

# Introduction to KTN

Dr Sheena Hindocha, KTM – Materials  
Chemistry, KTN

[Sheena.hindocha@ktn-uk.org](mailto:Sheena.hindocha@ktn-uk.org)

[www.ktn-uk.org](http://www.ktn-uk.org)

The KTN logo is displayed in a bold, black, lowercase sans-serif font. It is positioned on the right side of the slide, set against a large, semi-transparent blue circular background that overlaps the dark blue background of the slide.



# Innovate UK Family

  
Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy



## Fund



## Connect



## Collaborate



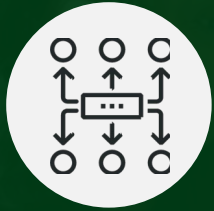


KTN exists to connect **innovators** with new **partners** and new **opportunities** beyond their existing thinking – accelerating ambitious ideas into real-world **solutions**.





# What we do



## Connecting

- Finding valuable partners
- Project consortium building
- Supply Chain Knowledge
- Driving new connections
- Articulating challenges
- Finding creative solutions



## Funding

- Awareness and dissemination
- Public and private finance
- Advice – project scope
- Advice – proposal mentoring
- Project follow-up



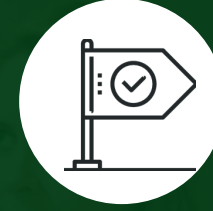
## Influencing

- Promoting Industry needs
- Informing policy makers
- Informing strategy
- Communicating trends and market drivers



## Supporting

- High level Application Review
- Intelligence on trends and markets
- Business Planning support
- Success stories / raising profile



## Navigating

- Navigating the innovation support landscape
- Promoting coherent strategy and approach
- Engaging wider stakeholders
- Curation of innovation resources



# Chemistry and Industrial Biotechnology team



# Chemistry and Industrial Biotechnology team programmes

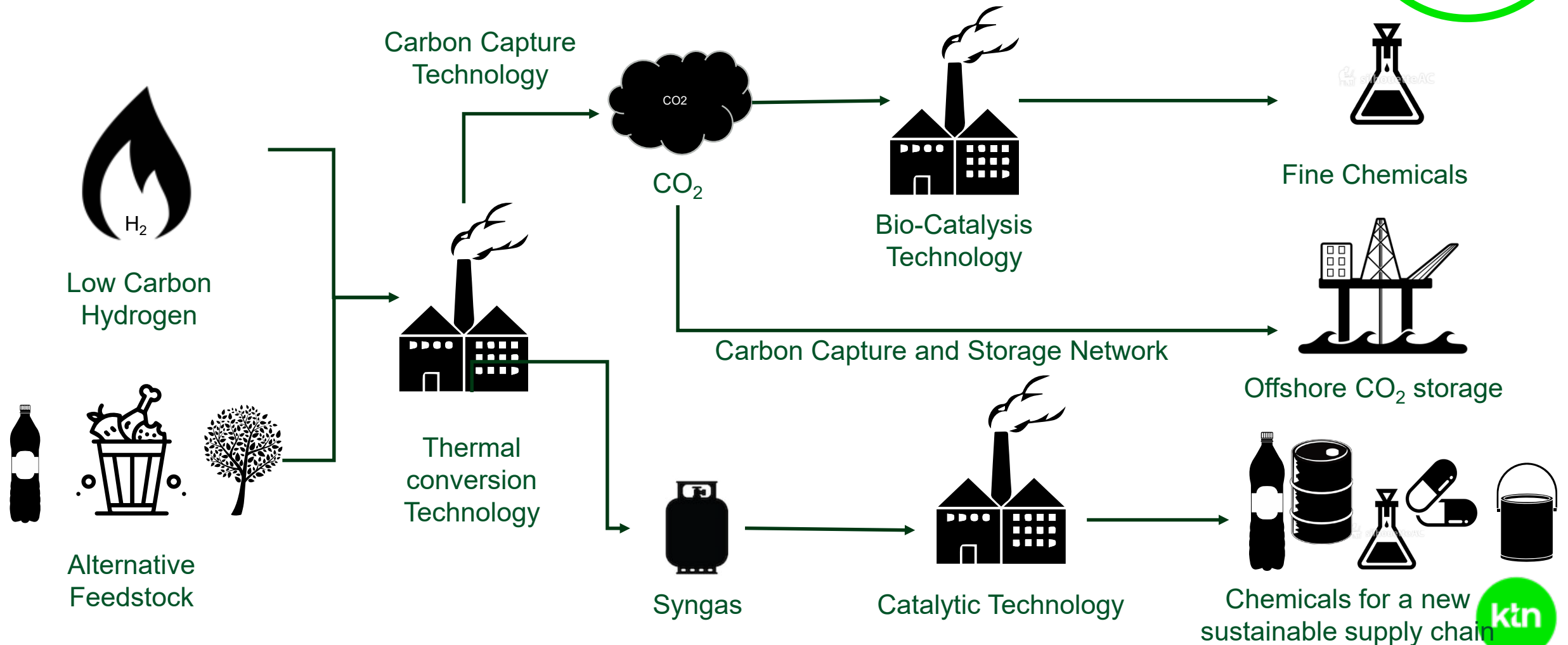
- Circular Carbon
- Catalysis
- Digitalisation
- SME Accelerator
- Industrial Biotechnology and Synthetic Biology for Net Zero
- Batteries
- Hydrogen
- Sustainable Aviation Fuel
- Critical Raw Materials



# **A sustainable chemical supply chain**

# A future sustainable chemical supply chain

Future Shaping







## Low-cost and low carbon energy and hydrogen

- Critical to commercialise sustainable fuels and chemicals



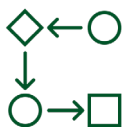
## Feedstock is fundamental

- Robust processes to mitigate fluctuations in feedstock quality, availability, variability, volume & contaminants



## Systems of systems approach to innovation

- Local opportunities & need, feedstock, energy supply, product, market requirements as part of a wider system



## New end-to-end supply chains

- New partnerships across the value chain
- Demonstrate the techno-economic viability of producing chemicals from alternative feedstocks



## Policy

- Creating the market opportunities to incentivise the production of sustainable chemicals

# What's next?

Future  
Shaping

## Objectives:

- Utilise key activities to increase knowledge and information on alternative feedstocks
- Continue to build and support circular carbon community
- Identify policy areas where conflict may arise and raise awareness
- Identify iX challenges related to circular carbon

### Alternative Feedstock



Residual waste



Biomass



Industrial gases



Plastic waste

### Use of alternative feedstock



Carbon Capture  
and Storage



Energy



Sustainable  
aviation fuel



Other fuels



Chemicals



Materials

Policy, Technology, Funding, Market drivers, Availability, Demand

# Innovation Exchange

## The power of cross-sector collaboration

Innovation Exchange is a KTN programme specially designed to introduce your company's challenges to the innovators who are already working on the solutions.

Our unique cross-sector approach taps into the power of collaboration outside large organisations usual channels, matching problems to the people with the answers.

<https://ktn-uk.org/programme/innovation-exchange/>





## Sector Technical Challenges

Large organisations, OEMS and Local Authorities have:

- Confidential challenges to solve with no time to explore markets
- Low exposure to companies outside the traditional industry supply chain

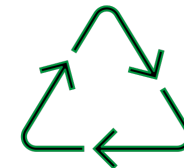
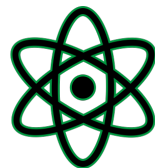
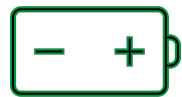


## Innovative solutions *from other sectors*

Solution providers find it difficult to:

- Open the right doors at a large org, OEM or local authority
- Prove the value proposition of products
- Understand customer's time constraints

## Challenge owners



## Solution providers

# Innovation Exchange Case Study

Using KTNs iX process we worked with Robinson Brothers to identify innovative solutions that could lead to a more sustainable synthesis route for 1,3-cyclohexanedione.

11 Applications

10 New to organisation

4 Pitches

1 Successful applicant with a R&D contract

“We were really impressed with the way the innovation challenge worked. It generated new contacts and an impressive range of different approaches and ideas to the challenge.”

Russell at Robinson Brothers.

## Innovation Exchange Case Study

Using KTNs iX process we are working with Croda to identify innovative solutions that could lead to the next generation in hair conditioners.

10 Applications

6 New to organisation

4 Pitches

0 Successful applicants

No applicants had an appropriate solution confirming Croda's expectations and knowledge as leaders in their field.

Further collaborations with experts in their network have been stimulated by the challenge.

CRODA



Connecting for  
**Positive Change.**



[ktn-uk.org](https://ktn-uk.org)

