



LIMERICK INSTITUTE  
OF TECHNOLOGY  
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA  
LUIMNIGH

# Chemistry Is All Around Us Network Project



M.Walsh

IOSTE Conference  
April 19th



Education and Culture

Lifelong Learning Programme

# Outline

- About the project
- Aims and Objectives
- Starting to create a network



# Origins of the project

- Follow on from previous project which developed a website and pilot teaching materials



# Products of



The project activities were organized into 3 main Work Packages:

- Identification of barriers and success factors in Life Long Learning of Scientific Subjects
- Development of a European Strategy for the promotion of Life Long Learning in Scientific Subjects
- Production of education and training material

# Results of



- **Database of Documents** concerning the strategies and policies adopted to promote Life Long Learning in scientific subjects (with a special focus on Chemistry).
- **Collection of Case Studies** of direct experiences of Life Long Learning initiatives in scientific subjects.



# Results of



National and Transnational Reports on Lifelong Learning of Scientific Subjects, focusing on the:

- Analysis of what can be considered the main obstacles to lifelong learning of Chemistry.
- Analysis of the effective initiatives carried out to overcome the barriers identified above.
- Identification of National and Regional strategies to promote Life Long Learning of scientific subjects.

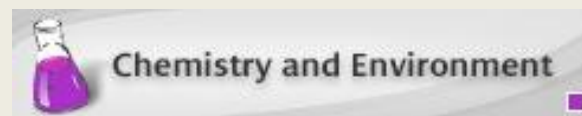
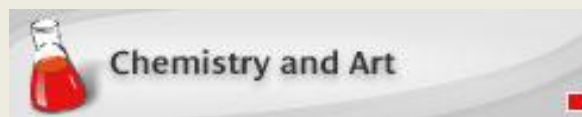
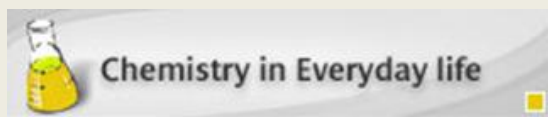


# Results of



- **Results:**

Pilot Educational Material for the promotion of Life Long Learning in Chemistry.





<http://www.chemistry-is.eu/>





# Context of the continuation

- Promoting Life Long Learning strategies for scientific issues is much more difficult compared to other subjects.
- Teachers face a major challenge in keeping up-to-date, given that speed of development of scientific knowledge is constantly increasing.



# Project aims

- To build a network of teachers and experts
- To stimulate the interest of students towards the study of Chemistry
- To enhance the perception of Chemistry as a subject for lifelong-learning



# Objectives 1

- **Create a Network** among different educational institutions for the exchange and comparison of experiences and knowledge in order to develop and exploit a new “language” to be used to fill in the gap between the world of scientists and researchers and school teachers.



# Objectives 2

- Enhance interest and stimulate active learning processes of students of all educational levels, particularly in Chemistry
- by sharing the most effective **ICT based practical resources** that promote an interactive and attractive approach to the understanding of Chemistry.



# Objectives 3

- **Present Chemistry under a renewed and positive attitude**, by giving evidence to how it affects our everyday life and how it can contribute to the explanation of many phenomena that people encounter everyday.



# Target Groups

The main target groups of the project are:

- **School teachers** directly involved in the project activities
- **Students** working with these teachers
- Scientific **experts in chemistry** to be involved in an active cooperation with teachers
- Any others who will have access to the dissemination activities



# Project Partnership: 13 partners involved in 11 different European countries.

Belgium: [INFOREF, Initiatives pour une formation efficace](#)

Bulgaria [Technical University of Gabrovo](#)

Czech Republic [Institute Of Chemical Technology Prague](#)

Greece [Technological Educational Institute \(T.E.I.\) of Ionian Islands](#)

Ireland [Limerick Institute of Technology](#)

Italy [University of Genova](#) [Connectis](#) [Pixel Associazione](#)

Poland [WSINF - Health Promotion Chair WSINF's Pedagogy-Rehabilitation Faculty](#)

Portugal [Instituto Politécnico de Bragança](#)

Slovak Republic [TRANSFER Slovensko, s.r.o](#)

Spain [CECE - Spanish Confederation of Education and Training Centres](#)

Turkey [Kırıkkale University Education Faculty](#)



# Project themes

- Year 1: Students' motivation
- Year 2: Teacher's Training
- Year 3: Successful experiences





# Project activities

- **Research activity** aiming at the creation of a database of publications on teaching chemistry
- **Collection** of existing ICT based teaching resources to teach Chemistry
- **Creation of a network** of scientific experts and teachers in order to reduce the existing distance between the world of scientific research and the world of school
- Organisation of transnational **conferences** to present the current & future perspectives on science education

# Transnational discussion

- The teachers and experts involved will participate in the transnational discussion on the network portal:
- At least 2 comments per year to be posted
- Participation in face-to-face workshops to discuss and assess material on portal
- Representatives to participate in on-line meetings



# Project starting phase

- March 2012 – kick-off meeting in Italy
- Managers identifying 10 teachers and 5 experts from their country who will participate
- Managers assembling collection of 20 national resources on theme 1.
- Participants reviewing resources
- Workshop to review resource collection
- Representatives to participate in on-line meetings



# Chemistry is all around us: project portal

<http://projects.pixel-online.org/chemistrynetwork/info/index.php>



# Collecting Resources

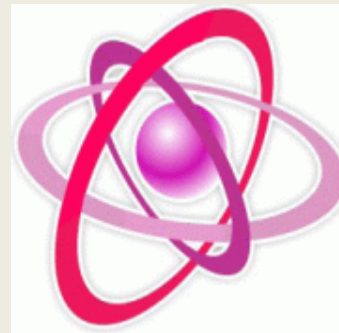


# Collecting Resources

## *iChemistry* Irish CPD website

- resources include:
  - **Updated PowerPoint presentations** with embedded **Numeracy and Literacy** suggestions,
  - Past LC Exams and Solutions,
  - **DARTS** in various topics,
  - **Flash Animations**,
  - **Images**,
  - **Video clips** for each of the sections in the Chemistry syllabus,
  - **BBC programs:** History of the Atom (3 episodes) and History of Periodic Table (3 episodes),
  - **Transition Year** material,
  - **Practical Videos**,
  - **Flash cards** for Mobile phones,
  - **Sample lesson Plans.**

**Presented at** workshops organised in partnership with the Education Centres and with the local branches of the ISTA.



# Starting the network

- March 2012 – 13 partners meet
- April 2012 – involvement of 10 teachers, 200 students and 5 experts from each country
- Collection of 20 national resources on theme 1.
- Sharing on the portal and at virtual and actual meetings.....



# Thank you

## ANY QUESTIONS?