

# Materials Security Innovation Opportunities

Dr Catherine Joce<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Chemistry Innovation, The Heath Business and Technical Park, Runcorn, WA7 4QX;  
[Catherine.Joce@ciktn.co.uk](mailto:Catherine.Joce@ciktn.co.uk); Twitter: @Dr\_CatJ

Chemistry Innovation's mission is to stimulate & support product and process innovation that will deliver tangible value for the UK chemistry-using industries. Chemistry Innovation has identified resource efficiency, scarce metals and minerals and the circular economy as key opportunities for the chemistry-using industries. Recent rises in the cost of raw materials, combined with the uncertainty caused by price volatility, present a real challenge to companies managing their supply chains. However, this trend can also be seen as an opportunity. Businesses who are able to use resources more efficiently, or develop new technologies allowing them to eliminate the use of critical materials, will gain a competitive advantage.

Chemistry Innovation's activities under these themes will be described, including details of specific collaborations, activities, outputs and funding opportunities. Specific projects where Chemistry Innovation can demonstrate impact in this area will be discussed:

- **Materials Security Special Interest Group:** Working with businesses transitioning to a circular economy for high value materials.  
<https://connect.innovateuk.org/web/material-security>
- **CRM\_InnoNet:** Driving innovation, influencing policy and facilitating networking in the field of *substitution* of critical raw materials for the benefit of EU industry.  
[www.criticalrawmaterials.eu](http://www.criticalrawmaterials.eu)
- **New project:** Development of critical metal-free catalysts for valorization of biomass.