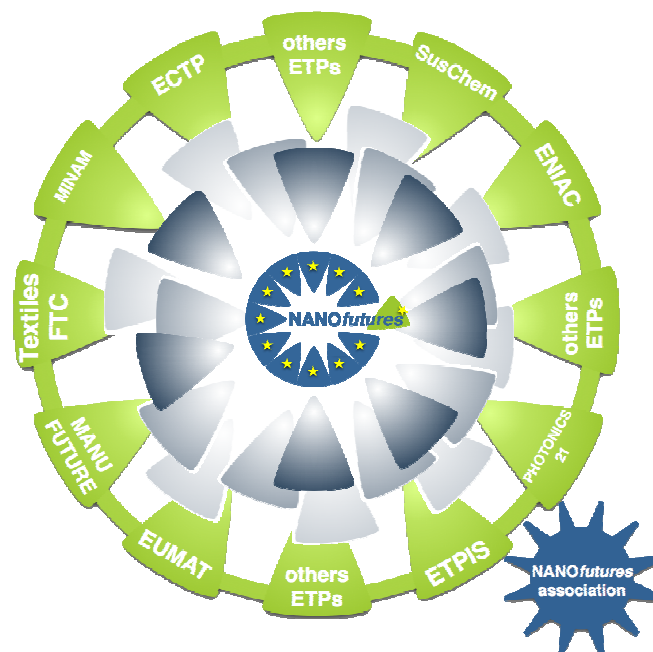




## NANO futures

### European initiative for sustainable development by Nanotechnologies

Nanotechnology is the basis for the next industrial revolution. We have several samples of successful business cases e.g. at chemical industry. Nanotechnology is everywhere, in our clothing, cars, windows, computer and displays, even in our cosmetics and medicine adding new functionalities, intelligence, integrations, portability and networking capability in many new products with high market potential. Nanotechnology is the key to markets worth billions of dollars annually. Nanotechnology will help Europe to address global challenges such as climate change, constraints in energy production and shortage of resources, insufficient access to clean water and food safety, as well as widespread diseases and affordable health care worldwide. However, the true potential of nanotechnology is not yet exploited exhaustively. To overcome this and ensure that Europe will not stay behind in the global competition, NANO futures will bring together industry, research, networks NGO's at all levels for a joint movement towards a new industry.



NANO futures' networking

### Strategic Vision

Nowadays, there is a huge amount of information around nanotechnology coming from the active stakeholders and various initiatives. In this complex environment **there is a clear lack of an inter-sectorial view defining the key nodes of strategic nano activities**, including the needs of society, policy and environmental issues (what is “Responsible Governance of Nanotechnology”) allowing to optimise and maximize the impact of resources deployed, avoiding duplicated, disconnected and fragmented actions and operating, in general, under a single-reference-responsible capable of communicating with the general public and political institutions and actors at all levels (local, regional, national, European and world-wide).

In order to support European industries successfully profit from nanotechnologies a number of issues needs addressing: Involvement of general public and clear orientation of all undertakings to bring benefit to the community; Fragmentation of research and innovation efforts due to the inter-disciplinarity and complexity of nanosciences; The need for a converging approach requiring interac-



tions between life sciences, chemistry, microelectronics and other sectors; The differences between the regions in Europe.

All this calls for a different approach for exploiting these new technologies. There is a need for clear market drivers – examples of high profile industrial problems that can be demonstrably solved by applying nanotechnologies- if nanotechnology is to develop from an enabling technology to an end product. Industrial foresight needs to build on established as well as new companies ready to pursue the potential. Finally, public perception is crucial. A pre-cautionary approach to safety issues and clear communication is needed.

These are all barriers to commercialisation that can only be effectively addressed through an integrated, cross-platform, collaborative approach: the NANO*futures* initiative.

### NANO*futures* initiative

NANO*futures* environment would become a European multi-sectorial, cross-ETP, integrating platform with the objective of connecting and establishing cooperation and representation of all relevant Technology Platforms that require nanotechnologies in their industrial sector and products. NANO*futures* and its operative branch NANO*futures* association will act as a “Nano-Hub” by linking JTIs, associations, ETPs with expert groups in a collaborative environment.

NANO*futures* at its base will be open to industry, SMEs, NGOs, financial institution, research institution, universities and civil society with an involvement from Member States at national and regional level. It will be an environment where all these different entities would be able to interact and come out with a shared vision on nanotechnology futures. NANO*futures* collaborate with the ETPs on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding.



NANO*futures*' integrating role

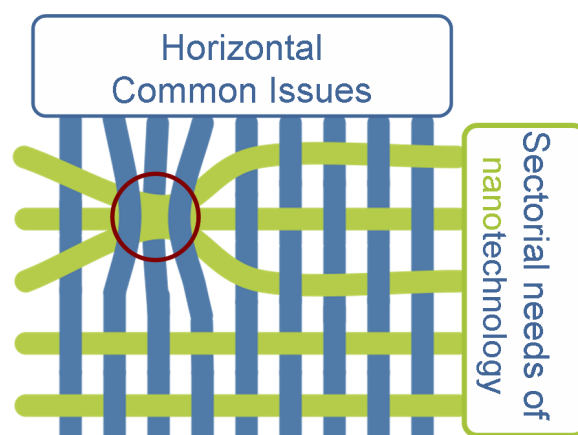


## NANO*futures* approach

NANO*futures* will identify the key nodes in strategic nano-activities and develop strategies to address nano-technology challenges with an inter-sectorial approach. This will be achieved by a close interaction between horizontal working groups, which will address cross-sectorial horizontal issues, and sectorial group representatives (i.e. ETP representatives).

NANO*futures* will address cross-sector horizontal issues

Working groups will be organised under the 3 main topic areas addressed by NANO*futures*: "technology", "regulation and standards" and "innovation". Objectives of the horizontal working groups would be to present recommendations for strategic actions under each of these three main topics.



Schematic of NANO*futures* approach

## Contacts

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