



Nanotechnology User Guide

What is the nanotechnology roadmap?

The nanotechnology roadmap is a strategic tool that helps to shape ethical approaches to innovation within the nanotechnology sector. It points to some fundamental issues around risk and safety, considered as 'vital' for companies (or, indeed, any enterprise) involved in innovation within the nanotechnology sector.

Why/when should you (the company) use the Roadmap?

The roadmap has been developed to help companies strengthen their approaches *wherever necessary* in relation to particular risks associated with nanotechnologies and to remedy any omissions. It shows how concerns of a wide range of stakeholders – including employees, contractors, investors, customers and users can be taken into consideration. It also enables companies to take social and environmental issues into account at the same time as pursuing their wholly legitimate goals of maintaining profitable and sustainable businesses.

How to use the roadmap

Firstly, company management must determine that the '*vital*' aspects indicated in the 'Company Management' document are already embedded in the practices and structure of the company. These are fundamental practices of business that require time and expertise to implement. Where necessary, assistance should be sought to enable the company to commit to these fundamentals

Then, investigate the company's position with the '*desirable*' elements of the aforesaid document. These accompanying commitments help reaffirm the company's commitment to responsibility and business development.

Ultimately, use the roadmap to see how elements of responsible innovation can be linked to the entire processes of business development – research, design, production, marketing, and after-sales stages of development.

- **Important:** pay attention to the important role of external engagement throughout this process – without external feedback into all stages the process cannot be considered responsible.
- **NOTE:** In the roadmap, solid lines represent the **transitions between stages**, while dotted lines represent **feedback**.