



# CRM\_InnoNet

## Substitution of Critical Raw Materials

THE CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS BULLETIN

MAY 2013 - ISSUE 2

### Project Activity



### Key dates

- **May 14-15, 2013:**  
[SusChem Stakeholder Event, Brussels](#)
- **May 27-31, 2013:**  
[E-MRS Spring Meeting & Energy Materials Summit, Strasbourg](#)
- **May 29-30, 2013:**  
[Third EU-US-Japan Trilateral Conference on Critical Materials, Brussels](#)
- **June 17-19, 2013:**  
[Minerals for Life – overcoming resource constraints, Edinburgh](#)

General enquiries and comments? Email [CRM@CIKTN.co.uk](mailto:CRM@CIKTN.co.uk) or find us on [Twitter @CRM\\_InnoNet](#)



### CRM\_InnoNet holds its first Innovation Network Workshop!

Securing an abundance of critical raw materials required by European industries represents a major strategic objective for the EU political and economic agenda. FP7 project **CRM\_InnoNet** aims to support this objective by aligning the research, development and innovation efforts towards substitution of critical raw materials that will secure existing value chains and lead to new applications and markets.

A key project objective for **CRM\_InnoNet** was achieved last month with the launch of the Innovation Network at a workshop on April 15<sup>th</sup> 2013 in Brussels, an event that brought together relevant actors across the value chain i.e. engineers, scientists, academics, industrial community, policy makers, etc., in order to establish an open, fruitful and enduring dialogue.

The [Innovation Network](#) is a proactive and dynamic network of key stakeholders interested in the substitution of critical raw materials. The Innovation Network has four main objectives: to catalyse the European innovation community in the area of substitution and create synergies, share information, promote best practices and identify innovation pathways.

The greatest challenge for Europe was identified right from the beginning of the workshop: **The demand for materials is so intense that 20 - 30% of the resources we use in Europe are now imported.**

Key note speaker **Renzo Tomellini**, Head of Unit for Materials in DG Research & Innovation, drew attention to the fact that we are living ahead of our possibilities: "We need to

redefine the parameters of our industrial economy and be more intelligent in the use and management of raw materials."

**Claire Claessen**, **CRM\_InnoNet** project coordinator, acknowledged that, in order to overcome Europe's dependency on import of critical raw materials, "a multi-faceted approach is required, including increased resource extraction where appropriate, recycling, reusing, reducing the amount of material used and replacement or substitution."

To become a member of the Innovation Network and receive invitations to future events, simply register your details on the **CRM\_InnoNet** website: [www.criticalrawmaterials.eu](http://www.criticalrawmaterials.eu).

### The role of substitution in the field of Critical Raw Materials

During the [1<sup>st</sup> Innovation Network Workshop](#) interactive sector-specific sessions in the areas of Electronics and ICT, Energy, Transport (Aerospace and Automotive) and Cross-cutting initiatives were organised. It was widely recognized that the establishment of an Innovation Network in the field of substitution of Critical Raw Materials will provide the opportunity to focus in depth on what substitution represents and will eventually boost the competitiveness of European industries.

In addition, the participants supported unanimously that an active dialogue among multidisciplinary value chain stakeholders will significantly support the development of further **CRM\_InnoNet** objectives, namely a roadmap on substitution as well as the formulation of highly relevant policy recommendations.



CRM\_InnoNet is funded by the NMP Theme of the European Commission's FP7.

## European community comes together on substitution!

The [1<sup>st</sup> CRM\\_InnoNet Innovation Network Workshop](#) was attended by more than 120 participants coming from 87 different organisations, including academic and industrial communities, and spanning across 14 European countries and the US. It constitutes the first one of a series of three planned to take place in Brussels in May 2014 and April 2015.

If you wish to find out more about the Innovation Network and the upcoming workshops, send your enquiries to [Pablo.Tello@pnoconsultants.com](mailto:Pablo.Tello@pnoconsultants.com).



## Find out all about CRM\_InnoNet in 4 minutes!

What is the overall aim of **CRM\_InnoNet**? How does the scarcity of critical raw materials affect the manufacturing process? In what way can a value chain approach help to identify the factors that impact the supply of these materials and technologies? And, most importantly, how can somebody get involved with the project?

If these are only a few of your questions, we are happy to help! Get your answers on our website <http://www.criticalrawmaterials.eu/project-summary/> or watch our video on <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80DWOZl6z7Q>.

## Close-up on PNO Consultants

With more than 30 years of experience, 240 employees and presence in 6 countries, PNO is the most experienced and largest innovation management and grant consultancy organization in Europe. PNO combines an understanding of the dynamics of clients' activities and ambitions with insights into key societal issues, technology trends, market demands, and Government funding.

PNO is leading Work Package 6 assuming the responsibility to catalyse the European stakeholders' community active in the substitution of Critical Raw Materials through setting the steps towards an enduring [Innovation Network](#) across the substitution value chain. In close collaboration with the project partners and other interested organizations PNO makes its expertise in building Innovation Ecosystems fully available such as the Innovation Place (<https://www.innovationplace.eu/>), currently shared by more than 8000 organizations across Europe.

## Tackling the Innovation Valley of Death: European Innovation ecosystem for generating value

Although Europe excels in the generation of scientific knowledge, it lacks the ability to transfer this knowledge into new products manufactured in Europe. The key elements for an *eco-system for generating value* need to be discussed and implemented, all

the way from the generation of scientific knowledge, as enabler for responding to concrete societal challenges, to market and industry needs.

In order to reinforce the dialogue among science, industry and policy-makers, [STOA](#), the official advisory body of the European Parliament for Science and Technology Option Assessment, organised a workshop to debate the expectations from the [Public-Private Partnerships \(PPPs\)](#) in core areas of European development and the interplay of PPPs with other policy instruments for Research and Innovation.

The workshop, which was co-organised by **CRM\_InnoNet**, MatVal, InnoMatNet and ORAMA, took place in April in Brussels and focused on how to sustainably enhance European competitiveness by mobilising all the actors concerned, in order to realise the full potential of European research excellence.

## ERA-MIN survey on raw materials

[ERA-MIN](#) is a network of European organisations owning and/or managing research programs on raw materials. In order to foster coordinated research on the entire raw materials value chain, ERA-MIN is currently conducting a survey that will help to map existing European initiatives and programmes, identify stakeholders and their activities, their technical and scientific bottlenecks as well as the strategies to overcome them. The results of the survey will help ERA-MIN to implement research actions such as joint calls. If you wish to participate in the survey, you may contact the ERA-MIN team at [www.era-min-eu.org](http://www.era-min-eu.org).

## Get involved!

Share your expertise and knowledge about substitution of critical raw materials with the Innovation Network of CRM\_InnoNet at [www.criticalrawmaterials.eu](http://www.criticalrawmaterials.eu).

