

Delivering actionable insights

Innovating in a recession – NESTA study

Situation

NESTA is the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts – a unique body with a mission to make the UK more innovative. NESTA invests in early-stage companies, informs and shapes policy, and delivers practical programmes that inspire others to solve the big challenges of the future. When looking at how innovation is changing, due to the current business and economic environment, NESTA turned to H-I Network for its experience in innovation and close relationships with many leading global organisations.



Objective

The objective of the programme was to enhance NESTA and the wider business community's understanding of how innovation and business practices are changing in the current environment. The insights will guide NESTA, government and business approaches to the associated challenges and opportunities.

Approach

H-I Network worked with the NESTA management team to outline the perspectives and to scope the deliverables. This drew on the H-I Network's depth and breadth of knowledge in delivering innovative approaches for client programmes. Programme activities included:

- reviewing innovation models and status in the current business environment
- identifying key hypotheses, themes, and topics for review
- developing and executing an online survey with a large, diverse group from leading organisations
- interviewing and exploring findings from the survey with key executives
- planning and delivering an event with key speakers, discussion panel, and interactive groups
- publishing findings, discussion outputs and video content from programme.



Results

The executives and attendees of the programme provided very positive feedback with an 83% satisfaction rating and comments such as *"networking opportunities first rate"*, *"very open discussion and problem solving"*, *"excellent networking"* and *"breakout session particularly useful/interesting"* were received. NESTA summarised their view as follows:

"The Innovating in a Recession programme and workshop was great. They have provided valuable new insights which supplement the range of work and research that NESTA has published."

Stain Westlake, Executive Director Policy & Research Unit, NESTA

"The H-I Network has again proved to be an excellent partner to NESTA, bringing great perspectives, contacts and a stimulating event. The programme has brought value to NESTA and to the participating leading organisations"

David Simoes-Brown, Collaborative Innovation, NESTA



H-I Network

Full details of networks, programmes and contact information can be found at www.h-i.com

H-I Network is a division of Corven Consulting Ltd.