



Swedish discovery today. Tomorrow's global innovation.

Welcome to the Innovation and Chemical Industries

IKEM



Our companies make the green conversion possible.

We are IKEM. We represent chemical and innovation companies in Sweden and abroad with one and the same vision: to find industrial solutions to the global social challenges.

Our members' discoveries and business are a prerequisite for sustainable growth and more efficient resource utilisation, for example cleaner energy, more effective medicines and new transportation solutions. Many of these companies consider bio-based production of chemicals, materials, fuels and products to be a very real future. Some of them are in fact already there.

We are their effective, driven and skilled partner. As the industry's catalyst we pave the way for our Swedish member companies to reach the world and attract foreign-owned companies to invest in Sweden. The possibilities are boundless – as is our field of operation.

We play an important role regarding Sweden's future as a leading industrial nation. Since chemistry is necessary for innovations also in other industries, our members are of crucial importance as regards how Sweden will stand up in international competition. And thereby also for Sweden's prosperity and the prosperity we all enjoy together.

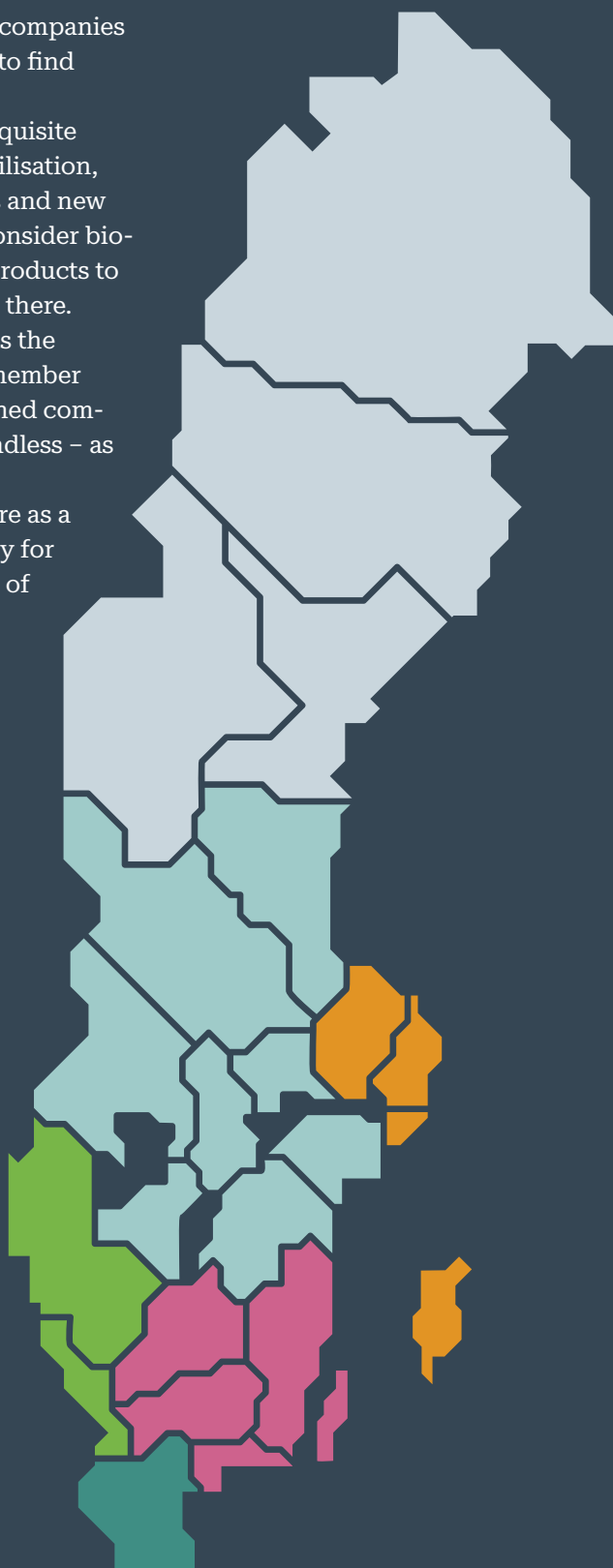
Promoting the industry of the future and stimulating growth and innovation are in other words our most important task. Always with our members in mind, never at the expense of the earth's well-being.

We work for the industry's competitiveness

We are an industry and employers' organisation for companies working with chemistry in a broad sense, both as manufacturers, distributors and users. The companies are chemicals and plastics industries, pharmaceutical manufacturers, refineries or biochemistry and bioengineering companies. We also represent members in the stone, cleaning, metal and recycling industries.

IKEM works all over the country and we are represented in Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmö, Norrköping and Växjö. We are also present in Brussels. IKEM is a member of the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise.

IKEM – Innovation and Chemical Industries in Sweden represents 1,250 companies with some 70,000 employees.



We represent the industry of the future.

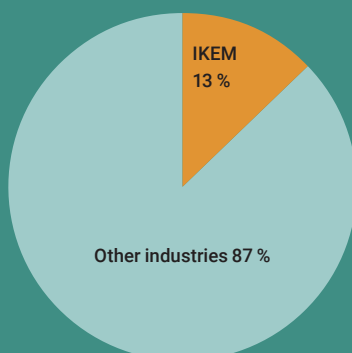
Everything we do is aimed at releasing energy and strength for our members so that they can devote themselves to their core activity: strengthen Sweden's economy and work with a long-term approach to secure a sustainable society in all respects through innovative chemical discoveries and products.

For over a hundred years we have represented our members, shaped opinion and pursued their industry issues in the right contexts. We have engaged and challenged authorities, trade unions and politicians. And we have advised and represented them in employer matters and provided them with up-to-date information and offered advanced education programmes. All in order to expand their scope of action and strengthen their competitiveness and attractiveness whether they be Swedish companies or foreign-owned companies operating in Sweden.

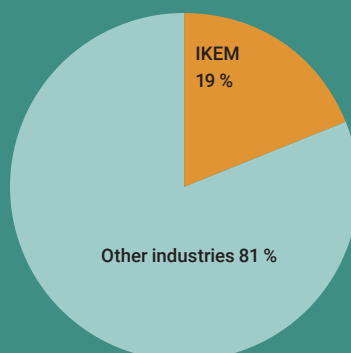
The challenges are still many and we continue to aim high. More people in strategically important positions must realise the importance of the innovation and chemical industries for prosperity and growth, grants to chemical and materials research must increase, permit processes must be shortened, entrepreneurship must be worthwhile, collaboration between industry and the academic world must be intensified and more young people must be persuaded to study science and engineering programmes. Among other things.

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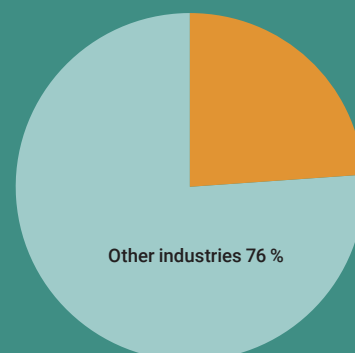
Share of all industrial employees



Share of the industry's value added



Share of goods exports





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Two fields of competence give twice the strength.

We pursue the industry's issues

IKEM endeavours to increase knowledge of the possibilities offered by plastics and chemicals. We create opinion, inform decision-makers, act as a referral body, monitor the world around, provide communicate and interpret new rules and create industrial agreements. Our field of operations extends from Government Offices to newspapers' editorial offices and members' coffee rooms.

We promote our members' interests in common industry issues, both in Sweden and abroad. Regional, national and international rules of play are coming to interact more and more, which means that the lobbying processes are becoming increasingly complex. That we are effective, driven and constructive is therefore an important component in both our and thereby our members' success. Participation in strong networks also means that we can attain our goals.





We support our members as employers

We are an employers' organisation focused on industrial companies. This means that our staff have long experience of employer matters specifically in industry. Our advisors, negotiators and experts are specialised in for example labour law, application of collective agreements, equal opportunities, work environment, and pension and insurance matters.

Continuous guidance on laws and agreements, investigations and development work are part of our everyday work. We offer an extensive course programme and help our member companies with legal assistance in court proceedings and advice and guidance in negotiations.

Much of our work involves negotiating, among other things, on wages and salaries and general conditions for entering into collective agreements for our member companies. Our ambition is to create the greatest possible flexibility so that the agreement can be adapted to each company's specific operations and conditions.

As a contracting party, we are offensive and results oriented. We can show the consequences that proposed agreements or changes in labour law have for Sweden and we know how important it is to be an attractive employer, i.e. attract the right competence – and retain it.

IKEM provides advice and support in employer issues and we support companies in the entire width of impact and service issues.

Our members' driving forces are also our own.

Our members are investment-intensive and have solutions that deal with the challenges of our time. We match their needs by working for an industrial climate that attracts innovation and investment. Through combined effort and a common view of the future, members and organisation can together develop and rejuvenate Swedish industry. Three insights lead our work:

Our member companies are ready with expertise, innovations, capital and the ability to deliver products, chemicals, plastics and other materials that contribute to a more sustainable society.

Smart solutions for a sustainable world

There will soon be nine billion people in the world and they all want prosperity and a better life. At the same time as the earth's resources are limited and the environment is sensitive.

Greater consideration for the earth's resources is leading to increased demand for goods and services that are resource- and energy-efficient. We are building a sustainable society with the environmentally friendly materials and resource-efficient processes of the future.

Our member companies stand ready with competence, innovations, capital and the ability to deliver products, chemicals, plastics and other materials that contribute to a more sustainable society, or research and development.

Investment in people gives innovative power

In our industry, new substances and materials are often created that become part of the things around us; everything from smartphone screens to cables that transport electricity from wind-power.

But the value of an innovation decreases over time. New, profitable innovations arise in the interaction between people and investment in employees is therefore a high priority for our members. As an employers' organisation we support them in this work and endeavour to find the solutions that best suit our members without pre-imposed conditions. To put it simply, we too are innovative.

An attractive Sweden is a successful Sweden

Our member companies are often part of international groups and for them to invest in Sweden is not a foregone conclusion.

In a global economy, investments are made where it is most profitable. Promoting Sweden's investment climate and making our industry more attractive is therefore an important task. Foreign investment creates jobs and greater resources for prosperity. It also opens new market opportunities for Swedish companies.





"We are continuously being updated about ongoing matters in the industry in areas such as employees, skills development, climate and economics."

Sara Ekblom
CEO and owner Herdins färgverk AB

"Basically, the membership provides security. It is worth a lot to have a person who is familiar with our industry – who knows the legal stuff too – can be my discussion partner."

Bo Arberg
CEO Sterisol AB



"It is a strength that we are involved in the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise. It makes us stronger and gives us a more powerful voice."

Anders Fröberg
chairman of IKEM and CEO of Borealis



Curious about membership?

Scan the QR code or read more about the membership and all benefits at ikem.se/in-english

You are always welcome to contact us if you want to know more about how your company can benefit from a membership in IKEM.

We exist for our members.

Members of IKEM get

- a collective agreement that is adapted to the industry
- a strong platform to influence the shaping of policy together with industry colleagues
- free advice in the fields of labour law, application of collective agreements, working hours, skills development, work environment, pension and insurance matters, equal opportunities, discrimination, etc.
- a place in a forum that is the member companies' face towards media, authorities and society.
- courses, trainings, seminars and webinars
- access to our competence in company-adapted assignments
- opportunities to participate in regional co-operative groups
- access to our website, including everything from templates for employment contracts to current news regarding labour law and other employer-related areas.

With IKEM, the member companies get support and advice regarding employer issues, a collective agreement which creates clear rules and a strong voice for the industry's competitiveness.



IKEM – Innovation and Chemical Industries in Sweden

IKEM – Innovations- och kemiindustrierna i Sverige

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IKEM – Innovation and Chemical Industries in Sweden represents 1,250 Swedish and foreign-owned companies with more than 70,000 employees. We are an industrial and employers' organisation for companies working in a broad cross-section of the chemical industry, both as producers, distributors and users. The member companies are active in the chemical and plastics industries, pharmaceutical manufacturers or bio-chemistry and bio-tech companies. IKEM also represents members from, for example, the stone, laundry, metal and recycling industries.

IKEM works all over Sweden and we are represented in Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmö, Norrköping and Växjö. We also have an office in Brussels.

