

## Guidance Note

### Suggested Activities for Country Networks

This document provides very high level experience-based examples of activities which could form part of a Country Network programme. These activities are collaborative in nature. Organisations will of course continue with their own individual programmes.

#### 1 National Science Weeks / Engineering Weeks

For example, in Portugal IBM, BP, Xerox and Somague have collaborated in the organisation and running of an event around eWeek in 2008. The intention is to grow from that successful base to grow the network and the programme of activities. (See separate Guidance note for more detail)

#### 2 Teacher Professional Development – Podcast Series

There are several existing examples of isolated industry podcasts which have been developed or are being developed for schools and teachers, e.g. in Austria (INSPIRE initiative) and Ireland (Discover Science and Engineering), as well DVD series such as that developed by the Confederation of Swedish Industries. These make valuable aids for teacher professional development. Cross-company collaboration, could achieve a number of objectives

- develop more such podcasts, or
- promote the ‘few’ in a more coordinated way to achieve greater impact for teachers.

Industry developed podcasts can bring a unique perspective on the everyday application of science and on the careers in, and from, science. (See separate Guidance Note).

#### 3 Cataloguing of existing Industry Education Resources

a) In many countries this is already taking place under government-led initiatives. In this instance, the role Science In Schools could play is to help promote and encourage contributions to the catalogue. This is happening in Spain and in the UK as well as other countries.

b) In those countries which do not have government-led cataloguing initiatives, most Science In Schools country networks see the opportunity to develop such a catalogue. One such example will be developed from the successful Science In Museums web-site in Italy, which will be evolved to include industry resources also. (See separate Guidance Notes).

#### 4 Cross-Promotion of Education Resources for Schools or Teachers

The Science In Schools initiative identifies the need to help schools and teachers through greater leverage of existing industry developed education resources. Cross-promotion through existing channels will drive higher levels of awareness. A good example of this is the paper-based and web-based catalogue of resources developed by JetNet in NL.

### 5 Specific Collaborative Projects

Under the ENGAGE programme, in France, a number of companies have come together over the last academic year in a full year educational project for more than 100 children. The project, called mobi3, used real-life scenarios to engage students in the full life-cycle of a mobile phone, and the relevance of science, not just to the core technology, but also to the other important functions such as Finance, Marketing, Supply Chain.

### 6 Adopt a School

In NL more than 30 organisations which form part of Jet-Net each adopt schools which are geographically local to their offices. This enables the building of close and strong relationships, not just with the school, but also with the science teachers. This in turn brings the benefit of greater impact with more of the Jet-Net network resources. The working relation with each school is agreed in a contract signed by the principal and contains topics like guest lessons, workshop and excursions , support for students extended essays ,a yearly career orientation event for the student and brush up your science day s for the teachers.