

# NANOFORCE newsletter

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## Editorial

Dear Readers!

Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup> NANOFORCE newsletter. This newsletter brings our readers the latest news regarding NANOFORCE project development, project's highlights, success stories, project partners' introduction and calendar of important nano events. We hope you find this newsletter interesting. We welcome our readers' feedback. Thank you.

Editor  
Ivo Stancek

## NANOFORCE EVENTS

### ***NANOFORCE Info days and Joint Working Tables***

The first series of NANOFORCE Info days took place in the following Central European cities: Prague, Czech Republic; Munich, Germany; Frankfurt a/M, Germany; Warsaw, Poland; Nova Gorica, Slovenia; Svit, Slovakia. These were informative sessions related to the current NANOFORCE Project topics as nanosafety, science and legislation and responsible use of nanomaterials. The second round of NANOFORCE Info days and Joint Working Table sessions will continue during 2013.

### ***1<sup>st</sup> NANOFORCE Info day and Joint Working Table, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2012, Graz, Austria***

Representatives from industry, research organisations, universities and public authorities were welcomed to sessions on nanotechnology development in Austria.

The key messages are that the financial situation for nanotech funding has to undergo severe changes towards a stronger link between ministries and funding



agencies in order to move forward with efficient, adequate and economic funding of future projects; the use of the precautionary principle for nanomaterials registered as new substances under REACH was demanded at all levels of the product cycle; there is a demand for publicly available information on the nanotech developments to raise the positive awareness of the new technology among people, to strengthen the consciousness of consumers, and to avoid a negative consumer trend; the basic training and fundamental research have to be improved; there is a need for a better coordination of funding, as well as for a direct access to competent contact point; communication is still the strongest vehicle!

### ***1<sup>st</sup> NANOFORCE Info day, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2012, Warsaw, Poland***

The Info day was organized as a satellite event of E-MRS Fall Meeting together with block

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of conferences with participation of industry representatives, scientists and R&D nanotechnological centres. During Info day following topics were presented & discussed: presentation of NANOFORCE Project; nanotechnological market; criteria and principles – how to join Nanodeals Generator; law regulations in nanotechnology; standardization issues; combining physico-chemical characterization with toxicity studies for nanosafety assessment; responsible use of nanotech & associated risks management. All presentations are available on <http://nanoforce.pl>. More information could be found also here <http://www.nanonet.pl>.

**1<sup>st</sup> NANOFORCE Info day, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2012, Svit, Slovakia.**

The 1<sup>st</sup> NANOFORCE Info day was organized by The Association of Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industry of the Slovak Republic (ZCHFP SR). The main objective of the event was to exchange information about nanotechnology and nanomaterials among the representatives of Slovakian manufacturing companies, R&D institutions, universities, the Slovak Academy of Sciences, and respective state authorities. The main themes of the day included: Introduction to the NANOFORCE Project, Activities of the Competence Authorities Work Group REACH for nanomaterials, Application of nanoadditives at the use properties of polymer systems, New challenges at the manufacturing of plastic foils designed for food packaging, Possibilities for using of nanotechnologies in the field of innovation in textile industry and Influence of nanoparticles on human health and migration of nanoparticles from packaging to food.

**2<sup>nd</sup> NANOFORCE Info day, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012, Venice, Italy**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Italian NANOFORCE Info Day was organized as a parallel workshop in occasion of the International conference Nanotech Italy 2012. The main goal of the workshop was to present tools and goals of the NANOFORCE platform to selected nanotechnology actors in Italy. Two project partners presented their experiences in creation of nano deals and support to industry. In the audience there were present representatives of Italian business angels, senior researchers and universities.



**1<sup>st</sup> NANOFORCE Info day and Joint Working Table, 1st October 2012, Nova Gorica, Slovenia**

Info day and Working table aimed to present NANOFORCE project and its results, overview of nanotechnology in Slovenia, its opportunities and problems to the present representatives of industry, researchers and ministry. Working table was dedicated to present importance, advantages and possibilities for closer integration between enterprises and scientists. Present members of enterprises draw attention to the most important problems they face with. Working table lead to very productive discussion and important convergence of views between representatives of government and industry.

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

**Work package 5 – Supporting Nano R&D commercialization & industrialization**

The project intends to implement innovative actions in the nanotech sector and to foster collaborations between research and industry. An innovative ICT nanotechnology platform named “Nanodeals Generator” was developed, which is operating throughout the duration of the project. This instrument connects research and knowledge generating institutions with the chemical industry (research for business) and provides expertise tailored to specific needs along with support for innovative SMEs in launching new joint nanotechnology initiatives. Having a well developed platform, the partners are now starting to commence support for B2B actions. All deals registered in the “Nanodeals Generator” will be evaluated through a Technology Rating Methodology. More information available here (registration needed):

<http://www.nanoforceproject.eu/>

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### **Work package 6 – “Interregional Nanotech Venture Capital Fund” & Capacity Building**

Creation of an Interregional Nanotech Venture Capital Fund (I.N.V.C.F.) will be a strategic tool for the acceleration of the deal flow proposals. I.N.V.C.F. will be proposed as a project follow-up for fundraising to the international Venture Capitalists operating in the participating regions. A specific proposal for funding of the nanotech initiatives will enable a better integration of the Venture Capitalists during the phases of scouting, identification, pre-analysis and evaluation of the Nanodeals. It will create a common culture of investments towards innovative initiatives. More information is available here (registration needed): <http://www.nanoforceproject.eu/>.

## **NANOFORCE SUCCESS STORIES**

### ***NANOFORCE project presented at SENN 2012 – International Congress on Safety of Engineered Nanoparticles and Nanotechnologies, 28. 10. – 31. 10. 2012, Helsinki, Finland.***

BioNanoNet (in charge of “The responsible use of nanotechnology and associated risk management” in NANOFORCE) presented the state of art of nanotech legislations and findings of a framework analysis of the nanotech sector in the Central Europe. Sonja Hartl promoted the Nanodeals Generator to international experts for the purpose of establishing valuable contacts for the NANOFORCE project, gaining support and to propose Nanodeals.

### ***NANOFORCE was presented at nanoSAFE 12 – Third international conference on safe production and use of nanomaterials, 13.–15. November 2012, Grenoble, France.***

BioNanoNet attended nanoSAFE12 with sessions on exposure assessment, toxicology of nanomaterials, risk management and many more. Andreas Falk presented the NANOFORCE project within a talk on “Regulation and Safety Implementation of Nanotechnology for Chemical Enterprises in the Central Europe Space”. Project results on nanotechnology, nano-safety and nanomaterials in the CE region were presented, together with information on existing nano-regulations, requirements and identified gaps within the NANOFORCE project.

## **NANOFORCE IN MEDIA**

### **NanoPRO.biz**

NANOFORCE Midterm Press Release published on NanoPro.biz web, 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2012:

<http://www.nanopro.biz/index.php/features/1-latest-news/262-mid-term-results-of-the-nanoforce-project-the-central-europes-programme>.

## **PROJECT PARTNERS' INTRODUCTION**

The NANOFORCE project was launched in May 2011 for 30 months. Eight Central European regions (7 Countries) are participating in the project. It is developed by 9 project partners, including national & regional chemistry associations and R&D Centers of the Central Europe area. The project was founded within the European Territorial Cooperation Objective CENTRAL EUROPE Program, Application round 3. Among the members of the consortium are:

### ***Project Partner 4: Chemistry Cluster Bavaria, Germany***

Chemie-Cluster Bayern has been established as an international project development platform for Bavarian companies and research institutes, regardless of their number of employees or size. Chemie-Cluster Bayern is designed as a contact and competence network for Chemical Assisted Living, i.e. for all areas in which chemical products take a sustainable contribution to improve quality of daily life. This covers, for example, areas of e-mobility, renewable energy, CO<sub>2</sub> prevention, new materials, but also building chemistry and polymer chemistry, as well as chemical climate protection. Chemie-Cluster Bayern is, in particular, opened to those participants who have a peripheral involvement in chemistry and chemical products. Our joint objective is to create networks which promote cooperation, innovation and development of new product systems and services. Due to a closer link of business and science, we also create a strong commitment to the region of Bavaria, thus posing a positive effect on the regional value added and jobs. In addition to mediating contacts to potential project partners. <http://www.chemiecluster-bayern.de/en>

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### **Project Partner 5: Polish Chamber of Chemical Industry – PIPC, Poland**

The Polish Chamber of Chemical Industry (PCCI) was established in 1988 as a voluntary, nonprofit association of chemical companies in Poland. The Chamber associated numerous major manufacturing and trade companies, scientific-research institutes and branch associations. It is the only Polish institution being a member of CEFIC, and is authorized to represent the chemical industry on the international forum. According to its Statute, the Chamber is authorized to present its opinions on all regulations regarding functioning of the chemical industry in Poland. The activities of the Chamber are focused on: better competitiveness of the chemical industry in Poland; sustainable development of the chemical branch; “Responsible Care” implementation; health, environment and safety issues; positions on draft legal acts (at the national and EU level) on behalf of the chemical industry; cooperation with international organizations (CEFIC and ECEG) and ranch organizations (FE, IFA, EUROCHLOR).  
<http://www.en.pipc.org.pl>

### **Project Partner 6: University of Nova Gorica, Slovenia**

The Laboratory for Environmental Research (Laboratorijzaraziskave v okolju, LRO) is an interdisciplinary research unit established in 1995. The Laboratory has an international reputation based on its quality achievements and its commitment in applying research skills to current environmental issues. In the area of fundamental research, the activities of the laboratory are directed to the investigation of photochemical and microbial degradation as well as the transport of pollutants in the environment, the development of laser-based methods, bioanalytical methods, and ecotoxicological tests for identification and determination of toxic compounds and their effects on the environment. Additional aspects of LRO’s activities are the development of new materials for application in environmentally friendly technologies. In the field of nanomaterials LRO has many experiences with research on photocatalytic degradation of toxic compounds and water pollutants, research of nano-porous material, with self-cleaning surfaces and coatings, as well as with different toxicological studies, with different toxicological studies.  
<http://www.ung.si/en>

## **UPCOMING NANO EVENTS**

### **Austria:**

**4<sup>th</sup> International Congress BioNanoMed 2013, Nanotechnology, Medicine & Biology, 13<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> March, 2013, Krems, Austria.**

BioNanoNet will give a talk on “Toxicological Assessment Strategy to Secure the Safe Implementation of Nanomaterials” showing first results on toxicity testing of nanomaterials achieved within the project NANOFORCE. More info on [www.bionanomed.at](http://www.bionanomed.at).

### **Spain:**

**ImagineNano 2013, 23<sup>rd</sup>–26<sup>th</sup> April, 2013, Bilbao, Spain**

Bilbao (Spain) will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the largest European Event in Nanoscience & Nanotechnology, ImagineNano, from 23<sup>rd</sup> until the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2013 at Bilbao Exhibition Centre (BEC).  
<http://www.imagenano.com/GENERAL/index.php>

### **Germany:**

**Forum Life Science 2013**

**8<sup>th</sup> international congress „Forum Life Science 2013“ 13<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> March 2013, Munich (Technical University), Germany. The organiser: Bayern Innovativ GmbH.**

Enterprises and institutions present their latest technologies and innovative products as well as their latest research findings. Deadline for registration is 16<sup>th</sup> January 2013. You can find both the programme and the documents for registration on the website [www.bayern-innovativ.de/fls2013](http://www.bayern-innovativ.de/fls2013).

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