



European Commission

Promoting Responsibility In Small/Medium sized Enterprises of the Chemical Industry “PRISME² project”

Beneficiary

Organisation: Conseil Européen de l’industrie Chimique (Cefic)
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Project description

The aim of the project is to initiate a networking programme dedicated to **build capacity in SMEs within the chemical industry**. Such capacity building will enable to continuously improve their health, safety and environmental performance, with the industry sector’s unique global Responsible Care® initiative being the foundation for this. Performance leaders amongst the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic) membership together with other partners will become **mentors providing SMEs with training and expertise in issues of Responsible Care, in particular in health and safety**. **Pro bono trainings** will be initiated for participating companies, in combination with **on-site assessments (gap analyses) especially on occupational health and safety** and additional activities, making participation in the scheme attractive to SMEs. These trainings will initially be piloted in selected countries involving a solid foundation or relevant stakeholders before being rolled-out across Europe.

Project objectives

- Enable and encourage business partners to **exchange best practices** and to learn from one another.
- **Improve the genuine performance** of companies in areas of particular importance to stakeholders and society.
- More companies will become **involved in Responsible Care** through capacity building, and will **gain genuine competitive advantage** through the clear business case made by these activities.
- The unique combination of actors proposed will ensure **buy-in at all levels** and **strengthen the applicability of the initiative**, thus helping maintain momentum.

Description of the work

The project will be carried out in four development stages:

- 1) Initiation:** Development of the service; development and offering of a lean but targeted service offering to SMEs; substantiating the criteria in order to measure the success of the project.
- 2) Pilot Project:** Testing and evaluating the project outline by conducting three B2B workshops for representatives of SMEs in the selected countries.
- 3) Evaluation:** Review of the pilot projects by organising a one-day workshop with all the trainers, assessing the overall results and presentation of the results by a steering committee.
- 4) Roll-Out:** Broadening the base of the project and strengthening the groundwork for an enduring project structure.

Project partners

- The Centre for Tomorrow's Company, United Kingdom
- European Mine, Chemical and Energy Worker' Federation (EMCEF), Belgium

Target groups

Target area: European Union

There are two main targets:

- **Chemical Manufacturing Associations and Social Partners**
- **SMEs in the member states**

Project administration

Total Eligible Costs:	299,631.00 €
Max EC Contribution:	149,815.00 €
Year of Finance:	2008
Duration:	18 months