

On August 28, 2019, at the headquarters of the Marshal's Office of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship in Warsaw, another meeting was held as part of the Business Environment Institutions Forum (IOB), this time only for the chemical industry.

The meeting was attended by representatives of many companies and institutions, including Warsaw University of Technology, Łukasiewicz Research Network, AZOTY Group and Płock Industrial and Technological Park.

Among the invited speakers were prof. Marek Marcinek from the Warsaw University of Technology, PhD. Eng. Mariusz Kaczmarek representative of the Polish Chamber of Chemical Industry and Mr. Yuri Van Loon representative of ReConfim, policy and research consultant at Ecorys.

The meeting consisted of two parts: lecture in the form of a presentation and interactive workshop. During the meeting, discussed topics were related to identifying challenges posed by the functioning in the chemical sector, from the point of view of a young inventor, experienced scientist, and a company wanting to enter foreign markets. Key strategic development directions of this sector of the economy were presented, as well as opportunities for further development thanks to international cooperation.

During the workshop four already functioning Working Groups were introduced as part of the Smart Specialization Platform for Industrial Modernization (S3P - Industry), the subject area Chemistry, such as:

- Polymers Working Group,
- Alternative Feedstock Working Group,
- Sustainable Process Technologies Working Group,
- Chemical Recycling Working Group,

The progress of each group's work and their advancement were presented, as well as further development directions within the interregional partnership.

The key point of the workshop was the announcement of the meeting of the Association of the European Network of Chemical Regions (ECRN), which will take place in Brussels on September 30 this year, to which all interested participants were invited to. Participation in the meeting was also the foundation for building a network of stakeholders around the Association.

A lively discussion among participants allowed to outline a framework for future cooperation between the three main pillars - science, business and their environment.