

IN-PART Global Challenge:

Seeking research and innovation relating to sustainable plastics, polymers, and alternatives

Launch date: Monday 1st November 2021

Deadline for submissions: Monday 17th January 2022 (*extended from 13th Dec 2021*)

IN-PART develops digital solutions, curated by in-house STEM experts, that simplify the initial connection between decision-makers in academia and industry. Our goal is to help drive impact from research by matching innovation and expertise on a level playing field globally.

Our industry network includes teams in over 6,000 R&D-intensive companies worldwide, including the top 25 global R&D-spending companies. Our R&D community are highly engaged and positioned to directly collaborate with teams in academia to commercialise new research.

This campaign has been informed by leading companies and stakeholders who are working to address plastic and polymer sustainability, including **Dow, PepsiCo, Avient, one.five, Walgreens Boots Alliance**, and the **Royal Society of Chemistry**. These companies have confirmed their interest in reviewing opportunities submitted to the campaign that align with their interests. Further details about the priorities for each are included below, and all submitted research will also be disseminated to our wider R&D network.

Through their feedstocks, production and disposal, plastics, polymers, and polymers in liquid formation (PLFs) account for a huge proportion of greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to global climate change. We want to gather the latest innovations that are finding new ways and addressing the challenges around producing plastics and PLFs sustainably, by using raw materials that are renewable, processes that minimise environmental impacts and alternatives to plastics that are biodegradable or recyclable.

We ask any university administrator working in research commercialisation, technology transfer or business engagement, or academic researcher, who has or is working on research or commercialisation opportunities relating to sustainable production of plastics and PLFs to provide details of their work to be disseminated to relevant individuals within our industry network, with no associated costs or requirement of an IN-PART subscription.

Of particular interest is research and technologies in the areas of:

- Plastics, Polymers, and Polymers in Liquid Formulations (PLF) production from renewable and sustainable sources
- Embedding end-of-life recycling (eg. degradability) into new materials
- Zero-waste and greener manufacturing processes for plastics and PLFs
- Sustainable alternatives to single-use plastic packaging that are fully degradable
- Enzymes and microorganisms that break down plastics and polymers

What's out of scope

- Bio-based materials that aren't sustainable alternatives
- Degradation into harmful chemicals or by-products

Research priorities of companies & stakeholders involved in the campaign:

- Dow - being finalised, due to shared by 05/11/21
- [PepsiCo](#)
- [Avient](#)
- [One.five](#)
- [Walgreens Boots Alliance](#)
- [Royal Society of Chemistry](#)

Run in partnership with and support from:



ASTP: Europe's premier association of knowledge transfer professionals whose work aims to improve the quality of impact that public research has on the economy and society. [Learn more.](#)

Aims of the Global Challenge campaign:

- Help mobilise the university-industry community to address the global challenges around sustainable plastic and PLF production
- Provide universities with a pathway to commercialise research via collaboration with industry
- Connect submitted research and technology with interested parties in industry for the purpose of starting new conversations that lead to collaborative development and deployment

Further details:

- Information about your project or technology will be distributed to industry R&D teams with aligned research interests through our online matchmaking platform.
- Submitting your work **does not require a subscription to our platform, there will be no costs** from IN-PART at any stage.
- Support from our team of STEM experts will be provided where required to review and quality-control submissions.
- Any information sent to us should be non-confidential.
- If you are aware of academics, research or technology transfer taking place to address the challenges of sustainable plastics, polymers and alternatives, please share this document with them.
- For non-subscribed universities, a maximum of 6 submissions can be made per person and we reserve the right to only accept research that is aligned with the aims and themes outlined in the call.
- For subscribed universities with a submission limit for IN-PART, any new technologies that are submitted to the global challenge will not count towards your submission total. Eight weeks after the call closes, this exemption will no longer apply and you may be asked to unlist technologies and/or upgrade your submission limit if your current limit is exceeded.
- Universities with relevant technologies already on IN-PART can email their University Liaison Officer to request their inclusion in our open research directory, white paper, and associated communications around the campaign.

How to submit your opportunity:

- If you are an academic researcher, or working in a technology transfer office not subscribed to IN-PART, use the submission form below to outline non-confidential details of your project, research or technology and submit it along with any associated high-res graphics or figures by email to submissions@in-part.co.uk
- If you work at an institute that is subscribed to IN-PART, you can upload submissions as normal [directly through your dashboard.](#)
- After you have submitted an opportunity, a member of our team will be in touch to confirm that it has been received. The opportunity will then be uploaded to our matchmaking platform Connect. It will be fed into our matchmaking system and proactively disseminated to R&D teams with aligned interests. For companies who want to find out more about an opportunity, our team will then provide a direct introduction via email for you to open a dialogue and to share further details of your work or the project

Further questions?

Don't hesitate to contact our team who will be able to help with any questions regarding the global challenge or your submission via: submissions@in-part.co.uk

To learn more about IN-PART please see our website: in-part.com

Submission form:

Project/Research/Technology Title:

This should be no longer than 20 words.

Contact Information:

Name:

Title:

Email:

Institute and Department:

If you are a researcher, please provide the name and email address of your associated case manager or point of contact in your TTO or business engagement team (if applicable):



Research/Technology Overview:

An overview of the technology/solution/innovation/expertise.

Please provide a fairly detailed overview of the technology/solution/innovation/expertise.

This should include (where available) non-confidential technical information, the overall goal, clinical rationale and novelty of the approach, the stage of development (preferably using the TRL scale), data tables, figures or videos (where applicable). If images or videos are provided, please attached these as high-resolution files alongside the submission form



Background:

Please provide a brief summary (a couple of paragraphs is fine) of how the research, technology or project fits into the wider context of addressing sustainable plastics, polymers, and alternatives and why it's important.

What is the development stage of the research or technology?

Please use definitions related to the technology sector, e.g. for therapeutics: Discovery, target identification, target validation, hit generation, compound screening, lead generation, in vitro, in vivo, or preclinical validation.

Benefits:

Outline the specific advantages over existing solutions (eg, faster, more accurate).
A list of bullet points will suffice but more details can be provided if available.

Seeking:

What types of industry collaboration are you looking for?

- Development partner
- Commercial partner
- Licensing
- University spin-out
- Seeking investment

IP and Legal Considerations:

Is all of the information you have provided non-confidential?
Please note that all information submitted must be non-confidential

Applications:

Potential use cases and/or markets
A list of bullet points will suffice but more details can be provided if available.

What is the IP status of the research/technology?

- Patented (if so, please provide details on the patent ID)
- Patent application submitted (if so, please provide details on the application ID)
- Provisional patent (if so, please provide details on the patent ID)
- No patent
- Know-how based
- Copyright

Patent details:

If you are an academic researcher, have you disclosed this technology to your technology transfer office?

Opportunity:

What types of opportunities are you looking for in terms of working with industry to help further develop and/or commercialise the project/technology?

By submitting to this campaign you agree to the provided non-confidential information being disseminated through our communications channels to individuals in industry with aligned interests alongside your institute name and logo. We use a multi-channel approach to do this, combining the use of our matchmaking platforms, email alerts and bulletins, social media, blogs and reports. If you do not want your submission featured in our public channels opt-out by ticking this box.

Are you submitting this project to be sent to any of the companies working on this campaign?

- Dow
- one.five
- PepsiCo
- Avient
- Walgreens Boots Alliance