

Nanotechnology Activities and Achievements in Iran

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Iran Nanotechnology Innovation Council was established in 2003 and in 2005 Iranian government formally approved a 10-year “Nano Initiative Plan” developed by (INIC). The council is responsible for policy making, supporting nanotechnology activities in all rings of the value chain from human resources development to commercialization. The national plan mastermind several important program including public knowledge promotion, human resources development, infrastructures, R&D, industrialization, commercialization and international collaborations. The main target of this program is to create wealth and improve quality of people’s life by using nanotechnology.

In the second 10 year plan (2016-2025) great emphasis is put on nanotechnology diffusion in to industry.

At the moment, more than 66 universities are providing MSc degrees and 23 university are running PhD degrees with specific curriculum in different areas of nanoscience and nanotechnologies. Today Iran enjoys having more than 37000 experts in various specialties of nanotechnology. Regarding science generation, in 2018, Iran was ranked in the 4th position amongst active countries in this field in terms of ISI publication. Regarding industrial achievements, more than 210 manufacturing companies have already introduced their products in the market. Currently there are 595 nanotechnology based products and tools in the market developed by Iranian nanotechnology enterprises. These products have been exported to more than 45 countries. INIC has been active in international collaboration with close cooperation with more than 15 countries and has established 9 centers in 6 countries to facilitate international cooperation. INIC has also collaborated with EU on initiating the Asia-EU dialogue on Nano safety with several events already held in Iran, Austria and Thailand.