

CHAMPIONING THE PEOPLE WHO CHAMPION INNOVATION



Prof Sa'ad Medhat, FIKE, CEO Professor Medhat is the founder of NEF with an established reputation for driving forward initiatives from policy through to implementation.

Innovation is an important differentiator in highly competitive markets. It has become a more sophisticated function that is mandated by organisations. However, to achieve and maintain innovative cultures and practices an active leadership for innovation is required.

NEF: The Institute recognises the critical contribution that innovation plays in addressing business, economic, social and environmental challenges. As a professional body and 'do-tank', the Institute supports people who drive innovation and acts as a channel for discussion on issues relating to innovation with Government. Guided by the Innovation Council¹ of over 40 Chief Officers representing our economy, the Institute is stimulating innovation through sector-to-sector knowledge transfer and horizon-scanning in areas of potential common interest. Subsequently, this critical industrial intelligence is fed through to educational institutions, enabling them to prepare for future skills development in new and emerging technology areas of growth.

THE INNOVATION MANIFESTO

The Innovation Council's vision has culminated in the Innovation Manifesto, which articulates what we have pledged to do in support of Government's policies and provide an inspirational reference point for innovators:

1. Create and sustain a culture of innovation

- Promoting access to effective practice by successful innovative organisations, so that people working in industry, education and the public sector can improve performance on innovation
- Providing development, training and standards which encourage entrepreneurial mind-sets and approaches

2. Develop talented people to drive and manage innovation

- Promoting the uptake of standards and frameworks which help to identify, recognise and exploit innovation talent and drive business growth
- Designing and delivering programmes which develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes capable of supporting innovation

3. Design and implement a regulatory framework to drive innovation

- Working with industry and Government to prioritise areas for regulatory change which can make a significant impact on levels of innovation and business performance

4. Promote and secure investment that enables innovation to flourish

- Bringing Government and industry together to design funded initiatives which will enable innovation and provide real return-on-investment through growth

- Supporting policy initiatives, funding and incentives which improve the impact and take up of innovation, particularly by SMEs and across a wider purview than just the private sector

5. Embed innovation in new business models and organisational design

- Networking emerging practice that supports growth in innovation organically and/or through acquisition
- Recognising and sharing organisational structures and behaviours which have proven to be successful in driving innovation

6. Improve the rate of innovation through investment in research and development

- Promoting sustainable mechanisms to improve the rate of innovation through R&D investment in, for example, the innovation pipeline, diversification and innovation diffusion
- Promoting the adoption of new approaches that combine science, industry and education in effectively harnessing innovation and in successfully supporting new business creation

7. Support infrastructure development which enables growth

- Identifying and promoting enablers for innovation and growth – access to space, access to funds and access to support
- Providing tailored support to, and development for, young people involved in new business creation, innovation and growth

8. Sensitise the market and support market innovation

- Promoting new frameworks for market innovation such as

cities as 'test beds' for developing new market models

- Assisting SMEs with product and service innovation and with access to new markets

9. Facilitate cross-sector innovation transfer

- Improving the capacity to innovate across sectors and access new international markets through new approaches to cross-sector and cross-cultural engagement

10. Protect and harness intellectual property

- Providing SMEs with advice and guidance on the Intellectual Property landscape, litigation and challenges

ENABLING INNOVATION

NEF: The Innovation Institute is experienced in working with Government, industry, education and the public sector to stimulate change and improvement. The Institute will:

- Champion the innovation agenda with Government, industry, education and the public sector through a range of interventions
- Work with industry and education to promote the uptake of the Investor in Innovations standard to stimulate and benchmark innovation
- Accredit programmes that recognise and drive innovation to enable knowledge exchange and continuous improvement

¹ Innovation Council: AMEC, Arla; Balfour Beatty, BASF, BBC, BOSCH, Britvic, BT, Bupa, Buro Happold, Cobham, Cobra, Costain, Crossrail, DHL, Dunhill, DuPont, EDF Energy, EMC2, Evolvi, Extrinsic, GE Healthcare, GSK, Lego, Mars, MBDA Missile Systems, Medvivo, Microsoft, MITE, National Grid, Plessey Semiconductors, Rolls Royce, Royal Mail, Tate & Lyle, Telefonica, Thales, UK PIA, Unilever, UCS.