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Press Release – ECEG launches the Erasmus+ Blueprint project "*ChemSkills: enabling the green and digital skills transformation of the chemical industry*"

Employers Group

ECEG officially announces the start of the EU-funded project "*ChemSkills: enabling the green and digital skills transformation of the chemical industry*". The project brings together **33 project partners**, with the ECEG as the Project Coordinator for the next four years.

Jonas Hagelqvist, President of the ECEG: "Our objective was to contribute to the EU Green Deal not only by pledging to meet 2050 goals but also by taking concrete actions in the field of education and skills. Activities planned in the ChemSkills project are to strengthen and speed up the transition to a sustainable and climate-neutral economy, by responding to key policy initiatives such as the Chemical Strategy for Sustainability, the European Industrial Strategy, the Circular Economy Package, the Pact for Skills and many more. We look forward to sharing the outcome of this ambitious project with all relevant stakeholders in four years time".

The project consortium is to respond to **the current green and digital skills needs**, alongside developing competencies to produce *"safe and sustainable chemicals by design"*, one of the objectives of the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability (CSS). It will also conduct **research on future skills needs**. The

ChemSkills project is to create an in-depth partnership between industry representatives, education providers and policymakers on the European, national and regional levels. It is also to cover **all levels of formal education**, **contribute to the** up-/re-skilling of the current workforce and to **training of workers**. ECEG's Blueprint project covers **multiple domains** or "subsectors", including plastics, consumer chemicals, fertilisers, rubber, pharmaceuticals and petrochemicals.

Anni Siltanen, the Chair of the ECEG's Working Group on Education & LLL and the ChemSkills' Project Manager, said "I am extremely happy and honoured to see ECEG with its ChemSkills Consortium being selected as one of the Blueprint projects under the Erasmus+ budgetline. We are glad to be the forerunner in developing strategic skills and competence to enable green and digital transitions of the chemical industry. There can be no transition without a skilled workforce!".

> For more information, please contact: Emma Argutyan, Director General e.argutyan@eceg.org.

About ECEG

ECEG, the European Chemical Employers Group, founded in 2002, is a recognised European Sectoral Social Partner, representing the chemicals, pharmaceuticals, rubber and plastics industries in Europe. Our sector provides approximately 3.3 million direct jobs in more than 94.000 enterprises.