Why Spain for the Chemical Industry?

- Broad industrial base and diversified production. The Spanish chemical industry comprises over 3,120 companies with a turnover of €77.2 billion in 2021.

- Skilled and competitive human resources. 209,000 direct jobs, highest added value per employee and largest investor in research staff among Spanish industries.

- 2nd largest exporter in the Spanish economy, €44.5 billion in export value. Privileged access to European, Mediterranean, North Africa and Latin American markets.

- Investment locations for new projects in Chemical hubs, offering services, transport infrastructure and logistics direct to market for new projects.
Facts & Figures

Strategic industry for the Spanish economy

The industry comprises 3,120 companies with a turnover of €77.2 billion in 2021, generating 711,000 direct, indirect and induced jobs. With a cumulative growth of 55% in turnover between 2007-2021, the industry represents 13.3% of Spanish gross industrial output and supplies products to 98% of productive industries.

Internationalized sector

The chemical industry is the 2nd largest exporter in the Spanish economy. 57.6% of chemical production was exported worldwide in 2021, with an export value of €44.5 billion, (15.8% of total Spanish goods exports). The industry is increasing exports to non-EU markets.

Investment and innovation

The chemical industry will remain the fastest growing industrial sector in the world through to 2030, at an estimated average of 4.5% year to meet the new global demand.

This potential is attracting new investments and projects.

The industry in Spain invests over €2.7 billion in assets and €1.7 billion in internal R&D&I. Spain is the third most-preferred destination for new Chemical projects in the EU in terms of capital invested, after Germany and Belgium (fDi markets data 2003-2021).

Sustainable chemistry

The chemical industry offers solutions to global challenges and helps achieve UN Sustainable development goals. The Spanish Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry (SusChem Spain), part of the European network of Technology Platforms, aims to enhance cooperation among industry, universities and research centres, in an effort to promote sustainable innovation.

Human capital and talent

The industry creates 208,950 highly qualified direct jobs, and over 500,000 indirect and induced jobs. It is one of the industries with the lowest rotation rates and highest productivity per employee. Research staff working in chemical sectors represent 22.2% of total industrial research recruitment.

There are 35 specialized universities and faculties in Spain devoted to chemicals and chemical engineering training. Technology and research centres of excellence based around the main chemical hubs create the best ecosystem for innovation.
OUR SERVICES

Advice on business start-ups
Locations search
Focal point between central and regional authorities
Tailored industry know-how

Identifying business opportunities
Organising agendas
Immigration advice
Identifying strategic partners and technology partners

Institutional support
Funding and incentives search
Connectivity with investors
After-care service

OUR INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

Head office:
Paseo de la Castellana 278
28046 Madrid (Spain)
investinspain@icex.es
www.investinspain.org