



Project Activity



2nd Innovation Network Workshop: outcome and way forward

The Innovation Network had its 2nd strategic workshop in Brussels on the 14th of May 2014. The event was attended by about 140 delegates representing 110 organizations from 22 countries. The event featured presentations by the WP leaders about the progress in mapping of the critical raw materials (CRM) landscape for

the 14 EU CRM as well as for the ICT and electronics, Energy and Transport sectors. The prioritization methodology and the resulted prioritized applications for further road-mapping activities were presented. The results of the vision workshop, which was held the day before, and encompass the first inputs for road-mapping activities, were also presented. All presentations are now available on the [CRM_InnoNet website](#).

The CRM_InnoNet Vision Workshop

The CRM_InnoNet Vision Workshop on substitution of critical raw materials (CRMs) took place on May 13th in Brussels with the participation of 68 experts coming from the industry, from research and academic organisations. The objective was to explore the needs and opportunities for substituting a set of raw materials, which are considered particularly critical to European manufacturers in the five following technological sectors: printed circuit boards and electronic components, permanent-magnet based applications such as electric drives and motors, advanced accumulators and batteries, high-value alloys, and photonics – high-end optics.

Five participative workshops, one on every sector, were organised in order to identify trends, possible trend breaks and barriers influencing the demand for CRMs. The discussion groups also addressed relevant policy and regulatory initiatives and research initiatives aiming at substitution of critical materials, as well as emerging technologies, innovative ideas and social trends influencing markets and policies. The outcome of the workshops will be included in the five final Substitution Roadmaps CRM_InnoNet will elaborate for the European Commission. These will be made available in October 2014 on the project [website](#).

Upcoming Events

- 25th-26th September, 2014:
[CO2Forum](#), Lyon
- 29th September - 1st October, 2014:
[LET'S 2014](#), Bologna
- 7th-9th October, 2014:
[SEMICON Europa 2014](#), Grenoble



General enquiries and comments? Email criticalrawmaterials@ktn-uk.org or find us on [Twitter@CRM_InnoNet](#)

20 critical raw materials - major challenge for EU industry

On 26 May 2014 the European Commission presented a revised list of Critical Raw Materials. The 2014 list includes 13 of the 14 materials identified in the previous list of 2011, with only tantalum moving out of the list (due to a lower supply risk). For more information [visit the website](#) of DG Enterprise & Industry.



CRM_InnoNet goes East

As a relatively resource-poor nation with an economic dependence on imported materials, Japan has much in common with the EU. The European Commission has recognised this synergy and is promoting research cooperation between Japan and the EU on the topic of substitution of critical raw materials.

The **CRM_InnoNet** team first visited Japan on a mission organised by the Commission in 2011. Last month we visited Japan to further link between the Innovation Network for substitution of critical raw materials and Japanese researchers and policy makers. **CRM_InnoNet** Project Manager Catherine Joce presented at a symposium and reception at Kobe University hosted by **JEUPISTE**, a project promoting EU-Japan cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI).

After a quick stop in Osaka to visit the UK Science and Innovation Network in Osaka, Catherine travelled to Kyoto to attend the first EU-Japan conference of the **NOVACAM** project. NOVACAM is an FP7/JST funded coordinated EU-Japan project developing substitutes for critical metal catalysts for valorisation of biomass.



CRM_InnoNet invites you to its next workshop in Grenoble

If you are interested in the latest advances in semi-conductors and microelectronics, you should not miss out on the workshop that **CRM_InnoNet** is hosting as a satellite event to the SEMICON Europa 2014 event in Grenoble, France. The **CRM_InnoNet** workshop "Substitution of Critical Raw Materials - Importance for European Electronics Industry" is taking place on 6th of October and registration is open on the following link: <http://crmsemicon.eventbrite.com>. For more information, you may download the [flyer](#) of the workshop.

CRM_InnoNet report on options for substitution open for consultation

In autumn 2013 the **CRM_InnoNet** project released a report charting current substitution options for the original EU list of critical raw materials. In addition to background information for the supply of each raw material, the report provides an overview of applications and the technological reasons underpinning the use in each application. Upon this basis, current and emerging substitution options are explored considering both technological and economic aspects. You may download the report from the [CRM_InnoNet website](#).

Since its publication, the report has been presented and well-received in different occasions. Nevertheless, the **CRM_InnoNet** project still welcomes feedback from the interested communities in order to make improvements and release a revised version after consultation. If you wish to send us your questions, comments and suggestions, you may contact criticalrawmaterials@ktn-uk.org by the end of August 2014.

Close-up on Cefic

Cefic is the forum and the voice of the chemical industry in Europe and therefore a committed partner to EU policymakers, facilitating dialogue with industry and sharing our broad-based expertise. We represent 29,000 large, medium and small chemical companies in Europe, which directly provide 1.2 million jobs and account for 20% of world chemical production. Our 640 members and affiliates form one of the most active networks of the business community, complemented by partnerships with industry associations representing various sectors in the value chain.

Critical Raw Materials and their substitution is of vital technological and economic relevance to the chemical industry. By joining the **CRM_InnoNet** project consortium, [Cefic](#) and its European Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry ([SusChem](#)) bring in a wide network of experts across the EU, novel research methodologies and technologies, as well as recommendations on innovation policy to boost the use of sustainable chemistry in Europe. SusChem has also set up a cross-sectorial materials working group as a response to the European initiatives in the materials security area (e.g. European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials).

Get involved!

Share your expertise and knowledge about substitution of critical raw materials with the Innovation Network of CRM_InnoNet at www.criticalrawmaterials.eu.

