 4 years - 09/2023 - 10/2027

### **Topic:** ERASMUS-EDU-2022-PI-ALL-INNO-BLUEPRINT



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- The project will develop skills and design core curricula, education and training programmes for all levels of education, • from EQF 3 to EQF 8 (VET, up-/re-skilling of the current workforce, highly qualified, i.e., Masters).
- Since the chemical industry is to undergo a triple transition in the next decades, this initiative is to deliver skills on: ۲
  - Green skills; •
  - Digital skills;
  - Skills to produce "safe and sustainable by design" (SSbD) chemicals.
- The objective is to identify gaps between the industry needs and currently offered education, alongside the development of new curricula based on the foreseen industrial developments.
- The project covers the following "subsectors" of the energy-intensive ecosystem, all part of the chemical industry: •







**Petrochemicals** 

## Project structure – Work Packages overview





- **European Chemical** \* 1. Employers Group (ECEG) Newton University 2.
- \* 3. Cefic/Petrochemicals Europe
- Chemical Industry 4. Federation of Finland(CIFF)
- 5. VSB Technical University Of Ostrava
- 6. University of Twente (UTWENTE)
- \* 7. **European Plastics** Converters (EuPC)
- Royal Haskoning DHV 8. (RHDHV)
- \* 9. European Landowners Organisation (ELO)
- 10. The Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)
- \* 11. European Tyre & Rubber Manufacturers Association (ETRMA)
- 12. Innovation and Chemical Industries in Sweden (IKEM)
- 18. University of Maastricht
- 14. Chemelot Innovation and Learning Labs (CHILL)
- 15. German Federation of **Chemical Employers** Associations (BAVC)
- 16. Rubber Manufacturers Association of Finland (RMAF)

- 17. Technical University Vienna (TU-Wien)
- 18. University Novi Sad (UNS)
- \* 19. **European Chemical** Regions Network (ECRN)
- 20. Federchimica
- 21. ITS Technical College for **New Life Technologies**
- 22. Austrian Chamber of Commerce (WKO)
- \*23. European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA)
- 24. Chemical Industry Association (ZKI)
- 25. Agriland Consulting
- \* 26. Association for Innovative Farming (AIF)
- 27. Croatian Chamber of Economy (HGK/CCE)
- 28. Comenius University Bratislava (UK BA)
- 29. Hungarian Chemical **Industry Association** (MAVESZ)
- **30.** Croatian Employers Association (CEA)
- 31. European Federation of Managers in Chemistry and Related Industries (FECCIA)
- 32. Institute of the Agricultural Association (AACR)
- 33. Saxon Training Company for Chemical Professions (SBG)





## **The "Future Skills Survey"**

The Future Skills Survey served as one of the project's key tools\* for gathering crucial data to research the current and future needs of the chemical industry.



The first release of the Future Skills Survey provides a broad overview of the evolving trends in the chemical industry while assessing their impact on skills and workforce requirements. The second release is to deliver deeper insights into the project's subsectors.

\* The project's research methodology also includes webinars, workshops, interviews, and desk research.



More than 70% of responses come from companies and industry associations.

This is a positive result, as companies have a deeper understanding of market needs regarding skills, training, and curricula.





## Market sector / segment

- Petrochemicals and plastics sub-sectors received the highest number of responses.
- 15% of respondents fell outside the project's scope– i.e. battery, painting, adhesive and sealant and education field.

## Size of organisations



Almost 60% of responses represent large companies (250+ employees), while almost 40% are from SMEs and microorganisations.





- Responses collected largely represent EU countries beyond the partners' network.
- 30% of responses are from non-EU countries – mostly the US, Canada, the UK, Switzerland, Singapore, Serbia etc.



# **Solution Current trends/drivers of change in the market**

Growing emphasis on sustainability and circular economy



**27%** of respondents strongly agree that their department/organisation will be likely "affected by the upcoming changes in the market transition towards the **digital economy**", whereas **61%** shared the same concerns for the transition towards the **green economy**.



- Changing trade flows
  with Asian imports and
  raising costs in Europe,
  challenging EU
  competitiveness
- Excessive energy costs

## **5**3

### Skills and knowledge needed in the chemical industry







## The "Future Skills Survey" 2.0 – What is new?

- The new survey is open for submissions at this link until 30 June 2025 (preliminary deadline). •
- Project's Work Packages have developed their own tailored survey, building on the findings from the • Y1 to gain a deeper understanding of the specific needs of each subsector.
- The survey is structured into four sections: •
  - > Section A focuses on respondent identification (no personal data, such as company name or job title, is collected).
  - Section B examines sectoral-specific needs, gaps and new or emerging trends.
  - Section C explores the training.
  - Section D collects feedback on the survey itself and offers options to stay informed about future updates.



The Skills Cards provide an overview of key emerging job profiles identified within the ChemSkills subsectors, describing the skills required for each specific role.

- **Analytics Translator**
- **Methods Modeller**
- Waste Management Officer
- **SSbD Products Manager**
- **Eco-Design Engineer**
- Sustainable Material Engineer
- Sustainable Process Development Chemist

... and more to come!

439 followers

Over the past months, through the #ChemSkills project, we've been diving deep into the evolving needs of our sectors. What we found? Entirely new roles are emerging — and existing ones are rapidly evolving.

...

That's why we've created a series of Skills Cards: clear, accessible snapshots of key emerging job profiles across industries committed to sustainability, digital transformation, and circular economy goals.

- These roles include:
- Analytics Translator
- Methods Modeller
- Waste Management Officer
- SSbD Products Manager
- Eco-Design Engineer

competences are needed to succeed.

Over the coming weeks, we'll be sharing them one by one. Stay tuned and discover what the workforce of tomorrow looks like.

#ErasmusPlus #greenskills #futureofwork #sustainability #digitaltransformation



Green & digital transitions are reshaping industry! New roles are emerging in all our subsectors! But there's a skills gap — and we need to act fast!

ChemSkills

We have created 7 future-ready skill cards...

... and we are ready to introduce them to you

#### ChemSkills Project

- Sustainable Material Engineer
- Sustainable Process Development Chemist

@ Each card outlines what the role is, why it matters, and what skills and

# **SKILL CARDS**



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#### Who You'll Meet in upcoming



The ChemSkills project has also:

- Social media accounts
  - A website
  - A newsletter

Follow them to always stay up-to-date!







# Thank you for your attention!

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